



MARCH 2009

NUMBER 03-09

General Meeting Date & Time: March 09, 2009, 1:00 p.m.

Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club (479-9061)
National Avenue & 'E' Street, Bremerton, WA

Program: WHAT'S NEW IN THE 111th CONGRESS

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: The economic stimulus package has been passed by congress and there is something in it for all of us. For those still working, there will be tax relief via payroll tax withholding. For social security recipients there will be a onetime \$250 increase in payment. Federal retirees, not eligible for the above (I am one), will receive a newly created \$250 per person refundable 2009 tax credit. NARFE will provide tax guidance when available. We thank our federal-friendly lawmakers.

Speaking of federal-friendly, March is NARFE-PAC month. I have ordered a new stock of pamphlets and lapel pins for contributions. All this money goes to our federal-friendly national lawmakers. NARFE-PAC is political but not partisan. Contact any officer to make a contribution and receive a pin.

As outlined last month, our District IV (Olympic Peninsula area) Workshop will be held at the Sequim Elks Lodge on March 31st from 9:30 to 3:00. All are welcome. The cost will be \$12 which includes a buffet lunch at 11:30. Visit our website, <http://www.narfewadist4.org> for an outline of the agenda and contact me for reservations. Rex Tauscher, our treasurer, will be heading back to Washington DC this week for NARFE's biennial Legislative Conference.

Also mentioned last month was our Washington State Federation of Chapters 50th Anniversary Convention in Wenatchee on May 14th & 15th. Come to our March meeting for details if you would like to attend. Margaret Baptiste, our National President, will be a guest speaker. If you can't attend the convention but desire supporting the cause, contact any officer, donate \$1, and your name will be included in the Convention Program Book as a Booster.

Finally, if you are interested in the inner workings toward NARFE membership, we will be presenting a program "Retention Attention" at our Executive Board meeting on March 4th at the Bremerton Elks meeting room. Contact any officer if you want to attend. We are the largest chapter in the state with 1,340 voting members and we want to keep our membership. *Bill Powers*

AARP/IRS TAX-AIDE: Jointly sponsored by AARP and the IRS, volunteers provide this service at no cost. This program is for taxpayer's returns and not intended for any business or rental income. You must bring photo identification, your Social Security Number, all your 2008 tax documents and your checkbook (to verify your account number for and electronic refund). You should also bring your 2007 return.

These are some of the locations open between 1 February and 15 April.

Olympic College
Tue/Wed/Thu, 12:30 - 4:30

Sheridan Park Center
Wed/Thu, 9:00 - 2:00

Westpark Community Center
Mon/Sat, 12:30 - 4:30

Givens Community Center
Thursday, 9:00 - 1:00

Port Orchard Library
Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00

St. Gabriel's Catholic Church
Tuesday, 10:00 - 4:00

Martha & Mary Rehab, Poulsbo
Thursday, 1:00 - 5:00
Fri/Sat, 10:00 - 2:00

PROGRAM: Celina Cunningham, Community Liaison from Congressman Jay Inslee's office in Shoreline will be speaking on current issues in the 111th Congress.

Dana Gargus and Anne Vukovich from the Kitsap County Division of Agine and Long Term Care will be speaking on SHIBA and Medicare Part D.

SUNSHINE COMMITTE: Sympathy Cards were sent to the families of Hazel Bishop, Daniel Davis, Margeret Lieseke, and Alice Tonge. Get well cards were sent to Carmen Boe and Raymond Paulson. If you know of a NARFE member who is ill and should receive a card, please contact me.
Norene Torkelson 373-4696

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: We received greetings from George Eads and his wife Ann. They have been called to serve a Church Mission in upstate New York for the next 12-16 months. George says 'I know that the members of NARFE are going

to continue to work to maintain our well earned benefits. I am certain times are going to be tough in the future. I'm thankful for my association with the members of Chapter 181.' *George Eads*

SERVICE OFFICER: By the time you are reading this, it will be early March. Income Tax deadline is only just over one month away so, please, do not wait until the last minute to get your Income Tax papers taken care of. I have mailed mine off to my accountant friend who takes care of mine - well worth the extra money. He will explain how to set my withholding for the next year so I will hopefully break even. If Uncle Sam paid interest on refunds I would like a big refund, but since Uncle Sam does not pay interest I like to break even.

At next months meeting I will have a 2 page document to hand out: 'FIND ONE PLACE TO STORE YOUR LEGAL PAPERS & OTHER INPORTANT PAPERS.' This was put together by Marion Wilson, our State Service Officer. I keep sorting out papers of my own hoping that the sons will be able to find things easily. I used the papers that are in the pamphlet I have been having available at our meetings for quite a few years: 'BE PREPARED FOR LIFE'S EVENTS.'

I might be away from some of the meetings this year - want to go to Colorado in April for a Rocky Mountain Area meeting for a nationwide British group I belong to and catch up many friends from living in Denver area for many years. In October I will be flying to Hawaii for a US Air Force reunion for the 81st Fighter Interceptor Wing I belong to. I worked for them when I was still in my teens - Hospital CO's secretary and one of those darned Yanks convinced me to marry him and come to America. If my answering machine does not turn on it is a good clue that I might be out of town. I am often gone for a few days down to N. California coast so don't panic if my answering machine comes on and I do not answer your message for a day or two. After all - aren't most of us retirees???? So glad we have some Active duty federal employees as members too so we need to show them how exciting it is to be retired and able to come and go whenever we please. We also need to be prepared for our trips and make sure our kids know where we are going and when. Enjoy your retirement. *Megan Winans*

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ): The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 17 February was \$178.64. Donations in the amount of \$102.42 were received thanks to Louis & Loraine Brockerman, Mr. & Mrs. Gossett, Mr. & Mrs. Luzik, Wayne Matz, Don Serry, Thelma Taylor.

The Alzheimer's Rummage Sale on the 7th of February netted approximately \$102 which is down from our expected income. Thanks for the contributions to the sale from the following families: Pat Alexander, Bill Powers, John Forbes, Charles Mitchell Tandie Steinmetzer and Rex Tauscher.

Our Aluminum for Alzheimer's collection is currently at 157 pounds as of the middle of February. 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.**
Rex Tauscher

TREASURER: Financial activity since the last newsletter: Receipts of \$958.96 with expenditures of \$1,397.76, excluding the Alzheimer's fund donations. Our budget for this year will be posted on our chapter web site **www.narfedist4.org'**. This year's budget, based on projected income for the year, is a total of \$13,610. Copies of the budget will also be available at our 9 March General meeting for those wishing a hard copy.

The yearly audit of your chapter books was completed prior to the February general meeting thanks to the volunteer effort of members Myra Clodius, Joyce Libsack and William Powers. Findings recommended a change in the reconciliation method used for our monthly bank statements with a monthly computer printout of the outstanding checks attached to the bank checking account statements.

Our chapter still has an active agreement with Red Apple Markets in Bremerton, Kitsap Lake and Silverdale for the collection and payment of 1% of their grocery receipts. This program has been falling behind past years and we currently have collected year to date only \$282.19. If you shop at any of the Red Apple stores please turn in the receipts to Norene Torkelson or myself, or bring them to our next meeting. *Rex Tauscher*

MEMBERSHIP: Block your calendars for the annual District NARFE meeting to be held March 31, 09. This event is to be hosted by the Port Angeles chapter; time and place will be announced possibly in this bulletin. This is not just for chapter officers, all members should be encouraged to attend. There will be lots of information and fellowship for all members.

Now for the bad news, these members have been dropped for non-renewal: Glenn Bauman, John Arena, Judy Hawkins, Alice Hollingworth, Robert Mircheff, Gordon B Porcella, Beatrice Price and Harold Richardson. If you know any of these members, please urge them to renew their membership.

On the more positive side, a listing of our new members and reinstatements: E. Demare, David Farr, Danny Griffith, Suzanne Griffith, Ursula Hedt, Randolph Hunt, Alfred Martinez, Jewell Sollie, Tim Taylor, Terry Triplet, Janet Wagner and prospective member David Peeler. We thank all of you for joining NARFE or renewing your membership. *Ralph Sanders*

NARFE GENERAL STORE: NARFE members wanting to purchase badges, t-shirts, hats, jackets, badges and other promotional products can order them from the NARFE General Store at '[www.narfe.org/narfestore'](http://www.narfe.org/narfestore).

NEW GPO/WEB BILL: Only one day into the new 111th Congress, Representatives Howard Berman (R-CA) and Howard McKeon (R-CA) introduced H.R. 235, the Social Security Fairness Act of 2009. If passed, H.R. 235 would repeal both the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). National President, Margaret Baptiste applauded these two gentlemen for their tireless and steadfast efforts to deliver equity to out nation's public servants.

Now is the time to contact your representative and ask him/her to co-sponsor H.R. 235.

NARFE-PAC is a separate, segregated fund used for electoral purposes. It is in complete compliance with the Federal Elections Campaign Act. NARFE-PAC assembles voluntary contributions from NARFE members to support congressional candidates.

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers
377-7917

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Newsletter Editor
Amber VanSantford

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NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE

Webmaster - Bob Edwards
www.narfewadist4.org

SERVICE OFFICER

Megan Winans

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Gladys Berteaux

Donald A. Palmer

J. R. Seibold

Don Serry

Vacant

SERVICE CENTER

1140 Nipsic Avenue
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

District IV VP

Bill Powers
377-7917
powersw@silverlink.net

Region IX VP

Lanny Ross
692-9741
lannyjean@comcast.net

OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Senator Patty Murray
950 Pacific Avenue #650
Tacoma, WA 98402
(202) 224-2621
www.murray.senate.gov

Senator Maria Cantwell
915 - 2nd Avenue #512
Seattle, WA 98174
(202) 224-3441
www.cantwell.senate.gov

Congressman Norm Dicks
345 - 6th Street #500
Bremerton WA 98337
(202) 225-5916
www.house.gov/dicks

Congressman Jay Inslee
17791 Fjord Dr. NE #112
Poulsbo, WA 98370
(202) 225-6311
www.house.gov/inslee