

NARFE

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



NARFE District IV Website

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 - Tuesday 9:00
A.M.-Noon, Thursday 1:00-4:00 P.M., and by appointment
452-3370.

November Chapter Program

Tuesday, November 27, 2012, 11:30 A.M.
Paradise Restaurant
703 North Sequim Avenue
(just north of Sequim High School)
Sequim, WA

Ray Weinmann, who represented this Chapter at the 32nd NARFE National Convention in Reno, will give a report on highlights of the Convention. We will also have our annual Christmas Drive for the Salvation Army.

Lunch is at 11:30 AM and the speaker will be at 12:00.

President's Message

Veteran's Day Has Passed

Did you remember to thank a veteran for helping to protect our country? If it was not for veterans and those that did not survive to be veterans we might be speaking Japanese or German today. If you have the opportunity to buy a meal or even a drink for a man or woman in a Military Uniform, that you might encounter in the future please do so, you will be amazed how good it will make you feel. Many of those that are in our military services today find themselves involved with a bunch of despicable cowards whose weapon of choice is the Improvised Explosive Device (IED). They hide the IED in a road way and then trigger the device from a private home when a US Military vehicle passes. They then claim US brutality when the home involved is destroyed by our troops.

Possible Chapter 1006 closing

The Executive Board meeting on Nov. 5 was to discuss our failure in efforts in getting members to volunteer for leadership roles and accept Chapter Officer Positions. Ten of our members and our District Vice President Bill Powers attended the meeting. After discussing many options it was the unanimous conclusion that we should start actions required to close Chapter 1006. I will further explore the situation at our Nov. 27th meeting when I will seek nominations from the attending members for any of the Officer positions. The first nomination sought will be for the Chapter President; if you intend to nominate someone be certain that the person is willing to accept the nomination.

If no one is willing to accept the Presidency I will proceed with the required action to close the Chapter 1006 by scheduling a special Chapter meeting to be held January 22, 2012 for the purpose of closing the chapter down.

No Health Fair This Year

We had a problem scheduling the Health Fair this year since our regular meeting room was not available on the dates the fair had been scheduled. However; we will have Chapter members Lois Shaw, Kay Kosminski and Ralph Angulo at the Homeland Security building and at the National Parks Department during their Health Fairs, Nov. 20, 2012. The fair times are 8:00AM-10:00AM at the Park and 12:00PM-2:30PM at Homeland Security.

The Good News

COLAS: For Social Security recipients and federal retirees, the COLA will increase 1.7% in 2013. Changes are effective in January .

President's Corner continued on back

The Bad News

Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has announced that the average premium for the 8.2 million people covered by the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program will increase by 3.4 percent in 2013, which is lower than last year's increase of 3.8 percent. The average premium increase for the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP) will be less than 1 percent 7.0 percent. There are no significant benefit changes for any program in 2013.

Question?

Why do you have to 'put your two cents in'... But it's only a 'penny for your thoughts'? Where's that extra penny going?

November Salvation Army Collection

We will be taking up the collection at our November meeting for the Salvation Army Christmas Fund; the need is greater this year due to the high unemployment rate in our area. Give till it hurts a little, even dip into your kids inheritance, they should not object to helping this worthy need.

—BUD SHAW, CHAPTER PRESIDENT

Membership News

First, I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas.

By now, you have probably heard that our beloved chapter is in trouble. Not one person has contacted me to help with the Membership Department. What does that tell you? It tells me that no one cares about Chapter #1006

We will be having a SPECIAL meeting January 22nd 2013 to determine the next step. There are special procedures from National for closing a chapter. Here are some of the specifics: 1. The Federation President or a designee must work with the chapter officials to ensure that all necessary action is taken. 2. Chapter & or Federation official must set a date for chapter voting members to meet and discuss the future of this chapter. 3. Chapter members (regardless of their domain) must be given advance notice of the meeting and the reason for calling a meeting. (You will receive a first class letter prior to the January meeting) 4. Providing there is a quorum, a federation or chapter official must explain the 'pros' & "cons" for closing the chapter and take a vote on closing the chapter. A majority vote is required. 5. If a quorum is not present, the action is the same as in item 4, except no vote is taken. 6. A report and recommendation should be made to the federation president on whether to close the chapter. 6. All members, including voting and non-voting (we have 21 non-voting) must be notified of (A) the chapter name and number to which their membership is to be transferred (B) name &

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telephone number of the president of the chapter to which they are transferred, & (C) their right to be transferred to any chapter of their choice. In our District IV, We have the Bremerton chapter, Zip code is: 98310, 98311 & 98312; Port Orchard is 98367 and Poulsbo is 98370. We hear rumors that in the near future Bremerton will be the sole surviving chapter in this District.

NOW: You have heard about E-Chapters. As I am doing this article on 14th of November; Lanny Ross and other National VP' are at National Headquarters in a conference in relation to E-Chapters, etc. In the January news I'll have more to say about that. But, so far we know that you can join the Washington DC E-Chapter #2363. We have 2 members from this chapter that are now E-Members. E-NARFE is an online membership option designed to fit with active and retired employee's busy schedules. No meetings to attend. You will be kept informed about all NARFE business and activities online when YOU want. You will get frequent updates from Capitol Hill, the weekly legislative hotlines, etc. The fee is \$40/year and you will still receive the monthly magazine.

You ask how many members do we have in this chapter - As of today, we have 272 voting chapter members, 2 National Life members and 19 National Only members. Isn't it a shame that out of the 272 members in this chapter, NOT ONE cares; except the core group that kept it going for the past several years!

I do hope you will attend the January meeting and give us your thoughts.

—LOIS SHAW, MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
FOR THE PAST 18 YEARS.

September Speaker Recap

Our speaker was Ralph Angulo, our Service Officer, who spoke on the importance of preparing for our final days. While one's death is a difficult topic to discuss, reviewing this information with your family will help them to understand the steps they will need to take. He provided copies of NARFE's F-100, Be Prepared for Life's Events: What Your Survivors Should Know. (Do YOU have a copy? Is it completed and up to date? Does SOMEONE besides you know where it is located?) Copies of the form F-100 are available from Ralph. A new version of F-100 is due out in November. The form is also available on the NARFE website. Especially important is page 16, Burial Instructions. Ralph went into a great amount of detail, walking us through the form, item by item, stressing the importance and answering questions as to how to prepare your next-of-kin/loved ones for your death. He is available to answer questions as needed.

—KAY KOZMINSKI, CHAPTER SECRETARY