

NARFE Chapter 1192

September 3, 2008, Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER Chapter President Nancy Crosby called to order the Chapter's regular monthly meeting, 12:00 p.m., Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. She welcomed 27 members, called for a moment of silence and introduced the head table. Nancy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder highlighted the June Chapter minutes; there were no questions or comments. The minutes were approved as presented. Copies were at the meeting and are on the Chapter's web site.

TREASURER'S REPORT Treasurer Philip LaMont provided a July 1 through August 31 report. Balance on hand as of the June report, \$6,763.52. Receipts during the reporting period were \$1,057.54 and disbursements, \$325.28. Projected obligations are \$4,043.29. Balance on hand for use, \$4,043.29. Vice president Carl Gallion presented the Chapter's budget the Executive Board approved at its August meeting. He stated that the Chapter's budget year is from July 1 to June 30. He highlighted that supporting 3 conferences and a workshop within a 12-month period will affect the Chapter's carryover dollars into the next fiscal year. Although the Chapter is currently solvent and in good shape, Carl said the Chapter needs to think about fundraising activities. This issue was presented to the Board at its August meeting; the Board will be brainstorming ideas this fall.

Monies collected at the September meeting Luncheon, \$300; Alzheimer's Fund, \$18; Newsletter Fund, \$9; 50/50 raffle, \$25 collected/\$12.50 awarded.

DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

District VP Carl Gallion reported that the Wenatchee Chapter's picnic to raise money for Alzheimer's, Wednesday, August 27, was extremely well attended and a success. The picnic's "white elephant" sale raised more than \$140. Chapter 1192's representatives were Carl, Johanna Caylor, Sig Preston and Nancy Crosby. George Fearing, who is running against Doc Hastings for his Congressional seat, addressed the attendees and answered questions. Carl reported that he has contacted all four chapters in his district – Wenatchee, Yakima, Ephrata and the Tri-Cities – regarding supporting NARFE-PAC, especially during this active political season. The Wenatchee chapter raised its total contributions to the PAC from \$100 over the last 12 months to more than \$1,000 this spring – a direct result of Carl going to the chapter in the spring and making a special appeal during NARFE-PAC month. And, Carl also shared that the upcoming NARFE National Convention will be discussing/voting on a number of key issues, including dues structure, voting, and sick leave credit for FERS employees when they retire. Johanna and Sig will represent our Chapter. Johanna said about 1600 delegates are registered for the Convention, and she will be sending information via computer for posting on the Chapter's web site;

Alzheimer's Johanna reported that Washington State came in 2nd to Virginia in Alzheimer contributions during NARFE's fiscal year that ended June 30. To ensure the Chapter receives credit for Alzheimer's contributions, Johanna asked members writing checks to make them out to "Alzheimer's – NARFE" and in the "For" line, lower left of the check, write "Chapter 1192." Give or mail the checks to Johanna and she will forward them to the Washington Federation NARFE chairman. Johanna also reminded the Chapter that November is National Alzheimer's Month.

Hospitality Carl reported he will begin working with the Red Lion on next year's contract and menus. He asked that anyone who has issues regarding the menu or facility to please contact him.

Legislative No report.

Membership Johanna reported that there was great response at the July NAPUS convention with 14 attendees joining NARFE. While most are out of state, since they were recruited by Chapter 1192, they are Chapter 1192 members for the first year.

NARFE-PAC No additional report.

Newsletter Johanna reported that the September/October newsletter has been mailed and is on the Chapter's web site. Those not receiving a hard copy and wanting one can contact Johanna. The next newsletter will be for November/December.

Public Relations Nancy Crosby reported that the Sunday, August 31, *Tri-Cities Herald*, ran the notice about the September Chapter meeting. Also, the Department of Energy point of contact for the "Friday Facts for Feds" is back in business and can include brief information about Chapter meetings and events.

Service Officers Mary Goldie provided a "thank you" to all callers for their work.

Sunshine From Anne Ross who could not attend the meeting, Nancy provided the following information: cards were sent to Johanna, Bob Stewart, Nancy Crosby and Ellen Rokkan. Adeline Hanfbauer, Albert "Sam" Schuster and Woodward Hiller have passed away; John and Helen Schreiber celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Mary Goldie reported that the callers gave her information on the following members having physical health issues: Linda Denoff; Leonard Dowd; Bill Edwards; Gar Norman; Gayland Orton; and the wife of Eugene Harrelson. Nancy forwarded the information to Anne so she can send cards from the chapter. Johanna reported that Gary Bracken, who many Chapter members know, has a brain tumor. As deferred annuitants with no health insurance, he and his wife are now struggling with health costs. Those wanting to make a donation to him can do so through Johanna. She will consolidate the donations and send one large gift card.

Website President Nancy thanked Larry Williams for his efforts with the web site.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee President Nancy reported that Sandy Smith, Gary Hagedorn and Larry Williams are this year's nominating committee for the Chapter's 2009 officers. Sandy is the chairman. In accordance with the Chapter's bylaws, names will be presented at the Chapter's October meeting; voting will be at the November meeting; and installation of officers at the December meeting. All current officers have agreed to remain in their positions for another year, but Phil LaMont would like someone to either run for treasurer or work with him as a back up/treasurer in training. Also, the first vice president position is vacant and needs to be filled. Carl is filling that position but also serving as the District's vice president.

80/20 Rule President Nancy reminded members of the 80/20 Rule – 20% doing 80% of the work. She highlighted that several Board and Committee members are overloaded and filling several positions. She requested that members consider "joining our team" as there is a real need for additional volunteers so no one member is overloaded.

Health Fair Johanna announced that the upcoming Health Fair will be Wednesday, October 15, at the Federal Building, Richland. Our NARFE chapter will have a table with information.

Flying the Flag, September 11, 2008 President Nancy shared an e-mail Carl had received regarding displaying the American flag outside homes, apartments, offices and stores in the U.S. on September 11 to honor those "who lost their lives on 9/11," and "their families, friends and loved ones who continue to endure the pain, and those who today are fighting at home and abroad to preserve our cherished freedoms..." (Source: Bill Exeter, 1031 Exchange Expert, San Diego, Calif.)

OLD BUSINESS No old business.

PROGRAM Chapter parliamentarian Mable Rutt provided the program for this month's meeting – Living Successfully with Diabetes. With more than 31 years professional experience, certified as a diabetic counselor and wound care nurse, and the mother of a diabetic son, Mable was able to share a

wealth of knowledge and insights regarding living with diabetes. She emphasized that diabetes is a “horrendous, chronic and progressive disease for which there is no cure.” She also emphasized the importance of education, exercise and healthy eating, including portion sizes. Mable had additional printed information available for members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drawings Larry Williams won \$12.50, 50/50 raffle; Frank Griffin won the free lunch.

Executive Board Meeting Today, Wednesday, September 3, immediately following the Chapter meeting, Red Lion Hotel. All members invited.

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, October 1, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick.

October Meeting Program Johanna and Sig will report on NARFE’s National Convention. As it is also the month to recognize Federal employees, Chapter members were encouraged to consider inviting co-workers or former co-workers.

ADJOURNMENT

Deacon Rizzo Deacon Rizzo shared that he has been a Type 2 Diabetic for a long time. He stressed the importance of taking care of self first; if we don’t, we “can’t do what God wants if we are not in shape.” He suggested taking heed of the information Mable presented, and praying for self and the gift of self God has given all of us.

Meeting adjourned 1:05 p.m.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary