

**NARFE Chapter 1192**  
**January 8, 2014 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 22 members and 3 guests, including guest speaker Gail Everett. Don introduced the head table, called for a moment of silence and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS/PROGRAM SIGN-UP SHEETS, ETC.** Don reminded members that chapter minutes and treasurer reports are posted on the chapter's web site and available at meetings. Event signup sheets, the latest chapter newsletter, and miscellaneous handouts and NARFE forms/publications are also at meetings.

**OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**President/Legislative Co-Chairman** *Don Binder*. Don provided both president and legislative information.

- Congress is back in session and NARFE's Legislative Action Center will be monitoring a number of issues that could affect current and/or retired federal employees.
- Writing/calling our elected officials continues to be very important! Don encouraged members to follow through and do this. NARFE needs more of its members to voice their concerns. On its web site, NARFE does have a template for sending a letter. Members can just add their name to the letter, or modify it, and it will be automatically sent to the respective Washington State elected representative/representatives.
- NARFE National Convention, August 24-28, Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando. All members welcome to attend; let Don know if you are planning to do so. Currently, Don and Mary Binder, Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston are planning to attend. Lorie Bennett is considering attending.
- Need fundraising ideas! Let Don know if you have suggestions for what the chapter could do to raise money.
- A focus for this year – increasing attendance at chapter meetings. For those needing transportation, Don reminded members to let their caller know or contact him. We can make arrangements to get people to meetings. Also, members can attend meetings without having lunch.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Service Office/Special Programs** *Lorie Bennett*.

- Looking for ideas/suggestions from chapter members for meeting programs and special activities chapter members can do together. Lorie is looking at another MCBONES tour, hopefully in the spring and a day-long trip to the Maryhill Museum and Maryhill Winery. Board member Steve Howes is working with a U.S. Fish & Wildlife representative regarding possible activities and presentations.
- May 25 – go to a Mariner's game in Seattle via bus. Cost: \$85. This trip is set up through the Kennewick Senior Center. **[Phone: 585.4303; or, online: 1. [www.go2kennewick.com/](http://www.go2kennewick.com/);**
- **2. On Line Services; 3. Recreation; 4. Register Now.]**
- Service Office – back open after a holiday break and “looking for customers!”

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Webmaster** *Larry Williams*.

- Reported that the chapter's web site statistics are about the same for 2013 as in 2012. The site is used particularly for accessing the newsletter.
- Completed several site updates – the 2014 calendar with known chapter meeting programs and the menus; officers' names.

**Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/PR** *Mary Binder*.

- NARFE Scholarship Program – some details are in the January *narfe* magazine; application and more details will be in the February *narfe* magazine.
- NARFE 2014/2015 Calendar Contest photos submission deadline is February 15.
- A reminder to all to check the January/February newsletter for the hidden numbers – the last four numbers of a membership number. Mary said let's have more winners in 2014!

- At its January meeting, the board approved the chapter's 2014 outreach action plan, which outlines proposed membership and public relations activities for the year. Mary has sent it to the federation membership and PR chairmen for their approval.
- For "sunshine" – members Gwen Naught and Thomas Vale passed away recently. Mary sent cards to their respective families.

**Treasurer's Report** *Nancy Crosby.*

- Nancy reported the chapter has about \$9,500, but does have obligations that will come from that amount. Copies of the report were available.
- Balance on hand as of December 31, \$5,320.74. December receipts were \$5,836.45 and disbursements, \$543.04, leaving a balance of \$10,614.15. Projected obligations are \$1,073.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$9,541.15.
- **Monies collected at the January meeting** Luncheon, \$345; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$40; [Note: other January donations totaled \$525 for a monthly cumulative total of \$565.] NARFE-PAC, \$75; Newsletter, \$18; 50/50 Raffle, \$40 collected/\$20 awarded

**District V Vice President** *Nancy Crosby.*

- Thursday, February 13, is the next scheduled Washington federation board meeting. Nancy, and Mary and Don Binder, in their Washington State Federation of Chapters roles, are planning to attend.
- Installed chapter officers in December for all 3 district chapters – Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima.
- Brought copies of the Walla Walla chapter's cookbook. Copies are \$10/each. Proceeds go to the chapter's NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.
- 2014 WSFC Convention – May 14-15, Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale, Wash. More details are projected to be available starting in January, including on the federation web site ([www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net)). Nancy encouraged chapter members to consider attending. Those wanting to attend need to notify President Don.
- 2016 WSFC Convention – District V will host (Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima chapters). The hotel location will be in the Tri-Cities. Nancy, and Don and Mary Binder are still working on selecting a hotel and have done hotel site tours with the chapter's Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau representative. Nancy said the district will need many able bodies for various tasks!

**Alzheimer's** *Chairman Bill Darke.*

- For December, \$25.50 in donations. Since the beginning of this Alzheimer's Research Fund year, May 1, Bill has sent \$1600 to the federation from chapter donations. The chapter's record is \$1653. Currently, there is \$84 in the chapter Alzheimer's account. [Note: A small balance is kept in the chapter's Alzheimer's bank account so as to keep the account open.]
- For donations of \$20/more, there is an Alzheimer's pin.

**Caller Coordinator** *Pam Griffin.*

- Thanked callers for the work they do in contacting members about the monthly meetings.
- Said she can always use more callers.
- Reminded members that those who make reservations but do not show do owe the chapter for their lunch as the chapter has to pay the hotel. Reservations can be cancelled as late as Monday evening prior to the chapter meeting.

**Hospitality** *Chairman Carl Gallion.* For Carl, Don reported that Carl has signed the chapter's contract with the Red Lion for 2014, even though the hotel is up for sale.

**Membership** *Chairman Johanna Caylor.* For Johanna, Don reported:

- Chapter results from NARFE's recent 6-month free membership campaign – 9 new 6-month members and 4 more who actually paid/joined.
- Available at the meeting:
  - New NARFE membership brochure, *NARFE*. Form number/date: F-135 (08/13). Don asked members to toss old versions. [NARFE reminder: Effective October 1, 2013, new member dues are \$40 vs. \$45.]

- *NARFE Dues Withholding Application for New members (Retirees)*, FE-3 (08/13). Don reminded members that there is a \$15, one-time rebate for signing up, besides annual savings.
- Update NARFE brochure, *The 10 Worst Mistakes Federal Employees Can Make*, F-126 (10/13).

**NARFE-PAC** *Chairman Frank Griffin*. Frank said he appreciated the chapter's support to NARFE-PAC but that more is still needed with all the issues current and retired employees face. "We need to continue to push forward," he said.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**January Birthdays** Bettye Maupin; Bill Darke

**January Anniversaries** No one at the meeting

**Drawings** Bill Hoyt, free lunch; Mable Rutt, \$20, 50/50 raffle

**Next Exec Board Meeting** Wednesday, February 19, noon, Tri-City Country Club

**Next Chapter Meeting** Wednesday, February 5, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

**February Meeting Program** Burlington Northern representative is scheduled to provide a presentation on railroad crossing safety.

**Announcements** Nancy Crosby announced that DOE employee Dianne Henrich's surprise retirement party is Thursday, January 23. Several chapter members worked with her. On the announcement, Nancy said it states that all retired DOE NARFE members are invited to attend, which is good recognition for NARFE and the chapter. Copies of the announcement were available at the meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS** Chapter annual food drive for the Tri-Cities Food Bank – Don thanked members who brought food and said cash donations (cash or check) are also welcome. **[Note: Received \$15/cash and 155 lbs. of food. Don and Mary delivered it to the Tri-Cities Food Bank, Kennewick, Thursday, January 9.]**

**MEETING ADJOURNED** 12:37 p.m.

**Program** Gail Everett, environmental education director, Green Energy Program, City of Richland, provided members an overview on recycling and recycling programs in the Tri-Cities area. She used a PowerPoint presentation, brought samples of items for recycling and had handouts. "Reduce, reuse and recycle" are the emphasis, with reducing being the most important of the three as the amount of trash in the U.S. has tripled since 1960. We are a disposable society. Throwing away something does not mean it goes away. Many items "photo-degrade" but do not "biodegrade." Gail emphasized that if everyone just worried about what they could do to reduce, reuse and recycle, it will make a difference. For questions and more ideas, go to: [www.ci.richland.wa.us/reuse](http://www.ci.richland.wa.us/reuse).

**Prepared by:**  
***Mary Alice Binder***  
**Secretary**