



OCTOBER 12 – Chapter tour to LIGO Observatory!

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

September – October, Volume 2012, Issue 5

2012 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Don Binder	509.585.1393
1 st Vice President, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
2 nd Vice President, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509.735.3288
Alzheimer’s, Bill Darke	509.375.7757
Hospitality, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Legislative, Don & Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Membership, Johanna Caylor	509.308.6664
Newsletter, Mary Alice Binder	509.588.1393
NARFE-PAC, Carl Gallion	509.539.9179
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509.943.1812
Public Relations, Mary Alice Binder	509.585.1393
Service Center, Lorie Bennett	509.531.2745
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509.783.8554

Chapter E-mail: narfe1192@gmail.com

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater “C”
Lunch: \$14; reservations requested

(Vegetarian plates available, if ordered ahead)

Note: Executive Board meeting days/times vary

September 5 – Meeting program: NARFE
National Convention highlights

Menu: Beef Lasagna

October 3 – Meeting program: Statewide Health
Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) to discuss
Medicare and selecting a healthcare provider

Menu: Hot Open-Faced Turkey Sandwich

JULY TREASURER’S REPORT*

Balance forward, June 30	\$6,568.08
July income	\$ 560.08
July expenditures	\$ 517.39
Dedicated funds	\$2,159.00
Balance on hand, July 31	\$3,952.70

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

Note: Chapter officers/committee chairs will be providing input to Treasurer Nancy Crosby for the chapter’s 2013 budget. Chapter members having recommendations are asked to contact Nancy, another officer or a committee chairman. Proposed 2013 budget will be presented at the chapter’s November meeting.

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137
Phone: 509.373.9536

Coordinator: 2nd VP Lorie Bennett

Reminder: Health Benefits Open Season 2012 is November 12 thru December 10. Informational material will be at the Service Center (SC) and Chapter meetings.



The SC is staffed by knowledgeable and long-time Chapter volunteers. Stop by, visit and maybe catch up on some NARFE information, whether you’re a member or interested in becoming a member.

Chapter history: The SC is the repository for our chapter’s historical documents, photos, etc. If you have material you think might be something for the historical files, or know someone else who might have such material, please let me know.

One more time: Your password for accessing your records on OPM’s web site, must be used at least once every 15 months to keep it current! Go to: www.opm.gov/retire/.

Caller Coordinator – Pam Griffin
September is our annual “call-all-members” month to verify member contact information!

Please respond to our callers when they contact you. Thank you.

Questions? Contact me:

Pam Griffin, 509.492.4304, or
e-mail: pgriff1@earthlink.net.



LOOKING AHEAD

1st VP/Hospitality Chairman – Carl Gallion

As our Chapter 1192 begins another season of meetings, a reminder that both making and canceling an RSVP continue to be important! Having as close to an accurate lunch count as possible is very important for us in working with the Red Lion. Also, vegetarian plates are available, if ordered ahead.

Chapter President – Don Binder

Living in our “little corner of the world,” we’ve been blessed. Close to home, the Taylor Bridge fire near Cle Elum, other fires across the West, the rain so desperately needed in many parts of the U.S., and/or other countries with too much rain, just reinforce we do have a great deal for which to say, thank you.

Speaking of thanks, our Chapter 1192 has more members registered for the 32nd NARFE National Convention than any other of the Washington State Federation’s 22 chapters – even though we are 10th in membership. That says much about our members and their commitment to NARFE. We’ll be discussing the convention at our September meeting, so please join us to get a sense of what NARFE leadership sees as critically important.



Example: our NARFE leadership is working with a coalition of many other organizations representing various segments of the federal work force. While NARFE’s focus also includes federal retirees and other annuitants, all coalition representatives have the same goal – be part of the solution for reducing federal spending and the deficit, but not the sole solution. If you have recommendations for how to do this, please let one of the chapter’s officers know. We want to ensure we are representing you as we continue to work with NARFE’s leadership and our elected officials – whether those currently in office and/or elected November 6, the general election.

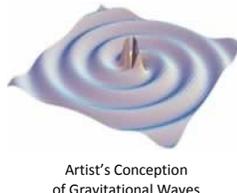
I hope you’ve enjoyed the summer and are now ready to join us at our monthly luncheon/meetings – catch up on NARFE news; reconnect with chapter members ... Hope to see you September 5!



2nd VP/Special Programs – Lorie Bennett

Welcome to our 2012/2013 meeting year! Board members and volunteers have had a busy 5376 summer keeping up on information so as to provide informative, fun and interesting agenda items for our Chapter 1192 meetings.

October 12 – mark your calendar! I’m working on a tour to LIGO – the Hanford Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory. LIGO is “seeking to open a new way of looking at the universe through world-class science and



engineering in an international collaboration.” I will have more details at the September meeting. Meanwhile, if you want to know more about LIGO, go to: www.ligo-wa.caltech.edu/.

District V Vice President – Nancy Crosby

Wenatchee Chapter 239 has again invited our chapter to attend its annual picnic/white elephant sale for NARFE Alzheimer’s Research Fund. The picnic is **Wednesday, September 12, 11:30 a.m., Rocky Reach Dam Park (upper picnic area), Hwy 97A toward Lake Chelan, about 5 miles from downtown Wenatchee.** There is no cost, but bringing a salad, fruit or dessert to share, and a white elephant item will be appreciated. It’s a fun time!



The Washington Federation Board met over 2 days in July for a meeting and retreat. Also, Linda Sanders from Bremerton Chapter 181 was sworn in as the Federation’s new secretary. The retreat focused on sharing ideas in a wide variety of categories and planning strategies to help the Federation and its members. There was also significant focus on the new “off-year training event” that will be held in lieu of an annual convention. The first of these is targeted for late spring 2013. Watch for further details in future newsletters 3079 as well as at our chapter meetings.

NARFE-PAC – Carl Gallion

If ever there was a time to have a strong PAC to represent NARFE, it’s NOW! Washington State NARFE members contributed more than \$33,000 for the 18-month period ending June 30 and beginning January 2011 for the 2011/2012 Congress. Chapter 1192 contributed almost \$2,000 during that time period. This is good, but I know we can do even better. For example, an automatic monthly commitment of \$10 will make you a “sustainer.” Contact me for details, or just to make a contribution. Remember, every dollar helps strengthen our NARFE voice!



To help members in their decision-making process for the November 6 general election NARFE has calculated some “voting” figures for incumbents in Congress on NARFE initiatives and has them on the NARFE web site, www.narfe.org. Examples: since 2003, our Tri-Cities area representative “Doc” Hastings has voted on 23 of 25 NARFE initiatives and voted “for” on 6 of those, equating to a 26% NARFE voting record; our U.S. senator, Maria Cantwell, is 14 for 14, equating to a 100% record. Again, another tool for NARFE members in making informed decisions for the November 6 general election. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Alzheimer's Research – William Darke

Looking back – total donation numbers for the Fiscal Year 2012 NARFE Alzheimer's Research Fund, July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012, have been tabulated. How did we do? Nationally, the fund received **\$557,839.17**. Our Washington State Federation contributed **\$11,038.82**, of which our Chapter 1192 contributed **\$1,455.37!** NARFE is now very close to its \$10M goal! Thanks to everyone who contributed. It just goes to show what a difference we can make when we all work together.

Looking ahead – Chapter 1192's annual "white elephant" Alzheimer's fundraiser auction will be at the November 7 meeting. So, time to start thinking about that item or items you want to donate for the auction!



Reminder – to ensure your Alzheimer's donations count toward our Chapter 1192's contributions and NARFE's goals, make them through me as your Alzheimer's chairman or use coupons in the *NARFE* magazine.

Webmaster – Larry Williams

New! As of August 1, NARFE's web site has a new look and new features. Have you checked it out? If not, go to: www.narfe.org.

NEW!

Reminder! Chapter newsletters and other chapter information is available on our chapter web site: <http://www.narfe1192.org/newsletter.html>.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

With our state's primary election behind us, we certainly hope all of you took the opportunity to do the most important thing a citizen can do – VOTE! Whether your candidate was one of the top two who will be in the November 6 general election or not, exercising this fundamental constitutional 1552 right is key to our democracy.



So, it is not too soon to be researching the various candidates for president, as well as all our statewide constitutional officers: one of our U.S. senators; our U.S. House of Representatives member; our state senator and house members; and, our Benton or Franklin county commissioners. Then, too, are various initiatives to consider. Yes, study and vote!

On the federal legislative front, Congress returns after Labor Day from its August recess, but for only a short window of time on the legislative calendar before members again head home for the final days prior to

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 Avenue, 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 Avenue, Suites 204/204A
Richland, WA 99352
Phone: 509.946.8106; Fax: 509.946.6937

the November 6 general election. Therefore, we are not expecting any legislation impacting current or retired federal employees during that time frame. However, after the election during the "lame duck" session before the 113th Congress begins January 3, the BIG issue will be "sequestration." Will Congress do anything to avoid sequestration? As of now, who knows! Should they? We believe they should. Making the hard decisions ... isn't that at least one reason we send elected officials to Capitol Hill? We'll be discussing this at our upcoming chapter meetings and in our next newsletter.

Sunshine News – Marci Lingle

Condolences sent to: Joe Pavlinac on the passing of his mother.

Get Well cards sent to: members Fay Bowers and Rosemary Goodnow.

Change! Effective with this announcement, Chapter Secretary Mary Binder will assume "sunshine" duties. Contact her at: 509.585.1393 or mary_binder@msn.com. And, a special thank you to Marci Lingle for her work as the Sunshine Chair!



Public Relations – Mary Binder

It's time – NARFE's annual calendar photo contest.



NARFE 2013 Calendar

Photo Contest

(for the 2014 calendar)

Photo deadline: February 15, 2013

Details at: www.narfe.org

Questions: Call 703.838.7760, ext. 268, or e-mail: pubrel@narfe.org



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

19th Annual All Senior Picnic
September 20
*Southridge Sports & Events Complex,
Kennewick*
11:00 AM to 2 PM
Admission: \$7/in advance; \$10/at the door
Register at area senior centers

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Nancy Glaesmann; Mary Smith; Gail Kosy

Membership Transfer to Surviving Spouse:

Gail Kosy

Dues Withholding: Mary Smith

Renewals: for retirees, PLEASE consider dues withholding. NEVER see another renewal notice. Only \$3.67/per month withheld from your annuity. SEND NO MONEY with the application. If you need a form, contact me or any board member.

Reminder: please, notify the chapter and NARFE if you change mailing, e-mail, or other contact info!

Hidden numbers: The July/August newsletter hidden numbers belonged to: Dan Baker; Nadine Highland; Bev Spicci. Sorry, no one called so no winners! Three new numbers are “hidden” in this newsletter – the last 4 digits of a member’s number. Call me and win \$5!

Call/e-mail me: 509.308.6664; caylorx2@aol.com.

Federal Employees Health Benefits Program
Open Season 2012
November 12 through December 10

*In October,
healthcare vendors
for the
Federal Employees Health Benefits Program
will again be at various locations
throughout the Tri-Cities area.
Have questions/concerns? Plan on stopping by!
More details will be provided
at chapter meetings, on the chapter web site,
and will be available in the
Chapter 1192 Service Office.*

Always Good to Know
NEW!! NARFE on Twitter! Follow at: @narfeh9
NARFE’s **PROTECT America’s Heartbeat**
campaign, www.narfe.org
OPM: 888.767.6738, “Retirement Info Line”
OPM: www.opm.gov/retire/
E-mail questions to: retire@opm.gov
NARFE Toll-Free Number: 800.627.3994;
Toll-Free Legislative Hotline: 800.217.8234
Facebook: Log onto Facebook, go to “NARFE
National Headquarters,” then “Like”

Have an E-Mail Address? We NEED it!
E-mail helps the Chapter *go electronic*.
E-mail helps the Chapter *save money*.
Example: No cost to send the newsletter
electronically; about \$1/copy to mail.
E-mail only used for NARFE Chapter business.
Do we have your e-mail address? If not,
send it to: Nancy Crosby, ncrosby2b@charter.net.

Thoughts from Afar
Deacon Al Rizzo
(via Dolores Rizzo)



Pray for self
and the gift of self
God has given to all of us.
*Taken from September 2008 Chapter Meeting Minutes.
Chapter member Deacon Rizzo passed away March 11, 2011.*