



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

October 2013

NUMBER 08-13

General Meeting Date & Time: October 14, 2013, 1:00PM

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

Program: OFFICER REPORTS, NOMINATION OF OFFICERS  
SOCIAL TIME, REFRESHMENTS

*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 from noon to 2:00PM at the Westside Improvement Club the Wednesday prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to join us.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- \*PSNS Health Fair November 5<sup>th</sup>  
Kitsap Conference Center 7:00AM - 5:00PM  
100 Washington Ave., Fountain Room
- \*Chapter Meeting November 11<sup>th</sup>  
Election of Officers
- \*Chapter Meeting NOON December 9<sup>th</sup>  
Holiday Luncheon & Installation of Officers  
Westside Improvement Club

## **PRESIDENT**

George Eads

I hope you took the time to call our elected officials during National Call-In Week to express your concerns about changing to the Chained CPI which will LOWER our current COLA, meaning less money for our retirement. I called all three of my representatives and it took less than five minutes to speak to their staff about my concerns. I point out to you that sometimes the simple act of letting our elected officials know how we feel about issues that affect both active and retired federal employees and their surviving spouses can impact how they vote on issues. I encourage you to call, e-mail, or write a letter to their local offices listed on the back page of our monthly newsletter. Let them know your concerns and be sure to thank them for the positive things they are doing in our behalf.

Election of officers for the year 2014 are coming up in November. I invite you to take an active part in Chapter 181 by running for an office; please let us know if you have an interest.

Our monthly NARFE magazine is one of the best tools to recruit and retain members. Please be sure to share it with your friends.

I am always thankful for the hard work of our Executive Board members and for the support from all the members of Chapter 181.



## **NOTICE - CHANGE OF VENUE**

**Just a reminder that our December meeting will now be at the Westside Improvement Club. Luncheon plans have not been finalized as this newsletter goes to print; however, you will find information in the November newsletter.**



**2013 PSNS Health Fair  
November 5<sup>th</sup>  
7:00AM - 5:00PM  
Kitsap Conference Center  
Fountain Room**

**The Fountain Room is in Fountain Park and attached to the back of the museum. It is an easy walk from Farragut Gate but there is no nearby parking.**

**CALL TO ACTION**

What you can do:

- According to NARFE President Joseph Beaudoin, 5,116 phone calls went through NARFE's toll-free number to Capitol Hill during National Call-In Week. No need to limit our calls to that one week! Keep calling to instruct your congressional representatives on what you want them to do. **Remember, our silence is taken as acceptance.**
- New-member dues have been reduced to \$40 for the first year beginning October 1, 2013. **Recruit a friend, neighbor or family member.**

**LEGISLATION**

Charles Niesen, Port Orchard Chapter 888

On September 5<sup>th</sup>, the presidents of NARFE Chapters 181, George Eads (Bremerton), 881, Stan Barber (Poulsbo), 888 Charles Niesen (Port Orchard), and Ralph Angulo (District IV Service Representative) met with Congressman Derek Kilmer in his Bremerton office at the Norm Dicks Building. The purpose of the meeting was to take advantage of Congressman Kilmer's summer break from

Washington D.C. to express the concerns, from the local level, of our memberships.

Chapter 181 Legislative Chair, Jim Strunk, did an excellent job of arranging for the meeting and providing preparatory topics with pertinent subject matter. He also organized a meeting of the NARFE representatives prior to the meeting with the Congressman to prepare our strategy for presenting our topics. The recommended topics included:

- Benefits at Risk (Annuities): George Eads
- Health Insurance and Health Benefits: Stan Barber
- Private vs. Public Pay: Charles Niesen
- CPI and Chained CPI: Ralph Angulo

Congressman Kilmer was very receptive to our discussions and took quite a few notes. As the topics were presented and discussion ensued there was quite a bit of overlap and redundancy which helped provide emphasis to our concerns. Congressman Kilmer was somewhat familiar with the topics but noted many of the statistics and points to consider that were presented. He also stated he felt very strongly that federal workers did not receive the credit and positive recognition they deserved. One indication of the Congressman's sincerity was the fact that we were given a forum of almost 45 minutes to present our concerns. This was quite a bit longer than originally expected. Another point of interest is that one of the first things the newly elected Congressman did when arriving in D.C. was to contact Human Resources to ask them to freeze his pay. This was an act of aligning himself with federal workers who have suffered pay freezes.

The meeting ended on a very congenial note with George Eads even signing up the Congressman as a NARFE member. What a great coup for George! Also, many kudos once again to Jim Strunk; his work made it possible for a very successful meeting.

**Editor's Note:** This month's Legislative column was graciously written by Charles Niesen, the President of Port Orchard Chapter 888. Jim Strunk is recovering from hip replacement surgery and we wish him a speedy recovery. Bea Bull

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Ralph Sanders

The WSFC Bi-Annual Convention will be May 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at the Silverdale Beach Hotel in Silverdale, Washington. We have made progress, if only slowly. We continue to meet with the hotel and the catering company and are trying to make this convention the most economical and best convention possible. The 2014 convention will be hosted by District IV of the State Federation. District IV is comprised of four chapters: Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006, Port Orchard Chapter 888, Poulsbo Chapter 881 and Bremerton Chapter 181. We require volunteers from all of these chapters. You may not be required to do anything until just before the convention or you may choose to chair or work on a committee that will require your attention right away. The choice is yours, but we do need your help.

Now we have our October membership report. The following members, if they have not renewed their membership, will show as dropped for non-renewal in the September data report: Patricia Alexander, James Bradwell, Harriet Robinson and Warren Sherrill.

These are the members showing dropped for non-renewal in the August data report: John Alcantra, John Covert, Marilyn Gulla, Harold Richardson and Carma Wells. If you know any of these members, please give them a call and ask them to reinstate their membership.

Now for the positive side of the chapter membership showing that the following members have renewed their membership, are new members or have transferred from another chapter: Richard Hale, William Heffelmire, Shirley Nardi, Helen Sieck, Alfred Snodgrass and Judith Stelson.

We also have one new prospective member: Katie Thornton. If you have any questions regarding NARFE or Chapter 181, please call any one of the officers listed on the back page of this newsletter.

### **TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

Our income for June thru August was \$1,051.81 with expenditures of \$911.16. Our net worth as of 1 September was \$34,799.23. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

Chapter 181 is no longer collecting receipts from Red Apple Markets in Bremerton, Kitsap Lake and Poulsbo for the collection and payment of 1% of their grocery receipts. Thank you to all of our members who helped to maintain these collections over the years.

### **Electronic 1099R**

### **Did you know?**

Opt-In to receive your Electronic 1099R. Go to <http://www.servicessonline.opm.gov/> and log in. Under "Miscellaneous" click on "Update Email Address/Opt-In to Receive Information Electronically". Provide your email address and make your selections in the blue box. Done!

**Logging In:** To begin you will need your claim number; it begins with the letters CS followed by an "A" or an "F" then eight (8) more characters. If you don't have a password, can't remember it, or it has expired, click on "Forgot Claim Number or Password" below the password box. OPM will mail you a new password.



**NOTICE: WE ARE NO LONGER COLLECTING RED APPLE RECEIPTS FOR NARFE CHAPTER 181. THIS PROGRAM WAS DISCONTINUED AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2013.**

**ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)**

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 25 September was \$7.71. Donations of \$355.00 were received in June through September thanks to Loraine Brockerman, Robert Brown, Bill Fuhrmeister, Nancy Hemstreet, Lanny Ross, Donald Taylor, Gerald Webb, and West Side Improvement Club. Donation checks were forwarded to the Alzheimer's Association in the amounts of \$235 in June and \$407 in September.

Additional information on your tax deductible donations to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research fund:

- Make checks payable to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research" (NARFE is the key word and is required!).
- If you use the NARFE magazine contribution form, include "Chapter 181" on the form. The correct mailing address is Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave., 17th Floor, Chicago, IL. 60601-7633.
- If you mail it to NARFE headquarters staff, it may not get credited to our Chapter.

**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**

**We have collected over 384 pounds of aluminum this year to date!**

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

Rex Tauscher for Norene Torkelson

A sympathy card was sent to the family of William Jackson. I would like to apologize to the family of William Johnson for the last newsletter listing of a sympathy card being sent when he is, in fact, still with us. Get well wishes were sent to Gerald Webb and remember keep in your thoughts Norene Torkelson who is still recovering and on limited duty.

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.

If you have questions or need assistance with this newsletter, please feel free to contact me at [tbkbull@aol.com](mailto:tbkbull@aol.com). Thanks!! Bea Bull



**PRESIDENT**

George Eads

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

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ralph Sanders

**SECRETARY**

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bea Bull

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

Zora Davis

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

**ASSISTANT TREASURER**

Norene Torkelson

**LEGISLATIVE CHAIR**

Jim Strunk

**SERGEANT AT ARMS**

William Fuhrmeister

**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Bill Powers

**CHAPLAIN**

Myra Clodius

**SERVICE OFFICER**

Vacant

contact Ralph Angulo

District IV Service Officer

360-452-6542

ralphangulo@yahoo.com

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2013**

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2014**

Gladys Berteaux

Donald A. Palmer

Bill Powers

**District IV VP**

Bill Powers 377-7917

powersw@silverlink.net

**Region IX VP**

Lanny Ross 692-9741

lannyjean@comcast.net

**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

**eNARFE WEBSITE**

www.enarfe.org

**SENIOR INFORMATION &  
ASSISTANCE**

360-337-5700 OR  
1-800-562-6418

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL  
MANAGEMENT (OPM)**

Phone: 1-888-767-6738

Hours of operation:  
7:30AM - 7:45PM ET with  
best time to reach someone  
being 6:30PM - 7:30PM or  
at 7:30AM.

Mailing Address:  
Office of Personnel  
Management  
Retirement Operations  
Center  
P.O. Box 45  
Boyers, PA 16017

**OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

Senator Patty Murray  
950 Pacific Avenue #650  
Tacoma, WA 98402  
Tacoma Phone Number  
253-572-9488  
D.C. Phone Number  
202-224-2621  
[www.murray.senate.gov](http://www.murray.senate.gov)

Senator Maria Cantwell  
915 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Ste 3206  
Seattle, WA 98174  
Seattle Phone Number  
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D.C. Phone Number  
202-224-3441  
[www.cantwell.senate.gov](http://www.cantwell.senate.gov)

Congressman Derek Kilmer  
345 - 6<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 500  
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