



**REMINDER! Effective January 1, monthly luncheons are \$18!**

# TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
"Advocates for Current and Former Federal Employees"

NARFE: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) Washington Federation: [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net) Tri-Cities: [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org)

## 2018 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>President, Lorie Bennett</b>                      | 509.531.2745 |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Pat Turner</b>     | 509.539.5659 |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, John Cavanaugh</b> | 509.528.0130 |
| <b>Secretary/Sunshine, Faye Vlieger</b>              | 509.961.1095 |
| <b>Treasurer, Liz Bowers</b>                         | 509.430.1836 |
| <b>Director-at-Large, Nancy Crosby</b>               | 509.735.3288 |
| <b>Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart</b>                | 509.531.3118 |
| <b>Alzheimer's, Larry Williams</b>                   | 509.783.8554 |
| <b>Legislative, Mary Binder</b>                      | 509.585.1393 |
| <b>Membership, Johanna Caylor</b>                    | 509.375.0739 |
| <b>NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart</b>                        | 509.531.3118 |
| <b>Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder</b>                 | 509.585.1393 |
| <b>Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder</b>           | 509.585.1393 |
| <b>Service Office, Lorie Bennett</b>                 | 509.531.2745 |
| <b>Webmaster, Larry Williams</b>                     | 509.783.8554 |

## CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays, except July/August  
11:30 a.m., Columbia Center Red Lion, Kennewick  
Lunch: \$18; reservations REQUIRED

**(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)**

Lunch not required to attend the meeting.

Need a ride? Contact President Lorie Bennett.

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

**January 3** – Dr. Robert Harrington, WSU, will give a presentation on the WSU hospitality/wine business management programs.



**Menu: bacon-wrapped meatloaf, mashed potatoes, chef choice of seasonal veggies, dessert**

**February 7** – Jason Mercier, director, Center for Government Reform Washington Policy Center – update on the Washington State legislative session.



**Menu: roasted pork loin, mashed potatoes, chef choice of seasonal veggies, dessert**

## NOVEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT\*

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Balance forward, October 31      | \$ 10,823.08 |
| November income                  | \$ 738.38    |
| November expenditures            | \$ 475.75    |
| Dedicated funds thru November 30 | \$ 1,316.00  |
| Balance on hand, November 30     | \$ 9,769.71  |

(\*Full reports are posted monthly on the Chapter website.)

## January – February, Volume 2018, Issue 1

**Chapter President – Lorie Bennett**

**Happy New Year!** May 2018 bring love, peace and prosperity to all.



At the chapter's December meeting, WSFC District V VP Mary Binder installed chapter officers for 2018/2019. I will continue to serve as your chapter president and Pat Turner will continue as our chapter's 1st VP. Our new 2nd VP is John Cavanaugh and our new treasurer is Liz Bowers. Although leaving the treasurer position, Nancy Crosby has agreed to stay on the board and serve in the director-at-large position that Liz Bowers had held. Bob Stewart was appointed in 2017 to serve in the other director position. Faye Vlieger, the chapter's new secretary was unable to attend the meeting but will be installed at the December chapter board meeting.

Besides the elected officers, the chapter has several appointed chairman positions. Mary Binder will continue to serve as the chapter's public relations and legislative chairman, and as newsletter editor; Larry Williams is our Alzheimer's chairman and webmaster; Bob Stewart, our NARFE-PAC chairman; Johanna Caylor, our membership chairman; and, Pam Griffin, our caller coordinator. **THANK YOU** to all for stepping up and volunteering.

Also, a special thank you for their long service to Mary Binder, our outgoing secretary, Nancy Crosby, outgoing treasurer, and Bill Darke, who resigned as our Alzheimer's chairman earlier in 2017. Their service has helped make Chapter 1192 successful. **THANK YOU.**

The new year could pose a lot of controversy over our federal earned benefits and pay, targeting them to help pay for reducing the national debt. This is not new and I urge you all to contact our congressman and senators. NARFE makes this easy on its website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

My hope for the chapter in 2018 – many new members. Remember, as chapter members, we all need to help recruit new members. **8392** **THANK YOU for the support!**



## 2nd VP – John Cavanaugh

I was born and raised in Butte, Mont., and graduated in 1970 from the Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology with a B.S., M.S. in Engineering Science. My wife, Antoinette (Toni), and I were married in 1969, and she, too, is a NARFE member!



My engineer career included time at the Anaconda Mining Co. in Butte; several years in Colorado in different positions; an assignment at Gonzaga University as assistant professor of military science; and, finally, with DOE in Richland, 1990-2010, and then the Army Corps of Engineers for one year. I was also in the Army reserves from 1970-1995. Now, I'm looking forward to learning more about NARFE in this new position.

## Secretary – Faye Vlieger

I was born in Iowa but raised in Southern California. Then, I went north for college, graduating from Linfield College, McMinnville, Ore., with a B.S. degree in Management. In 1982 I entered civil service with the Air National Guard in Wichita, Kansas. Other assignments included Klamath Falls and Coos Bay, Ore. Then, in 2001 I moved to the Tri-Cities. Right now I have 4 rescue dogs that keep me busy, but I also love to garden and travel.



## Treasurer – Liz Bowers

Although I'm not new to the board, serving as your treasurer will be new for me. I'll be collecting the money for lunches at the chapter meetings, paying the chapter's bills, etc. We will conduct a complete audit of the chapter's financial records in January.



## WSFC President – Nancy Crosby

It appears that due to the efforts of our legislative staff at NARFE our existing benefits are safe for now; but, we all know how fast that can change. So, be alert and keep sending your letters to our legislators. **5964**

Our WSFC federation is still working on updating the federation's bylaws. We are working with NARFE to get clarification on the new one member, one vote national bylaw change as it pertains to federations. Per a notification from Barb Sido, NARFE executive director, there have been several questions from federations in the wake of one member one vote



and optional chapter membership. She has been working with the national officers and professional national parliamentarian to get a response to those questions, but recently wrote, "Unfortunately, the response is the bylaws are not clear on this issue. On the one hand, since federations are currently federations of chapters, not federations of members, optional chapter membership means that federations are not required to have a relationship with members who have chosen not to join a chapter. On the other hand, federations receive 10 percent for every member, national and chapter, so there is a compelling financial relationship that strongly suggests that national members are entitled to full rights and benefits in return for that money."

She further states that because of the confusion, the NARFE National Executive Board will be submitting an amendment to the bylaws "that will make the role of federations, and their relationship to all members, much more easily understood and implemented."

I, too, have several concerns regarding national-only vs. chapter members and how, for example, voting should be handled at our upcoming federation conference/convention. So, once these issues are clarified, we can move forward on updating our federation bylaws.

Our 2018 state conference/convention will be May 14-16, Mirabeau Park Hotel & Convention Center, Spokane Valley. Costs and registration details, and the agenda, are still being finalized. We'll have more details at our chapter meetings and in future chapter newsletters.



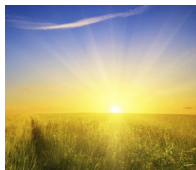
I was selected by National President Thissen to chair the Communications Advisory Committee, one of NARFE's special ad hoc committees. The committee is charged with advising and supporting development and implementation of NARFE's digital and traditional publishing, social media programs and other communications activities. We want to improve communications with our active and retired NARFE members, and to communicate the benefits of membership to our federal annuitants and active federal employees. There will be 6 members from 6 different federations on the committee, so it will give a good cross section of ideas and issues. We will also have a staff advisor and an NEB representative on the committee. Our first meeting will be the week of January 22.

We will be holding a quarterly federation executive board meeting January 30, La Quinta Hotel, Tacoma. All members are invited to attend as it is always an open meeting.

## WSFC District V VP – Mary Binder

Good news! Members of our district's Walla Walla Chapter 237 have decided not to close the chapter at the end of this year, as previously announced. I attended the chapter's December 2 holiday gathering and installed the officers for the coming year. At this point, members are targeting keeping the chapter open through 2018.

At the December gathering, I was fortunate enough to sit across from and be able to chat with the Walla Walla chapter's past president, Jerry Owens, and his daughter, Heather.



Jerry was diagnosed with brain cancer shortly after our federation's 2016 convention. He passed away during the night after the meeting. I am very grateful for the final opportunity to talk with him and am again reminded how precious life is.

So, at this point, all 3 of the district's chapters – Tri-Cities Chapter 1192, Walla Walla Chapter 237 and Yakima Chapter 238 – are still meeting, and working similar issues, such as recruiting members and getting members to fill needed officer and chairman positions.

## Legislative – Mary Binder

Last year at this time for the newsletter I wrote, "New year, new administration, new Congress ... a year of change." So, what can I say for this year?



CONGRESS

Definitely another new year and, while no new administration or Congress, I think it will most likely be another year of change! At the forefront, at least at the moment, is tax reform. From the show of hands at our December meeting, more members believe their taxes will be going up than down. Yes, definitely something to continue to watch closely.

Then, too, there is always the question of what will happen to earned pay and benefits, including health benefits and costs. Yes, more to continue to watch closely.

While it can be challenging and frustrating, overall we are very fortunate to have basically 24/7 access to information, especially from NARFE. How different from years ago when we had to rely almost exclusively on the monthly *narfe* magazine.

So, a New Year's "resolution" to consider ... work to become even more engaged with NARFE, even in just one area, such as contacting our legislators.

THIS YEAR

I will make a genuine and dedicated effort to



## Contacting our Federal Legislators

### The Honorable Dan Newhouse, 4th Congressional Dist. U.S. House of Representatives

Phone: 202.225.5816; Fax: 202.225.3251

<https://www.newhouse.house.gov>

3100 George Washington Way #135, Richland, WA 99354  
Phone: 509.713.7374; Fax: 509.713.7377

### The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate

Phone: 202.224.2621; Fax: 202.224.0514

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

402 East Yakima Ave., 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://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/index.dfm>

825 Jadwin Ave., Stes 204/204A, Richland, WA 99352  
Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

## NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

The first year of the 2-year congressional cycle is over, and so is the NARFE-PAC year. At chapter meetings, PAC received \$462 in contributions. The 4th quarter reports, which will be out sometime in January, will have the total amount from sustainers, and other data. I'll be providing updates at the monthly meetings; but, as a reminder, the quarterly reports are on the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).



To note – at the end of the 3rd quarter, September 30, out of the 21 Washington federation chapters, our chapter ranked 7th in contributions. It will be interesting to see if we gained any ground in the 4th quarter! **6413**

Also to note – the PAC distributions made to our elected officials as of the end of the 3rd quarter: Suzan DelBene (D-01), \$2,000; Dan Newhouse (R-04), \$1,000; Derek Kilmer (D-06), \$5,000; Pramila Jayapal (D-07), \$1,000; Dave Reichert (R-08), \$1,000 [Note: Funds were disbursed before he announced his retirement from Congress.]; Denny Heck (D-10), \$1,000.

I want to thank each of you who contributed in 2017, and are continuing to contribute as sustainers. To date it appears NARFE's legislative efforts are paying off. Looking ahead – mid-term elections. Contributions needed!

SAVE THE DATE!  
**FEDcon18**  
LEARN • ADVOCATE • LEAD  
NARFE'S PREMIER CONFERENCE  
AUGUST 26-28 • JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA  
HYATT REGENCY JACKSONVILLE RIVERFRONT



## Return Service Requested

### NARFE

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

### Alzheimer's Research – Larry Williams

November was Alzheimer's month and the chapter's fundraising was again very successful – more than \$2,150 from the "white elephant" auction and other donations at the November chapter meeting; and, \$380 from the coat check members staffed at the annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival. A special thank you to Pat Turner, our 1st vice president, for her work in putting a volunteer schedule together for the coat check. And, another special thank you to all contributors! Please continue to keep the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund on your donation list!



### Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor

**Welcome:** Mary Cantrell; Charles Clayton; Maria Marvin; Deborah Trader  
**Transfer to National Only:** Eileen Jackson; James Lewis; Barry Richards  
**Welcome Back:** Cathy and Cliff Ashley; Dennis Brown; John Hamilton; Brian Harkins; Dave Langstaff; Sherry Martin; Betty Robertson

### Webmaster – Larry Williams

A reminder! The 2018 chapter meeting menus are now posted on the chapter's website, [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org). Meeting programs will be posted, too; and, if you can't get to meetings and/or misplaced a newsletter, those are also on the website. Check it out.



### Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

"Snowbirding" season is here! Please remember to keep the chapter updated with contact changes. This helps our callers, and helps with mailings such as the newsletter. Thank you! My contact information is:  
**Ph: 509.492.4304;**  
**Email: [griff.fisher1@gmail.com](mailto:griff.fisher1@gmail.com).**



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### Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger

**Condolences** to the family of member Al Lake who passed away in October; to WSFC Legislative Chairman John Thurber on the passing of his wife, Pat, also a NARFE member; to the family of Jerry Owens, past president and member of the Walla Walla chapter.



**Thinking of You Wishes** to John Patten.

**Reminder:** Know someone needing a little "sunshine" or a special-occasion card? Call me, or email me at: [einvlieger@aol.com](mailto:einvlieger@aol.com).

**Service Office** – open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Federal Bldg., Room 137, Richland. Phone: 509.373.9536. Visitors welcome! New year, new opportunity to visit the office. Remember, our chapter has the only remaining service office in the Washington State Federation!

## REMINDERS!



**2018 NARFE Photo Contest**  
**August 1, 2017 – April 15, 2018**  
Theme: The Glory of America  
Details at "Special Programs,"  
[www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

**Hidden Numbers:** November/December newsletter numbers belonged to: Thomas Ferns; Deborah Lopez (A winner!); James Rodriguez. Find 3 new numbers in this newsletter – **last 4 digits of your NARFE membership number**. Find it, call me, 509.375.0739, email me, [caylorx2@aol.com](mailto:caylorx2@aol.com), or let me know at a meeting, and you, too, can win \$5!

**OPM Password** – Ensure you access the OPM site at least every few months to keep your password current.



**Winter is Here!**  
**Enjoy the Beauty!**  
**Be Safe ... Walking & Driving!**



On-Demand **WEBINARS, WHITE PAPERS**  
and **RESOURCES** for NARFE MEMBERS