



2016 WSFC Convention, May 15-17! See Page 3 for more information!

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

2016 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
1st Vice President, Pat Turner	509.539.5659
2nd Vice President, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Director-at-Large, Liz Bowers	509.430.1836
Director-at-Large, Steve Howes	509.851.4913
Alzheimer's, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Legislative, Mary Binder	509.585.1393
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.375.0739
NARFE-PAC, Steve Howes	509.851.4913
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Service Office, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

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

(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)

Lunch not required to attend the meeting.

Need a ride? Contact President Lorie Bennett.

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

March 2 – Janelle Downs, Columbia Basin Chapter, Washington Native Plant



Washington Native Plant Society

Columbia Basin Chapter

Serving the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla

Society, will talk

about the society's mission, preserving native ecosystems, and using native plants in landscaping

Menu: roasted tilapia & lemon-butter garlic sauce

April 6 – Terry & Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers, return to provide updates on current trends and appraise items

Bring small items for appraisal (no weapons!)



Menu: pasta primavera in pesto cream sauce

JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, December 31	\$10,528.77
January income	\$ 733.59
January expenditures	\$ 919.23
Dedicated funds thru January 31	\$ 2,806.00
Balance on hand for use, January 31	\$ 7,537.13

(*Budget and full monthly reports are on the chapter website.)

March – April, Volume 2016, Issue 2

Chapter President – Lorie Bennett

Happy Spring ... well, it is almost here as I write my president's column! And, as this season begins, so also begins a very busy time for our chapter starting with final preparations for the 2016 Washington State Federation of Chapters Convention. It will be held here in the Tri-Cities, May 15-17, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. District V Vice President Nancy Crosby is heading up the planning and I urge you all to support her in making this statewide NARFE convention successful.

Then, too, even while preparations are ongoing for our statewide convention, plans are also moving forward for NARFE's national convention, August 28-September 1, in Reno. The monthly *narfe* magazines and the NARFE website, www.narfe.org, have details, including important deadlines.



Celebrations!

*NARFE is 95! Born February 19, 1921!
First Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 meeting,
March 3, 1971, 45 years ago!*

To prepare for both conventions, we will need to be on top of NARFE's issues. So in the coming months, we will be stressing the importance of the NARFE *Strategic Plan* and how it could affect us both nationally, regionally, at the federation level and locally. It is important that you give your thoughts to our chapter board members so they may bring them to both conventions.

As highlighted in the February *narfe* magazine, "NARFE was born February 19, 1921, in Washington, D.C., by 14 federal retirees, who dedicated the new organization to improving the status of federal retirees." Now 95 years later, NARFE continues to work to serve both retired and current federal employees. Further, our chapter held its first meeting March 3, 1971. Yes, 45 years ago! And voilà, our state convention's theme: a **Bigger, Better, Bolder NARFE!**

So, my message to all – we need to keep working together to help NARFE continue to be successful, both locally, statewide, regionally and nationally. Thank you!

1st VP – Pat Turner

For those who attended the February chapter meeting, we thoroughly enjoyed Confluence Executive Director Colin Fogarty's presentation! He provided information on



Confluence's history, its past and current projects, and its future plans. Confluence is "a donor-supported nonprofit that connects people to place through art and education." At 6 points along the Columbia River basin, there are Confluence projects, including Sacajawea State Park in Pasco.

If you have never visited the Confluence circles and the Sacajawea Interpretive Center, you are missing interesting information regarding the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The Center is rich in history. Friends of Sacajawea are doing a great job of ensuring the park is maintained and sponsors many cultural events during the year. **7409**

I support Mr. Fogarty's comment that, "Connecting people to place through art and history makes us better people." It is a 3-step process – reflect, discover and connect. A big thanks to Mary Binder for arranging for this outstanding presentation.

2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

NOTE! Both our chapter website, www.narfe1192.org, and the federation site, www.narfewa.net, have details about the May 15-17, WSFC convention.



Director at Large – Steve Howes

In December NARFE released its *Strategic Plan* to its membership. The final phase of this very important project has now begun, including emphasis on the importance of all members understanding what led to the effort in the first place.

NARFE has a communication plan for this effort between now and August. See the February *narfe* magazine, pages 44-45. It consists of:

- Headquarters-generated electronic presentations for board meetings, training sessions, etc.
- National officers at meetings across the country.
- Live, one-hour webinars over a 5-month period.
- Strategic planning sessions at the national convention, August 28-September 1, in Reno.
- Articles in *narfe* magazines.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

As you learn more about the plan and evaluate its recommendations, please keep in mind the following: **Will the recommendations lead to an increase in NARFE membership – both among federal retirees and current employees?**

NARFE's success is highly dependent on member dues and contributions to NARFE-PAC to accomplish its goals and to achieve legislative victories on our behalf. We want to ensure NARFE continues to be a viable and relevant organization well into the future.

THE NARFE MISSION

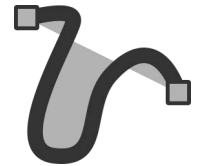
To support legislation beneficial to current and potential federal annuitants and to oppose legislation contrary to their interests.

To promote the general welfare of current and potential federal annuitants by advising them with respect to their rights under retirement laws and regulations.

To cooperate with other organizations and associations in furtherance of these general objectives.

Director at Large – Liz Bowers

Short report – I'm in the throws of a learning curve! That is, supporting WSFC Convention Chairman Nancy Crosby as the convention treasurer! Challenging and interesting, but yes, a learning curve! **2826**



Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

At the February chapter meeting, we received donations of \$52 for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. During this funding year, May 1 through April 30, we have submitted \$2,356 to the WSFC for forwarding to the Alzheimer's Association for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Thank you all for your support!

alz.org | [alzheimer's](http://alzheimer.org)  [association](http://association.org)

Also of interest, a short, 8-minute video on **TED.com** by Samuel Cohen, a scientist researching Alzheimer's. It is titled "Alzheimer's is not normal and we can cure it." TED is a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks ... TED began in 1984 as a conference where technology, entertainment and design converged, and today covers almost all topics ... in more than 100 languages. **4168**



See the monthly *narfe* magazines and the NARFE website, www.narfe.org! **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

2016 Washington State Federation of Chapters Convention

District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby



The “**BIGGER, BETTER, BOLDER NARFE**” Washington State Federation Convention is May 15-17, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. This will be an exciting convention with a busy agenda covering many subjects!

Good news – Jessica Klement, NARFE’s national legislative director, will be our keynote speaker and will bring the latest news from the national office. Further, Region IX Vice President Lanny Ross will provide an overview and update on the NARFE *Strategic Plan*, and answer questions.

We also have confirmed our speakers for our 2 lunches. On Monday representatives from the National Park Service and the Department of Energy will talk about the Manhattan Project National Park. On Tuesday, Jason Mercier, government reform director, Washington Policy Center, will provide a state legislative update.

There will be an election of federation officers. District vice presidents will be elected during district caucuses. And, there may be resolutions or bylaw changes to present to the members.

Mary Binder, convention secretary, has updated the convention forms. They are on the WSFC website, www.narfewa.net, under the “2016 Convention” tab. Also, there is a link to the forms on our chapter website, www.narfe1192.

Chapter members in good standing, that is, NARFE and chapter dues are up to date, will be delegates and eligible for the \$50 “scholarship” from the federation to help offset registration costs. Chapter members also receive a stipend from the chapter to offset costs. Nonmembers, e.g., visitors, guests, must pay the full registration costs.

All attendees must complete the registration form, including meal choices, and submit with payment to Liz Bowers, convention treasurer. Registration includes: a complimentary welcome reception with wine sampling and hors d’oeuvres; 2 lunches; a banquet dinner with entertainment; and, an opportunity to meet other NARFE members.

Registration forms are due by March 31. For those wanting to stay at the Marriott SpringHill Suites (connected to the convention center), reservations must be made by April 15 for the convention rate.

There are forms on the WSFC website that you can use to solicit businesses that may be interested in having a table, putting an advertisement in the program booklet, or just donating items to advertise their business. Please feel free to download the form and use it!

All federation chapters have been asked to provide a door prize that can be used in a fundraising drawing, and also an item or items for the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund “auction.”

2016 WSFC Convention – May 15-17

Three Rivers Convention Center
and Marriott SpringHill Suites, Kennewick

Mark your calendars!

Volunteers needed!



Photos from Marriott SpringHill Suites

We have been encouraging those coming to the convention from outside the area to consider coming early or staying after the convention. The hotel is offering the convention rate both 3 days before and 3 days after the convention. We believe those coming to our area for the first time will be impressed by what it has to offer; and for those who have not been here for awhile, we believe they will be intrigued by the changes.

So, to encourage members to extend their stay, we have organized a B-Reactor/Manhattan National Park tour Wednesday, May 18. **All convention attendees, and Chapter 1192 members, will be invited on the tour!**

We’ll be providing more details about this tour, and other “outside-the-convention” activities, in the weeks ahead.

At a recent Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 meeting, several chapter members offered to help on the many committees necessary for a successful convention. **More volunteers are most welcome!** This help is really appreciated. The convention is a jointly hosted event by the Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima NARFE chapters; but, the bulk of the effort is up to our Tri-Cities chapter as the host chapter. I hope to see you at the convention!

Legislative – Mary Binder

Remember “leave-the-driving-to-us?” Well, for NARFE it is “leave the writing to us,” and it is better as it is FREE! With all that is happening in the political arena these days, I thought a reminder might be in order regarding the letters NARFE has written for us to send to our elected officials, and at no cost.

To further help, here is a refresher on the steps, or a “how-to” if you’ve not previously used this NARFE letter option:

- ◆ Sign in as a member on the NARFE website.
- ◆ On the homepage, click Departments, Legislation, Legislative Action Center, Contact Congress.
- ◆ Enter your ZIP or ZIP+4 Code, then click Go.
- ◆ Select an “issue” under Take Action.
- ◆ Complete your contact information.
- ◆ Click Go to Letter.
- ◆ Select the letter you want to send.
- ◆ Click Submit.

That’s it! It is that easy!! And, it is that important!!!

BUT, this is not all NARFE offers for FREE to help keep us abreast of legislative actions and NARFE-PAC, and to highlight tools available to help NARFE leaders and/or members on both federal issues and also state advocacy. Here are some tools:

- ◆ NARFE website. (See login information above.)
- ◆ Weekly electronic *Legislative Hotline*.
- ◆ Monthly *narfe* magazine.
- ◆ Monthly electronic *Legislative News*.
- ◆ Monthly training webinars.
- ◆ Toll free number: 877.217.8234.
- ◆ Contacting the Legislative Department at: www.leg@narfe.org.

When reading the above, did you know about the training webinars? They are open/available to all NARFE members! The primary focus is “to gain new information on grassroots topics.” NARFE has been doing these for 2 years. Past webinars are archived for member viewing; and, the “slides” can be printed. Topics have covered everything from NARFE-PAC to legislative threats in the FY 16 budget process to building relationships with congressional offices. Check it out!

NARFE-PAC – Steve Howes

As I mentioned at a recent chapter meeting, it is my opinion that **NARFE-PAC is the heart and soul of our organization**. It is through the disbursement of PAC funds collected directly from our members that NARFE is able to support the campaigns of members of Congress who support issues important to us and to give us a voice in the federal legislative process.

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., Stes 204/204A, Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

Simply making a cash donation at chapter meetings, writing an occasional check to NARFE-PAC or even becoming a sustainer are not our only “PAC” responsibilities. We must be informed about how much money is collected, and how and to whom it is distributed. We must be aware of pending legislation that may affect things important to us and know our legislators’ positions on these issues. Finally, we cannot rely on others to carry the day for us. It is up to all of us to contact our representatives, let them know how we feel, and lobby on our own behalf.



NARFE does an excellent job of tracking PAC collections and distributions. ***This information is now easily accessible to members on the national website.*** NARFE also does an excellent job of tracking legislation and the positions of members of Congress. Each issue of the *narfe* magazine contains an excellent summary.

NARFE recently released the 4th Quarter PAC reports for the period ending December 31. At the end of the quarter, the Washington federation had contributed \$22,384. Of that \$2,151 was contributed by 38 individual members of Chapter 1192 – 3rd in the state overall! We were only \$544 off the lead (Bremerton Chapter 181 at \$2,695). Keep up the good work!

Please remember **March is NARFE-PAC month!** It is a good time to reflect on what NARFE does on our behalf and to consider giving a little more or becoming a sustainer. Becoming a sustainer is easy to do. I have applications or they can be found in each *narfe* magazine.

**March is
NARFE-PAC Month!
Think donation! Think sustainer!**



Return Service Requested

NARFE

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

MARCH AND APRIL MEETING REMINDERS!

March: Bring nonperishable items for the annual food drive! April: Bring items for appraisal!

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome! Tiffany Albin; Joseph Axtell;
Joseph Chandler; Ronald Clendenon;
Paul Graham; Brian Harkins; Russell Harwood;
Dianne Henrich; Paul Hernandez; Oscar Holgado;
So Yon Ki; Jennifer Knittel; Gary Olsen;
Simon Serrano; Deborah Struthers; Larry Tripp;
Wade Woolery

Reinstatements: Cathy and Clifford Ashley ...
Welcome Back!

Dues Withholding: Dana Kranz

Recruit! Retain! The Washington State Federation of Chapters is again offering its chapters a \$20 rebate for each new chapter member recruited during the year. This offer runs through December with payment to the chapter in January 2017. For 2015 the chapter received \$120 for 6 new members!

Attention Snowbirds and All Members!

Please remember to share with us your contact information and/or change in mail or email delivery status so we do not have mail and/or emails returned as undeliverable! Questions? Call me, 509.375.0739, or send me an email at, caylorx2@aol.com.



Hidden numbers: January/February newsletter numbers belong to: John Cavanaugh; Sandra Kiltbau; Carol Strom. No calls; no winners. New numbers in this newsletter – **last 4 digits of your NARFE number**. Find yours; win \$5! Call me, 509.375.0739,



2016 NARFE Photo Contest
August 1, 2015 – March 15, 2016
Theme: “Made in America”
Details at “Special Programs,” www.narfe.org.

or let me know at a meeting! Only one winner in 2015 ... let’s at least double that in 2016!

Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences: to member Sig Preston on the loss of long-time partner, John; to member Ruby Ulseth on the death of her husband, Jim; to the families of former members Nick Karagianes and Norm Moorer.
Thinking of you: to member Jim Stover and his wife, who have been ill.



Reminder: Know someone needing a little “sunshine” or a special-occasion card? Call me, or email me at: mary_binder@msn.com.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

As Membership Chairman Johanna Caylor emphasized, please, **PLEASE** keep the chapter updated with mailing and email addresses and/or phone number changes. This helps our callers, and with mailings such as this newsletter. Should you need, my contact information is: **Ph: 509.492.4304; Email: pgriff1@earthlink.net.**



Service Office – open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Federal Bldg., Room 137, Richland. Phone: 509.373.9536. Stop by for a visit! Also, check out a new member-only resource – the **NARFE Federal Benefits Institute!** See NARFE website, www.narfe.org!



NARFE 2015 Scholarship Competition

Applications accepted thru April 29.
Go to: www.narfe.org.
Click on the Scholarship Program graphic on the home page.



**Remembering
all of you this
Easter and Passover**

