

NARFE Chapter 1192
October 6, 2010 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Gary Hagedorn called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash., welcomed the 31 attendees and led the Pledge of Allegiance. He introduced the head table and new members Helen Brownell and Carole McGraw introduced themselves. Helen is a current Federal employee with EPA and Carole is transferring her membership from Montana. Mel Wicks also introduced himself – he's been a member but not been at a meeting for awhile.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder highlighted the September Chapter meeting minutes. There were no comments or corrections. The minutes were approved. (Note: Both Chapter board and monthly meeting minutes are posted on the Chapter's website, and copies are available at Chapter meetings.)

TREASURER'S REPORT President Gary highlighted Treasurer Nancy Crosby's treasurer's report for the period ending September 30. Balance on hand as of August 31, \$6,957.50. September receipts were \$510.04 and disbursements, \$372.13, leaving a balance of \$7,095.41. Projected dedicated funds are \$1,208.00, leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$5,887.41. The Chapter also received \$336.72 from the Federation in per capita tax refund.

Monies collected at the October meeting Luncheon, \$351 (27 paid lunches, \$13/each; 2 members did not have lunch; 2 comps); Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$29; NARFE-PAC, \$20; Newsletter Fund, \$13; and 50/50 Raffle, \$32 collected/ \$16 awarded (and donated to Alzheimer's Research Fund).

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Gary said copies of a chart, *Non-Postal Premium Rates for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program*, for 2011 were on each table.

1st Vice President Don Binder. No report.

2nd Vice President President Gary announced that 2nd Vice President Carl Gallion's hip "re-surgery" was scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 7.

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. No report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke reported the Chapter's Alzheimer's fund balance was \$140.95. He also reminded members about the Chapter's annual November white elephant auction. Proceeds go to NARFE's Alzheimer's Research Fund.

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion. No report.

Legislative Co-chairman Don Binder:

- Reminded members to vote in the upcoming elections, but also to study issues prior to voting.
- Again reported there would be no COLA in 2011; however, health benefits costs were rising so there would be less "take home."

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor reported:

- Membership dues are going up in 2011, effective on a member's NARFE membership anniversary date.
- That for retired members, using dues withholding means a 15% reduction in dues (\$34 vs. \$40); she can assist members with this process if they have questions. (Option not available for active employees.)
- NARFE life membership dues are being re-calculated; dues can be paid in 4 payments.
- Many active employees are dropping their memberships after a year. Johanna asked members knowing any such individuals to remind them of the importance of renewing their memberships.
- The Chapter will have tables at the October 14 area health fairs: Social Security Office, Kennewick, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m., Federal Building, Richland, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., DOE Stevens Center, Richland, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

NARFE-PAC Chairman Don Binder announced:

- There had been much PAC activity with the November elections. On the eastern side of the state, the only request for PAC funds has been from Rep. Doc Hastings. To date, NARFE has not contributed to his campaign.
- PAC contributions are always most welcome and he does have PAC pins for contributions of at least \$20.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor. No report. [Note: The Chapter's November/December newsletter is scheduled for distribution in late October.]

Public Relations Chairman Gary Hagedorn. No report. (Note: The Chapter meeting announcement was in the Sunday, October 3, *Tri-City Herald*.)

Service Officers Service Officer Mary Goldie said she was glad Service Officer Nancy Schreckhise was back in town.

Sunshine Chairman Marci Lingle reported she sent cards to: the family of Carl Qualheim, a Chapter member, upon his passing; Russ Bechtol, whose wife, Susan, is a DOE employee, after his hip surgery; member Roger St. John and his wife congratulating them on 68 years of marriage; Connie Castleberry, a DOE employee/member on the passing of her sister; and, Julie Goeckner, a DOE employee/member, whose mother was in an accident.

Website Webmaster Larry Williams. No report.

CHAPTER BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Sandy Smith, committee chairman, announced the names of members nominated for the Chapter's 2011 officer positions: Don Binder, president; Carl Gallion, 1st vice president; Nancy Crosby, treasurer; and Mary Binder, secretary. Sandy reported that, to date, the committee could not find a member for 2nd vice president; however, she asked that anyone interested in serving to please contact her. [Note: Voting will be at the November Chapter meeting; installation of officers at the December meeting.]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kudos NARFE President Margaret Baptiste sent a thank you/kudos to Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston. Also, in the *Tri-City Herald*, Sunday, September 26, there was a brief announcement about Johanna and Sig attending the Convention that was taken from the Federation's press release, "Local Residents Attend National Meeting of Active and Retired Federal Employees."

Drawings Jim Rutledge, free lunch; Lorie Bennett, \$16, 50/50 raffle (donated back to Alzheimer's); Sandy Smith, a tote bag from the recent 2010 National Convention, donated by Johanna Caylor.

Executive Board Meeting Scheduled for after the Chapter meeting, same room.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, November 3, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

November Meeting Program White Elephant Auction for Alzheimer's Research Fund. [Reminder to members: bring an item/items for the auction!]

PROGRAM

Loren J. Eddy, Attorney Local attorney Loren Eddy highlighted for members the importance of estate planning and emphasized that "asset protection planning is for everyone, not just the rich." All of us "... have unique circumstances" and estate planners need to address those when assisting clients. Mr. Eddy said, "There is the right tool for the right circumstance." He stressed the importance for individuals to be proactive in the planning process as in the world today, needs and options are very different, more complicated and more expensive than in the past.

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Al Rizzo Deacon Rizzo was not able to attend the meeting.

Meeting adjourned 1:03 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder,
Secretary