

**NARFE Chapter 131
General Membership Meeting
January 3, 2023 @ 12:45 PM PST**

Officers attending: President Mike Teefy, Vice-president Charlie Caughlan, Treasurer Jim Ellis, and Secretary Linda Wallers.

Members and guests attending included Yvette Reeder, Gordon Anderson, Larry Moller, Dave Mason, and Victoria Thornburg and guest.

Announcements:

There were no announcements.

Program: Mike introduced Charlie following the pledge of Allegiance and Charlie made his presentation on Smart911. Smart 911 is a service that allows residents to create a free Safety Profile for their household that includes any information they want 9-1-1 and first responders to have in the event of an emergency. Then, when anyone in that household dials 9-1-1, from a phone associated with their Safety Profile their profile is immediately displayed to the 9-1-1 call taker providing additional information that can be used to facilitate the proper response to the proper location. At a time when seconds count, Smart911 provides details that could impact response the second an emergency call is placed, which could be the difference between life and death.

You can sign up at Smart911.com and create your own Safety Profile. It's private, and secure and you control what information is in your profile. These details can save seconds or even minutes during an emergency.

Reports

Secretary: Linda said that she had sent everyone a copy of the Executive board minutes for corrections or additions. Nothing was received back so, per a discussion earlier last year, unless you provide feedback one minutes within a week of receiving them, they are considered approved. The minutes of the general meeting will be handed out on January 3rd and the attending members can approve or disapprove those minutes during the meeting.

Treasurer: Jim said that he had received the reimbursement for the 2022 50% Matching Funds application from Arlene. He asked for a signature to approve reimbursement for the Gift Card used in the Health Fair drawing so he could close out the year 2022 budget. He will amend the budget and finalize it. Jim received two newsletter returns for Faull and Inga Love – both noted as temporarily out of town. Jim will call her to see if the number is still good. Jim also stated that Mike needs to go in with Jim at the credit union to create the CD account as discussed last month at the executive board. Jim confirmed that he had presented a \$100 donation to the American Legion at the December meeting.

VP, Service Officer, NARFE PAC and Programs: February's program will be Your Voice, Your Choice, Advance Care Planning for a health directive. This will be a slide presentation with planning documentation. He is working on getting speakers from the Clark County food bank and Meals on wheels for the coming months.

President & Legislative Issues: District III Vice-President Bea Bull attended the virtual Executive Board meeting on January 2nd and swore-in the new officers. Mike was not present but was sworn in later that day.

Mike reminded everyone that the COLA for Social Security, and the OPM Civil Service and Federal Employees retirement systems (CSRS and FERS) is effective in Jan. However, the Federal Employee Health Benefit (FEHB) plan increase or decrease will show up in the February payment. All of the 1099 tax statements should be received at the end of January or early February, at the latest. In most cases you can retrieve a print copy from the OPM, SSA, and TSP websites, usually before January 31. The 117th Congress managed to pass an omnibus budget package before the end of their term, avoiding a government shutdown and with most/all agencies receiving significant increases in their individual budgets.

When the 118th Congress was not seated at the time of the meeting. However, the House majority had indicated that they planned to reinstate the “Holman Rule” which would significantly impact or reduce current funding at any agency [IRS, OPM, EPA, etc.] and also allow abolishing specific positions, impact programs and reduce staffing, require any new funding such as disaster relief be offset by reductions to other agency or program funding. Members of the majority have shown interest in altering how the debt ceiling is handled including allowing the government to shut down if their demands for reductions in spending are not met.

Membership, WEB/Sunshine: Linda reported that the final month of 2022, December, the Chapter gained two prospective members and four members renewed.

Alzheimer's: Marcella – Absent.

Newsletter: Linda & Jim: January 12th due to early Feb/Mar meetings for Chapter 1070.

The next meeting is February 7th with the doors opening at 11:30.

The next Executive board meeting will be virtual on February 6th at 11:00.