



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

February 2011

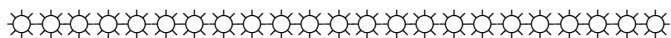
NUMBER 02-11

General Meeting Date & Time: February 14, 2011, 1:00PM
Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club (479-9061)
 National Avenue & 'E' Street, Bremerton, WA
Program: JIM AVERY, COUNTY ASSESSOR WILL SPEAK ABOUT PROPERTY VALUES & TAXES
THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC SO BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *NARFE 90th Anniversary February 19th
- *Legislative Training Conference Hyatt Regency
Crystal City, Arlington, VA March 5-8, 2011
- *Chapter Meeting March 14th
- *District Workshop, Norway Poulso
Lodge #4418891 Front Street NE March 17th
- *Chapter Meeting April 11th



PRESIDENT
George Eads

Dear Chapter Members,

In a time when there is so much information available to us, we need to be informed, make correct decisions, and be involved in the process to do all we can individually and collectively to protect and maintain the hard earned benefits for which we and others have worked so hard.

I, along with many others, feel we are at a time where these benefits are in serious jeopardy of being compromised or taken away altogether. Our National NARFE magazine is one of the best sources to keep us up to date on current issues. We should remind all current and retired Federal employees to use that information to contact our elected representatives and make known our deeply felt concerns about now and the future.

At our Chapter meetings, and through our newsletter, we hope to keep you informed of the current issues that

affect us and our families. I encourage you to invite other people to our Chapter meetings and to be involved in standing up for NARFE.

I am grateful for all of our board members and all Chapter members who are working to make and keep NARFE a strong organization. We are the **ONLY** organization that is working hard to protect the well deserved benefits of all current and retired government employees.

CALL TO ACTION

Please contact your congress people with your concerns regarding the Fiscal Commissions' recommendations to Congress to:

- ✓ use the highest **five** years of earnings to calculate civil service pension benefits for new retirees;
- ✓ defer COLAs for retirees in the current system until age 62, replacing annual increases with a one-time catch-up adjustment at age 62;
- ✓ adjust the ratio of employer/employee contributions to pension plans to equalize contributions;
- ✓ gradually increase early and full retirement ages;
- ✓ adopt the chain-weighted CPI for figuring COLAs.

If you have not already added your email to your NARFE records, which also signs you up for GEMS (real-time notifications of what is happening in Congress), go to NARFE.org and click on "Join GEMS"; or call Member Records at 1-800-456-8410.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

Our editor has asked us to keep our reports more concise this month, so no long orations from the Membership Chair.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Horace Daniels, Gerald Drumm, and Robert Newbill. Hazel Ferguson has been moved to National Life Member (Non-voting) for non-payment of Chapter dues.

Welcome to those members who are new or have reinstated their membership in our Chapter: Theodore Anderson, Leona Carr, Gayle Kohler, Walter Lee, Donna Mansor, Mary Mason, Patsy Obenchain, Raymond Paulson, Ronald Reed, Terry Slider, and Lewis Smith. Thank you for becoming a member of NARFE. We appreciate your membership and hope that we may be of service to you.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ There is now a discount of 50 percent on drugs in the "donut hole"
- ✓ Free preventive screenings for those enrolled in traditional Medicare plans

SERVICE OFFICER

Megan Winans

I know it is only February but it's never too early to start collecting your paperwork for income tax purposes. I have a folder that has pockets on each page to put documents in. I keep it out all year near where I read my mail; anything that comes in, such as interest paid statements, income from stocks, or anything else for which I get paid, goes into that folder. I also keep all receipts showing where I have paid out-of-pocket for medical expenses. My Office of Personnel Management statement will show what I have paid for health insurance and, of course, on the 1099-R form, it will show what income tax I have paid. You could get similar documents from military if you are receiving retired military pay or military survivor benefits. Just don't wait until the last minute - April 15th - to track down all the forms you will need.

Following is information on the sites for the AARP tax volunteers who help with taxes. If you have someone who does your taxes, let them know you still need their assistance. I have already received my packet from my tax person letting me know what forms I need.

TAX-AIDE OFFERS FREE INCOME TAX RETURN PREPARATION AND FILING

The IRS and AARP jointly sponsor a program staffed by volunteers to prepare and file income tax returns electronically at no cost to the taxpayers. Although intended for elderly and low-

income families, all taxpayers are welcome. However, a taxpayer's return requiring the reporting of significant business income or loss, any rental income or First-Time Homebuyer credit is beyond the scope of this program. Tax-Aide volunteers are prepared to handle most other 2010 tax law changes.

Taxpayers **MUST** bring: **(1)** photo identification, **(2)** social security cards for all persons on the tax return, **(3)** all 2010 tax documents, such as statements of income from wages, retirement, social security, interest, dividends and brokerage statement & **(4)** your checkbook or other document from a financial institution that shows the routing & account numbers for direct deposit of refunds. A copy of the taxpayer's 2009 return is useful for various reasons. If in doubt about the paperwork, bring it all and let us sort it out.

Please plan to arrive early. We try not to begin preparation of a new return during the last half hour before closing time to ensure that returns are completed before volunteers are expected to vacate the space used.

Tax-Aide Sites

February 1 through April 15, 2011

Bainbridge Island Main Library, 1270 Madison Ave. N, B.I.
Mon, Wed, and Fri: 10:30 AM to 1 PM
Mon: 5:30 to 7:30 PM

Givens Community Center, 26 Sidney Ave, Port Orchard
Thu: 9 AM to 1 PM

Olympic College (Rm A-122C), 1600 Chester Ave. Bremerton
Tue, Wed, and Thu: 12:30 to 4:30 PM
Sat: 11 AM to 3 PM

Port Orchard Library, 87 Sidney Ave. Port Orchard
Sat: 1 to 4 PM

Poulsbo Fire Dept Headquarters, 911 NE Liberty Rd, Poulsbo
Thu: 1 to 5 PM
Fri and Sat: 10 AM to 2 PM

Except for the following dates:

Friday February 4th, Thursday February 10th, Thursday February 24th, Friday February 25th, and Saturday March 5th when the Tax Aide site will be at Hostmark Village Cove Apts. (Community Center Room off 6th Avenue)
703 NE Hostmark St, Poulsbo

Sheridan Park Center, 680 Lebo Blvd. Bremerton
Wed: 9 AM to 2 PM
Thu: 9 AM to 1 PM

Silverdale Community Ctr, 9729 Silverdale Way NW, Silverdale
Tue and Thu: 10 AM to 2 PM

Manchester Library, 8067 E. Main St. Manchester
Mon: 4 to 8 PM

St. Gabriel's Catholic Church, 1150 Mitchell Ave. Port Orchard
Tue: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

PLEASE NOTE!

The Silverdale IRS office has relocated to the Land Title building at 9657 Levin Road

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income since December 1st to 24 January was \$2,950.19 with expenditures of \$2,918.90. Our Net Worth as of 24 January was \$39,465.00. 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. Anyone 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.

Please save your receipts from Red Apple Markets in Bremerton, Kitsap Lake, Silverdale, and Poulsbo for the collection and payment of 1% of their grocery receipts. You can turn in the receipts to Norene Torkelson or me, or bring them to our next meeting.

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 24 January was \$1,019.08. Donations in the amount of \$555.59, were received since our last report. We thank the following members for their donations: Loraine Brockerman, Beatrice Bull (Honorarium for James Kinney), Yma Dalke, Dorothy Hopkins, Jean Lenihan, and Lanny Ross.

Please note: Checks should be made out to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" (NARFE is the key word and is required!).

Thank you for recycling your aluminum! 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.

ALUMINUM DROP-OFF POINTS

► Westsound Recycle

East Bremerton WalMart parking lot

► Port Orchard Mall

Let them know your donation is for the Bremerton Chapter - NARFE 181

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Vernon Binz, Basil Barrett, Richard Priest, Douglas Quinlan, Hilbert Smith, and Gloria A. Baker.

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.

NARFE SCHOLARSHIPS

NARFE Scholarships are again available in Northwest's Region IX. They are open to children, grandchildren, stepchildren, and great-grand children of any NARFE member in good standing.

All applicants must be current high school seniors with at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Detailed information and application forms will be in the February, March, and April editions of NARFE magazine and on the web at www.narfe.org.

"Thank you!" to the **121** 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. Thanks!! Be Bull

Total Membership: 1225 Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 9.9% (January was 9.4%)

MISSING ITEMS

Two things were lost at our last NARFE meeting:

Bea's copy of the NARFE 90th Anniversary Booklet and Megan's Membership Roster. If someone has these items, please return them at the next meeting. Thank you.

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.

1st 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.

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Chapter 181 is looking for someone to fill this position. For a complete position description, please contact George Eads at 698-6078.

PRESIDENT

George Eads
698-6078

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Ralph Sanders

SECRETARY

Bill Powers

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

Bill Powers

SERVICE OFFICER

Megan Winans

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bea Bull

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**UNTIL 2011**

Bea Bull

Arleen Irion

UNTIL 2012

Gladys Berteaux

Donald A. Palmer

J. R. Seibold

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