

NARFE Chapter 1192
November 6, 2013 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the chapter's monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He welcomed 22 members and 1 guest. Don called for a moment of silence, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and introduced the head table.

BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS/PROGRAM SIGN-UP SHEETS, ETC. Don reminded members that chapter minutes and treasurer reports are posted on the chapter's web site and available at meetings. Event signup sheets, the latest chapter newsletter and miscellaneous handouts are also at meetings.

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Legislative Co-Chairman *Don Binder*. Don provided both his president's and legislative information.

- The 2014 COLA will be 1.5% for Social Security recipients and retirees.
- Handouts were available at the meeting for those needing FEHBP/FEDVIP information for 2014. Open Season is November 11 through December 9.
- Medicare Part B – the standard premium is unchanged for 2014; it remains \$104.90.
- Affordable Care Act – as of now, it does not affect current or retired government workers.
- Chained CPI – this would index our COLA differently. Washington State's 12 congressional members do not support it. Don encouraged members to continue contacting our elected officials to express their thoughts and opinions. NARFE's current "Enough is Enough" campaign may help in doing this. Also, NARFE President Joe Beaudoin provides regular updates on key issues in the weekly electronic GEMS messages.
- NARFE is paying particular attention to what the Joint House/Senate Budget Conference Committee is doing. Washington's Senator Patty Murray is co-chairing the committee with Congressman Paul Ryan.
- Don said he hoped everyone voted in the recent local and state elections.

1st Vice President/Service Officer/Special Programs Coordinator *Lorie Bennett*. No report.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster *Larry Williams* Larry reminded members they need to have Adobe Reader to be able to read the chapter newsletter electronically. He explained how to get Adobe Reader for free without installing additional software that may request future payments.

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

- NARFE has approved the revised chapter bylaws.
- For "sunshine," Mary said member Sue Avery passed away; she sent a card.
- The November/December Chapter newsletter was printed/mailed, and is on the web site.
- The 2014/2015 NARFE Calendar Contest is underway; photo entry deadline: February 15.
- Coming soon from NARFE – information on this year's scholarship program.

Treasurer's Report *Nancy Crosby*.

- Balance on hand as of September 30, \$4,720.42. October receipts were \$755.02 and disbursements, \$515.74, leaving a balance of \$4,959.7. Projected obligations are \$884.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$4,075.70. Nancy said the chapter is solvent.
- Nancy provided members copies of the chapter's 2014 draft budget for their review and comment. Members will vote on the budget at the December meeting.
- Name tag badges – Nancy made these for members to wear at meetings to hopefully help them more easily learn names/get to know other members. Return to Nancy after each meeting.
- **Monies collected at the November meeting** Luncheon, \$336; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$1,427.50; NARFE-PAC, \$0; Newsletter, \$11; 50/50 Raffle, \$45 collected/\$22.50 awarded (donated to Alzheimer's).

District V Vice President *Nancy Crosby*.

- Walla Walla chapter's cookbook project – the books are done and have about 200 recipes. Cost: \$10/each. Nancy will bring some for purchase to the December meeting. Proceeds go to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

- District V is scheduled to host the WSFC 2016 convention. Nancy, and Mary and Don Binder, are working with a Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau (TCVCB) representative on hotel options. Currently, the 3 area Red Lions and the Shiloh Inn are possibilities. Nancy, Mary and Don, and their TCVCB rep will visit the properties Monday, November 25.
- Nancy, and Mary and Don, are planning to attend the December 3 WSFC Board meeting in Tacoma.

Alzheimer's *Chairman Bill Darke.*

- In October, \$53 was received and \$100 sent to WSFC. To date for this cycle (May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014), \$175 has been donated. The balance in the Chapter Alzheimer's account is \$56.
- Bill made available copies of the Alzheimer's Association's pamphlet "10 warning signs of Alzheimer's disease."

Caller Coordinator *Pam Griffin.* Things are going good.

Hospitality *Chairman Carl Gallion.* For Carl, Don said Carl is working on the 2014 menu and contract with the Red Lion hotel catering office.

Membership *Chairman Johanna Caylor.*

- The recent health fairs produced a good response – 3 new members.
- NARFE currently has a 6-month free membership campaign in progress for AFEs. Signing up can be done electronically. [Note: Offer currently ends December 9.]
- Consider dues withholding. It is a good way to maintain members, and saves members money.

NARFE-PAC *Chairman Frank Griffin.* For Frank, Don said NARFE-PAC needs money. He also said that currently there are no candidates running against Washington State federal legislators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Birthdays/Anniversaries Bill Hoyt, birthday; no anniversaries

Drawings Pat Turner, free lunch; John Patten, \$22.50, 50/50 raffle (donated to Alzheimer's)

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, December 4, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

Next Exec Board Meeting Thursday, January 2, 10:30 a.m., location TBD

December Meeting Program Karen McGinnis, HAMMER facility director, is scheduled to provide an overview of the facility's mission and support.

Announcements

- Chapter's annual food drive will be at the January meeting. Nonperishable food and/or check donations are needed/welcomed.
- The Chapter's January meeting will be January 8, the second Wednesday, and not January 1.

NEW BUSINESS

- Sig Preston conducted the nomination and election of the Chapter's 2014/2015 officers and the 2 board members at large. They were elected by acclamation and will serve for 2 years, per a change to the Chapter's bylaws. The officers are: Don Binder, president; Lorie Bennett, 1st vice president; Larry Williams, 2nd vice president; Mary Binder, secretary; Nancy Crosby, treasurer. The board members at large are Pat Turner and Steve Howe.

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:47 p.m.

Program White Elephant Auction for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund! Members brought a wide variety of interesting items, and Bill Darke and Pam Griffin conducted a lively auction. President Don said, "This is one of our fun meetings." Total raised for the research fund between the auction and donations – \$1,427.50.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary