

# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • August 2012



## NARFE District IV Website

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

### Chapter Officers

**President:** Bud Shaw  
**Vice President:** Robert Ackerman  
**Secretary:** Kay Kozminski  
**Treasurer:** Robert Jewell  
**Board Member:** Ralph Angulo  
**Board Member:** William Holman  
**Board Member:** Lois Shaw  
**Past President:** Al Burge  
**District IV Vice President:** Bill Powers

### Chapter Chairpersons

**Alzheimer:** Robert Jewell  
**Legislative:** Bill Holman  
**Membership:** Lois Shaw  
**Newsletter:** Sara Boore  
**Programs:** Vacant  
**Public Relations:** Vacant  
**Service Officer:** Ralph Angulo  
**Sunshine:** Kathryn Spilker  
**Telephone:** Vacant

### 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**  
Christina Reeves - (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, (800) 947-6676;  
and 332 East Fifth Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362 (Staffed by  
Judith Morris), [judith.morris@mail.house.gov](mailto:judith.morris@mail.house.gov) - Tuesday 9:00  
A.M.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 P.M., and by appointment  
452-3370.

### August Chapter Program

Tuesday, August 28, 2012, 11:30 A.M.  
Paradise Restaurant  
703 North Sequim Avenue  
(just north of Sequim High School)  
Sequim, WA

Our speaker for the August meeting is Terry McMahon,  
Former USAID Officer with extensive overseas experience  
Lunch is at 11:30 AM and the speaker will be at 12:00.

### President's Corner

I must apologize to you since there was a little confusion in mailing the July newsletter. Those of you that receive the newsletter via the internet got the correct version and will be receiving some of the information again. If you receive your newsletter via US Mail you got the June newsletter. It was caused by pushing the wrong button and not noticing the mistake. Maybe most of you thought like we did: it sure took the post office a long time to deliver it and waited for the July issue to arrive which didn't happen. Since we did not receive any complaints we wonder if anyone reads the newsletter and maybe we should stop putting out the newsletter as some think we should. Let us hear from you on this item. One major mistake in many years of publication is not a bad record. Anyone wanting to assist on the newsletter please step forward, your help will be welcomed.

#### **This part you should have received last month:**

Our chapter is regressing to such a degree that Chapter 1006 may cease to exist. None of our members want to assume any of the Officer or committee positions to assist in keeping the chapter functioning. The attendance at our meetings continues to decline in spite of the interesting speakers we have had. Our last meeting was presented by HOSPICE was very interesting and informative, yet only 14 persons attended. The restaurant is concerned about the low utilization of their meeting room. When we started meeting at the restaurant they asked the card players using the facility to change their playing days since they mainly only used a beverage service. Our members only placed orders for 6 lunches during our last meeting. I am sure if our meeting attendance continues to decline; we may lose our meeting room and would have to go someplace else. Folks, what would you like for the Chapter to do to increase your attendance? If you have any suggestions let me or any of our staff know, I feel confident we can meet your desires.

#### **Congress Plays the Blame Game over Sequestration**

To date there have been a long list of studies published on the potential fallout from \$109 billion in mandatory sequestration cuts scheduled to hit the government on January 2, 2013. This week, President Obama's budget office affirmed these fears, and urged that Congress make every effort to stop the devastating cuts.

As the clock ticks closer to January 2nd, both Republicans and Democrats have chosen to play the blame game rather than come to a bipartisan solution to replace the mandated cuts. Congress's continues to flounder on this issue rather than to create a solution, it is unlikely the House and Senate will come to agreement on anything regarding the sequestration cuts. As they debate any potential solution, however, it is important that federal employees be involved in the process. Yes, it is crucial to stop the massive cuts to

*President's Corner continued on back*

*President's Corner, continued*

federal agency budgets, but not at the expense of your pensions, pay checks, or jobs, as some have proposed.

We need to keep reminding members of Congress that it was not the federal workforce that got us into the fiscal crisis we are stuck in, and federal workers can't be expected to shoulder the bulk of the burden in getting our country out of it. Federal employees have already accepted \$75 billion in cuts to their pay and benefits. Congress needs to get serious about a balanced approach to getting our fiscal house in order." When you vote for the person you can select the candidate that best suits your needs, such as retirement and health insurance.

Senior citizens are constantly being criticized for every conceivable deficiency of the modern world, real or imaginary. We know we take responsibility for all we have done and do not blame others. HOWEVER, upon reflection, we should point out that it was NOT the senior citizens who took God out of the vocabulary

And, we do understand the meaning of patriotism, and

remember those who have fought and died for our country. Just look at the Seniors with tears in their eyes and pride in their hearts as they stand at attention with their hand over their hearts when the flag passes us in a parade!

### **New Federation Secretary**

After several years the Federation Secretary Paul Shell has resigned, we thank you Paul you did a terrific job, I am sure we will see you at the Conventions. He is being replaced by Linda Sanders. She was sworn in as the Federation secretary July 25 at the Federation Executive Board meeting. She is from Bremerton Chapter 181.

### **Keep OPM PINs Current**

Retiree Personal Identification Numbers must be used at least once every 15 months to stay current. Go to the OPM web site, [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov), and use the PIN. For expired PINs, call: 888.767.6738. Best times to call, 7:30 a.m., or 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., Eastern Time.

—BUD SHAW, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## **August Membership News**

National and I have sent renewal dues to the following members: Philip Decillia, David Morris, Michael O'Connor, Nancy Ortowski, Georgia Reynolds & Graeme Ton. Your dues were due June 2012. Members dropped for non payment of dues are: Janet Lacombe, Urban Mills and William Monroe. Those dues were due March 2012. THANKS to those that have paid for 1,2,and 3 years. Marilyn Hoeft, Franklin Johnson, David Miller, Tom Mulhern and Mary Paul.

Here is the Dues Structure: One Year National Dues is \$40.00 (Chapter Dues are \$7.00 per year) - \$47.00, Two Years National Dues - \$72.00 plus chapter dues - \$86.00; Three Years National Dues - \$102.00 plus chapter dues - \$123.00. Members on Dues w/holding will receive a 15% reduction on National Dues. The annual dues will be \$34.00 plus our Chapter Dues - \$41.00

Now for a word about PAC. Some of you have ask how does PAC operate - so here's the nitty-gritty. OK - funds get to National a number of ways. A member send direct to National; give to a Chapter NARFE-PAC chair to mail (We need a volunteer for that position) or you can send your check to our Federation NARFE-PAC Don Binder. His e-mail is: [don\\_binder@msn.com](mailto:don_binder@msn.com) The funds that get to National are all put in one centrally controlled pot. Once the request is actually received at National they will contact Don Binder for our recommendation for any of the 10 house seats or the one senate seat up for election this year. Don will canvass the Federation state-wide officers and the appropriate DVP's asking that they canvass the appropriate chapters. Once a decision has been made Don will get back to National. Then the legislative staff makes a recommendation with the input counting a great deal to the 4 National Resident Officers (who comprise the NARFE-PAC committee) and the Legislative Director (Julie Tagen) as a non-voted advisor. Once they decide and if funds are to be contributed to a candidate in our state - they will notify Don that a check is being issued to the campaign committee for the specific individual. Then Don will notify the appropriate people within NARFE WSFC's and ask that the DVP's notify the chapter presidents and /or the NARFE-PAC chair person. \*As you know, this is an

important year to send in your dollars - our benefits are at stake.

There won't be any Membership News for September. The President and I are off to Oklahoma City for this years FAA reunion and touch base with some of the family members in the Mid-West.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

## **July Speaker Recap**

Mike Teefy, President of Vancouver NARFE Chapter, was the keynote speaker. He is the President and also National Legislative Chair for NARFE Vancouver Chapter. Mr. Teefy worked for Social Security Administration for 35 years. He believes Social Security is one of the biggest issues in Washington, D.C. at this time. In the near future, NARFE will consist of more and more FERS retirees.

There is a lot of information out in the news now that is totally inaccurate. The Social Security Trust Fund is NOT going broke. Social Security is not a tax. It is an "investment." What you put into it comes back to you. You, as an individual, get all your money back. Mr. Teefy gave a historical review of how Social Security came into being, how it has changed, and what he expects for its future. One of the earliest (1912) American advocates of a plan that could be recognized as modern social insurance was Theodore Roosevelt. On June 8, 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced his intention to provide a program for Social Security. On August 14, 1935, the President signed into law the Social Security Act. In addition to several provisions for general welfare, the new Act created a social insurance program designed to pay retired workers age 65 or older a continuing income after retirement. Payment of monthly social security benefits began in January 1940 and was authorized not only for aged retired workers but for their aged wives or widows, children under age 18, and surviving aged parents.

There are many myths about Social Security. He believes the solution is simple. "With a little tweaking, once we get past the baby-boomer hump, the Social Security Trust Fund will be solvent forever after."

—KAY KOZMINSKI, CHAPTER SECRETARY

## **NARFE**

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