

NARFE Chapter 1192
November 7, 2018 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 1st Vice President Pat Turner called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. President Lorie Bennett was not able to attend the meeting.

- Pat welcomed 26 members and 2 guests, reminded members to silence electronic devices, called for a moment of silence to remember our military, those in harm's way and those who lost in yesterday's elections. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Guests were: Marilyn Darke, wife of member Bill Darke, and Russ Bechtol, husband of member Susan Bechtol.
- Member Ken Reeves was attending his first chapter meeting.
- Pat asked if anyone had a special event in their life this past month. Nancy Crosby said she went to Africa and Randy Grekowicz said he became a grandpa for the 5th time today!

OFFICER/FEDERATION/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President/Special Programs 1st VP Pat for President Lorie Bennett.

- Membership updates for Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor.
 - Johanna recruited 2 new members at the October health fairs.
 - A reminder that NARFE's fall membership drive is September 1 thru December 31. [Flyers with additional information were at each table.]
 - Johanna is now "snowbirding," but will continue to work "membership."
- Health benefits open season/rate changes – copies of 2019 rate changes were available.
- Coat check, November 10, 40th Tri-Cities Wine Festival – chapter volunteers are scheduled. Donations received will go to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Pat encouraged members to attend this gala event!

REMINDERS:

- Handouts were at each table for the upcoming NARFE Federal Benefits Institute webinars.
- 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.

1st Vice President Pat Turner. No additional report.

2nd Vice President/Service Officer John Cavanaugh. No report.

Director at Large Nancy Crosby. Nancy reported that she and Darleen Wall had a meeting Monday with the Red Lion catering point of contact. The cost for meals during 2019 will stay at \$18; but, as there has been much food waste, portions are being reduced. Nancy also said that some members said the desserts were too rich. So, an option proposed was to have 2 options for desserts on each table with one being "lighter." Nancy asked for feedback on this option, and input on the menu. At this point, the menu will remain the same as for 2018; but, the hotel chef is open to suggestions.

Director at Large Bob Stewart. No report.

Treasurer's Report Liz Bowers.

- Balance on hand as of October 3, \$16,428.91. Income: \$852.10. Expenses: \$576.08. Balance on hand as of November 7, \$16,704.93.
- Liz reported that, to date, the chapter is at 70.5% of its projected income budget and 77.4% of the projected expenses.
- Liz said she has a proposed 2019 chapter budget.
- **Monies collected at the November Meeting** Luncheon, \$432; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$2,150; NARFE-PAC, \$21; 50/50, \$41 (\$10 donated to Alzheimer's Research); general donations, \$5.

Secretary/Sunshine *Mary Binder for Secretary Faye Vlieger.*

- Mary said Faye is recovering from surgery and expects to be at the December chapter meeting.
- Sunshine:
 - Johanna was notified that member W. Connie Johnson recently lost his wife, Shari. They were living in Arizona.
 - Reminder: Please continue to send “sunshine” updates to Secretary Faye.

Newsletter/Public Relations *Mary Binder*

- Chapter newsletter:
 - November/December newsletter was finalized and distributed. Members indicated they had received it.
 - Hidden numbers – Mary reminded members to check for their number, and that at least one person at the meeting had his/her number in this edition.
- Senior Times Expo, October 16 – Mary asked if anyone attended the event. No one had.
- *Visit TR!*-CITIES Annual Meeting, November 1 – Mary said this year’s meeting was an entirely new format. The theme was “Tourism Emergency.” While somewhat of a play on words, the focus was on the importance of tourism to our area.
- 2019 NARFE Photo Contest, August 1 thru April 8 – Mary reminded members there was a handout on the back table with details. Photos selected in the contest are used for NARFE’s annual calendar and notecards.

Legislative *Mary Binder.*

- With the midterm elections now behind us, Mary said there will be a very short breather before the focus turns to the 2020 elections!
- **LEGcon19**, March 10-13, Washington D.C. Registration opened November 1. This is NARFE’s biennial legislative training conference. It coincides with the beginning of a new Congress. Currently, besides Mary, Lorie Bennett, Nancy Crosby and Pat Turner are planning to attend. Mary encouraged anyone wanting more information to contact her. Both the chapter and federation are targeting providing “scholarships” to help offset the costs for members to attend.

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

- President Nancy:
 - The new NARFE national officers – president, secretary/treasurer – along with regional vice presidents, started their terms of office November 1.
 - The Region IX Training Conference is May 17-18, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. Nancy said the costs have not yet been determined but the federation board is targeting helping with “scholarships” to offset costs for those who attend.
 - The next executive board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 6, La Quinta Hotel, Tacoma. Nancy, Mary and Lorie expect to attend.
- District V VP Mary – the Walla Walla chapter is officially closed. All members have been transferred to other chapters, including some to our Tri-Cities chapter, or to national-only membership.
- Alzheimer’s Chairman Lorie – no report.

NARFE-PAC *Bob Stewart.* Bob highlighted: donations made at chapter meetings since the beginning of the year, including \$21 at today’s meeting; all chapter and federation donations through the 2-year congressional cycle starting January 1, 2017; and, disbursements made to the state’s elected officials during the cycle. More details are in the chapter newsletter [and on the NARFE website].

Alzheimer’s *Larry Williams.*

- Larry provided a recap of the October 14 Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Besides Larry, Lorie and Leon Bennett and Mary Binder made up the chapter’s “small but enthusiastic team.” The

turnout was great; the weather perfect for walking. Team members had a photo op and chance to talk with Congressman Dan Newhouse about NARFE's support to Alzheimer's research. Larry also talked with the Alzheimer's regional director.

- November is NARFE Alzheimer's month. Besides the chapter's "white elephant" fundraiser today, the money donated at the coat check for the 40th Tri-Cities Wine Festival, November 10, will also be donated to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. **[Note: From Larry after the chapter meeting, \$2,150 collected from the white elephant fundraiser and donations, including \$10 from the 50/50 winner. "Another great year," Larry wrote.]**

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

Webmaster *Larry Williams.* No report.

Caller Coordinator *Darleen Wall.* No report.

OLD BUSINESS None.

NEW BUSINESS None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS None.

Free Lunch Drawing John Wetterling.

50/50 Drawing Sig Preston, \$41/collected, \$20.50/awarded, and \$10 donated to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

November Birthdays Bill Hoyt.

November Anniversaries Randy/Fia Grekowicz.

Next Exec Board Meeting Immediately following the chapter meeting, Red Lion Hotel. All welcome.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, December 5, noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

December Chapter Meeting Program Jeff Peterson and his mellow trumpet are returning for a holiday music program.

Closing Remarks VP Pat Turner – Pat wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving, and provided reminders about checking smoke detectors and batteries, and ensuring homes and cars are ready for winter.

MEETING CLOSED 12:35 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder,

Public Relations Chairman

CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAM Larry Williams, with assistance from Nancy Crosby, conducted the chapter's annual "white elephant" fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Members brought close to 40 items for the fundraiser, ranging from artwork to wine to kitchen items. The fundraiser garnered \$2,140 for the research fund. **(POC: Larry Williams)**