



FREE! June 12, Senior Life Show, Three Rivers Convention Center.

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

May – June, Volume 2014, Issue 3

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	509.585.1393
NARFE-PAC, Steve Howes	509.851.4913
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.

May 7 – Mid-Columbia Libraries programs/services
with Tom Moak, Kennewick Branch manager

Menu: BBQ pulled-pork open-faced sandwich

June 4 – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services –
Mid-Columbia missions

(Note: also, brief recap of WSFC convention)

Menu: turkey wrap with potato salad

MARCH TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, February 28	\$10,289.38
March income	\$ 527.25
March expenditures	\$ 593.97
Dedicated funds thru March 31	\$ 2,081.00
Balance on hand, March 31	\$ 8,141.66

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

Fundraising ideas welcome! Contact Nancy Crosby.

Chapter President – Don Binder

Normally, I try to write about issues not overly controversial. However, that changed with the NARFE's "FON," (*Future of NARFE*) report, now called "Future NARFE," as it includes membership, structure and mission.

I believe all chapter members must get smart about this report so those of us attending the May WSFC and August NARFE conventions can better represent the chapter in discussions and with questions. NARFE President Joe Beaudoin is the scheduled keynote speaker at the WSFC convention – an opportunity to ask questions, express concerns, etc. Then in August, knowing our chapter members concerns will help those of us attending the national convention vote on key issues. (See page 2.)

One change, however, is expected to be effective November 1. At its February meeting, the National Executive Board voted to reduce the number of regions to 5 vs. 10. Washington State would be in the new Region V. Region IX VP Lanny Ross, our region's VP for 14 years, has announced he will not be running for that position. The new region would encompass: Alaska; California; Hawaii; Idaho; Montana; Nevada; Oregon; Washington; Wyoming; plus, Guam and the Republic of the Philippines. The full impact to our state is unknown; but, a safe bet is we would not be seeing the "RVP" as frequently as we saw Lanny.

Besides the FON report, NARFE has provided several "Q&A" information papers. All members can access this information on the NARFE website. If you don't have this access and want copies, please contact me. At a recent chapter board meeting, we spent time discussing the report. Feel free to contact any board member if you want to know more about how we see the report impacting NARFE, have questions, want to share your concerns, etc. Your issues and concerns will be particularly helpful to me, Mary Binder, Nancy Crosby, Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston in representing the chapter at the August NARFE national convention.



1st VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett
Saturday, June 21, Dust Devils game – a
 planned chapter group outing!
 Tickets: \$7. Sign-up sheet will be
 at the May and June meetings, or
 call me if you want to go.



The survey members completed at the March meeting will help the board plan for future programs and activities. If you missed the March meeting and want to complete this short survey, contact Secretary Mary Binder.

But even with the survey, I'm always looking for **new ideas** for chapter meetings and group activities. So, please contact me!



2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

To note, all recent chapter and board meeting minutes and treasurer reports are on the chapter website. Want to know what meeting programs are planned for the future? They're on the website, too! Go to: www.narfe1192.org.



Directors at Large – Steve Howes, Pat Turner
 Yes, we're learning a lot in our new roles! 9694

District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

I am looking forward to the May 2014 WSFC Convention in Silverdale! If you want to attend but have not registered, you can still do so, but at \$35 vs. \$30. As President Don wrote in his article, many changes for NARFE are proposed in the *Future of NARFE* report. I, too, encourage you to go to the NARFE website and read the report. While the NARFE we know may be very different in the future, our focus will still be on serving our members and growing our chapter membership. Check the WSFC website, www.narfewa.net, for the convention registration form and other details, and remember, the federation is giving a \$50 "scholarship" to all members attending.



I have submitted my application to run for District V VP for another 2-year term. The application deadline has passed, but, nominations will be accepted at the convention during the District V caucus.



Next, looking ahead to August – the NARFE national convention. Check the NARFE website, www.narfe.org, or *narfe* magazine, for details. 6475



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

At the national convention, we currently expect members to vote on at least the following issues pertaining to the FON report:

- Approve the FON concept recommended in the report to move forward with the necessary in-depth strategic study and planning, including developing real timelines and milestones.
- Reduce the number of national officers from 4 to 2, eliminating the vice president and secretary positions.
- Address mandatory chapter membership; make chapter membership optional.

The information above is current as of when this newsletter went to press. Watch for updates on the NARFE website and in the *narfe* magazines, and we'll be providing information at chapter meetings.

Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

WSFC's 2013-2014 fundraising year ended April 30. For the year, the chapter donated \$2,340 – A NEW CHAPTER RECORD! I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this worthy cause. Since 1985, NARFE members have donated more than \$10.7M for Alzheimer's research.

**END
ALZ**

Recently, the Alzheimer's Association reported that researchers have developed a blood test that could predict who might get Alzheimer's years before symptoms. A study has identified levels of 10 different fats in the blood of people who went on to develop the disease 2 or 3 years later. While the test is preliminary, it was about 90 percent accurate and could potentially allow for early treatment, when such treatment might be more effective.

Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion

Enjoying the monthly lunches? Have ideas for next year's menus? Please feel free to call, or email me:

cbgallion@aol.com. Thank you! 2440



PROTECT America's Heartbeat Toolkit!
 Update/Expanded! Go to: www.narfe.org.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Reminder! When callers leave you a message, please return the call. They need meeting lunch counts. Thanks!

[Ph: 509.492.4304; email: pgriff1@earthlink.net]



Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

Wisconsin's Congressman Paul Ryan introduced a FY 2015 budget. It does contain many items that would negatively affect current and retired federal employees and their spouse or survivor. **Don't panic!**

On April 10, the House did pass Congressman Ryan's budget by a mostly party-line vote, 219-205; but, we believe it will not move forward. Nevada Senator Harry Reid has said the Senate will use the "Ryan-Murray" agreement from earlier this year; thus, there is almost ZERO chance the Senate will consider it. Further, we believe many organizations representing various federal workforce factions will use this issue to "score" political points.

Now, an example of legislation that would be good for current federal employees – H.R. 4306. It would "...increase the rates of pay under the General Schedule and for prevailing rate employees by 3.3 percent, and for other purposes." This bill was introduced by Virginia's Rep. Gerald Connelly, a very strong NARFE and federal employee/retiree supporter. However, even with 14 co-sponsors as we write this article, www.govtrack.us gives it a 10% chance of getting past committee and a 5% chance of being enacted.

So, our view is – don't ignore either issue, but don't expect either to be enacted. However, you should continue to pay attention to those issues that appear to have bi-partisan support in both houses of Congress. Although we can't name one at the moment, still, stay tuned!

In this regard, NARFE's legislative staff issues a weekly update via GEMS. Often they have a new "letter" for you to send, e.g., an April 4 message requesting letters in support of H.R. 4306. It takes about 30-60 seconds to send a letter. Yes, it is a form letter but it does count. Want to make more of an impact? Modify the letter to make it more your own.

So, stay tuned, stay informed and stay alert! Write or call the offices of our senators and member of Congress. Continue to watch for GEMS updates, check NARFE's web site, www.narfe.org, or call or email either of us: don_binder@msn.com; mary_binder@msn.com.

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

Legislation is what NARFE is all about and PAC dollars are needed to help in this process. I am pleased to report that Chapter 1192 members are contributing!



As of the March 31 report, 61 chapter members had contributed \$1,756 during the 2013-2014 congressional cycle. For the same period in the 2012-2013 cycle, 34 members had contributed \$1,422. So, a significant increase in members contributing and the dollar amount for the same cycle. The March 31 report shows that our chapter is third in contributors and dollars contributed in the WSFC!

So, thank you to all who have contributed, BUT we are not done. We cannot stop. As the "off-year" elections heat up and focus turns more and more to the 2016 elections, PAC dollars will be needed more than ever.

Remember: *there is strength in numbers!*
Help us be heard!

Opt Out of NARFE Calendar & Notecards

If you do not want to receive these items, send your name and membership number, or name and mailing address, to: pr@narfe.org. Specify what you do not want – calendar, holiday notecards, spring notecards. Contributions still welcome anytime!



MAY 4-10, 2014

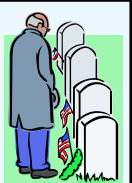


Return Service Requested

NARFE

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

May 17, Armed Forces Day
May 26, Memorial Day
June 14, Flag Day



Membership – Johanna Caylor

Free Memberships Update: at a recent board meeting, 6 names of individuals we've met over the past months at outreach functions were "pulled from a hat." As previously announced, they will be offered a 1-year free NARFE membership. We also hope those AFE members who received a 6-month free NARFE membership will RENEW their memberships in July!

Welcome New Member: Charles Stenvall

Welcome Back: Geraldine Goody

Dues Withholding: RETIREES! Newer and older retirees – please consider dues withholding and SAVE. 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; within 6-9 weeks, OPM will notify you \$3.67/monthly will be taken from your annuity. No more renewal notices. It is painless!

Snowbirds: WELCOME HOME! PLEASE let us know of changes to your physical mailing address, email or local phone number.

Hidden Numbers: March/April numbers belonged to: **Ken Absher; Alan Walker; John Wetterling.** 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!

FEHBP Providers Coming in July: The providers will be in our area the week of July 7. Watch for the schedule on the chapter website, www.narfe1192.org.

Johanna Contact Info: text: 308.6664; landline: 375.0739; email: caylorx2@aol.com.

Have an email address? We NEED it! Email helps the chapter save money. Please notify: Nancy Crosby at: ncrosby2b@charter.net.

SERVICE OFFICE

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

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

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

OPM Reminders!

Keep your retirement claim number and Services Online (SOL) password in a safe place. Periodically log on to SOL to keep your email address current.

OPM employees will not call you and ask for your ID information or password, unless at your request. If you receive a questionable call, do not give out personal information. Call OPM immediately at: **888.767.6738**.

Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences to: the family of former member Edith Stoltz.

Get well cards/thinking of you cards to:

Norma Van Patten; Wally Hendrickson; and Gary and Betty Rosenwald, who are now living in Colorado.

Please let me know: about those needing some "sunshine," even a card for a special occasion! Call, or email me: mary_binder@msn.com.



**Happy Mother's Day, May 11,
and Father's Day, June 15, to all!**

