



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

**October 2012**

**NUMBER 08-12**

**General Meeting Date & Time: October 8, 2012, 1:00PM**

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

**Program: Candidate's Day**

**Find Out How Candidates the for U.S. Senate and the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Support  
Federal Employees and Retirees**

*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. NOTE! The November Executive Board meeting is to be rescheduled or relocated due to conflict with FEHBP Health Fair November 7<sup>th</sup>.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**\*FEHBP Health Fair November 7<sup>th</sup>  
Conference Center, Downtown Bremerton**

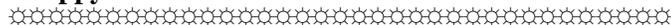
**\*Chapter Meeting November 12<sup>th</sup>  
•Hands-On Workshop for Completing the "Life's  
Events" Booklet – Ralph Angelo, Service Officer  
•Election of Officers**

**NOTE! There will be no Health Fair at our  
November meeting. See box below right.**

**\*Open Season for FEHBP Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>**

**\*Chapter Meeting NOON December 10<sup>th</sup>  
Holiday Luncheon & Installation of Officers at the  
Elks Club on Pine**

**\*Chapter Meeting January 14<sup>th</sup>  
Happy New Year!**



**PRESIDENT**

George Eads

I feel our NARFE National Convention was a great success. Our National Officers were elected for the next two years, including our own Lanny Ross for Region IX. These officers work very hard at moving NARFE forward in these very trying times of budget cuts, mostly attempted on

the backs of retired and current federal employees. The NARFE staff meets frequently with congressional representatives, advocating for our hard-earned benefits.

There was a lot of discussion about getting our younger, current federal employees to join eNARFE. This means they can join online and be involved in NARFE activities through the NARFE website and emails. They will continue to receive mailings from the National office (NARFE Magazine, calendars, cards, mailing labels, etc.) and can still follow links to contact their congressional representatives. I encourage you to explain this option to your friends and co-workers who are eligible to join NARFE. eNARFE currently has over 4000 members, a very strong voice for NARFE. We must always remember that the strength of NARFE lies in its large membership base; the larger the membership base, the greater NARFE's impact on our elected officials. Remember to recruit and retain members for Chapter 181 and for eNARFE.

In closing let me remind you, if you have not gotten your flu shot, you may want to consider getting it. Stay healthy and safe and remember to VOTE. Yes, EVERY VOTE COUNTS!

**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 encourage you to attend the Federal Health Fair at the Conference Center in downtown Bremerton November 7th.

## CALL TO ACTION

### What you can do:

- Support the candidates who support NARFE by donating to NARFE-PAC.
- Help grow our membership by calling a lapsed member or recruiting a new one.

## LEGISLATION

Jim Strunk

### Continuing Budget Resolution

The Senate has not yet passed the continuing budget resolution, already passed by the House, which is necessary to keep the federal government operating for the 2013 fiscal year beginning October 1, 2012. The continuing resolution is required because Congress has not agreed upon a 2013 fiscal year budget. It has agreed, however, that it and all congressional actions will wait until after this November's general election due to bipartisan gridlock in Congress.

The House is adjourning for the next seven weeks. The Senate will remain in session through the general elections on November 2, 2012.

Gridlock continues for Congress with the House being controlled by the Republican Party and the Senate by the Democrats. Please refer to September's newsletter for those unresolved legislative issues affecting federal employees and retirees. Do not expect any new legislation or changes to proposed legislation between now and the general election.

### Sequestration

To a teenager, being on-task in the fall of their junior year can make the difference between a collegiate reach and a safety school. To an incumbent congressman or senator, the coming lame duck session will decide not only how most of the lawmakers will be spending their time next year (will the farm subsidy, defense authorization, violence against women, cyber-security or Postal Service bills be put off until then, or not?) but also whether the fiscal cliff is allowed to start crumbling at the end of this year.

And it's on that front that there's a slight, tentative, but seemingly genuine sense of hope this week. In the public rooms of the Capitol, and on the airwaves back in their districts, lawmakers kept up all the angry rhetoric about how a national defense calamity and a downgrade of the government's credit rating are getting dangerously close, and entirely because of the other side's dogmatism and recalcitrance about spending and tax priorities. But, just off stage, a series of meetings in the past two weeks (by groups of Democrats and Republicans, and in meetings where there were actually some of each) produced a sense that a meaningful budget agreement was possible before Christmas, no matter who wins the presidential race and no matter whether the election produces a congressional power status quo or not. (Among the most important sessions, Geithner met with Boehner, and Bernanke met with Ways and Means Chairman, Dave Camp.)

The talk is about starting 2013 off right by doing more than another embarrassing can-kick at the end of the year, with

each side using the relatively politics-free period right after the election to move away from entrenched positions. There is serious talk about a \$4 trillion red ink reduction deal for the first time since the default-tempting summer of 2011, albeit probably with a down payment agreed to in December and legally binding instructions for the next Congress to come up with the rest next year.

Democrats are talking about conceding to spending cuts that are almost as deep as those that would come under an across-the-board sequester in January, just with different priorities; more of a domestic and less of a military slash. Republicans are talking about a willingness to give in on raising revenue, even by allowing rates to go up for millionaires if the president is re-elected.

It is too soon for the folks back home to be genuinely convinced that their lawmakers have their best game ready for the all-important next semester, but it's also unfair to conclude that Congress, as a uniform collective, is going to allow itself to simply wallow in its dysfunction after the votes are cast.

## MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

I am going to try to keep this report as short as possible. Because we do not mail newsletters for two months in the summer, we do not have the advantage of obtaining address changes from our returned mail. This means that some of the members listed below may not have received notices of their delinquent memberships.

We will start with a list of members who will be dropped for non-renewal if they do not renew before the November report: Charles Anderson, James Backs, Dallas Conley, Deborah Corrigan, Allen Davis, James Fitzwater, Emil Griebel, Robert Kroke, Albert Kurkoski, Richard Lawrence, Andrew Parypa, Naaman Peterson, Mary Pickard, Pauline Polum, Leasel Pool, Ruth Stephens and John Stevenson. We are sure that some of you have already paid your dues, so please accept our apology for listing you.

These are the members from the September report, who were dropped for non-renewal: Sylvia Anderson, Edith Brown, Mary Drouin, Dennis Gange, George Luzik, Joan MacGeorge, Sharon Vancil, Howard Wilcox and Grant Wood.

Welcome to those members who have reinstated their membership in our Chapter: Alan Crichton and Sherman Williams. We would also like to greet our new prospective member D. Essig. We hope that you will be joining Chapter 181 in the near future. Thanks to all of you who support our NARFE positions and help us maintain our COLAs, annuities and health insurance. And if we may be of service please contact any board member listed in this bulletin.



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. Open positions: Service officer and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

### TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for August was \$930.61 with expenditures of \$300.00. Our net worth as of 1 September was \$38,808.60. 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 20 September was \$738.64. Donations in the amount of \$59.00 were received in September. "Thank you" again to Lorraine Brockerman, Kevin Cavanagh, Donald Palmer, Dorothea Speed and Gerald Webb. Aluminum for Alzheimer's had collected 705 pounds as of 18 September, 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., 17<sup>th</sup> 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!).

#### ALUMINUM DROP-OFF POINTS

► Westsound Recycle

East Bremerton WalMart parking lot

► Port Orchard Mall

Let them know your donation is for the  
Bremerton Chapter

### DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Daylight Savings ends November 4<sup>th</sup>. Time to log into your OPM and TSP accounts to keep your passwords current.
- ✓ NARFE's vendor for NARFE NewsWatch is unable to send to most Comcast email addresses. NARFE asks members who use Comcast as their email provider to create a different email account for NARFE NewsWatch using Gmail or Yahoo! mail, for example. (Source: August NARFE Magazine, page 40)

### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Patricia Caldwell, Arthur Freitag, Lucille Fuller, Ruth Grantham, Jean Lenihan, Harriet McKiernan, Frank Nute and Edwin Runquist.

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.

**Our Former Service Officer, Megan Winans sends her regards and a reminder: DO NOT get angry with your insurance company and cancel your coverage as a retiree! If you do, you CANNOT re-enroll at a later date.**

### 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](mailto:LADLAD@comcast.net), or Vice President Roberta Messinger, (360) 613-0421, [RobertaM160@telebyte.com](mailto:RobertaM160@telebyte.com).

**To have the regular or large-print version of this newsletter emailed to you, please contact Bea Bull at [tbkbull@aol.com](mailto:tbkbull@aol.com). Thanks!! Bea Bull**

**PRESIDENT**

George Eads  
698-6078

**1<sup>st</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Vacant

**2<sup>nd</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

Ralph Sanders

**SECRETARY**

Bill Powers

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

Zora Davis

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ralph Sanders

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**

Norene Torkelson

**LEGISLATIVE CHAIR**

Jim Strunk

**SERGEANT AT ARMS**

Ed Saftich, Sr.

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Bill Powers

**SERVICE OFFICER**

Vacant

**CHAPLAIN**

Myra Clodius

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bea Bull

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2012**

Gladys Berteaux

Donald A. Palmer

J. R. Seibold

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2013**

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

**District IV VP**

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377-7917  
powersw@silverlink.net

**Region IX VP**

Lanny Ross  
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**NARFE HOTLINE NUMBER**

1-877-217-8234

**NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE**

Webmaster – Bob Edwards  
[www.narfewadist4.org](http://www.narfewadist4.org)

**NARFE STATE WEBSITE**

[www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net)

**NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE**

[www.narfe.org](http://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](mailto:ralphangulo@yahoo.com)

**OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

Senator Patty Murray  
950 Pacific Avenue #650  
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D.C. Phone Number 202-224-2621  
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Senator Maria Cantwell  
915 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Suite 3206  
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Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400  
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[www.cantwell.senate.gov](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov)

Congressman Norm Dicks  
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Bremerton FAX Number 360-479-2126  
D.C. Phone Number 202-225-5916  
[www.house.gov/dicks](http://www.house.gov/dicks)

**SENIOR INFORMATION &  
ASSISTANCE  
360-337-5700 OR 1-800-562-6418**