



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

**December 2010**

**NUMBER 10-10**

**General Meeting Date & Time: December 13, 2010, 1:00PM**

**Meeting Place: Bremerton Elks Club  
4131 Pine Road NE, Bremerton, WA**

**Program: HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS  
Meet & Greet at 12:00, Lunch Served at 1:00**

*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.*

**Holiday Luncheon**

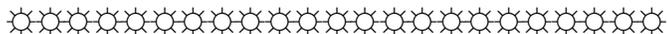
**12:00PM at the Elks Club on Pine Road**

If you haven't yet made your reservations, please call Joyce Libsack at 479-5007.

There will be a box at the Elks for non-perishable goods. Please bring your donations.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- \*Chapter Meeting January 10<sup>th</sup>**
- \*Chapter Meeting February 14<sup>th</sup>**
- \*Legislative Training Conference  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City  
Arlington, VA March 5-8, 2011  
(See November NARFE magazine for  
information & registration form)**
- \*Chapter Meeting March 14<sup>th</sup>**
- \*District Workshop March 17<sup>th</sup>  
Norway Poulsbo Lodge #44  
18891 Front Street NE**



**PRESIDENT:** The Fiscal Reform Commission appointed by President Obama has presented its report and our country has a debt problem. We have been hungry for government programs and benefits with little appetite for taxes. In the past we have closed this gap by borrowing from other countries but time is running out on this solution. Over the coming generations the cost of these government

programs and benefits will exceed government revenue by trillions of dollars. Yes that is trillions. The obvious answer is that we have to cut spending and raise revenue. However, each of us prefers a different mix to solve this problem. This is where the Fiscal Reform Commission comes in; they had to come up with a proposal that fourteen of them would accept, and forward it to the President. Now congress must decide what to implement in the next biennium. This is where you come into the picture. Read your NARFE magazine and keep informed. When an action alert is raised by our NARFE headquarters, it means they need your help. Look over their proposal and then call your senators and/or congressional representative through their office to register your opinion.

NARFE is the only association that lobbies for both federal employees and federal retirees. There simply is no one else! Only through NARFE can our contracted benefits be preserved. This month as you are discussing NARFE membership with a prospect, ask "What organization provides you with your very own lobbying team that works every day on your behalf to ensure that your earned federal retirement benefits remain protected by Congress?" Then let  
**continued Page 2**

**President cont.**

your prospect know that if they sign up this month they pay only \$33 for their first year's membership in lieu of the new fee of \$45 starting January 1, 2011.

Lanny Ross, our Region IX VP, will install our 2011 slate of officers and be our guest speaker at our December holiday luncheon. There will be a drawing for the poinsettia table decorations after the luncheon.

Bill Powers

**MEMBERSHIP:** This message was sent out on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. It will be dated by the time you receive your Bulletin but if you have not already responded, please do so now.

**Draconian Proposals of Commission Co-chair:**

On Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Co-chairs (Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson) of President Obama's National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform released a 50 page, highly preliminary proposal that would reduce federal retiree health benefits and income security AND freeze federal pay for three years and reduce the federal workforce by 10 percent. Both earlier and more draconian than anyone expected, this proposal of the co-chairs demands NARFE mobilize to tell every member of Congress to oppose the Bowles-Simpson proposal.

**Proposal Demands NARFE Action:** NARFE President, Joseph Beaudoin, urges each NARFE member to use either the Legislative Action Center or NARFE's toll free telephone number to contact their representative and both senators. NARFE's Legislative Action Center has been updated to allow each member to easily generate a message for their congressional delegation. President Beaudoin asks you to use the following link to defend our earned retirement benefits: <http://capwiz.com/narfe/issues/alert/?alertid=19504726&PROCESS=Take+Action>

NARFE members who are not part of the GEMS system are urged to use NARFE's toll free number, 1-866-220-0044, to reach the Capitol switchboard and ask for their representative/senators by name, or supply their ZIP Code. Once connected, the message is:

**"I urge you to oppose recommendations of the Fiscal Commission Co-chairs to cut my earned federal civilian retirement and health benefits, freeze federal pay and reduce the federal workforce by 10 percent."**

Hooray! Hooray! Our November report shows that we gained three more members than we lost this last month. That does not sound like a big deal, but it is. This is the first time it has happened this year.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Mildred Baker, Dorothy Davis, Norman Ingram, David Kenny, Diane Manning, Gladys Mosser, Bonnie Stouffer and Robert Wheeler. 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: Donna Brill, Randy Colson, Dennis Fulton, Bradley Gihl, Margaret Hereth, Dorothy Paschal, Ralph Petersen, Harold Richardson, Kevin Sorbello, John Stevens, Samuel Tolbert, Phyllis Vettleson and William Westby.

Thanks to our two prospective members: Al Charpentier and Scot Groulik. We hope that you will join our Chapter in the near future. If we can be of assistance to you, please contact us. The names and phone numbers of the Executive Board are located on the back page. Ralph Sanders

**SERVICE OFFICER:** Megan Winans

Hope everyone had a fantastic Thanksgiving with family and friends. The weather was not very good for travel for us just before Thanksgiving was it? I believe winter is here. Winter being here also means that your deadline for changing your health insurance this year is drawing to a close - Monday December 13<sup>th</sup> is the deadline. Check your NARFE magazine for October and November for information on Open Season.

This is also the time of year to start collecting financial documents you will need for your income tax returns. You will soon be receiving those statements that show what you have received for 2010 and what taxes you have paid. I am not a tax person so do not ask me for help with income taxes.

Since this is the holiday season, some of us will be traveling to be with family and friends. Many of us at our age are on different medications - please put a list of your meds behind your health insurance card in your wallet. If you are unable to answer questions, somebody at a hospital will check your wallet (or your family will) to see where your health insurance card is. I keep a list of my meds behind my health insurance card and hopefully, someone will notice what I have been taking.

**Service Officer cont.**

Some of you may be federal retirees who took health insurance into retirement and are also eligible for the military healthcare system. Did you know that you can 'SUSPEND' your federal health insurance? Let Office of Personnel know you are eligible for TRICARE under "give spouses full name and military ID or SSN". This means that you have not canceled your federal health insurance because, if you cancel your federal health insurance as a retiree, you have canceled it forever. Our health insurance is very important. Do not miss the deadline if you wish to change.

**TREASURER:** Our income since October 1st to 22 November was \$2,301.28 with expenditures of \$3,098.89. Our Net Worth as of 22 November was \$38,656.15. A detailed treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

We will be conducting a yearly audit of our Chapter financial records in January or February. Any one interested in assisting in the audit please contact one of our Board Members. The audit is usually conducted two (2) hours prior to a 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

**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**

**ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ):** The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 20 November was \$443.43. Donations in the amount of \$145.00 were received since our last report. Thanks to donations from Loraine Brockerman, Robert Brown, Bea Bull, Philip & Mary Drouin (memorial donation for Lois Drouin), Elsmer McKay and Donald Palmer.

Please note that checks should be made out to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" (NARFE is the key word), as our Chapter deposits the donations in a dedicated account prior to

forwarding to the State Coordinator who then forwards on to the Alzheimer's Association for credit to the NARFE research effort.

We have collected Aluminum in the amount of 1,315 pounds since the first of the year. Thanks to various sources that donate and drop off at the collection site. A special thanks to Illahee 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 44 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. The recycle center also takes copper and brass if you have any to donate.

During this year's National Convention, the Alzheimer's Association met with the Region Coordinators and selected four new research projects. The projects are reported on page 22 of your December NARFE magazine. I will attempt to print out the details on these projects and have them available at our December lunch meeting. Rex Tauscher

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:** Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Lois Drouin and Arthur Stuntz.

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 the **112** people who have 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](mailto:tbkbull@aol.com). Thanks!!  
Bea Bull  
Total Membership: 1223  
Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 9.2%

**HELP WANTED**

**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 George Eads at 698-6078 or Jean Lenihan at 308-8165.

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT** Primary duties are finding speakers and arranging monthly programs; coordinating the annual Health Fair; contacting candidates and organizing Candidate's Day; and filling in for the President in his/her absence.

**PRESIDENT**

Bill Powers  
377-7917

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Amber VanSantford

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:lannyjean@comcast.net)

**NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE**

Webmaster - Bob Edwards  
[www.narfewadist4.org](http://www.narfewadist4.org)

**NARFE STATE WEBSITE**

[www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net)

**NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE**

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

**SERVICE CENTER**

1140 Nipsic Avenue  
1<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.murray.senate.gov)

Senator Maria Cantwell  
915 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue #512  
Seattle, WA 98174  
(202) 224-3441  
[www.cantwell.senate.gov](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov)

Congressman Norm Dicks  
345 - 6<sup>th</sup> Street #500  
Bremerton WA 98337  
(202) 225-5916  
[www.house.gov/dicks](http://www.house.gov/dicks)

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