



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

November 2011

NUMBER 09-11

General Meeting Date & Time: November 14, 2011, 1:00PM

**Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club (479-9061), 4901 West E Street, Bremerton, WA
National Avenue & 'E' Street**

**Program: HEALTH FAIR – BEGINS AT 10:00AM ☼ Membership Meeting at 1:00PM
Raffle Drawing for Vendor Prizes and Gift Baskets Prior to Meeting**

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

Vendors from the local area, along with representatives from the major Federal Health Plans, will be available from 10:00AM to 1:00PM to provide information and to answer your questions. Raffle drawings for vendor prizes and gift baskets will be held prior to the regular membership meeting and election of officers, which begins at 1:00PM. If you'd like to run for a Chapter Office or Committee, please contact George Eads (698-6078) or Jean Lenihan (308-8165).

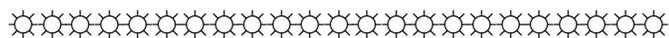
UPCOMING EVENTS

***Open Season November 14th to December 12th**

*** Holiday Luncheon and Installation of Officers
Elks Lodge on Pine Road December 12th
Meet & Greet at noon, Lunch Served at 1:00PM
See page 2 for details**

***Chapter Meeting January 9th**

***Chapter Meeting February 13th**



PRESIDENT

George Eads

Autumn Greetings, Chapter Members!

I wish to thank all who attended our Chapter meeting and signed a letter to Senator Patty Murray, Co-Chairman of the "Super Committee". This is the

committee tasked with making cuts to the budget and, unfortunately, some on this committee feel current and retired Federal workers are favored to "help balance the budget". Their idea for solving the current financial mess is to reduce and, in some cases eliminate, our EARNED BENEFITS.

We are grateful for our October guest speaker, Jackie O'Ryan, the local representative for NARFE's "Protect America's Heartbeat" campaign. She discussed the issues that are before the "Super Committee" for consideration, the issues that affect Federal employees and annuitants. Jackie brought letters addressed to Senator Murray, with room at the bottom for us to add a personal P.S., which she handed out to members at the end of her talk. Her energy and enthusiasm were infectious and resulted in a large number of letters being collected for Senator Murray. We will keep you posted on how the meeting with Senator Murray went and how many letters we gave to her.

Lanny reported that membership in NARFE is now about 280,000, down from about 450,000 at its peak. We all have to work harder to recruit new members and retain our present membership. I suggest you share your NARFE magazine with your friends and active Federal employees. Let them know that NARFE is working on behalf of their earned benefits. Lanny also stated that we have 68 active (currently working) Federal employees in our

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(President continued)

Chapter; there are 23,377 nationwide, which is a little over 8% of our membership. It is important to focus on, and increase the numbers in this group of people.

Our health fair will be on November 14th; it will start at 10:00 a.m. and go until 1:00 p.m. Remember, you have to make your own decisions about which plan meets your needs; so be sure to ask the vendors the questions you may have.

As your president, I wish you and your families a very happy and blessed Thanksgiving. I am thankful for all those who are serving on the Executive Board and for you, our Chapter members, for your support.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

Myra Clodius is coordinating our Annual Holiday Luncheon at the Bremerton Elks on **December 12th** (our normal meeting date). Social hour starts at noon and lunch will be served at 1:00PM.

Meal choices are Salmon at \$18.95 or Chicken Alexandra at \$15.00. Chicken Alexandra is cooked with Italian Seasoning and white wine. Both selections include a tossed green salad, O'Brien potatoes, roasted mixed vegetables, and a dinner roll. The price includes tax and gratuity.

You can make your reservations at our November meeting or mail your check (payable to NARFE) to Myra Clodius, 912 Vandalia Ave, Bremerton, WA 98310 by Tuesday December 6th. If you have any questions you may call Myra Clodius at 377-2910.

CALL TO ACTION

What you can do:

- Stay on top of what the "Super Committee" is considering by going to the www.NARFE.org home page and clicking on the link to "Read the Recommendation Letters" submitted to the "Super Committee" for consideration. This link can also be accessed when logged in; it's under the "Legislation" tab. Or go to <http://www.narfe.org/departments/member/articles.cfm?ID=2613>.
- Continue to contact your Congressional Representatives. Senator Murray has requested input by using a link on her website: <http://murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/deficit-reduction>.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

November is Health Insurance Open Season and also Health Fair Month. We will have attended the Health Fair for the shipyard held on October 26th and we will be holding our Chapter Health Fair at our monthly membership meeting on November 14th. Don't miss this event. It will be important to you when you make the decisions for your next year's health insurance coverage. We will also be electing our new slate of officers at this meeting. If you have the urge to run for an office, show up. I am sure that we can accommodate you.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Dean Cook, Hiroko Downey, Zada Ganus, Darrell Hatt, Marilyn Kinslow, Ronald McDonald, Roger Meyer, Greg Pigeon, Jo Francis Powell, Nancy Ray, Mary Roudebush and June Scott. If you know any of these members please contact them about renewing their membership.

Welcome to those members who are new or have reinstated their membership in our Chapter: Sandra Binz, Pat Garrett, Walter Nordleaf and our prospective member Emily Hah. We do appreciate your membership and if we may be of service please contact any Board Member listed in this bulletin.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Office of Personnel will mail its annual Open Season *notice* to all **annuitants and survivors**. Anyone who does not receive the Open Season notice by November 14th should call the Open Season contractor at 1-800-332-9798.
- ✓ If you're having trouble completing the "Be Prepared for Life's Events" packet, you can contact Bill Powers for a free DVD that walks you through the process step by step.
- ✓ CSRS Annuitants will receive a 3.6% COLA this year; FERS Annuitants will receive a 2.6% COLA. Health Premiums will increase, on average, 3.8% in 2012.

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. See back page for contact information.

PRESIDENT

George Eads
698-6078

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Ralph Sanders

SECRETARY

Bill Powers

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Zora Davis

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Ralph Sanders

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

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Vacant

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NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE

Webmaster – Bob Edwards
www.narfewadist4.org

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

Senator Patty Murray
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www.murray.senate.gov

Senator Maria Cantwell
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www.cantwell.senate.gov

Congressman Norm Dicks
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Congressman Jay Inslee
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**SENIOR INFORMATION &
ASSISTANCE
360-337-5700 OR 1-800-562-6418**