

NARFE Chapter 1192
February 6, 2013 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the Chapter's monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He welcomed everyone – 22 members and 2 guests, including Ron Foraker, director of airports, Tri-Cities Airport, and the airport's administrative assistant, Dianna Beeler. Don led the Pledge of Allegiance; called for a moment of silent reflection; and, introduced the head table.

Program To accommodate the speaker's schedule, the February program was before the business meeting. Don introduced Ron Foraker. Ron provided an overview of current airport operations and presented a look ahead at a proposed expansion that would double the size of the current terminal. He said, "This is an exciting project to be working toward." The Tri-Cities is a "catchment" area for air transportation, and with the airport being the "front door," its commissioners want to ensure that businesses, for example, have a positive, favorable airport experience. Completing design/bid process are projected for 2013/2014; construction from 2014-2016.

The Chapter business meeting resumed at 12:50 p.m.

BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS Reminder: minutes and reports are posted on the Chapter's web site and available at meetings.

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Don Binder. As reported in the January meeting minutes, Johanna Caylor delivered 160 lbs. of donated food items and \$50 in cash donations from the Chapter's January food drive to the Tri-Cities Food Bank. Don recommended having the drive again in January 2014 to help fill empty shelves after the holidays.

1st Vice President/Service Officer/Special Programs Coordinator Lorie Bennett.

- Provided sign-up sheets and updates on activities she is working on for the Chapter:
 - February 12 – Tri-City Americans Hockey game.
 - April 24 – Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler Snake River Locks tour.
 - May 26 – Bus trip to a Mariners baseball game. (POC: Pasco/Kennewick Senior Centers)
 - June (date TBD) – MCBONES Research Center Foundation visit to the Coyote Canyon Mammoth dig site.
 - June 15 – Dust Devils baseball game.
 - August 11 – Bus trip to a Mariners baseball game. (POC: Pasco/Kennewick Senior Centers)
 - October (date TBD) – CREHST Tombstone Tales night trip – the old Richland cemetery.
- Member Faye Vlieger said a possible Chapter activity and fundraiser is the Tri-Cities Fever's "50/50" program for non-profit organizations. **[Note: The Chapter Board is working to get more information on this program.]**
- Encouraged members to stop by the Chapter's Service Office in the Federal Building.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster Larry Williams. Reported he made a couple of minor updates to the Chapter web site.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/PR Mary Binder.

- Reminded members that she needed articles/input for the Chapter's March/April newsletter by Friday, February 8. Also, being able to send the newsletter electronically vs. mailing saves the Chapter money, so having current member e-mail addresses is important.
- Reported the February Chapter meeting announcement had been in the January 30, *Tri-City Herald*, the February electronic *Senior Review*, and posted on DOE Hanford's RL/ORP internal communications webpage.
- Reminded members February 15 is the deadline for NARFE's 2014 Calendar Photo Contest. Information is in the Chapter's newsletter and the *narfe* magazine.
- Reminded members that from February 1 thru April 26 applications can be submitted for the 2013 NARFE Scholarship Awards Program. More details are in the Chapter's newsletter and *narfe* magazine. NARFE will award 60, \$1,000 scholarships.

- For “sunshine” said she’d sent get well/thinking of you cards to: Betty Maupin; Rolande Berlage; Bob Stewart; and, Ann Carrothers. Johanna said that Bob Stewart’s wife said he would enjoy company now that he is back home. A card was also sent to the Federation’s service officer, Charlie Caughlan and his wife, Denise, who was recently diagnosed with a serious illness. Sympathy cards were sent to DVP 1 Frances Titus, whose sister passed away recently, and to Erma Jean Pittman, whose mother recently passed away. Johanna is also checking on members John and Ida Straub – John recently passed away and Ida’s status is not known. Mary conveyed a message from Dolores Rizzo – she is scheduled for knee surgery February 13 and looks forward to attending meetings again soon.

Treasurer’s Report Nancy Crosby.

- Highlighted the January report. Balance on hand as of December 31, \$5,030.45. January receipts were \$725.18 and disbursements, \$566.39, leaving a balance of \$5,189.24. Projected obligations are \$2,865.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$2,324.24.
- Reported that Frank Griffin had audited the Chapter’s 2012 financial books and found them in order. Thank you, Frank.
- Reminded members that Chapter coffee mugs are available for \$12/each.
- **Monies collected at the February meeting/since the previous meeting** Luncheon, \$280; Alzheimer’s Research Fund, \$50; NARFE-PAC, \$0; Newsletter Fund, \$27.50 (including \$17.50 donated from 50/50 raffle); and 50/50 Raffle, \$35 collected/\$17.50 awarded.

District V (Tri-Cities, Walla Walla, Yakima) Vice President Nancy Crosby.

- Said she and the Binders would be attending the February 7 Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) Executive Board meeting in Tacoma. She provided a DVP report for the meeting. For each district, she is emphasizing completing an outreach plan (combined membership and PR plans).
- An agenda item for the WSFC Exec Board meeting is the WSFC-hosted Region IX Leadership Training workshop scheduled for noon, Friday, May 31 to noon, Saturday, June 1, in Ellensburg. **[Note:** Attending will require one overnight. The Chapter has budgeted to cover the \$30 registration cost, which includes a buffet dinner Friday evening. Registration forms and a flyer were provided at the meeting and are on the Federation web site, www.narfewa.net. This event is in lieu of the Federation’s previous annual conventions. It is intended for NARFE leaders AND all members wanting to learn/know more about NARFE – everything from its mission to how it functions/operates.]

Alzheimer’s Chairman Bill Darke.

- Reported the Chapter received \$16 in January and has an account balance of \$112.
- Said that for this funding year [which started May 1], the Chapter had contributed \$1185, putting it currently in first place in the WSFC for chapter contributions.
- Reminded members that for a donation of at least \$20, NARFE has a lapel pin.

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. Nancy said she found helpful the list Pam provided her with the names of members who made a reservation for lunch vs. just a having a total number. This was new and hopefully will make it easier to track those making reservations and any no shows.

Hospitality Carl Gallion. Frank Griffin reminded members that if they make a reservation, they are obligated to pay for that reservation, unless they call to cancel. [The Chapter must pay for the number of reservations made.]

Legislative Co-chairmen Don and Mary Binder. Don:

- Recapped the meetings he and Mary had with Rep. Doc Hasting’s district director, Barb Lisk, in Doc’s Pasco office, January 16, and January 17 with Dave Reeploeg, Senator Maria Cantwell’s Central Washington director. A goal is to continue to have positive working relationships with both offices. (Mary emphasized to members the importance of using personal stories vs. just making generalizations when talking with and/or writing to elected officials and their staffs.)
- Said NARFE is hosting legislative conference calls by regions. The Region IX call was this morning and covered topics such as the debt ceiling, continuing resolution and sequestration.
- Announced that NARFE is continuing its **PROTECT America’s Heartbeat** (PAH) campaign. (www.ProtectAmericasheartbeat.com) The toolkit is being revised.

- Highlighted NARFE's current letter-writing campaign to targeted legislators in key positions. Washington State's Senator Patty Murray is one of the targeted legislators. The WSFC legislative chairman, Mike Teefy, is working to set up a meeting with the senator's state director. For the meeting, the WSFC would like to have signed letters from as many WSFC members as possible. Prepared letters for members to sign/provide contact information were distributed along with blank templates for members wanting to personally write to the senator. Members can submit both letters. The templates will also be available at the Chapter's March meeting. **[Note: 15 letters were collected at the meeting – 13 form letters; 2 handwritten. They were provided to Mike Teefy at the WSFC Executive Board meeting Thursday, February 7.]**
 - Reminded members that March 9-12 are the dates for NARFE's 2013 Legislative Training Conference, Washington, D.C. He and Mary are planning to attend and will provide a report at the April Chapter meeting.
 - Again encouraged members who are not signed up for NARFE's GEMS (Global Electronic Messaging System) to do so as it is an effective way to keep up with what NARFE is doing.
- Membership** Chairman Johanna Caylor.
- Asked for help in contacting/getting information about dropped members, especially those who worked for DOE.
 - Reminded members to check the contact information NARFE has for them, e.g., e-mail address.
- NARFE-PAC** Chapter Coordinator Frank Griffin; WSFC Chairman Don Binder. Don:
- Said he/Frank would be meeting to discuss chapter PAC coordinator duties. Frank agreed to take on this position in January.
 - Said NARFE's new PAC pins would be highlighted in the March *narfe* magazine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February Birthdays/Anniversaries Pam Griffin, birthday, February 6 – members sang "Happy Birthday" to her; John and Sharon Patten, anniversary, 52 years

Drawings Bob Lindsey, free lunch; Mary Binder, \$17.50, 50/50 raffle (donated to the newsletter)

Next Executive Board Meeting Friday, February 8, 11:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, March 6, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

March Meeting Program Sharon Holden, director, Development and Regional Advancement, WSU, will provide an overview of the vision and status of the university's Wine Science Center.

Announcements None

NEW BUSINESS No new business

MEETING ADJOURNED 1:40 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary