



Reminder: JANUARY 9 Meeting – Food Drive! Details on Page 4.

TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
“Advocates for Current and Former Federal Employees”

NARFE: www.narfe.org Washington Federation: www.narfewa.net Tri-Cities: www.narfe1192.org

January – February, Volume 2013, Issue 1

2013 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1st Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
2nd Vice President, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Alzheimer’s, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Hospitality, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Legislative, Don & Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.375.0739
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.588.1393
NARFE-PAC, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509.943.1812
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Service Center, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554

Chapter E-mail: narfe1192@gmail.com

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater “C”
Lunch: \$14; reservations requested

(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary

January 9 – Chapter meeting: food drive
Program: John LaFemina, PNNL director,
institutional strategy – PNNL projects/programs

NOTE meeting change to 2nd Wednesday!

Menu: Grilled Chicken Veggie Medley

February 6 – Chapter meeting

Program (tentative): senior issues in
Washington State

Menu: Pulled Pork (Open Face) Coleslaw

NOVEMBER TREASURER’S REPORT*

Balance forward, October 31	\$4,946.92
November income	\$ 586.82
November expenditures	\$ 616.65
Dedicated funds	\$1,066.00
Balance on hand, November 30	\$3,851.09

(*Full reports are posted monthly on the Chapter web site.)

Note: Members approved the Chapter’s 2013 budget at the December 5 Chapter meeting.

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137

Phone: 509.373.9536

Coordinator: 1st VP Lorie Bennett

Happy New Year! Our chapter’s Service Office is ready for another year, and our volunteers are hoping many members will make at least one visit in 2013!



Did you know records and statistics are maintained on calls, visits and other Service Office activities, including contacts made to officers, chairmen and other members at their homes? So, if you are contacted by a member, family member of a NARFE member, prospective member, or anyone else, about NARFE, retirement or other benefits, etc., please let me know so I can record the information. [Lorie Bennett: lorieb@clearwire.net.]

COLAS and Federal Employees Health Benefits:
For Social Security recipients and federal retirees, the 1.7% COLA increase will be effective in January. Current employees and retirees will see FEHBP changes reflected in February.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Have a few spare minutes each month and don’t mind making a few phone calls? I can always use callers so each volunteer makes fewer calls. Want to know more? Have questions? Contact me. [Pam Griffin, 509.492.4304, or e-mail: pgriff1@earthlink.net.]



LOOKING AHEAD

Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion

Good news! Our lunch cost remains at \$14 for 2013! Also, new menus are finalized and posted on the chapter web site. Per member input, the focus is on more healthy, less carb-filled lunches. Thanks to all who provided input. Also, a thank you to the Red Lion’s catering staff for their help and support.

Chapter President – Don Binder

Happy New Year! Ready for 2013?

First – a thank you to the officers and chairmen who have agreed to serve in 2013, and to our members vote of support in November. We'll all need your continued support as we work to fight the fight!

To Carl Gallion, our outgoing 1st VP, a special thank you for your many years of service to Chapter 1192, our district and the federation. All you have done for the chapter and NARFE has made a difference. **[Note: Carl received a certificate of appreciation signed by NARFE President Joseph Beaudoin and Region IX VP Lanny Ross at the December chapter meeting. A photo is posted on NARFE's Photo Gallery.]**

Even without a general election to dominate our thoughts, I'm expecting a busy year. Between carryovers from the 112th Congress and the challenges facing the new 113th, there will be much for NARFE, our Washington federation and our chapter to monitor 2442. Some thoughts:



GEMS – NARFE frequently reminds members using computers about its "Global Electronic Messaging System." It truly is the best way to stay up to date with NARFE. If you aren't using GEMS, consider signing up. A New Year's resolution?



Records – Does NARFE have your current contact information? Are you sure? What about your current e-mail address? Have you used your OPM PIN number recently? It expires after 17 months if it isn't used. Another resolution ... check records?



Membership – Consider thinking "out-of-the box" this year for recruiting even just one member. For example, if you send holiday cards, might there be someone on the list who could be a NARFE member? I know my wife, Mary, and I have said more than once, "Oh my gosh! We never thought about (fill in the blank) being eligible for NARFE membership." True for you, too? Yet another New Year's resolution?

Finally – See what 1st VP Lorie Bennett is working on! Again, maybe something fun/new for you in 2013?



1st VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

At its November Board meeting, members discussed possible chapter activities. Examples: attending a Tri-City Americans hockey or Tri-City Dust Devils baseball game, or a MCBONES Research Center Foundation, Coyote Canyon Mammoth Site tour. While I'll be exploring these/other options, YOUR suggestions are most welcome, too! Let me 5535 know.



District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

The Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) board held its fall meeting November 29; minutes are on the WSFC web site: narfewa.org. Meeting highlights included finalizing the federation's 2013 budget; discussing a new "Outreach Action Plan" that combines both membership and PR; and, planning for WSFC's "leadership training" event.

Speaking of which, **the first WSFC "NARFE Region IX Leadership Training" workshop is scheduled for noon, May 31, through noon, June 1, Quality Inn, Ellensburg.**

Included will be various training venues and presentations. While NARFE "leaders" are encouraged to attend, all NARFE members wanting to know more about NARFE and how it functions are also encouraged to attend. The \$30 registration fee includes the Friday evening dinner. More details in the coming months.



Last but not least, in December I installed the new officers for all three District V chapters – Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima. For 2013, all three chapters will be focusing on retaining and gaining members, and preparing their first Outreach Action Plan!

NARFE-PAC – Carl Gallion

In 2012 Chapter 1192 was recognized for its support to NARFE-PAC. PAC dollars were effectively used in the 2012 elections to best support NARFE's positions, and in our state, all candidates receiving PAC dollars won. While I wish the fight was over, you know all too well it isn't.



Again, all I can say is thanks for your efforts. Your strength made our success happen. Please help us remain strong in 2013-2014. More details and new pins coming soon!

Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

Great news! Chapter 1192 raised \$1,149 for NARFE Alzheimer's Research projects at its November meeting and annual "white elephant" auction. Thank you to everyone who contributed, especially in 2012.

Now, with NARFE's current \$10M goal a reality, its new goal is \$12M by 2014. Anyone wanting to contribute can do so through me at the monthly meetings, or by using the coupons in the *NARFE* magazine. A lapel pin is available for a \$20 or more contribution.



2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

I'm pleased to report that our Chapter 1192 web site is being used! As the site's administrator, I routinely check the "hits" to review everything from how many times the newsletter is being viewed to where "hits" are from. We have an active site that is maintaining consistency in terms of usage. Have you checked it out recently?



Reminder! Newsletters and other chapter information is available on our web site:
<http://www.narfe1192.org/newsletter.html>.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

Oh, my, where do we begin!. It seems that what we write today will most likely need to be changed tomorrow. So, what to do, what to say.

Let's start with a pretty sure thing. The biennial NARFE Legislative Training Conference is scheduled for March 9 thru 12 at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel, Virginia. We're planning to attend.



Details are in recent and the current *NARFE* magazine and on the NARFE web site. Besides the updates and training, our goal is to meet with our 4th District representative, and at least one of our U.S. senators. We'll have a recap in April.

Next, we're confident saying NARFE will continue its "National Call Congress Days" when it deems there are issues critical to NARFE members. Those on GEMS will get notified about these days. If we believe necessary, we'll send e-mails to our chapter members and/or post information on the chapter's web site. Please continue making the calls/writing letters. It's an old saying, but still true, "squeaky wheels get heard!"



Contacting our Federal Legislators

The Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings, U.S. House of Representatives

Phone: 202.225.5816; Fax: 202.225.3251

<http://hastings.house.gov/ContactForm.aspx>

2715 Saint Andrews Loop, Suite D

Pasco, WA 99301

Phone: 509.543.9396; Fax: 509.546.1972

The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate

Phone: 202.224.2621; Fax: 202.224.0514

<http://murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm>

402 East Yakima Avenue, Suite 390

Yakima, WA 98901

Phone: 509.453.7462; Fax: 509.453.7731

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senate

Phone: 202.224.3411; Fax: 202.228.0514

<http://cantwell.senate.gov/contact/index.dfm>

825 Jadwin Avenue, Suites 204/204A

Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

Another next – some reminders. We'll continue to work to provide you legislative information and answer your questions, whether at meetings, or via your calls or e-mails to us 7842

[\[don_binder@msn.com\]](mailto:don_binder@msn.com);

mary_binder@msn.com]. NARFE will

continue to provide legislative information through a variety of sources: its monthly *NARFE* magazine; its web site; GEMS; Facebook and Twitter; and, its toll-free Legislative Hotline, **877.217.8234**.



Finally, a fact. It will be another legislatively challenging year – for elected officials and all of us trying to sort through everything from facts vs. opinions. Despite the challenges, we'll continue to fight the fight for NARFE and its members, prospective members and their families, and, our earned benefits.

Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences sent to: the families

of members Don Segna,

Gail McClure and Eleanor Golden.

Please continue to let me know about member/family member illnesses, passings, or an event such as a special anniversary. **[Phone/e-mail: 509.585.1393; mary_binder@msn.com]**



NARFE 2013 Calendar

Photo Contest

(for the 2014 calendar)

Photo deadline: **February 15, 2013**

Details at: www.narfe.org

Questions: Call 703.838.7760, ext. 268,
or e-mail: pubrel@narfe.org





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Tri-Cities Chapter 1192
2802 W. 40th Ave.
Kennewick, WA 99337-2666

January Food Drive!

Please bring nonperishable canned or packaged food items to the **January 9** chapter meeting. Cash donations also welcome.



Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Mary Kay Edwards and Hugh A. Harris

Reinstated and Welcome Back: Carole Angulo; Helen Mennecke; and, Daniel O'Toole

Dues Withholding: David E. Miller

Renewals: for retirees, PLEASE consider dues withholding. NEVER see another renewal notice. Only \$3.67/per month withheld from your annuity. SEND NO MONEY with the application. If you need a form, contact me or any board member.

Reminder: please, notify the chapter and NARFE if you change mailing, e-mail, or other contact info!

Yes, snowbirds, we need these for you, too!

Hidden numbers: November/December newsletter hidden numbers belonged to: Nancy Hieb, Mitsuko Loth and Faye Vlieger. Sorry, no calls, so no winners! Three new numbers are "hidden" in this newsletter – the last 4 digits of a member's number. Contact me; win \$5!

Call/e-mail me: 509.375.0739; caylorx2@aol.com.

Upcoming Dates to Remember!

January 1: *New Year's Day*
January 21: *Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
February 13: *Ash Wednesday*
February 14: *Valentine's Day*
February 18: *Presidents' Day*



Always Good to Know

NARFE on Twitter! Follow at: @narfehq
Facebook: Log onto Facebook, go to "NARFE National Headquarters," then "Like" NARFE's **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** campaign, www.narfe.org

NARFE Toll-Free Number: 800.627.3994;
Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: 877.217.8234
OPM: 888.767.6738, "Retirement Info Line;" www.opm.gov/retire/; or, retire@opm.gov

REMINDER!

Have an e-mail address? We NEED it.

E-mail helps the chapter *save money*.

Example: No cost to send the newsletter electronically; about \$1/copy to mail.

E-mail only used for NARFE chapter business. Do we have your e-mail address? If not, send it to: Nancy Crosby, ncrosby2b@charter.net.

(Reminder: NARFE and the chapter only use your personal information for NARFE business. NEVER give out your personal information to callers or on line!)

Thoughts from Afar Deacon Al Rizzo



Questions: Who are you? How do you live?
Concluding thoughts:
Who knows what tomorrow brings.

*Taken from January 7, 2009, Chapter Meeting Minutes.
Chapter member Deacon Rizzo passed away March 11, 2011.*

**NOTE: FEBRUARY 1 – APRIL 26, Applications due, 2013 NARFE Scholarship Awards Program.
Details: See the NARFE magazine or the NARFE web site.**