



REMINDER! March is NARFE-PAC Month! See Page 3.

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

<u>2017 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members</u>	
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, Bob Stewart	509.627.5622
Alzheimer's, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Legislative, Mary Binder	509.585.1393
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.375.0739
NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart	509.627.5622
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

March – April, Volume 2017, Issue 2

Chapter President – Lorie Bennett

Even though it may not appear to be spring, we are fast approaching Daylight Saving Time, flowers beginning to bloom and the grass turning green. Winter has been unsettling in our area; and, it has also been an unsettling time for NARFE and many of its members with a new administration in the White House. Among other things, there is concern regarding what may happen to our pay and benefits in the future. **6176**



Daylight Saving Time,
March 12

Another change for NARFE is to its bylaws, based on member-approved revisions at the 2016 national convention. Recently, NARFE finalized the update and distributed both hard and electronic copies, along with guidance to federations and chapters to help in ensuring their respective bylaws are compliant. Our Washington State Federation of Chapters Executive Board is currently reviewing the federation's bylaws for compliance. Our chapter board is doing the same. This is a slow, step-by-step process, so stay tuned!



NATIONAL BYLAWS
Adopted at the
2016 NATIONAL

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 1 – Jason Mercier, director, Center for Government Reform Washington Policy Center – update on the Washington State legislative session.



Menu: tilapia w/rice pilaf and seasonal vegetables

April 5 – Terry and Kathy Maurer, antique appraisers – annual chapter update on the world of antiques.



Bring small items for appraisal (no weapons)!

Menu: ravioli w/marinara sauce

JANUARY TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, December 31	\$10,614.94
January income	\$ 850.55
January expenditures	\$ 408.85
Dedicated funds thru January 31	\$ 2,640.00
Balance on hand, January 31	\$ 8,416.64

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

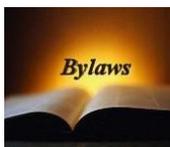
Each monthly narfe magazine has so much information that affects us all. So, please, take the time to read it. It is one of the benefits of being a NARFE member!



Nancy Crosby, Pat Turner and Mary Binder are scheduled to attend the March NARFE's Legislative Training Conference. A thank you to them for taking time out of their lives to participate, and we look forward to their recap at our April chapter meeting.

2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

President Lorie wrote about the changes to NARFE's bylaws, and that our Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) and our chapter would also be reviewing their respective bylaws. Want to read our chapter's bylaws? They are posted under "Chapter News" on our chapter website, www.narfe192.org.



And another reminder! If you couldn't make a chapter meeting and want to read the meeting minutes, or want to see the latest treasurer's report, or want to check something in a chapter newsletter, all are available on the chapter website.

Director at Large – Bob Stewart

Editor's Note: Welcome Bob Stewart, a new director at large and chapter NARFE-PAC chairman! Bob offered to serve in these positions upon the resignation of Steve Howes. Bob is a retired DOE project manager. He and his wife, Dot, are long-time Tri-Cities residents.



Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to Steve Howes for his service to NARFE and the chapter as a director at large and the NARFE-PAC chairman. His thought-provoking articles, ideas and suggestions for the chapter, and belief-in, dedication and support to NARFE-PAC have made a difference. Thank you, Steve.

WSFC President – Nancy Crosby

March and April will be busy months for our members as NARFE and our WSFC monitor protecting our earned benefits. The NARFE Legislative Department staff is devoting a lot of energy to keeping members informed on the latest bills and initiatives our congressional representatives will be addressing. They have an updated Legislative Department, Legislative Action Center page on the NARFE website with a lot of information and form letters to personalize and send to our representatives. It is imperative that you contact our representatives with your concerns.

At press time, 14 WSFC members and our Region IX vice president are registered to attend 2017 Legislative Training Conference, March 12-15, Alexandria, Va. Included in the conference are visits with our



district representatives and 2 senators on Capitol Hill. Our WSFC representatives will present NARFE's issues to our elected officials. Most Washington State congressional districts will have at least one NARFE representative attending the training.

Planning is moving ahead for the Region IX Training Conference, June 9-10, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick.

Registration forms are being prepared and will be available to all WSFC members, and national-only members in Region IX. There will be 2, half-day sessions and a dinner. Information will soon be available on the WSFC website, www.narfewa.net. Registration is currently projected to be between \$60 and \$70. To help offset member costs, WSFC and our Tri-Cities chapter will offer "scholarships" to members who attend.



Let's hope our winter's unseasonable weather improves as we look forward to no snow and warmer temperatures. Spring is coming!



WSFC District V VP – Mary Binder

Success! The 2017 Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 outreach action plan has been approved by both the WSFC PR and membership chairmen. This plan is a roadmap for the chapter's public relations and membership activities for the year. Further, the federation reimburses the chapter up to 50 percent for some outreach costs, if they are on the approved plan and reimbursement paperwork is submitted. This is a win-win for chapters! **5765**



District V has 3 chapters – Tri-Cities Chapter 1192; Walla Walla Chapter 237; and, Yakima Chapter 238. As the new district vice president, I have visited all 3. It has been interesting to note the similarities and differences.

2017 NARFE–FEEA STEVE BAUER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

Applications accepted: February 1 - April 28



All applicants must be high school seniors of NARFE members in good standing and planning to attend an accredited college or university full time in a 2-year or 4-year degree program in fall/winter of the award year.

New – online-only application and submission process.

Eligibility requirements and application details at:

www.narfe.org/pdf/t-105.pdf

Legislative – Mary Binder

At this time, being vigilant is a top priority for NARFE, and should also be for NARFE members. While it is still early in the new Trump administration and Congress, much is being proposed, and/or written or talked about. Media reporting is running the full gamut; so, at times, making it even more challenging to understand “ground truth,” including for current and retired federal employees.

NARFE President Richard Thissen recently penned a letter to the editor for *The Wall Street Journal* responding to an attack on career civil servants by a U.S. representative. A point in his letter, I believe, is most important as we talk to family, friends, the media, or others about civil servants. President Thissen wrote, **“Whatever one’s views are on the scope and reach of federal government regulations, any agency power to issue regulations derives from a congressional act, and the power over regulatory policy rests with the elected president and his cabinet and political appointees. Blaming career civil servants deflects responsibility from those – including members of Congress – with the actual power to change federal laws and regulations. Placing this blame [on civil servants] is casting professional civil service as a threat to our democracy, when it is, in fact, one of its strongest bulwarks.” 4957**

On the home front, our chapter has been invited to represent NARFE at the Veteran Service Fair, April 1, Southridge Sports Complex Indoor Pavilion, Kennewick. Dan Newhouse, our 4th Congressional District representative, is hosting the fair. This will be an opportunity to hopefully be of assistance to our veterans while also providing visibility for NARFE and our chapter.

NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

This is my first article as the new chapter NARFE-PAC chairman, which, I hope, will be the first of many. I appreciated the cooperation and generous giving at our February 1 chapter meeting. Thanks to Mary Binder’s donation of her 50-50 winnings, along with other donations, we collected \$44.

The 8th and final quarter NARFE-PAC results are now posted on the NARFE website, www.narfe.org. The reports provide not only the final quarter results but a recap of all 8 quarters for the 114th Congress 2015-2016. One report shows the by-chapter contributions for all states, including Washington. Our Tri-Cities



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

chapter contributed \$3,955 for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016, ranking the chapter 5th among the state’s 21 NARFE chapters. Chapters giving more were Bremerton, Vancouver, Spokane and Seattle. The total for the state for this period was \$52,159.

Reminder! March is NARFE-PAC month! See the March narfe magazine for more information.

Alzheimer’s Research – Bill Darke

Our chapter is on its way to another great fundraising year. Since the beginning of our federation’s Alzheimer’s year, May 1, 2016, our chapter has raised \$2,333.38. Thanks to generous donors, for the fourth consecutive year we are exceeding the \$2,000 level!

With tax-filing season upon us, a reminder – donations to Alzheimer’s are tax deductible for those itemizing their deductions. It is also worth noting that, due to our special arrangement with the Alzheimer’s Association, all our donations to NARFE Alzheimer’s Research go to research and not to any overhead expenses. Further, NARFE selects the research projects it wants to support.

Since NARFE began its fundraising in 1985, it has raised more than \$12 million for NARFE Alzheimer’s Research. NARFE’s new goal is \$13 million by the end of 2018.

NARFE is now a sponsor of the Alzheimer’s Association’s Walk to End Alzheimer’s. Locally, there is walk scheduled for Saturday, September 9.

This is yet another way for NARFE to “earn national recognition benefits.” Details about the walks to follow in future newsletters and at chapter meetings.

Thank you for your continued support to finding a cure for this terrible disease.





Return Service Requested

NARFE

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

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome! Mary Ellen Amundsen; James Castle; Patricia Ensign; Luther Hughes; James Lynch; Heidi Newsome; Linda Preston (transfer); Mark Ramsey

Welcome Back! Dennis Claussen; Rosalio (Leo) Guillen; Randall Johnson; Joe Voice

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Snowbirds, and all members! Have you changed your mailing address? An mail address? Or, what about a phone number? If so, have you provided that information to the chapter? If not, please do so. This helps our callers, and helps with mailings such as the newsletter. Thank you! My contact information is:

Ph: 509.492.4304;

email: pgriff.fisher1@gmail.com.



Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences to Member

Johanna Caylor who lost her sister and NARFE chapter member, Yvonne Keel

Former Member

Phil Hamric has passed away

Thinking of You Wishes to Dana Alderson; Johanna Caylor; Terese Pratt; Dolores Rizzo

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



Service Office – open!

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

Phone: 509.373.9536. Visitors welcome!



REMINDERS!

Hidden Numbers: January/February newsletter numbers belonged to: Robert Carosino; Wally Hendrickson; June Ollero.

Sorry, no takers! Find 3 new numbers in this newsletter – **last 4 digits of**

123456
78910

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!

Meeting Programs – Thanks to all “brainstormers” at the January chapter meeting. The board received a lot of good suggestions for possible future meeting programs. Have additional ideas/suggestions, please call, or email, Secretary Mary Binder, mary_binder@msn.com.



2016 NARFE Photo Contest
August 1, 2016 – April 15, 2017

Theme: The American Dream
Details at “Special Programs,”

www.narfe.org

OPM Password – Ensure you access the OPM site at least every few months to keep your password current.



NARFE F-100, Be Prepared for Life’s Events – Do you have this completed and/or is it current?

NARFE Federal Benefits Institute – Check the NARFE website, www.narfe.org, for upcoming webinars and for the list of past webinars that members can view on demand.” These are FREE to NARFE members!



NARFE Federal
Benefits Institute

On-Demand **WEBINARS, WHITE PAPERS**
and **RESOURCES** for NARFE MEMBERS



Reminder!

St. Patrick’s Day, March 17

Passover Begins, April 10; Easter, April 16

