



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

April 2011

NUMBER 04-11

General Meeting Date & Time: April 11, 2011, 1:00PM

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

Program: A SPEAKER FROM THE KITSAP COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
WILL DISCUSS EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

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.

PROGRAM

Bill Powers

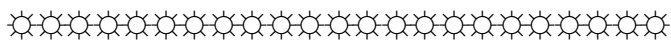
The recent earthquake in Japan is a reminder that we are subject to a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake someday and that we live in the Seattle Fault Line Zone. So preparedness is something that needs to be brought up and reviewed every so often, including having a family plan (how and where to contact relatives after an event), food and water stock, and a disaster supply kit. This meeting is open to the public so bring a friend or neighbor.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Chapter Meeting May 9th

*Federation Convention
Mirabeau Park Hotel, Spokane May 15th – 17th

*Chapter Meeting June 13th



PRESIDENT

George Eads

I attended the NARFE National Legislative Conference March 5th through 8th in Washington D.C. along with 300 other NARFE members from all 50 states. It was very informative about the attitudes of incoming elected officials in regards to current and retired federal employees. I feel all of us should know by now that the 112th Congress is not pro-government employee.

Unfortunately, some in Congress have portrayed that government employees are responsible for many of our financial problems and financial melt-downs. Many of the Congress representatives who spoke to us have been in office for some time. They used words like "toxic" and "polarized". With this type of feeling in our elected

Anyone attending the Federation Convention in May must get their paperwork for sign-up and reservations at the April membership meeting!!

officials, it will be very difficult to move our legislation forward.

I feel this is a very important time in our history to work as hard as we can to recruit new members and retain current members. I encourage you, if you have a computer, to go to the NARFE National web site and sign up for NARFE GEMS. This is the most current information to keep you up-to-date. Here is the web site: memberrecords@narfe.org. The phone number for the Legislative Hot Line is 1-800-456-8410.

I strongly encourage you to stay involved and keep coming to our Chapter meetings and invite a friend to come with you. Thanks for your support.

CALL TO ACTION

Our membership is dwindling!

What you can do:

- Contact a current or retired federal employee and ask them to join NARFE
- If you know someone on the list of members dropped for non-payment of dues, ask them to renew
- Offer to start a new web-based Chapter for younger members. If this idea interests you, contact us.

PLEASE NOTE!

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

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

I would like to talk to you about our National dues increase. Some of you are somewhat amazed that we had to raise the national dues from \$29 to \$40 all at one time. Let me tell you what has changed just in the time I have been doing this job. When I started on the Chapter Executive Board, the National membership, as I remember, was about 460,000 members, our Chapter 181 was about 3,200 members. Today the National membership is just over 300,000 members and our Chapter, as of this month, is 1163 members. Our National and Chapter organizations exist primarily on membership dues. You can easily do the math and see how our financial resources have diminished. This definitely affects our ability to support the membership and to accomplish the work that you have asked NARFE to do. More than ever this year, we need NARFE to protect our annuity and health insurance. Together we can get through these difficult times. Stay with NARFE and NARFE will stay with you.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Margie Abelein, Barbara Anderson, Kaaren Brooks, Hazel Colvin, Betty Cooper, Gary Gower, Frances Halvorsen, Ben Hemstreet, Dorothy Jarvis, Clifford Lightfoot, Terry Novak, Joseph Phillips, Chester Staley and Robert Strombach.

Welcome to those members who are new or have reinstated their membership in our Chapter: John Graham, Robert Newbill and John Rolland. Thank you for becoming a member of NARFE. We appreciate your membership and hope that we may be of service to you.

We would also like to welcome our new prospective member: Roberta Plattner. We hope that you like what you see and will come and join us in NARFE.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ You can go to www.ProtectAmericasHeartbeat.org to sign a petition that will be presented to Congress.
- ✓ You can also tell your story of the important work you did for the federal government. See pages 22 and 23 of your April NARFE magazine.

SERVICE OFFICER

Megan Winans

Thank you Bremerton Chapter 181 for all the time I have enjoyed your companionship. We are very lucky to have an association like NARFE to which we can belong; it's worth it just to get the magazine and be kept up to date on what is happening for our retirement. I will miss many of my NARFE friends but I really am getting too old to be living up here in Washington, so far from my four sons. I

am moving down to McKinleyville in Humboldt County, CA. Last year I made contact with that NARFE Chapter and went to their annual BBQ. Chapter 181 now needs a Service Officer so, please, somebody step up and volunteer. Thank you all for your support and the fun times we have had.

SERVICE CENTER NOTICE

The Service Center will be closed until further notice. Please contact Ralph Angulo, the District IV Service Officer, with any questions you would have directed to Megan. You can go to the District IV website at <http://www.narfewadist4.org/> and click on the Service Officer link (in red at the bottom of the list on the left) to send him a message. He can also be reached at (360) 452-6592, or ralphangulo@yahoo.com.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for February as reported at our March meeting was \$1,054.90 with expenditures of \$1,248.50. Our Net Worth as of 28 February was \$39,373.48. A detailed treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

Our yearly audit of our Chapter financial records was conducted prior to our February general meeting, thanks to Donald Palmer and Zora Davis. Audit findings will be available at our next 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. We collected \$198.96 during 2010; year to date for 2011 we have collected \$34.45. 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 28 February was \$1,084.32. Donations in the amount of \$75.00 were received at the March general meeting thanks to donations from Loraine Brockerman, Arleen Irion, Edward Saftich Sr., and Donald Taylor. A Memorial donation was received from Elsmar McKay for her brother Carl Smith.

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

Alzheimer's cont.

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 Betty Beck (wife of member John P. Beck) and the families of Sylvester Dillon, James C. Downey, Cecil E. Hittson, Ralph Peel, and Mike P. Stimac. A get well card was sent to Lanny Ross. 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

There are six \$1,000.00 NARFE Scholarships available in Northwest 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. Applications must be mailed by April 30th.

KITSAP COMPUTING SENIORS

Want to get "online" to receive up-to-the-minute NARFE notifications? Want to be your grandchild's "friend" on Facebook? Never used a computer before? Kitsap Computing Seniors will help you get started if you're a beginner, or show you how to do more advanced things if you're already computer savvy.

Monthly meetings include a speaker and light potluck lunch. They are held at the Silverdale Community Center; 9729 Silverdale Way, Silverdale, WA. on the ground floor; the third Monday of each month (except July and August) 10:00 am to 12 noon. You can attend a meeting before becoming a member.

Membership is \$20 per year; you receive hundreds of hours of computer classes. Beginner's classes have a waiting list and require membership. Visit their website at <http://ffogynews.org/> or contact President Larry DuSavage, (360) 792-6972, LADLAD@comcast.net, or Vice President Roberta Messinger, (360) 613-0421, RobertaM160@telebyte.com.

"Thank you!" to the **130** 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!! Bea Bull

Total Membership: 1163 Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 11.18% (Last month was 10.39%)

NEED A LARGE-PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER?

A large-print version of this newsletter is available via email only. It is in size 16 font, is formatted in a single column, and runs about 14 pages long. Email me if you'd like to sign up for this version of the newsletter. tbkbull@aol.com

SIZE 16 FONT looks like this

HELP WANTED

SERVICE OFFICER; 1st VICE PRESIDENT; LEGISLATIVE CHAIR; and TELEPHONE CONTACT

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

The Chapter Legislative Chair keeps track of legislative actions in the House of Representatives & Senate in Washington D.C. and makes regular but brief reports about significant items at our Chapter meetings. This is done in three ways:

1. Read the NARFE magazine legislative articles monthly.
2. Sign up for GEMS and read the email alerts put out by our National NARFE headquarters.
3. Read the email information forwarded by our current Washington State Federation of Chapters Legislative Chair, Mike Teefy.

The Legislative Chair also attends local area briefing sessions when Congressional Representatives or Senators return from Washington D.C. during break and leave periods. This item is sometimes difficult because the Senators and Representatives are either booked or fundraising when home from Washington D.C.

The Legislative Chair attends the Legislative Training Conference in Washington D.C. in March of odd years (2011). This trip is partially funded by previously budgeted Chapter funds.

TELEPHONE CONTACT

Chapter 181 needs someone to call dropped members.

Please contact George Eads at 698-6078 or Jean Lenihan at 308-8165

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

Vacant

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

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UNTIL 2012

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NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE

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NARFE STATE WEBSITE

www.narfewa.net

NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.narfe.org

SERVICE CENTER

Closed until further notice; contact Ralph Angulo, the District IV Service Officer at <http://www.narfewadist4.org/>; (360) 452-6592; or ralphangulo@yahoo.com

OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

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950 Pacific Avenue #650
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www.murray.senate.gov

Senator Maria Cantwell
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Congressman Jay Inslee
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