



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

January 2012

NUMBER 01-12

General Meeting Date & Time: January 9, 2012, 1:00PM

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

**Program: Clayton DeNault, Associate Executive Director, will speak about the new Haselwood Family
YMCA located in Silverdale**

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.

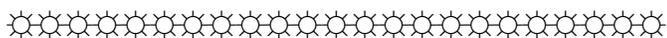
UPCOMING EVENTS

***Chapter Meeting February 13th**

***Chapter Meeting March 12th**

***District Workshop March 27th
Hosted by Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006, Sequim
9:00AM – 3:00PM Location to be Announced**

***Chapter Meeting April 9th**



PRESIDENT

George Eads

It was good to see so many of you at our annual Holiday Luncheon. To visit with friends we sometimes do not see for a long time, is wonderful. I am grateful for the newly elected officers of Chapter 181. Many of them have served as officers for a long time in various capacities. With the upcoming year of 2012, I encourage you to think about becoming an officer in our Chapter. This is going to be a busy year. We are going to have our District Workshop, hosted by Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006, March 27th in Sequim; more details to follow when we know the location. Our Washington State Federation Convention is going to be in May in Vancouver, Washington. The National Convention will be held in Reno, Nevada August 26-30; check your January magazine for details.

Mr. Floyd Trepus was awarded a certificate from our NARFE National President, Joseph Beaudion, for his 100th birthday. It was presented by Lanny Ross, Region IX Vice President. Congratulations, Floyd, from all of us!

The year 2012 is going to be a very interesting year. If you are not registered to vote, I encourage you to register now. Also, stay informed about the issues, particularly those pertaining to active and retired federal employees and their spouses.

I wish you and your families the happiest and healthiest New Year. Invite your friends to our Chapter meetings. We need their strength and support.

CALL TO ACTION

What you can do:

- Stay on top of what is happening in Congress by going to the www.NARFE.org home page and clicking on the links under the "NEWS FROM NARFE" heading.
- Continue to contact your Congressional Representatives; our input is still important.
- When Congress reconvenes, they will again address payroll taxes and unemployment; we must be prepared to act if they attach legislation that adversely affects Federal employees and retirees.

LEGISLATION

Jim Strunk

Here we go again on the Congressional Impasse Rollercoaster as the Senate and House remain unable to agree to reduce the General Debt (1.5 trillion) and approve any economic recovery legislation. As you will recall, party ideology caused the Joint Super Committee to end without agreement on debt reduction. Now a bill submitted by House Republicans, (HR 3630) Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2011, is requiring that any costs arising from the payroll tax reduction be paid for by extending the current federal employee hiring freeze for an additional two years and freezing current pay for the additional two years. HR 3630 was approved by the U.S. House but was not voted upon by the Senate. The Senate, in response to that House Bill, voted on and approved their own bill (SJ Res 24) which did not include the House's proposed federal employee hiring freezes or pay freezes.

As we go to press, the Speaker of the House said he agreed with the Senate bill, that he would bring the House Republicans into line, and secure House approval of the (SJ Res 24). The House did meet and approved the bill.*

Where does all this leave us as active and retired federal employees? There are no immediate financial threats in the remaining 2011 legislative session. What does remain is the prospect that, when Super Committee legislation (which was not created for House and Senate consideration) does not become law on January 15, 2012, it will trigger automatic across-the-board spending cuts starting in January, 2013. These expenditure cuts would not affect COLA's, the FEHBP and federal worker pay, but would affect agency salary and expense accounts which could bring unprecedented pressure on agency budgets.

The Congress may move to make annual expenditure reductions between now and January 2013. These reductions, which annually would equal those of the Sequestration, or Automatic Cuts, would create new fiscal impacts for active and retired federal employees.

On a brighter note, the House passed the Fiscal 2012 Appropriations Bill (HR2055) which was approved by the Senate and sent to the President for

signature. This avoids another budget deadlock, at least until the next appropriations bill needs to be passed in October, 2012.

Keep up with NARFE's monthly magazine for news and to stay informed on how you can contact your Congressional Representatives and the President to make your views known and to keep active and retired federal employees from bearing an undue share of the cost of debt reduction plans.

*Editors Note: Friday, December 23rd, the House passed a measure to keep in place a 2 percentage point cut in the Social Security payroll tax — worth about \$20 a week for a typical worker making \$50,000 a year — and prevent almost 2 million unemployed people from losing jobless benefits averaging \$300 a week. Doctors will win a reprieve from a 27 percent cut in their Medicare payments, the product of a 1997 cut that Congress has been unable to permanently fix.

(<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/unemployment-extension-bill-passed-congress-15218956>)

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

The 32nd National Convention will be in Reno-Sparks, NV, August 26-30. You may think that this is way in the future and why should I worry about it now. Because we have planning to do, both as individuals, and as a Chapter. The first deadline is just eight weeks away. Committee Assignment requests are due March 1st. All of this information is in your January copy of NARFE magazine. This is a drivable distance so more of our members can avail themselves of this opportunity to find out what goes on at a National Convention.

The following members were dropped for non-renewal: Kris Baker, Cynthia Fay, Wayne Kearney, James Mcgonigle, Robert Nixon, Dave Short, Richard Weyand and Blanch Wynne. 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: Doreen Gibson, Gladys McCoy, Steven McDaniel, Douglas Paschal, Stanley Phillips and Jack Teach. We do appreciate your membership and if we may be of

Membership Cont.

service please contact any Board Member listed in this bulletin.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for November was \$1,349.83 with expenditures of \$616.56. Our net worth as of 30 November was \$38,091.00. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

Please save your receipts from Red Apple Markets in East Bremerton, Kitsap Lake 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 \$128.18. You can turn in the receipts to Norene Torkelson or me, or bring them to our next meeting.

Reminder: Red Apple receipts must be current "NOT OVER THREE (3) MONTHS OLD" to be honored by the program.

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 20 December was \$594.55. Donations in the amount of \$85.00 were received in December. "Thank you" to Lorraine Brockerman and for the Memorial Donations for Louis Brockerman from Joyce Conner, Don and Laurie Neal, and Helen Shanker.

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, copper and brass! The last check of the aluminum collection to date we had approximately 1450 pounds.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ NARFE works to defeat cuts to the Medicare and Social Security programs.
- ✓ NARFE protects our annual cost-of-living adjustments

SERVICE CENTER NOTICE

The Service Center will be closed until further notice. Please contact Ralph Angulo, the District IV Service Officer, until we have a new Chapter 181 Service Officer. See back page for contact information.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families Louis Brockerman, Ellis Cohoon, Jack Ensign, Helen McKinney, Roy Offerdahl and Raymond Paulson. 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.

"Thank you!" to the **149** people who have signed up for the e-mailed newsletter plus **4** who receive the large print version! 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: 1133 Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 13.50% December was 13.15%)

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

TELEPHONE CONTACT

Please see previous newsletters for position descriptions; for more information or to volunteer, contact George Eads (698-6078) or Jean Lenihan (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

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Rex Tauscher

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SERVICE OFFICER

Vacant

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bea Bull

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
UNTIL DECEMBER 2012**

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Donald A. Palmer

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UNTIL DECEMBER 2013

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

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Region IX VP

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NARFE HOTLINE NUMBER

1-877-217-8234

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

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Senator Maria Cantwell
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Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400
D.C. Phone Number 202-224-3441
www.cantwell.senate.gov

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**SENIOR INFORMATION &
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