

NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • October 2007



NARFE District IV Website

www.narfewadist4.org

Chapter Officers

President: Ray Weinmann

Vice President: Ron Gill

Secretary: Marilyn Falls

Treasurer: Mary Balian

Board Member: Ralph Angulo

Board Member: William Holman

Board Member: Lois Shaw

Past President: Orvie Jensen

District IV Vice President: Bill Powers

Chapter Chairpersons

Alzheimer's: Elizabeth Owen

Historian: Charlotte Petersen

Legislative: Bill Holman

Membership: co-chairpersons:

Orvie Jensen

Lois Shaw

Newsletter: Sara Boore

Programs: co-chairpersons:

Ron Gill

Ray Weinmann

Public Relations: Gary Kydland

Service Officer: Ralph Angulo

Sunshine: Marie Wall

Telephone: Mary Tate

Legislators

Senator Maria Cantwell

website: <http://www.cantwell.senate.gov>

Senator Cantwell's Director for the Olympic Peninsula

Robert Thoms - (253) 572-2281

The Commerce Building

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 615, Tacoma, Washington

Senator Patty Murray

website: <http://www.murray.senate.gov>

Senator Murray's Director for the Olympic Peninsula

Mary McBride - (253) 572-3636

The Commerce Building

950 Pacific Avenue, Suite 650, Tacoma, Washington

Representative Norm Dicks

website: <http://www.house.gov/dicks>

345 6th Street, Suite 500, Bremerton, WA 98337 and 332 East Fifth Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362 (Staffed by Judith Morris)
Tuesday 9:30 A.M.-Noon, Thursday 2:00-5:00 P.M., and by appointment 452-3370

November Chapter Program

**November 20, 2007 (the 3rd Tuesday, NOT the 4th),
11:30 A.M.**

**The Salad Station (formerly the Secret Garden Buffet)
First St. and Golf Course Road
Port Angeles, WA**

Our November meeting will be our Health Fair, and will be held on the 3rd Tuesday rather than the 4th this month.
Remember, we will not have a meeting in December.

President's Corner

This will be my last column as Chapter President. I have enjoyed the past year which has gone by quickly. The year has been both rewarding and frustrating. Rewarding in that our chapter has been able to maintain the status quo (eg. having chapter meetings, maintaining our membership and working with a small group of dedicated NARFE members). Frustrating that so few of the chapter members are willing to help keep our chapter active!! Each of you need to look in the mirror and answer the question "why am I a member of NARFE?" If you truly believe the organization is of help to current employees and retirees then you need to ask and answer another question?? What can "I" do to keep NARFE strong?? In addition to paying your dues, do you attend chapter meetings, contribute to NARFE PAC and say yes when asked to take on some duties at the chapter level?? We will only remain as strong as your active involvement.

I wish each of you a joyful holiday season, continued good health, and a Happy and prosperous 2008.

—RAY WEINMANN, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Current Employee Corner:

I encourage each of you to contribute to NARFE PAC, continue to be members of NARFE by renewing your membership and paying your dues, and helping to recruit new members. We also would value your input, suggestions and attendance at our monthly chapter meetings. The future of NARFE will be in your hands.

—RAY WEINMANN, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

October Program Recap

Highway 101 Safety Corridor—Jim Borte, Clallam Sheriff's Department Community Projects Coordinator, explained the history and progress of "Project 101". Between Christmas 2003 and the end of March 2004, there were 13 deaths on our stretch of Hwy. #101. Was it the road or was it driver error? A coalition of groups, federal, state, county, law enforcement, education, highway engineers, and fifty volunteers met on June 4, 2004 to see if a State Safety Corridor Project was feasible.

The thirty-two (32) mile stretch of highway from the east county line to Laird's Corner would be the longest Safety Corridor in the state of Washington.

Three years of data used to establish the corridor included 1,068 collisions with 36 fatalities. Fifty-one crashes were alcohol related. Top five collisions involved rear-enders, angle hits, fixed objects, wildlife, and driveways. The five main violations were following too closely, failure to yield right-of-way, excessive speed, illegal turns, and D.U.I. Most accidents occurred in clear weather in daylight.

December holds the record for most collisions. Winter traffic averages 8,000 vehicles per day, while a summer day averages 36,000. Worst days for accidents are Thursday and Saturday; and teens and twenty-year-olds have the highest number of crashes.

Highway 101's main challenges are two high volume lanes mixing bikes, trucks, and cars in light and shadow, with no passing lanes.

The Action Plan calls for a school video film competition in December with a \$100 prize for the judged Best Safety Film, and a Memorial Service and Tree in the Theatre Lobby for crash victims and survivors. There are ongoing enforcement sweeps and compliance checks that have reduced underage alcohol sales violations from 442 to 66. The longest time span between fatalities has risen to 215 days.

Improvements include: new rumble strips on both center and fog lines; guard rails now in place at Sequim Bay State Park and Morse Creek curve has a wider center line with pylons.

Officers will make Safety Presentations at schools and at the Auto Races. Current Blood Drives will continue to emphasize the highway safety program.

RESULTS: In the first 36 months of the project violations are down 1%, injuries are down 19%, and fatalities are down 22%. The Safety Project will continue! **CONGRATULATIONS ARE DUE FOR THIS EXCELLENT PROGRESS!**

—MARILYN FALLS, CHAPTER SECRETARY

Membership

Welcome to our new member, Valerie Thomas. Valerie is the Postmistress at the Port Angeles post office. Also to another Current Employee, Arnie Finley of Quilcene. We also welcome Roberta Ryan back to our membership. Members that have not paid their September dues are Shirley Myers, Geoff Merscher & Dunbar Susong. Currently our membership is now 368.

Our sincere sympathy to the Crust Family, Clark Crust of Chimacum passed away November 2nd.

Don't forget that you can go on Dues Withholding. The annual dues are \$24.60 plus chapter dues of \$7.00. That's a total of \$31.60. Going on Dues Withholding is very simple - call me at 452-6374 and I will send you the form.

Erik Erichsen, our NARFE member will be on the Sequim City Council Position 5. Congratulations Erick

Our next meeting is Tuesday, November 20th. That's the Annual Health Fair meeting. Our vendors will be there to answer your questions. And they always have goodies to pick up that are very useful. Come early and stop by the registration table and say hello.

I would like to share some trivia with you. This past year I was President of the National FAA-Flight Standards Reunion and the reunion was held at the Red Lion Hotel in Port Angeles. It was a challenge to be their first woman president, but I was pleased with the results. If you would like to log in on www.faa-fsr.com you can view some of our activities.

Other trivia - our NARFE chapter does not meeting in December. I will be away for the early part of 2008 so please come and support our chapter meetings. Our chapter desperately needs help to keep afloat. We are on "re-treads" again and for the most part everyone is very tired of coming back to hold an office so our chapter won't fold up. I care about chapter #1006 and hope you do to. With that note - I want to thank our out going (again) President Ray Weinmann for being our past President. He's a keeper, that's for sure.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR

Christmas in November— the Angel Tree Program

Please Donate Generously! Make your checks out to the "Salvation Army" "memo: Angel Tree Program". Folding \$\$ are fine also! Our NARFE Christmas Box Lady (me) will be collecting \$\$\$ for the Salvation Army Angel Tree Program for local children, to be delivered to the Salvation Army right after the meeting. Let us all challenge ourselves to donate as much as we can!

Our generosity really does help this worthwhile program. Christmas is coming! Let us help put some smiles on kids' faces!

Thank You! Thank You! Thank you!

(Alzheimer's Fund collection resumes in January).

—MARILYN FALLS, CHAPTER SECRETARY