

NARFE

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



NARFE District IV Website

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: 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)

May Chapter Program

May 25, 2010, 11:30 A.M.

Paradise Restaurant

703 North Sequim Avenue

(just north of Sequim High School)

Sequim, WA

Mr. Kevin Ryan, Refuge Manager for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge will be the guest speaker at the May 25 meeting of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees.

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

While most Health Insurance Companies have extended health coverage on their parent's policies for dependents to age 26, the dependents of federal employees or annuitants are still limited in coverage to age 22. The reason is the FEHBP is a yearly contract that can only be changed during open season and takes effect on January 1st. Bills have been introduced in both the House and Senate to allow dependents of federal employees and annuitants to retain their FEHBP coverage to age 26.

Remember to write your NARFE member ID number on the applications you hand out to prospective members. If you recruit an active federal employee, you get an \$8 reward from NARFE HQ. If you recruit a retiree, our chapter gets \$2.

Our Chapter Service Officer is also the District IV Service Officer. The help he provides for our chapter in resolving problems with OPM and assisting those who have lost loved ones is worth the cost of NARFE membership. If you have a need in these areas, please give Ralph a call.

President's Corner continued on next page

President's Corner, continued

As you all know, there is a Presidential commission looking at "entitlements". The results of the commission are to be voted on as a package after the Fall elections. There are several "Town Hall Meetings" that will take place during the May 29 to June 7 Congress recess. These recess meetings will be a platform to solicit the public for spending cut proposals. There is a possibility that legislators could introduce bills based on town hall meetings that would cut our earned government retirement and FEHBP coverage before the Fall elections and before the commission report. It is incumbent on all of us to be alert to any meeting that threatens our earned benefits.

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

April Meeting Summary

The meeting was called to order at 12 noon by President Al Burge, with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

VP Bruce Halstead introduced guest speaker Kristine Reeves, Kitsap & Olympic Peninsula Director for U.S. Senator Patty Murray. Kristine spoke on current issues on which the Senator is working. Biggest issue in the news is health care legislation and Senator's primary concern is how it will impact the residents of Washington State. She's working hard to make sure Medicare is protected. A Women Veterans Bill has just come out of Committee to make sure women are receiving the same benefits as the men receive. Other issues she is working on include Veterans' reemployment and getting the TARP money reallocated to the small community banks. Windfall Elimination and Premium Conversion legislation have been reintroduced, including total elimination of the laws which passed 26 years ago. She also wants constituents to contact her if having problems/issues with Federal agencies—SSA, USDA, Medicare, etc. Emails and cell phone calls to Kristine were encouraged and receive quicker response than contacts made through the Washington Office system. Her mobile number is 253-973-8072; email: Kristine_Reeves@murray.senate.gov.

Mailing address: Commerce Building, 950 Pacific Avenue, Room 650, Tacoma, WA 98402.

Membership Chair Lois Shaw announced that Kristine Reeves is now a member of our Chapter. She also reported attendance of 30 at the meeting. If anyone has old, unused eye glasses, Lois will take them for charity organizations.

District IV Vice President Bill Powers reported on preparation for the Federation Convention on May 17-19 in Everett. There has been streamlining and other changes. The Convention will be reported on at the June Chapter meeting.

Treasurer Robert Jewell reported current budget of \$6,651.74, prior to today's expenditures. \$38 was collected for Alzheimer's Fund.

Service Officer Ralph Angulo has copies of the new, revised form F-100, Be Prepared for Life's Events—What Your Survivors Should Know. It is also available on the NARFE website.

BP Bruce announced next month's speaker to be Kevin Ryan, Manager of the Fish and Wildlife Refuge Center. Members are urged to attend. They are also always welcome to attend any/all Board Meetings, which are held the first Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m., at the Sequim Library.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, CHAPTER SECRETARY

Membership News for May

I will be going to the Federation Convention in Everett next week. I will be serving on the Rules Committee with Joyce Kaaland from Port Orchard. The conventions are always interesting and one gets to see old friends. This will be my 16th year to attend a Federation Convention.

We send our deepest condolences to Marilyn Falls. Her husband, Lloyd passed away very recently. Marilyn was our Chapter Secretary prior to Kay Kozminski.

We had 34 members attending our last chapter meeting. Our membership as of today is 326.

Do you need any 3 ring binders? I have 2" and 3" binders, (white) that are free.

And I collect your used eye glasses and hearing aids. Bring them to the meeting and I will take them to the Lions for distribution to 3rd World Countries.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR