

NARFE

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

November Chapter Program

!!!!!! Health Fair at 11:00 !!!!!

Tuesday, November 23, 2010, 11:00 A.M.

Paradise Restaurant

703 North Sequim Avenue

(just north of Sequim High School)

Sequim, WA

For our November meeting, representatives of federal health insurance companies will provide information on 2011 programs.

Lunch is at 11:00 A.M. and the health fair is from 11:00 to 12:30. You do not have to have lunch to attend the health fair.

President's Corner

The November meeting is our annual health fair meeting. Open Season is November 8 to December 13. Representatives from the National Federal Employees Health Benefit Plans (FEHBP) will be at the meeting to provide information on their plans. Our meeting will start one-half hour earlier than usual so that the health plan representatives can get to the Port Angeles Federal Building for their next appointments.

Our chapter has collected funds from members for the Salvation Army Children's Holiday gifts for several years. I have had the pleasure of presenting the Salvation Army over \$600 each of the past two years. I hope each of us can continue this generous contribution to the children of our communities. If you write a check for your contribution, please write the check to the "Salvation Army." The chapter can not co-mingle these charitable funds with funds used to run the chapter's defined mission.

At our October meeting we elected Bud Shaw as chapter president. We reelected Bruce Halstead as vice president, Kay Kozminski as secretary, Robert Jewell as treasure, and Lois Shaw, Ralph Angulo, and William Holman as board members. The chapter decided to keep the chapter dues at \$7.

The Co-Chairs of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform released a 50 page

President's Corner continued on next page

President's Corner, continued

“draft” on Wednesday, November 10. The NARFE Legislative office has provided this review of the effect on Federal retirees and employees.

“Impact on Federal Retirement. Most important to federal employees and retirees, the co-chairs proposal would achieve mandatory savings from civil service retirement “by 1) Calculating federal service annuities by using highest 5 years of salary instead of the present 3 years; 2) Requiring Federal Employees Retirement System covered workers to contribute a much higher share of payroll to their defined benefit annuity; 3) basing Social Security, Federal civilian and Military retirement cost of living adjustments (COLAs) on the “chained consumer price index” which would result in lower increases than under present law and; 4) Requiring Federal civilian retirees to pay a larger share of the FEHBP premiums. Furthermore, federal employees would be especially impacted by the recommendation to enact tough discretionary spending caps and provide \$200 billion in domestic and defense savings by 2015. This includes a three-year pay freeze and cutting the federal workforce by 10 percent.”

From the TACOMA NARFE NEWS - Natalie Leath : “By now, you should have realized that your pensions and COLAs are no longer sacred. Each of us needs to maintain regular contact with our elected officials and remind them that they should be encouraging talented, innovative, and dedicated people to enter and stay in government service - not to undermine their important service to America.”

See you at the meeting and don't forget a contribution to the Salvation Army.

—AL BURGE, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

From the Telephone Committee

It has been my privilege to get to know many of you as chairperson of the Telephone Committee for the last couple of years. My thanks to other callers--Tom Mulhern, Kathy Spilker, Mary Tate, and Edie Varney. Special thanks to Lois for her wisdom and help.

Our goal has been to be a personal voice encouraging attendance at meetings, or to sometimes just say hello to those whose circumstance keeps them closer to home.

As the annual transition in leadership occurs, it's time for me to relinquish this position. Please think about stepping forward for this or some other job. You can serve for just a couple of years—it isn't a lifetime commitment! This is a good chapter serving the needs of active and retired Federal employees.

—PAMELA GODSEY, TELEPHONE CHAIR

Membership News for November

Happy Holidays to each of you and this is the last newsletter for 2010.

Looking ahead will be our 2011 District IV Workshop on Thursday, March 17th. We will gather in Poulsbo at the Sons of Norway Lodge #44 starting at 9 AM. If you haven't attended a Workshop before, this is your chance to come and meet other members in our District.

I am sad to report the death of Polly Pohlamus. She was the first NARFE person I met in 1987 when I attended the first meeting and she always kept in touch. Polly held many offices in our chapter and her husband Bob was our President for many years. Our sympathy to the family. Franklin Johnson has moved from our area and is now residing in Ridgefield, Wa. We welcome Jim Lowthian back to our membership. And we will have a new member soon by the name of Harold Chadwick.

By now you have heard that our dues will increase effective January 1, 2011. Good news though is our Chapter Dues will remain at \$7.00 The new National Dues are: One year - \$40.00; Two years - \$72.00; Three years - \$102.00. Members on dues withholding will receive a 15% reduction on National dues. Their annual dues; \$34.00, plus the chapter dues. Existing Life members - NO impact as they have paid. New Life Members - new actuarial rates have been established and the National Life Membership application will be available at the January meeting or you can find it in the December NARFE magazine. Those on annual renewal - the first dues renewal notice with the new dues structure is scheduled to go out in January for members whose renewal date is March. Those members with January and February expiration dates will renew under the old dues structure. Those on Dues Withholding - change effective for members with a March anniversary date. Your due date is on your mailing label on the newsletter.

I am listing the last name of those whose dues are due October, November or December 2010. If you have paid - my apologies. - Andrew, Beven, Cates, Cherny, Clark W, Cushman, Dougherty, Eastman, Edwards M, Fullmer, Funkhouser M, Gallinger, Halsaver, Halstead, Houghton, Irwin, Johnson D, McGill, Moore J, Nelson H, Nickey, Quade, Reader, Richmond, Sloane, Walker, Willis, Yates J, Young K, Zamboni.

This is an interesting article from Don Binder, our NARFE-PAC Chairman. During this legislative cycle's 7 quarters January 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010 - 53,996 NARFE members have given \$1,329,676.34, averaging \$24.63 per donor. For Washington, 1,627 members have given \$44,722.00, which averages \$27.49 per donor - above the national average contribution. If you have given to NARFE-PAC pat yourself on the back. The Federation web site, www.narfewa.net has a recap of PAC funds given to Washington's candidates and the latest state/chapter PAC contribution report. Just click on “NARFE PAC” once in the site.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR