



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

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

NARFE: www.narfe.org Washington Federation: www.narfe.org/wa/ Tri-Cities: www.narfe1192.org

Announcement! Public Service Recognition Week, May 4-10. Thank you public servants!

2025 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Vice President, Mary Binder	509.378.2494
Secretary, Debbie Carlson	509.380.7210
Treasurer, Liz Bowers	509.430.1836
Alzheimer's, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Caller Coordinator, Darleen Wall	623.556.0869
Legislative, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.375.0739
NARFE-PAC, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Service Officer, Nancy Crosby (Acting)	509.735.3288
Sunshine, Faye Vlieger	509.961.1095
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554

CHAPTER MEETINGS/PROGRAMS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August

11:30 a.m., CG Public House and Catering, Kennewick

Lunch: \$25; RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

(Vegetarian meals available, if ordered ahead)

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

Note: Executive Board meetings are virtual; days/times vary.

Upcoming Chapter Meetings

May 7 – Tiffany Mason, teacher, Richland, School District, will provide information on QUEST, an inspiring special program for students identified as “highly capable and gifted.”



Menu: tri-tip & pulled-pork sliders, macaroni salad, coleslaw, chips, dessert

June 4 – Charmine Faulkner, RN administrator, will provide information on Hanford Home Health's in-home services to DOE retirees and families.



Menu: cheeseburger, baked beans, potato salad, chips, dessert

May – June, Volume 2025, Issue 3

President – Nancy Crosby

Winter wasn't bad, spring has been lovely, and even more sunshine and warmer weather are around the corner! As a reminder, June will be our last chapter meeting before our annual July/August break. Monthly meetings will then resume Wednesday, September 3.



As I have written in previous newsletters and announced at chapter meetings, this fall we will have elections for our chapter's 2026/2027 four officer positions – president, vice president, secretary, treasurer. Current officers, and appointed function coordinators such as for membership, PR, Alzheimer's, etc., have met or exceeded their 2-year term commitment. Our chapter still exists and is successful as members have volunteered to help lead it since its start in 1971. Please consider serving in one of these positions, and please contact me if you have questions, want more information, and/or want to serve. Thank you.

Our May 7 meeting program will provide an opportunity to learn about “QUEST,” one of the Richland School District's Highly Capable Programs. QUEST stands for “Question to Understand, Endeavor, Seek, Triumph.” Tiffany Mason is a QUEST teacher and our speaker. She will explain the program and share information about what she and her teammates do every day for this special set of students. **[Note! A few students may attend, too, to share their stories!]** I hope you can join us.

May 31 – a special event! Our chapter is again looking forward to a Dust Devils baseball game with special seating in the Bully Pen and a BBQ. Thank you to member Laney Kruschke for arranging this event!



Then, Hanford Home Health PLLC, has offered to host our June 4 meeting! Administrator Charmine Faulkner will provide information on the in-home services HHH has for DOE retirees and families. Charmine and her family are White Bluff and Hanford natives. Hanford has been in her heart her entire life. Again, I hope you can join us!

For Chapter and National-Only Members Outside the Tri-Cities Area!
You are MOST WELCOME to attend a chapter meeting, including lunch! A RESERVATION IS NEEDED. Please call Nancy Crosby or Darleen Wall by noon, Sunday, prior to a chapter meeting. See phone numbers, above.

	Remembering Moms and Dads May 11 and June 15!	
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Vice President – Mary Binder

A short personal story to follow up on President Nancy's article, page 1, regarding this year's chapter officer elections. Many years ago when I was quite new to NARFE, and definitely still overwhelmed by the acronyms, the structure, what other members seemed to know that I did not ... I learned of an unanticipated chapter leadership change that ultimately left the secretary's position vacant. As I observed the change, I thought about the secretary's position. I knew I could probably take and transcribe minutes, despite my newness to NARFE. I also knew there would be others to turn to when I needed help. So, I volunteered to serve. The rest is history but that was how I got more involved. If I could do it, I KNOW other members can, too. As we've shared many times, THE PRIMARY REASON chapters have folded is lack of volunteers willing to help lead. Please don't let our chapter be another such statistic. Thank you for considering helping lead.



Service Officer (Acting) – Nancy Crosby

We are busy! Between myself, VP Mary Binder and Ellen Le Vee, chapter member/retired federal benefits specialist, we have been receiving frequent queries from both chapter members and non-members who are federal employees, retirees or spouses about everything from the repeal of the GPO/WEP to health benefits and other federal benefits issues. While we don't always have the answers, we can be a conduit for individuals and get them pointed to individuals, and/or sources, who can be of assistance. Don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions and/or refer individuals to us if you think we can assist them.

For members who receive payments from the repeal of GPO/WEP, a reminder that there MAY be tax implications, an affect on your Medicare Part B premiums, etc. Suggest consulting your tax or financial advisor.



And, a reminder – NARFE's Federal Benefits Institute webinars are FREE for members! Past webinars are available on-demand, including the Q&A sessions. Here is a list of several recently recorded webinars:

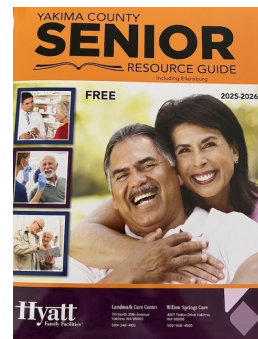
- ◆ Pre-Retirement Planning
- ◆ Tax Planning for Retired Feds
- ◆ Advocacy Priorities Amid Emerging Threats and Historic Success
- ◆ Stay or Go: Considering the "Deferred Resignation" Offer, Retirement Options, and Potential Options
- ◆ Know Your Rights and Obligations Following Trump Executive Orders

WSF Eastern Washington VP – Mary Binder

Tri-Cities area members! The 2025/2026 *Tri-Cities Senior Resource Guide* has been released. These **free guides** were at the Tri-Cities Chapter 1192's April meeting, and will be at future meetings, too. The chapter's ad is on page 39.

Yakima area members! The 2025/2026 *Yakima County Senior Resource Guide*, which includes Ellensburg, was recently released and distributed in your area, per the publisher. Our NARFE ad is on page 26. Need a copy? Let me know.

Wenatchee area members! A reminder that the 2025/2026 *Chelan & Douglas Counties Senior Resource Guide* was released a couple months ago. Our NARFE ad is on page 9. Need a copy? Let me know.



And, I just recently learned the publisher is planning a guide for the **Walla Walla area**! So, for our members in that area, watch for updates in future newsletters. Finally, a reminder to our members in the **Moses Lake area**, a guide is in the works for your area, too.

Looking ahead to the fall, several Eastern Washington areas will have a Walk to End Alzheimer's. Because of NARFE's long-standing involvement with Alzheimer's research and the more than \$16M raised, NARFE is now able to have a free table at the Walks, if space is available. Several of our NARFE Washington State Federation chapters have taken advantage of this and had a table/NARFE presence at the Walks the past few years. For Eastern Washington, this has included the Spokane and Tri-Cities areas.

This year I am hoping to expand our NARFE presence at the Walks to others areas. The Alzheimer's Eastern Washington Walk coordinator is based in the Tri-Cities, where I am also based. I have had a preliminary discussion with her regarding expanding our presence and will be meeting with her soon regarding possibilities. Following is the Eastern Washington Walk schedule, to date:

- ◆ September 13, Moses Lake
- ◆ September 27, Wenatchee
- ◆ September 27, Lewiston, Clarkston, Moscow, Pullman
- ◆ October 4, Richland (Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 will cover this Walk.)
- ◆ October 11, Yakima
- ◆ October 11, Spokane (Spokane Chapter 32 will cover this Walk.)

If you are outside the Tri-Cities area and are interested in assisting me, e.g., helping staff the NARFE table and/or have ideas/suggestions, **please contact me!** I need help!

My contact information: M: 509.378.2494 (leave a message); Email: mary_binder@msn.com.

Public Relations – Mary Binder

Spring is here with summer and then fall close behind. So, our busy “outreach season” is underway!

It started April 15 with the Spring Senior Times Expo, Southridge Sports Complex, Kennewick. We joined 100 vendors with about 175 individuals staffing booths and more than 500 seniors at the event! Thank you, President Nancy, Secretary



Debbie and member Janice Lake for helping staff our table.

*Mark
Your
Calendar*

For your calendars, below are other known events. **If you are interested/can help at any of these events, please let me know.** And, as the outreach goal is to increase the number of events we support, we are continuing to search for and work on other opportunities, e.g., see my article, page 2, regarding Walks to End Alzheimer’s in Eastern Washington!

- ♦ **September 18** – 20th Annual All Community Senior Picnic, HAPO Center, Richland
- ♦ **October 4** – Walk to End Alzheimer’s, John Dam Plaza, Richland (*More details on page 4.*)
- ♦ **October 14** – Fall Senior Times Expo, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Southridge Sports Complex, Kennewick
- ♦ **October 18** – Stand Down & Veterans Benefit Fair, Sun Dome, State Fair Park, Yakima, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- ♦ **November 14** – Tri-Cities Veterans Resource Expo & Stand Down, Southridge Sports & Events Complex, Kennewick, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- ♦ **November 15** – staffing the coat check at the annual Tri-Cities Wine Festival, 7 to 10 p.m., Three Rivers Convention Center



A reminder about the monthly **Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce luncheons!** Our chapter is a Chamber member, therefore, lunches are at the “member” rate, which is typically \$36. Dates to note:

- ♦ **May 28** – State Legislative Session Wrap Up, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Pasco Red Lion;
 - ♦ **June 25** – location/program TBD.
- Looking further ahead, **August 27**, U.S. Congressman Dan Newhouse and a legislative update. Details to follow.



Legislative/NARFE-PAC – Mary Binder

“These are the times that try men’s souls...”
(*The American Crisis*, Thomas Paine, December 23, 1776). This opening phrase to Paine’s now historic pamphlet came to my mind recently. While written

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 #130, Richland, WA 99354

Phone: 509.713.7374; Fax: 509.713.7377

The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate

Phone: 202.224.2621; Fax: 202.224.0238

<https://www.murray.senate.gov>

402 East Yakima Ave., Suite 420, Yakima, WA 98901

Phone: 509.453.7462; Fax: 509.453.7731

The Honorable Maria Cantwell, U.S. Senate

Phone: 202.224.3441; Fax: 202.228.0514

<https://www.cantwell.senate.gov/contact/email>

825 Jadwin Ave., Suites 206, Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

for a different reason, I think it is at least somewhat applicable today. Bottom line, this is not the first time our federal work force has faced challenging times. While it may be easier to sit back and let others speak, NARFE continues to encourage feds “with a story to tell about the current situation with the federal workforce” to “let NARFE know by telling your story.” (See page 13, *May NARFE Magazine*. The website for this is: <https://www.narfe.org/testimonial-web-form/>.)



NARFE-PAC

Thank you to all members who contributed and/or made an extra contribution during March, which was NARFE’s annual NARFE-PAC month. EVERY contribution is very much appreciated and needed, especially during these challenging and uncertain times. Please continue to support this PAC – with a contribution at a chapter meeting, using the form in the *May NARFE Magazine*, page 11, or by becoming a NARFE “sustainer” with an automatic minimum monthly deduction of at least \$10 via a credit card or through an annuity deduction. (For more details, go to www.narfe.org/pac-sustainer.) Again, **thank you!**




June 9-11 – NARFE’s biennial legislative conference during the early months of the 2-year congressional cycle. It will be virtual so the only cost is registration, which the federation and chapter are targeting to reimburse members. The cost: \$160/members; \$195/non-members. **Details on page 10 and pages 38-39, May NARFE Magazine, or at www.narfe.org**, then NARFE Events. Scroll to **LEGcon25**, then click the “Learn more.”

Return Service Requested

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

UPCOMING!


 Armed Forces Day, May 17; 
 Memorial Day, May 26; D-Day, June 6;
 Flag Day/Army Birthday, June 14

Treasurer – Liz Bowers

As of mid April, the chapter had more than \$21,200.00 in its Gesa accounts. So, overall, our financial status is stable, which is good news. I love good news!



Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor

Recruiting: As of April 21, our Tri-Cities chapter had **485** members – **224**/chapter;

261/national-only in the chapter area – an increase of 12 members since my last newsletter report and a trend I hope continues!! We are now the 4th largest chapter in the state ... after Seattle, Bremerton and Olympia/Timberline!

New: Marlene Canatsey; Junior Helvey, Ruth Monahan; Mick Mueller; Cindy Sundblad. **Welcome!**

Reinstated: James Kautzky; Joseph Pavlinac; Lori Peters; Betty Robertson; Russell Warren. **Welcome back!**

Distinguished members (20 years continuous membership): Barbara Crouch; Carolyn Lord; Cynthia Rezac; Edward Hecker. **Thank you!**

Dues withholding: I am pleased to report many long-time members are converting to the dues withholding option! Only \$4.33/month. SEND NO MONEY! SAVE MONEY! No more renewal worries.

Note! Want to stop receiving donation materials, e.g., calendars, note pads, labels? If so, send a written request to: NARFE, Denise Curry, Membership Data Lead, 606 N. Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314-1914; OR email: dcurry@narfe.org. Include your name AND membership number. Don't have a computer? Need assistance? Let me know! I am happy to assist you.

Contact info: Ph: 509.375.0739;
Email: annahojx2@gmail.com.



Webmaster – Larry Williams

The federation website is a **GREAT** resource, www.narfe.org/wa.

TO:

CALLER COORDINATOR UPDATES!

I know I sound like a broken record, but I have to yet again ask members on our callers' lists to **please, please, PLEASE help your caller by returning their calls!** We want to know that you received the call, if you are planning to attend the monthly meeting, have lunch, etc.



NOTE! If you no longer want to be called, want a text or email instead of a call, **PLEASE** let me know. Thank you.

Contact info: Darleen Wall, (H) 623.556.0869;
Email: jdwall2@frontier.com.

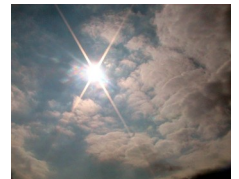
Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger

(Since the March/April newsletter)

Members passing – condolences:

Laverna Brunton; Paul F.X. Dunigan;
Richard Mayo; Sherri Scheer

Know someone needing a little “sunshine” or a special-occasion card? Call me, 509.961.1095, or email me, einvlieger@aol.com.



Alzheimer’s Research Fund – Larry Williams

Upcoming events, below; more details in coming months:

- ◆ **October 4**, annual Walk to End Alzheimer’s, John Dam Plaza, Richland. The chapter’s team is registered and we’ll again have a NARFE table. To register with our team and/or to donate, go to www.alz.org/walk. Click on “Find A Team.” Type “NARFE Chapter 1192” in “Team Name” box. Hope you can join us!
- ◆ **November 5**, annual chapter “white elephant” fundraiser for the Alzheimer’s Research Fund. Are you doing spring housecleaning? If so, think about an item or items you could bring!
- ◆ **November 15**, Tri-Cities Wine Festival, Three Rivers Convention Center. The chapter will again staff the coat check. Volunteers needed!

