



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
except July & August



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

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

June 2018

NUMBER 06-18

General Meeting Date & Time: June 11, 2018  
1:00PM

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

Program: Mike Kaaland, V.P. Port Orchard Chapter and  
AARP Tax Services Volunteer, Will Discuss the  
New Tax Laws

*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**

- \* FEDcon18..... August 26 - 28<sup>th</sup>
- \* Walk to End Alzheimer's..... September 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... September 10<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... October 8<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... November 12<sup>th</sup>
- \* Chapter Meeting..... December 10<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

There are three items I will cover prior to our summer break. First is our state organization. We just completed our 58<sup>th</sup> Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) convention/conference. We dropped the "C" in WSFC because approximately half of the state's members are projected to be National Only (not belonging to a specific chapter) in the coming years. We will have copies of "The Federation Reporter", now a once-a-year publication which covers the conference, available for those attending our June chapter meeting.

Second, I am no longer wearing two hats: Chapter 181 President and District IV (Kitsap and Olympic Peninsula) Vice President. At the WSF Conference, we elected Al Costa as our new District IV V.P. Al lives in McCormick Woods in Port Orchard, but belongs to Olympic Chapter 1006 which covers the Sequim, Port Angeles, and Port Hadlock area. I have invited Al to our June chapter meeting to introduce him and to turn over pertinent data for accomplishing his new job.

Third is our national organization. Our June NARFE magazine covers FEDcon18, the National conference taking place August 26-28. Lanny Ross will attend this conference as our representative and will give us a report at our September chapter meeting. The June **narfe** magazine includes your ballot containing your membership number and voting PIN number; follow the instructions to vote by mail or online. You will vote on executive office positions, ballot questions, bylaws, and resolutions. One item of significance is "Preferential Voting" which is explained on page 7 of June's magazine. Ballots must be RECEIVED by Election Services Co. by 11:59pm ET on 30 June 2018. If you have any questions concerning FEDcon18, bring them to our June chapter meeting.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Steve Ferguson

Steve Ferguson here.

I attended a function for Congressman Kilmer on 3 May at the Boat Shed Restaurant in Manette. He is a polished public speaker and yet, down-to-earth. He spoke briefly at the event and mentioned that he is a member of a bi-partisan group of Representatives who meet to try to come to an agreement on relevant issues. He also spoke of a shortage of skilled tradesmen in our country. He is working toward improving trade skills development rather than schools trying to push everyone into college.

I thanked Congressman Kilmer for his steadfast NARFE support. He is very eager to protect our earned pay and benefits and has the voting record to prove it.

The Bureau of Labor and Statistics (BLS) CPI-W April value increased by .2 percent over the previous month. July, August and September CPI-W values are averaged to determine our COLA. They will be here before you know it.

Fortunately, the OPM director's recommendations to reduce pay and benefits is just that, a recommendation. Congress would have to create and pass legislation in order to implement the recommendations. I think we are safe for now; but remain vigilant.

### **August is Grass Roots Advocacy Month**

Use every opportunity and means possible to tell your story to your congressional representatives.

### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

Our WSF State Legislative Chairman is John Thurber. He represents NARFE at meetings of the Senior Citizen's Lobby. He has invited members to contact him with their issues and concerns about state legislation pertaining to senior citizens. Email: [jlthurber@earthlink.net](mailto:jlthurber@earthlink.net) Home phone: 253.531.8526

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Ralph Sanders

This is the last newsletter you will see until September. You may think that your Executive Board is taking a much-needed rest, but for us it is business as usual. Some of us attended the biannual Federation Conference in May where we learned some new things, made new friends, and visited with some old friends. I am learning a new word: "Advocacy". NARFE, as an organization is, and we as individual members are, in fact, advocates for active and retired federal employees everywhere.

Last month we talked about why you should want to belong to a chapter. This month I would like to address my remarks more to the active employees, both members and non-members. As members of NARFE we are all recruiters. The more members we have the more successful our organization will become. One of the big questions current employees should ask themselves is, "When should I start participating in my retirement?" The best answer is, "Your first day of employment!" This is especially true in the FERS retirement system. I personally muddled around in the shipyard for a number of years believing that the folks back in Washington D.C. would take care of me. Wrong! Our pay, health insurance, and retirement is under constant scrutiny. Anything and everything that Congress gives us, they can take away. That is why we all need to be advocates for federal employees and retirees, working to protect the system that we have and looking for ways to make it better.

Now for the membership report. The following two (2) members, if they have not renewed their membership will be dropped in June: Edward Iddings and George Lecompte.

These members show as dropped for non-renewal during the month of May: Two (2) members, Clara Brandewie and William Fitzgerald.

There is no positive side for this month, no new names added to the roster.

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

**National Voting**

The June issue *narfe* magazine contains your ballot. Follow the instructions to vote by mail or online. Ballots must be **RECEIVED** by Election Services Co. by 11:59pm ET on 30 June 2018.

**WSFC Federation Reporter**

The *Federation Reporter* is an annual WSF publication distributed in early May. The 2018 edition is on the District IV website under the "LINKS" tab; "Media, Publications & Transportation".

**November Meeting Program**

FEHB Plan reps will be available; doors will open at 11:00AM.

**NARFE National Needs Your Email Address**

More and more, the National office needs to communicate with you via email. It is that fastest, least expensive way for them to get important information to members. You can go to NARFE.org and create an online account or contact Ralph Sanders or me; either of us can add your email account to the chapter roster.

**Keep Your Accounts Active**

It's time again to access your online OPM, TSP, and Social Security accounts to keep them and your passwords active. I recently received an email informing me that OPM is redesigning their website and that users will soon be able to change their own password. TSP has also recently introduced online password reset.

**2017-2018 NARFE-PAC**

Chapter 181-63 members contributed \$3,490.00.  
Washington State-514 members contributed \$33,022.70.  
Region IX-936 members contributed \$63,746.70.



**2018 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S**

8 September 2018

Registration at 8am - Ceremony at 9am

Walk at 9:30am

Louis Mentor Bremerton Boardwalk

243 2nd St, Bremerton, WA 98337

Join our team! Go to <https://act.alz.org> - Click on "Find a Walk Near You" in the center of the page. Click on "Find a Team" under the "Find Your Walk" box. Enter team name "NARFE Chapter 181" in the appropriate box and click the SEARCH button. Select the team name and, on the next page, either join the team or make a donation. This information, plus links, is available on the District IV website.

**In 2017 NARFE teams across the country raised \$65,535.83!!**

**TREASURER**

Rex Tauscher

Our income for April was \$765.88 with expenditures of \$352.11. Our net worth as of 30 April was \$30,989.85. 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 22 May was \$77.23. We collected \$3.00 dollars following our May Executive Board meeting thanks to Rex Tauscher.

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**

**56.8 pounds collected in 2018**

## **SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**

Amber VanSantford

Sympathy cards sent to the families of Harold W. Brooks and Jean L. Kachel.

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.

We're wishing everyone a pleasant summer! If you need anything, we're here to help even when we aren't holding meetings or producing newsletters.

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

**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

Include the words "NARFE

District IV Service

Officer" in the SUBJECT

line

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2018**

Don Palmer

Ralph Petersen

**UNTIL DECEMBER 2019**

Steve Ferguson

Amber VanSantford

**District IV VP**

Al Costa 360-602-0167

alinsc@outlook.com

**Region IX VP**

Richard Wilson

425-736-6899

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:  
Office of Personnel  
Management  
Retirement Operations  
Center  
P.O. Box 45  
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**OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

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