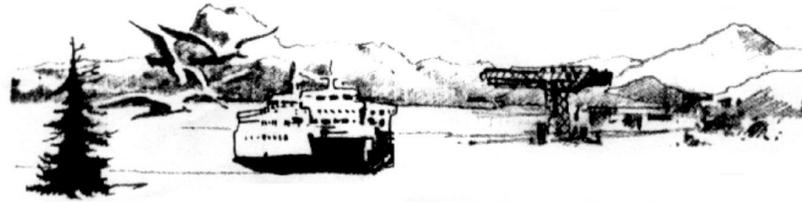




MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION, BREMERTON CHAPTER 181**

P.O. Box 5025, Bremerton, WA 98312-0462

October 2010

NUMBER 08-10

General Meeting Date & Time: October 11, 2010, 1:00PM

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

Program: CANDIDATES DAY

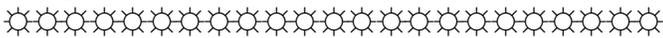
NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors.

Candidates Day

Candidates, or their representatives, running for U.S. Senator, U.S. Representative or State and County Offices will be present to read a prepared statement. A question and answer period will follow after all candidates have spoken.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Health Fair Nov 8th 10:00AM
Chapter Meeting Nov 8th 1:00PM



PRESIDENT: NARFE has new leadership at National Headquarters. Our state, including proxies, had 100% coverage at the National Convention (all 22 Chapters) with fourteen representatives attending. This is the first time in recent years that the Vice President has been elected to the presidency. He, Joe Beaudoin, was elected with 74% of the convention votes, which is a very high percentage. National dues were increased to \$40, Chapter dues remain at \$10, totaling \$50 per year. This increase is for due dates after January 1st. National also reinstated the option to pay multiple years at a considerable discount. If you choose dues withholding, total dues are now \$44 per year, this discount is also a

much easier way to pay. The national office has been operating in the red since the 2008 stock market decline and needed to implement additional general fund revenue.

For those concerned about ever increasing costs, as I am, NARFE is "Going Green", which means no more paper reports but you will still get your magazine and Chapter newsletter. All reports will now be issued on-line with no more USPS mailings. This will save a considerable amount on postage. Just for example, our "Monthly Chapter Activity Report" costs \$0.61 per mailing and our "Semi-Annual Membership Roster" costs \$2.87 per mailing. Multiply the various amounts for all the Chapters across the USA and you have a considerable savings.

There is a 'Legislative Report' in October's NARFE magazine titled, "How They Voted: 111th Congress". In case you ever want to know how any elected senator or legislator voted on any NARFE issue, you do not have to wait for our October magazine. You can go to <http://capwiz.com/narfe> and enter any zip code to find its representative and senators and how each stand on NARFE issues. Our lobbyists' main

Continued Page 2

President cont.

emphasis in the coming 112th Congress (in January) will be to maintain our earned benefits. How easy or hard this turns out to be will depend on the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility report due on December 15th.

We had a lengthy general meeting in September with a Border Patrol Supervisor as our guest speaker. However, some concerns were raised about timing our Chapter Officer reports, so I will bring my three-minute egg timer to the next general meeting. When the red sand runs out, it will be time for each officer to quickly wrap-up their report.

In closing, there will be NO Cost of Living Adjustment in 2011 for retirees. Though food, health care, and energy costs seem to be going up, the overall cost of living is going down. Bill Powers

MEMBERSHIP: I will start this report by talking about some legislative issues. Early this year President Obama established, by executive order, the "National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform". The executive order states that, "the Commission shall propose recommendations that meaningfully improve the long-run fiscal outlook, including changes to address the growth of entitlement spending and the gap between the projected revenues and expenditures of the Federal Government." If you do not think that we, federal workers and retirees, or our issues, will not appear in this commission report, dream on. Please read the article on page 12 of the October issue of NARFE magazine, along with the rest of the magazine. We are more vulnerable than ever before and probably will not escape the trimming axe of Congress.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Theodore Anderson, Steven Johnson, Frederick Rice, Loletta Stevens, and Robert Timborski. If you know any of these members, please urge them to renew their membership.

Welcome to those members who are new or have reinstated their membership in our Chapter: John Nantz, Francis and Laura Rosinski, Janice Smith, Lillian Walker, and Robert Westbrook.

It is more important than ever that we maintain or build our membership. Please sign up a friend or neighbor today. If you should have any questions or issues about the Chapter or NARFE, the Executive Board listing can be found on the last page of the bulletin. Please contact us. Ralph Sanders

SERVICE OFFICER: Megan Winans

Summer is over so that means Open Season for Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHBP) will soon be upon us. There are always changes in our health insurance so when you receive your pamphlet from the insurance company you are currently with, be sure to read the pages that show the changes. Also, the NARFE magazine always prints big articles about the major changes in the nationwide insurance companies.

One of the big changes coming up is being able to keep, or reinstate, eligible dependents ages 22-26 on your health insurance. Unfortunately, as noted in your August 2010 NARFE magazine, due to delays in getting the Healthcare Act finalized, the insurance companies did not have time to change their pamphlets. This also looks like it will be next Open Season before this takes effect.* Be sure to read the October NARFE magazine in case this has changed. It will have lots of information about our Open Season.

I have seen information about Open Season next year where Office of Personnel Management (OPM) will not be mailing pamphlets out. You will receive - believe they are meaning October 2011 - a postcard telling you how to request additional health insurance company pamphlets.

Another item that might be important to a few of you is that, starting in 2013, all annuitants and survivors must be paid by direct deposit to your bank or credit union account. No longer will annuity checks be mailed to your home address. The majority of retirees already have direct deposit since it is much easier than receiving and depositing checks. When I am on vacation, I know that my money is getting to my account whether I am there or not.

***EDITOR'S NOTE:** My husband received an email last March from the benefits department at work that states the effective date of the provision that allows eligible dependent children to

remain on the FEHBP is "the first day of the plan year that is six months following the enactment of the law. For the FEHBP, that means January 1, 2011. OPM will take the necessary actions to comply with the new law by this effective date." Bea Bull

TREASURER: Our income for September as of 17 September was \$65.14 with expenditures of \$594.47. Our Net Worth as of 17 September was \$38,438.08. A detailed treasurer's report will be available at our September general meeting.

Our Chapter still has an active agreement with Red Apple Markets in Bremerton, Kitsap Lake and Silverdale, **and now Poulsbo**, for the collection and payment of 1% of their grocery receipts.

If you shop at any of the Red Apple stores listed above, please turn in the receipts to Norene Torkelson or me, or bring them to our next meeting.
Rex Tauscher

CHAPTER 181 NEEDS YOUR HELP!! ⇒ ⇒ ⇒

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ): The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 17 September was \$258.36. Donations in the amount of \$65.00 were received since our last report. Thanks to donations from Donna Bartrug, Loraine Brockerman, Robert Mcleod, and one person I missed that donated their raffle winnings. Westside Improvement club also made a memorial donation in memory of Virginia Saftich.

We have collected aluminum in the amount of 1,129 pounds since the first of the year thanks to various sources that donate and drop off at the collection site. A special thanks to Ilahee State Park and our President Bill Powers for the mountain of cans collected sorted and crushed. I noted from our collection record at the collection site that there are only about 42 different signatures on the record. If more of our 1,200 members would drop off a few pounds each, it would greatly increase our donations for Alzheimer's research.

During this year's National Convention the Alzheimer's Association met with the Region Coordinators and selected four new research projects. Watch the upcoming issues of the NARFE Magazine for details.
Rex Tauscher

ALUMINUM DROP-OFF POINTS

- ▶ Westsound Recycle
East Bremerton WalMart parking lot
- ▶ Port Orchard Mall
Let them know your donation is for the Bremerton NARFE Chapter
- ▶ **NEW!!! Poulsbo Red Apple**

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Millard Beckner, Geraldine Beglau, Richard Dick, Homer Lackey, Helen Matz, and Elwood Torkelson.

If you know of a Chapter member who is ill and should receive a get well card, please contact us so we can get a card out to them.
Norene Torkelson

"Thank you!" to everyone who has signed up for the e-mailed newsletter! Remember, it saves our Chapter money, plus you have the benefit of receiving the newsletter sooner. If you would like this service, please contact me at tbkbull@aol.com. Thanks!! Bea Bull

HELP WANTED

CHAPTER SECRETARY Chapter 181 needs a person to run for the office of Secretary of the Chapter. Duties include: Attending all Chapter meetings and executive board meetings from August to June; record the minutes of each meeting; maintain a roster of all Chapter officers; handle all Chapter correspondence that is not the exclusive duty of another officer; furnish reports and documents to Federation and National office as required; maintain Chapter files and preserve all permanent official documents. Use of a computer and printer is essential. Turnover and training will be given by the present Secretary. If interested please contact the Nominating Chairman, George Eads, at 698-6078. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Sanders at 275-9793.

SERVICE OFFICER Chapter 181 is looking for someone willing to be Service Officer. Please consider volunteering for this position. NARFE Headquarters has some good pamphlets that make it easy to explain things. For information contact the Nominating Committee.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE Volunteers needed to join George Eads and Jean Lenihan on the Nominating Committee. Please contact George at 698-6078 or Jean at 308-8165.

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers
377-7917

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Amber VanSantford

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Ralph Sanders

SECRETARY

Linda Sanders

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Zora Davis

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Ralph Sanders

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Norene Torkelson

SERGEANT AT ARMS

Ed Saftich, Sr.
373-8489

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

George Eads

SERVICE OFFICER

Megan Winans

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bea Bull

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

UNTIL 2010

Gladys Berteaux

Donald A. Palmer

J. R. Seibold

UNTIL 2011

Bea Bull

Arleen Irion

District IV VP

Bill Powers
377-7917
powersw@silverlink.net

Region IX VP

Lanny Ross
692-9741
lannyjean@comcast.net

NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE

Webmaster - Bob Edwards
www.narfewadist4.org

NARFE STATE WEBSITE

www.narfewa.net

NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.narfe.org

SERVICE CENTER

1140 Nipsic Avenue
1st Tuesday of each month
12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

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