

NARFE

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

August Chapter Program

Friday, August 20, 2010, 11:30 A.M.

Paradise Restaurant

703 North Sequim Avenue

(just north of Sequim High School)

Sequim, WA

Our August speaker will be Renne Brock-Richmond. Her topic is "Crossing the Digital Divide: Uncovering the Treasures of the Internet". Renne is an instructor at Peninsula College, teaching noncredit computer and technology courses in Sequim, including courses in computer basics. She will help us to understand the imperative for taking the plunge into computer technology, the riches that the internet provides, and how to find its nuggets without drowning.

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

As we enter this election cycle, I believe a review of the accomplishments of our NARFE leadership in Washington, D. C. are in order.

Federal, state, and local government retirees, who don't get Social Security, were left off the \$250 per person stimulus, received a one-time \$250 per person refundable tax credit. NARFE led in getting this legislation passed.

The House Budget Resolution amendment proposing the reduction of federal civilian retirement/health benefits by \$10 billion over 10 years was defeated.

Several Civil Service improvements were passed: Federal agencies can now re-employ federal retirees on a limited, part time basis without offset of annuity; FERS can credit one-half of their unused sick leave toward retirement with full credit in 2014; Returning FERS employees can repay a deposit with interest to the Retirement Trust Fund in order to be able to combine their past and new service for retirement annuity; Extended locality pay in calculation of retirement annuity was included for federal employees of Alaska, Hawaii, and U. S. Territories; Restored the General Schedule pay system to Department of Defense employees; new employees will be automatically enrolled in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and there will be immediate matching funds; TSP has added a ROTH option; Ensured that surviving spouses have the same rights over their inherited accounts as any other TSP

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President's Corner, continued

participant; provided language in the Health Care Reform Bill that safeguards the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan (FEHBP) from other plans to be administered by OPM and kept federal employees and retirees out of the state administered health exchanges; and still not voted on by the Senate: protect all Medicare Beneficiaries from increases in premiums when Social Security beneficiaries are not required to pay the same increases in premiums.

Since 1986, NARFE member have played a major role in seeking a cure for Alzheimer's disease. In collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association, NARFE members have donated more than \$8.5 million. One hundred percent of NARFE donations are allocated to research. Many NARFE members not only contribute their dollars but also plan and/or participate in other fundraising and volunteer at local day-care and respite centers. As many of you know, my lovely wife was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease thirteen years ago. There is a publication titled "The 36 Hour Day" that describes the effects on the person with the disease and the effects on the care givers. Please consider giving to this cause

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Membership News for August

This will be a short and sweet membership news. Since our meeting will be early this month I don't have the M-112 report on line; therefore I can't tell you who has paid their dues, dropped out, etc. I do have one death to report and that is of Jim Dawes. At one time Jim was active in our chapter and those of us that knew him are sorry to hear of his passing. He was 95 years old.

If you enjoyed the speaker at last months meeting and think we should do a repeat, let me know. I found Becca Korby to be very interesting with a lot of facts that many of us never knew.

MEN: how many of you think you will out live your spouse? In the past few months I heard of 3 widows that never knew their husband had not selected them a survivor annuitant, only because they thought they would out live their wife. My uncle just knew that he would survive his wife because she was in failing health; guess who is still living and receives \$400 month to live on. This happens more often than we realize and wives, you should come to the meetings and find out what is going on! I have meet very few wives that come with their husband, mainly because they think this is only a man's organization.

See you at the next meeting

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

July Meeting Summary

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

Membership Chair Lois Shaw introduced our speaker, Becca Korby of Healthy Families of Clallam County, who spoke passionately on the subject of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse in our community. She shared shocking statistics and examples of what is happening in Clallam County. Healthy Families is a non-profit agency providing a wide range of services empowering children, youth, adults and families to achieve their full potential, improve their physical mental and emotional health, and live free of violence and abuse. Becca's message: Become Warriors! Help by educating yourself and others about domestic violence. Get involved. Show your support. Volunteer. Make donations. (Healthy Families is a United Way/CFC Partner Agency). Be a friend by being a good listener. Be nonjudgmental. Make a commitment to the cause. Please call 360-452-3811 for more information.

Finances: Treasurer Robert Jewell reported a balance of \$6301.60 in the Chapter bank account. Vice President Bruce Halstead has audited the finance records and will provide the report to the President.

31st National Convention, Grand Rapids MI, August 29-September 30: President Al will represent this Chapter, including casting our 7 votes (one for every 50 members) on issues involving membership, dues, etc.

The next General Meeting has been changed to Friday, August 20, 11:30 a.m., since the Paradise will be closed on Tuesday, August 24. Renne Brock-Richmond will speak. She is an instructor at Peninsula College and teaches computer and technology courses in Sequim. She will help us understand the imperative for taking the plunge into computer technology and the riches that the internet provides.

The next Executive Board meeting will be on Monday, September 13, 12:30 p.m., at the Sequim Library. Members are always welcome to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, SECRETARY