



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

September 2012

NUMBER 07-12

General Meeting Date & Time: September 10, 2012, 1:00PM

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

**Program: "Support for Family Caregivers" Presented by Tawnya Weintraub, Supervisor,
Kitsap County Caregiver Support and Senior Information & Assistance Programs of the
Division of Aging & Long Term Care**

An overview of Caregiver Support Program services and local resources.

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.

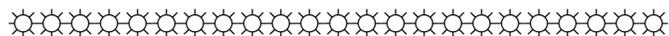
Executive Board meetings are held at 1:00PM at the Elks Lodge, 4131 Pine Rd NE, Bremerton, the Wednesday prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to join us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

***Chapter Meeting October 8th
Meet the Candidates / Nomination of Officers**

***Chapter Meeting November 12th
Election of Officers
**NOTE! There will be no Health Fair at our
November meeting. See box below right.****

***Chapter Meeting December 10th
Holiday Luncheon & Installation of Officers at
the Elks Club on Pine.**



PRESIDENT

George Eads

Welcome back from a great summer. We can look back on these warm days when the wintry cold days come to us in December and January.

You no doubt have been watching the political back and forth about who is right and who is wrong. I encourage you to go to a town hall meeting and meet with your elected officials in person. If you get a chance to go, ask them questions about their position on the issues that affect you and your family in your current or future retirement years.

I will be attending the national convention in Reno, Nevada. I am certain we will be receiving some important information about NARFE and its future. We all must remember the future of NARFE is to recruit and retain. We need to do all we can to keep our members involved at the grass roots level.

The updated NARFE National website is very user friendly and has a lot of good information to keep you up-to-date.

Election of officers is coming up in November. If you are continuing on as a current officer, or if you would like to run for office, let Jim Strunk (782-1186) or Bea Bull (377-6569) know of your intent. Also, be sure you are registered to vote and by ALL MEANS VOTE! Mail your ballots in early.

Enjoy the rest of these beautiful days here in the great Pacific Northwest. Many thanks for all your support in Chapter 181. I do appreciate all that you do to strengthen our Chapter.

CHAPTER HEALTH FAIR CURTAILED

Due to diminished attendance and increasing difficulty arranging vendors, the Board of Directors voted to curtail our annual November Health Fair. We are encouraging our members to attend the Senior Fair held each May at the Fairgrounds, which highlights businesses and services available to seniors in Kitsap County, and to visit the FEHB representatives at the 7 November Federal Health Fair at the Conference Center in downtown Bremerton.

CALL TO ACTION

What you can do:

- The candidates who support NARFE issues need our continued donations to NARFE-PAC. If each of our members donated \$10, we could raise nearly \$10,000!
- Our membership continues to decline; call a lapsed member and urge them to renew.

LEGISLATION

Jim Strunk

Hello all, and welcome back from Chapter 181's summer break. I'm going to use this time to bring you current with the national political budget process. While not a lot has changed it's good to review where we have been, and where we are now, in the budget process.

House of Representatives Actions: The Republicans in control in the House continue to want to: increase federal employees' pension contributions by 5 percent over current levels, reduce the federal workforce by 10 percent over three years, and continue the federal employee hiring and payroll freeze for an additional 3 years.

Senate Actions: The Democrats in control of the Senate have refused to even consider almost all the House proposals made to date.

U.S. Congressional Actions Favoring Federal Employees:

Under legislation signed last month by President Barack Obama, federal workers will be able to phase into their retirement, if they choose, by working part time while drawing a partial pension. The law allows the Office of Personnel Management to change the rules so that phased retirees could work twenty to eighty percent of a full schedule.

Status of the Federal Budget for 2013 (which is generating the continued attacks by House Republicans on federal employees' pay and benefits): The Budget Control Act of 2011, passed to allow an increase in the national debt ceiling, mandates controls on reductions in federal discretionary spending. This was to be accomplished in two ten-year cuts. The first cut (the first year of cuts over a ten year period of cuts) has taken place and began in the 2012, or current budget. The second round of cuts is to start in 2013 and, over 10 years, cuts an additional \$1.3 trillion in spending.

This second cycle of cuts is the one that neither the House, the Senate, nor the President can agree upon. The House wants cuts with no revenue ("tax") increases. The President and the Senate are willing to make cuts, but want revenue to help balance or reduce the impact of the cuts. This second round of cuts, if not made by agreement, would be completed by "Sequestration", or across the board 10 percent cuts in all federal departments. One area in which cuts are not allowed, however, is with federal pensions. This second round of cuts, if not negotiated by Congress and the President, would be devastating to all departments.

Because the 2013 federal budget has not been finally approved, due to the disagreements listed above, the House and Senate agreed to pass a continuing resolution to continue

federal operations at 2012 existing budget levels for October through March, 2013. This means we will likely see no new attacks on federal employee pay and benefits until after the November election. The ultimate outcome of all of this on our benefits will be determined by who wins the House, Senate, and Presidential elections.

An excellent review of this budget process is on the Web at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2013_United_States_federal_budget

How does this current legislative budget process affect us as active and retired federal employees? It means we must all work to protect the rights of active federal employees. This ensures that any budget cuts are applied fairly across all federal expenditures and paying for federal expenditures does not rest entirely on the shoulders of federal employees and retirees.

Chapter 181 will hold its own forum for candidates running for federal office at our October membership meeting. The candidates will be given an opportunity to explain their positions on issues which affect us as NARFE members. Derek Kilmer (D) and Bill Driscoll (R) are the two candidates running for Norm Dicks's (D) House seat.

Also, remember that NARFE and your Chapter may ask you to write letters to your congressional representatives and the President to assist them in understanding our issues. NARFE provides excellent guides for writing letters on its website under: Legislative Action Center/Policy Tools/Capitol Hill basics.

Bill Powers, Secretary

The Puget Sound Naval Bases Association (PSNBA) third annual golf tournament is September 21st at McCormick Woods. This is a 'foresome' event with a 1:00PM shotgun start. This is a fund raiser to support PSNBA advocacy of Naval Bases work on our Kitsap Peninsula. We are planning a NARFE team for this event. If you would like to sign up to golf, or contribute toward a Chapter member's golfing in this event, contact any Chapter officer. With another Base Realignment & Closure (BRAC) commission possibly coming due to sequestration, it is important to support our federal workforce. PSNBA has a sixty year legacy of promoting the future of the US Navy. For further information or to sign up to golf go to www.psnba.org.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

I hope that all of you have had great summer. Some would say that summer has just started, but that is in the eyes of the beholder and our calendar. By the time you read this report some of us will have returned from the national convention being held in Sparks, Nevada the last week of August. This report will contain reports for July and August, the two months that we did not have a newsletter.

As we have done for the last several months, I will continue to list the members who will be dropped for non-renewal if they do not renew before the October

Membership cont.

report: Sylvia Anderson, Edith Brown, Mary Drouin, Dennis Gange, Richard Harper, George Luzik, Joan Mac George, Sharon Vancil, Howard Wilcox, Sherman Williams and Grant Wood

These are the members who were dropped in the month of July for non-renewal: Dennis Johnson, Rose Kelly, Daniel Maroldo, Miriam Nelson and Bennie Peterson. The following members were dropped in the month of August for non-renewal: Bonnie Buchanan, Chester Clark, Hazel Colvin, Frances Davy, Estella Finister, Fredlin Paradis and Margaret Weems. If you know any of these members please contact them about renewing their membership.

Welcome to those members who, in July and August, are either new or have reinstated their membership in our Chapter. Nancy Bockelie-Caddy, James Corbett, Guy Frindell, Orton Johnson, Tom Makris, Franklin Natividad, Leslie Ramey, Helen Reed, Geraldine Parkhurst and Robert Wheeler. A special welcome to our new prospective member: Barbara Payne.

We do appreciate your membership and urge you to keep your own membership current and recruit a friend. We need your membership and participation more than ever in our troubled times. I would like to give special thanks to all of you who have renewed your memberships and especially to those who chose dues withholding or the two- or three-year option. And if we may be of service please contact any board member listed in this bulletin.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for June and July was \$2,192.16 with expenditures of \$1,962.28. Our net worth as of 21 August was \$38,011.73. 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 August was \$679.45. Donations in the amount of \$390.00 were received in June, July and August. "Thank you" Lorraine Brockerman Robert Brown and the Westside Improvement Club. Aluminum for Alzheimer's had collected 304 pounds as of 15 August, so keep the collection growing for our research funding.

Additional information on your tax deductible donations to the NARFE -Alzheimer's Research fund: If you use the contribution form in your NARFE monthly magazine make sure that you include our Chapter number, 181, and that the mailing address is Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL. 60601-7633. Note that if you mail it to our NARFE headquarters staff, it may not get credited to our Chapter.

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

The month of September is National Alzheimer's Month and on 22 September the local "Memory Walk for Alzheimer's" will be held at Bremerton's Evergreen Rotary Park. Sign-ups and late registration will start at 8:30AM with the walk beginning at 10:00AM. Snacks will be available.

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?

- ✓ The October issue of your NARFE magazine will contain the biennial congressional "scorecard". Check it out to see how your congressional members voted on issues important to federal employees and retirees.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Jean Brennan, William Bruns, William Evans, Robert Forst, Michael Gawenka, Harold Gillard, Frederick Howard, Edward Johnson, Ralph McCorkle, Duncan Munro, Ella M Musser, Elizabeth Nuernberger, Dagmaine Olesen, Donna Tabert and Floyd Trepus.

Birthday recognition cards were sent to Frances Taylor and Frank LeGault in celebration of their 100th birthdays. Congratulations!!

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 **161** 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!! Be Bull

Total Membership: 1040. Percentage receiving emailed newsletter: 15.87% (June was 15.55%)

PRESIDENT

George Eads
698-6078

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Vacant

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

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ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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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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