

# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • February 2010



## NARFE District IV Website

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

### Chapter Officers

**President:** Al Burge

**Vice President:** Bruce Halstead

**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

**Membership:** co-chairpersons:

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)

### February Chapter Program

February 23, 2010, 11:30 A.M.

Paradise Restaurant

703 North Sequim Avenue

(just north of Sequim High School)

Sequim, WA

The February speakers will be Bill Benedict and Lorraine Shore from the Clallam County Sheriffs Office.

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

I was listening to some Sunday talk shows with congressmen and cabinet members discussing the deficit and what it was going to take to bring spending under control. At the top of the list was "entitlement spending". The members of congress all stated that Social Security was off the list for now. None stated that civil service or military retirement was not on the list of "entitlements" to be looked at for modification. If you are on GEMS, you will be updated for any attacks on our retirement and can respond quickly to our elected members of congress when votes are about to happen. In our area both Congressman Dicks and Senator Murray are up for reelection this year. Throughout 2009 only three of our members contributed to the NARFE PAC. If you want more information on PAC, please call me or you can contribute using the form in the NARFE magazine.

The date for the District IV workshop is Monday March 8 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The workshop will be in Bremerton. If you are a Chapter Officer or Committee Chair, try to attend. Others are certainly welcome.

Some dates for the State Federation Annual Convention to be held May 17 - 19 at the Downtown Holiday Inn in Everett:

**March 15:** Applications for State Office due

*President's Corner continued on next page*

*President's Corner, continued*

**March 17:** Proposed Bylaw Changes

**March 31:** Volunteer forms for a convention committee due

**April 17:** Last day to register at the Holiday Inn for NARFE group rate

Kay Kozminski will have more information at the next chapter meeting.

See you at the meeting

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## January Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon by President Al Burge, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Our speaker was Lanny Ross, NARFE Region IX Vice President. Lanny reported December 2009 as a positive month for NARFE total membership—the third one in a row. However, net losses in membership over the past five years are as follows: 2005: 17,988, 2006: 6,707, 2007: 9,414, 2008: 17,388, and 2009: 7,415. As of December 31, 2009 NARFE had 312,739 members in 1,437 Chapters, which includes 24,417 Active Federal Employees. Chapter 1006 has 31 AFE members of a total membership of 330. Lanny gave a rundown as to why the dues referendum failed. He urged members to read Nat Brown's e-mail and Referendum article in the February NARFE magazine as well as President Margaret's column in the February magazine. The issue is not dead. Most of the membership wants it to happen; however it did not pass because of the extremely large number of invalid ballots received that could not be counted. He believes it will be back on the ballot at the National Bi-Annual Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on August 29-September 2, 2010. If any member is interested in attending, contact Al Burge before the March 10 deadline.

There will NOT be a cola increase for 2010 unless there is some type of action by Congress/the President. As far as legislative action on issues affecting retirees and federal employees, nearly everything is "on hold" due to our legislators' time being consumed with the health care issue.

March is NARFE PAC month. NARFE-PAC's mission/vision is to protect the earned rights and benefits of members. In 2009, there were 5,222 contributors nationally who contributed \$140,875.88. Three contributors from Chapter 1006 gave a total of \$170.

Bill Powers, District IV Vice President, invited members to the District workshop on March 8, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Location: Westside Improvement Club, 4109 E Street in Bremerton. Tentatively, speakers will be George (Sam) Sevier, our National Legislative Chair; Kristine Reeves, Patty Murray's Kitsap and Olympic Peninsula Director; Lanny Ross, and Ralph Sanders, District IV Membership Committee Representative.

The 51st Annual Washington State Federation Convention will be at the Holiday Inn in Everett on May 17-19. It is open to all active and retired federal employees as well as the public. For information, contact Al Burge, Lois Shaw, Kay Kozminski or any Board member.

The next Chapter meeting will be Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at the Paradise Restaurant.

The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, CHAPTER 1006 SECRETARY

## Membership News for February

Not much going on this month to report. Thirty members attended the January meeting and one prospective. It's always great to meet a member that has never attended a meeting and that does happen often.

I have sent past due notices to the following: Dennis Murray, Laura Perrett and Kurt Rittenmyer. Those dues were due January 1st. Our thanks to Jessica Ruby for reinstating her membership.

But on the sad note we have lost two members: Carol Millman and Gilbert Becker. Carol was the daughter of a past member, Ernestine Walker. Gilbert was our PR person for many years. (And that position is vacant)

Mike Ferri, Co-Chair for the Federation Convention in Everett informs us that a representative from the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Benefits and Retirement will attend our State Convention in May. They will be at the convention and will give a presentation and answer questions during the business session. In addition, they will have a table and will be available to talk to anyone who needs additional information. Since they will have secure internet access, they will be able to make any changes on line. You need to be registered to attend the convention.

See you at the meeting Tuesday 23rd when our speaker is Sheriff Benedict.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR