

NARFE Chapter 1192
June 5, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 1st Vice President Pat Turner called the meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. President Lorie Bennett was not able to attend the meeting. Pat reminded attendees to silence their electronic devices.

- Pat welcomed 19 members and 4 guests to the “nicely decorated and comfortable meeting room.” Guests were: the meeting’s program speaker Aaron Burks and his wife Laura; member Liz Bowers’ husband Dave; and, Fred Serier, guest of member Leo Guillen. Leo was attending his first meeting in a number of years.
- Pat called for a moment of silence and reflection for: the safety of all who will be graduating soon; all who lost their lives 75 years ago on D-Day, and in all of WWII; our military and civilians defending us and our country; our NARFE leaders and members; and, all our elected officials working on our behalf. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Special Programs 1st VP Pat for President Lorie Bennett.

- Nominating Committee – Pat asked that any member willing to serve on this committee to contact Mary Binder. The committee will be working over the summer to find individuals willing to serve as officers and/or chairmen for chapter committees. Elections will be in November. Pat shared that one often hears of clubs folding due to members not stepping up. She therefore asked members to please consider serving.
- 2020 Lunch Menu – also over the summer, the chapter board will start the review process for next year’s meeting lunch menu. Pat asked members who have ideas, suggestions, comments, etc., to please contact President Lorie.
- **REMINDERS:**
 - NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars are at 2 PM, Eastern Time. The webinar schedule through December is on the NARFE website, along with past webinars. Viewing these is free for NARFE members – another member perk.
 - Members who do not cancel a confirmed luncheon reservation for the chapter meeting by 10 AM, Monday before the meetings, will be charged for the meal.
 - Check the back table or the chapter website for minutes, newsletters, etc.
 - Also check the website for lunch menus and meeting programs.

1st Vice President Pat Turner. No additional 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 Pat Turner for Secretary Faye Vlieger.

- Mary Binder took the meeting minutes today for Secretary Faye who was ill.
- Pat reported that there was no additional “sunshine” information since the June/July/August chapter newsletter was finalized. Sunshine information is on page 4 of the newsletter.

Treasurer’s Report Liz Bowers.

- Balance on hand in the GESA account was \$13,884.51. Of that \$5,902.68 was in the checking account; however, of that amount, only \$2,790 and change was chapter money. The remainder had been collected for the May Region IX Training Conference [and would be used to pay the outstanding conference bills].
- Liz paid the chapter’s annual liability insurance bill of \$100.
- **Monies collected at the June Meeting** Luncheon, \$383; Alzheimer’s Research Fund, \$23; NARFE-PAC, \$3; 50/50, \$34 collected/\$17 awarded and donated to NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund; general donations, \$0.

Newsletter/Public Relations *Mary Binder.*

- Chapter June/July/August quarterly newsletter:
 - The newsletter was finalized and distributed, both electronic and mailed copies. [It is also posted on the chapter website.] Members indicated they had received theirs.
 - Hidden numbers – Member Chuck Clayton found his membership number, notified Membership Chairman Johanna, and donated his \$5 winnings to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. There are 2 additional members with their numbers in the newsletter.
- May 22, Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon and meeting – Mary reported that she, Nancy Crosby and Pat Turner attended the meeting. Superintendents from the Kennewick, Pasco and Richland school districts were the featured speakers/program. They provided information on where the districts are now and a look ahead. An issue will be funding shortages resulting from the state legislators change in how districts are now funded through the state and limits on raising additional funds.
- June 13, Senior Life Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, 10 AM to 4 PM – Mary said this annual event is free and that the chapter will have a NARFE table. There was a flyer at the meeting for members wanting more information.
- 2020 Census – Mary reported that she had received a call from a U.S. Census Bureau employee. He got her name as the chapter point of contact from the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce. The Census Bureau is looking for part-time employees for the 2020 census. Mary had a flyer at the meeting for members wanting more information.

Legislative *Mary Binder.*

- Congress will be going into recess over the 4th of July holiday period and then again for most of August. Mary reminded members to be prepared to contact our elected officials over the summer should we get notified from NARFE that we need to do so.
- For those who could not attend **LEGcon19**, or the recent Region IX Training Conference, Mary shared that presentations such as that given by Jessica Klement, NARFE staff VP for advocacy, are on the NARFE website. Mary had a printed copy of Jessica's presentation and said members who needed assistance accessing the presentations could contact her.

WSF: *Nancy Crosby, Mary Binder, Lorie Bennett.*

- President Nancy:
 - Nancy provided highlights from the May Region IX Training Conference, which are also in the current chapter newsletter. Many at the chapter meeting attended the conference. Nancy shared that there was a good turnout, great speakers, that feedback was generally very favorable, that we'll break even – which is good – and that she has already received requests for us to host the next training conference [2021], but that she would like another chapter/federation to take a turn. However, time will tell if that happens.
 - Additional copies of the annual *Federation Reporter* were at the meeting.
 - The latest date for the new NARFE Association Management System to go online was June 1. Nancy said that as of the meeting, it was not yet up and running. **[Note: Per a NARFE email Wednesday evening, the system is now online.]**
 - The NARFE Federation Presidents' Meeting/NARFE Annual Meeting is scheduled for July 7-10, Scottsdale, Arizona. As the Washington Federation VP, Mary will attend for Nancy as she will be recovering from hip surgery.
 - The federation's website has been redesigned and updated. Nancy encouraged members to check it out.
 - The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, 9 AM, La Quinta Hotel, Tacoma. As always, all members are welcome to attend.

- VP Mary – Mary said she would be working over the summer with a member from the Bremerton chapter to start updating the federation’s policies and procedures, and other documents.
- District V VP Mary – Mary shared that she attended the May Yakima chapter meeting. One of the chapter’s members received a distinguished member certificate for his more-than 20 years of NARFE membership. He is in his 90s and a WWII POW survivor of Berga on der Elster, a sub-concentration camp of Buchenwald. He shared some of his POW experiences at the meeting. Mary said it was an honor and thought-provoking experience to hear him speak. With the age of WWII veterans, there will be fewer such opportunities.
- Alzheimer’s Chairman Lorie – no report.

Alzheimer’s *Larry Williams*. Larry said information regarding the October 13, Walk to End Alzheimer’s, Kennewick, is in the current chapter newsletter. He reminded members that the chapter will have a team again this year. Members can walk and/or donate to the Walk. New this year – while the funds donated will remain local, donations from NARFE members will be credited to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund goal. Larry also shared that he has a personal goal – to complete the entire walk this year.

Webmaster *Larry Williams*. Larry reinforced Nancy’s encouragement to members to check out the redesigned and updated federation website, www.narfewa.org. He said he has created a link from the chapter’s website, www.narfe1192.org, to the federation website.

NARFE-PAC *Bob Stewart*.

- Bob reported that \$39 was collected at the May chapter meeting, bringing the total collected at chapter meetings this year to \$284. Today’s collection, however, was only \$3.
- Bob highlighted donations from the NARFE first quarter reports, which covered through March 31. This information is also in the current chapter newsletter.
- Bob reminded members that the 2020 congressional races are heating up. He asked members to please consider donating to NARFE-PAC.

Membership *Johanna Caylor*. Johanna reported that the summer FEHB program health fairs/vendors service visit is scheduled for Monday, July 15, Richland. **[She is planning to have a NARFE table.]** Contact Johanna if you have questions. Her number is in the chapter newsletter. If there is a date or other changes, the information will be on the chapter website, www.narfe1192.org.

Caller Coordinator *Darleen Wall*.

- Prior to the September chapter meeting, callers will be making their annual calls to all local chapter members to verify contact information. This includes calls to those on the “do-not-call” list.
- Darleen thanked the callers for their dedication and service. The callers received a round of applause.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS There was one extra lunch for sale for \$5. See Nancy Crosby.

Free Lunch Drawing John Cavanaugh.

50/50 Drawing Pat Turner, \$34 collected, \$17 awarded and donated to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund.

June Birthdays No one at the meeting.

July Birthdays Sign Preston.

August Birthdays Nancy Crosby; Janice Lake; Ruby Ulseth.

June Anniversaries Chuck Clayton/Nancy Glaesmann.

July Anniversaries Bill/Marilyn Darke.

August Anniversaries No one at the meeting.

Next Exec Board Meeting Thursday, August 15, 1 PM, Zintel Creek Golf Club. All members welcome.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, September 4, 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 Getting organized; decluttering; downsizing ... getting started and moving forward. Bring your questions! Speaker being finalized. **(POC: Mary Binder)**

Closing Remarks *VP Pat Turner.*

- Remember D-Day, tomorrow, June 6.
- Father's Day is Sunday, June 16.
- Another reminder about the FEHB program Summer Health Fairs, Monday, July 15, Richland.
- Please consider serving as an officer and/or committee chairman. Contact Mary Binder.
- Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

MEETING CLOSED 12:38 p.m.

Prepared for Secretary Faye Vlieger by:

Mary Alice Binder,

Public Relations Chairman

CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM Aaron Burks, owner, Atomic Ale Brewpub & Eatery, and Monterosso's, both in Richland, provided an overview and update of the craft brewing industry, including in the Pacific Northwest where it started. His presentation included a history of the development of beer worldwide and then in the U.S. – through early days, the decimation during Prohibition and the revival afterward, and the current growth. The presentation was informative and entertaining! In conclusion, Aaron encouraged members to, "Support Local!"

(POC: Liz Bowers)