



Reminder! Region IX Training Conference, May 17-18. See Page 2.

# 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)

## 2019 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Pat Turner	509.539.5659
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, John Cavanaugh	509.528.0130
Secretary/Sunshine, Faye Vlieger	509.961.1095
Treasurer, Liz Bowers	509.430.1836
Director-at-Large, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart	509.531.3118
Alzheimer's, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Legislative, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart	509.531.3118
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Service Office, John Cavanaugh	509.528.0130
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Caller Coordinator, Darleen Wall	509.586.8232

## CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays, except July/August

11:30 a.m., Columbia Center Red Lion, Kennewick

Lunch not required to attend the meeting.

Lunch: \$18; reservations REQUIRED

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

**Avoid a charge! Cancel reservations you can't keep!**

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

**January 2** – Danielle Kane, Eastern Washington BBB, to discuss consumer awareness.



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

**February 6** – Jason Mercier, director, Center for Government Reform Washington Policy Center – update on the Washington State legislative session.

**Menu: maple/mustard-glazed roasted pork loin, mashed potatoes, chef's choice of seasonal veggies, dessert**



**March 6** – Program TBD. Also, annual chapter food drive.

**Bring nonperishable food, cash or check!**

**Menu: grilled chicken breast, mozzarella, roasted tomato and veggie couscous, French green beans, dessert**



## January – February, Volume 2019, Issue 1

### Chapter President – Lorie Bennett

As we embark on a new year, let us reflect on the past year and the many changes our chapter experienced. That is, 2018 was a very busy and productive year.



Without members working together, we would not be as healthy a chapter as we are. So, **thank you, chapter members!** Also, now is a good time to say **a big thank you to our chapter's board members!** Without their dedication to our chapter, and NARFE, we could not be the chapter that we are. **Hats off to our board!**

Now to 2019 business. I believe this is going to be a year of more changes at the NARFE national level. At the chapter level, we are welcoming Walla Walla chapter members who transferred to our Tri-Cities chapter, as well as other transfers and members who have renewed or reinstated their membership. Welcome, all! Looking ahead to November, we will have the election of officers. So, we'll need members to serve in officer positions, and in some chairman positions. Stay tuned!

Further, and in line with NARFE's mission, we'll be watching what happens in Congress as it relates to legislation that could affect our earned benefits.



Therefore, I am asking chapter members to continue to respond to NARFE's requests to contact our elected officials on legislation that could affect both current employees and retirees, and annuitants. It truly does take all of us supporting NARFE's efforts to keep our benefits.

To stay connected with NARFE, please continue to read the monthly *narfe* magazine and our chapter newsletter. Check the NARFE website, along with our chapter and federation websites, for updates (addresses above.) And, if you use email, consider electronic updates from NARFE, if you are not already a subscriber.

Finally, on a personal note, I may be calling on 1st VP Pat Turner to periodically run the chapter monthly meetings as I deal with a family issue on the East Coast that may call me away. In advance, thank you, Pat! **5309**

## 1st VP – Pat Turner

The annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival is one of the most elegant events in the Tri-Cities. Our chapter is so fortunate to have the opportunity to support this event. That is, for the past several years, we have been invited to staff the coat check at the public tasting event. Donations received support our chapter's fundraising efforts for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Along with checking coats in/out, we get to meet and visit with many acquaintances and friends, and potential NARFE members!



The November 10, 40th Annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival, was a good fundraising event for us with \$356 in donations. We received a nice thank you for our support from Mary Binder, one of the event's core team members. Now, also, a special thank you to our chapter members who volunteered their time. We are already looking forward to next year's event, Saturday, November 16.

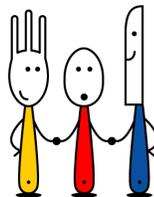
## 2nd VP/Service Officer – John Cavanaugh

**Remember!** The chapter's service office in the Federal Building, Richland, is open by appointment only. For questions and/or an appointment, federal retirees, employees and others, for example, surviving family members, can call me at 509.528.0130; Nancy Crosby at 509.735.3288, or Mary Binder, 509.585.1393.



## Director-at-Large – Nancy Crosby

Good news! For 2019 our lunch cost will remain at \$18 and still include a dessert. The menu will also remain basically the same; but, to reduce waste, portions will be a little smaller as they have been for the past couple of months. Besides including menu information in each chapter newsletter, the 2019 menu is on the chapter website: [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org).



## WSF President – Nancy Crosby

The Washington State Federation (WSF) board met Thursday, December 6, at the Tacoma La Quinta Hotel. Chapter 1192 members Mary Binder and Lorie Bennett also attended in their respective roles as the WSF VP and WSF Alzheimer's chairman. Bea Bull from Bremerton Chapter 181 was installed as the District IV VP, replacing Al Costa who moved out of state.

The 2019 WSF budget was presented, discussed and approved by the board. Highlights include using the 10-percent dues money we receive from NARFE to help promote attendance at conferences and training opportunities. Also, the \$1.20 per member "per capita tax" that chapters have provided the federation each year is waived for 2019 to encourage chapters to use the money to recruit and retain members and/or attend conferences and workshops.



Besides the closure of the Walla Walla chapter in 2018, several other federation chapters are on "life support." Nationally, NARFE has closed 274 chapters since November 2017; and, as of October 31, NARFE membership had dropped to 201,773. Our WSF had 5,813 members as of the same date – 3,179 chapter and 2,634 national members. So, recruiting and retaining members remains critical to NARFE's future.

A reminder! Our 5-state, 2019 Region IX Training Conference will be Friday and Saturday, May 17-18, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. Besides an opportunity to meet other Region IX members, the 5 federation presidents – Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington – are planning an informative conference. The WSF board approved a \$50 "scholarship" for each WSF member in good standing to attend the conference. As this event is local, I hope you plan to attend. No long-distance traveling and no overnight stays. A win-win!



The next WSF board meeting will be Wednesday, April 10, again in Tacoma at the La Quinta Hotel.

## NARFE WEBINARS

**January 10** – Federal & Military Service? Maximize Your Benefits (*James Marshall, Federal Benefits Institute*)

**January 24** – Taxes & Federal Benefits (*Mark Keen, CFP*)

**February 7** – Step by Step to Retirement (*Tammy Flanagan*)

**March 7** – The TSP and You (*Mark Keen, CFP*)

**March 21** – Optimizing Your Social Security Benefits (*Tammy Flanagan*)

**April 11** – Federal Benefits & Divorce (*James Marshall*)

All webinars are at 2 p.m., Eastern Time.  
Past webinars "on demand" at: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

## WSF District V VP – Mary Binder

Good news! After months of searching, our district's Yakima chapter has a new meeting location starting in January, and at no cost – Blossom Place, an Enlivant assisted living facility in Yakima. This will help the chapter's treasury. Stay tuned for more updates. **9076**

## Legislative – Mary Binder

As this newsletter went to press in October, the midterm elections were looming. While these “intense” elections are over, “intense” still seems an operative word to describe at least some of the day-to-day news from “the other Washington.” Will current employees get a pay raise in 2019? Will there be a government shutdown? What will happen when the 2019-2020 Congress convenes in January? There is much potentially at stake for both current and retired federal employees, and annuitants.

So, staying informed and involved will continue to be as important as ever. As President Lorie wrote in her article, page 1, contacting our elected officials is one way we can make our voices heard. The saying, “There is strength in numbers,” is as true as ever.

Looking ahead to March, the NARFE legislative conference, **LEGcon19**, should be most interesting and informative. Even though advance registration has closed, members can still register to attend but at a higher rate. However, our WSF board approved a \$250 “scholarship” to help offset costs for members in good standing who attend. Besides presentations and updates from NARFE staff, there will be other guest speakers. Watch for details and updates on the NARFE website and in the monthly *narfe* magazine.



## NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

While the midterm elections and the 2017-2018 congressional cycle are history, the need for PAC contributions is not. That is, the need is never ending – not only as a “foot-in-the door” for NARFE’s legislative staff who go to Capitol Hill and work with our elected officials and their staffs, but also to continue to support those elected officials and, down the road, candidates who support NARFE’s legislative agenda to protect our earned benefits. As you know, there is very little downtime between one election and the next. Yes, work has already started for many on the 2020 elections.

So, your support to NARFE-PAC remains as critical as ever. If you are not a sustainer, that is, having a monthly deduction for NARFE-PAC from a credit card you select (not your annuity), please consider doing so in 2019.



## 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., Suites 204/204A, Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937



NARFE’s contributions goal for the 2017-2018 cycle was \$1.5 million. As of October 31, contributions were \$1,825,831.51! In about mid-January, NARFE will release the final contributions for the 2-year cycle, which closes with the 8th quarter, December 31. The reports will be posted on the NARFE website and include everything from our chapter members’ contributions to federation and national information to disbursements to elected officials and candidates who requested NARFE-PAC dollars. Besides being posted on the NARFE website, I’ll provide updates at chapter meetings. **4771**

Thank you for your past, and looking ahead, for your future support to NARFE-PAC.

## Alzheimer’s Research – Larry Williams

November was NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund month. Our Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 conducted 2 fund-raising events.

First was our annual white elephant auction. Members donated a wide variety of items – from wine to a ceramic white elephant! Yes, it was a fun event and, between ticket sales for items and individual donations, the chapter collected more than \$2,100!

The second event was the coat check members staffed at the 40th Annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival. As Pat Turner reported in her article, we collected \$356 in donations!

So, another great year. Thank you to all for your support!





## Return Service Requested

### NARFE

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

#### New Year's Resolution!

Complete the NARFE F-100, *Be Prepared for Life's Events, What Your Survivors Should Know.*

Go to: [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org).

### Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor

Happy New Year to all our faithful continuous, dues withholding, distinguished and life members!

**Welcome:** Sandra Chandler; Gregory Morgan; Roger Snyder

**Reinstated:** Randall Edward Johnson

**Transferred to National-only Membership:**

Virginia Coffman

**Transferred Back to Chapter 1192:**

James Peterson

**Welcome Walla Walla chapter transfer**

**members:** Allen and Linda Alass; John Bailey; John Bowles; James Burke; Melissa Cummins; Albert Daly; Evelyn Gibson; Anna and Paul Good; Susan Hopkins; Berton Kinman; Carl Nuthak; David Parker; Therese Sannar; Gene Spangrude

#### Reminders!

- ◆ The 2018 NARFE Fall Membership Drive is over. Recruiting materials were distributed throughout the fall to local Tri-Cities federal agencies, and the VA and Corps of Engineers in Walla Walla. Hopefully, “prospects” have mailed in their applications and we’ll see results in future membership reports.
- ◆ **Snowbirds ... and all members!** Let me know if your contact information changes!
- ◆ Have questions about the latest revised membership renewal form? Let me know! Remember to check the box for the number of years you are renewing for, and the **“National AND Chapter”** box, to remain a Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 member.



#### 2019 NARFE Photo Contest August 1, 2018 – April 8, 2019

Theme: Living in the USA  
Details at “Special Programs,”  
[www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

- ◆ **Dues Withholding!** Retirees, save money! No renewal forms to worry about! Pay only \$44 vs. \$50 for annual national/chapter dues. This is \$3.67 in 12 equal payments deducted from your annuity. Questions? Contact me.

**Hidden Numbers:** November/December numbers: Bill Darke; Russell Nelson; Debbie Trader. Bill found his number and donated his \$5 to the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund. Congratulations and thank you, Bill! Find 3 new numbers – **last 4 digits of your NARFE membership number**. Find it, call me, 509.308.6664, or email me, [annahojx2@gmail.com](mailto:annahojx2@gmail.com), and you, too, can win \$5!



#### 2019 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Awards Program

Open to High School Seniors

10 winners; \$700 each

Application deadline: March 25, 3 p.m., ET

Details at “Special Programs,” [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

### Caller Coordinator – Darleen Wall

Help our callers! If you receive a message from one of our callers regarding attending chapter meeting, please return the call. Also, if you want to attend a chapter meeting and did not receive a call, please call me at 509.586.8232. Thank you for helping us!



### Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger

Since the November/December newsletter: **Condolences** to member Joanne Shadel on the passing of her father; to the family of member Arthur G. Lassila

**Thinking of You** to Betty Maupin

**Know someone needing a little “sunshine” or a special-occasion card? Have extra cards, especially sympathy?** Call me or email me: [einvlieger@aol.com](mailto:einvlieger@aol.com).

