

Minutes
Meunier-Perry Chapter, NARFE
Thursday, April 19, 2018

- Vice-President Blake Crawford called the meeting to order at 11:38 AM.
- Billie Nichols led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Linda Pagani led us in prayer.
- Blake Crawford introduced a new member, John Montreal. He also introduced two members (Sam Quade and Helen Dear) and a guest (Joanne Quade) from the Pawley's Island chapter.
- Billie Nichols presented the Treasurer's Report submitted by Joe Arsenault (Treasurer):
 - The beginning balance on March 19, 2018, was \$1,811.19.
 - Receipts totaled \$465.17, which included a grant from the South Carolina NARFE Federation to help support three chapter members' attendance at the state NARFE Federation Conference, dues, and the March 50/50.
 - Disbursements totaled \$510.00, which included grants to the three members attending the state conference mentioned above, local dues sent to the national office, and payment to the harpist at the state conference.
 - The ending balance on April 17, 2018, was \$1,766.36.
 - A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed.
- Joyce Jones (Secretary) read the minutes from the March 16, 2018 business meeting. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Secretary's minutes. The motion passed.
- Lynn Vos (Sunshine Officer/Membership Officer) sent a birthday card and a get well card to Marci Vogel (President), as well as a thank you card to Kristen Risher (our speaker at the March business meeting). She also acknowledged a chapter member who has a birthday in April.
- Blake Crawford briefly discussed happenings at the South Carolina NARFE Federation Conference. He also reminded us of the upcoming elections at the national office. Voting will begin May 10 and close June 30. Information about candidates and elections will be in the June NARFE Magazine.
- Cathy Linta-Leader (Legislative Officer/Webmaster) reported on both our local website and a variety of legislative issues.
 - Remember that we have a local chapter website (www.1015.scnarfe.org). Chapter newsletters and business meeting minutes are located there. Cathy and several other chapter members met with Paul Donahue, the State NARFE Federation Webmaster, during the state NARFE Federation Conference to share information and explore possible ways to make our website easier to use. Next week, the Executive Committee will be looking at possible ways to improve the website.

- The 2018 Postal Service Reform Act was introduced by a bipartisan Senate committee that may bypass normal Congressional procedures and go straight to a vote. It would require retired United States Postal Service employees to enroll in Medicare Part B in order to continue receiving their health insurance coverage through the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. If this bill passes, it will set a precedent that could be used to limit choices of other federal employees and retirees.
 - Jeff Pon, the new Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), plans to review personnel systems.
 - The Trump administration is outlining a plan to modernize the federal workforce: OPM, Office of Management and Budget, and the Defense Department are leading the charge.
 - Don't forget to register for the upcoming primaries/elections at the state/local level on June 12.
- Blake Crawford presented a program on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Coastal Carolina University.
 - Do you want to learn, meet new people, and have fun while doing it (with no tests and no homework – and in many cases, for free or at low cost)?
 - OLLIE offers a variety of classroom instruction, special events, trips, and excursions at four locations – Georgetown, Myrtle Beach, Conway, and Litchfield.
 - Some recent topics/courses include a series on senior safety and a series on real versus fake news.
 - Examples of local trips include Small Town Fridays, which involve short trips to small towns in South Carolina, a wildlife conservation trip, and Bull Island.
 - Examples of regional trips include a Barbecue and Craft Beer Crawl in Wilmington, NC (drive) and a tour of Nationwide Parks in the West (fly and drive).
 - For more information, you can get a copy of the Coastal Carolina University (OLLI) catalog at the Conway or Litchfield centers, call 843-349-6584 or 843-349-5002, or go to their website (www.coastal.edu/olli).
- Linda Pagani (Alzheimer's Research Officer) reported that:
 - We raised \$2,449 for Alzheimer's research at the state NARFE Federation Conference.
 - Scientists and researchers are working together to look for ways to predict who might get Alzheimer's in the future, rather than diagnosing it by looking at symptoms (which may be other forms of dementia). Evaluating DNA and blood tests are among the techniques being studied.
- Barbara Bryan conducted the 50/50 drawing.
- Billie Nichols (Newsletter Officer) noted:
 - He is working on getting email addresses for Pawley's Island chapter members. For those who don't have email, he needs mailing addresses.
 - Anyone who is not getting the Meunier-Perry Chapter newsletter (either by email or mail), please let him know. They can also be accessed on our chapter website for at least two months.

- Blake Crawford made a few announcements:
 - Our May 17 meeting will be the picnic at Myrtle Beach State Park, Shelter 1. Chef Don Pagani will prepare hamburgers, sausages, and hot dogs. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to share. Linda is sending around a signup sheet. Cost will be \$6.
 - Our June 21 business meeting will be back at Damon's.
 - There will be no business meetings during July and August.
 - The next Executive Committee Meeting will be held next Thursday, April 26, at the Surfside Library at 9:30.

- The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Joyce Jones, Secretary