

NARFE Chapter 372  
Norristown, PA

The regular meeting was held Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at the Old Country Buffet, East Norriton, PA

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

Attendance: 24 Members and guests were present

The invocation was given by Si Nagel and George Shal also led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

New attendees: Dorothy Jones from NARFE Chapter 1212 attended our meeting and Theresa Gordon, a member who has not attended for some time, were introduced

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting of October 1, 2008 was waived and approved as appearing on our website.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sy Nagle reported a balance of \$ 4325. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report

Legislative Report: Dennis Fitzgerald said the election is over and we have to hold these new people to their promises. This year's COLA will be 5.8% which we will see in our January checks. We should remind our congressional representatives that we will continue to need our COLAs in the future.

Membership Committee Report: Eileen Fitzgerald reported that there are 296 Chapter members, 39 NO members, and 4 Life Members for a Grand Total of 339 members. Eileen reminded the membership that she places our meeting notice in local newspapers each month in her role as Public Relations Chairperson.

Other committee reports:

Service Committee: Joe Patti reported that the newsletter was issued.

Sunshine Committee: Alice Snyder did not have anything to report. However, Alice had surgery on her wrist and the Secretary sent HER a get well card from the Chapter.

## Old Business Discussed

The following individuals were elected to offices of the Chapter for 2009

President: George Shal, 1410 Cortez Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422 610-272-0518  
[shal@comcast.net](mailto:shal@comcast.net)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Susan Mason, 401 Rittenhouse Blvd, Norristown, PA 19403 610-539-5650

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Margaret Bergman, 203 Canterbury Ct, Blue Bell, PA 19422 610-277-4791 [peggyb5@aol.com](mailto:peggyb5@aol.com)

Secretary: Margaret Bergman, 203 Canterbury Ct, Blue Bell, PA 19422 610-277-4791  
[peggyb5@aol.com](mailto:peggyb5@aol.com)

Treasurer: Simon Nagel, 262 Little Brook Lane, Pottstown, PA 19465 610-469-0214  
[S.J.Nagel@comcast.net](mailto:S.J.Nagel@comcast.net)

Legislative Chair: Dennis Fitzgerald, 1014 Longspur Road, Audubon, PA 19402 610-666-5134 [Dennisf240@aol.com](mailto:Dennisf240@aol.com)

Membership Chair: Eileen Fitzgerald, 1014 Longspur Road, Audubon, PA 19402 610-666-5134 [Eileenf240@aol.com](mailto:Eileenf240@aol.com)

Webmaster: Ted Mason, 401 Rittenhouse Blvd, Norristown, PA 19403 610-896-3717,  
[tdmason@verizon.net](mailto:tdmason@verizon.net)

Service Officer: Joseph Patti, 3241 Sunset Ave, Norristown, PA 19403 610-584-4090,  
[jspconcept@aol.com](mailto:jspconcept@aol.com)

Sunshine: Alice Snyder, 622 Egypt Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460 610-933-9567

Public Relations: Eileen Fitzgerald, 1014 Longspur Road, Audubon, PA 19402 610-666-5134 [Eileenf240@aol.com](mailto:Eileenf240@aol.com)

Newsletter Editor: Joseph Patti, 3241 Sunset Ave, Norristown, PA 19403 610-584-4090,  
[jspconcept@aol.com](mailto:jspconcept@aol.com)

Holiday Party: Peg Bergman reported that the Holiday Party will take place at Noon on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 at the Springhouse Tavern, Bethlehem Pike, Springhouse PA Eileen Fitzgerald reported that Jim Marenger will provide the music and entertainment this year. Cost per person is \$15. Make your checks payable to NARFE 372 for \$15 for the each person attending and get them to Si Nagel by November 28, 2008 to make your reservations.

Reimbursement for Convention expenses: Sue Mason submitted a request for reimbursement for \$157.23 for attendance at the National Convention and George Shal requested \$875.78. Both were approved by the membership. NARFE at the State level paid Ted's expenses as he is an officer at that level.

New Business Discussed:

The following reimbursements were approved by the membership

Eileen Fitzgerald for \$35 for deposit for entertainment

\$140 for the remainder of the entertainment bill

Eileen Fitzgerald for \$26.80 for postage

George Shal for \$222.10 for newsletter

Peg Bergman for \$7.39 for our speaker's lunch in September

George Shal mentioned the District 2 Leadership Meeting in Pottstown and Ted Mason indicated he would be willing to attend that meeting with Fran Caputo. George provided Ted the relevant information about the meeting.

George Shal asked members to please donate to the NARFE Calendar Program as it is a money making project for National.

Peg Bergman distributed a handout to attendees to ask them to identify potential programs for next year.

George Shal mentioned that next year we must focus on maintaining our benefits with our congressional leaders.

A member asked what our dues were and it was indicated that the Chapter dues are \$8 per year and the National dues are \$29 per year for a total of \$37 annually. This is a real bargain these days. It includes all of the good information provided at the meetings, the National publication, as well as the Holiday Party!

One of the members mentioned that there is now a \$1 fare on SEPTA any time on trains and free on buses. It is good anywhere in the State of Pennsylvania. You can get the ID at the Norristown Transportation Center. You must be 65 years of age to participate.

Program for the Day: Mini Health Fair, representatives from Blue Cross/Blue Shield and Aetna brought materials and answered questions from members. GEHA sent materials for members to review. Each carrier gave out little gifts to our members as well.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3 pm.

Next meeting is the Holiday Party at Springhouse Tavern on December 3, 2008 at Noon.