



HELP! E-mail addresses save Chapter money! See blue box, page 4.

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

March – April, Volume 2012, Issue 2

2012 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1 st Vice President, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
2 nd 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/Newsletter, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
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, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
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

March 7 – Chapter meeting program: Area senior housing options – Beth Johnson, Aging & Long-Term Care of Southeast Washington
Menu: Fresh Tilapia Filet

April 4 – Chapter meeting program:
Terry & Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers
REMINDER! Bring an item for appraisal.
Menu: Vegetarian Lasagna

JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, December 31	\$7,067.56
January income	\$ 854.67
January expenditures	\$ 555.84
Dedicated funds	\$4,055.00
Balance on hand, January 31	\$3,311.39

(*Full reports are 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

Tick, tick, tick ... 2012 is ticking along — March is here with April right around the corner. Have you visited the Chapter's Service Office? Repeating the challenge from the last newsletter: **Stop by and visit the Service Office at least once during the year!** Remember – the Chapter Service Office is a great resource for federal retirees and their families.



Caller Coordinator. An old saying, "Many hands make light work," definitely comes to mind in searching for additional callers to contact members about upcoming meetings. If you have 30 to 60 minutes you can spare each month, please consider being a Chapter phone caller. I really, REALLY need additional callers. Simple math: the more callers, the fewer calls each one has to make. If you can volunteer or want to know more, please call me, **Pam Griffin, 509.492.4304, or e-mail: pgriff1@earthlink.net.**



LOOKING AHEAD

1st VP/Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion
Putting on my 1st VP hat, I'm exploring the ins/outs, ups/downs of our Chapter once again offering pre-retirement seminars to current federal employees. This is something the Chapter did a number of years ago. If you have input and/or are interested in helping, 1836 please contact me!



Chapter President – Don Binder

NARFE is critical – to us who are members and to all other federal employees, retirees and annuitants! So, why do not more people join us? It is perplexing! Ponder the following.

First, NARFE is the only association solely dedicated to preserving and improving the health care and retirement benefits of federal workers and retirees. It is NOT a union, although at the headquarters level NARFE works with unions regarding earned benefits. Today, NARFE's efforts are more important than ever as Congress and the Administration consider unprecedented cuts in federal pay and benefits. As in the past, 3023 NARFE is leading the fight.

Second, "through NARFE-PAC you help elect (and re-elect) legislators who recognize the value of civil service, who understand the importance of recruiting and retaining the best and the brightest, and who support paying federal employees a fair day's pay for a full day's work – including reasonable health and retirement benefits." (NARFE, March 2012, Christopher Farrell and John Hatton article, page 18.) Only NARFE members may contribute; therefore, to grow the pool of potential contributors, we need more members.

Third, receiving the NARFE magazine. It has everything from up-to-date articles on legislative issues important to constituents, to the Q&A sections that provide information about issues covering all aspects of federal employee, retiree and spouse benefits. Two other publications that also help provide members important information, both available electronically, are the Washington Federation's quarterly *Federation Reporter*, www.narfewa.net, and our own Chapter's bi-monthly newsletter www.narfe1192. Finally, we work to have a broad range of speakers at our 10 monthly meetings to again provide our members with key information about national, state and local issues, and other topics of interest to them.

Yes, thoughts to ponder regarding why to join NARFE. Yes, there is strength in numbers! Yes, I believe each of us has an obligation to explain NARFE to our friends and co-workers/former co-workers and to strongly encourage them to join. If you have a potential member, and need more facts or just want help in "closing the deal," feel free to get with Johanna Caylor, our membership chair, or any other Board member. You are the KEY to our success in recruiting.

So, take a look at your own membership cost, count the ways it is worth every penny as Congress and the Administration work to reduce and eliminate earned benefits, and you'll see it is a small price to pay. Use this information and your own experiences with how NARFE has benefited you to recruit members. Yes, remember, there is strength in numbers.

2nd VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

The 2012 Dust Devils baseball schedule is out. Following up on expressed Chapter interest last year, I am working to find a date for Chapter members to attend a game as a group. I'll have information at the Chapter March meeting. If you cannot attend the meeting but want to attend the game, e-mail me, lorieb@clearwire.net, or call me at 509.531.2745.



District V Vice President – Steve Anderson

It is a busy time. First, I hope to see many of you at our District I and V Workshop, April 19, at the Kennewick Red Lion! The agenda is coming together and I believe it will be a very worthwhile day.

Next, deadlines are here and/or coming for our Washington State Federation, May 14-16, Red Lion Vancouver at the Quay, and NARFE's 2012 National Convention, August 26-30, Sparks/Reno. Information is on the Federation and NARFE web sites, and for the NARFE convention, in the NARFE magazine.



So, 3 upcoming opportunities to meet fellow NARFE members and to learn. If you've not previously attended one or all, please consider attending at least one this year!

Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

From the last state convention in May through the Chapter's February meeting, our Chapter 1192 has contributed \$1,425.37 for NARFE Alzheimer's Research. As I've written before, this is a very worthwhile cause. And, to make it convenient, especially for those who do not normally attend a Chapter meeting, this month we are again including a contribution form in this newsletter (see page 4).

Public Relations – Mary Binder

Need help getting information about NARFE? Feel free to contact me at: 509.585.1393, or e-mail, mary_binder@msn.com.



NARFE-PAC – Carl Gallion

Several exciting things to report. NARFE is making some changes to its PAC program. Read details in the March *NARFE* magazine, including about the new “recognition” pin that is coming soon!

Then, within our District V (Columbia Basin-Ephrata; Wenatchee; Yakima; Tri-Cities), we have a chapter competition in progress through March 31 for the largest average contribution per member. Currently, Ephrata has a strong lead, but our Tri-Cities chapter is in second place. With the need for having a strong PAC never greater, I know our members will join us in protecting our retirement benefits investments and help us with our friendly competition, too. You can donate at our Chapter’s meetings, or call me if you’d like to contribute but cannot make a meeting. Finally, any amount is appreciated and counts. Thank you.

Webmaster – Larry Williams

Didn’t get your newsletter in the mail or misplaced it? Did Nancy Crosby’s newsletter notification e-mail end up in your spam or junk folder and you missed it? This is **just a reminder – the latest newsletter is always available on our Chapter web site:**

<http://www.narfe1192.org/newsletter.html>. Also, to help prevent Nancy’s e-mail from being classified as spam, just put her e-mail address, ncrosby2b@charter.net, in your address book.



Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

The recently passed bill extending the payroll tax cut has been partly funded by 9223 changing retirement contributions for all entering the federal workforce in 2013. The change would also have affected current employees if it weren’t for Maryland’s Senator Ben Cardin and Rep. Chris Van Hollen. Both are friends of NARFE and would not compromise on impacting current employees; but, the bill is the start of another round of attempts to impact the federal workforce and retirees. Remember federal employees have not had a pay raise in 2 years, giving back to the treasury around \$60M in lost wages while others gave NOTHING! So, continue to stay on top of issues as the next ones could impact you!



**NARFE 2012
Scholarship Contest**

Details will be in the
February through April *NARFE* magazines
and on the NARFE web site, www.narfe.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

Thoughts from Afar

**Deacon Al Rizzo
(via Dolores Rizzo)**



Feeling overwhelmed?
Why not focus just on today.

Yesterday is gone;
tomorrow is not yet here.

What’s finished is finished.

Do the best you can and then leave it be.

Sunshine News – Nancy Crosby

Condolences sent to – member Dee Knuter on the loss of her husband, Norman; member Yvonne Sherman on the loss of her mother.

Get Wells sent to – Marji Parker; Ophelia Gloria; Barbara Fedoriga; and, Barry Richards.

Update – Eileen Rutledge is recuperating at the Richland Rehab Center from a broken upper leg.

Reminder: I will be your Sunshine Chairman while Marci Lingle is wintering south. Please let me know about members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss, or an extra-special occasion. Contact me at: 509.735.3288 or at ncrosby2b@charter.net.





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

Return Service Requested

Spring Forward!
March 11
Daylight Saving Time
Begins

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Sandra Bundrant; Mr. Dana Shulte
Reinstated: Laurette Beitz; David K. Jones;
Vicki A. Melling; and, Vicki Wiley. Welcome back!

Transferred in: Michael Hagerty (338);
Mary E. Stelzner and John Wetterling (237)

Transferred Out: Morton R. Carrothers (2363)

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: Please, notify the Chapter and NARFE if you change your mailing, e-mail, or other contact information – this applies to “**Snowbirds**,” too!

Hidden numbers: The January/February newsletter hidden numbers belonged to: Eugene Harrelson, Roberta Lechtenberg and Thomas Peery. 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!

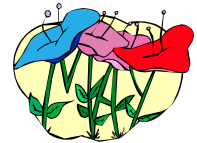
Call/e-mail me: 509.308.6664; caylorx2@aol.com.

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;

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.

Happy Spring!



Support Alzheimer’s Research Fund

Enclosed is my NARFE Alzheimer’s Research contribution of \$_____

Name _____ Chapter 1192

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. You will receive a receipt from the Alzheimer’s Association for your contribution. Make your check payable to: “**NARFE – Alzheimer’s Research.**”

Mail to: William Darke, NARFE Chapter 1192 Alzheimer’s Chair
210 Somerset Street, Richland, WA 99354-1964