

NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • January 2008



NARFE District IV Website

www.narfewadist4.org

Chapter Officers

President: Al Burge

Vice President: Ron Gill

Secretary: Kay Kozminski

Treasurer: Mary Balian

Board Member: Ralph Angulo

Board Member: William Holman

Board Member: Lois Shaw

Past President: Ray Weinmann

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

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)

January Chapter Program

January 22, 2008, 11:30 A.M.

The Salad Station (formerly the Secret Garden Buffet)

First St. and Golf Course Road

Port Angeles, WA

Bill Powers, District Vice President, will discuss what will be covered in the Washington State Federation meeting in May and also the workshop in March.

The Pledge of Allegiance will be at 12:00 noon and will be followed by the presentation and a short business meeting. You do not have to eat at the buffet to attend the meeting.

President's Corner

Welcome to 2008. I am glad to be your chapter president for 2008. We now have a full slate of chapter officers. Kay Kozminski has agreed to be the chapter secretary.

The current Congress again failed to bring the NARFE supported bills of Premium Conversion, Windfall Elimination Program (WEP) repeal, and Government Pension Offset (GPO) repeal to vote. New legislation does not have to be introduced for these bills this year for them to be considered. I urge each of you to contact our representatives and indicate our displeasure at the lack of movement on these important bills. The National Office of NARFE has continually proposed full repeal on these items. Several NARFE chapters have proposed a different approach. What if Congress was asked to vote on the inclusion of full Premium Conversion for retired federal employees and a one-third repeal of WEP and GPO. Follow Congressional action could be taken on the remaining in the next three Congressional sessions.

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In 1999 our chapter hosted the Washington Federation of Chapters Biennial meeting. Sixty-five of our members assisted in the most successful meeting the Federation has had. Many of the members who assisted in this endeavor are no longer able to assist this chapter. We need some of our newer members to become involved in the chapter activities.

All members are invited to attend the Executive Board meetings. The executive board meets the first Monday of each month at the Sequim Library at 1:00 P.M.

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Membership

Our sympathy to the family of Bob Cole. Mr. Cole passed away November 10th and at one time was President of our chapter for a short time.

We welcome Christopher Siri, a current employee of the National Park Service.

We also welcome Pamela Godsey that has transferred her membership from Vienna, Va. to our chapter.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR

Let Congress Hear You!

NARFE is the ONLY association dedicated to preserving and improving the retirement benefits of federal employees. We have since 1921! NARFE's reputation and power enable us to influence legislative decisions that affect your life. We are YOUR special interest group.

NARFE's national legislative program is advanced in Congress by a team of registered lobbyists backed by an informed network of grass-root activists in every state and congressional district, and a member-supported Political Action Committee. Our strong supporters and years of experience on Capitol Hill and in federal agencies have made NARFE a name respected by members of Congress and a key player in the federal community.

NARFE's legislative program is crafted by its members at a national convention held in the year immediately preceding the beginning of each new Congress. Through a resolution procedure originating at the local chapter level, the process culminates at the national convention with the adoption of specific legislative policy goals. Once approved, the goals become NARFE's legislative program for the next Congress.

NARFE's mission has remained the same since 1921: To protect and improve the retirement benefits of federal retirees, employees and their families.

NARFE's current legislative agenda focuses on:

Protecting existing retirement and health benefits while Congress attempts to cut record federal budget deficits.

Fighting the growth of controversial "Health Savings Accounts" which could make comprehensive health plans more expensive.

Extending the Premium Conversion rights that federal and postal employees have to federal annuitants, so that retirees too can pay their Federal Employee Health Benefits premiums with pre-tax dollars and save an average of \$400 each year; and,

Repealing the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) - two provisions which can substantially reduce the expected retirement income of retired federal workers.

—WWW.NARFE.ORG