



# 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.narfel192.org

# 2018 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Lorie Bennett  Ist Vice President, Pat Turner  2nd Vice President, John Cavanaugh	509.531.2745 509.539.5659 509.528.0130
Secretary/Sunshine, Faye Vlieger Treasurer, Liz Bowers	509.961.1095 509.430.1836
Director-at-Large, Nancy Crosby Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart	509.735.3288 509.531.3118
Alzheimer's, Larry Williams Legislative, Mary Alice Binder	509.783.8554 509.378.2494
Membership, Johanna Caylor NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart	509.375.0739 509.531.3118
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494 509.378.2494
Service Office, John Cavanaugh Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.528.0130 509.783.8554

#### **CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS**

Meetings: 1st 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.

<u>September 5</u> – FEDcon18 recap. Plus, overview/update on the brewery industry in Washington State. *Menu: chicken teriyaki chicken* 

over rice



October 3 – Lt. Tracy Baker, Benton Fire District I, will provide information on preventing

slips, trips and falls.

Menu: bacon-wrapped meatloaf w/
mashed potatoes and chef-selected
veggies

November 7 – Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund.

Menu: margarita chicken, roasted vegetable couscous, green beans REMINDER! Bring auction items, cash/checkbook.

# July - August, Volume 2018, Issue 4

#### **Chapter President - Lorie Bennett**

Yes, summer is here! Hot, dry weather outside; but, hopefully, cool temps indoors. Thinking of indoors, let's try to keep current with what is happening at NARFE and the White House, as well as in Congress.

Several chapter members are scheduled to attend the NARFE **FEDcon18** conference at the end of August.



Besides checking for daily updates during the conference on the NARFE website, there will be a recap from chapter attendees at our September chapter meeting.

A huge THANK YOU to the callers who call members prior to each chapter meeting and to the volunteers who have staffed our Service Office each Tuesday. Just more examples of the volunteer efforts that help keep our Tri-Cities up and running!

Speaking of the Service Office, see Service Officer John Cavanaugh's article on staffing changes, page 2. We have been so fortunate to have this office space in the Federal Building, Richland.

I hope you continue to have a safe and enjoyable summer, and I look forward to seeing you in September.

#### Treasurer - Liz Bowers

Did you have "hall monitors" when you were in school? Part of a treasurer's job is somewhat like that but as a "budget monitor." The chapter has an approved budget. As treasurer I monitor it, and then provide updates and recommendations to the chapter's board members. For 2018 I can report that, to date, with a little "tweaking," we are on track. Detailed reports are on the chapter's website.

#### Ist Vice President - Pat Turner

NARFE has provided me with many educational networking opportunities with numerous non-profit agencies. That is one reason I look forward to going to NARFE conventions, conferences and training programs.

At the recent Washington federation conference in Spokane, one of the speakers was a former executive director of a Tri-Cities non-profit agency. We shared and exchanged ideas for better serving our communities. Further, I had an interaction with a housing agency director and was able to bring back a contact to our local agency, which has brought about positive results. Then, too, I was able to make a contact to secure a grant for a local non-profit. And, a conference lunch speaker enlightened us regarding the medical programs offered through the WSU Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine.

So, besides learning a lot about NARFE and its programs, my association with attendees has been rewarding. I encourage all members to take advantage of these NARFE experiences.

#### 2nd Vice President - John Cavanaugh

Besides serving as the chapter's 2nd vice, I am also the chapter service officer. Recently, the chapter's board discussed the service office – everything from staffing the office to the hours of operation. 1442



As of June, the service office is now open only by appointment rather than each Tuesday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Federal retirees, employees and others, for example, surviving family members, can call the service office phone number, 509.373.9536. The message provided includes phone numbers for 2 local NARFE members who will set up an appointment to assist the caller.

#### WSF President - Nancy Crosby

The 2018 Washington State Federation conference in Spokane Valley was a great success thanks to the conference committee's efforts! Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 had good representation!

A highlight was NARFE Executive Director Barb Sido's presentation on NARFE's future and efforts to improve communications and branding of NARFE.

Even though we only had 72 members present, we accomplished a great deal:

- In pre-conference voting, the revised federation bylaws were approved by 86% of voters.
- Installed the 4 re-elected federation officers.
- Three districts elected new vice presidents (District II, John Wells; District III, Sam Sevier; District IV, Al Costa). Districts I and V re-elected their vice presidents (Christine Price, District I; and Mary Binder, District V).
- Arlene Patton and Kathy Brooks, Spokane Chapter 32, volunteered to serve as the Training Committee co-chairmen.
- ♦ Discussed needing membership retention/recruiting chairmen, that is, 2 volunteers to share the membership chairman position.
- Selected the Nominating Committee for 2020 (Note: the 4 elected officers will have completed their second 2-year term in 2020.)
- Reviewed the proposed new NARFE member renewal form, which hopefully will resolve the confusion regarding chapter renewal with the current form.

The federation is excited that we have close to 15 federation members attending the NARFE's FEDcon18 conference in August. Five are from Chapter 1192! There will be interesting subjects and informative sessions.

The next federation board meeting will be Monday, September 10, at the La Quinta Inn & Suites, Tacoma.

# WSF District V VP - Mary Binder

The district's 3 chapters - Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima - are on "meeting break" this summer. But, chapter leaders are still working for their chapters! 8690

Walla Walla chapter leaders continue to work toward closing their chapter by September I. A number of the those chapter's members will be joining the Tri-Cities chapter. We welcome them and hope to see them at meetings starting in September.

#### Public Relations - Mary Binder

The chapter participated in 2 "outreach" activities in June. First, a postmasters' convention at Clover Island Inn, Kennewick, in early June. Thank you, Johanna Caylor! Then, the annual Senior Life Show at the Three Rivers

Convention Center, also in Kennewick. Thank you Nancy Crosby, Lorie Bennett and Darleen Wall. Both activities brought the chapter new members.

(Photo courtesy of Johanna Caylor)



#### Legislative – Mary Binder

August is NARFE Grassroots Advocacy month. Typically, it is a time when our senators and congressmen are back home and holding town hall meetings, meeting with constituents, campaigning, etc. This may be somewhat different this



year if the Senate and/or House remain in session for more of the month.

Regardless, NARFE still encourages members to contact their elected officials. Molly Checksfield from NARFE's Legislative Action Center again emphasized the importance of doing this during her presentation for our May federation conference. Between the narfe magazine and the NARFE website, members have access to not only current legislative issues but also a treasure trove of ideas, suggestions, and methods for contacting our elected officials.

Molly also reiterated the importance of short, personal stories when writing to and/or

meeting with our senators or congressman. That is, how did or does a particular piece of legislation affect you and/or your family. Further,



she recommended contacting our representatives every few months. While contacting them is good, being a pest by making contact too often is not. So, find a good balance!

These remain challenging times - whether at the federal or state level. So, staying informed and engaged is as important as ever. NARFE continues to help keep us informed and provides tools for taking action. All at our finger tips.

Finally, remember to **VOTE** in the upcoming primary elections, August 7!

#### NARFE-PAC - Bob Stewart

Contributions welcome! Contributions needed! With the fall elections looming closer and closer, this is the time in the 2-year congressional cycle that NARFE typically makes more PAC distributions to those candidates running for re-election or election who support NARFE's legislative mission.

As of the chapter's June meeting, members had contributed \$167 at meetings for NARFE-PAC. This is in addition to what our chapter's sustainers contribute monthly and/ or what members may have sent directly to NARFE. The totals will be reflected in the quarterly reports for the period ending June 30. Watch for those on the NARFE website toward the middle of August. I'll also be providing an update at the September chapter meeting. 9743

# **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

As Legislative Chairman Mary Binder wrote, above, NARFE's Legislative Action Center has the information members need for contacting our legislative representatives. Yes, let our elected



officials know what you support or oppose, and why.

So, please continue your support to NARFE-PAC! Also, a reminder – becoming a sustainer helps NARFE in planning for distributions as sustaining contributions give NARFE a more solid contribution base. It also does NOT mean a change to your annuity! Sustainer contributions are automatically deducted from a credit card they provide when completing the sustainer form.

Yes, contributions are door openers in NARFE's work with our elected officials. As always, thank you for your support.

#### Alzheimer's Research - Larry Williams

Thank you to all members who have supported the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund! At the chapter's June meeting, I received another \$21 for the research fund.

> **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Saturday, October 6, Walla Walla Sunday, October 14, Kennewick



The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the nation's largest event to raise awareness and

funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. As a walk "National Team," NARFE will again form teams and raise funds for walks across the country and, in return, will earn national recognition benefits. In 2017 NARFE teams raised \$65,535.83! More details at the September chapter meeting and September/October newsletter.



#### **Return Service Requested**

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

# Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor Welcome Back to NARFE: Mike Zamorski Welcome Back from National Only:

Susan Bechtol; Phyllis Brimhall; Patricia Ensign; Eileen Jackson; Sandra Keating; Kenneth Reeves; Judy Zachary

Transfer to National Only: Diane Johnson Dues Withholding: Antoinette and John Cavanaugh Reminders!

- If <u>ANY</u> of your contact information changes, please let me know and I can update chapter and national records.
- If you have questions when completing the membership renewal form, please let me know. Yes, it can be confusing. Remember to check the "National AND Chapter" box to remain a Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 member.
- ◆ Dues Withholding! Save money and eliminate worrying about checking the wrong boxes on the renewal form, or getting renewal reminders! Instead of \$50 for annual national chapter dues, you only pay \$44, or \$3.67 in 12 equal payments deducted from your annuity. Have questions? Need assistance? Please contact me. I have the form, or you can find it in the narfe magazine.

Hidden Numbers: May/June newsletter numbers belonged to: Mary Lou Anderson; Patricia Ensign; Ted Boyce (Called!

Donated his \$5 to Alzheimer's). Find 3 new numbers – last 4 digits of your NARFE membership number. Find it, call me, 509.375.0739, email me, caylorx2@aol.com, or let me know at a meeting, and you, too, can win \$5!

#### **NARFE WEBINAR**

July 26 - Survivor Benefits: Ensure Your Peace of Mind (by James Marshall), 2 p.m., ET

Note: Previous webinars are "on demand" on the NARFE website, <u>www.narfe.org</u>.

#### Caller Coordinator - Darleen Wall

Yes, I am the new chapter caller coordinator. For those who don't know me, after 27 years service, I retired in 2014 from the Defense Department's Defense Contract Audit Agency. Now, I look forward to assisting in contacting members about attending chapter meetings! I'll also be working with and assisting the other callers, and reporting a head count and interfacing with the Red Lion's catering office staff.

If anyone is interested in being a caller and calling fellow chapter members about attending meetings, please contact me. Further, if I can be any other assistance, please feel free to call on me. And finally, as Pam Griffin wrote in her column, **please** remember to keep the chapter updated with your contact changes. Thank you! My contact information is: **Ph: 509.586.8232; Email:** jdwall2@frontier.com.

# Sunshine News - Faye Vlieger

Condolences to the families of members:
Arnold Berlage; Anne Ross; Don Steffen
(Walla Walla); Ida Straub who passed away recently.
Condolences also to members: Mary Binder on the passing of her mother; Myrna Partida on the passing of her father-in-law; Liz Bowers on the passing of her uncle and husband's aunt; Sig Preston on the passing of her sister; Jeannie Compton on the passing of her significant other.
Get Well wishes to Mary Ellen Amundsen; Mary Goldie; Dana Kranz; Ruby Ulseth; Judy Zachary.
Know someone needing a little "sunshine" or a special-occasion card? Call me, or email me at: einvlieger@aol.com.

#### Webmaster - Larry Williams

The chapter's website remains up and running year round! No summer hiatus! So, if you misplace your newsletter, want to know about an upcoming chapter program or menu, want to review chapter or board minutes, go to: <a href="https://www.narfell92.org">www.narfell92.org</a>.