

NARFE Chapter 1192
November 2, 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 welcomed 23 members and 2 nonmembers; led the Pledge of Allegiance; and, introduced the head table.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder asked for and received members' nod of approval for the October Chapter meeting minutes. **[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. No report.

1st Vice President Carl Gallion. No report.

2nd Vice President Lorie Bennett. Lorie reported that 18 Chapter members/guests had signed up for the October 22, Willamette Star's Snake River cruise. She said it was a great time – sunny day; most interesting sites; food and beverages available the entire time, etc. She also said she'll be contacting the Spirit of Portland regarding when the paddle wheeler will be back in the area.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Nancy Crosby.

- Highlighted the treasurer's October report. Balance on hand as of September 30, \$6,462.75. October receipts were \$714.52 and disbursements, \$521.27, leaving a balance of \$6,656. Projected dedicated funds are \$902.68, leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$5,753.32. **[Note: Treasurer reports are on the Chapter's web site.]**
- Presented the draft 2012 budget for review; it will be voted on at the December meeting. She said the Board had not yet discussed it, but would at its November 11 meeting. Nancy also said that the Chapter treasury is "going backward," and reminded members that much of what is in the treasury came from money raised when the Chapter hosted a Federation convention several years ago as well as retirement seminars.
- **Monies collected at the November meeting/since the previous meeting** Luncheon, \$336; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$985.42 (white elephant auction and donations); NARFE-PAC, \$150; Newsletter Fund, \$18; and 50/50 Raffle, \$32 collected/ \$16 awarded.

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. No report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke. This year, to date, the Chapter had collected \$249.95. November is Alzheimer's month. The Chapter's annual White Elephant Auction for Alzheimer's Research is the program for today's meeting. Bill reminded members that he has pins for those contributing at least \$20, but that just contributing, whatever the amount, is the most important thing. **[After the meeting, Bill reported the auction and other donations totaled \$985.42; he remitted \$1030.42 to WSFC Alzheimer's coordinator, November 4; that to date this year the Chapter had donated \$1280.37, leaving a balance of \$57 in the HAPO Alzheimer's account.]**

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. Pam reported that she could use more callers. She reminded members to let her know if they have dietary needs/restrictions so she can tell the Red Lion. And, she reminded members about the importance of making a reservation for lunch.

[Reminder: Pam's contact info is: pgriff1@earthlink.net; P: 509.492.4304.]

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion. Carl reported that Chapter meetings will remain at the Red Lion for the coming year with no lunch-price increase. He and Mary Binder met with Alex Hedges from the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau. As a Chapter membership benefit, Alex was able to solicit facilities in the area that could accommodate the Chapter for its luncheons and meetings. He received several proposals, all more costly than the Red Lion. Carl also reiterated the importance of members making lunch reservations to assist the hotel

Legislative Co-chairmen Don and Mary Binder. Don reported:

- State Representative Larry Halder is holding "district coffees," Saturday, November 5, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., CSA Building Lobby, 719 Jadwin, Richland; Wednesday, November 16, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., same location.

- Provided members an update on several proposals the “super committee” was considering. He reminded members that if the committee was not able to provide deficit reductions, automatic cuts would become effective in FY 2013 with one half coming from DoD and the other half from all other agencies.
- Reported that 100 House members – Republicans and Democrats – had pledged to support a compromise deficit reduction that would involve raising taxes and curbing entitlements.
- As part of NARFE’s **PROTECT America’s Heartbeat** campaign, recently WSFC Federation President Sandy Cagle, Region IX VP Lanny Ross and several other Federation members met with a senior staffer from Senator Patty Murray’s Washington headquarters and presented about 500 letters from Washington NARFE members. November 2 was another Congressional call-in day; both NARFE GEMS and its web site have contact information. Don suggested members call local Congressional offices if they cannot get through to the DC offices. Future campaign updates will be on the NARFE website. Also, time sensitive information is provided through GEMS, NARFE News Watch and in the monthly NARFE magazine.
- Reminded all about voting in the November 8 election.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- From the Health Fairs, she got 3 new members; several people picked up material to read.
- Provided members an update on Chapter membership stats based on the latest M-114 report.

NARFE-PAC Chairman Carl Gallion. Carl said that NARFE needs to continue to maintain an active front. Current employees potentially have more to lose than retirees with some of the proposed changes/cuts being discussed. As of the last report, the Chapter had contributed more than \$700 for PAC for this Congressional cycle. He does have pins for contributions of at least \$20.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor. From Mary Binder, the November/December newsletter is out. Mary noted that it was formatted using Publisher so only available in PDF for posting on the Chapter web site. She asked if anyone had had problems accessing it on line. No one had. **[Note: Chapter newsletters are on the Chapter’s web site and available at Chapter meetings. Final 2011 deadline is: December 9 for the January/February newsletter.]**

Public Relations Chairman Mary Binder. The November/December/January WSFC *Federation Reporter* is available on the Federation website: www.narfewa.net.

Service Officer Lorie Bennett. No report.

Sunshine Chair Marci Lingle; alternate, Carolyn Reeploeg. For Marci and Carolyn, Nancy Crosby reported that condolences were sent to John Treadwell on the death of his wife; Mel Wicks on the death of his mother-in-law; and to Nancy and Gene Schreckhise on the death of Gene’s father; that member Margaret Lyon passed away. **[Note: One other member was referenced as having passed; name is being verified and will be provided in the December Chapter meeting minutes.]**

Website Webmaster Larry Williams. Larry said hits to the website continue to go up.

NEW BUSINESS – Chapter officer elections. Larry Williams and Sandy Smith served on the nomination committee. All current officers have agreed to serve again. Dolores Rizzo moved and Johanna Caylor seconded that current officers be re-elected. The motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS – Member Faye Vlieger provided information on a recent meeting she and several other advocates had in D.C. with Gary Steinberg, U.S. Department of Labor, OWCP. Faye is on the Cold War Patriots Advisory Committee and is a member of the Alliance for Nuclear Workers Advocacy Groups. She was in D.C. on their behalf. **[A link to Faye’s trip report is at: www.eecap.org/PDF/ANWAG/ANWAG_newsletter_October_17_2011.pdf]**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Birthdays/Anniversaries Birthday: Bill Hoyt; Anniversary: Larry Musen

Drawings Dolores Rizzo, free lunch; Ben Brown, \$16, 50/50 raffle

Executive Board Meeting Friday, November 11, 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, December 7 – installation of 2012 officers; Tri-City Tappers and Silk Stockings perform

December Meeting Program Installation of 2012 officer; Tri-City Tappers/Silk Stockings perform

MEETING ADJOURNED 1:00 p.m.

PROGRAM

Annual White Elephant Auction for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund Chapter Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke and Caller Coordinator Pam Griffin conducted the Auction. Members contributed a variety of items. Between competitive and lively bidding at the Auction and other donations, the Chapter raised \$985.42 for Alzheimer's Research.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary