



TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192

NARFE NEWS – *Special Edition*

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Advocates for Active and Former Federal Employees

www.NARFE1192.org

July – August, Volume 2010, Issue 4

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.,

Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137

Phone: 509-373-9536

Ellen LeVee – former DOE human resource specialist, is a new Service Center volunteer. Thank you, Ellen!

Questions – if you or someone you know has questions, everything from how to contact OPM to federal life insurance issues, your Service Center is a good resource. If volunteers do not have the answer, they have resources to either get the answer or give you referral information.

Retirees – even if you do not have a computer, if you have a “PIN” and your OPM retiree claim number, family members, friends or others can help you access OPM information on line! Need help getting a PIN? Call the OPM number below.

Remember – NARFE’s *Be Prepared for Life’s Events* is a guide for annuitants and survivor benefits. It is a GREAT resource! Copies are at the Service Center or on line at NARFE’s web site: www.narfe.org. You can keep a copy on your computer and update it as needed – a practical way to keep your important information current!

Good to Know

OPM: 888-767-6738, “Retirement Info Line”

OPM: www.opm.gov/retire/

HOSPITALITY

Vegetarian plates – available for the monthly meetings. Just let your reservation caller know.

Reminder – the Chapter must pay for the number of reservations given to the hotel, even for “no shows.” To cancel a reservation, call Mary Goldie, 582-8757, or Nancy Schreckhise, 585-7558.

2010 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President , Gary Hagedorn	509-547-3015
1st Vice President , Don Binder	509-585-1393
2nd Vice President , Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
Treasurer , Nancy Crosby	509-735-3288
Secretary , Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
Legislative , Don & Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
NARFE-PAC , Don Binder	509-585-1393
Service Officers , Mary Goldie,	509-582-8757
Nancy Schreckhise	509-585-7558
Alzheimer’s , Bill Darke	509-375-7757
Public Relations , Gary Hagedorn	509-547-3015
Sunshine , Carolyn Reeploeg	509-375-1229
Parliamentarian , Mable Rutt	509-943-1812
Hospitality , Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
Membership/Newsletter ,	
Johanna Caylor	509-308-6664
Webmaster , Larry Williams	509-783-8554
Deacon , Al Rizzo	509-375-0446

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater “A”

Lunch: \$13; reservations requested

Executive Board meets after Chapter meetings

July 14 – Health Fairs, Richland
Federal Bldg (AM); ORP Bldg (PM)

August 11 – Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m.,
Tri-City Country Club, Kennewick

August 29 – September 2 – 31st NARFE National
Convention, Grand Rapids, Michigan

September 8 – Chapter Meeting: 31st NARFE
National Convention highlights

Menu: Beef Lasagna

JUNE TREASURER’S REPORT*

Balance forward, May 31	\$ 7180.56
June Income	\$ 731.48
June Expenditures	\$ 412.97
Dedicated funds, 18-mo. budget	\$ 2054.00
Balance on hand, June 30	\$ 5445.07

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

Chapter President – Gary Hagedorn

I hope all of you are enjoying the summer – whether traveling or just enjoying time at home! Although we aren't having monthly meetings in July and August, there was just so much your Executive Board wanted to share with you that we opted for a **“special edition”** summer newsletter.

Officer changes. In May, Treasurer Bob Stewart asked to be relieved of his duties; President Nancy Crosby volunteered to take that position. As your 1st VP, I agreed to accept the president's position and Don Binder agreed to become 8427 the Chapter's new 1st VP. Nominations and elections were held at our June Chapter meeting.

Looking ahead to fall and the re-starting of our Chapter's monthly meetings. It may be a time for all of us to re-evaluate priorities and decide which efforts and activities we will engage in that bring us purpose. Purpose – it's difficult to commit to activities that don't bring fulfillment. We need to manage our time and sort out the most worthwhile, enjoyable and rewarding of the many opportunities that come our way and demand our time.

Membership. In a recent *NARFE* magazine, President Margaret Baptiste discussed the importance of membership and strength in numbers. She emphasized the necessity of maintaining numbers to effectively serve as a lobby for government employees. There is no doubt during these times of budget deficits that retiree benefits are targets of politicians searching for funds. The gains of the past few decades are threatened.

Certainly, recruitment and retention need to be an emphasis for us as we finish 2010. I encourage all of you to make NARFE membership a priority. Like many of you, I, too, am extremely busy; but, our retirement resources require our engaged participation. This need not be an excessive demand on time; so, I ask each of you to invite a friend to the Chapter's fall meetings. We can enjoy the social aspects of getting together while being purposeful in our goal to increase membership and be an effective voice.

Highlights – Washington State Federation of Chapters Annual Convention, May 17-19, Everett. More than 120 members attended – 7 from Chapter 1192. Presentations are on the Federation web site, www.narfewa.net. Look for “2010 WSFC Convention Wrap-up.”

Following are additional highlights.

Chapter 1192 recognitions and updates:

- Johanna Caylor – District Recruiter of the Year
- Newsletter – judged Federation's best
- Booster Contributions – more than any other Federation chapter
- Nancy Crosby – Federation Nominating Committee chairman
- Don Binder – Federation PAC chairman

Key NARFE issues and points:

- Recruiting and retaining NARFE members nationwide is critical to NARFE's future – less than 1% of NARFE members recruit even 1 new member a year
- Upcoming changes – 3 of the 4 national officers and 5 of the 10 regional VPs will be elected at the upcoming NARFE convention

Key Washington Federation issues and points:

- Convene WSFC conventions every 2 years vs. annually beginning in 2012
- Now 2-year terms vs. 1 year for Federation officers and district VPs with a maximum of 2, 2-year terms
- Resolution passed calling 6453 for a national single dues proposal
- Approved bylaws and standing rules are on the WSFC web site, www.narfewa.net
- Convention participants donated \$1155 for NARFE-PAC; \$298 was raised for Alzheimer's research from drawings and other solicitations

31st NARFE National Convention, August 29 – September 2. Chapter members Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston are planning to attend and represent the Chapter. Our Executive Board is scheduled to meet August 11. Agenda items include reviewing resolutions submitted for the Convention, the election of NARFE officers, and how our Chapter's votes will be cast. The Board welcomes your comments! Convention updates are on the NARFE web site, www.narfe.org.

2nd VP Update - Carl Gallion is currently home and awaiting his hip “re-surgery,” now tentatively scheduled for August. His health journey this year has been long and arduous. We look forward to seeing him again at Chapter meetings this fall!

Federal Insurance Benefits. Did you know – the Federal Employees Group Life Insurance program is the world's largest of its kind, covering more than 4 million government employees and retirees,

and many of their family members; the Federal Employees Health Benefits program is the world's largest employer-sponsored group health insurance program, covering more than 8 million federal employees, retirees, former employees, family members and former spouses. Interesting information for our active federal employees, and/or when talking with potential federal employees. Further, federal insurance benefits can be for life for those who work long enough to be eligible for an immediate retirement.

Announcement – Leif Erickson Retirement Farewell Social, July 28, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m., Richland Federal Building Rm 142. Leif's wife, Julie, is a Chapter member. Farewell organizers have asked us to spread the word – all are invited!

Alzheimer's Research Fund – William Darke

Looking ahead to – the Chapter's November 3 meeting and our now annual white elephant auction fundraiser for Alzheimer's Research! So, start thinking about what you'd like to donate!

Sunshine News – Carolyn Reeploeg

Recapping recent activities:

- Get well cards went to Ida Glover, Judy Hames and Marilyn McNeill.
- Sympathy cards went to Willis Kimball, who lost his wife; then, shortly thereafter, to his family when he passed away. Cards also went to the families of members Katie Barton, Paul Gottschalk, Marilyn McNeill and George Rose.
- Sympathy cards went to members Gary Youngquist who lost his mother and Mary Goldie who lost her sister; and, to Marion Wilson (past WSFC Service Officer) who lost her husband.

Please continue to let me know about members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss, or an extra-special occasion. Contact me at: jdmcer@juno.com or 509-375-1229. Finally, thank you, Carl Gallion and Dolores Rizzo, for donating cards for me to use.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

A reminder – NARFE issues a weekly "legislative update" through its Global Email Messaging System (GEMS). For those not having e-mail access or who prefer to hear the actual words, call NARFE toll free at 877-217-8234, and hear the same information. As election season continues to ramp up, continue to look for information in NARFE's legislative updates, call the toll-free

number above, come to our Chapter's monthly meetings, check our Chapter's web site, and/or check our Federation's web site. Here are the sites: NARFE HQ, www.narfe.org; Washington State Federation of Chapters www.narfewa.net; and Chapter 1192 www.narfe1192.org.

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

NARFE-PAC – Don Binder

With the election season definitely in full swing, politicians are submitting requests for PAC funds to help their election campaigns. Why should NARFE support these 5496 requests? I think Lanny Ross, our Region IX VP, summed it up best at the Federations' recent annual convention:

"NARFE's mission is legislation – to maintain our earned benefits. Without a PAC, NARFE is not competitive, in the fold with other organizations on Capitol Hill. NARFE does not buy votes; but, through the PAC process, NARFE can open Congressional doors so Congress knows who we are and our concerns, and so we can be a viable force. Federal employees and retirees are a target at this time with red ink in DC. Retirees' annuity is part of a 'contract.' It is important that Congress understands it is a contract [not a target]."

Even during the summer, contributions are most welcome! You can send me a check, made out to "NARFE-PAC," and I'll forward it. My address: 2802 W. 40th Ave., Kennewick, WA 99337. Questions? Contact me at: 509-585-1393, or don_binder@msn.com.

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Johanna Caylor
514 Stagecoach Ct
Richland, WA 99354
Email: caylorx2@aol.com

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 173
Richland, WA

Return Service Requested

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Jessie Blair, Lori Pitzer

Reinstated: Michael McBrearty, Santos Ortega

Renewals: Lost your renewal slip and need help?
Call me and I will walk you through the process.

Remember: The 2010-2011 WSFC Federation
Membership Campaign with \$10 rebates for:

**1-Dues withholding; 2-Gift memberships; and,
3-Spouse sign up.**

Reminder: If you change your mailing or e-mail
address, or phone number, please contact me.

This is very important so we can continue to
provide you Chapter information.

Help: NARFE not only needs new members – we
need to **retain** the members we have. Help our
Chapter and NARFE grow and sustain strength!
To those retired members who are delinquent at
this time and those with renewals coming up –
PLEASE consider “dues withholding.” Only \$2.88
is withheld from your monthly annuity and you will
then no longer receive renewal notices!!

Hidden numbers: There are 3 in this issue – last
4 digits of a membership number. Contact me if
you find yours, and win \$5! Hidden numbers in the
May/June issue belonged to: Randall Johnson,
Jerry White and Chris Emmons. Sorry, no calls!
Call me: If you have questions, please call me.
My numbers are: 509-375-0739 or 308-6664.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

**Health Fairs, Federal Bldg. and ORP, Richland,
July 14**

Labor Day, September 6

Chapter Monthly Meeting, September 8

