



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

May 2014

NUMBER 05-14

General Meeting Date & Time: MAY MEETING IS CANCELED!!
Betty Herman Will Return June 9th 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 14th & 15th!

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 12th**
- *WSFC Convention.....**May 14th and 15th**
Silverdale Beach Hotel, Silverdale, WA
- * Chapter Meeting..... **June 9th**
- *NARFE National Convention.....**August 24th -28th**
Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL
- *Chapter Meeting..... **September 8th**



PRESIDENT
George Eads

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

August 24th through the 28th 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 this form, 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 (gleadreads@msn.com) your answers to me no later than the beginning of August.

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

President, cont. 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.

→**AMAZING OPPORTUNITY**←

**CHAPTER 181 WILL PAY YOUR \$30.00
2014 WSFC CONVENTION REGISTRATION
FEE!**

**THERE ARE STILL SIX (6) SPACES
AVAILABLE – CALL RALPH SANDERS
OR BEA BULL TODAY!**

You can receive a copy of the registration form by contacting the Chapter Secretary or President (see back of newsletter) or you may print one from the Federation web page at www.narfewa.net.

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.¹

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%.²

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.³

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

² 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>

³ “Postal bill would reduce comp benefits” NARFE, April, 2014, pp 6-7, p 12.

**NOTE: The WSFC is offering a \$250.00
rebate to anyone who attends the NARFE
National Convention.**

**If interested, please contact WSFC
Secretary Linda Sanders at 275-9793 or
sandyandblake@wavecable.com**

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

Watch out! We only have until the 14th 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 7th 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, Williawam 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.

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.

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 over 500 pounds of aluminum this past year!

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.



PRESIDENT

George Eads
698-6078

**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

SERVICE OFFICER

Vacant
contact Ralph Angulo
District IV Service Officer
(360) 452-6542
ralphangulo@yahoo.com

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

UNTIL DECEMBER 2014

Donald A. Palmer

Bill Powers

UNTIL DECEMBER 2015

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

District IV VP

Bill Powers
377-7917
powersw@silverlink.net

Region IX VP

Lanny Ross
692-9741
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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

Senator Maria Cantwell
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Seattle, WA 98174
Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400
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Congressman Derek Kilmer
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