

NARFE Chapter 1192
May 4, 2016 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Lorie Bennett called the meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash., with a “may the force be with you” greeting. She reminded members to turn off/silence their mobile devices, called for a moment of silence for reflection on those who have passed before us and led the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed 23 members and 4 guests – today’s program speaker, Brad Peck, and his wife, Debra; visiting NARFE member Linda Preston who is transferring membership to Chapter 1192; and Patty Kruschke, wife of member Scotty Kruschke. Lorie also introduced the board members

BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS/PROGRAM SIGN-UP SHEETS, ETC.

Note: chapter minutes and treasurer reports are on the chapter’s website; copies are also at meetings. Event sign-up sheets, the latest chapter newsletter, and miscellaneous handouts and NARFE forms/publications are also at meetings.

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Service Officer/Special Programs *Lorie Bennett.*

- May 1-7, Public Service Recognition Week – Lorie read NARFE President Dick Thissen’s message to NARFE members recognizing their service.
- May 15-17, WSFC convention – Lorie encouraged chapter members to attend and said Convention Chairman Nancy Crosby would be providing an update.
- *NARFE Strategic Plan* – Lorie again reminded members about the importance of reading the plan, or at least the executive summary. NARFE also has a PowerPoint summary of the plan and a video on its website, www.narfe.org.
- Lorie also encouraged members to consider attending the NARFE national convention in Reno, August 28 to September 1, in Reno. Details are in the *narfe* magazines and on the NARFE website.
- Lorie encouraged members to pick up a summary sheet she provided on H.R. 711, Reform the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). While the “reform” proposed is not a total reversal of this provision, it is a step forward and NARFE supports the proposal. NARFE is encouraging members to contact their elected officials asking them to support the legislation. A letter template is on the NARFE website.
- Dust Devils game, June 18 – a group activity for chapter members. [Cost is \$8/per ticket; \$9/for handicap seating.] Lorie had a signup sheet at the meeting. She needs at least 12 signups.
- Hospitality – the hotel has changed its catering staff. Lorie asked members for feedback, including on the monthly luncheons. Blank 3x5 cards were on all tables for members to provide feedback. In the fall, the chapter executive board will be working on the 2017 menu; therefore, input from chapter members would be helpful.
- Reminder: Check the back table for chapter and board meeting minutes, treasurer’s report, handouts, signup sheets, and other materials.

1st Vice President *Pat Turner.* No report.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/PR *Mary Binder.*

- The May/June chapter newsletter was finalized, mailed, sent electronically and posted. All members at the meeting indicated they had received the newsletter. **Note: Articles are due by Friday, June 3, for the July/August newsletter.**
- May 14 – 24th Annual Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Mary reminded members wanting to participate to leave nonperishable items at their mailboxes for carriers to pick up.
- Senior Life Show is June 9, Three Rivers Convention Center. The chapter will have a table. This has been a good outreach opportunity to talk with prospective members, individuals who may have dropped their membership, etc. Volunteers welcome to assist staffing the table.
- Blank cards and pens were on each table for those wanting to submit ideas/suggestions for future meeting programs.

- Copies of the new Visit Tri-Cities annual brochure were on each table along with copies of the current *Senior Pages*. The chapter is represented in both publications.
- Sunshine – Leif Erickson, husband of member Julie Erickson, and Michael McCoy, husband of member Nadine Highland, both passed away recently.

Treasurer's Report *Nancy Crosby.*

- Balance on hand as of March 31, \$11,245.73. April receipts were \$567.38 and disbursements, \$573.89, leaving a balance of \$11,239.22. Projected obligations are \$3,070.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$8,169.22.
- Nancy said the 2016 chapter budget includes paying \$70/each for chapter members attending the WSFC biennial convention. Funds are also set aside to assist members attending the NARFE national convention. The amount for those attending will depend on the number of chapter members who attend the convention.
- **Monies collected at the May meeting** Luncheon, \$345; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$20; NARFE-PAC, \$15; Newsletter, \$5; 50/50 Raffle, \$22/\$11 awarded.

District V Vice President *Nancy Crosby.* Nancy said that about 100 federation members are registered to attend the 2016 WSFC Convention, May 15-17, Three Rivers Convention Center. Nancy also provided members a general update on convention planning, activities, and committee assignments. An updated convention agenda is posted on the federation website, www.narfewa.net. She also provided information on the B Reactor tour scheduled for May 18.

Directors at Large *Steve Howes and Liz Bowers.* No report.

Alzheimer's *Chairman Bill Darke.*

- March – Bill received \$23 in donations at the chapter meeting. Bill sent \$144 to the WSFC Alzheimer's chairman, leaving an account balance of \$28. **[Note: A balance is kept in the account to keep it open.]**
- During the Washington federation Alzheimer's donation year, May 1 – April 30, the chapter donated \$2,500.
- For donations of at least \$20, Bill has an Alzheimer's pin.

NARFE-PAC *Chairman Steve Howes.*

- April – donations at the chapter meeting were \$35, bringing to \$226 the total donated at chapter meetings this year.
- The NARFE quarterly statistics for the quarter ending March 31 show that NARFE is getting close to reaching its \$1 million goal for this year. He said that Mary Binder wrote an article for the latest WSFC *Federation Reporter* with a good analysis of the chapter and federation's contributions.
- In reviewing the chapter's statistics for the quarter, Steve thanked those who had contributed and are contributing through the sustainer program, but said we could improve on the number of members giving to PAC and the number of sustainers.
- Steve reminded members about the offer for a \$25 gift certificate to a member's restaurant of choice for any member signing up as a PAC sustainer before December 31.

Legislative *Mary Binder.* Mary provided several reminders and updates:

- For those who purchased federal long-term care insurance before August 1, 2015, there will be another premium increase this summer. Mary encouraged any member enrolled in this program to ensure they were informed and to let her know if they had questions.
- Senator Maria Cantwell recently met with leadership from Sea-Tac, the TSA and the Port Seattle to explore how to reduce the security wait-time at the airport, a nationwide issue at many larger airports.
- Congressman Denny Heck (D-10) recently sent an email asking, "Should the Senate fulfill its constitutional responsibility by giving President Obama's Supreme Court nominee a timely hearing and an up or down vote?" By more than 71%, responders were saying, yes.
- In a recent edition of *Governing* magazine, Mary said there was an article titled "Democratic Secretaries of State Most at Risk in 2016 Races." Both Oregon and Washington State were mentioned. The article stated that in Oregon, it seemed unlikely it would have a competitive race. For Washington where the state "has become so reliably Democratic, the state's secretary of state is "the state's only statewide elected Republican. Further, "The GOP has held the

secretary of state's office for the last 52 years." The current incumbent, Kim Wyman, "has more than 20 years of experience in election administration ... this experience has given her a national profile in election administration."

Membership *Chairman Johanna Caylor.*

- July 27 – summer FEHBP health fair at the Federal Building and Stevens Center. Johanna said she'd have more details at the June chapter meeting; and, she and Sig Preston welcome other volunteers to help them staff the NARFE table at the fairs.
- M114 membership report – Johanna said the chapter has 289 members, including 92 members on dues withholding and 31 national life members.

Caller Coordinator *Pam Griffin.* No report.

OLD BUSINESS No old business.

NEW BUSINESS No new business.

Announcements No announcements.

Drawings Free lunch, Sig Preston; 50/50, \$11, Betty Maupin.

May Birthdays No one at the meeting.

May Anniversaries No one at the meeting.

Next Exec Board Meeting Thursday, May 26, noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. All members welcome to attend. [**Note: This is a change from the date announced at the meeting.**]

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, June 1, noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

June Chapter Meeting Program Hands in for Hands o (HiHo) Tri-Cities – Lara Hastings is scheduled to provide a presentation on the initiative for a children's museum/science center for the Tri-Cities.

Closing Remarks President Lorie wished all mothers a Happy Mothers Day.

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:50 p.m.

Program Mary Binder introduced the meeting's program speaker, Brad Peck, co-owner of the Moore Mansion with his wife Debra. Brad provided an overview of the "Big House on the Columbia," as it has often been called, including its history and restoration. Brad explained that he does these type presentations for 3 reasons: 1) to create an awareness of the difference between historic preservation and restoration vs. remodeling and renovating; 2) to emphasize that it "does not make sense financially to do [this type project] out of pocket; and, 3) to highlight the Mansion, its history, and the restoration and preservation work that has been done since he and Debra purchased the mansion. The Moore Mansion was built in 1908 by real estate developer James A. Moore for his wife. However, she died just before moving into the mansion. Brad highlighted Moore's business career, including his years in Seattle and projects such as the Moore Mansion on 14th Avenue East on Capital Hill, the Moore Theater and the Moore Hotel. To date, the cost to preserve and restore the mansion is 3 times the purchase price. Brad also explained the impact that "entrepreneurial government" can have on "adaptive reuse of an historic structure."

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder

Secretary