

NARFE Chapter 1192
March 1, 2011 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 1st Vice President Carl Gallion called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. President Don Binder could not attend the meeting. Carl welcomed 30 attendees, including new members/first-time attendees and program speaker Mike Blatman, crime prevention specialist, Kennewick PD. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced the head table.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder highlighted the February Chapter meeting minutes. There were no comments or corrections. The minutes were approved. [**Note: Both Chapter board and monthly meeting minutes are posted on the Chapter's web site and available at Chapter meetings.**]

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Don Binder. No report.

1st Vice President Carl Gallion. No report.

2nd Vice President Lorie Bennett. No report.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Nancy Crosby provided a report for the period ending February 28. Balance on hand as of January 31, \$8,015.56. February receipts were \$728.06 and disbursements, \$628.80, leaving a balance of \$8,114.82. Projected dedicated funds are \$3,537.88, leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$4,576.94. **The report is posted on the Chapter's web site.**

Monies collected at the March meeting/since the previous meeting Luncheon, \$384; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$44; NARFE-PAC, \$110; Newsletter Fund, \$15; and 50/50 Raffle, \$36 collected/ \$18 awarded.

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. No report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke reported that the Chapter's April 2010 contribution did not get deposited in time to give the Chapter credit for it prior to the Federation's May 2010 convention; but, it will count toward the Chapter's contributions for this year's convention. To date, the Chapter had contributed \$1,538, putting it in second place statewide. Bill has received one donation from the donation coupon in the Chapter's latest newsletter. All contributions are welcome; a pin is available for contributions of at least \$20.

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. Nancy Crosby reminded members that lunch reservations are important and that we all need to take responsibility for our reservations so as to help Pam ensure an accurate count. This can be done through the callers or by members calling Pam directly if they need to do so. Pam said she normally calls in the reservation count at 10:30 a.m. the Monday prior to the Wednesday monthly meeting. [**pgriff1@earthlink.net; P: 509.492.4304**]

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion reiterated the importance of making lunch reservations.

Legislative Co-chairman Mary Binder reported that co-chair Don Binder had just let her know that per POLITICO, the Senate had cleared a 2-week stopgap spending bill that will keep the government funded until March 18. The vote was 91-9, and the bill now goes to the president to be signed." Mary also reminded members that she and Don are scheduled to attend NARFE's Legislative Training Workshop, March 5-8, Washington, D.C. The workshop includes opportunities for those attending to meet with their state's respective senators and congressmen on Capitol Hill. Schedules are being finalized for the Federation's delegates to meet with our state's representatives. Mary said they'll provide summary information in April.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor reported that she has a couple of membership prospects. She said member Sandy Keating is moving to Camano Island to be near family. She reminded members to let NARFE and the Chapter know if they change their e-mail address and encouraged members to periodically use their PIN to access their OPM account information. Carl commented that current employees need NARFE more than anyone else right now.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor. Mary Binder asked that members let her or Johanna know if there is something they would like to see included in the Chapter's newsletter. Mary also asked for a show of hands from those receiving a mailed vs. electronic copy. There were a few. [**Note: Chapter newsletters are posted on the Chapter's web site and available at Chapter meetings. Articles and items for the Chapter's May/June newsletter are due by Friday, April 8. Other 2011 deadlines are: June 10, August 12, October 7 and December 9.**]

NARFE-PAC Chairman Carl Gallion. Carl said the new 2011/2012 PAC pin is featured on the cover of the March NARFE magazine. He has the pins for contributions of at least \$20.

Public Relations Chairman Mary Binder. Mary reported that the Chapter's monthly meeting announcement was not the *Tri-City Herald* this month; she'll be checking on that. She also asked members to provide her ideas/suggestions on where to advertise about the Chapter and its meetings, especially free sources.

Service Officer Lorie Bennett. Mary Goldie said there was a new sign in the Federal Building Lobby, Richland, for the Chapter's Service Office, Room 137.

Sunshine Chair Marci Lingle. Marci reported that she sent cards to the families of Esther Gordon, Marjorie Derouin and Robert Rosson. All recently passed away. She will be sending a card to Sue Avery who is having health issues/surgery and to Sandy Smith who just lost her mother. Carl reminded members to let Marci know if there is someone needing a card. Johanna provided members an update on Deacon Al Rizzo.

Web site Webmaster Larry Williams. No report.

CHAPTER BUSINESS

District I/V Workshop Carl encouraged members to consider attending the April 28 workshop in Moses Lake, Pillar Rock Grill. It is a good opportunity to: learn more about NARFE and current issues; meet other members, including some of the Federation officers; ask questions. Mary Binder reported that one agenda item will be a session on completing the F-100, *Be Prepared for Life's Events*. This publication can be completed electronically so members are encouraged to bring their laptops as they'll be able to follow along during the session. The Grill has free wi-fi. Carpooling will be an option for those not wanting to drive. The workshop is free and the Chapter pays for the lunch charge for members attending.

WSFC Convention, Spokane, May 15-17 Carl reminded members about the upcoming convention. Mary Binder has registration forms for anyone needing them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March Birthdays/Anniversaries Leo Guillen (birthday)

Drawings Al Lake, free lunch; Carol McGraw, \$18, 50/50 raffle

Executive Board Meeting Thursday, March 17, 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

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

April Meeting Program Antique Appraisals with Terry and Kathy Maurer – bring a small item for appraisal

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Al Rizzo Deacon Rizzo was not able to attend the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 12:34 p.m.

PROGRAM

Mike Blatman, crime prevention specialist, Kennewick PD Mike provided members an overview of several current crime issues – fraud and scams; identity theft; burglaries; vehicle thefts; sex offenders living in neighborhoods; the drug war. He said there are many individuals who “work harder to not work than work.” Regarding scams, he said there are many people who “want to suspend reality” and believe they can get “something for nothing,” so they fall for frauds and scams such as winning lotteries. Mike cautioned members to be careful with their identity information and said that debit cards are “the least secure way to make a purchase.” He also reminded members to lock their homes and vehicles – unlocked homes and vehicles account for at least half of home burglaries and vehicle thefts. Mike thanked members for their federal service, and answered questions. [Note: Announced program on “gangs – what you need to know” has tentatively been rescheduled for the Chapter's September meeting.]

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary