

NARFE Chapter 1192
September 7, 2011 Chapter Meeting Minutes
Chapter's 40th Anniversary Celebration

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the Chapter's regular monthly meeting to order at noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He welcomed 32 members and guests; led the Pledge of Allegiance; introduced the head table, including District V VP Steve Anderson; introduced first-time meeting attendees Al Michals and Ofelia Gloria; extended a special welcome to Anne Ross and Dolores Rizzo, both of whom had not been at a meeting for awhile; and noted that there were 4 Chapter presidents at the meeting – besides himself, Anne Ross, Carl Gallion and Nancy Crosby.

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION President Don:

- Recognized the meeting's 2 extra special guests: Marie Delsing and Helen Speers. Marie's daughter, Diane Weinburg, brought her to the meeting. Marie is the only known living Chapter charter members. Helen is the wife of Lee Speers, one of the original charter members.
- Read the following message from Region IX VP Lanny Ross to the Chapter's members: *"I want to extend my personal congratulations on achieving 40 years as a NARFE chapter. Many chapters today find it very difficult to find officers and keep the chapter open. You have shown the effort and enthusiasm to keep yours a very viable chapter. I am sorry that I am not able to attend, but want to send my best wishes for a great meeting and wish your chapter a long life. I hope to be at your 45th anniversary."*
- Re-introduced Steve Anderson. Steve said the Chapter is recognized for its vitality and activity, and is one he leans on. The Chapter has grown from 34 members to more than 10 times that number; and, while once membership was primarily Department of Energy retirees and employees, the membership has now diversified. Chapter members have and are not only serving the Chapter, but also the Federation. He noted the work of members such as: Edith Olerich; Johanna Caylor; Estelle Bellefeuille; Clark Crouch; Carl Gallion; Don Binder; Mary Binder; and, Nancy Crosby. In reviewing the Chapter's history, Steve noted that years ago the Chapter was writing letters to members of Congress regarding benefits and other issues; and today, the Chapter is doing the same, especially through NARFE's **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** campaign. The old NARFE mantra, "Everybody recruit a member every year" is still applicable and needed today. Steve encouraged members to recruit new NARFE members. In response, Marie Delsing said she was rejoining NARFE, at age 97, after letting her membership lapse! Steve concluded by thanking the Chapter for what it does, that what it does is important, and that he appreciated the opportunity to join the celebration.
- Steve Anderson presented Don and Chapter #1192 a NARFE certificate recognizing the Chapter's 40th anniversary and read a congratulatory letter from NARFE President Joseph A. Beaudoin and endorsed by Region IX VP Lanny Ross.

MEETING MINUTES Secretary Mary Binder asked for and received the members' nod of approval for the June Chapter meeting minutes. **[Note: Both Chapter Board and monthly meeting minutes are on the Chapter's web site and available at Chapter meetings.]**

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President From Don:

- Check NARFE's **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** campaign web site as information has been updated. (www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org or www.narfe.org) Don stressed the importance of continuing to let our elected officials know not only who we are but how we feel about issues. Even if we do not get a response to a letter, it is still being counted so is important. This will also be important as the "Super Committee" begins its work.
- Announced that the fall FEHBP area health fairs would be Wednesday, October 12. Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston will staff a NARFE table at the Federal Building and Stevens Center, Richland; Lorie Bennett and Nancy Crosby are scheduled for a table at the Social Security Office, Kennewick. **[Note: Subsequently learned Lorie will not be able to assist.]**

- Announced the upcoming schedule for nominating and electing the Chapter's 2012 officers. Larry Williams and Sandy Smith have agreed to co-chair the Nominating Committee. Sandy said she likes volunteers, so encouraged participation. The slate of officers is scheduled to be announced at the Chapter October meeting; voting will be at the November meeting; installation of officers at the December meeting.
- Updated members on the April 2012 combined District I and V annual workshop. It is scheduled for April 19 in the Tri-Cities. The format will follow that of this year's workshop.

1st Vice President Carl Gallion. Carl said he wanted to echo other words already spoken today and express his appreciation for all who turned out for the Chapter's 40th anniversary celebration.

2nd Vice President Lorie Bennett. Lorie announced that the Willamette Star will be in the Tri-Cities in October and doing a lock cruise. Tour dates are: October 15, 17, 19, 20 and 22. Cost with or without a group is \$69.31/per person, and includes food. If the Chapter is interested in this cruise, she needs to know by the end of the month. Members interested should contact Lorie.

Treasurer's Report Treasurer Nancy Crosby. On a personal note, Nancy thanked the Chapter for all the support during the recent loss of her parents. She then recapped the treasurer's monthly reports for June, July and August, bringing members up to date on the Chapter's finances. For the most recent period, balance on hand as of July 31, \$6,766.15. August receipts were \$154.86 and disbursements, \$326.65, leaving a balance of \$6,594.36. Projected dedicated funds are \$1,109.68, leaving an undedicated funds balance of \$5,484.68. **[Note: Treasurer reports are on the Chapter's web site.]**

Monies collected at the September meeting/since the previous meeting Luncheon, \$406; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$81; NARFE-PAC, \$0; Newsletter Fund, \$18; and 50/50 Raffle, \$40 collected/ \$20 awarded (and donated to Alzheimer's).

District V Vice President Steve Anderson. No additional report.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke recapped the history of NARFE and its association with Alzheimer's research since 1985. NARFE's current goal is to have raised \$12M by 2012. Currently, the Chapter has \$199.95 in its Alzheimer's account. Bill reminded members that he has lapel pins for donations of at least \$20.

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. No report. **[Reminder: Pam's contact information is: pgriff1@earthlink.net; P: 509.492.4304]**

Hospitality Chairman Carl Gallion. Carl said he welcomes comments from members regarding the monthly lunches, service, food, etc. He also said he is always looking for venues for the Chapter to host its meetings.

Legislative Co-chairmen Don and Mary Binder. From Don:

- He, Mary and Yakima Chapter President Vic Rohret recently had meetings with Senator Patty Murray's Eastern Washington district representative, Rebecca Thornton, and with Rep. Doc Hastings and his district manager, Barb Lisk. The meetings were interesting, informative and a good opportunity to "break bread."
- Information regarding Washington State's new congressional district's boundaries is expected September 13. From what he knows, Don said both Rep. Hastings and Rep. McMorris-Rodgers would be giving up constituents.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor. From Johanna:

- AFE membership continues to drop and Johanna said she does not know why.
- Encouraged members to continue to recruit.
- Reminded members that dues withholding is the most painless way to go to maintain membership for retirees – no more notices; just \$3.67 deducted each month from annuities; and, the Federation provides a \$10 rebate for enrolling in dues withholding.

NARFE-PAC Chairman Carl Gallion. From Carl:

- He is always looking for donations; with the political climate and all that is going on, contributions are more important than ever.
- He has pins for contributions of at least \$20.

Newsletter Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- Secretary Mary reminded members that articles are due to her by October 7.

- Mary also encouraged members to provide ideas and suggestions and/or feedback regarding the newsletter. It is a communication tool; Mary said the goal is to make it useful and informative for members. **[Note: Chapter newsletters are on the Chapter's web site and available at Chapter meetings. Final 2011 deadline is: December 9.]**

Public Relations Chairman Mary Binder. From Mary:

- The meeting announcement was in the Friday, September 2, *Tri-City Herald* and the *Friday Facts for Feds*.
- She sent a news release to area media on September 2; as a result, she did a live radio interview with Dennis Shannon, KONA AM 610, Tuesday, September 6.
- She continues to look for ways to advertise NARFE, and welcomes ideas!

Service Officer Lorie Bennett. From Lorie:

- The Chapter is also celebrating its 18th anniversary in its Federal Building location.
- The Board has decided to store the Chapter's archival material in the Service Office. Lorie encouraged members who may have material for archiving to let her know or bring it to the Service Office on a Tuesday morning when it is open.

Sunshine Chair Marci Lingle. No report.

Web site Webmaster Larry Williams. No report. President Don reminded members to check the web site as it has much Chapter information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

September Birthdays/Anniversaries Birthday: Dolores Rizzo, 82; Ruby Ulseth, 60th anniversary

Drawings Anne Ross, free lunch; Leon Bennett, \$20, 50/50 raffle; donated to Alzheimer's

Executive Board Meeting Thursday, September 29, 10:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, October 5, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

October Meeting Program F-100 and Other Information You and Your Family Need to Know (Lorie Bennett and Nancy Crosby)

MEETING ADJOURNED 12:55 p.m.

PROGRAM

Gangs and What You Need to Know Detective Dan Long, Kennewick Police Department, provided members an overview of gangs, covering everything from their history in the U.S., to the major gangs and how to identify them, where they are, etc. He discussed the difference between graffiti and tagging, and showed examples. He highlighted why there are gangs, what the Kennewick PD and area law enforcement are trying to do with this issue, and encouraged members to be vigilant and report suspicious activity, tagging, graffiti, etc. Detective Long emphasized the need for partnership between law enforcement and the community to solve this problem. Four major steps are: prevention; intervention; suppression; and, re-entry. The Kennewick PD will also soon have an anonymous tip line, according to Detective Long. In conclusion, he said the Tri-Cities can get its hands around this issue – that the criminal activities are small enough that we can get arms around them.

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary