

NARFE Chapter 372
Norristown, PA

The regular meeting was held Wednesday, July 2, 2008 at the Old Country Buffet, East Norriton, PA

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by George Shal, President

Attendance: 17 Members and guests were present

The invocation was given by Si Nagel who also led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

New Members were introduced: None

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting of June 4, 2008 were waived and approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sy Nagle reported a balance of \$ 3861.64. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report

Other committee reports:

Membership Committee Report: Eileen Fitzgerald reported that there are 309 Chapter members, 40 NO members, and four Honorary Members for a Grand Total of 353 members.

Legislative Committee: Dennis Fitzgerald was not present; however, Al Henryson reported that he had visited Congressman Joe Gerlack's office recently and that the Congressman would like to speak to our group.

Service Committee: Joe Patti issued a newsletter to the membership

Sunshine Committee: Alice Snyder absent

NARFE PA Federation Executive Committee Report: Ted Mason reported that he is attending and Executive Committee Meeting later in July. NARFE at the State and National level believe that we can be more effective with our local politicians than with the National Politicians.

Old Business Discussed

Bus trip to Atlantic City: Peg Bergman reported that plans were in place for the bus trip to Caesars Atlantic City on August 6th, 2008 leaving from the Northtown Plaza promptly at 10 am. Please be ready to board the bus at 9:45am. The trip was announced in the newsletter which Joe Patti sent out. The cost per person is \$30 and Caesars will refund \$17 of that. We anticipate getting a kneeling bus to accommodate our members who are challenged climbing onto buses. So far 21 members and guests have signed up for the trip. The cost of the bus is \$720 and we need to give the driver a \$110 tip for a total of \$830. The group organizer will be receiving \$100 from Caesars which she will give back to the chapter reducing the cost to \$730. We collected \$630 from 21 attendees at \$30 each. Therefore, the Chapter is underwriting \$100 of the cost of the bus trip.

Health Fair for November meeting. So far Blue Cross and Aetna have both agreed to attend and possibly GEHA. Peg Bergman is trying to get materials from Met Life on their dental program. George Shal mentioned that he is going to try to have the student nurses at Montgomery County Community College come and do blood pressure screenings.

New Business Discussed:

County Assessments: Ted Mason said that your assessed value of your home should be .508% of the value of your home according to the State Tax Equalization Board. If the assessed value is higher, you should consider appealing your assessment through the county.

NARFE meet the candidates Month: From 8/8/08 to 9/8/08 chapters should attempt to meet their candidates. Gwen Wilson, Al Henryson, and Peg Bergman are our quick response team to contact members in the event we could meet with any of the candidates who are in town on their summer break.

Banners: George Shal mentioned that he has not yet purchased the NARFE banner which was previously authorized. There is a proposal to change the banner which will be voted upon at the National Convention and he is waiting until he sees the outcome of that vote.

Upcoming Programs: September: A speaker from Social Security Administration (not yet committed); October: Charlie Stramo, Financial Planner with knowledge of federal benefits (Committed) and nomination of Officers; November, Election of Officers

Reimbursement for Expenses:

Joe Patti: \$231.21 for printing and postage for newsletter.

Peg Bergman: \$110 for tip for bus driver for Atlantic City Bus trip

Krapf Coaches: \$620 for bus to Atlantic City remaining charge (we had paid a \$100 deposit)

One of the members stated that the website is excellent and suggested that any time there was a change made members be notified by email. George Shal said it would look into that.

George Shal reminded everyone to purchase their converter boxes for their TVs which do not have cable. He provided coupons at the meeting for people to request a \$40 rebate from the government.

Guest Speaker: George Shal brought in the new Nintendo Wii to demonstrate to the membership. Everyone had a good time taking a turn playing the games and one can see why it is so popular with seniors as well as young people.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 2pm

There will be no regular meeting in August due to the bus trip. Next meeting will be held at the Old Country Buffet on September 3, 2008.