



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

February 2018

NUMBER 02-18

General Meeting Date & Time: February 12, 2018  
1:00PM

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

Program: C.O.P. Officer, Mike Kerr, Will Discuss What  
Citizens on Patrol Can Do for You

*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**

- \* Health & Senior Resource Fair..... March 3<sup>rd</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... March 12<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... April 9<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting.....CANCELED..... May 14<sup>th</sup>
- \* WSFC Convention..... March 14 - 16<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... June 11<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**

Bill Powers

I thank those who showed for our January chapter meeting. We had a good turnout for our new Region IX V.P., Rich Wilson, as guest speaker. Lanny, our retired V.P., also attended. Amber, our Program Chair, was pleased with the turnout.

President Trump's budget for FY2019 will be submitted to Congress this month. Pay attention! If cuts to federal benefits are included, be prepared to sound the alarm. The same goes for the House and Senate FY2019 budget resolutions. We have a good relationship with Congressman Kilmer and Senators Cantwell and Murray so don't be reluctant to express your views if you think federal employees/retirees are being presented as a sacrificial lamb. Also, Congress needs to pass a long-term funding plan.

We will have our District IV (Olympic Peninsula) Service Officer from Sequim, Ralph Angulo, at our March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting as guest speaker. He will go over the NARFE "F-100". This is NARFE's "Be Prepared For Life's Events" booklet, subtitled "What Your Survivors Should Know". This twenty-one page guide organizes your personal and financial information. I bring this up NOW so those of you who do not have a copy of the "F-100" can request one from any chapter officer and start filling it out ahead of time. For those who have already filled their "F-100" out, review it for updates and additions. Then bring questions to the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Editor's Note:**

**Everyone appreciates a "Thank You!"**

When you contact your congressional representatives to remind them not to balance the budget by cutting the benefits of federal employees and retirees, be sure to thank them for their continued support.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Steve Ferguson

Steve Ferguson here.

Not much is going on legislatively at this time other than political brinkmanship, so I want to take this opportunity to reiterate NARFE's Legislative Priorities for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress. Below are the headings; you can find the full details on the NARFE National website without logging in. Go to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org), click on the "Advocacy" tab along the top and select "Top Issues" from the list on the left. Under the words "Top Issues" choose "Legislative Priorities".

1. Oppose ANY Cuts to the Earned Retirement and Health Benefits of Federal Retirees.
2. Oppose Across-the-Board Federal Employee Compensation Cuts.
3. Support Reform of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) That Would Provide Relief to *Current* Retirees.
4. Oppose Requiring Postal Retirees to Either Purchase Additional Health Insurance Coverage (Through Medicare) or Forfeit Their Earned Retiree Health Benefits.
5. Oppose Unwise Civil Service "Reform" Policies That Would Undermine the Effectiveness of the Federal Workforce.
6. Support Reforms to Calculating Medicare Part B Premiums When There is a Zero or Low COLA to Social Security Benefits.
7. Support Reforms to the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) That Would Ensure Price Stability And Affordability.

We will continue to be vigilant on the above matters.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Ralph Sanders

There was an important fact brought up by our Region IX V.P., Rich Wilson, during his remarks at our last monthly meeting. Why are chapters closing at an ever-increasing rate throughout the country? It is not always because chapters have run out of members. Chapters with a substantial membership are closing because they cannot find members willing to take leadership positions in the chapter. The members who have held these positions for many years have grown old, tired and wish to be replaced. Our chapter is starting to look like that! Many of our chapter Executive Board members are wearing more than one hat and trying to do their best to cover multiple positions.

I will speak to membership situations, because that is what I am most familiar with. Last year, we gained about twenty-five members and lost 125, which gave us an overall loss of one hundred members for 2017. If we continue losses of this magnitude, we could not stay open for more than another five years. We cannot stop all the losses in our chapter, but with help, we can minimize some of them; but we need assistance with retention and recruitment to do that. Please consider giving a few hours a month to make phone calls or do mailings to reach out to prospective members or those who have dropped their membership. It can be interesting and rewarding work. In the process, you are helping to save our important employee and retiree benefits.

In passing, we are having a problem with some Chapter Life members opting for a National Only membership. If you are a Chapter Life member, you are a member of Chapter 181 for the rest of your life. If you're not sure what type of membership you have, please contact me (see back page for contact information).

Now for the membership report. The following members, if they have not renewed their membership will be dropped in

February: Four (4) members, Donald Chalupka, Linda Curley, Bradley Gihl and W. F. Samous.

These members show as dropped for non-renewal during the month of January: Three (3) members, Frances Challender, Ardis Hallquist and Randolph Hunt.

On the positive side. For the month of January, we have no new members; two (2) reinstatements: Ann Palmer and Jean Marie Robertson; two (2) transferred in: Inga Jennings and Ronald Jennings; and two (2) prospective members: James Cook and Thomas Henry. Welcome to you all.

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.

## **HELP WANTED**

### **A volunteer to contact prospective and lapsed members**

Sometimes all it takes is a phone call to persuade a person to join NARFE or reinstate their membership. The volunteer will call lapsed members and, if a phone number is available, also call prospective members. Where no phone number is available, the volunteer will print and mail a form letter to prospective members. Training and supplies will be provided by Chapter 181. For more information, please contact: Ralph Sanders, Membership Chair, at 360-275-9793 or [sandyandblake@wavecable.com](mailto:sandyandblake@wavecable.com).

## **SECRETARY**

Bea Bull

### **Speakers**

As noted in Bill's article, our March speaker will be our District IV Service Officer, Ralph Angulo; he will demonstrate how to complete the F-100, "Be Prepared for Life's Events". So, mark your calendars and plan to attend.

### **May Meeting Canceled**

We have canceled the 14 May General Membership meeting because it coincides with the 2018 WSFC Convention at the Mirabeau Park Hotel and Convention Center in Spokane Valley, WA.

### **Newsletter Inserts**

It's tax time again and this year I'm including the Tax Aide Site information as an insert.

Also attached is a flyer for the Senior Health & Resource Fair on 3 March 2018 at the Port Orchard United Methodist Church.

### **NARFE National Website**

The NARFE National website has been given a fresh new look prior to login; however, you'll find after logging in, that the rest of the website is unchanged except the Legislative page.

The 2018 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Program and Photo Contest are now accessible on the National website.

### **2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's**

September seems a long way off but... The Bremerton Walk to End Alzheimer's is scheduled for Saturday 8 September 2018. I will create a Chapter 181 team over the summer.

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

Our income for December was \$776.41 with expenditures of \$516.32. Our net worth as of 31 December was \$31,663.94. A detailed Treasurer's report will be available at our next Executive Board and General Membership meetings.

**ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ)**

Rex Tauscher

The balance in our Alzheimer's account as of 17 January was \$220.50. We collected \$41.00 dollars at our January meeting thanks to Loraine Brockerman, William Fuhrmeister, Ralph Sanders and Rex Tauscher.

Payment from our aluminum collection for end of the year has been requested. Forwarding of our collected funds will be made to Alzheimer's Research as soon as we receive the check from the recyclers.

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.

Please donate your aluminum cans and copper to Alzheimer's

**ALUMINUM/COPPER DROP-OFF POINTS**

Westsound Recycle

1700 Mile Hill Drive, Port Orchard

**Tell them your donation is for Bremerton NARFE Chapter 181  
Or give to Rex at the next meeting**

**0 pounds collected in 2018  
2 bags pending delivery to recyclers**

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

Amber VanSantford

Sympathy cards sent to Ernest Adcock in the passing of his wife, Martha, and to the families of William B. Carlsen, Willard Heyer, Dorothy Hopkins, Dorothy McDonald, Delmar E. Reed and Vincent L. Spotts.

If you know of a chapter member in need of a little sunshine, please contact me so I 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@gmail.com](mailto:tbkbull@gmail.com). Thanks!! Bea Bull



**PRESIDENT**

Bill Powers

**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**

George Eads

**CHAPLAIN**

Myra Clodius

**SERVICE OFFICER - Vacant**

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

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2018**

Don Palmer

Vacant

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2019**

Steve Ferguson

Amber VanSantford

**District IV VP**

Bill Powers 360-377-7917  
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**Region IX VP**

Richard Wilson  
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narfe1404@comcast.net

**NARFE DISTRICT IV WEBSITE**

Webmaster - Bea Bull  
www.narfewadist4.org

**NARFE STATE WEBSITE**

www.narfewa.net

**NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE**

www.narfe.org

**LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE**

1-877-217-8234

**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 Eastern Time.

Mailing Address:  
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Management  
Retirement Operations  
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P.O. Box 45  
Boyers, PA 16017

**OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

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