

NARFE Chapter 1192
June 6, 2018 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:07 pm, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. She led the Pledge of Allegiance, called for a moment of silence for those members who have passed, those who are sick, and our law enforcement, fire, emergency workers, and service members. She welcomed 21 attendees, including Janice Lake who attended a meeting for the first time. President Bennett pointed out that this is the 74th anniversary of “D” Day.

REMINDER: BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS/HANDOUTS, ETC.

Chapter minutes and treasurer reports are on the chapter’s website; copies are also at meetings. Event sign-up sheets, the latest chapter newsletter, and miscellaneous handouts and NARFE forms and/or publications are also at meetings.

OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- The chapter’s revised bylaws are approved and signed.

President/Special Programs *President Lorie Bennett.*

- Darleen Wall was introduced as the new Call Coordinator.
 - Volunteers are needed to help with calls.
- Reminder to vote in the NARFE national election. Information is on the website and in the *narfe* magazines.
- NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars, 2 p.m. ET:
 - June 21, Steps to a Speedy Federal Retirement
 - July 26, Survivor Benefits: Ensure Your Peace of Mind
 - Past webinars can be viewed “on demand” on the NARFE website, www.narfe.org.
- Hospitality – members with a confirmed lunch reservation need to cancel by not later than 10 a.m. the Monday prior to the chapter meeting to avoid being charged for their meal.
- Dust Devils game, July 1, 7:15 p.m. – the chapter has been invited to attend the game with a veterans group. Tickets would be discounted. Chapter members expressed interest. A sign-up sheet is available at today’s meeting. Members interested in attending can also email her: loriebennett4310@gmail.com.
- Lifetime Chapter Memberships are being explored. It will be discussed at the Board meeting, which will follow today’s business meeting.
- Free Long-Term Care webinars are online at www.LTCFEDS.com/elearning.

1st Vice President *Pat Turner.* No report.

2nd Vice President/Service Officer *John Cavanaugh.* No report.

Director at Large *Nancy Crosby.* No report.

Director at Large *Bob Stewart.* No report.

Secretary/Sunshine *Secretary Faye Vlieger.*

- Send meeting agenda items to Mary. As part of her PR duties, she will be preparing the meeting agendas.
- Sunshine: The following members received cards from the Chapter.
 - Sig Preston’s sister passed away.
 - Ruby Ulseth is ill.
 - Mary Goldie is ill.
 - Dana Krantz is ill.
 - Liz Bowers’ uncle, and her husband Dave’s aunt passed away.
 - Send “sunshine” updates to Secretary Faye.

Newsletter/Public Relations *Mary Binder*

- Chapter newsletter:

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- July/August newsletter will be published about July 1st. Articles and submissions are due by Friday, June 8.
- Hidden numbers, Ted Boyce found his number in the May/June newsletter.
- June 13, annual Senior Life Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The chapter will staff a table with NARFE information.

Treasurer's Report *Liz Bowers.*

- Balance on hand as of May 31, \$10,127.00. May income (including \$5,900 transferred from the InFirst account) was \$6,426.76, and disbursements, \$1,167.11. The full report is posted on the chapter website.
- Liz reported that monthly deposits from NARFE are now being made to the chapter's new GESA account. The InFirst account is being closed. Nancy has sent a letter to request for a payoff, and to close the account.
- **Monies collected at the June Meeting** Luncheon, \$369; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$16; NARFE-PAC, \$28, including \$11 donated from 50/50 drawing; newsletter, \$12; 50/50 drawing, \$22 collected/\$11 awarded.

WSF President *Nancy Crosby.*

- WSF – elections and appointed positions:
 - Nancy was reelected as the WSF President, as were Karol Kusunose Vice President, Ida Sevier Secretary, Anne Kush Treasurer, Christine Price District I VP, and Mary Binder District V VP.
 - Newly elected were: John Wells, District II VP, George (Sam) Sevier District III VP, and Al Costa District IV VP.
 - Continuing to serve in appointed positions: Lorie Bennett Alzheimer's chairman; Sam Cagle NARFE-PAC, and PR chairman; Mary Binder, *Federation Reporter* editor; John Thurber, state legislative chairman; Charlie Caughlan, service officer; Linda Wallers, webmaster.
 - Arlene Patton and Kathy Brooks, Spokane Chapter 32, volunteered to serve as co-training coordinators.
 - Vacant appointed positions are: national legislative and membership chairman. For the membership chairman, this could be a shared position.
 - For more details, please see the WSF website: <http://www.narfewa.net>.
 - There was a low ballot return rate of only 90 ballots out of 7,850.
- Copies of the Federation Reporter are available at the WSF website; copies were also available at the meeting.
- The next federation board meeting will be September 10th in Tacoma.
- August 26-29, Fedcon18, Hyatt Regency Riverfront, Jacksonville, Fla.
 - Currently, 5 chapter members are planning to attend: Nancy, Lorie Bennett, Mary Binder, Johanna Caylor and Pat Turner.
 - Electronic voting for officers and proposed bylaws and resolutions changes opened May 10. Paper ballots are in the June *narfe* magazine. More details on this will be covered in today's meeting program.

WSF Alzheimer's *Lorie Bennett.*

- Thank you to John Cavanaugh and Larry Williams for volunteering to cover the gift basket table, and the dispersal of the baskets after the drawings at the Spokane federation conference.
- For the federation fiscal year, May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018, the federation donated \$8,251.27 to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.
- We are ordering a new table cover for upcoming events.
- Sunday, October 14, area Walk to End Alzheimer's – Lorie said she is hoping the chapter can have a team. A sign-up sheet was started this meeting. While funds collected do not go

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to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund, participation does give visibility to our chapter and NARFE.

WSF District V VP *Mary Binder.*

- Walla Walla Chapter – has voted to close. Target closure is September 1st. The chapter's final meeting is scheduled for June 7.
 - Letters to about 100 members have been sent regarding their options to change chapters, or become national members only.
 - We may be seeing some Walla Walla members joining our chapter.
- Yakima Chapter – scheduled to have a June meeting, then break for the summer. The chapter may still need to find a new meeting location.

Legislative *Mary Binder.*

- The U.S. Senate has cancelled its August recess, or most of it, which could impact the availability of our elected officials for local grassroots activities.
- August is NARFE Grassroots Advocacy Month. Molly Checksfield from NARFE's Advocacy Department provided some helpful tips in her web presentation at the WSF May conference: contact our respective elected officials every few months; do not call too often; don't be a pest; have personal stories to show how legislation positively or negatively impacts you.
- Be sure to vote in the August 7th Washington State primary.

Alzheimer's *Larry Williams.* No report.

NARFE-PAC *Bob Stewart.*

- Bob discussed that there are changes being proposed to Federal employee's benefits that could impact the membership. This makes participation in NARFE-PAC important to protect your earned benefits.
- There is a new sustainer, Larry Williams. Thank you for your support.
- \$20 was collected for NARFE-PAC at today's meeting.

Membership *Johanna Caylor, presented by Lorie Bennett*

- 57 chapter members are now "distinguished" NARFE members; that is, they have been NARFE members for at least 20 years.
 - Johanna has prepared this list. They will be receive a certificate and Distinguished Member membership card.
- Delinquent notices for late dues payment have been mailed.
- Johanna attended the June 1-3 postmasters convention at Clover Island Inn. She had a table with NARFE information. Two attendees signed up as NARFE members.

Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Caller Coordinator *Darlene Wall.* No report.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There are new vacation opportunities advertised in the *narfe* magazine, including for cruises.

Free Lunch Drawing Larry Williams.

50/50 Drawing \$22 collected/\$11 awarded to John Cavanaugh, and donated to NARFE-PAC.

June July & August Birthdays Lorrie bennet 7/29; Janice Lake 8/2; Nancy Crosby 8/10; Ernie Amundsen 8/15; Dennis Maupin, 8/18.

June July & August Anniversaries Nancy Glaesemann 6/17; Bob Stewart 6/24; Norma Van Patten 7/3; Dennis Maupin 8/21; John Cavanaugh 8/2, Ernie Amundsen 8/7.

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Next Exec Board Meeting Today, June 6, immediately following the chapter meeting. All members invited.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

September Chapter Meeting Program Recap of the August 26 – 28 Fedcon18.

Closing Remarks President Lorie Bennett:

- Continue to stay engaged with our elected officials through NARFE, and vote in the primary election in August.
- Have a wonderful and safe summer.

MEETING CLOSED 1:01 p.m.

Prepared by:
Faye Vlieger
Secretary

Meeting Program Mary Binder provided members with a recap of the State Conference. She commented that it was a very nicely run conference, including good food and entertainment.

Other highlights include:

- Only 72 members attended, which could be indicative of the drop in active members.
- Barb Sidio, NARFE's new executive director, provided an overview of changes at NARFE and a look ahead.
- Several WSF officers provided an overview of their backgrounds with NARFE and current positions.
- Great webinars from Molly Checksfield from NARFE's Advocacy Department and Monica Williams, NARFE deputy director, Recruitment and Retention.
- Very interesting lunch presentation on the new WSU medical school.
- \$330 was raised for Alzheimer's from donated items.
- NARFE-PAC had almost \$140 in contributions.

Mary also reminded the membership to vote in the NARFE National elections. Mark your ballots and vote using the pin number in the June *narfe* magazine. Mary prepared a package on the voting information presented in the May *narfe* magazine.