

NARFE Chapter 1192
May 4, 2011 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He led the Pledge of Allegiance, introduced the head table, and welcomed 27 members and guests.

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

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Don Binder. From Don:

- May 1-7 is Public Service Recognition Week.
- Disaster funds are available for federal employees through the Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund.
- NARFE's **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** campaign is in full swing. Don again encouraged members to go to the campaign or NARFE web sites to learn more about the campaign and to actively participate. The web sites: www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org; or www.narfe.org.
- Completing F-100, *Be Prepared for Life's Events*, is work but worth it, and can now be done on line. Don encouraged members to complete this document and keep it updated.

1st Vice President Carl Gallion. Carl and a committee have been reviewing and "rejuvenating" the Chapter bylaws. He projected having the revision available at the June Chapter meeting with a vote at the September meeting.

2nd Vice President For Lorie Bennett, President Don requested those interested in attending a Dust Devils baseball game with other Chapter members to let him know. With a minimum of 20 attending, ticket price would include a BBQ before the game, special seating and Chapter recognition at the game. Lorie is out of town, but will pursue this opportunity when she returns.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Nancy Crosby provided the report for the period ending April 30. Balance on hand as of March 31, \$7,463.27. April receipts were \$626.68 and disbursements, \$857.70, leaving a balance of \$7,232.25. Projected dedicated funds are \$2,491.00, leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$4,741.25. **[Note: The report is on the Chapter's web site.]** Nancy also reported she'd received a thank you note from the Tri-Cities Food Bank for the Chapter's donation in the name of Deacon Al Rizzo.

Monies collected at the April meeting/since the previous meeting Luncheon, \$333; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$10; NARFE-PAC, \$20; Newsletter Fund, \$25; and 50/50 Raffle, \$32 collected/ \$16 awarded (and donated to Newsletter Fund.)

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. Steve provided a written follow-up after the April combined District I/V workshop. The feedback from those attending and completing evaluations was very positive regarding the location, facility, combining the districts for the workshop, presentations and breakout sessions.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke reported he received \$75 last month for a Chapter total of \$1,653 for the year and, for the moment, putting the Chapter in first place among Washington State chapters. There was also \$95.95 in the Chapter's Alzheimer's account. Bill also reported on a Portuguese coffee-consumption study between 54-year-old healthy and Alzheimer's individuals.

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. No report. **[Reminder: Pam's contact information is: pgriff1@earthlink.net; P: 509.492.4304]**

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion again reminded members how important it is to make Chapter meeting lunch reservations whenever possible.

Legislative Co-chairman Don Binder said that he and Carl Gallion recently had a good meeting with Barbara Lisk, Rep. Doc Hastings' Central Washington director. Also, he and Mary Binder would be meeting May 5 with David Reeploeg, Senator Maria Cantwell's Central Washington director, and he was arranging a meeting with Senator Patty Murray's regional director in Yakima.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor reported that she'd received the Chapter semi-annual membership report. Membership was 319, down from 370 in October 2009. Per Johanna, there have been a number of members just not renewing their membership – a NARFE-wide problem.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor. Mary Binder reported that the Chapter's May/June newsletter was mailed, sent electronically and is on the Chapter's web site. This issue is 6 pages vs. the normal 4. Also, if members have ideas or suggestions for the newsletter, let Johanna or Mary know. **[Note: Chapter newsletters are on the Chapter's web site and available at Chapter meetings. Articles/items for the Chapter's July/August newsletter are due by Friday, June 10. Other 2011 deadlines are: August 12, October 7 and December 9.]**

NARFE-PAC Chairman Carl Gallion reminded members that PAC donations help open doors for NARFE on Capitol Hill. They are a leverage tool. Also, NARFE does make PAC contributions during the odd years between elections. For the 2011/2012 cycle, to date, the Chapter had collected about \$500. Federation PAC Chairman Don Binder also collected \$295 for PAC at the April District I/V workshop. Carl said he accepts ALL donation amounts, and has pins for contributions of \$20/more.

Public Relations Chairman Mary Binder reported that the Chapter's monthly meeting announcement was in the *Tri-City Herald*, "Mid-Columbia" business section, Thursday, April 28. She also said the *Senior Times* again did not run the announcement; however, it was posted on "Upcoming Events" on the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau's web site – a first and another source Mary said she is exploring using. She again asked members to provide her ideas/suggestions for advertising about the Chapter and its meetings, especially free sources.

Service Officer Lorie Bennett. No report.

Sunshine Chair Marci Lingle. For Marci, Mary Goldie reported that Dave Langstaff lost his wife and John Slaughter lost his son. **[Note: Mary Goldie is the Sunshine point of contact while Marci is gone. Phone: 509-582-8757; e-mail: whitegold@charter.net.]**

Web site Webmaster Larry Williams. No report.

CHAPTER BUSINESS

WSFC Convention, Spokane, May 15-17 President Don said the Chapter has 10 members registered to attend and 1 non-member guest. Members: Don and Mary Binder; Lorie Bennett; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Carl Gallion; Mary Goldie; Sig Preston; Nancy Schreckhise; and Larry Williams. Non-member guest: Nancy Carr. For other members, contact Don if you want to attend to observe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May Birthdays/Anniversaries Birthdays – Carl Gallion; Anne Ross (Carl said Anne is doing well.)

Drawings Sig Preston, free lunch; Carl Gallion, \$16, 50/50 raffle (donated to Newsletter Fund)

Executive Board Meeting Immediately following the Chapter meeting, same location

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, June 1, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

June Meeting Program 2011 WSFC annual convention recap/highlights from Chapter attendees

MEETING ADJOURNMENT 12:41 p.m.

PROGRAM

Umatilla Chemical Depot/Chemical Agent Disposal Facility updates Depot Commander Lt. Col. Kris Perkins, and Chemical Agent Disposal Facility Program Manager Gary Anderson provided an update on depot and disposal facility activities. Projected timeline for completing mustard agent disposal is later this year, ending the era of chemical weapons at the depot, and moving it one step closer to closure as a military installation and turnover to a local reuse authority. A mixed-use reuse plan has been approved, e.g., Oregon National Guard and economic development, but funding is an issue. Safety, and remaining vigilant and focused on the mission, remain top priorities for both the commander and Mr. Anderson. The commander is also very focused on and committed to his civilian work force and what needs to be done for each employee as the depot closes.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary