

NARFE Chapter 1192
Board Meeting Minutes, February 8, 2013

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick. Board members present: Lorie Bennett; Don and Mary Binder; Johanna Caylor; Nancy Crosby; Bill Darke; Larry Williams. Absent: Carl Gallion; Pam and Frank Griffin; Mable Rutt.

PROGRAMS – Upcoming*

03/06/13 WSU Wine Science Center (vision and status) – Sharon Holden, director, Development and Regional Advancement (confirmed; Mary)
04/03/13 Antique Appraisers Terry and Kathy Maurer (confirmed; Johanna Caylor)
05/01/13 State Rep. Larry Haler – update on legislative issues (tentative; Don pursuing)
06/05/13 Burlington Northern railroad crossing safety presentation (tentative; Larry pursuing as an option and/or option for June. Need decision by March meeting.)
To note: Operation Lifesaver, Inc., www.oli.org, focuses on rail education.)
06/05/13 Recap of WSFC's first training event, May 31-June 1 (Will be in meeting agenda)
09/04/13 Open
10/02/13 Senior Centers/their programs, e.g., Meals on Wheels (Nancy pursuing)
11/06/13 White Elephant Auction Fundraiser for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund (confirmed; Bill Darke)
12/04/13 HAMMER Facility – Karen McGinnis, director, will provide an overview of the facilities mission and support (confirmed; Lorie) **Also consider having/doing something for the holidays.**

PROGRAMS – Future Ideas (New; brought forward)*

Washington Policy Center – topic TBD, e.g., Affordable Care Act and its impacts
(Mary suggestion; Don pursuing)
Broetje Orchards (Lorie suggestion)
Lamb Weston (Lorie suggestion)
Center for the Blind & Visually Impaired (Nancy suggestion)
Emergency Management Representative (moved from February 2012; Don will explore)
Fire and safety specialist
Neighborhood Watch (Dolores Rizzo suggestion)
Blue Mountain Wildlife, Pendleton; Alan Cliff, Native American spiritual leader
(Dolores suggestion based on Saturday, Feb. 20, 2010, article, Tri-Cities Herald)
Seeing-eye dogs and/or police dogs and their roles (Dolores suggestion)
American Cancer Society
Recycling opportunities in the Tri-Cities region (Mary; Johanna suggested focusing on possible ways for the chapter to recycle/make money as the Bremerton chapter is doing)
Umatilla Chemical Depot – closure update (Mary Binder; final update in 2013/2014, depending on closure activities and the schedule)
Elder Law Attorney (Mary suggestion)
Social Worker/Aging POC – how does an individual and/or family members find out about available services (from a Board discussion)

CHAPTER GROUP ACTIVITIES – PLANNED AND FUTURE IDEAS*

February 12 – Tri-City American Hockey game (no sign ups)
April 24 – Columbia Gorge Stern Wheeler, Snake River Locks tour (Lorie has the info; to date, 8 signed up)
June 15 – Tri-City Dust Devils baseball game (Senior Centers are the points of contact)
May 26 – Mariners game (Lorie; bus trip through City of Kennewick Parks & Recreation)
May/June – MCBONES Research Center Foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Site (Lorie pursuing; tour will be set after site is re-opened for the season several sign ups)
Maryhill Museum – bus trip/tour (???? suggestion)
Pacific Northwest Regional Observatory (Mary Binder suggestion)
CREHST Museum tour (Mary Binder suggestion)
CREHST Museum Tombstone Tales tour (Lorie pursuing with CREHST; date TBD)
CREHST Museum group rate (Bill will explore if there is a group rate)

Note: Information about the tours/sign-up sheets will be at future Chapter meetings; information will also be in Chapter newsletters and included in e-mails when newsletters are released.

***New additions/changes in red above.**

OFFICERS

President – Don Binder.

- Said he thought Director of Airports Ron Foraker's presentation at Wednesday's meeting was very informative and interesting. Board members concurred.
- For the March Board meeting, Don asked members to review the January 17 e-mail he sent with an attachment – WSFC Secretary Linda Sander's article for the February/March/April *Federation Reporter*. [Note: The e-mail was sent prior to the *Federation Reporter* being finalized. The article is on page 2.] She has some thought-provoking questions.

1st Vice President/Service Officer/Special Programs Coordinator – Lorie Bennett.

- Chapter bylaws revision – Mary said she is about halfway through reformatting and editing. The goal is to have these out for review prior to the March 20 Board meeting so they can be discussed at that meeting
- Pre-Retirement Seminars:
 - In calls to DOE HR, Lorie reported that DOE does pre-retirement seminars for DOE employees.
 - Before committing to participate, the Walla Walla Corps of Engineers wants to know who would be the subject matter experts (SMEs) providing the information?
 - Johanna will call Ann Ozuna, a NARFE member and the SME who does pre-retirement seminars for DOE, the Spokane NARFE chapter, and who did our chapter's a number of years ago, to explore how we/NARFE could be included in the seminars and/or, at a minimum, have NARFE information provided to seminar participants.
 - Lorie and Don will meet to discuss seminar options.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster – Larry Williams. He received the annual Cline Communications bill – domain name renewal, \$12; web hosting, which has been free – a donation/contribution on behalf of Cline Communications. Larry is working to get the hosting charge dropped; the domain name renewal will need to be paid.

Secretary/Newsletter/PR/Sunshine – Mary Binder.

- Sunshine – Board members recommend Mary send a get-well/thinking-of-you card to Pam Lenz, the contract employee who gives Service Office volunteers the key to the office. Mary will send the card when she receives Pam's address. Johanna will work to get updated information on John and Ida Straub.
- Chapter officer/chairman roster was again updated; cell phone number added for Pam and Frank Griffin.
- Finalizing the Chapter 2013 Outreach Plan is a top priority.
- Next Board meeting – Wednesday, March 20, 11:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club.
- **Note: March/April newsletter articles/input due to Mary today, February 8.**

Treasurer – Nancy Crosby.

- Annual Per Capita Tax – can be paid in 2 installments or 1. First installment due in April. Total due: \$364.80. Board concurred with making one payment. As of December 31, the Chapter had 304 voting members. The tax is \$1.20/per member.
- On track to complete/submit the annual IRS 990R report by April 15.
- Still 2 uncashed \$10/rebate checks for dues withholding. Johanna working this issue.
- Finding fundraisers/ways to raise Chapter income needs to be a focus. A possibility: the Tri-Cities Fever 50/50 program, which Lorie will explore. Lorie also asked about having a raffle for a baked item such as a cake at each meeting. Nancy said she believes Chapter members consider the raffle we currently have a fundraiser.

District Vice President – Nancy Crosby. Recapped information from the February 7 WSFC Executive Board meeting:

- Highlighted information Region IX VP Lanny Ross provided, in particular, regarding NARFE membership numbers, including for the NARFE e-chapter. As of December 31, NARFE membership was a little more than 269,000; e-chapter membership was more than 9,000.

- Regarding Federation “e-division” chapters, North Carolina is the test federation for this project. NARFE wants to work through the kinks/issues before expanding the program.
- The WSFC treasury has about \$55K. The Board is looking for ways to provide incentives and help support conventions and training.
- Currently 11 Federation members are scheduled to attend the March Legislative Training Conference in Washington, D.C.
- NARFE is updating the letter for members to sign that is targeted to specific elected officials, including Senator Patty Murray.
- The Federation is still looking for a membership chairman to replace Frances Titus who is currently also serving as the District I DVP.
- Highlighted current information about and the agenda for the WSFC-hosted Region IX Leadership Training workshop, May 31 and June 1, Ellensburg. The registration form is on the WSFC web site (and was provided at the Chapter monthly and Board meetings). The Board discussed finding/encouraging members to attend who are newer to NARFE and who may be interested in leadership positions

COMMITTEES

Alzheimer’s – Chairman Bill Darke. Said he received \$50 at Wednesday’s meeting, including 2, \$20 contributions. He gave a lapel pin to the 2 donors, and sent \$100 to Alzheimer’s leaving a \$63 balance in the Chapter Alzheimer’s account.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin. Nancy stated the list of names Pam provided for reservations was most helpful. This process will continue.

Hospitality – Chairman Carl Gallion.

- Nancy said the overcharge for the January lunches was corrected.
- Larry said Carl did a good job with the new menu; he likes the new options.

Legislative – Co-chairs Don and Mary Binder. The Binders are scheduled to attend NARFE’s March Legislative Training Conference. Don reported that the format has been completely changed. This is an expensive conference to attend, but with a primary focus being visits to Capital Hill and congressional offices, NARFE’s decision has been, to date, to keep the conference in DC. The WSFC Exec Board is looking at ways to potentially provide incentives for future such conferences to encourage more participation.

Membership – Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- NARFE’s new membership brochure has been released. Don has ordered copies.
- Mary will provide Johanna an update on contacts she/Don had at the 2011 Senior Life Show.
- For NARFE Life Members, paying Chapter dues directly to the Chapter treasurer vs. sending them to NARFE saves the member postage and NARFE staff time.
- The Board discussed including dropped members names in the Chapter newsletter as a possible way to have these members rejoin, e.g., maybe they forgot to renew; maybe someone knows them and can encourage them to rejoin; maybe someone knows why they cannot rejoin, etc. Don said he’d take this under advisement. Nancy and Johanna will work to ensure any names provided would actually be for dropped members.

NARFE-PAC – Chairman Frank Griffin. Don said pins are coming. He will be bringing some back from the Legislative Training Conference, and has already received 1 advance payment of \$20.

Parliamentarian – Mable Rutt. No report.

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Wednesday, March 20, 11:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club

MEETING ADJOURNED – 2:10 p.m.

Prepared by:

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary