

# TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Advocates for Active and Former Federal Employees www.NARFE1192.org

# September - October, Volume 2010, Issue 5

## 2010 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Gary Hagedorn	509-547-3015
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President, Don Binder	509 585-1393
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
Treasurer, Nancy Crosby	509-735-3288
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
Legislative, Don & Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
NARFE-PAC, Don Binder	509-585-1393
Service Officers, Mary Goldie,	509-582-8757
Nancy Schreckhise	509-585-7558
Alzheimer's, Bill Darke	509-375-7757
Public Relations, Gary Hagedorn	509-547-3015
Sunshine, Marci Lingle	509-627-6628
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509-943-1812
Hospitality, Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
Membership/Newsletter,	
Johanna Caylor	509-308-6664
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509-783-8554
Deacon, Al Rizzo	509-375-0446

## **CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS**

 Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays, except

 July/August/and this September

 11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater "A"

 Lunch: \$13; reservations requested

 Executive Board meets after Chapter meeting

 August 29 – September 2 – 31<sup>st</sup> NARFE National

 Convention, Grand Rapids, Michigan

 September 8 – Chapter Meeting: 31<sup>st</sup> NARFE

 National Convention highlights

 (Note: Meeting will be in Ballroom 5)

 Menu: Beef Lasagna

October 6 – Chapter Meeting: Medicare/ Social Security Interface w/Health Care Plans (Note: Program is tentative.) Menu: Hot Open-Faced Turkey Sandwich

## JULY TREASURER'S REPORT\*

Balance forward, June 30	\$ 7499.07
July Income	\$ 388.47
July Expenditures	\$ 130.72
Dedicated funds, 18-mo. budget	\$ 1964.00
Balance on hand, July 31	\$ 5742.82
(*Full reports are now on the Chapter web site.)	

## SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137 Phone: 509-373-9536

**Callers Needed** – if you are interested in helping call members about the monthly meetings, please contact either Mary Goldie, 582-8757 or Nancy Schreckhise, 585-7558. More callers = fewer calls each caller has to make!

Another reminder – A GREAT resource guide for annuitants, and survivor benefits, is NARFE's *Be Prepared for Life's Events*. Copies are at the Service Center or on line at NARFE's website: <u>www.narfe.org</u>. You can keep a copy on your computer and update it as needed – a practical way to keep your important information current!

A visit – Ever been to the Service Center? If not, or if it has been awhile since your last visit, think about stopping by on a Tuesday between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. to learn more about what the Center has to offer. After all, you never know when you or someone you know might need assistance with a retirement or other issue.

#### Good to Know

OPM: 888-767-6738, "Retirement Info Line" OPM: www.opm.gov/retire/

## **HOSPITALITY**

**Vegetarian plates** – available for the monthly meetings, <u>if ordered ahead</u>. Just let your reservation caller know.

**Reminder** – the Chapter must pay for the number of reservations 9717 given to the hotel, even for "no shows." Cancellations must be made <u>by</u> <u>noon Monday</u> prior to the Chapter meeting. To cancel a reservation, call Mary Goldie, 582-8757, or Nancy Schreckhise, 585-7558.

## Chapter President – Gary Hagedorn

Did you have an enjoyable and productive summer: are you ready for fall?

**Monthly Meetings** – In September we restart with our Chapter monthly meetings while also beginning preparations for our 2011 calendar! For example, we are again starting the nomination process for the Chapter's 2011 officers.

**Nominating Committee** – So, if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee for the 2011 officers OR if you would like to serve as an officer, or committee member, please contact me at 547-3015 or 546-2117. This would be an excellent time to step forward if you are interested in NARFE leadership or to just serve.

**Executive Board** – The Chapter's board met August 11 to work on the remaining calendar of activities for 2010 and look ahead to 2011 – covering everything from meeting programs to budget needs, committee and officer reports, the National Convention 3326 and Federation action items. Your board has been engaged and busy!

Health Fairs – Upcoming fairs in our area include:

- October 13, Agriculture Research Service, Prosser, 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.
- October 14, Social Security Administration, Kennewick, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m., Richland Federal Bldg., 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., DOE Stevens Center, Richland, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Reminder: New this year, brochures will not automatically be sent; they will need to be requested. Watch for announcements.



National Convention – I am looking forward to seeing you in September. Remember, this meeting will be on the second Wednesday vs. the first Wednesday, to allow feedback from the Chapter's delegates, Johanna Caylor and Sig Preston, on the 31<sup>st</sup> NARFE National Convention. If you cannot attend the meeting, Convention results will be on NARFE's web site, www.narfe.org; the Federation's site, www.narfewa.net; or, the Chapter's site, www.narfe1192.org.

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP Update** – As this newsletter goes to press, Carl Gallion, our valiant 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, is still awaiting his hip "re-surgery!" We miss you, Carl!

## Alzheimer's Research Fund – William Darke

Welcome back from your summer vacations! At November's Chapter meeting, we will again hold a "white elephant" auction to raise money for Alzheimer's research. It's not too early to begin looking around and finding some really fun items to donate. Also, if anyone wishes to make a cash contribution at a meeting, I still have recognition pins available for those contributing at least \$20.

## Sunshine News – Marci Lingle

I am honored to serve as the Chapter's new Sunshine Chairman! Recapping recent activities:

- Sympathy cards went to Barbara Fennessy; she lost her mother, Mary Fennessy – whom the Chapter recognized as a "Distinguished Member" (at least 85 years of age and at least 25 years of NARFE membership); and, to Randall Johnson, who lost a son.
- Get well wishes went to Vickie Wiley who recently had surgery; she is the widow of former member Joe Wiley.

As you have for my predecessors, please continue to let me know about members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss, or an extra-special occasion. Contact me at: tclingles@clearwire.net or 509-627-6628.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT from NARFE HEADQUARTERS

NARFE's Member Records Section handles a host of member inquiries on a daily basis. Included in these member contacts are: change of address requests; dues inquiries; and chapter assignments. As of June 1, the e-mail address for Member Records changed from memsrycs@narfe.org to

memberrecords@narfe.org. The toll-free telephone number, 800-456-8410, is the same.

Be sure to make a note of the new e-mail address as well as the phone number!

Changes of address also may be made using the NARFE web site, <u>www.narfe.org</u>. Sign in as a member; go to "Members Home Page" and see "Update Your Records" on the left panel under "What You can do Online."

Note: This message also appeared on page 52, *NARFE* June magazine.

## Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

Did you vote in the recent primary? We hope so! As you are probably aware, Senator Patty Murray will be running against Dino Rossi in the November general election for one of the state's Senate seats. Additionally, Representative "Doc" Hastings will face Jay Clough for Washington's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional district. Again, we'll be voting by mail. Before voting 5664, please be sure to study the stands on issues these candidates take, including those important to NARFE.

Also, as we have been announcing since early this year, chances for a COLA increase in 2011 have been minimal. Now, there is almost zero chance that there will be such an increase. This will most likely also apply to Social Security benefits.

Finally, as a reminder from the last Chapter newsletter, NARFE issues a weekly "legislative update" through its Global E-mail Messaging System (GEMS). For those not having e-mail access or who prefer to hear the actual words, call NARFE toll free at 877-217-8234, and hear the same information. As the November elections get closer, continue to look for information in NARFE's legislative updates, call the toll-free number above, come to our Chapter's monthly meetings, check our Chapter's web site, and/or check our Federation's web site. Here are the sites: NARFE HQ, <u>www.narfe.org</u>; Washington State Federation of Chapters <u>www.narfewa.net</u>; and Chapter 1192 <u>www.narfe1192.org</u>.

## **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

## NARFE-PAC – Don Binder

NARFE headquarters contacted the Washington Federation regarding giving PAC funds to Senator Murray for the primary election. After receiving input from the appropriate chapters, including Chapter 1192, and the Federation, NARFE's 4 national officers – who have responsibility for approving or disapproving PAC requests – approved a \$5,000 donation. It was sent to Senator Murray's campaign in early August. If requested, Senator Murray will be eligible for up to another \$5,000 for the general election.

The Federation also received PAC requests from NARFE headquarters for Representative "Doc" Hastings. As this newsletter went to press, NARFE's national officers had not made a determination on these requests – primary and general election.



With the election season definitely in full swing, politicians are submitting requests for PAC funds to help their election campaigns. Why should NARFE support these requests? Worth repeating from the July/August Chapter newsletter, I believe Lanny Ross, our Region IX VP, summed it up best at the Federations' May annual convention:

"NARFE's mission is legislation – to maintain our earned benefits. Without a PAC, NARFE is not competitive, in the fold with other organizations on Capitol Hill. NARFE does not buy votes; but, through the PAC process, NARFE can open Congressional doors so Congress knows who we are and our concerns, and so we can be a viable force. Federal employees and retirees are a target at this time with red ink in DC. Retirees' annuity is part of a 'contract.' It is important that Congress understands it is a contract [not a target]."

Yes, NARFE-PAC donations are still needed! Use the form in the monthly *NARFE* magazine or get a check to me for forwarding to NARFE. My address is: 2802 W. 40<sup>th</sup> Ave., Kennewick, WA 99337. Also, Congressional session 2009/2010 PAC pins are still available for donations at least \$20. Questions? Contact me at: 509-585-1393, or don\_binder@msn.com. National Active and Retired Federal Employees Johanna Caylor 514 Stagecoach Ct Richland, WA 99354 Email: <u>caylorx2@aol.com</u> Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 173 Richland, WA

#### Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Susan Bechtol, Timothy Bruno, Patrick Grady, Steven Howes, Emily Irwin, Roberta Lechtenberg, Eleanor Newton
Reinstated: Diane Berthon, Richard Holten, Deann Knuter, Daniel O'Toole
Dues Withholding: Roberta Lechtenberg, Joanne Shadel, Nancy Schreckhise
Transfer In: James Kosy (Chapter #1469)
Renewals: Lost your renewal slip and need help?
Call me and I will walk you through the process.
Remember: The 2010-2011 WSFC Federation
Membership Campaign with \$10 rebates for:
1-Dues withholding; 2-Gift memberships; and,
3-Spouse sign up.

**Reminder:** If you change your mailing or e-mail address, or phone number, please contact me. This is very important so we can continue to provide you Chapter information. **Help:** NARFE not only needs new members – we need to **retain** the members we have. Help our Chapter and NARFE grow and sustain strength! To those retired members who are delinquent at this time and those with renewals coming up – PLEASE consider "dues withholding." Only \$2.88 is withheld from your monthly annuity and you will then no longer receive renewal notices!! **Hidden numbers:** There are 3 in this issue – last 4 digits of a member's number. Contact me if you find yours and win \$5! Hidden numbers in the July/August issue belonged to: Faye Bowers, Michael Hamren and Helen Speers. No winners! **Call me:** If you have questions, please call me. My numbers are: 509-375-0739 or 308-6664.

#### Upcoming Dates to Remember:

Labor Day, September 6 9/11 Anniversary, September 11 Autumn Begins, September 23 Columbus Day, October 11 FEHBP Fairs – Prosser, Kennewick, Richland, October 13 and 14 Halloween, October 31

