



March is NARFE-PAC month! Contributions needed! Strength is in numbers!

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.narfe1192.org

2014 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1st Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
2nd Vice President, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Director at Large, Steve Howes	509.851.4913
Director at Large, Pat Turner	509.586.6239
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, Steve Howes	509.852.4913
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 Email: narfe1192@gmail.com

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Ballroom D
Lunch: \$15; reservations REQUIRED

(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)

Lunch not required to attend the meeting.

Need a ride? Contact President Don Binder!

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

March 5 – Ears Up Agility: Therapy Dogs –
their training and what they do

with Stacia Gunderson and her therapy dog

Menu: Herb-Breaded Tilapia w/Rice

April 2 – Antique Appraisers, Terry/Kathy Maurer

Bring small items for appraisal!

Menu: Breaded Cod w/Rice

JANUARY TREASURER’S REPORT*

Balance forward, December 31	\$10,614.15
January income	\$ 746.92
January expenditures	\$1,276.41
Dedicated funds thru January 31	\$2,070.00
Balance on hand, January 31	\$8,014.66

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

Needed: fundraising ideas. Contact Nancy Crosby!

March – April, Volume 2014, Issue 2

Chapter President – Don Binder

As we look to warmer weather, longer daylight, buds on trees and plants, and green grass, will there also really be greener grass with Congress back in session? It would be nice to think so.



With the writing of this article, NARFE’s national resident officers and staff, and our Washington State Federation leadership, are working hard to do all they can to expand NARFE membership. We talk a great deal about it; but, do we as individuals take action?

When was the last time you actually attempted to recruit someone – be they a current federal employee, retiree or their spouse? If you are married, is your spouse a member? If not, a spousal membership is an easy way to gain membership for NARFE and our chapter. Why should it matter?

For one, as you often read in the *narfe* magazine, there is **strength in numbers**. When anyone from NARFE is talking with members of Congress or their staffs, knowing how many people NARFE represents is a key point in the amount of interest a congressman or their staff pays to our issues.

Secondly, membership in Chapter 1192 is key to ensuring a strong chapter for the Tri-Cities.

So, as you enjoy the longer days, spend some time thinking about those you know who are eligible for NARFE membership and do all you can to get them to join. Remember, there is a membership application in each issue of the *narfe* magazine. But, if you need any material, just get in touch with me and we’ll get you whatever you need 4941. Remember:

Strength in Numbers!



1st VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

Yes, I'm still looking for **new ideas** for chapter meeting programs, and activities chapter members can do together, especially with winter ending soon! Museum tour? Winery tour? Boat trip? Contact me!

2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

Good habit to have – check our chapter website regularly! It is a resource for NARFE information, especially for the chapter, e.g., our 2014 menus, program information, minutes and treasurer reports. Go to: www.narfe1192.org.



Directors at Large – Steve Howes, Pat Turner

We recently completed an audit of the chapter's 2013 treasurer's books. As this was our first time auditing these books, we had some questions, which were addressed at the February chapter board meeting. Treasurer Nancy Crosby has done a commendable job. **And a reminder: monthly treasurer's reports are posted on the chapter website. Copies are also available at chapter meetings 8572.**



District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

Spring is coming. I am sure we are all ready! Some exciting news from the recent Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) Executive Board meeting – our Washington federation will offer a \$50 "scholarship" rebate to any member attending the May WSFC state convention in Silverdale, Wash.

2014 WSFC Convention

May 13-15

Silverdale Beach Hotel
Silverdale, Wash.



March 31, Registration Deadline!

Details on the WSFC web site: www.narfewa.net

Revised convention applications to reflect the \$50 "scholarship" are on the federation website and will be at the March chapter meeting.

The WSFC Executive Board also approved a \$250 rebate to any member attending the August NARFE national convention in Orlando, Fla.



33RD NATIONAL CONVENTION
NARFE IS IN YOUR FUTURE
Embrace the mission. Share the vision.
ORLANDO, FLORIDA | AUGUST 24-28, 2014

Further, our chapter has budgeted \$600 to help our members attending the May WSFC convention and \$500 for those attending the August NARFE national convention. Hopefully, this also will entice more of our members to attend these conventions!

Check the WSFC website, www.narfewa.net, for the updated convention registration form. Check the NARFE website, www.narfe.org, for more registration and other information about the national convention.

Next, according to our Region IX VP, Lanny Ross, there will be major changes to NARFE's bylaws if the reforms recommended by the FON – Future of NARFE – committee are accepted at the national convention. Another reason to try to attend ...it should be very interesting!



Overall, NARFE membership is still dropping; but our Tri-Cities chapter has been very proactive in recruiting new members and encouraging those who received a 6-month free membership during NARFE's fall membership drive to sign up as permanent chapter members. The Washington federation is now offering a \$20 rebate to chapters for each new member signed up in 2014. This, hopefully, will help with efforts to grow chapter memberships.

Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

Between the January and February chapter meetings, we received \$622 in donations and remitted \$600 to the WSFC for Alzheimer's research. That leaves a little more than \$100 in the chapter's Alzheimer's account. [Note: A small amount is kept in the account to keep it open.]

This brings the chapter's total donations to \$2,200 for the current funding year, May 1, 2013 through April 30, 2014, **and is a new chapter record!** Thank you to all chapter members who have contributed to this worthy cause.

alzheimer's  association

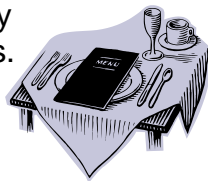
From the inception of the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund program in 1985 through November 2013, NARFE members have cumulatively contributed more than \$10.5 million for Alzheimer's Research. NARFE is nearing its current goal of \$11 million in 2014.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Reminder to all: if you receive a message from a caller, please return the call. The callers are trying to get accurate meeting/luncheon counts. Thanks!
[Ph: 509.492.4304; email: pgriff1@earthlink.net]

Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion

I hope those attending the monthly meetings are enjoying the lunches. As always, menu ideas and suggestions are most welcome!



Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

As we wrote in the last issue, military retirees were going to have their retirement benefits reduced until age 62. Well, when Congress passed PL 113-83 to increase the debt ceiling, they also passed PL 113-82 repealing Section 403 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, overturning the military retiree reduction. Congress recognized the public did not think it appropriate to impact military retirement benefits because of budget issues. President Obama signed both the debt limit extension and the repeal on February 15.

From Don’s president’s article, you’ll get the linkage. There are many organizations representing veterans, including many specifically for retirees. For current or retired federal employees, NARFE is **the only** organization specifically dedicated to our benefits.

At this time, NARFE’s legislative staff is assessing the potential for Congress to additionally impact on our pay, health benefits and retirement. While the *narfe* magazine and GEMS messages do a great job of providing us information, it is our responsibility to call, write or visit our congressional members offices.



With our Congressman “Doc” Hastings retiring at the end of this term, we need to pay particular attention to those who actually file for this key position. Filing dates are May 13-17. Once we know who files, we can determine what, if any, action we need to take to help ensure they know about NARFE and our legislative issues 0732.

So, stay tuned, stay informed and stay alert to those who will be running. Continue to watch for NARFE GEMS updates and check NARFE’s web site, www.narfe.org, or call or email either of us: don_binder@msn.com; mary_binder@msn.com.

Remember – there is strength in numbers!

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 – Steve Howes

YES! March is NARFE-PAC month! More than ever, contributions are needed as attacks continue on current and retired federal employees and their benefits. PAC dollars help open doors with legislators. Yes, **there is strength in numbers!**



In 2013, chapter members contributed \$1,018. Year to date, members have contributed at least \$120 to NARFE-PAC at chapter meetings – a great start. Hopefully in March, we can add to that. Thank you!

Below is a coupon you can use. Bring it to a meeting, or mail it to: National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, Attn: NARFE-PAC, 606 North Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314

Pins are available for \$20, \$50 and \$100 contributions. NARFE also has a “sustainer” program. The *narfe* magazine has more details.

Enclosed is my NARFE-PAC contribution: \$ _____

Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Cash Check Credit Card
Card Type: MasterCard Visa Discover AMEX
Card # _____
Expiration Date: _____ / _____
Name on card (print): _____
Signature: _____
Name Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. (please circle): _____
Address: _____
NARFE Membership #: _____

For my contribution of \$20 or more, please send a NARFE-PAC pin.
Please check Yes or No. Yes No



Return Service Requested

NARFE

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

April 2 Meeting!
Antique Appraisals
Bring small items
for
appraisal!



Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome to more 6-Month AFE members:

Clayton Acheson; Annette Erdman; Janie Gonzalez;
T. Ricky D. Hyson; Paul Macbeth; Estella Mendoza;
Anez Perez; Richard Self; Sabra Zaro

Welcome New Members: Jill Fennell;

Dorothy Hailey; Susan Johnson; James Lynch;
Dennis Maupin; James Rodriguez

Welcome Back: Margaret (Peggy) Corbin

Dues Withholding: RETIREES! Newer and older retirees – please consider dues withholding and SAVE, SAVE, SAVE. Who doesn't want to save a few dollars here and there? D/W is the way to go PLUS you will receive a one-time \$15 combined rebate from our WSFC and chapter. Contact me if you need information and/or the withholding form. You send NO MONEY with the application and within 6-9 weeks, OPM will notify you \$3.67 will begin coming out of your annuity. You will not see another NARFE renewal notice. It is painless!

Snowbirds: It is getting to be the time when you will migrate back to your local home address. PLEASE let us know of your physical mailing address, email address, or local phone number changes.

Hidden numbers: January/February numbers belonged to: **Richard Coila; Gail Kosy and Pam Griffin.** No calls, so no winners. Three new numbers are "hidden" in both the printed and electronic newsletters – the last 4 digits of a member's number. Contact me; win \$5!

ONGOING REMINDER!


Have an email address? We NEED it. Email helps the chapter *save money*. Example: No cost to send the newsletter electronically; about \$1/copy to print and mail.

Notify Nancy Crosby: ncrosby2b@charter.net.

SERVICE OFFICE

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

Coordinator: 1st VP Lorie Bennett
Email: lorie@clearwire.net



**NARFE 2014
Scholarship Contest**

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

Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences to: the families of members Ofelia Gloria; Gwen Naught; Roger Rohrbacher, who was living in Oregon; and, Thomas Vale. Also, to the families of Janice Burns, wife of former chapter member Bills Burns; former member Clement Knoll; and, Margaret (Marge) Lampton, wife of Al Lampton, former chapter president.

Please continue to let me know about those needing some "sunshine," or even a card for a special anniversary or significant accomplishment. Call, or email me: mary_binder@msn.com.

REMINDERS!

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/ or retire@opm.gov