



**Reminder for April 3 Meeting: Bring an item for appraisal!**

# 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)

## March – April, Volume 2013, Issue 2

### 2013 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
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	509.375.0739
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.588.1393
NARFE-PAC, Frank Griffin	509.492.4304
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509.943.1812
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Service Center, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Chapter E-mail: <a href="mailto:narfe1192@gmail.com">narfe1192@gmail.com</a>	

### CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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 6** – Chapter meeting program:  
Sharon Holden, director, WSU Development and  
Regional Advancement – vision/status of WSU's  
Wine Science Center

**Menu: Chicken or Veggie Wrap with  
Macaroni Salad**

**April 3** – Chapter meeting program:  
Terry & Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers  
**REMINDER: Bring an item for appraisal!**  
**Menu: Swedish Meatballs, Steamed Vegetables**

### JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT\*

Balance forward, December 31	\$5,030.45
January income	\$ 725.18
January expenditures	\$ 566.39
Dedicated funds	\$2,865.00
Balance on hand, January 31	\$2,324.24

(\*Full reports are posted monthly on the Chapter web site.)  
**Thank you, Frank Griffin, for auditing the 2012 books!**

### SERVICE CENTER

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

**Coordinator: 1<sup>st</sup> VP Lorie Bennett**

**Reminder!** Our chapter's Service Office  
volunteers are hoping many members  
will make at least one visit in 2013!



**Reminder!** If you are contacted by a member,  
family member of a NARFE member,  
prospective member, or anyone else,  
about NARFE, retirement or other  
benefits, etc., please let me know so I  
can record 6532 the information.



[Lorie Bennett: [lorieb@clearwire.net](mailto:lorieb@clearwire.net).]

**Announcement from NARFE National Treasurer  
Richard Thissen:** NARFE is comparing its Life  
Membership database with Social Security's  
deceased database. Numerous discrepancies  
have been found. NARFE is continuing to work  
this issue. [Note: Updates will be in future GEMS  
announcements and the *narfe* magazine.]

### Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

When our "callers" call members regarding the  
chapter meetings, they may also ask  
them about e-mail or other address or  
contact changes, how they/their family  
have been, etc. This is one way our  
chapter has to maintain current infor-  
mation. Have questions? Want to know more about  
how "calling" works? Please contact me.  
[Ph: 509.492.4304; e-mail: [pgriff1@earthlink.net](mailto:pgriff1@earthlink.net).]



### HOSPITALITY

#### Chairman – Carl Gallion

Are you liking the new 2013 menus? Feedback to  
me is needed and important for my interface with  
the Red Lion's catering staff. So, comments are  
welcomed! Again, this year's focus is on more  
healthy, less carb-filled lunches. Thanks!

## Chapter President – Don Binder

I'm watching the Weather Channel as I write this article. Considering the situation many of our fellow citizens find themselves in this winter, we continue to be blessed living in our little corner of the world – the Mid-Columbia Basin. Yes, I feel for those in harm's way in other parts of the nation, but more importantly, I believe, let's not forget our soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and coast guardsmen who every day are far from home ensuring our nation remains safe from all who wish to do us harm. So, take a minute and give thanks to all of them. For those who served, we know what they are going through; for those who did not, you no doubt had a close friend or loved one who did. And, let's also remember our civilian compatriots serving in harms way!



With the 113th Congress working on a myriad of issues that can impact on current and retired federal employees, now is the time to pay particular vigilance to information we receive from NARFE's national office through GEMS and *NewsWatch*. If you are asking yourself what these are, you need to go online and sign up using the NARFE website. Additionally, you'll also hear from national when a new letter dealing with current issues has been posted on the **PROTECT America's Heartbeat** section. Those letters are already written and can, at the stroke of a button, be on the way to our Senators Cantwell and Murray, and Congressman "Doc" Hastings, showing you can be counted as a constituent who cares how they vote on these issues critical to all of us.

Speaking of signing up, we have e-mail addresses for about 50% of our members, but only about half of those share their e-mail address with national. So again, go to the national website and sign up. It is easy and will ensure you are kept up to date on all information of interest to us as career or retired federal employees. If you need help doing this, stop by the Service Office on a Tuesday morning, or just ask one of the board members to aid you at the next meeting.



## 1st VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

As I reported at the February chapter meeting and you'll find in the minutes posted on the chapter web site, we are moving forward with additional chapter activities for members to enjoy. Following is a current schedule summary:

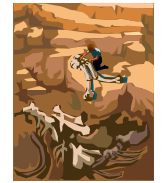
**April 24** – Columbia Gorge Sternwheeler Snake River Locks tour.

**May 26** – Bus trip to Seattle for a Mariners game.

**June (Date TBD)** – MCBONES Research Center Foundation visit to the Coyote Canyon Mammoth dig site.

**June 15** – Dust Devils baseball game.

**August 11** – Another bus trip to Seattle for a 4668 Mariners game.



**October (Date TBD)** – CREHST Tombstone Tales night walking trip in the old Richland cemetery.

Signup sheets for the events will be at chapter meetings, or you can contact me. Also, if you have other ideas for activities, please let me know!



## District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

I attended the Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) board meeting in Tacoma, February 7. Besides the officer, district and chairmen reports, there was discussion on the March NARFE Legislative Training Conference in D.C. We'll have representatives from across our state attending, including several from our district, and Mary and Don Binder from our chapter.

The agenda for the first **Region IX Leadership Training Workshop, May 31– June 1**, is being finalized and will include training sessions that will benefit all chapter members, not just NARFE "leaders." I encourage our newer members to attend as this will be an informative training session. A flyer and the registration form are on the federation's website, [narfewa.org](http://narfewa.org), and will be at our chapter meetings. Chapter 1192 will reimburse its members attending the workshop the \$30 registration fee.



Finally, OPM has provided an update to the message on the back of the annual COLA notice members received in late December regarding future Forms 1099R being available only electronically. OPM has since informed NARFE it will provide instructions this year to annuitants on how they can "**opt in**" to receive their 1099s electronically. However, members choosing to not "**opt in**" will have their 1009R mailed to them.



## NARFE-PAC – Frank Griffin

This is my first newsletter as your new NARFE-PAC chairman. I'm in a learning curve! New NARFE pins will be available soon; NARFE's March magazine will feature the new pins. And, PAC activities will be in full swing again after the March NARFE Legislative Training Workshop. So, stay tuned!

## Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

As most members know, NARFE reached its \$10M goal for Alzheimer's Research in November. Following this milestone, Alzheimer's Association President Harry Johns said, "For more than 25 years, NARFE has demonstrated steadfast commitment to the mission of the Alzheimer's Association." Based on our giving record, NARFE is now a member of the Alzheimer's Association's distinguished donor program, the Zenith Fellows. Our new goal is \$11M in total contributions by the end of 2014.



**Remember!** Yes, 100% of NARFE Alzheimer's donations go directly to support Alzheimer's research. To date, NARFE has funded 56 Alzheimer's research grants. So far this year, Chapter 1192 leads all Washington federation chapters in contributions with \$1,185. Thanks again for your support.

## 2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

**Reminder!** Newsletters and other chapter information is available on our web site. When was the last time you checked the site? Do you know what it contains? Consider giving it a look/see. [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org).



## Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

Washington State is one of 4 key states working extra hard to impact the thinking on Capitol Hill. Why Washington? Senator Murray is now in the key position of chairing the Senate Budget Committee. Along with its counterpart in the House, this committee has responsibility to draft Congress' annual budget plan and monitor its action for the federal government. As chair, Senator Murray is the leader in this initiative. Even though the Senate has not passed a budget in more than 3 years, upon assuming the role of chair, Senator Murray promised to do so.

NARFE has drafted a letter to Senator Murray that is posted on our chapter website. If you print and sign the letter, or better still, write your own letter, and get it/them to us by March 7, we will personally take them as a group to Washington, DC.

As we have for the past 3 times, we and several others from Washington chapters, will attend the National Legislative Training Conference, March 9–12. The last day we actually go to Capitol Hill to meet with senators, representatives and/or staff. Thus, we'd like to have those letters to take at that time.



## 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

As you may know, the *narfe* magazine lists all pertinent bills before Congress. With the end of the 112th and start of the 113th Congress, that information was excluded from the January and February issues. It will begin to appear again with the March issue. Keep track, write often and also don't be afraid to call the congressional offices – best in D.C., but Pasco for Congressman Hastings; Richland for Senator Cantwell; and, Yakima for Senator Murray. Their contact information is above.



Finally, let us know if you have issues that are not being addressed or answered sufficiently. We will do our best to get you the appropriate information.

## Sunshine News – Mary Binder

**Condolences sent to:** District I VP Frances Titus on the passing of her sister.

**Get well/thinking of you cards sent to:** chapter members and/or spouses Rolande Berlage; Ann Carrothers; Betty Maupin; Dolores Rizzo; Bob Stewart. (*For those who know Bob, his wife said he would now enjoy company as he is home.*) Also, a card was sent to the federation's service officer and his wife, Charlie and Denise Caughlan, after they received some challenging medical news.

Please continue to let me know about member/family member illnesses, passings, or an event such as a 4771 special anniversary.

**[Phone/e-mail: 509.585.1393; [mary\\_binder@msn.com](mailto:mary_binder@msn.com)]**





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

**ATTENTION HS SENIORS!**  
**2013 NARFE**  
**Scholarship Award Program**  
February 1 thru April 26  
Details and application  
in the *narfe* magazine  
or at [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

**Membership – Johanna Caylor**

**Welcome:** Pamela Perrine  
**Reinstated and Welcome Back:** Kevin Clarke;  
Kenneth Reeves; Yvonne Wilde  
**Transferred In:** Jeanne Smith (1680/CA)  
**Transferred Out:** Kay Hendrickson; Margo Qualheim  
(Worldwide e-NARFE Chapter)  
**Dues Withholding 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.  
**Attention Snowbirds!** Notify the chapter/NARFE if  
you change mailing, e-mail, or other contact info!  
**Hidden numbers:** January/February newsletter  
hidden numbers belonged to: Cathy Ashley;  
Jeannie Compton; Rich Mayo. Sorry, no calls, so  
no winners! Three new numbers are “hidden” in  
both the printed and electronic newsletter – the last  
4 digits of a member’s number. Contact me; win \$5!

**ANOTHER REMINDER!**

**Have an e-mail address? We NEED it.**

E-mail helps the chapter *save money*.  
Example: No cost to send the newsletter  
electronically; about \$1/copy to mail.  
Do we have your e-mail address? If not, send it to:  
Nancy Crosby, [ncrosby2b@charter.net](mailto:ncrosby2b@charter.net).

*(Note: NARFE and the chapter only use your personal  
information for NARFE business. NEVER give out your  
personal information to callers or online!)*

**Upcoming Dates to Note!**


March 17: *St. Patrick’s Day*  
March 20: *Spring begins*  
March 25: *Passover begins at sundown*  
March 31: *Easter Sunday*  
April 1: *April Fools’ Day*  
April 8: *Holocaust Remembrance Day*  
April 15: *Tax Day*  
April 22: *Earth Day*



**Always Good to Know**

NARFE on Twitter! Follow at: @narfehq  
Facebook: Log onto Facebook, go to  
“NARFE National Headquarters,” then “Like”  
NARFE Toll-Free Number: 800.627.3994;  
Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: 877.217.8234  
OPM: 888.767.6738, “Retirement Info Line;”  
[www.opm.gov/retire/](http://www.opm.gov/retire/); or, [retire@opm.gov](mailto:retire@opm.gov)

**Thoughts from Afar**  
**Deacon Al Rizzo**



Lent: a time for reflecting, praying, fasting  
for many;  
a time of discipline – physical and spiritual.

*Taken from March 4, 2009, Chapter Meeting Minutes.  
Chapter member Deacon Rizzo passed away March 11, 2011.*

**NOTE: NARFE’s PROTECT America’s Heartbeat campaign has new and updated information.  
Check it out at: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)!**