

Reminder: Annual chapter food drive, March meeting! Bring cash, check or nonperishable food.

2020 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Pat Turner	509.539.5659
Vice President, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Treasurer, Liz Bowers	509.430.1836
Alzheimer's, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Caller Coordinator, Darleen Wall	509.586.8232
Legislative, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
NARFE-PAC, John Wetterling	509.545.8016
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Service Officer, Vacant*	
Sunshine, Faye Vlieger	509.961.1095
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554

*For assistance, call Nancy Crosby or Mary Alice Binder.
See their numbers above.

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August

11:30 a.m., Columbia Center Red Lion, Kennewick
Lunch not required to attend the meeting.

Lunch: \$20; reservations REQUIRED

(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)

Avoid a charge! Cancel reservations you can't keep!

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

March 4 – Annual Chapter Food Drive and update on the Second Harvest Food Bank

Menu: pasta marina w/garlic bread, seasonal vegetables, dessert



REMINDER! Bring cash, check or nonperishable food.

April 1 – Local author C. Mark Smith, returns to the chapter to talk about his latest book, *Something Extraordinary* – a behind-the-scenes narrative of the Manhattan Project.



Menu: fish & chips, dessert

May 6 – Update on the Arts Center Task Force

Menu: chicken, bacon, avocado club sandwich with fries, dessert



March – April, Volume 2020, Issue 2

Chapter President – Pat Turner

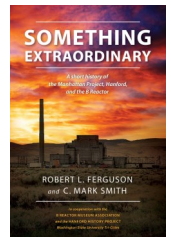
This is my second newsletter article as your chapter president. I would like to thank the chapter board members for their support and chapter members for your confidence in me.



Reflecting on “thanks,” a special thank you to our very diligent chapter membership chairman, Johanna Caylor, for her work to recognize our chapter’s “distinguished members.” These are members with at least 20 years of continuous NARFE membership. If you are in this category and did not receive a certificate and pin, please contact Johanna.

Next, I want to comment on our chapter’s monthly programs. We have been having great speakers at our monthly meetings. If you missed the February meeting, Jason Mercier from the Washington Policy Center provided updated information as to what is going on with state government in Olympia. Some of the information we heard and liked, some we did not like; but, it was great to be informed – and surprised at times – about proposed legislation that affects all of us.

Now, looking ahead to our March, April and May chapter meetings – more interesting programs! First, in March, our chapter’s annual food drive, including information on our local Second Harvest Food Bank. Then in April, local author C. Mark Smith returns to the chapter. He was last with us in May 2015. His presentation will “deal with the events surrounding the creation of the Manhattan Project, which resulted in the creation of the Hanford site ...” This information, and more, is covered in his latest book, *Something Extraordinary*. At the May meeting, we’ll get an update on what’s happened with the Arts Center Task Force since the September 2017 presentation at our chapter meeting. So, I look forward to seeing many chapter members at these meetings!



Finally, 2 conferences are coming up this year. I hope MANY chapter members are considering attending. Based on my personal experience, these are great learning opportunities! See page 2 for more details. **2302**



WSF President – Nancy Crosby

These are busy months for our WSF – Washington State Federation! First, the election for officers. We have candidates for each federation elected office. The election ballot is available on the WSF website, www.narfewa.org. Ballots must be submitted by **March 31**. If you do not have access to the website, **please** contact me and I will send you a paper ballot. (Note: There will be paper ballots at the March 4 chapter meeting.)

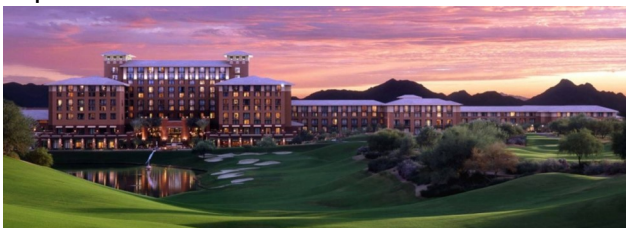
Next, conferences! There are 2 this year, one here in Washington, the other in Arizona. I hope you are considering attending one or both!

First, the WSF biennial conference is May 19-21, Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lynnwood. The hotel reservation information is on the WSF website.

The cost is \$113 per night plus taxes, and includes breakfast and a social hour for registered hotel guests. The conference registration forms and agenda will be on the WSF website soon. Registration is \$127 but federation members will only pay \$77 as the federation is paying a \$50 “scholarship” for each federation member who registers. Conference guest speaker will be Kathryn Hensley, the NARFE secretary/treasurer. Watch for updates from me!



Looking a little further ahead, the NARFE national conference, **FEDcon20**, will be August 30 to September 1, Westin Kierland, Scottsdale, Ariz.



Registration is now open and information is on the NARFE website, www.narfe.org.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to serve as your WSF president. Thank you for your support, and I am looking forward to seeing you at the conferences or other NARFE events. **Remember! Voting closes March 31 for federation officers. Please vote.**

Secretary – Mary Binder

A very sincere thank you to all who have sent cards, emails and/or called me to express good wishes for a speedy recovery after my brain aneurysm in November. I am well on my way in a year-long recovery process. The UW neuro surgeons have said, I am a walking miracle, and a “Lucky Ducky.” I feel truly blessed.

Next, a special thank you to past secretary Faye Vlieger, WSF President Nancy Crosby, Chapter President Pat Turner, and the many others who have stepped up and completed tasks I would normally have done. Truly, an excellent example of teamwork, and very much appreciated. I hope to be back to chapter meetings soon.

Treasurer – Liz Bowers

Our chapter budget is on track for 2020! I updated the board at its February 19 meeting. I will continue to provide updates at chapter and board meetings.



Public Relations – Mary Binder

The 2020 U.S. census is upon us! Did you know that “in the 2010 census, Benton and Franklin Counties were **undercounted by nearly 30%** or 75,000+ people. Each uncounted person is a **loss of \$2,300 per person** each year for 10 years affecting 130+ Federal programs including: Medicaid, Head Start, housing and food for low income families, public transportation, college student loans, highway planning and construction, children’s health insurance and public school funding.”




Census reminders! **“Your 2020 Census responses are safe and secure and protected by law.** The Census Bureau will never ask for your Social Security number, money, to come into your home, for your bank or credit card account number, your mother’s maiden name or threaten you with arrest if you do not comply. You can respond **online**, by **mail** or by **phone**. Answering the 10 questions will take less than 10 minutes.”

Here is what to expect in your mailbox:

- ◆ March 12-20 – An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census (Some households also will receive paper questionnaires.)
- ◆ March 16-24 – A reminder letter.
- ◆ March 26-April 3 – A reminder postcard.
- ◆ April 8-16 – A reminder letter and a paper questionnaire.
- ◆ April 20-27 – A final reminder postcard before the U.S. Census Bureau follows up in person.

(Source: Benton-Franklin County Census 2020)



2020 NARFE Photo Contest
August 1, 2019 – April 7, 2020
 Theme: “Home Sweet Home –
 What it Means to You”
 See: “Special Programs,” www.narfe.org

Legislative – Mary Binder

Election season is definitely here. The Washington State Presidential Primary is March 10 – a change from past years when it has been in May. Another change, per Secretary of State Kim Wyman, “... the major political



parties require voters to choose a party in order to participate in the nomination process. Your choice of party will **not affect** how you may vote in future elections. You must mark and sign the political party declaration (box) on your envelope for your vote to count per RCW 29A.56.050 ... In the November General Election, you will not declare a party and may vote for any Presidential candidate you wish.” Having to choose a party for the March 10 primary has been controversial for several reasons. So, it will be interesting to see what the voter turnout will be as a result. If the change is one you do not support, you need to voice your objection to our legislators.

Speaking of contacting our legislators, it is definitely not too late for a 2020 “resolution” to commit to contacting our legislators regarding issues NARFE’s Advocacy Department is working on for us. Whether it is “WEP” or “GPO” (several bills) or the USPS Fairness Act, H.R. 2382/S.2965, the NARFE staff needs grassroots support from NARFE members!

As a reminder, here are 2 NARFE legislative resources: the NARFE NewsLine and the Legislative Action Center. The NewsLine is “a weekly newsletter that goes out to NARFE members on Tuesdays and includes weekly recaps of legislative news, compiled by NARFE’s advocacy and communications teams.” The Action Center is a “one-stop site to send a letter to Congress and more, at www.narfe.org.”



NARFE-PAC – John Wetterling

From Chapter Vice President Nancy Crosby: Our chapter NARFE-PAC chairman for the past several years, Bob Stewart, has been ill and is not able to attend the chapter meetings. Member John Wetterling has volunteered to cover the position for the near future. You will see him at our PAC table at chapter meetings. Thank you, John!

The 4th quarter NARFE PAC reports for the 2019-2020 congressional cycle are posted on the

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., Suites 204/204A, Richland, WA 99352
Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

NARFE website, www.narfe.org. After logging in as a member, you can find the reports under “Departments” on the NARFE homepage and then “Advocacy.”

The good news – PAC contributions continue to come in. However, in looking at overall totals, it appears contributions slowed down during the quarter, which is not surprising considering the holiday season. But with the election cycle gaining momentum, contributions, too, need to gain momentum! **8970**

So, watch for information from NARFE as **March is NARFE-PAC month!** ALL contributions are MOST welcome! However, if you are not a monthly sustainer, consider becoming one. Contributions are deducted monthly from a credit card of your choice. [Note: Contribution information is at our chapter meetings and in each monthly *narfe* magazine.]

Alzheimer’s Research – Larry Williams

Mark your calendars! Our annual local Walk to End Alzheimer’s is scheduled for **Sunday, October 11**. Our chapter will field a team again this year! By starting earlier than last year, I am hoping for more chapter participants and an increase in donations. Last year we had 7 registrations, 4 walkers and raised \$450. I’ll have more details in future newsletters and at chapter meetings.



NARFE Federal Benefits Institute Webinars

March 12 – Set Your Retirement Goals and Plan the Process

April 16 – It’s Never too Early to Start Planning: What New and Mid-Career Feds Need to Know

Webinars are at 2 p.m., Eastern Time
(Past webinars “on demand” at: www.narfe.org)

Return Service Requested

NARFE

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

NARFE-FEEA 2020 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

Competition open to high school seniors only.
Application deadline: March 25, 3 p.m., EDT.
Details at: scholarship@narfe.org.

Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor

Spring is almost here. Remember to “spring forward” to Daylight Saving Time, March 8!

Many “snowbirds” will also be returning in March. To our “snowbirds,” **PLEASE** ensure your mailing address, email and phone numbers are current! Let me know of changes!



Welcome: Robert Cordy; Margit Larrieu; Boyd Wilson

Welcome Correction: To Dana (not Dan Bryson)

Reinstated: John Slaughter (dues withholding)

Distinguished Members: Those members with at least 20 years continuous NARFE membership were listed in the January/February chapter newsletter. Chapter officers have been delivering certificates, membership cards and pins to local members.

Several also have been presented at our chapter meetings. For local members planning to attend a chapter meeting and who have not received their recognition, please let me know! Thank you to all for your 20 years of NARFE membership!

Hidden Numbers: January/February newsletter (only 2 numbers): Randy Gregowicz; Gene Spangrude. No calls; no winners. Find 3 new numbers – **last 4 digits, your NARFE membership number.**

Call me, 509.308.6664, email me, annahojx2@gmail.com, or let me know at a meeting, and you, too, can win \$5!



Webmaster – Larry Williams

Check the chapter website for meeting programs, menus, minutes and more: www.narfe1192.org.

Also remember to check the WSF website, www.narfewa.org, for federation/other info.



CALLER COORDINATOR REMINDERS !

Reminder – to guarantee a lunch, reservations **MUST** be made by the Sunday evening prior to the meeting. So, if your caller leaves a message, **PLEASE** return the call, or call me.



Contact: Darleen Wall

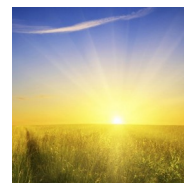
Ph: 509.586.8232; Email: jdwall2@frontier.com

Thank you for your support!

Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger

Since the January/February newsletter:

Condolences: to members Anna Good on the passing of her husband Paul and Betty Robertson on the passing of her husband Arland



Thinking of you/get well to: Mary Ellen Amundsen; Mary Binder; Bob Stewart

Know someone needing a little “sunshine” or a special-occasion card? Call me or email me: einvlieger@aol.com.

Washington State Unclaimed Property

Note! According to a recent announcement from the Washington Department of Revenue, there is \$1.3B being held in the Unclaimed Property system. Go to ClaimYourCash.org “to find out if the state is holding money or property in your name ... Assets are held in perpetuity until claimed by the rightful owner or heir.”

To All!



Happy Easter
Happy Passover