



MAY 2008

NUMBER 05-08

General Meeting Date & Time: May 12, 2008, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club
National Avenue & 'E' Street, Bremerton, WA

Program: KITSAP COUNTY SHERIFF STEVE BOYER

NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors.

PRESIDENT: At our April Chapter meeting, Ralph Sanders reported our voting membership has dropped below 1400. As president of Chapter 181, this is discouraging. Our present, and future, depends on getting our current members to renew their memberships which can easily be done by "dues withholding" and to recruit new members. There is no easy way for this to be done. All of us must be engaged in talking to our friends, families, and young active employees about NARFE and its mission.

I admonish you to read the Presidential candidates statements on issues that will affect us all. In the May issue of NARFE National Magazine, beginning on page 10 through page 14, is some very good information about the Health Care plans and other issues. Be sure to read the 'fine print'.

We need help with the August 4, 2008 Summer BBQ - please mark that date and be there. If you would like help, give 1st VP Amber VanSantford a call to volunteer. Thank you for your support for NARFE PAC and the Alzheimer's Fund. Keep up the good work. *George Eads*

STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE: The annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, sponsored by the National Association of Letter Carriers, and supported by NARFE, is the nation's largest single-day food drive. On Saturday, May 10, the National Association of Letter Carriers and allied postal crafts will conduct their 16th Annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. NARFE members are urged to collect and bag non-perishable food items and place the bag by your mailbox.

TIME TO HONOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES: May 5-11 is *Public Service Recognition Week*. Please take time out to honor active and former government employees serving across America.

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ): The balance in our Alzheimer's Account as of 25 April is \$143.13. Donations in the amount of \$205.00 were received from D. Arreola, Louis & Loraine Brockerman, Marcella Lund, Helen & Wayne Matz, J. R. Seibold and Roy Short. Two donations in memory of Ruby Stansbury were made by Charles & Patricia Schutte (Ruby's sister and brother-in-law) and John & Cherie Baker.

The Aluminum for Alzheimer's collection totaled 487 pounds and we received a check for \$241.14. We collected an additional 16 pounds of aluminum at our April meeting and we had a total of 31 pounds as of 16 April. We also received aluminum from Poulsbo Chapter 881 again last month and we are receiving the recycle material from Illahee State Park as of 1 April. The first pickup from Illahee was made by our District VP William Powers and his estimate was that we have about 80 pounds that he is sorting and crushing. Thanks Bill and Illahee Park for the assistance. Remember that it only takes between 32 to 36 cans to make a pound, so stomp the cans to help "Stomp out Alzheimers". We are keeping the program active so keep dropping off your aluminum items at Westsound recycle in the East Bremerton Wal-Mart parking lot. Your aluminum can be dropped off at that site and credited to NARFE Chapter 181. Please note that the collection site is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

We sent a check on 22 April to the State Alzheimer's Chair for recording and forwarding to the NARFE Alzheimer's Association Research Fund in the amount of \$1,225.00. That makes a total of \$3277.00 for the last 12 months. Thanks to all of you for a job well done. *Rex Tauscher*

SENIOR FAIR: The annual Senior Fair at the Kitsap County Fairgrounds will be Thursday, May 22nd. Doors open at 9:00 a.m.. While there is no charge, you must register in order to receive

a free box lunch. Please call 337-5700 to register.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Sympathy Cards were sent to the families of Roy Barnes, Julie Lowe, Kenneth Prichard, Verne Rott, Anthony Ruth and Ruby Stansbury. A Get Well card was sent to Richard Albertsen. *Norene Torkelson*

CONGRATULATIONS: Congratulations to our own Myra Clodius who recently received the Community Service Award by the Elizabeth Ellington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR).

TREASURER: Financial activity up to the 25th of April: Receipts \$1,395.36 with expenditures of \$1,349.63 excluding the Alzheimer's Research Fund donation.

Life members trust acct \$18,199.32
Life members deposit acct \$7,846.80
General checking \$4,336.18
General deposit accounts \$8,999.02
Checking account #2 \$427.73
Postal Bulk Mail account \$481.28
Postal Return Mail account \$75.03
Hall rental damage deposit \$175.00
Total net worth \$40,540.36

For all of our members that are returning from the warmer weather of the south and all the members that have changed your apartment numbers, please send us your change of address to NARFE Chapter 181, PO Box 5025, BREMERTON, WA 98312-0462. You may also call Ralph Sanders or myself if your newsletter is going to the wrong address. *Rex Tauscher*

PICNIC COMMITTEE: We need volunteers to plan a picnic at the Elks on Monday, August 4th. Please contact Amber VanSantford at 871-4439 or Bill Powers at 377-7917.

PROGRAM: Kitsap County Sheriff Boyer will discuss law enforcement issues affecting the County.

SERVICE OFFICER: Summer is almost here and many of us will be taking off on vacation trips and grand parenting trips and one of the important things to take with us is a listing of our medications. As retirees (or almost retirees) more and more of us are on prescription medicines. Trust me, if you are in an emergency room somewhere, unable to speak, someone will look into your wallet to see if you have health insurance. The list of prescription medicines that I take is immediately behind my health insurance card. I would hate an Emergency Room to give me some new medicine that did not act well with the ones I am taking. I will be traveling soon to England for a visit with brother and sister and their families. I have made copies of the annual printout I get with my prescriptions since it includes some of the alternative names and in some countries, prescriptions drugs could have a totally different name. Those print outs will be in my backpack with my medicines and any other documentation I will be carrying. That way if my luggage gets held up somewhere and takes a couple of days to catch up I will not be without the essentials!

Another good thing to do is to make copies of front and back of any ID and Credit cards you have and put them away, somewhere safe and sound, just in case you lose one or more of them. Quite a few of us are also retired military or spouses of retired military and have access to both TRICARE and other health insurance, so make copies of those ID cards also. These types of records need updating quite often since credit cards are replaced frequently. Make sure you keep these copies of credit and ID cards in a safe place and not in wallet or handbag with the actual cards.

Before you leave on vacation, have your mail put on hold so your mail box does not get stuffed, put a hold on your newspapers and let a neighbor you trust know where you are just in case

anything happens at your house. After all we do live in earthquake country and I always let a neighbor I trust know where I am just in case my house slides off its foundation. Being prepared at home makes your vacation much easier. *Megan Winans*

MEMBERSHIP: I promised at the General Membership Meeting to make a "Dues Distribution Report" so this is it. All of the fees that I will give you will have the \$10 chapter dues included. New member - first year membership fee is \$33. Annually renewing members are: One year - \$39, two years - \$72 and three years - \$104. Dues Withholding Members (retired) are: \$34.60 per year or \$2.88 per month withheld from your annuity. This is a \$4.40 per year savings with no annual billing. Grandfathered Active Federal Employee (who are already members): One year, Category AA - \$25, Two years, Category AB - \$45, Three years, Category AC - \$60. Active Federal Employees may renew at the above dues as long as they remain employed. Upon retirement they will renew as annually renewing members. New active federal employee members (non-grandfathered) will join at the same rate as new retired members. Thanks again to all of the members who pay their dues in multiple years, it is a great savings for NARFE.

Our new members for this month are: Virginia Alguard, Bob Koch, Frederick McMullin, Ann McMullin and Linda Smalley. Thank you for joining NARFE. You may look in this bulletin for meeting times or call any of the Executive Board located on the back page for questions.

Now for the members who have been dropped this last month for non-payment of dues: Sylvia Anderson, Richard Beahm, Betty Brooks, Walter Lee, Gary Peterson, Robert Rutherford and Nelis Vanderpol. Please contact these members and urge them to reinstate their membership.
Ralph Sanders

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George Eads

1st VICE PRESIDENT
Amber VanSantford

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Ralph Sanders

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Rex Tauscher

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NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE
Webmaster - Bob Edwards
www.narfewadist4.org

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Don Serry

SERVICE CENTER
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1st & 3rd Tuesdays
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

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