

NARFE Chapter 1192
March 6, 2013 Chapter Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER President Don Binder called the Chapter's monthly meeting to order shortly after noon, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick, Wash. He welcomed everyone – 22 members, and 1 guest, the program speaker, Sharon Holden, director, WSU Advancement and Regional development. Don led the Pledge of Allegiance; called for a moment of silent reflection; and, introduced the head table.

BOARD/CHAPTER MINUTES/TREASURER REPORTS Reminder: minutes and reports are posted on the Chapter's web site and available at meetings.

OFFICER/DISTRICT/COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Don Binder. Said he was watching congressional activities regarding "sequestration" and its potential impacts on current and retired federal employees.

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

- Provided sign-up sheets and updates on activities she is working on for the Chapter:
 - April 24 – Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler Snake River Locks tour.
 - May 26 – bus trip to a Mariners baseball game. (POC: Pasco/Kennewick Senior Centers)
 - May 11 (tentative) – MCBONES Research Center Foundation visit to the Coyote Canyon Mammoth dig site.
 - June 15 – Dust Devils baseball game.
 - August 11 – bus trip to a Mariners baseball game. (POC: Pasco/Kennewick Senior Centers)
 - October (date TBD) – CREHST Tombstone Tales night trip – the old Richland cemetery.
- Members are encouraged to let Lorie know if they have suggestions for other activities.

2nd Vice President/Webmaster Larry Williams. Reported that starting this year, Cline Communications was no longer "donating" the cost to host the chapter's web site. It will now cost the chapter \$5/month. Appreciation was expressed for the years Cline did not charge the chapter.

Secretary/Sunshine/Newsletter/PR Mary Binder.

- Reported that the chapter's March/April newsletter had been finalized and distributed – mailed, e-mailed and posted on the chapter website. All members indicated they'd received a copy.
- Announcements for the chapter's March meeting were in the March 3, *Tri-City Herald*; DOE's internal employee communications webpage; and the March electronic *Senior Review*, although that announcement had "editing" errors for which the editor apologized.
- Reminded members that from February 1 thru April 26 applications can be submitted for the 2013 NARFE Scholarship Awards Program. More details are in the Chapter's newsletter and *narfe* magazine. NARFE will award 60, \$1,000 scholarships.
- Announced the 2013 Senior Life Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, is Thursday, June 6. It is free and open to the public. The chapter is again planning to have a table with NARFE information. This will be the chapter's 3rd year to participate.
- For "sunshine" Mary reported she'd spoken with member Dolores Rizzo who is recovering from knee surgery. Dolores said she is doing well and hopes to be at the April meeting.

Treasurer's Report Nancy Crosby.

- Highlighted the February report. Balance on hand as of January 31, \$5,189.24. February receipts were \$611.52 and disbursements, \$866.81, leaving a balance of \$4,933.95. Projected obligations are \$2,418.00, leaving an unobligated balance of \$2,515.95. Nancy said the chapter is currently spending more than it is taking in.
- There were 4 "no shows" at today's meeting – members who'd made lunch reservations but did not attend/cancel. Unless members without reservations come to the meeting and have lunch to cover the no shows, Nancy will bill those individuals for their lunches.
- Reminded members that Chapter coffee mugs are available for \$12/each.
- **Monies collected at the March meeting/since the previous meeting** Luncheon, \$294; Alzheimer's Research Fund, \$6; NARFE-PAC, \$120; Newsletter Fund, \$26.50 (including \$10.50 donated from 50/50 raffle); and 50/50 Raffle, \$21 collected/\$10.50 awarded.

District V (Tri-Cities, Walla Walla, Yakima) Vice President Nancy Crosby.

- Reminded members about the WSFC-hosted Region IX Leadership Training workshop scheduled for noon, Friday, May 31 to noon, Saturday, June 1, in Ellensburg. **[Note:** Attending will require one overnight. The Chapter has budgeted to cover the \$30 registration cost, which includes a buffet dinner Friday evening. Registration forms were provided at the meeting and are on the Federation web site, www.narfewa.net. This event is in lieu of the Federation's previous annual conventions. It is intended for NARFE leaders AND all members wanting to learn/know more about NARFE – everything from its mission to how it functions/operates.]
- Reported that she is planning to visit the district's Walla Walla and Yakima chapters in April.

Alzheimer's Chairman Bill Darke. No report. Unable to attend the meeting.

Caller Coordinator Chairman Pam Griffin. For members making lunch reservations, if they need to cancel, even at the last minute, Pam asked that they let her know.

Hospitality Carl Gallion. No report. Unable to attend the meeting.

Legislative Co-chairmen Don and Mary Binder. Don:

- Reported that he/Mary were scheduled to leave Friday, March 8, for NARFE's Legislative Training Conference in D.C., March 9-12. They'll provide a recap at the April meeting.
- March 12 is NARFE's next National Call Day. Don had copies of NARFE's instructions for calling and encouraged members to do so. The date tied into when those NARFE members attending the Legislative Training Conference would be on Capitol Hill.
- Asked members not at the February meeting to sign a letter to Washington State's Senator Patty Murray. He would take them to D.C. The letter expresses concerns regarding the ongoing attacks on federal employees and retirees. Several members signed letters.

Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor.

- Announced that she had copies of NARFE's new applications. She reminded members to put their "recruiter number," i.e., their NARFE membership number, or the chapter number, on an application before giving it to a prospective member so as to get credit for "recruiting" if a prospect joins NARFE.
- Said there are still many members dropping vs. renewing their membership. This remains a concern.
- Joan Bradley said she is a member of the local Fun, Fit and Over Fifty Club and there are retired federal employees in the club. This may be a source for getting NARFE members. The club's web site is: www.ffofc.org.

NARFE-PAC Chapter Chairman Frank Griffin; WSFC Chairman Don Binder.

- Frank said he collected \$120 at the meeting and that Don will be bringing the new PAC pins back from the upcoming NARFE Legislative Training Conference in DC. Also, he is looking for ideas for generating money. Frank asked members with ideas to let him know.
- Don said the Washington federation was "3 for 3" in supporting candidates who were elected in open seats in 2012. He said he'd like that record to continue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March Birthdays/Anniversaries No one at the meeting

Drawings John Patten, free lunch; Lorie Bennett, \$10.50, 50/50 raffle (donated to the newsletter)

Next Executive Board Meeting Wednesday, March 20, 11:30 a.m., Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

Next Chapter Meeting Wednesday, April 3, Red Lion Hotel, Kennewick

April Meeting Program Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers. The Maurers will provide a brief update on the world of antiques and collectibles, then look at, provide feedback on and "appraise" items members bring.

Announcements None

NEW BUSINESS No new business

MEETING ADJOURNED 1:35 p.m.

Meeting Program Sharon Holden, director, WSU Development and Regional Advancement provided an overview and update on WSU's wine education program and its planned Wine Science Center. An education focus is to "train people to maintain the quality" of Washington's wines. Sharon described the "need to do it now" regarding building a facility and program for wine education, which has led to the Wine Science Center Public Development Authority to manage the project. Target time frame for opening the design/build facility is January 2015.

Sharon also provided information on the recently announced Hanford History Project. The project's goal is to "identify, capture, preserve and showcase" the stories depicting the area's history from 1907 forward. Besides photos and artifacts, project coordinators are looking for people to interview. A contact phone number is: **509.372.7306**. The project's web site is: www.ourhanfordhistory.org. The project bookmark states, "From pioneers to post-war cleanup, we want it all."

Mary Alice Binder
Secretary