



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

# 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.org](http://www.narfewa.org) Tri-Cities: [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org)

**Reminder: Special NARFE Referendum! Voting Closes 11:59 PM, ET, September 30. See page 3.**

### 2019 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, John Cavanaugh	509.528.0130
Secretary/Sunshine, Faye Vlieger	509.961.1095
Treasurer, Liz Bowers	509.430.1836
Director-at-Large, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Director-at-Large, Bob Stewart	509.531.3118
Alzheimer's, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Legislative, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
NARFE-PAC, Bob Stewart	509.531.3118
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.378.2494
Service Office, John Cavanaugh	509.528.0130
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554
Caller Coordinator, Darleen Wall	509.586.8232

### September – October, Volume 2019, Issue 4

#### Chapter President – Lorie Bennett

I hope you all had a wonderful summer and are ready to plunge into fall. Between NARFE referendum voting in September, the Walk to End Alzheimer's and health fairs in October, our chapter's annual Alzheimer's fundraiser and elections in November, and then the December holidays, it will be a busy few months. Whether ready or not, it is time to forge ahead.

Speaking of chapter elections, over the summer, Mary Binder contacted all the chapter's current officers and chairmen regarding their willingness and/or availability to continue to serve. To note – the chapter's current bylaws limit officers to serving 2 consecutive, 2-year terms. This means, for example, that I am term limited. Mary will be updating members at our September meeting, including asking for members who are willing to serve in officer and/or chairman positions. If you want to know more, please contact Mary. We all have our lives to live, I know; but, helping serve as a chapter officer or chairman will help keep our chapter viable. The number one reason NARFE chapters continue to close remains a lack of members willing to serve. So, again, please consider serving.



### 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.*

**September 4** – Terri Fischer, Certified Professional Organizer® and stager will discuss decluttering, simplifying, downsizing, and more. Bring your questions!

**Menu: grilled chicken w/teriyaki sauce served over rice**



**October 2** – Dr. LoAnn Ayers, president and chief executive officer, United Way of Benton & Franklin Counties, will provide an overview of United Way and what nonprofits are doing in the Tri-Cities area.

**Menu: bacon-wrapped meat-loaf w/mashed potatoes and veggies**



United Way of  
Benton & Franklin Counties

**November 6** – REMINDER! Annual Chapter White Elephant Fundraiser for the NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund. Bring items!



Looking to October, the chapter will again have a team for the local Walk to End Alzheimer's, Sunday, October 13. See Alzheimer's Chairman Larry Williams' article, page 3 for details.



Looking ahead to 2020, Nancy Crosby and Darleen Wall will be working with the Red Lion's catering department on our lunch menus for next year. Have ideas? Have suggestions? Please contact them. **4038**

### New School Year!

Help keep our children  
safe!  
Be patient.  
Drive safely.



## 2nd VP/Service Officer – John Cavanaugh

Fall often brings questions with the Federal Employees Health Benefits program's open season. NARFE's Federal Benefits Institute webinars can be a great resource (see below), along with the monthly *narfe* magazine and the Institute's staff. While "NARFE does not provide legal, financial planning or tax advice assistance," it is known for having "federal benefits experts." As noted in each *narfe*, "At NARFE Headquarters, experts are available to answer questions and to assist in helping with a variety of benefit matters." The number to call: 800.456.8410, then Option 2.



### WEBINARS

**September 5** – Find a Clear Path to a Smooth Retirement

**September 19** – Survivor Benefits: Pain-Free Planning

**October 24** – FEHB & Medicare: What's Your Best Choice?

**November 7** – The Pros and Cons of Consumer-Driven Health Plans

**November 21** – Health Plans – What's Your Best Option?

**December 12** – Estate Planning for Feds – Protect Your Assets

**Webinars are at 2 p.m., Eastern Time**  
(Past webinars "on demand" at: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org))

 NARFE FEDERAL BENEFITS INSTITUTE

## Treasurer – Liz Bowers

Yes, it is that time of year again as we "plunge into fall," as President Lorie wrote in her article. That is, time to work on the chapter's 2020 budget. I provided the chapter's executive board a general year-to-date financial update at its August 15 meeting. Board members will be reviewing their areas of responsibility and providing input to me prior to the next board meeting, October 1. Input and/or questions from members are welcome. Please contact me.



## Director-at-Large – Nancy Crosby

As President Lorie wrote, we want to keep our Tri-Cities chapter viable, that is, alive and well. With so many NARFE chapters closing, nationally and in the state, it is imperative our members show support. Yes, we need help! We need folks to step up and serve as an officer, or lead or participate on a committee. Many current board members have held leadership positions several times and for some, many years. Please consider helping keep our chapter healthy. Thank you! **1635**



## WSF President – Nancy Crosby

Welcome, or welcome back to Tri-Cities Chapter 1192's 2019-2020 meeting year. I hope you had an enjoyable summer. For the Washington State Federation (WSF), it has been a busy summer.

A NARFE federation presidents' meeting, which also served as the association's annual meeting, was July 7-10, Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Ariz. Mary Binder, our WSF vice president, attended for me as I was recovering from hip surgery. She did an excellent job representing our federation. From her report, it was a very busy session. Some highlights include:

- ◆ The reveal of the new NARFE logo (See pages 1 and 4!)
- ◆ The challenges with the implementation of the new Associated Management System;
- ◆ Chapter and federation bylaws revisions;
- ◆ The special referendum and the procedures for members to vote. (See the August *narfe*, pages 48-49. Voting can be done via the NARFE website, or using the ballots in the September *narfe*.)



Next, the WSF executive board met August 13, La Quinta Inn & Suites, Tacoma. There was much discussion on the federation's 2020 budget, which the board is targeting finalizing at its December 12 meeting.

I am sorry to report Port Orchard Chapter 888 is in the process of closing. As I wrote in my director-at-large article, this page, closures are primarily due to members not willing to serve in leadership positions.

Looking ahead, the 2020 WSF biennial conference will be May 19-21, Embassy Suites by Hilton, Lynnwood. There will be an election for officers prior to the conference. Many officers, including me, are term limited by the federation's bylaws. So, I encourage any member interested in serving, or just learning more about the board and its positions, to contact me and/or read the annual WSF *Federation Reporter*. It is on the WSF website, [www.narfewa.org](http://www.narfewa.org). More details on the conference and elections in the months ahead.



Further ahead, NARFE's biennial national conference, **FEDcon20**, Westin Kierland, Scottsdale, Ariz., August 30 – September 1. (See photo, right, from the Westin's website.) Again, more details in the months ahead.



## WSF District V VP – Mary Binder

Wenatchee Chapter 239's annual picnic is Wednesday, September 11, 11:30 a.m., Rocky Reach Dam, upper shelter. No cost, but bring a side dish. Optional – an item for the chapter's NARFE Alzheimer's fundraiser. ALL Tri-Cities chapter members are invited!

## Legislative/Public Relations – Mary Binder

Summer has been anything but quiet on the legislative and election fronts. One can only imagine what fall brings!


More short range, in the July and August *narfe* magazines, (pages 42 and 44, and 48-49, respectively) there is information on NARFE's "2019 Bylaw Referendum." Simply, the proposed changes are a bylaws "administrative cleanup" based on information I received at the July federation presidents' meeting, as VSF President Nancy referenced, page 2. Next step – VOTE! If NARFE has your email address, you should have received information regarding voting online using the NARFE website, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). Ballots will also be in the September *narfe*, so 2 voting options. **Voting deadline is September 30, 11:59 p.m.**



Regarding voting – NARFE leadership recognizes asking all members to vote under "one member, one vote" is still new, especially for long-time NARFE members who were used to the delegate system. It takes more individual commitment for members to take the time to read proposed changes, for example, and then vote rather than letting a delegate make the decisions. However, engaging ALL NARFE members through one member, one vote was a member decision at the 2016 NARFE convention. So, please, NARFE needs your vote on the "2019 Bylaw Referendum." **We'll discuss this in more detail at the September chapter meeting; but, please also feel free to contact me.**

Switching gears, again this year consider RiverFest 2019, Saturday, September 9, Columbia Park, Lampson Pits, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This "fun and free," hands-on, educationally focused family event "celebrates our rivers" and focuses on "why dams are important."





**2020 NARFE Photo Contest**  
**August 1, 2019 – April 7, 2020**  
Theme: Home Sweet Home –  
What it Means to You"  
See: "Special Programs," [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

## NARFE-PAC – Bob Stewart

In my articles, I like to provide readers an update on contributions from NARFE's quarterly PAC reports. I'm having to forego that this time due to NARFE's conversion to its new Association Management System, which involves reports. As this newsletter goes to press, the PAC reports were not yet available. However, contributions are **MOST** welcome and **MOST** needed! The 2020 election season is definitely well underway.

So, a review of NARFE's "advocacy" priorities. NARFE

## 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



uses these when making decisions on contributions to candidates/elected officials who request PAC money.

- ◆ Protecting federal/postal retirees' existing retirement and health benefits from reductions and/or erosion.
- ◆ Protecting federal civilian/postal employees' pay, retirement and health benefits.
- ◆ Protecting the viability, stability and standard of service of established federal government functions.

More information is at, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), at "NARFE's Advocacy Program for the 116th Congress."

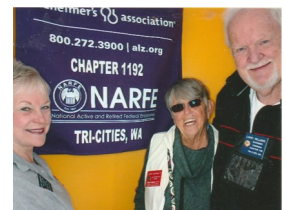
So, please continue your support to NARFE-PAC! Also, a reminder – **becoming a sustainer** helps NARFE in planning for distributions as sustaining contributions give NARFE a more solid contribution base. It also does NOT mean a change to your annuity! Sustainer contributions are automatically deducted from the credit card a member provides when completing the sustainer form.

## Alzheimer's Research – Larry Williams



The Walk to End Alzheimer's in Kennewick is quickly approaching – Sunday, October 13. Join our chapter team or make a

donation. This year, for the first time, what we raise counts toward the \$14 million NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund goal. To join our team/register for the walk, or to donate, go to [www.alz.org/walk](http://www.alz.org/walk)



and search for NARFE Chapter 1192. Or, simpler yet, go to our chapter website, [www.narfe1192.org/programs](http://www.narfe1192.org/programs) and click on the link. Thank you for your support! **4720**



**Return Service Requested**

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

**“COMMUNITY Picnic”**  
*(Formerly the annual All Seniors Picnic)*  
**THURSDAY, SEPT 19, 11AM-2PM, JUST \$1!**  
**HAPO CENTER [Formerly TRAC]**

**Membership Chairman – Johanna Caylor**

**Welcome:** James Hilgartner  
**Transfer In:** Robert Quirk; Nathan Caldwell  
**Transfer Out:** Sandra Cook (to Spokane Chapter 32)  
**Transfer to Spouse:** Sandra Chandler; Mary LaMont; Maureen O’Toole ... hope to see you at meetings.  
**Reminders!**

- ◆ 2019 NARFE Fall Membership Drive, September 1 thru December 31! Recruiters receive \$10 for each new recruit, are eligible for monthly prizes, and for a grand prize. Rules at: [www.narfe.org/recruit](http://www.narfe.org/recruit).
- ◆ Let me know if your contact information changes!
- ◆ Renewal reminder! Check the **“National AND Chapter”** box to remain a chapter member.
- ◆ **Dues Withholding!** Save money! No renewal forms to worry about! Pay only \$44 vs. \$50 for annual national/chapter dues. This is \$3.67 in 12 equal payments deducted from your annuity. Questions? Please contact me.

**Hidden Numbers:** June/July/August numbers: John Bailey; Charles Clayton; William Strasser. One winner – Charles found his number and called me! Find 3 new numbers – **last 4 digits of your NARFE membership number**. Find it, call me, 509.308.6664, email me, [annahojx2@gmail.com](mailto:annahojx2@gmail.com), or let me know at a meeting, and you, too, can win \$5!



**FEHB Program Open Season Calendar**  
**October 15 – Walla Walla**  
Corps of Engineers, 9-11 a.m.; VA, 1-3 p.m.  
**October 16 – Tri-Cities**  
Social Security, 8-9 a.m., Kennewick  
DOE, 10-11:30 a.m., 2420 Stevens Center, Richland  
DOE, 1-2:30 p.m., 2440 Stevens Center, Richland  
DOE, 3:15-4:15 p.m., 3200 Innovation Blvd., Richland  
**NARFE Tri-Cities Chapter 1192 will have a table and members at these events. Stop by, say hi!**

**CALLER COORDINATOR REMINDERS !**

Our chapter’s callers will make their ANNUAL CALLS TO LOCAL CHAPTER MEMBERS prior to the September chapter meeting to ensure we have correct contact information. Help us help you! Please respond to their calls or messages. Other reminders:



- ◆ Let us know about your contact changes, including when “snowbirding!”
- ◆ Meeting lunch reservation cancellations **MUST** be made not later than 10 a.m., Monday prior to the meeting to avoid being charged.
- ◆ Callers always needed! Contact Darleen Wall, **Ph: 509.586.8232; Email: [jdwall2@frontier.com](mailto:jdwall2@frontier.com)**.

**Sunshine News – Faye Vlieger**

Since the May/June/July newsletter:  
**Condolences:** Maureen O’Toole on the passing of her husband/member Daniel  
**Other passings:** Member Mary Kilbury; and, 2 past Washington federation presidents, Natalie Leath (1999-2001) and Dale Brighton (2006-2009)  
**Thinking of you:** Nancy Crosby; Teri Sannar; Faye Vlieger  
**Know someone needing a little “sunshine” or a special-occasion card? Call me or email me: [einvlieger@aol.com](mailto:einvlieger@aol.com).**



**Webmaster – Larry Williams**

New meeting season is beginning, so a good time to check the chapter website, [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org), for minutes, menus, programs, newsletters and more. Also, check out the updated WSF website, [www.narfewa.org](http://www.narfewa.org).



**Newsletter Editor – Mary Binder**

News Flash! The chapter newsletter is again a bi-monthly publication vs. quarterly!

