

NARFE Chapter 1192
October 7, 2015 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Lorie Bennett called the chapter's monthly meeting to order shortly after noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. Lorie welcomed 18 members and 1 guest – Tamra Meyer, today's speaker. She led the Pledge of Allegiance, called for a moment of silence for reflection, and then introduced 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.*

- Nominating Committee – Pat Turner, committee chairman and a director at large, provided names for the upcoming chapter elections – Lorie Bennett, president; Pat Turner, 1st vice president; Larry Williams, 2nd vice president; Mary Binder, secretary; Nancy Crosby, treasurer; Steve Howes, director at large; Liz Bowers, director at large. Elections will be at the November chapter meeting. Additional nominations will be taken from the floor.
- Lorie reminded members that there are currently 2 membership recruiting incentives:
 - September 1 thru December 31 – NARFE will give \$10 to recruiters for each new member they recruit. The recruiter's name will also be entered into a drawing for a grand prize once for each new member he/she recruits.
 - Ongoing through 2015 – the Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) will give chapters \$20 for each new chapter member recruited during 2015. Payment will be based on NARFE's membership report for each chapter at the end of the year.
- October 21, FEHBP fall health fairs – healthcare providers will be in the Tri-Cities. Johanna Caylor, Sig Preston and other volunteers will have a NARFE presence at the Federal Building, Stevens Center, Social Security and TSA. Johanna will also provide material to other government agencies that do not have a scheduled health fair.
- Hospitality – Lorie said she has signed the 2016 Red Lion Hotel chapter meeting contract. The lunch menu is in place. Lunch costs will remain at \$15.
- Don Binder Memorial Fund – Mary Binder reported that Region IX VP Lanny Ross had called her to say he had sent NARFE a check for \$1,000 that had been collected in Don's name for Silver Circle. There were \$300 in additional funds he was submitting to NARFE-PAC in Don's name.
- Service Office – up and running, as usual.
- Special programs/chapter activities – please provide Lorie ideas and/or suggestions.

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

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

- November/December chapter newsletter articles/input are due to Mary by **Friday, October 9.** **[Note: a week's extension due to 5 Fridays in October.]**
- Meeting program ideas – index cards and pens were on each table. Mary again asked members to provide suggestions for future meeting programs. This will help the chapter executive board develop and plan. Mary said cards could be returned at future meetings.
- Thursday, September 17, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the 22nd Annual All Senior Picnic, Southridge Sports & Events Complex, Kennewick. Mary asked for feedback from anyone who attended.
- Sunshine – let Mary know about members who may need cards, whether for a special occasion, for an illness, for the loss of a family member, etc.

Treasurer's Report *Nancy Crosby.*

- Balance on hand as of August 31, \$11,172.78. September receipts were \$577.29 and disbursements, \$374.84, leaving a balance of \$11,375.23. Projected obligations are \$1,537.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$9,838.23.

- 2016 proposed chapter budget – Nancy presented the proposed budget for the coming year. It includes funds for helping with costs for members attending the May federation convention and the August NARFE national convention in Reno. Nancy said she is hopeful there will be some profit from the federation convention that would help offset budget expenses. Members will vote on the proposed budget at the November chapter meeting.
- Nancy transferred \$891.59 from the chapter's account in Umpqua Bank to its account in the NARFE Federal Credit Union. The Umpqua account will be used for convention purposes, then closed. Liz Bowers has agreed to be the convention treasurer and use her PO box for convention-related mailings.
- November 14 – the chapter again has the opportunity to raise money for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Members will staff the coat check room at the 37th Annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival, Three Rivers Convention Center. Sign-up sheets were on each table for members interested in helping. Nancy is developing the schedule. Nancy asked members with extra hangers to bring them to the November chapter meeting or to contact her.
- **Monies collected at the October meeting** Luncheon, \$345; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$31; NARFE-PAC, \$25; Newsletter, \$23; 50/50 Raffle, \$22 collected/\$11 awarded (\$5 donated to NARFE-PAC and \$6 to Alzheimer's).

District V Vice President *Nancy Crosby.*

- 2016 WSFC Convention, May 15-17 – Nancy reported that District V preparations for the WSFC convention are gearing up. The district's 3 chapters, Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima, are hosting. The Walla Walla chapter has made its assignments. With fewer members and an older membership, the Yakima chapter will be more limited in its support. Convention registration forms and other material will be on the federation website in January.
- Nancy provided highlights from the September 3 Washington State Federation of Chapters Executive Board meeting in Tacoma. Nancy attended as the District V vice president; Mary Binder attended as the *Federation Reporter* editor. The next board meeting is Tuesday, December 1.

Directors at Large *Steve Howes and Pat Turner.* Steve reported that not much new has been reported on the NARFE Strategic Planning Process since the committee's last meeting August 12. NARFE continues to post information and updates for members on its website. Steve also stated that chapter members will most likely need a briefing on this initiative prior to the May federation convention as it will be a discussion item preparatory to NARFE's August national convention.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke.

- More than \$11,400,000 has been raised toward NARFE's \$12 million 2016 goal for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.
- Recently awarded from the NARFE Alzheimer's Research fund – \$479,000 to fully fund 3 grants and partially funded another, including one to the University of Washington. Bill reminded members that all donations go to research; nothing to overhead.
- The chapter's annual fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund will be at the November meeting. Bill asked members to bring items for the "white elephant" auction. He said the auction will be conducted differently this year to hopefully speed up the process.
- The chapter's Alzheimer's account currently had \$96.
- Bill has lapel pins for contributions of \$20/more. The new pins are magnetic!

NARFE-PAC Chairman Steve Howes.

- September chapter meeting contributions totaled \$47. This brought the yearly total from chapter meetings to \$374, an average of \$50/month; however, the figure does not include sustainer contributions.
- With the 2016 elections now a little more than a year away, Steve emphasized that NARFE-PAC contributions will become even more important.

Legislative Mary Binder.

- NARFE continues to monitor the OPM data breach issue and post updates on the NARFE website.

- Other issues NARFE continues to monitor include a possible government shutdown, postal reform, a parental leave act, and the potential 52-percent Medicare Part B Premium increase for some retirees.
- Calls to Action – Mary encouraged members to continue to respond to NARFE's calls for action.
- Rep. Dan Newhouse has introduced legislation in the House that would preclude port shutdowns such as the one that occurred on the West Coast last year and had severe financial consequences.

Membership *Chairman Johanna Caylor.* Nothing additional to report.

Caller Coordinator *Pam Griffin.* No report.

NEW BUSINESS None.

Announcements None.

October Birthdays Tamra Meyer (guest speaker).

October Anniversaries Lorie/Leon Bennett; Scotty/Patty Kruschke.

Drawings Dennis Maupin, free lunch; Debbie Lopez, \$11, 50/50 drawing (donated \$5 to NARFE-PAC and \$6 to Alzheimer's Research Fund).

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, November 4, noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick; doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch and business meeting begin at noon; program follows.

Next Exec Board Meeting Tuesday, November 17, noon, Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick.

November Chapter Meeting Program Annual chapter "white elephant" fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. **[Reminder! Bring items for the auction!]** (POC: *Bill Darke*)

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:55 p.m.

Program Tamra Meyer, program manager, Junior Achievement of Washington, Southeastern Washington Region, provided an overview of this organization and its programs in southeastern Washington. Junior Achievement is a global program; it has been in the Tri-Cities since the 1980s. The program is designed to help students learn how to manage money, prepare for careers and to learn how to run a business. Its 3 pillars are: entrepreneurship; work skills; and, financial literacy. Tamra emphasized that with 20 percent of students not completing high school, it is important to show them the importance of staying in school, to create relevance, to offer solutions to challenges, and to help them develop innovative and creative skills. The curriculum is sequential, starting in elementary school and going through high school. The program depends on volunteers. Last year in Washington State, 111,000 students participated in Junior Achievement. In the local area, 11,156 students participated in 430 classrooms and involved 357 volunteers. Locally, Junior Achievement's annual fundraiser is a bowling team event at the end of February/early March.

(POC: *Lorie Bennett*)

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder

Secretary