

NARFE Chapter 1192
March 3, 2010 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Nancy Crosby called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash., welcomed everyone and called for a moment of silence for reflection on yet another world disaster, the recent earthquake in Chile. She introduced the head table, including today's program speaker, Norma Miller, from the Better Business Bureau. Wally Hendrickson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Nancy welcomed Paul Carter and new member Marcia Roske Lingle to their first meeting.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder highlighted the February Chapter meeting minutes. There were no comments or corrections. The minutes were approved. (Note: Minutes are posted on the Chapter's website, and copies are available at Chapter meetings.)

TREASURER'S REPORT President Nancy provided the treasurer's report for Bob Stewart. Balance on hand as of January 31, \$7,977.91. February receipts were \$595.57 and disbursements, \$604.12, leaving a balance of \$7,969.36. Projected dedicated funds are \$3,856.00 leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$4113.36. Nancy reported that she and Bob had met to begin the transition of treasurer duties to Bob; they are planning to meet again in March to complete the transition when Bob is back in town.

Monies collected at the January meeting Luncheon, \$377; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$30; NARFE-PAC, \$20; Newsletter Fund, \$25; and 50/50 Raffle, \$32 collected/\$16 awarded, and donated to the Alzheimer's Research Fund.

DISTRICT/OFFICER/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Nancy informed members that VP Carl Gallion was dealing with a significant medical issue that will take him out of commission until around June. He is currently at the Life Care Center, Richland.

District VP For VP Carl Gallion, President Nancy reported:

- Carl has decided not to run again for the District VP position.
- The 2010 District workshop is still scheduled for April 23, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Yakima. We will have a Chapter head count at the Chapter's April meeting. The Chapter does cover the registration/lunch costs for Chapter members attending. All are invited.

1st Vice President For Gary Hagedorn, President Nancy again reminded members that the *NARFE* magazine is a good source for discounts/discount coupons.

2nd Vice President No report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke reported:

- There was \$258.94 in the Chapter's Alzheimer's account; most of what is in the account at the end of April will be sent to the Federation – prior to the annual Federation convention. He has lapel pins for contributions of \$20 and more.
- The issue regarding the November donation checks not clearing members' checking accounts is resolved. Members are reporting the checks are clearing and letters acknowledging the contribution are being received. The question again was asked: could the contribution be a 2009 tax deduction even though it wasn't deposited until 2010. Answer: yes.

Hospitality No report.

Legislative For Don Binder, co-legislative chair, Mary Binder reported:

- At 10 a.m. today, PST, President Obama was scheduled to announce his "next step" in the health care debate. Mary said Don did not have the exact language, but reported that members should be able to get additional information throughout the day from media outlets. Don had also shared that even if our FEHB program is not changed, the cost to provide benefits to those to be covered by the proposed legislation will most likely impact us with increased taxes.
- There has been no change regarding the passage of a bill to change Medicare Part B payments for those NOT eligible for Social Security payments. The House has passed the legislation; the Senate has not. Medicare payments increased from \$97 to \$110 for CSRS members who have Medicare Part B; they did not change for Social Security recipients.

Membership No report.

NARFE-PAC For Chairman Don Binder, Mary Binder reported that March is PAC month and contributions are needed as we move closer to elections. For contributions of \$20 or more, there is a 2009/2010 PAC pin.

Newsletter President Nancy reported that she and Mary Binder had gotten out the March/April Chapter newsletter. (Note: The newsletter is on the Chapter's website and additional copies are at Chapter meetings.)

Public Relations For Chairman Gary Hagedorn, President Nancy reported that the Chapter's monthly meeting announcement was sent to the DOE for its Friday *Facts for Feds*, and to the *Tri-City Herald*. Mary Binder confirmed that it was in the paper's Sunday edition, February 28. Nancy also shared that the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau's new visitor guide has an entry (page 71) for Chapter 1192; being included in the guide is part of the Chapter's membership benefits.

Service Officers Service Officer Mary Goldie reminded members that April 30 is the deadline for submitting scholarship nominations for graduating high school seniors who are either children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren or step grandchildren of members. Mary has the applications for the nominations.

Sunshine Chair Carolyn Reeploeg said she has get-well cards for members to sign for Carl Gallion. President Nancy said Carl does have a phone, 946-6749, ext. 302; Larry Williams was asked to post this information on the Chapter's web site. Carl is at physical therapy from 1 to 2:30 p.m., so not a time to call. Carolyn also reported that she just learned that Paul Gottschalk is seriously ill. Carl Qualheim provided additional information on Paul. Carolyn reminded members to keep her informed on members who may need cards

Website No report.

CHAPTER BUSINESS

WSFC 2010 Convention The WSFC annual convention is scheduled for May 17-19, Holiday Inn, Everett. President Nancy said that she and Mary Binder have copies of registration forms; committee people are still needed; and Mary Binder is collecting donations for the booster list. There are several convention deadlines in March, including registration for those wanting to attend.

NARFE 2010 National Convention Application information was in the January *NARFE* magazine. More information will be coming in April regarding proxy votes. The Board has approved \$250 each to help off set registration costs for the 4 members currently planning to attend the convention – Johanna Caylor, Sig Preston, and Don and Mary Binder.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chapter Distinguished Members President Nancy said that a letter will be sent to the Chapter's "distinguished members" – those at least 85 years of age and with at least 20 years NARFE membership. They will receive a certificate, pin and special membership card. Local distinguished members will be invited to attend the Chapter's April meeting as guests of the Chapter.

Drawings Nancy Crosby, \$16, 50/50 raffle (donated to Alzheimer's Research); Juanita Anderson, free lunch.

Executive Board Meeting Scheduled for after the Chapter meeting, same room.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, April 7, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

April Meeting Program Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers; bring one item for appraisal.

PROGRAM

Norma Miller, Better Business Bureau area representative Guest speaker, Norma Miller, provided members pertinent information on ways to protect themselves from everything from scams to identity theft. She explained the importance of, for example: shredding documents, using a crosscut vs. straight cutter; removing labels with identifying information, whether from prescriptions or magazines; handing credit cards upside down to tellers; exercising caution when writing checks, especially with people around you who could be taking pictures with their phones; women watching their purses when they put them in shopping carts, when returning to cars – put the purse in first before other items; having passwords protected; being careful of door-to-door salesmen; and, having credit card numbers and other information written and stored safely in case the cards are stolen.

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Al Rizzo This is a time of reflection and renewal – time to think about where we are and where we are going. Three elements to the process – prayer, forgiveness and mercy.

Meeting adjourned 1:20 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder,
Secretary