

NARFE Chapter 1192

Meeting Minutes, February 6, 2008

CALL TO ORDER Carl Gallion, District and Chapter vice-president, called to order the Chapter's regular monthly meeting, 12 p.m., Feb. 6, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He welcomed the 29 members in attendance, introduced the head table and called for a moment of silence to remember all affected by the previous day's tornadoes in the southern United States. Deacon Al Rizzo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Chapter president installed – Carl announced that recently elected Chapter President Verneice Skinner needed to step back from the president's position for personal reasons, although she still wants to help the Chapter. Nancy Crosby, first vice president and secretary, will assume the president's duties. Carl installed Nancy as the new Chapter 1192 president.

Meeting format change – Nancy announced a change to the Chapter's meeting format to shorten them as they were getting quite lengthy. Social time remains 11:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The meeting and lunch will run consecutively from 12 to about 12:30 p.m., followed by the program. Nancy encouraged ideas and feedback on the monthly meetings and format.

MEETING MINUTES: Nancy read the January minutes; they were approved as presented. Copies were made available on the entrance table and now will also be on the Chapter's web site.

TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer Philip LaMont reported that as of Jan. 31, the available balance on hand was \$5,906.77. During the reporting period, receipts were \$1,082.20; disbursements, \$616.93; and obligations, \$1484.00.

Monies collected at February meeting – Luncheon, \$348; Alzheimer Fund, \$12; Newsletter Fund, \$6; 50/50 raffle, \$12.

DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

District VP – Carl reported that he attended the WSFC Board meeting, Jan. 17, Tacoma. Per Carl the all-day meeting was productive, with emphasis on membership and money issues, and was an opportunity to meet representatives from across the state.

WSFC district spring workshop – Carl announced the workshop is scheduled for Apr 17, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick. Final cost is yet to be determined. Guest speakers will include: Lanny Ross, Region IX vice president; Dale Brighton, Federation president; Rex Tauscher, Federation treasurer; and Sam Cagle, Federation public relations chairman. Sessions will include information on dues, membership and officer duties. Chapter members are encouraged to attend.

Federation convention – Carl reminded members the state convention is May 19–21, Marcus Whitman Hotel, Walla Walla. Chapter 1192 will be allowed 11 delegates and 3 at-large delegates. Information packets, including registration forms, were available at the meeting.

Alzheimer's – Johanna Caylor has volunteered to chair this committee.

Hospitality – Carl reminded members that Lent started today and fish was the entrée at today's lunch, not something that has happened in past years. He also asked for ideas for meeting programs.

Legislative – Mary Binder reported President Bush has delivered his proposed 2009 budget and it contains no direct reductions to federal retirement or health benefits; and, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security held a hearing in mid January to discuss the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision. Issues of cost and fairness were discussed; NARFE President Margaret Baptiste presented NARFE's position. With 2008 being an election year, moving these issues forward will continue to be challenging.

Membership – No report.

NARFE-PAC – No report.

Newsletter – No report.

Public Relations – No report.

Service Officers – No report.

Sunshine – Anne Ross introduced two new members, Pam and Frank Griffin; announced two deaths, Tom Nemezek, a long-time DOE employee, and Aleene Bush, who many knew from the Hanford Credit Union; and passed on hellos from Margie Lampton, whose husband died about 3 years ago, and Beryl Crouter, who will be moving to Bellevue to be near family due to ill health.

Website – New chair, Larry Williams, reported on changes to the Chapter's web site. It is now easier to get to the newsletter page and access current and past newsletters. Chapter meeting minutes will be posted on the site. There is a Congressional contacts page; and, for those with ideas and suggestions for the web site, there is a link to Larry.

BUSINESS

Secretary needed – Nancy announced the Chapter needs a secretary as she cannot fill both positions. Duties include taking and writing up the minutes for the Chapter and its Executive Board meetings. Anyone interested in the position can contact Nancy. For today's meeting, Mary Binder volunteered to take the minutes.

Callers needed – Nancy announced three callers are doubling up. Two or three new volunteers are needed. Total volunteer time is about 30 minutes a month. Mable Rutt and Pam Griffin volunteered.

PROGRAM David Samples from the Tri-City Railway had to cancel due to ill health.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drawings – Nancy Schreckhise won \$11, 50/50 raffle; Philip LaMont won the free lunch drawing.

Executive Board Meeting – Monday, Feb 11, 9:30 a.m., Wynwood Conference Room, Richland.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 5, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

March Meeting Program – Penny Jaeger, Kennewick AAA manager, will discuss AAA services available to seniors.

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Rizzo – With Lent starting today, it is a good time to reflect on things we may need to change: where we are and where we're going; have we prepared ourselves for "going home."

Meeting adjourned – 12:48 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder

for

Nancy Crosby, Secretary/President