

NARFE CHAPTER 1192 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 20, 2026, 1:30 p.m. (Virtual)

Zoom Host: Nancy Crosby – Nancy successfully logged in members; no issues. She asked members to reply to her Zoom invites, so she knows they have been received.

Call Meeting to Order: President Mary Binder called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Attendance: Members present besides President Mary Binder and Zoom Host Nancy, Treasurer Liz Bowers; Membership Coordinator Johanna Caylor; Sunshine Coordinator Faye Vlieger; Alzheimer's Coordinator and Webmaster Larry Williams.
Absent: Caller Coordinator Darleen Wall (schedule conflict).

Officer and Coordinator Reports

President: Mary – Mary said she modified the agenda to hopefully keep these meetings to an hour, as Nancy has requested.

- Caller Coordinator Darleen Wall submitted a letter of resignation via email, April 13. It is effective after the June chapter meeting. Nancy has offered to temporarily fill the position until a replacement is found. She will work with callers to ensure calls are made and all information provided to them for the meeting is shared with those members they call.
 - Mary shared that one of the chapter's newer members talked with her after the April meeting about using an automated system. The member had done some research and was planning to do more – nice to have a member take an initiative.
 - The board discussed recognition options and voted to give Darleen a \$100 gift card. Liz will take care of getting that card. Nancy and Mary will develop a letter to send to her in a thank you/appreciation card along with the gift card.
 - Mary will announce the resignation and ask for a volunteer to fill the position in the May/June chapter newsletter.
 - She also will research files she has to determine how long Darleen has served in the position. **[Note: Daleen started in June 2018 after Pam Griffin stepped down.]**
- Region IX Symposium, October 1-3, Ellensburg – WSF Secretary Curtis Price sent an email and announcement via FEDHub on April 1 with symposium information and a request for preliminary interest. Formal registration will begin soon. To date, only member Janice Lake has expressed interest. Mary is planning to attend. Additional information, including the actual registration form will be on the WSF website, www.narfe.org/wa/.
- FEDcon26, August 23-25, Indianapolis – Mary said she is planning to attend as is member Janice Lake. She asked if other board members were planning to attend. As of the meeting, no one else. Liz asked Mary if she yet had a price for an airline ticket. Mary said, not yet.
- USPS state letter carrier conventions, June, Pasco Red Lion – Mary reported she has yet to be able to get in touch with convention points of contact, e.g., calls/emails not returned. She said she will continue to try.
 - June 4-7, Washington State Association of Letter Carriers. **[Note: Confirmed 4/26.]**
 - June 14-16, Washington Rural Letter Carriers Association. **[Note: Confirmed 5/01.]**
- Senior Resource Guides – Mary updated the board on several months of trying to again have NARFE ads in these guides. The original publisher passed away unexpectedly in August 2025; 2 companies have been pursuing taking over, but Mary said she now has a letter from the law firm representing the owner's estate identifying which company has the rights – Pinnacle Marketing Group, Bemidji, Minnesota. She is working with a local rep, who had worked for the original owner. Pinnacle is honoring the \$125/per ad price vs. the rate of \$1,400, and will again be doing the guides for Tri-Cities, Moses Lake, Walla Walla, Wenatchee and Yakima. The ads and information will be the same as in the current editions.
- Chapter bylaws revision – no update to report.

Vice President: Remains vacant; no report.

Secretary: Vacant

- Next board meeting – Monday, June 22, 1:30 p.m., virtual. Board concurred with continuing to have every other month board meetings.
- Reminder to board members! Notify Mary when you are out of town (OOT), don't have/aren't using communication technology for several days, etc.
 - Liz is responsive to text messages; Mary agreed to text Liz to alert her to check her email as she is not necessarily on her computer each day.
 - Johanna will be gone June 9-14.
 - Faye will be gone/not able to attend the May chapter meeting.

Treasurer: Liz Bowers,

- Liz has paid the annual chapter liability insurance. Premium again remained at \$100.
- Liz also paid the annual Cline Communications web-hosting bill. Cost remained at \$72.
- CG Public House & Catering invoices are being emailed to Liz after the meeting but are now becoming more timely. Nancy will ask CG to include her when emailing an invoice.
- Chapter audit for 2025 financial records – completed, per Liz. Mary asked if the audit team, Faye Vlieger and Bill Darke, met in person. Liz said they did not; they did not need to do so. Liz has automated all financial records. She provided the exact same information electronically to both Faye and Bill. Faye stated that a 100-percent audit of all records is not required unless an organization is under investigation. Further, auditors should be working independently. With so few transactions, the audit team only had a few to review. To note – there is still no requirement to audit/track debit card transactions.
- Badges for outreach event volunteers – Mary needs to get a list of names to Liz for members who consistently volunteer. **[Completed, 5/6/2026]**
- Life Members – for those 17 Chapter 1192 life members, their chapter dues renewal date will remain the same. Membership Coordinator Johanna will notify those members when their chapter dues need to be renewed. This will be a simpler process vs. trying to readjust dates to just one month in the year as the dates differ and some renew annually, while others renew every 2 or 3 years. Liz will notify Johanna when renewal payments are received. Johanna committed to sending NARFE the renewal information via NARFE F-16R, *Dues Transmittal Sheet – Member Renewals*.

Hospitality Coordinator: Nancy Crosby – Nancy said she is planning to meet soon with CG catering to discuss the meeting's September through December menus, address several member complaints regarding the food and to learn what we can do better.

Service Officer: Mary Binder (Acting)

- Mary briefly highlighted 2 cases she is working on with Ellen LeVee. Both involve retirees whose annuity no longer covers their health insurance premiums. Complex issues.
- Health Benefits Open Season, November 9 to December 7 – no updates from either Nancy or Ellen at this time.

Newsletter/Public Relations/Outreach: Mary Binder

- May/June chapter newsletter updates:
 - Draft sent electronically for review/comment Sunday, April 19.
 - Targeting sending final for printing not later than Wednesday, April 22. This should allow enough time for printing and mailing. Electronic distribution can be done earlier.
- 2026 Outreach Action Plan/50-Percent Matching Funds – was due March 31 to the WSF Outreach Committee. Mary needs to get the signature page to Liz for her signature. Liz said she can do it electronically. **[Completed 5/6/2026]**

- The next Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce monthly luncheon is Wednesday, April 22, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., HAPO Center, Pasco. Program: Washington State Legislative Session Wrap-Up. Member cost w/tax is about \$40. Nancy, Mary and Janice Lake are registered to attend. Mary asked if anyone else was attending. No other board members.
- Spring Senior Times Expo, Tuesday, April 14, Southridge Sports Complex, Kennewick – Mary said this was a good event with almost 100 vendors and 700 attendees. Table positioning was great between Congressman Dan Newhouse’s table on the left and State Senator Matt Boehnke on the right. As the WSF Outreach Committee wants to receive feedback on events, Mary said 2 volunteers are needed to assist her vs. just one. An additional volunteer can better track the number of individuals who stop by the table, engage in conversations, etc. Compliments were received on the red/white/blue Jelly Belly candies and the approach used to engage attendees in conversations. **[Note: Mary owes Johanna information on prospective NARFE members from the March 21 and April 14 events, and needs to submit the WSF F-1 for 50-percent matching fund reimbursement.]**

Legislative and NARFE-PAC: *Mary Binder*

- **National Legislation:** Mary referenced an April 17 article, *Washington State Standard*, titled “Dollars flowing into a pair of hotly contested congressional races” by Jerry Cornfield. One of the races mentioned in the article is the WA-04 district race. Congressman Dan Newhouse is not running for re-election. Currently 8 candidates have filed for the primary.
- **NARFE-PAC:** 5th quarter reports, 2025/2026 legislative cycle, are on the NARFE website. Region IX (Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington) again leads all 10 federations in mean average. Commendable for the smallest region in numbers.
- **State Legislation:** Mary briefly highlighted the monthly virtual meetings she attends with Washington State Senior Citizens’ Lobby, along with Bea Bull, WSF Western Washington District VP and Curtis Price, WSF secretary. Curtis is the designated WSF representative. Agendas provide interesting speakers on interesting topics, some of which are potential programs for chapter meetings.

WSF Eastern Washington DVP: *Mary Binder*

- WSF Advisory Committee meetings (virtual) – the next meetings are April 28 and May 26, 10 a.m. All federation members are welcome.
- Planning to attend the May 11, Spokane Chapter 32 meeting, and also host a special meeting that afternoon with the Colville Chapter 1247 board to discuss that chapter’s future.
- Briefly provided an update on the WSF elections and also that Region IX VP Steve Roy is not running for re-election. Currently, Curtis Price is planning to run. If elected he could not hold elected positions in the federation and his chapter (Everett).

NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund Coordinator: *Larry Williams*

- Saturday, October 10, the area’s annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s, Howard Amon Park/The Fingernail Stage, Richland – NOT at the John Dam Plaza this year; the chapter has a team. Volunteers are needed for the table.
- Mary shared that as Eastern Washington DVP, she has registered teams for the Moses Lake, Wenatchee and Yakima Walks. She had hoped to also have a NARFE presence at the Quad Cities Walk (Lewiston, Clarkston, Moscow and Pullman), October 17, but it conflicts with the Yakima Walk. To have a presence would require a chapter volunteer to staff a table.
- The chapter’s annual “white elephant” fundraiser will be at its October vs. November meeting.
- Mary said she received confirmation Friday, April 17, that the chapter could again staff the coat check at the Tri-Cities Wine Festival, Saturday, November 14. Volunteers are needed.

- Bea Bull, the Western Washington District VP, is sending Mary a box with Alzheimer's handout material. Mary said she would get it to Larry. **[Completed 5/6/2026]**

Webmaster: Larry Williams

- Larry updated the board on the missing archived files from the website. No progress, to date, in finding them, either from Cline Communications or Larry's files. Mary compiled a list of the missing files and will provide a copy to Larry. **[Completed 5/6/2026]**
- Mary discovered the link on the chapter website for the WSF website was not working and that Nancy was still listed as the service officer. Larry is working to make the corrections.

Membership Coordinator: Johanna Caylor

- Following up with Gerald M. Bell regarding his chapter dues payment status. [A NARFE Life Member and chapter member, but no longer living in Washington state. His chapter dues have lapsed so he is currently not affiliated with the WSF or the chapter. To regain chapter and WSF status, he would need to pay chapter dues.]
- Sunshine Coordinator Faye Vlieger is again listed as "deceased." Efforts in progress to correct this issue. Reason for the issue is not clear, e.g., possibly an OPM issue.
- Mary still owes Johanna a list of prospective members and/or copies of the M-2 card completed at the March 21 and April 14 outreach events.

Sunshine Coordinator: Faye Vlieger – Faye to double check "sunshine" info in the draft May/June chapter newsletter for accuracy. She will mail Darleen a "thinking-of-you" card.

Caller Coordinator: Nancy Crosby for Darleen Wall – updates, above, start of the meeting.

2026 PROJECTED MEETING PROGRAMS

Review list of programs, below, other options (next page).

- 05/06/26 3 Rivers Foundation overview from Tara Wiswall, chair, 3 Rivers Foundation**
(Confirmed; change in presenters from CEO to board chair; POC: Mary Binder)
- 06/03/26 Benton-Franklin Health District overview/update from Heather Hill, RN, director, infectious disease** (Now tentative due to schedule conflict; POC: Mary Binder)
- 09/02/26 See Johanna's suggestion in red under program ideas, page 3**
(Reminder: the Chapter's 55th anniversary.)
- 10/07/26 Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – members bring items for the auction**
(Confirmed; remind members to bring items, cash/checkbook; POC: Larry Williams)
- 11/04/26 Tentative – program to focus on health benefits, insurance providers, etc.**
Open Season is November 9 to December 7) (POC: Nancy Crosby)
- 12/02/26 Holiday Music/Program – Jeff Peterson w/his muted trumpet? Something else?**
(POC: Liz Bowers)

Open Discussion: Mary – no open discussion.

Adjourn: 2:54 p.m.

SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS, GROUP ACTIVITIES/SOCIAL EVENTS

Meeting Program Ideas:

- ✓ Voting – how mail-in ballots are processed; “Your Signature Matters” update (*Johanna suggestion*; discussed ideas for a presentation w/Ellen LeVee as she worked at Franklin County during elections processing ballots.)
- ✓ Make-a-Wish Foundation
- ✓ Requests for end of life for adults (*Layna Kinsman*)
- ✓ Nutritionist
- ✓ Field trips to special places, e.g., gardens, museum, etc.

Group Activities/Social Events:

- ✓ Coyote Canyon Mammoth Dig Site tour – Nancy reported she is awaiting a callback from the program director [Previously reported members expressed interest; Nancy to continue checking on date options, e.g., June 20 or 26; July 18 or 25. Regular tours are usually Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays.]
- ✓ SIGN Fracture Care walking tour (*Ellen LeVee suggestion*)
- ✓ Meals on Wheels facility tour and free meal (*Mary Binder*)
- ✓ 2026 Dust Devils game (*Schedule is available; board decided not to pursue this year.*)
- ✓ Gallery at the Park – Allied Arts
- ✓ 2026 Tri-Cities Annual Quilt Show (*2026 show is over*)
- ✓ Book Club (members only)
- ✓ River cruise lunch or dinner
- ✓ Ice Harbor Dam tour
- ✓ Wine tasting; meet at a winery (local; area, e.g., Walla Walla)
- ✓ Picnic in a park

Process Improvement Session Speaker/Topics Suggestions, January 7, 2026

- ✓ Medical alert (*Liz Bowers; Santos Ortega*)
- ✓ Ambulance protocols, (e.g., to the nearest facility; Washington laws; local protocols) and, maybe a fire chief to speak (*Santos Ortega*)
- ✓ Air transport/ambulance – speaker needed
- ✓ Life Flight (*Julie Erickson; Santos Ortega*)
- ✓ Hospital/insurance company/admittance/new pricing laws – speaker needed; Faye Vlieger shared that “rebound” patients can be questioned for insurance coverage
- ✓ Emergency Management, Benton County – speaker needed
- ✓ Master Gardeners [**Note: Master Gardener presentation to the chapter, June 2022.**]
- ✓ 5 Wishes/End of Life Planning – maybe from Laurie Jackson, director, Tri-Cities Chaplaincy (*Layna Kinsman suggestion*) [**Note: Overview of Tri-Cities Chaplaincy/its programs, including providing a “5 Wishes” handout and brief presentation, to the chapter, September 2025.**]
- ✓ Knights of Columbus/donated medical equipment program – speaker needed [**Note: Contact information – KC HELP (The Knights Community Hospital Equipment Lend Program); Ph: 509.212.0900; Email: info@KCHelp.com; Address: 324 W. Margaret Street, Pasco, 99301; open Tuesdays/Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**]
- ✓ Financial Planner – Randy Grekowicz suggestion; he has a contact [**Note: Gravis Law provided the chapter an estate planning session, October 2024.**]