

# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • June 2009



## NARFE District IV Website

[www.narfewadist4.org](http://www.narfewadist4.org)

### Chapter Officers

**President:** Al Burge

**Vice President:** (Vacant)

**Secretary:** Kay Kozminski

**Treasurer:** Robert Jewell

**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:** Mary Balian

**Legislative:** Bill Holman

Orvie Jensen

Lois Shaw

**Newsletter:** Sara Boore

**Programs:** Vacant

**Public Relations:** Vacant

**Service Officer:** Ralph Angulo

**Sunshine:** Kathryn Spilker

**Telephone:** Pamela Godsey

### Legislators

#### Senator Maria Cantwell

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

#### Senator Cantwell's Director for the Olympic Peninsula

Mike English - (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)

## June Chapter Program

**June 23, 2009, 11:30 A.M.**

**Paradise Restaurant**

**703 North Sequim Avenue**

**(just north of Sequim High School)**

**Sequim, WA**

Our speaker for the June meeting will be Dallas Carter.

She is a Sequim High School student and will speak on her project to further her education. She will be showing 2 pigs in the Clallam County Fair in August and auctioning them as well, and she wants to share with us on how she raises them and her experiences with pigs.

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

## President's Corner

### Active Employees:

From the Tacoma Chapter: In 2008, OPM proposed to eliminate the 52 week service requirement for advancement for GS grades 5 and above. On May 11, OPM proposed a new notice to revoke the final rule.

### Active and Retired Employees:

One of the recurring themes of NARFE Chapters is the request for more volunteers. Many of our volunteers do double and more elected positions and appointed committee positions. I appreciate their efforts. Without volunteers our chapter and the NARFE Association would not exist! We are currently putting together a candidate listing to lead the chapter next year. I am hoping some of our members will step forward to serve the chapter.

In 2007, the American Society of Associations Executives did a research of volunteerism. The  
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most cited reason for volunteering was “helping others and creating a better association.” Volunteers usually started by spending a time on a committee. There was one unintended benefit to volunteering: Volunteers live a longer and healthier life.

Now that you understand the benefits, please volunteer.

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## **May Meeting Summary**

Meeting was called to order by President Al Burge, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guest speakers were Judith and Dave Morris, who spoke of their experiences in Africa with the Peace Corps, which began as volunteers in 1974-1976. Following retirement from the National Park Service, they returned to Zambia where Dave served as Director for six years. Zambia is landlocked, surrounded by eight countries. It is desperately poor, with the economy driven by the price of copper. Average income is less than one dollar a day. The average age is 35-37, the lowest in the world. HIVAs control Africa, and the situation is not getting better. The Peace Corps volunteer's goals for the country to which they are assigned is to move into the grass roots community and serve as little ambassadors of the U.S.; to change their world view; and to teach them a skill. Judith displayed baskets, cloth, and other very unique products typically used by citizens of the country.

Judith now works in Congressman Dicks' Port Angeles Office. Representative Dicks has a personal interest in NARFE. Members were urged to contact him (or her) about WEP and GPO, health insurance, and other concerns. Personal contacts are much more effective than canned form letters. As she works part-time, you may be asked to leave a message. If you want a response, be sure to leave your phone number.

Washington State Federation Convention Report: Lois Shaw and Kay Kozminski reported on the May 14-15 Convention in Wenatchee. National President Margaret Babtiste was keynote speaker and attended the entire conference. There is much concern about membership loss. Ms. Babtiste strongly supports the NARFE dues referendum standardizing dues nationwide. She believes it will have many benefits affecting membership as well as simplifying the job of Chapter Treasurer. All members would pay \$40 annually, or \$3.33 a month. NARFE members nationwide will re-

ceive ballots in September to vote on this issue. July's issue of the NARFE Magazine will have letters for and against the one-dues structure. Next year's convention will be held at the Holiday Inn in Everett on May 17-19. Members are encouraged to attend—an excellent opportunity to meet NARFE leaders and learn from them. An outstanding memorial service honored 244 from the State, nine of those from our Chapter.

Membership: Lois introduced Bob and Barbara Gray who retired from USDA Office of Inspector General.

Service Officer: Ralph Angulo urged all members to complete the F-100 Form, Be Prepared for Life's Events. It will become extremely important to next of kin, as he has witnessed on several occasions.

Alzheimer's: Mary Balian reported \$38 collected as well as \$11 from last month's meeting.

The positions of Vice President, Programs, and Public Relations are still open. Lois Shaw is filling in as Program Chair. Members are urged to step forward to volunteer for these positions. Our Chapter Needs YOU.

Board meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at the Sequim Library. All members are invited to attend.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, SECRETARY

## **Membership**

Nothing new to report for this month. I have been very busy doing NARFE reports and getting paper work updated since returning from the Convention in Wenatchee. I served on the Rules Committee along with Joyce Kaaland from Port Orchard and Sue Spearman from Wenatchee. It's always interesting to meet others from different chapters and share ideas. I urge our members to attend the next Convention in Everett next May and get acquainted with other NARFE members.

I don't like to report deaths; John Mattson passed away 19th May. John was retired from the FAA and his last assignment was Director of the FAA Western Region. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Celeste (who is a member) and six sons.

I'm looking forward to many attending the June 23rd meeting. Why???, because my friend's daughter, Dallas Carter will be our speaker. She is a 16 year old student at Sequim High School and she is looking forward to speaking to our group.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR