



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

**April 2015**

**NUMBER 04-15**

**General Meeting Date & Time: April 13, 2015 1:00PM**

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

**Program: Steve Ferguson will Report on the 2015 Legislative Conference and  
Region IX V.P. Lanny Ross Will Update Us on NARFE National Headquarters**

*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**

- \* **Region IX Leadership Training..... May 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- \* **Chapter Meeting.....May 11<sup>th</sup>.... CANCELED!!!**
- \* **Chapter Meeting.....June 8<sup>th</sup>**

**NOTE: CHAPTER MEETINGS MAY BE CANCELED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. WATCH YOUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTERS FOR NOTIFICATION OF CANCELED MEETINGS.**



**PRESIDENT**

George Eads

Fellow members of Chapter 181,

I recently received from NARFE Headquarters some information in the *NARFE Recruiting & Retention Journal* that I thought would be timely to share with you.

**Dues: The Driving Force Behind Renewals**

--Adapted from an article by Evelyn Kirby, Region II Vice President, as featured in the Winter 2014 issues of the Region II newsletters and reprinted in the Recruiting & Retention Journal.

How many times have we heard the lament, "NARFE dues are too high for what you get"? Do your members understand the full benefits of

membership? They may need to be reminded every now and then.

Dues drive our mission by allowing us to have topnotch lobbyists at Headquarters who know the ropes on Capitol Hill and which legislators to approach. They give us funds to develop media campaigns and legislative tool-kits. They help finance member benefits services, information sharing and technical support. Dues help fund federation-wide support of chapter needs for training, information support, recruitment drives and more that advance our mission.

Dues fund chapter and federation mission actions such as publishing and distributing newsletters; hosting events with members of, or candidates for, Congress; supporting NARFE members who do mission-based business for office supplies, travel, mission success planning, and/or training and related expenses; recruiting at health fairs, community activities, senior expos, local media and otherwise. **Continued on Page 2**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE!!!**  
**THE MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING IS CANCELED!!!**

President Cont.

### **The Driving Force Behind Renewals cont.**

Dues pay for the monthly award-winning NARFE magazine. Remember: If you and your spouse are both members, please continue to receive a magazine in each name. The number of copies sold determines advertising rates. The distribution numbers determine the income NARFE gets from ads and the percentage discount you get from our affinity partners.

Take the extra copy to the library, your doctor's office, the community hall, the local congressional office, or to your neighbors or friends. The magazine is a fantastic public relations and recruitment tool for getting the value, message and brand name of NARFE recognized.

So, counter these dues-related questions with confidence.

- What other organization can you belong to that works to protect your federal annuity and health insurance program?
- Explain how dues are structured. Emphasize the savings NARFE offers with dues withholding where retired members automatically enjoy a 15 percent discount off national dues.
- Compare NARFE costs with other lobbying groups in DC. Many other organizations charge more for far less in return.
- Mention that NARFE magazine is worth more than the cost of membership. In addition, members get online information and updates from National.

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There is LOTS to think about and ponder in the above information. If you know of someone who has not paid their dues, please urge them to do so.

NARFE-PAC is another way to support our cause. Congress will have many opportunities to attack the benefits of federal employees and retirees this year and, in fact, have already begun. Make your donations using the form in your NARFE magazine or bring them to Don Palmer, our NARFE-PAC Chair, at one of our meetings.

Join us at the April General Membership meeting to listen to Steve Ferguson talk about his experience as the 2015 Legislative Conference and to hear an update from Region IX V.P. Lanny Ross on events at National Headquarters.

I hope you and your families have a blessed Easter/Passover.

## **Thank you Ralph Petersen for volunteering to serve on the Nominating Committee!**

If you have someone you'd like to nominate for one of the following positions, please contact Ralph Petersen at 360 895 2069 or angelwing14@msn.com.

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Alzheimer's Chair

Membership Chair

Executive Board Member positions

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Ralph Sanders

The following members, if they have not renewed their membership, will show as dropped in next month's report: Ernest Adcock, Karen Dickenson, Dale Kink, Geneva Lowe, Mark Timken, Joyce Vanrossum and David Webster.

These members are showing as dropped for non-renewal: Judy Christensen, Frank Knowles, Alice Mikelsen, Ben Ormiston and Ann York.

Now for the positive side of our report. We have one (1) reinstated member: Linda Horsley. We have four (4) new prospective members: Pat Daling, Tom Kerr, Tana Malmo and James Platt.

If you have questions regarding NARFE or Bremerton Chapter 181 please contact any of our board members listed on the back of this newsletter, or just come to a meeting. The meeting information is listed on the front page of this newsletter.

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Plan to attend the Region IX Leadership Training in Clackamas, OR, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Training will include WORD and EXCEL. All Washington State NARFE members in good standing will be reimbursed by WSFC for the \$50.00 registration fee. You will find further information and the registration form on the Oregon Federation web site, [www.narfe.org/or](http://www.narfe.org/or).

## TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for February was \$759.69 with expenditures of \$711.42. Our net worth as of 28 February was \$32,768.18. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next general meeting.

## ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 25 March was \$799.41. Donations received at our February and March meetings were \$88.00 thanks to Loraine Brockerman, Bea Bull, Robert Gossett, Vito Leone and Rex Tauscher. Thanks for the donations for our forgetful moments.

### 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., 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL. 60601-7633.
- If you mail it to NARFE headquarters staff, it may not get credited to our Chapter.

Remember to donate your aluminum cans to Alzheimer's.

### 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**

Currently we have 115 pounds.

## SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Betty Fischer

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Floyd W. Becker, Norma Everhart, Marjorie G. McLaughlin and Leasel D. Pool.

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.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Ralph Sanders

This report is all about money, your money. We are very early in the budget process, so we will be seeing changes as we go along during the next several months. The important thing is that we do not lose sight of what is going on during this time.

Representative Westerman R-AR introduced legislation, HR 1230, placing employee retirement on the High-Five rather than the existing High-Three wage system. If passed, this law would take effect January 2017 and save 3.1 billion dollars over ten years. This would be devastating for federal employees who are already paying an increased amount of their wages toward retirement.

The good news is, Representative Davis, R-IL has introduced HR 973. This legislation would repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) laws. NARFE supports this legislation and we have supported similar legislation in the past.

Both the House and Senate budget committees have completed the mark-up of their 2016 budget proposals. The House proposal would increase retirement contributions with no percentage or implementation or time line mentioned. Also there would be no raise for active employees as mentioned in the President's budget proposal. On the other hand, the Senate proposal contains even less in details. This plan is designed to save 170 billion dollars over ten years at the expense of active and retired federal employees. This would include changes to the Federal Employee Health Benefit Plan (FEHBP). There again, no details. Both the House and Senate have passed their versions of the Budget.

Stay informed and be ready to act when NARFE National requests us to do so.

### IF YOU MISSED THE MARCH MEETING

**SHEILA TAYLOR**

**CLUTTER CONTROLLERS**

**WILL SPEAK AT THE POULSBO  
CHAPTER MEETING**

**JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> AT 11:30AM  
VINLAND LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2750 Finn Hill Rd, Poulsbo**

**PRESIDENT**

George Eads  
698-6078

**VICE PRESIDENT  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ralph Sanders

**SECRETARY  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bea Bull

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

**NARFE-PAC CHAIR**

Don Palmer

**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 2015**

Bea Bull

Amber VanSantford

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2016**

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](mailto:lannyjean@comcast.net)

**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)

**eNARFE WEBSITE**

[www.enarfe.org](http://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, Suite 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> Street, Suite 500  
Bremerton, WA 98337  
Bremerton Phone Number 360-373-9725  
D.C. Phone Number 202-225-5916  
<http://kilmer.house.gov>