



**Volunteers Needed for Officer and Chairman Positions, See Below.**

# 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

<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, Larry Williams</b>	509.783.8554
<b>Secretary, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509.585.1393
<b>Treasurer, Nancy Crosby</b>	509.735.3288
<b>Director-at-Large, Liz Bowers</b>	509.430.1836
<b>Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart</b>	509.531.3118
<b>Alzheimer's, Larry Williams</b>	509.783.8554
<b>Legislative, Mary Binder</b>	509.585.1393
<b>Membership, Johanna Caylor</b>	509.375.0739
<b>NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart</b>	509.531.3118
<b>Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509.585.1393
<b>Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509.585.1393
<b>Service Office, Lorie Bennett</b>	509.531.2745
<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: \$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.

**September 6** – Julie Wiley, Arts Center Task Force fund-raising chair, to provide a presentation on the proposed Vista Arts Center at Vista Field.



**Menu: grilled beef, broccoli w/teriyaki sauce, rice**

**October 4** – Learn more about NARFE, how it operates, its programs and services. Board members will conduct information and Q&A sessions.



**Menu: bacon-wrapped meatloaf w/mashed potatoes, vegetables**

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

## **JULY TREASURER'S REPORT\***

Balance forward, June 30	\$10,533.15
July income	\$ 235.94
July expenditures	\$ 71.31
Dedicated funds thru July 31	\$ 1,077.00
Balance on hand, July 31	\$ 9,620.78

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

## **September – October, Volume 2017, Issue 5**

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

As we approach fall, I am rejoicing! Cooler weather will soon be here and bring relief from our sizzling summer.

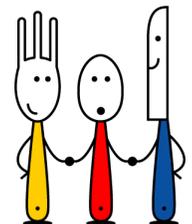


This fall will also bring our chapter members the opportunity to vote for chapter board members for 2-year terms. To date our chapter has been successful because member participation has been great. Also, the board puts a real effort into providing positive and interesting programs. The majority of board members have been at it for a long time. As president I am asking you, our members, to step forward and volunteer for a position. New officers will bring welcome knowledge and support to the chapter.



All elected positions – president, 1st and 2nd vice president, secretary, treasurer and the 2 directors at large positions are up for re-election with the current secretary, treasurer and 2nd vice president being term-limited by the chapter's bylaws. So again, please consider stepping forward to fill one of these positions. Call me if you have questions and/or need more information.

On another issue, we are working with the Red Lion on our 2018 meeting and lunch contract. At our September 6 chapter meeting, members will be asked to identify their top 3 meal choices from this year. The results will be compiled and provided at the October meeting for member approval. **1123**



These past months have been very challenging for the NARFE headquarters staff, in particular, for Legislative Department staff as there has been and will continue to be much happening in the legislative arena. So, let us all help them to continue to help us by responding to their requests to contact our U.S. congressman and senators to let them know our issues and how we would like them to vote. Again, the NARFE Legislative Department has step-by-step information for doing this on the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).

## Treasurer – Nancy Crosby

Yes, believe it or not, it is time to start preparing the 2018 chapter budget. I've already asked all officers and committee chairmen to submit their funding requests to me. I will prepare a draft budget to present to the membership for approval at our November chapter meeting.

# Budget

Our chapter is a dues-paying member of the Tri-City Regional Chamber of Commerce. The chamber has monthly luncheon meetings with interesting programs



focusing on our communities that I am sure you would enjoy. For example, in August, Congressman Dan Newhouse provided his annual update. As a member, our chapter receives a discounted lunch price. Please contact me, or Mary Binder, for lunch registration information.

## 2nd VP/Webmaster – Larry Williams

In the summer NARFE Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) *Federation Reporter* newsletter, WSFC Service Officer Charlie Caughlan wrote, "All Medicare cards will be replaced with new numbers by 2019. Currently, the number on Medicare cards is essentially an individual's Social Security Number (SSN). While using that number probably made sense back in 1965 when the program was enacted, in this day and age of computers, using SSNs is not a good idea. It is just too easy for someone to steal an individual's identity with a SSN. The new Medicare numbers will be randomly generated digits and letters to protect against identity theft."

Charlie further stated that with more than 57 million Medicare recipients, it will take time to transition to the new numbering system. When new cards arrive, shred old cards. **Further, there may be scammers out there, who may sound official, asking for a member's current Medicare number so they can send a new card. Be alert! Be aware!**



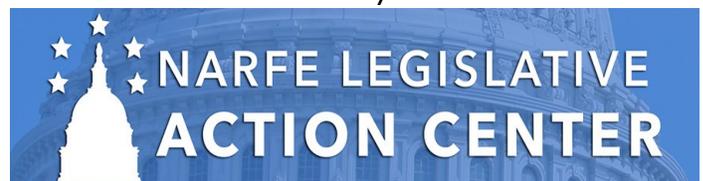
**WSFC President – Nancy Crosby**  
**Membership recruiting and retention MUST BE the focus for our Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) – both at the federation and chapter levels.** To note, we are in the process of closing 2 state chapters for lack of leadership and chapter support. Even though these chapters have more than 250 members each, they cannot get

members to step up and fill the necessary leadership positions for a successful, healthy chapter. This is a great loss to our federation and to the members who depend on their chapters to keep them informed on the issues affecting their earned benefits. So, when your chapter calls on you to run for an elected office, volunteer for a committee or become more involved, please step up. Preserving our chapters is vital to NARFE's success.

From September 1 through December 31, NARFE is offering a \$10 rebate to recruiters for each new member they recruit. Also, our WSFC gives a chapter a \$20 rebate for each new chapter paid membership in 2017.

The NARFE membership and renewal forms are being updated at the insistence of the federation presidents at their July meeting in Jacksonville, Fla. The revised forms will focus more on chapter memberships. Many new and renewing members have been inadvertently joining or renewing at the "national-only" level not realizing there is a local chapter option or, for renewing members, that they dropped their chapter membership.

August was NARFE Grassroots Advocacy Month. Many chapter members in our federation attended town halls, had visits with their representatives, etc., and now will continue to work on building positive relationships with their congressional contacts. Even though this is not an election year, it is imperative that we are involved in learning about our congressional candidates. Check out the NARFE Legislative Department's Legislative Action Center on the national website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), for current and future activities. Stay involved!!!!



There will be a federation board meeting October 23 in Tacoma. All federation members are always welcome to attend. Also, let me know if there are any issues you would like the board to address. **1615**

## WSFC District V VP – Mary Binder

Yes, fall is upon us; so, chapter meetings are resuming for all 3 of the district's chapters – Tri-Cities Chapter 1192; Walla Walla Chapter 237; and, Yakima Chapter 238.

Looking ahead to 2018, it will be another busy NARFE year with 2 conferences: the WSFC statewide conference, May 15-16, Mirabeau Hotel and Convention Center, Spokane Valley; and the NARFE national conference, August 26-29, Hyatt Regency Riverfront, Jacksonville, Fla.

Mark  
Your  
Calendar

## Legislative – Mary Binder

In a recent NARFE Legislative Department electronic “Advocacy Alert” email, there was a reference to NARFE’s “Three Top Legislative Priorities.” They are: prevent harmful budget proposals; modify postal reform legislation (H.R. 756); and, support the TSP Modernization Act (S. 873/H.R. 3031). Copies of the “issue brief” with key points will be available at the September 6 chapter meeting. If you cannot attend and want a copy, please contact me.

The same alert message contained good information for all of us when either meeting, or writing to, our elected officials about an issue. To note, “In congressional meetings, your role as a NARFE member is to humanize an issue and help your legislator understand the impact policy changes would have on their constituents. You have a unique opportunity to be a catalyst for change if you structure your messaging around the issue in a personal and memorable way.”



So, how to do this? The Legislative Department staff wrote that, “A successful story is easy to remember, simple to articulate, and reduced to the core elements of NARFE’s mission. If your story is simple it will be more memorable, and if you lay out the key reasons that you opposed or support the legislation at hand, you will have a compelling perspective for the legislator to consider when deciding whether to support or oppose the legislation you discussed.

“Whether you customize a message from NARFE’s Legislative Action Center or tell your personal story to your legislator or their staff at a meeting or event, NARFE’s position will come across stronger when accompanied by a relevant and powerful story.” Bottom line – simple and to the point! **7968**

## NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

The July/August chapter newsletter provided a general recap of our chapter’s PAC contributions through June 30, the end of the second quarter for this 2017/2018 congressional cycle. Again, the reports are posted on the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org).



After logging in as a member, go to the Department and then Legislation tabs. On the Legislation home page, click on NARFE-PAC and then *Quarterly Contribution and Disbursement Reports*.

Regarding disbursements during the same time period, 3 of our state’s representatives each received \$1,000

## 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

from NARFE-PAC: Susan DelBene (D-01); Pramila Jayapal (D-07); and, Dave Reichert (R-08).

I know our headquarters staff appreciate members giving to NARFE-PAC. In fact NARFE President Richard Thissen recently wrote in an electronic letter, “Your support – of any amount – goes directly to support leaders in Congress who support YOU and will protect the federal community and your earned pay and benefits ... Thank you for supporting NARFE-PAC. Your contributions are greatly appreciated and are being put to work for you!”

I hope to see you at our September 6 chapter meeting. Let’s keep up, and maybe even improve our PAC giving. We certainly have our challenges with benefits.

## Sunshine News – Mary Binder

**Condolences** to the family of Helen Speer, a chapter charter member; Jim Cassens on the passing of his wife, Patricia, a chapter member; Sandra Chandler on the passing of her husband, Charles, a chapter member.

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

**Service Office** – Visitors welcome! Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., Federal Bldg., Room 137, Richland  
Phone: 509.373.9536



## NARFE Upcoming Webinars

(All webinars start at 2:00 p.m., ET)

September 21	From Federal Employee to Annuitant: Master the Process
October 26	FEHBP & Medicare – What’s Best for You?
November 30	Health Plans: Discover Your <b>BEST</b> Option



## Return Service Requested

### NARFE

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

### Membership – Johanna Caylor

**Welcome!** Joe E. Parsons

**Welcome Back!** David K. Jones; James Petersen;  
James Rodriguez; Mable Rutt

**Transfer to National Only:** Susan Bechtol;  
Mark Heeter

**Renewal Reminders and Dropped Members:**  
Recently 8 members were sent 2nd renewal notices; we look forward to having them continue as NARFE and chapter members. Two other members were dropped for non-renewal; we'd love to have them back, too!

**Another Alert to Chapter Members!** New

NARFE RENEWAL forms are still confusing some members!

IF you do not indicate you want to remain a chapter member by paying \$50

(\$40/national dues; \$10/chapter dues), the national office will move you from Chapter 1192 to the "National Only Chapter 0000." Chapter 1192 does not want to lose you. Please do not drop your chapter over \$10! If you are retired, you can always switch to dues withholding and your \$50 annual dues is reduced to \$44.04, AND you will not receive a dues reminder again. Please contact me if you have questions! Ph: 509.375.0739; email: [caylorx2@aol.com](mailto:caylorx2@aol.com).



### Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin

Thank you to all members who responded to our callers when they made their **annual calls**



**to all members to verify information.** This is an important annual endeavor to help ensure we have correct information. If you need, my contact information is: **Ph: 509.492.4304;**

**email: [pgriff.fisher1@gmail.com](mailto:pgriff.fisher1@gmail.com).** Thank you!



**Hidden Numbers:** July/August newsletter numbers belonged to: Julie Erickson; Rosalio Guillen; Linda Romine. Again, 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!



### Thank You, Bill Darke!

Let us all give Bill a HUGE thank you for his years as the chapter's Alzheimer's chairman. Besides impeccable recordkeeping, he helped ensure our chapter's annual November white elephant auctions were very successful. Further, at the 2016 WSFC convention, then WSFC Alzheimer's Chairman Bob Elmore presented Bill a citation for Chapter 1192 for outstanding contributions to the Alzheimer's program for the previous 2 years – the most in the federation! Again, thank you, Bill!!!



Chapter 1192 President Lorie Bennett

### Alzheimer's Research – Larry Williams

When I attended the 2012 NARFE National Convention in Reno, 2 really inspirational speakers talked about the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund and it moved me. So, when Bill Darke announced he would be stepping down as the chapter's Alzheimer's chairman, I jumped at the chance to take over.

In resigning, Bill wrote, "I have enjoyed being the Alzheimer's chair for the last few years. I think Chapter 1192 members have been extremely generous in contributing to this cause, and I thank you for your support. I am sure we will all continue to support the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund as we have in the past. It is a very worthy cause."

I agree with Bill and look forward to continuing in his footsteps to support his great cause.

