



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

June 2012

NUMBER 06-12

General Meeting Date & Time: June 11, 2012, 12:00PM NOTE EARLIER START TIME!!!!

**Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club (479-9061),
4109 West E Street, Bremerton, WA (National Avenue & 'E' Street)**

**Program: Encountering Dementia Michael Bower, BA, ACC, Lead Trainer; Education
Department of the Alzheimer's Association**

**Learn how to "prevent or de-escalate unsafe behaviors" and how to "arrive at safe and positive resolutions
to difficult situations"**

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.

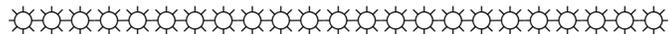
Executive Board meetings are held at 1:00PM at the Elks Lodge, 4131 Pine Rd NE, Bremerton, the Wednesday prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to join us.

IMPORTANT NOTE!

Our June 11th meeting will begin at noon with Officers' Reports; our speaker will begin at 1:00PM.

UPCOMING EVENTS

***Chapter Meeting September 10th**



PRESIDENT

George Eads

We had several of our members from Chapter 181 attend the Washington State Federation Convention in Vancouver, WA May 14-16. It was very informative with some very useful ways to make our NARFE membership aware of the importance of everyone being involved to strengthen our chapters. The main thing all of us can do is R & R. That does not mean Rest and Recuperation; it means Recruit and Retain. Our strength as a viable organization, now and into the future, will always be to Recruit and Retain. Each one of us must be a spokesperson for NARFE. We need to let people know that NARFE is the ONLY organization that is working for all federal employees, both active and retired.

Julie Tagen, the National Legislative Director, spoke about the importance of contacting our elected officials to let them know of our concerns with regard to our earned benefits. On page eight of the June NARFE Magazine is a report of how many calls, e-mails and letters each representative received.

Thanks for all your efforts as Chapter members in making phones calls and sending e-mails and letters to our representatives, both state and national. Keep up the good work in letting them know how you feel about trying to balance the budget on federal workers, both the active and retired.

June is our last Chapter meeting until September. My hope is that you and your families have a very healthy, happy and sunny summer. Thanks for your support and attendance at our Chapter meetings. Bring a friend to the next meeting.

CALL TO ACTION

What you can do:

- Continue to watch what Congress is working on throughout the summer and contact your representatives to convey your thoughts.
- Donate to NARFE-PAC.
- Call a lapsed member and urge them to renew; our strength is in our membership.

LEGISLATION

Jim Strunk

I was traveling last month and was unable to write a legislative update for the last newsletter. However, it is good to be back. I didn't miss anything in the other Washington, judging by the lack of positive Congressional actions on the 2013 national budget or in their taking any action to respond to the lagging national economy. I sometimes wonder why we worry about actual taxes on business and personal income when, as Benjamin Franklin said, "We are more heavily taxed by our idleness, pride and folly than we are taxed by government." That would include the current mismanagement of our federal budget and the non-productive debates we are having about it with federal employees being asked to bear an unfair share for any deficits.

To bring everyone up-to-date, both the House and Senate remain stymied by the partisan divide that is currently in place. The House is debating an appropriations bill that is \$8 billion greater than the budget expenditure bill of \$643 billion that was agreed to last summer by both parties. It is also \$8 billion greater than what the military wants. President Obama says he will veto it if it comes to his desk. On May 10th the House passed the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act (H.R. 5652). Overall, the bill "saves" \$310 billion as a way to avoid automatic budget cuts, known as sequestration, set to take effect in January 2013. (Reference NARFE news release May10, 2012.) Thirty percent of these savings are to be paid for by a five percent increase in federal employee pension withholding; this would reduce the amount the government would contribute to pensions and could be used to pay for other federal expenditures. This bill, fortunately, would never pass in the Democratic ruled Senate.

We remain in a situation where the final 2013 budget appropriation bills are being balanced unfairly on the backs of current active federal employees. The Democratic Senate is preventing this and future 2013 appropriation bills from being passed as law until the language penalizing federal employees is taken out.

On another note, the battle for the Norm Dicks 6th Congressional District seat is shaping up. "...Weyerhaeuser descendant Bill Driscoll is running as a Republican. Driscoll is contributing \$500,000 of his own money to his campaign, according to news reports, although the funding is not reflected yet in federal records. He's not alone by any means. Four other Republicans and an independent have filed for the seat as well. State Sen. Derek Kilmer, of Gig Harbor, is the only Democrat to file. He has about \$345,000 in cash on hand, according to OpenSecrets.org." (May 18, 2012 Yakima Herald) "High turnout expected as dozens of candidates file." (Andrew Garber for the Seattle Times) We hope to be meeting with these candidates to let them know about NARFE and the contributions of federal employees.

In the meantime, make sure you are responding to requests for letter-writing to your congressional representatives on the issues impacting us.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

This will be our last report until September as there will be no newsletter during our July and August break. That does not mean that we get the summer off. The Executive Board's work will continue on. NARFE cannot afford to take that summer break and neither can you. We all need to keep up on the issues and stay in touch with our members of Congress. Please keep those phone calls, letters and emails moving.

Apparently there is some confusion about our NARFE dues structure. The \$45 amount that you will find in the national magazine and on other recruiting literature is a one-year entry-level amount. The rest of us, paying our annual dues or reinstating our membership, will pay \$40 National dues and \$10 Chapter dues for a total of \$50. There are a few exceptions to this rule: For multiple years there is a reduction (two years for \$72 and three years for \$102). Some Active Federal Employees (AFEs) were grand-fathered in at the original rate. If there are any questions please call me at any time at 275-9793.

Into the numbers: We had a net loss of eleven members in May. This left us with a total of 1016 voting members going into June.

As I did last month, I will show a list of members who will be dropped for non-renewal if they do not renew before the June report: Adaline Crabtree, Ethel Faulk, Larry Ficca, Craig Hanagami, Donald Harstad, Tom Markis, Christy Meyers, Elizabeth Nuernberger and Michael Oshel.

These are the members who were dropped this month for non-renewal: Marion Brown, Leona Carr, Gloria Dumas, Judith Hansen, Ursula Hedt, Galyle Kohler, James Krein, Donna Mansor, Alfred McCrary, Alice McLean, Geraldine Parkhurst, Eleanor Prohaska, Terry Slider, Lewis Smith, Bonnie Stouffer and Fred Wise. 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: Joseph Fletcher, Stephanie Krause, Freddie Lindsey, William Lorraine, Stanley Napora, Randy Sanders, Thomas Spetter, Wilma Wagner, Donald Wahlquist, and Horst Zimmer. A special welcome to our new prospective member: Kathryn Castle. We do appreciate your membership and if we may be of service please contact any board member listed in this bulletin.

REMEMBER: KEEP YOUR MAILING ADDRESS UP TO DATE! NATIONAL NEEDS YOUR CURRENT ADDRESS FOR YOUR NARFE MAGAZINE AND OTHER MAILINGS. THANK YOU!

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for April was \$1,347.47 with expenditures of \$631.02. Our net worth as of 30 April was \$37,350.33. 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. 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 25 May was \$289.45. Donations in the amount of \$20.00 were received in May. "Thank you" again Lorraine Brockerman. Aluminum for Alzheimer's had collected 3042 pounds as of 15 May, so keep the collection growing for our research funding.

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

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

The *Federation Reporter* is an informative quarterly publication available to all members on the NARFE Washington website (<http://narfewa.net>). Click on "Federation Reporter" in the left panel and follow the links.

DID YOU KNOW?

✓ Need a Civilian Retiree ID Card so you can access military installations? Go to <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil> to schedule an

appointment at Pass & ID, located just inside the fence at the Navy Yard Highway entrance.

✓ To obtain your Civilian Retiree ID Card you will need your Retirement Personnel Action (SF50). If you cannot locate this form, contact the following address with your full name, retirement date, SSN, and the activity from which you retired:

National Personnel Records Center
Civilian Personnel Records
111 Winnebago Street
St. Louis, MO 63118-4199

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Paul Drnjevic, Alice Haynes, Theodore Peterson, Daune Petro, Beatrice Price, Walter Schreiber and Lyle Sorenson.

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 **158** 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: 1016. Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 15.55% (April was 15.68%)

NEED A LARGE-PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER?

A large-print version of this newsletter is available in size 16 font via email only. Email me if you'd like this version of the newsletter. tbkbull@aol.com

► ◀ **HELP WANTED** ▶ ◀

Service Officer

1st Vice President

Telephone Contact

For more information or to volunteer, contact George Eads (698-6078) or Jean Lenihan (308-8165).

PRESIDENT

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698-6078

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

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UNTIL DECEMBER 2012

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UNTIL DECEMBER 2013

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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

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