



November: Bring items for white elephant auction for Alzheimer's research!

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

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
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
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

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.

November 5 – White Elephant Auction for
NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund – **bring items!**

Menu: pot roast with roasted potatoes

NOTE: Meeting will be in the hotel lounge!

December 3 – Holiday performance by members of
Rolling Hills Chorus of Sweet Adelines International
Menu: turkey dinner w/dressing & mashed potatoes

SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT*

Balance forward, August 31	\$10,138.41
September income	\$ 2,048.22
September expenditures	\$ 2,221.33
Dedicated funds thru September 30	\$ 1,426.00
Balance on hand, September 30	\$ 8,539.30

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

Note! 2015 budget input needed.

Contact Treasurer Nancy Crosby.

November – December, Volume 2014, Issue 6

Chapter President – Don Binder

At the August NARFE national convention, there were significant discussions about "Future NARFE." To further pursue this initiative, members voted to have a strategic planning committee established not later than February 1. Stay tuned!



By more than 80% approval, members also voted to eliminate 2 national officer positions – vice president and secretary – leaving just a president and new secretary/treasurer positions. They elected current treasurer, Dick Thissen, president, and Jon Dowie, secretary/treasurer.

Our Region IX vice-president, Lanny Ross, ran unopposed for what he insists will be his last 2-year term. We are grateful he has agreed to continue serving as our representative. He is now the longest-serving member on the NARFE National Executive Board.

Last year by a unanimous vote at our September chapter meeting, members approved changes to our chapter bylaws. Included in the changes – all elected positions would be for 2-year vs. 1-year terms. Therefore, no elections this fall as all current elected officers are completing their first year of the new 2-year term.

Long-time chapter and federation leader, Carl Gallion, has resigned as our hospitality chairman. While Carl is still very much a Chapter 1192 member, he did not believe he could continue to perform the required duties. Carl, we cannot thank you enough for all the years of incredible service in numerous chapter leadership positions, including president, and as our federation district vice president.

Also resigning, our long-time parliamentarian, Mable Rutt, due to a health issue. As with Carl, we will miss her in the chapter leadership, appreciate her continued membership and wish her all the best.

Hope to see you at our November meeting, the day after Election Day. **Also, bring an item for our white elephant auction for NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund!**



1st VP/Service Office – Lorie Bennett

Did you know our chapter is now the only one in the Washington federation to have a service office? So, if you haven't visited the office recently, or maybe never have visited, why not plan a visit some Tuesday morning to the Federal Building, Richland, between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Our volunteers would enjoy telling you about this special office!



2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

Forgot a meeting date? Want to know the lunch menu for an upcoming chapter lunch? What about the meeting's featured program? Or, want to read meeting minutes? Find this information and more on our chapter website, www.narfe1192.org.



Director at Large – Steve Howes

Several weeks ago, I was at a hospital cancer center visiting a friend and former Forest Service colleague in the final stages of life. This was not a happy time and it was difficult for me to see Jill, a once beautiful and vibrant person, in her current situation. However, I was positively impressed by the volunteer staff and their efforts in assisting patients, family members, nurses and physicians deal with cancer's impacts.

People volunteer for a variety of reasons. Some are purely altruistic in nature; people often derive a certain amount of personal satisfaction by being involved in charitable activities. Some, like myself, volunteer for other reasons; for example, enjoying and getting satisfaction from a particular activity. Others volunteer because they believe strongly in a particular cause or political candidate – I do not always appreciate their tenacity but I certainly admire their perseverance. So, all types of volunteers are needed, and many organizations rely on volunteers to help accomplish their objectives.



Our local NARFE chapter is no exception. Currently, only a small dedicated group shoulders the workload of keeping the chapter viable. If we are to be successful in the future and recruit new members, retain existing members, and be at the forefront of NARFE activities at the national level, more volunteers will be asked to donate their time and talents. **1324**

I am sure many of you already volunteer your time at church or other chosen organizations or activities. However, if you believe in NARFE's mission and feel

strongly about the continued success of our local chapter, I urge you to become more involved in chapter activities to the extent your schedule or skill allows.

In 2016 our district's 3 chapters will be hosting the WSFC biennial convention. Many volunteers will be required to help make it a success. In the meantime, consider helping on chapter-sponsored fundraising activities; and, there are many other ways for each of you to become more involved in chapter operations. Contact any of your chapter officers to see how you can help. **2055**



District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

FEHBP open season is November 10 to December 8! We'll have new rate information and some brochures at upcoming chapter meetings. But, the OPM website has much more information about the different health benefits options available. Per OPM, on average, federal employees' healthcare premiums will rise 3.2 percent in 2015.

The 2016 WSFC convention planning is moving along! Signed contracts are in place with the Three Rivers Convention Center and the new Marriott Springhill Suites attached to the convention center in Kennewick. Room rates will be at 2016 per diem rates. Meals at the convention center also will be at per diem rates with some selections offered. We will invite a NARFE national representative when we determine the convention's focus: legislative; training; outreach; recruiting/retention, etc. The dates are May 15-17, 2016. And yes, we will need many, MANY volunteers from all 3 District V chapters!

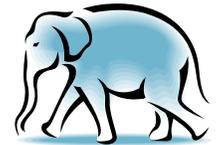
2016 WSFC Convention

May 15-17, 2016
Three Rivers Convention Center and
Marriott Springhill Suites, Kennewick
Mark your calendars! Volunteers needed!



Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

November is Alzheimer's month and our chapter will be having its annual white elephant auction fundraiser – our primary fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund for the last 4 years. ***Please remember to bring something for the auction!*** The auction allows you the opportunity to get rid of things you no longer want, and perhaps acquire some things for yourself or as a perfect gift for someone else. Remember, all proceeds go to Alzheimer's research.



On October 10, NARFE reached its \$11 million goal for its Alzheimer's Research Fund. The new NARFE goal is \$12 million by the 2016 NARFE national convention. Thank you to all who have contributed since NARFE started this initiative in 1985, and now, let's begin the work toward the new \$12 million goal! **2776**

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

As we write this article, we have received our ballots for the November 4 election. For all our chapter members in Washington State, you also should have received yours. For our members who go to a polling place, we face the same hard decisions – who to vote for this year for our members of Congress. They'll be taking their oath January 3.



For chapter members living outside Washington's 4th Congressional District, we strongly suggest you review the voting record of the incumbent House and Senate members, pages 30-40, October *narfe* magazine. If like those of us in the 4th district you have an open seat, study issue papers, websites, news articles and, if possible, attend debates or other venues to hear the candidates, all of which should aid you in reaching a conclusion regarding who should earn your vote.

While there are many issues still very much on the radar of various members of Congress, e.g., postal reform, we still believe the only potential cause for concern is when Congress debates what we expect to be a "continuing resolution." President Obama signed the existing one that funds the federal government through December 11. Thus, some action will need to be taken during the "lame-duck" session of Congress that begins November 12. Various members have differing views, but know the NARFE headquarters legislative staff and the 2 of us will continue to pay particular attention to any issues that could potentially have a negative impact on current and retired federal employees.



So, bottom line, exercise your right as a citizen and VOTE!



NARFE-PAC – Steve Howes

There are several good reasons to donate to NARFE's PAC. Six are listed in the newly update NARFE-PAC toolkit:

- Donations help achieve NARFE's legislative goals.
- All contributions are individual and voluntary.
- Contributions help provide clout to NARFE's political activities, i.e., a means by which individuals can, in some way, have an influence on important congressional elections in states other than where they live.
- May help gain congressional support for issues important to NARFE when such support may help elected officials retain their seats.
- PAC contributions often coincide with candidate fundraisers in districts, states or in D.C. These interactions promote networking and aid in future lobbying and grassroots actions.

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 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://cantwell.senate.gov/contact/index.dfm>

825 Jadwin Ave., Stes 204/204A, Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

- NARFE has helped some of its most ardent supporters raise funding to advance to leadership positions and influence the congressional legislative agenda.

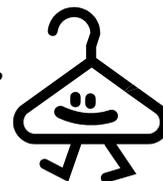
As current and retired federal employees, our rights and benefits are often in the crosshairs when the need arises to reduce the federal budget. Therefore, we need to have a collective voice that will help us be heard over the clamor of other competing interests. Your contributions to NARFE-PAC will help amplify our voice.

While contributing to NARFE-PAC may seem a bit like "spitting into the wind," if we do nothing, the chances of achieving our political objectives will certainly be zero. Your **continuing** contributions, and your active involvement in the political process, will definitely contribute to NARFE's long-term success.



Public Relations – Mary Binder

A chapter fundraising opportunity for NARFE Alzheimer's research – **staffing the coat-check room, Saturday, November 15, at the 36th Tri-Cities Wine Festival, 6:30 to 10 p.m., Three Rivers Convention Center, Kennewick.** This will also be an opportunity to provide more visibility for our chapter and NARFE! A sign-up sheet for shifts again will be at the November chapter meeting; but, feel free to contact me with questions and/or to sign up!



Sunshine News – Mary Binder

Condolences to: Members Sig Preston and Judy Zachary on the passing of their sisters-in-law. To the family of member Leona Robinson.

Thinking-of-you card to: member Eberhart Reimers and his wife.

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





Return Service Requested

NARFE

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



Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome new member: Michael Ganley

Transfer in: John Edward Hecker

Welcome back: William (Bill) Fuzak

Dues withholding: Allan Erhart.

Retirees! Dues withholding saves you money!

Receive a one-time, \$15 combined rebate from our WSFC and chapter for signing up. Only \$3.67/monthly taken from your annuity. Contact me, 308.6664, if you need information and/or the withholding form.

Recruitment incentives through December 31!

- NARFE will give recruiters \$10 for each new member, current employee or retired, who joins between September 1 and December 31. Applications must be postmarked, and calls or website joins must be received, by December 31.
- All September-through-December recruiters will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire, once for each new member they've recruited.
- And, WSFC will give the chapter \$20 for each new chapter member recruited in 2014!



Health fairs recap: Our local FEHBP health fairs were October 14-15. Chapter volunteers were at fairs at Social Security, TSA, the Federal Building and the Stevens Center. NARFE membership information and FEHBP brochures were also dropped off at several other federal offices. Contact information was collected from about 30 “prospects.” These will be added to those collected at the July health fairs. All will be eligible for our free memberships drawing.

Snowbirds: Email and/or address changes needed! Contact Nancy Crosby or myself via email or phone.

Hidden numbers: The September/October newsletter hidden numbers belonged to: Paul Dunigan; W.C. Johnson; Betty Robertson. No calls, no winners! Find 3 new numbers “hidden” in this newsletter – **the last 4 digits of a member’s number**. Contact me, 308.6664, and win \$5!



Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

When callers leave you a message, please return the call! This helps the callers with our meeting lunch counts. Thanks! And, if you need, my contact information is: **Ph: 509.492.4304; email: pgriff1@earthlink.net.**



Veterans Day 2014
November 11



Veterans Day is an annual federal and state holiday in America honoring 24.9 million U.S. military veterans. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day in the 11th month, the world rejoiced and celebrated because after 4 years of bitter war, the Allied powers signed a cease-fire agreement, an armistice, with Germany at Rethondes, France, on November 11, 1918. This brought WWI to a close. November 11, 1919, was set aside as Armistice Day in the U.S. to remember the sacrifices that men and women made during WWI to ensure a lasting peace. (Source: www.usafederalholidays.com)

UPDATE!
**2015 Cost- of-Living Adjustment = 1.7%,
effective January 1.**