

NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • August 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: Vacant

Legislative: Bill Holman

Membership: co-chairpersons:

Orvie Jensen

Lois Shaw

Newsletter: Sara Boore

Programs: Vacant

Public Relations: Gary Kydland

Service Officer: Ralph Angulo

Sunshine: Kathryn Spilker

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)

August Chapter Program

August 26, 2008, 11:30 A.M.

Paradise Restaurant

703 North Sequim Avenue

(just north of Sequim High School)

Sequim, WA

Ralph Angulo, Chapter Service Officer, will help the members understand and fill out the NARFE F-100 form (survivor's form).

Lunch will be at 11:30 AM and the Speaker will be at 12:00. You do not have to have lunch to attend the meeting

Current Employees

The 1990 pay comparability act would provide an average of 37% pay raise for federal employees. Unfortunately, the law has many loopholes for the President to withhold the increase as both the last two Presidents have.

The Office of Personnel Management says only 16% of the employees under GS 10 and 66% of those over GS 10 ratings participate in the 5% Government matching funds for the FERS. Get a 5% raise, participate!

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

President's Corner

The Federal Diary (www.washingtonpost.com) is back after a two month absence. The new voice for this informative column is Joe Davidson. He replaces Steve Barr who in return replaced Mike Causey. This column provides news and other information important to federal employees and their families.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released figures on August 14 that the cost of living went up 0.5 percent in July. For the purpose of calculating the COLA, this is 6.2 percent above the base period (5.2 percent for FERS retirees). As Judy Parks

continued on back

said in her farewell address, “A higher than 4% COLA will push some in Congress to further limit the COLA formula. As on cue, the CATO institute issued a report stating that federal pay is 102 percent higher than private pay. In a high inflation year there will be pressure to reduce or delay the COLA. Contact your Congressional representatives to provide your inputs.

Lois Shaw and Ron Gill are on the committee to get Chapter Officers for next year. Please consider helping the chapter. Helping takes a very small amount of time for most positions. Membership in NARFE is critical to retaining your benefits. Having a strong chapter voice helps.

See you at the meeting.

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

July Meeting Recap

Gary Smith, Executive Director, Clallam County Public Hospital District No. 2, spoke about the upcoming hospital levy. He believes the levy is absolutely necessary to continue the level of quality care residents now have. Within 5 years, 35 Clallam County doctors will retire. If the levy fails, the Board will have to decide where cuts will be taken. He urged everyone to support the levy and encourage friends and neighbors to do so also. If help is needed to find a doctor, call 417-7705.

Bill Powers, District IV VP reminded us that our Chapter hosts the District Workshop next spring. The future of Honorary membership is on the agenda for the National Convention. Current eligibility is 20 years NARFE membership and age 85.

Sunshine: Marie Wall broke her ankle and is unable to continue as Chair. Kathryn Spilker volunteered to assume the position. (Thank you Kathryn!)

Program: Volunteers are needed.

Legislative: Bill Holman reported retirees will receive 5.7 percent increase next year.

Telephone: Callers needed!!!

Service: Ralph Angulo will conduct the August meeting program. Topic: Be Prepared for Life's Events. If you have one, bring Form F-100, same subject. It is also available on www.narfe.org. Copies will be available at the meeting. Bring as much information as you can, such as list of family members, your retirement number, bank addresses and account numbers, military service, social security numbers, insurance info, health benefits and Medicare coverage, list of investments, dates of wills and trusts, power of attorneys, location/number for safe de-

posit boxes, attorney's name, list of real estate deeds, and other information required by next of kin upon your death.

Also, Ralph reported that VFW has scooters available for people who need them.

Treasurer: Mary Balian gave a status report of the Chapter funds. For Outstanding Newsletter, the Chapter received a \$100 reward at the State Convention. (Thank you Sara!) Current available funds: \$4422.90

Membership: Lois Shaw will order nametags as needed.

Past President Ray Weinmann and Current President Al Burge will attend the National Convention in Lewisville KY September 7-12. Let them know how you want them to vote on membership dues issues. For a list of articles to be voted on, see the NARFE website home page.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, CHAPTER 1006 SECRETARY

Membership

Our sympathy to the family of Muriel Urban. Muriel passed away last Wednesday, 30th July.

We have good news and a lot of bad news with our membership.

First, the good news, we welcome the following new members, Catharine Covert, Robert Jewell, Tren Williamson and Betty Marshall, all from Sequim. And Georgia Reynolds has reinstated.

The BAD news is these have all been sent their second dues notice: Sydney Carr, Eileen Cooney, Edward Helman, Nancy Ortowski, William Paddock, C. Edward Bowby, Inese Leskinovitch, Colette Schlinkmann, Brenda Warber and James Wesley. And the following have been dropped for non-payment of dues: Richard Fort, Richard Foster, Cindy Gamache, Robert Hoyle, Lee Raymond, David Sellman and Harry Thayer.

We thank Kathryn Spilker for volunteering to be our Sunshine Lady. We need more volunteers like Kathryn. Ron Gill & myself are on the nominating committee. We need a Vice President, Treasurer, Program Chair. If we don't get warm bodies to fill some of these positions, guess what happens? Our chapter will no longer exist. Many have been Officers and Chairpersons for many years and many have served over and over, and they are just plain tired and burned out.

Our next meeting will be exciting....our Service Officer Ralph Angulo will explain how to fill out that form for our survivors. Bring your CSA number and your important personal information along. And all your questions!

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR