



**Senior Life Show, Three Rivers Convention Center, June 13. See you there!**

# 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)

## 2018 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

<b>President, Lorie Bennett</b>	509.531.2745
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Pat Turner</b>	509.539.5659
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, John Cavanaugh</b>	509.528.0130
<b>Secretary/Sunshine, Faye Vlieger</b>	509.961.1095
<b>Treasurer, Liz Bowers</b>	509.430.1836
<b>Director-at-Large, Nancy Crosby</b>	509.735.3288
<b>Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart</b>	509.531.3118
<b>Alzheimer's, Larry Williams</b>	509.783.8554
<b>Legislative, Mary Binder</b>	509.378.2494
<b>Membership, Johanna Caylor</b>	509.375.0739
<b>NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart</b>	509.531.3118
<b>Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509.378.2494
<b>Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509.378.2494
<b>Service Office, John Cavanaugh</b>	509.528.0130
<b>Webmaster, Larry Williams</b>	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 not required to attend the meeting.

Lunch: \$18; reservations **REQUIRED**

**(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)**

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

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary.

**May 2** – Learn more about the new NARFE one member, one vote – what it means, how it works for both national and the state federation, what is on the ballots

**Menu: chicken, bacon, avocado club sandwich**



**June 6** – Recap of the May federation conference; final discussions about voting for national officers and on bylaws/resolution proposals

**Menu: glazed maple/mustard roasted pork loin w/mashed potatoes**

## **APRIL MEETING TREASURER'S REPORT\***

Balance forward, February 28	\$ 10,822.97
March income	\$ 468.00
March expenditures	\$ 920.51
Dedicated funds thru March 31	\$ 4,826.00
Balance on hand, March 31	\$ 5,638.17

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

## **May – June, Volume 2018, Issue 3**

### **Chapter President – Lorie Bennett**

Yes, spring is blowing in, so hold on to your hats! But, it is SO GOOD to see blue sky and sun!

I am looking forward to attending the Washington State Federation 2018 Biennial Conference, May 14-16, in Spokane Valley. The conference theme, NARFE PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE, is timely.



With NARFE almost 100 years old, it certainly has a long PAST. Then, too, it goes without saying the PRESENT is presenting NARFE and its members many challenges, including maintaining members. It also goes without saying that successfully working through these challenges will play a significant part in ensuring NARFE's FUTURE.

Our Tri-Cities chapter is, I believe, representative of many NARFE chapters. While we have gained some members, we have lost some, too – primarily through transfers to national-only memberships, some dropping their memberships, and some, sadly, passing away.

But, on the positive side, we have continued to have members willing to serve in various positions, and have continued to work to have interesting programs for members attending our monthly meetings. So, when it is time to renew your chapter membership, please continue do so! We need you! **9480**

The challenges presented to us from "the other Washington," are almost overwhelming, at times. Collectively, we need to continue to work to ensure we can maintain our **earned benefits**. Having a local chapter helps bring our concerns to the national level. This is one reason I believe the time spent attending our May conference is so important and well worth it. It is an opportunity to hear first hand what NARFE has been working on for us, and to meet other NARFE members! Remember, we are all in this together ... and summer is coming!



## WSFC President – Nancy Crosby

Our federation and chapters are filled with many dedicated officers and committee chairs. However, as is the case in other federations and chapters, it is getting difficult to get members to step up into leadership positions. Our federation has lost or is losing at least 4 chapters due to lack of members attending meetings and/or being willing to serve in a chapter position.

Your federation state conference will be May 14-16 in Spokane Valley. I hope many of you will be participating. It will be an opportunity to visit with NARFE Executive Director Barb Sido, including asking her questions and giving her member input.

Your current elected federation officers were willing to run for another 2-year term; but, we will be looking for new nominees in 2020 as we are term limited. It is imperative that we all work together to support NARFE and our values. Your federation is the anchor to promote our organization, and to support our chapters and represent all federation members. Let me know if you are willing to join the board – either as a committee chair or an elected officer.



I am hoping our Washington federation will have good representation at **FEDcon18**, the NARFE national conference in August. To help offset costs your federation is offering “scholarships” to attend –



\$500 to elected chapter officers and \$250 to **ANY** federation member. Your Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 is also offering funds to make your attendance less expensive. Prior to this conference you will be electing new national officers and voting on resolutions and bylaws changes that will affect the association. See page 3.

Switching gears I encourage you to take advantage of the NARFE webinars that are offered to all of us and to join the NARFE blog. The webinars are free to all members; you can sign up online. The blog is an effortless way for members to communicate with one another.

So, let's all celebrate our federation conference theme, NARFE's PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE, and continue to support and promote the value of belonging to NARFE.

## NARFE Federal Benefits Institute

### NARFE WEBINARS PROVIDING ANSWERS FOR THE FEDERAL COMMUNITY

**May 24 – How Much Do YOU Need for a Secure Retirement? (by Mark Keen, CFP)**

**June 21 – Steps to a Speedy Federal Retirement (by Tammy Flanagan)**

**July 26 – Survivor Benefits: Ensure Your Peace of Mind (by James Marshall)**

**ALL WEBINARS START AT 2 P.M., ET**

**Note: Previous webinars are “on demand” on the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).**

## WSFC District V VP – Mary Binder

The district's 3 chapters – Tri-Cities, Walla Walla and Yakima – will soon be ending another meeting year. All 3 chapters typically take a “meeting break” during July and August. However, chapter leaders will still be working for their members!

And, while leaders are continuing to work, I encourage all members to continue to stay engaged and informed. As Chapter President Lorie wrote in her article, “... we are all in this together ...”

Our Walla Walla chapter is now officially working toward closure. A target date is September 1. So, it will be a busy summer for that chapter's leaders as there is much involved in closing a chapter. As I reported in the last newsletter, the closure is primarily due to an ongoing challenge of getting members to step forward into leadership positions. Chapter leaders are working to ensure that all the chapter's members remain NARFE members, whether it is with another chapter or as a national-only member. As WSF President Nancy wrote, “... let's continue to support and promote the value of belonging to NARFE.” **5579**



**PUBLIC SERVICE  
RECOGNITION WEEK**

MAY 6-12, 2018

**Honoring Our Public Servants.  
Connecting Citizens with Their Government.**

***Celebrated the first week of May since 1985. Public Service Recognition Week is organized annually by the Public Employees Roundtable and member organizations to honor the men and women who serve our nation as federal, state, county and local government employees.***

## Legislative – Mary Binder

If you have been reading the *narfe* magazines and/or attending our chapter meetings, you know there are BIG changes this year to the “traditional” NARFE biennial national conventions. The changes include everything from a name change – “convention” to “conference” – to giving **each** member the opportunity to vote for national officers, and proposed bylaws and resolutions changes. For NARFE members, the new “one member, one vote” allows them to vote directly – not through a delegate, and whether or not they attend the conference. Yes, this is a BIG change for NARFE members BUT with it comes far more individual responsibility.



Starting May 10, online voting is scheduled to be available through the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). Then, in the June *narfe* magazine, members will find ballots they can use if they cannot or do not want to vote online. NARFE’s goal is to ensure all members know about voting, and their options and how to use them.

For members, this means everything from reading about the candidates running for the NARFE president and secretary/treasurer positions, to becoming familiar with the proposed bylaws changes and resolutions submitted. Information has been in the recent *narfe* magazines and is on the NARFE website.



To further assist YOU, our chapter members, our May and June chapter meeting “programs” will primarily focus on the voting – the candidates running; highlights of proposed bylaws changes and resolutions; and, more details about the voting procedures. Further, we are targeting having at least one computer at the meetings to actually be able to assist members with voting. And yes, there will be time for questions and answers!

And speaking of voting, WSFC President Nancy Crosby sent an email April 1 to all federation members with email addresses listed with NARFE. One member, one vote is also being used preparatory to our May federation biennial conference. Members have the opportunity to vote for federation officers and the revised federation bylaws. Due to time constraints, paper ballots are not available. However, chapter leaders and other chapter members with computers can assist you if you do not use or do not want to use a computer for voting. So, do not hesitate to ask a leader or another member! **Voting closes May 10!**



If you cannot attend the chapter meetings and have voting questions, please contact me. Again, the goal is to ensure ALL members have voting information, know/understand the procedures, and then, **VOTE!**

## 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-PAC – Bob Stewart

First, a reminder – NARFE is working to protect our benefits but needs our help!



The NARFE website and monthly *narfe* magazine are good sources for the proposed legislation and issues NARFE is working on for us. Examples include opposing: reducing the government contribution to federal health insurance premiums; using the Chained CPI for cost-of-living adjustments; and, reducing the TSP G Fund rate of return. **4794**

NARFE also is taking positions on “legislative priorities” such as opposing: across-the-board federal employee compensation cuts; requiring postal retirees to take Medicare Part B to maintain their FEHB coverage; and, unwise civil service reform policies that would undermine the effectiveness of the federal work force. NARFE supports reform of the Windfall Elimination Provision.

Supporting NARFE-PAC helps NARFE’s legislative department with its work on Capitol Hill. NARFE-PAC is on the same 2-year cycle as Congress. Contribution and disbursement information is posted quarterly on the NARFE website, for example, for the “fifth quarter” of the 2017-2018 cycle that ended March 31.

At the end of the fifth quarter, our Tri-Cities chapter members had contributed \$2,185.00 to NARFE-PAC. This put the chapter 6th of the state’s 20 chapters; and, with 45 contributors, we ranked 4th. Further, at 6, we tied for first place with Bremerton Chapter 181 for sustainers.

Also at the end of March, Washington State contributors had given \$33,022.70 to NARFE-PAC – the 6th most of all 50 states, and D.C. and U.S. territories. Considering our state is far from the largest, the ranking is notable. Further, at 34 sustainers, the state ranked 4th within the same group! So, please continue to give. Thank you!



## Return Service Requested

### NARFE

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

### Alzheimer's Research – Larry Williams

With the new tax reform law, some NARFE members may be concerned about the tax deductibility of their donations to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. The donation can still be deducted, but only if you itemize your deductions; and, with the changes, it is less likely tax filers will itemize their deductions.



However, there is another way to ensure you get some tax relief for your NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund donation – using your IRA and a method called Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). If you direct your IRA custodian to directly issue a check to a charity, that distribution does not count as a taxable distribution that you need to include in your income; but, it does count toward your Required Minimum Distribution total for the year.

The bad news for many retired federal employees is that this rule does not apply for TSP distributions. However, if you first roll over some or all of your TSP fund to an IRA, the QCD rule can be used to make charitable distributions from that IRA.

### Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor

**Welcome:** Janice Lake (survivor annuitant of member Al Lake); William Ross (transfer from Tacoma Chapter 163); David Smith

**Welcome Back:** Lynn Jones

**Transfer to National Only:** Hank Hess; Linda Montoya; Barry Richards; Margaret Winhofer

**Reminder!** If **ANY** of your contact information changes, please let me know and I can update change our chapter and national information.

This includes when your are "temporarily away" such as during the summer or winter months. This can help conserve chapter resources as each returned newsletter is an additional 50 cents to resend.



**Hidden Numbers:** March/April newsletter numbers belonged to: Mary Ellen Amundsen; Dianne Henrich; Pamela Zimmerman. Sorry, no winners! 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!



### Webmaster – Larry Williams

Question – do you know there is a lot of chapter information on our chapter website, [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org)? You can find the menus and programs for our monthly meetings; also, minutes of our chapter and executive board meetings, and treasurer's reports.



### Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

While sounding like a broken record, **please** remember to keep the chapter updated with your contact changes. Thank you! My contact information is:

**Ph: 509.492.4304; Email: [griff.fisher1@gmail.com](mailto:griff.fisher1@gmail.com).**



### Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger



**Condolences** to the family of member Jim Stover on his passing; member Richard Heusser on the passing of his wife, Nadine.

**Get Well wishes** to James Rodriguez, Sig Preston and Lorie Bennett.

**Know someone needing a little "sunshine" or a special-occasion card?** Call me, or email me at: [einvlieger@aol.com](mailto:einvlieger@aol.com).



 <p>Food Drive</p>	<p><b>THANK YOU!</b> <b>MARCH MEETING FOOD DRIVE</b> <b>\$325 cash; 69 pounds of food!</b></p>
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 <p>HAPPY MOTHERS DAY</p>	<p>Remembering all moms and dads, May 13 and June 17!</p>	 <p>HAPPY FATHER'S DAY</p>
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