

NARFE Chapter 1192
March 6, 2019 Chapter Meeting Minutes

NO CHAPTER MEETING WAS HELD IN FEBRUARY DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER

CALL TO ORDER President Bennett called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m., at the Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Washington.

- Lorie welcomed 22 members and 5 guests, and called for a moment of silence to remember those in harm's way defending our country, NARFE, and the NARFE leadership. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Guests were: Jason Mercier who will be providing the presentation today, Bill Darke's wife Marilyn, John Harris' wife Kerry, Nathan Caldwell, and Terri Fischer.
- The members of the Board were introduced.

OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Special Programs *President Lorie Bennett*

- Annual chapter food drive for Tri-Cities Food Bank today collected \$256 as well as non-perishable food donations. Thank you for your support of the annual chapter food drive.
- At the February 19 Board meeting it was decided to change the newsletter from bi-monthly to quarterly.
- The budget for 2019 was approved by the Board at the February 19 meeting.
- Membership updates for Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor (*snow birding 'til spring*)
 - Newly revised membership renewal form copies are available at the back table.
 - Johanna has been working "membership" while snow birding

REMINDERS:

- NARFE Federal Benefits Institute – webinars, 2 p.m., Eastern Time
 - March 7 – The TSP and You (*Mark Keen, CFP*)
 - March 21 – Optimizing Your Social Security Benefits (*Tammy Flanagan*)
 - April 11 – Federal Benefits & Divorce (*James Marshall*)Past webinars are available on the NARFE website
- Members who do not cancel a confirmed luncheon reservation for the chapter meeting by 10 a.m. 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, meeting programs, newsletters.
- Board members are reminded to respond to emails, and communications in a timely manner.

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.

Monies collected at the March Meeting Luncheon, \$475; 50/50, \$16.

Secretary/Sunshine *Secretary Faye Vlieger*.

- Minutes are posted on the chapter website. You can send any changes or amendments to Faye.
- Sunshine:
 - A Get Well card was sent to Sig Preston, and to Rodney Mayback.
 - Rudolph Manuel passed away on January 23, and I was just informed of this today.
 - Reminder: Please continue to send “sunshine” updates to Secretary Faye.

Treasurer’s Report *Liz Bowers.*

- Total balance on hand in checking and savings as of February 28, \$16,747.49.
 - Checking: \$3,888.91, Savings \$12,858.58

Newsletter/Public Relations *Mary Binder.*

- March/April/May newsletter:
 - Is finalized mailed, sent electronically, posted to the website.
 - There are 3 new hidden numbers in the new newsletter. Carl Gallion found his and donated the \$5 to the Alzheimer’s fund.
 - Extra copies of the newsletter at the back table.
 - The newsletter is now published quarterly vs. bi-monthly.
- 2019 NARFE/FEEA Scholarship Program applications are due March 25, 3 p.m., EDT.
- 2019 NARFE Photo Contest, August 1 thru April 8 – Theme: “Living in the USA”.
- 2019 Senior Life Show – June 13, Three Rivers Convention Center.
- Mary has a few laminate pouches for your Medicare cards on the back table. See Mary if you want one.
- Mary will be attending the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce meeting on March 27.

Legislative *Mary Binder.*

- LEGcon19 – weather permitting, I’ll be flying to D.C. tomorrow [Thursday, March 7]. Nancy and Pat are scheduled to arrive Saturday. In all the years I’ve been doing this, I can’t think of a more interesting and challenging time to be in D.C. We’ll have a recap at the April chapter meeting.
- Despite the snow, I was able to meet with Jamie Daniels, Congressman Dan Newhouse’s district director on Friday, February 8, for about an hour. While she was generally familiar with NARFE, I provided her several NARFE white papers and several issues of the *narfe* magazine. Jamie used to be based in Yakima at the Congressman’s office there but has relocated to the Tri-Cities.
- For state legislative issues, I am going to defer to Jason Mercier, today’s program speaker.

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

- President Nancy:
 - Region IX Training Conference May 17-18, 2019
 - The registration forms for chapter 1192 members are available in a fillable form on the Chapter 1192 website www.narfe1192.org. Click on the program box to fill in the form, make a copy and send the file to Darleen per instructions on the registration form. There is no charge for chapter members attending the conference but we do need you to mark your food preference for the banquet. Since there is no charge for the banquet, if you have registered and do not attend the conference you will be charged for the meal

unless you contact Darleen by May 9th. We will also have forms at our meetings and you can give them to Darleen there.

- You are always invited to attend the Federation board meetings. The next one will be on April 10th at the La Quinita Inn in Tacoma.
- Copies of the NARFE Chapter and federation Officers manual were given to Lorie for distribution to the chapter officers.
- District V VP Mary: No report
- Alzheimer's Chairman Lorie: No report.

NARFE-PAC *Bob Stewart.*

- January chapter meeting donations were \$13, and from today's meeting \$111.
- 2018 chapter total donation was \$2,711 which was an increase of \$986 from the total for 2017.
 - In 2018 we received \$353 in donations at the chapter meetings, and the rest was contributed from sustainers.
 - Our chapter ranked 5th in Washington state in donations.
 - More details are in the chapter newsletter, the NARFE magazine, and on the NARFE website. The new pins and support levels are also online and in the NARFE magazine.
- I appreciate your contributions and let's see if we can move up in the state standings this year.

Alzheimer's *Larry Williams.*

- NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund collected \$6 in donations today.
- Alzheimer's Association has launched a new quarterly magazine. You can sign up to receive on line it at: "<https://www.alz.org/news/alz-magazine>".

Membership *Johanna Caylor.* (See President's report, above.)

Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Caller Coordinator *Darleen Wall.* Darleen announced Janice Lake has volunteered to join the meeting callers. Thank you Janice.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS None.

Free Lunch Drawing Winner Marilyn Darke.

50/50 Drawing \$32 collected, \$16 won by Bill Darke.

March Birthdays Faye Vlieger.

March Anniversaries Darleen Wall.

Next Exec Board Meeting TBA.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, April 3, 12 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

April Chapter Meeting Program Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers, return to provide an updated on the world of antiques and to appraise items members bring.

Closing Remarks *President Lorie Bennett*

- Try to recruit a new member and bring them to the next meeting.
- Check out the webinars online, and contact your elected officials to ensure they support federal workers benefits. Be sure to register for the May training workshop.

- Remember to use your OPM PIN number at least once in a 15 month period, or it will be deactivated which will require you to contact OPM to get a new one.
- Happy St. Patrick's Day.

MEETING CLOSED 12:39 p.m.

Prepared by:
Faye Vlieger
Secretary

CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM Jason Mercier, director, Center for Government Reform, Washington Policy Center provided an update on the Washington State legislative session. He spent some time discussing the proposed changes to the Washington state tax structure.