



**REMINDER! Region IX Training Conference, June 9-10. See Page 2.**

# TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
"Advocates for Current and Former Federal Employees"

NARFE: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org) Washington Federation: [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net) Tri-Cities: [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org)

## 2017 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Pat Turner	509.539.5659
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	509.531.3118
Alzheimer's, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Legislative, Mary Binder	509.585.1393
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.375.0739
NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart	509.531.3118
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:** 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**May 3** – Learn what's new at the East Benton County Historical Society Museum from Stephanie Button, administrative director

**Menu: chicken penne bake w/marinara sauce and parmesan cheese**



**June 7** – Tom Moak, Port of Kennewick commissioner, to provide an update on the Columbia Drive Revitalization Project

**Menu: chicken bacon avocado club sandwich w/fries or chips**



## MARCH TREASURER'S REPORT\*

Balance forward, February 28	\$11,325.05
March income	\$ 542.55
March expenditures	\$ 530.10
Dedicated funds thru March 31	\$ 2,340.00
Balance on hand, March 31	\$ 8,997.50

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

## May – June, Volume 2017, Issue 3

### Chapter President – Lorie Bennett

As I have been "on the road again," I have relinquished my space to 1st Vice President Pat Turner. Meanwhile, I am looking forward to seeing many of you at our May and/or June meetings.



### 1st Vice President – Pat Turner

I read the May narfe magazine almost as soon as it was delivered! Of particular interest to me was the coverage, starting on page 30, of the March 2017 NARFE Legislative Training Conference. If you have not read this article, I encourage you to do so.



I noticed on the magazine's cover, "Tireless Advocacy, Trusted Advice." I found this statement so true as I observed the NARFE staff's dedication and commitment at this conference – everyone giving more than 100 percent to advocating for the benefits for both retired and current federal employees.

On the home front, I continue to be impressed with that same advocacy from our Chapter 1192 board of directors. They are amazing. And, to Chapter 1192 members, it is always nice to see so many of you attending our monthly meetings!! **2604**

I expect there will be this same level of support at the Region IX Training Conference, June 9-10, Three Rivers Convention Center. It will be a great opportunity to meet and talk with members from not only around our Washington federation, but to also meet members from Region IX's other federations – Alaska, Idaho, Montana and Oregon. Hope to see many members there!



## 2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

Whether you use a computer or not, you most likely have heard the terms “scammers” and “scamming.” Unfortunately, both are realities that we are living with in today’s world, yes, even in NARFE.



So, what can you do? **Exercise caution! Be alert!** Check carefully before opening an email – even if you think you know who it is from, check the address! Even for your land-line and mobile phones, if you don’t know who is calling, think before answering. **9942**

## Treasurer – Nancy Crosby

At the April 5 chapter meeting, chapter members present approved a rebate of \$500 to both Mary Binder and Pat Turner to assist in their personal expenses to attend the 2017 NARFE National Legislative Training Conference in Washington, D.C. This was a budgeted expense.



On April 14, an audit was conducted on the chapter’s 2016 financial records. It was approved.

There is a growing concern about our chapter internet and email security. OPM and other agencies, including NARFE, have been “hacked.” For example, messages have been sent to some NARFE chapter treasurers to transfer chapter funds to a different account, per their chapter president. **PLEASE** always check with your chapter president before acting on any unusual messages that concern our chapter. As our webmaster, Larry Williams, wrote above, **“Exercise caution! Be alert!”**



## WSFC President – Nancy Crosby

As your 1st Vice President Pat Turner wrote in her article, page 1, the Region IX Training Conference is June 9-10, Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick. Yes, the same location as last year’s WSFC convention. The federation is covering the \$65 registration cost, which includes the Friday night dinner, for Chapter 1192 members who attend. Registration forms are available on the chapter’s website, [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org), and on the federation website, [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net). Forms will also be available at your May chapter meeting.

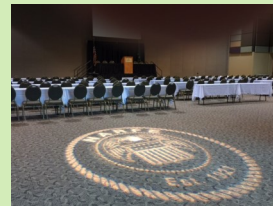
Guests are welcome, but must register. Cost: \$65 for the training and dinner; \$30 for just the dinner. Guest registration form is also on the websites.

## ALL WASHINGTON STATE NARFE MEMBERS!

### SPECIAL INVITATION

**Region IX Training Conference  
June 9-10**

**Three Rivers Convention Center  
Kennewick**



The training event will begin at noon Friday, June 9. There will be a no-host bar at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:30 p.m. The training will end at noon, Saturday, June 10. The WSFC will hold a board meeting after the training.

**For planning and preparation purposes,  
registration deadline is May 19.**

## WSFC District V VP – Mary Binder

Following up on WSFC President Nancy Crosby’s article, above, I am pleased to report that all 3 WSFC District V chapters will have members attending the Region IX Training Conference! Further, 2 of the district’s 3 chapters now have outreach action plans in place – something that, to the best of my knowledge, is unique to District V.

As I previously wrote, these outreach plans are roadmaps for a 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!

For those newer NARFE members, the Washington State Federation of Chapters has 20 chapters throughout the state, grouped into 5 districts. District V has 3 chapters – Tri-Cities Chapter 1192; Walla Walla Chapter 237; and, Yakima Chapter 238.

## Alzheimer’s Research – Bill Darke

The Washington federation’s Alzheimer’s funding year ended April 30. For the year, the chapter contributed \$2,468.38 for the NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund! This was the 4th consecutive year the chapter exceeded the \$2,000 level.

Your contributions also helped toward NARFE exceeding its \$12 million goal by the end of 2016. The new NARFE goal is \$13 million by the end of 2018.

So, thank you to all who contributed for your outstanding support during this past year. We are certainly doing our part toward defeating this terrible disease.

**END  
ALZ**

## Legislative – Mary Binder

“Last year was spring training; this [congressional] session will be the regular season,” said NARFE President Dick Thissen in his opening remarks at the March 2017 NARFE Legislative Training Conference. He went on to say that we need to be “prepared for the biggest fight in decades.” **3550**

Regarding earned benefits, President Thissen said to members, “Remember, you earned this; don’t let anyone tell you otherwise.” He also reminded members that “the glue that holds the federal government together and makes America work is the federal employee.” So, “speak with pride of your work, don’t be apologetic ... be proud; stand proud.”



With May 7-13 as 2017 Public Service Recognition Week, President’s Thissen remarks are even more on target. Also at the conference, Cliff Johnson from National Journal noted a shift away from “D.C. advocacy” to grassroots. Regarding advocacy, he said we “need to be in it for the long haul.”

Johnson also provided 3 easy-to-understand but very important points for being a strong advocate. First, and most importantly, “show up,” meaning, attend public meetings, send letters, make calls. Second, “be visible.” If you attend a public meeting, for example, ensure you ask a question/make your presence known. And, third, “be prepared.” NARFE can definitely help with this as it is a great resource for everything from white papers to statistical information.

As Johnson said in concluding his presentation, “We have government by the majority who show up.” Or, the squeaky wheel gets heard!

Speaking of showing up, President Lorie and Leon Bennett joined me at the Veterans Service Fair, April 1, at CBC hosted by our congressional district representative, Dan Newhouse. NARFE/our chapter was invited to participate along with more than 30 other agencies. Besides the opportunity to talk with veterans, some of whom were looking for jobs in the federal government, it was a great opportunity to meet and interface



## 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

with other agency representatives, e.g., individuals with the Walla Walla VA. And, ironically, in talking with one veteran, I learned that his wife was a retired VA pharmacist but not a NARFE member. She is now and attended her first NARFE meeting April 5. Welcome, Mary Lou Anderson! One never knows where one might find a new member.

## NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

I am pleased to report that through March 31, the end of the first quarter in the 2017-2018 collection cycle, Chapter 1192 members had contributed \$368 to NARFE-PAC. Of that, \$83 was contributed at chapter meetings. Also, I received another \$224 in April!



In reviewing the first quarter NARFE-PAC reports, our Tri-Cities chapter ranked 10th of the 20 Washington chapters in contributions BUT 1st in the number of sustainers with 6! Let’s continue that ranking with even more sustainers! But, all contributions welcome!!



While you’ve probably heard this before, NARFE-PAC contributions do go to good use. They are door openers in NARFE’s work with our elected officials. They help support elections/re-elections for representatives and senators who ask for PAC dollars AND who support NARFE’s issues.

Issues – there are many we are facing in the 115th Congress. NARFE has a handout titled “Budget Threats to Federal Employees and Retirees in the 115th Congress.” Included in the “threats” are: a reduction in the government’s contributions to our health insurance; reducing benefits for current employees; eliminating FERS for new hires. Stay tuned. We’ll work to keep you posted.

Yes, now more than ever, NARFE-PAC contributions are vital in combating these threats and more.



## 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 Louise Anderson; Charles Stubbs

**Welcome Back!** Diane Johnson; Paul Taylor

**Transfer to National Only:** Oscar Holgado;  
Mary Mills-Poplin

**Snowbirds!** Welcome home! Hope you had a safe winter, wherever you were, while the rest of us Tri-Citians were home shoveling snow!!!

### Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Yes, snowbirds, welcome home! And to you, and all our members, I know I'm sounding like a "broken record," but, have you changed your mailing address? An email 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: **Ph: 509.492.4304;** **email: [pgriff.fisher1@gmail.com](mailto:pgriff.fisher1@gmail.com).**

### Sunshine News – Mary Binder

**Condolences to Member** Dor Collado on the passing of his mother; Verneice Skinner on the passing of her father

**Former Members** Marie Delsing and Chris Emmons recently passed away

**Thinking of You Wishes to** Bill Hoyt

**Reminder:** Know someone needing a little "sunshine" or a special-occasion card? Call me, or email me at: [mary\\_binder@msn.com](mailto: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!

**NEW WEBINAR!** **ESTATE PLANNING FOR FEDS**

Presented by Mark Keen, CFP, and *narfe* magazine's "Managing Money" columnist.

**Thursday, May 11 at 2 p.m. ET**  
Register to view and join!  
(FREE for NARFE members.)

**>REGISTER NOW!**

**NARFE Federal Benefits Institute**

SPONSORED BY

### ATTENTION CURRENT FEDERAL EMPLOYEES!

NARFE now provides "online workshops." For NARFE members, they are NO COST! If you are not a member, the cost for these informative workshops is \$39.95. A 1-year NARFE membership is only \$40; so, the mere cost to join would include a complimentary workshop. WHAT A DEAL!

**Hidden Numbers:** March/April newsletter numbers belonged to: Chuck Chandler; Betty Maupin; Pam Thurman. Sorry, no takers! Find 3 new numbers in this newsletter – **last 4 digits of your NARFE membership number**. Find it, call me, 509.375.0739, email me, [caylorx2@aol.com](mailto:caylorx2@aol.com), or let me know at a meeting, and you, too, can win \$5!

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

#### Your NARFE Payment History!

I recently discovered I can view my complete NARFE payment history back to 1991 when I joined NARFE! You can, too. Log onto the NARFE website as a member. On the homepage, click on "My Account." If you have set up a secure account, you can then go to "My Payment History." If you have not set up that account, follow the instructions to do so, then proceed. Good sleuthing!



**Bob Stewart, Director at Large, NARFE-PAC Chairman**