

# NARFE

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 • June 2007



## NARFE District IV Website

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

### Chapter Officers

**President:** Ray Weinmann

**Vice President:** Ron Gill

**Secretary:** Marilyn Falls

**Treasurer:** Mary Balian

**Board Member:** Ralph Angulo

**Board Member:** William Holman

**Board Member:** Lois Shaw

**Past President:** Orvie Jensen

**District IV Vice President:** Bill Powers

### Chapter Chairpersons

**Alzheimer's:** Elizabeth Owen

**Historian:** Charlotte Petersen

**Legislative:** Bill Holman

**Membership:** co-chairpersons:

Orvie Jensen

Lois Shaw

**Newsletter:** Sara Boore

**Programs:** co-chairpersons:

Ron Gill

Ray Weinmann

**Public Relations:** Gary Kydland

**Service Officer:** Ralph Angulo

**Sunshine:** Marie Wall

**Telephone:** Mary Tate

### Legislators

#### Senator Maria Cantwell

website: <http://www.cantwell.senate.gov>

**Senator Cantwell's Director for the Olympic Peninsula**

Robert Thoms - (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 Mary Schun-

eman) Tuesday 9:30 A.M.-Noon, Thursday 2:00-5:00 P.M., and

by appointment 452-3370)

## June Chapter Program

**June 26, 2007, 11:30 A.M.**

**The Secret Garden Buffet**

**First St. and Golf Course Road**

**Port Angeles, WA**

For our June program, a representative from Olympic Medical Center will give a presentation on healthy life styles and healthy hearts."

The Pledge of Allegiance will be at 12:00 noon and will be followed by the presentation and a short business meeting. You do not have to eat at the buffet to attend the meeting.

## President's Corner

Many members wonder why NARFE has been unsuccessful in getting Premium conversion and WEP-GPO passed. When dealing with Congress and budget matters progress can be slow. However a simple response to the question "What has NARFE done lately?" should be "Our organization has been very successful in keeping what we have." COLA's every year, no reductions in health care or insurance, good working relations with OPM takes constant effort and vigilance. We should be grateful to our national legislative staff for their good work on Capital Hill.

Don't forget we now have a raffle pot of over \$60 with half to go to a winning ticket (assuming that person is present at the drawing). We will draw up to three tickets at each Chapter meeting.

Also, remember to bring a prospective member for a free lunch and/or a new member that you have signed up for a free lunch for the new member and yourself.

Please do what you can to sign up new members and encourage attendance at our monthly meetings."

—RAY WEINMANN  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## Membership

Welcome to our new member, David Johnson of Port Hadlock.

We send our sympathy to Edna Kriedler, her husband, Gene passed away last month. Gene had been a member for many years. Also, our sympathy to the family of Maudi Haas, who passed away. Her husband, Ed, was our Treasurer at one time. I have spoken with June Posey and she is now at Park View Assisted Living. She won't be renewing her membership. June also has been a long time member. I have sent a prospective member a letter to join our chapter, George Tkamoto of Quilcene.

Another reminder about dues. For a retired federal employee those renewing for one year is \$29.00 plus the chapter dues of \$7.00 Two years is \$52.00 plus \$14 chapter dues. Three years is \$74 plus \$21 chapter dues.

However, the best way to beat these prices is to go on dues withholding. You pay \$24.60 per year or \$2.05 a month plus the chapter dues. If you are interested please give me a call and I'll send you the form.

Let's discuss Premium Conversion. Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code presently allows employers in both the public and private sectors to permit their employees to pay for their share of health insurance premiums with wages excluded from both income and Social Security payroll taxes. Federal

employees and annuitants pay an average share of 29% of FEHBP premiums, and the federal government/employer pays the remaining 71%. Absent premium conversion, the enrollee share of FEHBP premiums is paid with taxable salary or annuities. Based on the authority provided in Section 125, the premiums conversion benefit was first extended to executive branch employees of the federal government as of Oct. 1, 2000. According to the OPM "premium conversion" saves federal workers an average of \$820/yr in taxes. Current federal employees may be surprised to learn that they will no longer receive the tax benefit of premium conversion once they retire. Consequently, retiring employees lose the tax benefit just when they need it the most - when they began living on lower fixed incomes. Join our fight so that you may continue to enjoy the premium conversion tax benefit in retirement by urging your Representative to co-sponsor H.R. 111- and implore your Senators to cosponsor S.773. Contact your Member of Congress by e-mail through the "Legislative Action Center" on the NARFE web site [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), or to call them at (202) 224-3121 - the Capitol Hill switchboard. You will find your Representative & Senator's address/phone numbers on this newsletter.

—LOIS SHAW  
MEMBERSHIP CO-CHAIR

## Current Employee Corner:

Do You realize that you will lose your pre tax payment benefit for health insurance when you retire?? NARFE has been working to gain this benefit for retirees. Contact any of the Exec. Committee for further information.

—RAY WEINMANN  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## From the Editor

If you would like to make any corrections to this newsletter or contributions to the next one, please contact Sara Boore (477-1105) or email [sboore@yahoo.com](mailto:sboore@yahoo.com).