



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

April 2014

NUMBER 04-14

General Meeting Date & Time: MAY MEETING IS CANCELED!!

Betty Herman Will Return June 9<sup>th</sup> to Present "The  
Continuum of Care - Part 2"

So Save Your Handout!

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

Program: There will be NO May General Membership Meeting  
Join Us at the 2014 WSFC Convention at the  
Silverdale Beach Hotel May 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>!

*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

\*Chapter Meeting.....CANCELED..... May 12<sup>th</sup>

\*WSFC Convention..... May 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>  
Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale, WA

**SIX FREE REGISTRATION SPACES LEFT!**

\*Chapter Meeting..... June 9<sup>th</sup>

\*NARFE National Convention..... August 24<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>  
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL

\*Chapter Meeting..... September 8<sup>th</sup>

## **PRESIDENT**

George Eads

The BIG news is that we are going to have the 2014 Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) Convention on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> at the Silverdale Beach Hotel. I hope you will attend at least some part of this convention.

August 24<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> are the dates for the National NARFE Convention in Orlando, Florida. Many issues will be discussed and voted on at this very important time in the history of NARFE that will have an impact now and into the future. I encourage you to go to page four of the May NARFE magazine and read some of the changes that have been proposed. I need your input on how you feel about these issues and the future of NARFE.

There will be an open forum at our June General Membership meeting to discuss these issues. Please plan to attend. If you can't, please fill out the form on the next page, cut it out, and mail it to me at: George Eads, c/o NARFE, P.O. Box 5025, Bremerton, WA 98312. Or you can call (360-698-6078) or email ([gleareads@msn.com](mailto:gleareads@msn.com)) your answers to me no later than the beginning of August.

On page eight there is HR Bill 3744 to restore pay to those federal employees who had to be furloughed because of sequestration. This bill was written by our Congressman Derek Kilmer, who is a member of NARFE and is attuned to NARFE issues.

Summer is coming and we will all be busy doing many good things in our lives. I encourage you to remain active in being part of NARFE. Read your magazine and do not hesitate to call your elected representatives to express your feelings and concerns about our hard-earned benefits.

I hope to see you at the 2014 WSFC Convention. I am thankful for all the hard work that has gone into the planning and organization of all the details connected with sponsoring this convention. I am especially thankful to Bea Bull and Ralph Sanders who have both spent countless hours pulling everything together.

**Bylaws Resolutions:**

Recommendation #9: Reduce the number of National Officers from four to two by eliminating the positions of Vice President and Secretary.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Recommendation #27: Address Mandatory Chapter Membership by making local chapter membership optional.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Recommendation #29: Open membership to all who support the mission of NARFE even though they are not a current or former federal employee or the spouse of one.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

Recommendation #31: Open membership to youth, up to age 26, at a reduced rate, e.g., \$10/year.

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No

## LEGISLATION

Jim Strunk

"The election isn't very far off when a candidate can recognize you across the street." *Kim Hubbard*

"There are always too many Democratic Congressmen, too many Republican Congressmen, and never enough U.S. Congressmen. "~*Author Unknown*

I am keeping my column brief this month as I have been using most of my time to help prepare for the May 2014 WSFC Convention.

Congress passed their 2015 federal budget proposal (H.Con.Res. 96) introduced by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul D. Ryan, R-WI. It passed 219-205 and is a political document presented for the House Republican Majority.<sup>1</sup>

It is an austerity budget that attempts to balance the national deficit in ten years and is similar to the budget proposed by the Republicans in the last budget cycle. It is intended to play to their conservative Republican constituency base. Since funding levels for FY 2015 were set with the passage of a two-year budget agreement earlier this year, the Ryan budget is more statement than policy and will not be considered further, but it is still worth explaining how it would impact federal employees. It would:

1. Increase federal employee pension contributions so that one half is contributed by the employee and one half by the government;
2. Eliminate the Federal SSI supplement; and
3. Reduce the federal workforce by 10%.<sup>2</sup>

This 2015 House Republican budget proposal is not expected to pass in the Senate.

Please review the NARFE magazine for April, 2014. Its "Bill Tracker" section provides a status update on each bill currently being proposed in the Senate and House, its status, and how it affects NARFE members.

Also, you need to take the time to review the current bills that are being proposed for streamlining and modernizing the postal service. Two changes, among many others, are to allow the postal service to bargain away the FERS defined-benefit annuity for new employees, and significantly reduce worker compensation coverage for injured employees retired after 30 years of service.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Politico Lauren French 4/10/14,  
<http://www.politico.com/story/2014/04/house-passes-ryan-budget-105576.html#ixzz2ze45cAcv>

<sup>2</sup> Government Executive Kellie Lunney April 3, 2014,  
<http://www.govexec.com/pay-benefits/2014/04/house-panel-approves-plan-increase-feds-pension-contributions/81826/?oref=top-story>

<sup>3</sup> "Postal bill would reduce comp benefits" NARFE, April, 2014, pp 6-7, p 12.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Ralph Sanders

Watch out! We only have until the 14<sup>th</sup> of May to the start of the 2014 Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) Convention. We will have one more meeting of the entire convention committee on May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30AM plus several work parties and small meetings to make sure everything is in place. I would like to thank everyone in the district who is involved in this convention. Without your participation we could not have accomplished what we have.

I would like to thank all of the members who have renewed their membership for multiple years. This saves you, and all of us, some work and saves NARFE some money that can be well spent somewhere else.

This is the monthly chapter membership report. If the following members have not renewed their membership they will show as dropped in the April data report: Larry Macintyre, Gordon McKay, Francis Mildenstein, Constance Olson, Williwam O'Neill, Susie Simmons, Tandie Steinmetzer, Melvin Thies, Katie Thornton and David Webster.

These members are showing as dropped for non-renewal: James Backs, Elisabeth Bondy, Sandra Ellsworth, David Farr and Mildred Halverson.

Now let us look at the positive side of this report. We have two new members this month: John Burch and Thelma Gurski-Taylor. We also have two members reinstated: Dianne Hendrickson and Barbara Luddon. This month we have two new prospective members: Joseph McKenna and Linda Mullins.

If you have any questions about NARFE or the Bremerton Chapter, please contact any of the Board Members listed on the back of this newsletter.

### **TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

Our income for March was \$805.84 with expenditures of \$1,178.45. Our net worth as of 1 April was \$34,597.18. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

**Remember to get your Federation Convention reservations in to me for a chance to get your discount from our chapter. We still have 6 discounts for chapter members available as of 24 April 2014. Rex Tauscher, Treasurer**

## **ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)**

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 24 April was \$11.57. Donations of \$26.00 were received in April thanks to Loraine Brockerman, Bea Bull, and Darlene Theroux. A donation check in the amount of \$740.00 has been forwarded to the Alzheimer's Association for our Alzheimer's Research project.

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 587 pounds of aluminum this past year!**

### **STAMP OUT HUNGER**

**FOOD DRIVE**

**SATURDAY MAY 10, 2014**

Please place a bag of non-perishable food items by your mailbox for your letter carrier to collect.

## PARKING NOTICE!!



**Handicapped parking requirements are being enforced city- and county-wide so do not park in marked areas at the Westside Improvement Club unless you have a valid parking permit.**

### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Rex Tauscher for Norene Torkelson

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Pearl Lewis and past member, Roy Short.

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

**VICE PRESIDENT**

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ralph Sanders

**SECRETARY**

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bea Bull

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

**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 2014**

Donald A. Palmer

Bill Powers

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2013**

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

**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  
206-220-6400  
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  
Bremerton, WA 98337  
Bremerton Phone Number  
360-373-9725  
D.C. Phone Number  
202-225-5916  
<http://kilmer.house.gov>