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TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

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

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

July – August, Volume 2012, Issue 4

2012 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1st Vice President, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
2nd Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
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	509.308.6664
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
Sunshine, Marci Lingle	509.627.6628
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

August 22 – Chapter Executive Board meeting
Tri-City Country Club, 10:30 a.m.

All Chapter members welcome but RSVP needed;
call Secretary Mary Binder, 509.585.1393

September 5 – Chapter meeting; program will be
announced in the September/October newsletter

Menu: Beef Lasagna

October 3 – Meeting program: Statewide Health
Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) to discuss
Medicare and selecting a healthcare provider

Menu: Hot Open-Faced Turkey Sandwich

JUNE TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, May 31	\$6,478.25
June income	\$ 594.06
June expenditures	\$ 504.23
Dedicated funds	\$2,756.00
Balance on hand, June 30	\$3,812.08

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

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137
Phone: 509.373.9536

Coordinator: 2nd VP Lorie Bennett

Reminders: The Service Center is open during the summer. If you've never been to the office, or if it's been awhile, think about scheduling a visit this summer!



The Service Center is also the repository for our chapter's historical documents. Another reason for a visit – come see what we have. And, if you have documents, photos, etc., you think might be something for the historical files, please let me know.

Worth repeating: Your password for accessing your records on OPM's web site, must be used at least once every 15 months to keep it current! Otherwise, you'll have to get a new one. So, a suggestion – use "fall back" and "spring forward" Daylight Saving Time changes as times to use your password and stay current!
Go to: www.opm.gov/retire/.



Caller Coordinator. If you can volunteer to be a caller for our monthly meetings 3552 beginning in September, and/or want to know more, please call me,
Pam Griffin, 509.492.4304, or e-mail: pgriff1@charter.net.



And as a heads up, the callers will be making their annual calls to all Chapter members in September to verify contact and other information!

LOOKING AHEAD

1st VP/Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion
No Chapter meetings in July and August, but mark your calendar for our first fall meeting, Wednesday, September 5. Yes, both RSVPs and cancelling an RSVP will continue to be important!



Chapter President – Don Binder

As the summer heat maybe/finally gets to us in our area of the country, it is easy to count our blessings as we see the destruction from fires in at least 4 states, the worst being Colorado, the storms that hit the Mid-Atlantic States with many deaths, and the drought in other areas. As we reflect on our blessings, pause for a moment to send thoughts and prayers to those impacted by nature's challenges.

Also remember our service members in thoughts and prayers, especially those away from home and in harm's way. May they remain safe. Our military – from before the founding of our great nation to the present time – has been ready to answer the commander-in-chief's call during global, regional or more localized needs. We remain free due in no small measure to the brave men and women who have served during the past 237 years.



During July and August, although we pause from our monthly general membership meetings, a number of us will be working on our Chapter's membership and public relations action plans, providing representation at the July 10 FEHBP Annual Employee Service Day, paying bills and balancing books, attending other meetings, etc. For membership, our goal is to continue to increase our numbers, encourage those who are members to renew, and for those not already using dues withholding, to do so – it saves members money plus no reminders about 9977 renewing!



Additionally, in late August a number of chapter members will make the trip to Reno/Sparks, to attend NARFE's biennial convention. With it being so close to us, relatively speaking, we will have more members attending than normal. While it is too late to sign up as a delegate, if you are interested in attending please contact me to discuss options.



In closing, I want to ensure you know your Chapter 1192 Executive Board continues to work with the District V vice president, our own Nancy Crosby, the Washington federation, and NARFE national officers and staff to ensure we are looking out for all of you – and other federal employees and retirees. Enjoy your summer!



2nd VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

I believe our June 14, Special Manhattan Project B Reactor bus tour, for Chapter members and their guests, was a success! We had plenty of time at the B Reactor to ask questions, wander around and enjoy ourselves. A big thank you to all who participated.

Looking ahead: **October 12**, I'm working on a tour to the LIGO – the Hanford Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory. Want to know more about LIGO? Go to:

www.ligo-wa.caltech.edu/.



Artist's Conception of Gravitational Waves

Finally, e-mail me, loreib@clearwire.net, if you want to go to a Dust Devils game in July or August. For a 2013 group event, watch for updates next spring.

District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

While it's nice to have a summer break, I'm also looking forward to getting out and meeting with members in our District V chapters – Yakima, Walla Walla and the Tri-Cities – when meetings resume in the fall.

I am also looking forward to NARFE's national convention, August 26-30, in Sparks/Reno. From District V, we'll have representatives from the Yakima and Tri-Cities chapters, and carry a proxy for the Walla Walla chapter. Look for highlights at our Chapter 1192's September meeting!

Finally, the Wenatchee chapter has again extended an invitation to attend its chapter's annual picnic, **Wednesday, September 12, Rocky Reach Park**. This is a lovely location and those of us who attended last year had a great time. So, mark your calendars and watch for more details in the next newsletter.

NARFE-PAC – Carl Gallion

Congress continues its pursuit against any outlay of funds, particularly to federal retiree support. Therefore, it is imperative to rally behind those candidates on August 7 and November 6 who will stand up for our earned benefits. Dollars to NARFE-PAC help gain recognition and strength.

Our Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 received recognition at the Washington Federation's May statewide convention for its strong participation. A special "thanks" to all who have joined to help us win this battle. As always, I'm available if you have questions or to collect a contribution.



Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

Our new Alzheimer's donation year began May 1. Currently, we have \$78 in our Alzheimer's account. Once again, thank you to all who contributed last year – our Chapter's contributions totaled \$1,455.37.

NARFE recently reported that some members who contributed have been solicited by other Alzheimer's organizations. Per NARFE's Alzheimer's Association contract, members should not be solicited. Examples of organizations soliciting are: Alzheimer's Disease Research, Clarksburg, Md., and the Cleveland Clinic Foundation for Alzheimer's Disease, Albert-Lea, Minn. Such groups are not with the Alzheimer's Association in Chicago and contributions will not be credited to NARFE.

Another problem – some acknowledgements from the Alzheimer's Association have included a coupon asking that donations be sent to the Alzheimer's Association, Washington, D.C. These coupons make no mention of NARFE and thus donations made by NARFE members would not be counted toward NARFE's funding goal.

So, to ensure your donations count toward our Chapter 1192's contributions and NARFE's goals, make them through me as your Alzheimer's chairman or use coupons in the *NARFE* magazine.



Webmaster – Larry Williams

Reminders – the latest newsletter is available on our Chapter web site:

<http://www.narfe1192.org/newsletter.html>.

Also, Nancy Crosby notifies members whose e-mail addresses we have when the newsletter is posted, about calls to action and/or other critical information.



To help prevent Nancy's e-mail from being classified as spam, put her address, ncrosby2b@charter.net, in your address book.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

With elections for all House seats and 34 Senate races, most major legislation has moved through committees to debate in both houses. At this time, it does not appear that any legislation during the rest of the 112th Congress prior to the November 6 election will adversely impact federal employees or retirees. Already passed and signed by the president, however, is legislation that will impact on all newly hired employees effective January 1, 2013.

Our ongoing goal is aiding NARFE's national officers and staff in getting our point of view to our 6827

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

Senators Murray and Cantwell, and Congressman "Doc" Hastings. With both Senator Cantwell and Congressman Hastings running for re-election, we need to ensure they and those running against them are aware of issues impacting us. In doing so, we ensure all candidates – incumbents or not – are aware of the importance we place on NARFE's legislative agenda. If you need more information, check NARFE's website, www.narfe.org, see articles in the *NARFE* magazine, or contact us.

Sunshine News – Nancy Crosby

Condolences sent to – families of members:

Gary Clyma; James Kosy; Roger St. John; to Verneice Skinner on the passing of her husband, Jerome; and to Nancy Hieb on the passing of her husband, Galen.

Get Well card sent to – June Ollero

Reminder: Marci Lingles is back from wintering south. Let her know about members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss, or an extra-special occasion. Contact her at: 509.627.6628 or tclingles@clearwire.net.

Needed: A chairman is needed to replace Marci starting October 1. If you are interested or have questions, contact Nancy Crosby at: 509.735.3288 or ncrosby2b@charter.net.



Public Relations – Mary Binder

We again had a table at the Senior Life Show, June 15. Talked to many attendees, with several wanting more information about NARFE. We'll be following up with them. Thanks to all who helped with this event!



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

Return Service Requested

FEHB
Annual Employee Service Day
JULY 10
Federal Bldg, Richland,
10:00 to 11:00 AM
Stevens Center, Richland
1:00 to 2:00 PM

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: John Patten

Reinstated: Oneta Denson; Lynn Jones;
Kathy Miskho; Ralph Russell

Transferred out: Gwen Howell; Dennis Kellogg;
Bettye Milton; Robert Reid

Dues Withholding: Arthur Lassila

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: Returning “Snowbirds,” please, notify the Chapter and NARFE if you change your mailing, e-mail, or other contact!

Hidden numbers: The May/June newsletter hidden numbers belonged to: Richard Holten; Ellen Le Vee; and, Sherry Martin. Sorry, no one called so no winners! Three new numbers are “hidden” in this newsletter – the last 4 digits of a member’s number. Call me and win \$5!

Call/e-mail me: 509.308.6664; caylorx2@aol.com.

Have an E-Mail Address? We NEED it!

E-mail helps the Chapter *go electronic*.

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, please send it to:

Nancy Crosby, ncrosby2b@charter.net.

NARFE Disaster Relief Fund

Following a declared natural disaster, NARFE members can request a grant for assistance, subject to funds available and limited to \$500 per family, maximum.

For information and an application, call:
Federal Employee Education & Assistance Fund,
800.338.0755 (800.323.4140 after hours)
or e-mail: rmartillaro@feea.org.

Please provide this information to NARFE members who may have been affected by recent natural disasters.

Always Good to Know

NARFE’s **PROTECT America’s Heartbeat** campaign, www.narfe.org

OPM: 888.767.6738, “Retirement Info Line”

OPM: www.opm.gov/retire/

E-mail questions to: retire@opm.gov

NARFE Toll-Free Number: 800.627.3994;

Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: 800.217.8234

Thoughts from Afar

Deacon Al Rizzo

(via Dolores Rizzo)



Who are you?

How do you live?

Remember, who knows what tomorrow will bring.
(Taken from January 2009 Chapter Meeting Minutes)



AUGUST 7 — Washington State Primary Election! Remember to vote!

