



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

January 2017

NUMBER 01-17

General Meeting Date & Time: January 9, 2017
1:00PM

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

Program: Jim Adrian, Father of Olympic Medal Winner,
Nathan Adrian, Will Discuss Traveling to Rio
de Janeiro as a Parent of an Olympic Athlete

*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..... February 13th
- * Legislative Conference..Alexandria, VA..March 12th - 15th
- * Chapter Meeting..... March 13th
- * Chapter Meeting..... April 10th
- * Chapter Meeting..... May 8th
- * Chapter Meeting.....CANCELED..... June

**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,

Here we are about to ring in another year - 2017! What a year 2016 has been. Just about when we think we have seen everything, election squabbles take on a surprising bend. The changes coming in 2017 look like they will be anti-federal government employees and retirees. It will be like the person who said, "You haven't seen anything yet!"

I received my January 2017 NARFE magazine. I suggest you read the article by our National President, Richard Thissen, on page 4. He says, "...there will be some tough battles ahead to protect our benefits in the upcoming Congress."

To end on a happier note; it was wonderful seeing so many of you at our Holiday Luncheon on 12 December. I am grateful for your friendship and support. May you and your families enjoy this special holiday season and may you have a healthy and a Happy New Year.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Steve Ferguson

Steve Ferguson here. Welcome to the New Year.

I have to admit that I am jealous. Current federal employees received a 2.1% pay increase compared to our .3% cost of living adjustment (COLA). I still feel the pain on that issue.

You may want to look at your January NARFE magazine, pages 33-36. It is a long list of NARFE legislative interests. The three bullets on page 33 summarize

NARFE's legislative focus and the subsequent pages elaborate.

I will attend the March 12-15 legislative conference in Washington D.C. and report back in detail on legislative priorities. The 115th Congress will convene on 3 January 2017.

NARFE has an excellent tool on their website for contacting your senators and congressional representative on relevant issues:

- After logging in to www.NARFE.org, hover your pointer over "Departments" found on the NARFE home page top row and click on "Legislation";
- Select "Take Action" in the box on the left side of your screen;
- Select "Write to Congress" found in the middle of your screen;
- Scroll down and click on the link to legislation about which you want to contact your congressional representatives;
- Enter your zip code in the box and click on the button "Check Zip Code";
- Enter your contact information;
- Click on the "Send Letter" button found at the page bottom.

You have just contacted both senators and your representative.

Give it a try, you might like the convenience.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

By the time, you receive this article the New Year will be upon us. This is the first newsletter of 2017. How did we do in year 2016 with our membership? Not very well I must admit. We have sixty (60) fewer members than we did in December 2015; forty-seven (47) of those losses were from non-payment of dues. There are probably forty-seven reasons why these folks dropped their membership, most of them understandable. Now on the other side, how many members have we recruited this year? Exactly four (4) new members. We all need to work harder at being recruiters for NARFE!

Please look at the article titled "10% Increase In Medicare Part B Premiums for Some: Less for Others" on page 7 in your January copy of NARFE Magazine. This covers what I have been talking about in this article for the last two months. We need to get better organized at the grass roots level, helping us to rise to the challenges federal workers and retirees will encounter this coming year.

Now for the membership report. The following members, if they have not renewed their membership, will be dropped in January: Six (6) members, Ann Marie Cole, Livingston Hadley, Eleanor Hertz, Kathleen Meacham, Donald Olson and Christine Read.

These members show as dropped for non-renewal during the month of December: Three (3) members, Robert Proctor, Ivar Smith and Margaret Soister.

Now for the positive side. We have no (0) new members, one (1) reinstatement, Carol Crawford and (0) new prospective members for the month of December. Thanks to all of you who have joined, reinstated or renewed for multiple years during 2016.

If you have questions regarding NARFE or Bremerton Chapter 181, please contact any one 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. If we have canceled our membership meeting, drop by our Executive Board meeting. You are more than welcome any time.

SECRETARY

Bea Bull

Happy New Year! It was good to see so many familiar faces at the Holiday Luncheon! Mayor Lent gave us an informative update on what is happening in Bremerton and Former Region IX V.P. Ross installed our two re-elected Executive Board Members: Don Palmer and Bill Powers. Thank you both for serving another two years!

We're hoping to have Daniel Jose', traveler to the South Pole, as our February or March speaker. Amber is also looking into inviting William Reeder, Hanoi Hilton survivor, to speak at one of our meetings. If you know of anyone you think would be a good speaker, please contact Amber VanSantford at 871-4439.

NOTE: The Executive Board has canceled the June membership meeting because it falls right on the heels of our 2017 WSFC Training Conference in Kennewick, WA. There just isn't enough time to prepare our reports for that general membership meeting.

January is always the time for New Year's resolutions, so here are some suggestions:

- Log into your OPM account at www.OPM.gov to make sure your account remains active. Otherwise, you have to request a new password be mailed to you.

- Log into your TSP account if you have one; again, to keep your account active.
- Update your "Be Prepared for Life's Events" document. If you don't have one yet, you can download the PDF version from the NARFE National website or ask me to order a copy for you.

To download the "Be Prepared for Life's Events" PDF:

- Go to www.NARFE.org and log into your account;
- In the left-hand column, under "RESOURCE LIBRARY", click on "Be Prepared";
- This is a fillable PDF; fill it out online, then save it to your computer, a CD, or flash drive. Store in a safe place and tell the person who will handle your affairs where it is.

Chapter 181 continues to offer a Dues Withholding incentive: A \$10.00 chapter dues rebate will be given to the first three (3) Chapter 181 members to sign up for dues withholding.

For anyone planning to attend the 2017 Legislative Training Conference March 12-15, 2017, our Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) has approved a \$250.00 scholarship for federation members (must be a chapter member to be eligible).

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for November was \$319.23 with expenditures of \$643.63. Our net Worth as of 30 November was \$31,432.34. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next General Membership meeting.

ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 30 November was \$265.34. Donations received since our last report were \$11.00. Thank you to Bonnie Chrey and Tom McCallum (Samson's Printing). Pending deposits before year's end from Rex Tauscher, West Sound Recycling and Lois and Lyle Boyd.

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 FOR ALZHEIMER'S

Remember to donate your aluminum cans and copper to Alzheimer's.

ALUMINUM/COPPER DROP-OFF POINTS

Westsound Recycle
1700 Mile Hill Drive, Port Orchard

**Let them know your donation is for Bremerton Chapter
NARFE 181**

Or give to Rex at the next meeting

523 pounds collected in 2016

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Amber VanSantford

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of Patricia Roark and Ernestine Spotts.

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.

SILVER CIRCLE AWARD FOR LANNY ROSS

In appreciation of Lanny's many years of service to NARFE, Region IX, and the WSFC, it is deemed appropriate to try to obtain a Silver Circle Award in his name. His name will be placed on a plaque at NARFE Headquarters signifying \$1,000 was given to NARFE-PAC in his name. Make your check payable to Karol Kusunose (WSFC V.P.) and mail to 31825 - 150th Pl. SE, Auburn, WA 98092-9244. Donations are NOT tax deductible.

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.

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

PRESIDENT

George Eads

VICE PRESIDENT

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Ralph Sanders

SECRETARY

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bea Bull

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Ed Kalmbach

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Steve Ferguson

NARFE-PAC CHAIR

Don Palmer

SERGEANT AT ARMS

William Fuhrmeister

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

SERVICE OFFICER - Vacant

contact Ralph Angulo
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ralphangulo@yahoo.com

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Amber VanSantford

UNTIL DECEMBER 2018

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Bill Powers

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NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE

Webmaster - Bob Edwards
www.narfewadist4.org

NARFE STATE WEBSITE

www.narfewa.net

NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.narfe.org

LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE

1-877-217-8234

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.

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