



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

September 2018

NUMBER 07-18

General Meeting Date & Time: September 10, 2018 1:00PM

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

Program: Lanny Ross, Past Region IX V.P. will Report on FEDcon18

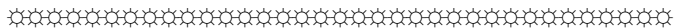
NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivor.

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..... **October 8th**
- * Chapter Meeting..... **November 12th**
- * Chapter Meeting..... **December 10th**
- * Chapter Meeting..... **January 14th**

NOTE: WATCH YOUR NEWSLETTERS FOR NOTIFICATION OF CANCELED MEETINGS.



PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

For the first time, all NARFE members had the opportunity to vote in our recent NARFE national election. However, according to a report on the NARFE National website, both online and paper ballot returns amounted to only 6.77 percent of total ballots distributed. Our Washington Federation percentage was even lower with only 6.32 percent of members voting. I will have our Bremerton Chapter 181 percentage available at our September meeting.

In the 4 August 2018 edition of the Kitsap Sun, there was an interesting article about where the dismantling and recycling of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN-65) nuclear reactors will take place. The assignment of this work will be

critical to Kitsap County and our current federal employees and will set a precedent for future aircraft carrier decommissioning and disposals. Presently PSNS has been the only place where the Navy disposes of nuclear reactors, to date over 130 of them. The Navy is reviewing this matter due to past fleet maintenance availabilities being completed behind schedule at PSNS, creating a backlog and cost overruns.

Recent tariffs and prolonged trade disputes have also been in the news lately. These will lead to inflation. This is why our NARFE legislation watchdogs are so important. They keep Congress attuned to our needs and viewpoints. The monthly *narfe* magazine bill tracker keeps focus on our issues. One item is the COLA. NARFE is advocating using the CPI-E to calculate cost-of-living adjustments to retirement benefits in lieu of the CPI-W.

I hope to see you at the September meeting where our Past Region IX V.P., Lanny Ross, will report on FEDcon18.

MOVING?

Even if it's from one apartment to another in the same building or complex, please contact Ralph Sanders at 360-275-9793 to update your mailing address!!! The Post Office charges a fee for returned newsletters. THANK YOU!!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Steve Ferguson

Steve Ferguson here.

NARFE is emphasizing three (3) main points of consideration for communicating to your representative.

- 1) Oppose the Postal Reform Bill because it forces retired postal employees to enroll in Medicare Part B or forfeit their earned benefit of being eligible to participate in the FEHB program.
- 2) Support a pay raise for current employees. The Senate budget calls for a pay raise but the House budget does not. Personally, each of my high three (3) years did not include a pay increase. That costs me about \$3,000/yr in lost retirement income. A pay freeze affects each employee for the rest of their lives.
- 3) Oppose cuts to our earned benefits in any form.

For retirees, the September Consumer Price Index (CPI) value will be released on 11 October 2018. You can calculate your Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) by dividing last year's Jul/Aug/Sep CPI average value of 239.668 into the Jul/Aug/Sep 2018 average value. You will see a number something like 1.029. Ignore the 1 and you are left with .029 which is 2.9 percent (as an example).

2017-2018 NARFE-PAC REPORT

1/1/2018 – 6/30/2018

Chapter 181: 64 members contributed \$3,930.00

Washington State: 525 members contributed \$35,795.70

Region IX: 953 members contributed \$69,131.70

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

There are several things going on this fall. First, you need to elect a NARFE National President in September. See your September issue of *narfe* magazine for details. In October we will hold nominations for next year's chapter officers. Our November General Membership meeting will have a health fair attached to it; we will keep you updated via this and future newsletters. Also in November, we will elect our 2019-2020 team of chapter officers. Then in December we will have our holiday luncheon meeting at The Willows and relax a bit. This is a busy time of year for Chapter 181. Please come to a meeting and get involved.

Our membership report will include information for the months of July and August. If you see a friend's name in this listing, please give them a call. The following two (2) members, if they have not renewed their membership, will be dropped in September: Lorin Miller and William Parker.

These members show as dropped for non-renewal during the months of July and August: Six (6) members, Geraldine Bartlet, Terry Cox, Elisabeth McFarland, Robert Johnston, Richard Stoker and George Voss.

There is no positive side for this period; no new members were added to the roster.

If you have questions regarding NARFE or Chapter 181, please contact one of our board members listed on the back of this newsletter, or come to a meeting. If we have canceled our membership meeting, drop by our Executive Board meeting. You are more than welcome any time.

Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA) Needs Volunteers!

Do you like to learn and want to help others understand both federal retiree benefits and Medicare? Volunteers provide anyone on Medicare in their local communities with free, informed and unbiased Medicare counseling and education.

No experience is required! SHIBA trains and mentors volunteers to educate others about their Medicare coverage options so they can make informed decisions.

If you think this is something you'd like to pursue, call Jennifer Calvin-Myers at 360-337-5700. Kitsap County Aging & Long Term Care is excited to talk with people interested in growing the SHIBA team in the local community!

We offer volunteer positions for all interests:

- Administrative, clerical and technical support
- Community education/public speaking
- Outreach
- Counseling
- Training and mentoring
- Data entry
- Fraud specialist
- Special projects

SECRETARY

Bea Bull

Bylaws Revisions

Chapter 181 is revising its bylaws. The proposed changes will be presented and voted upon at the September General Membership meeting. Please plan to participate.

November Meeting Program

FEHB Plan reps will be on site from 11:00am – 2:30pm. In October we will place posters around the community advertising the event; I'll also make the poster available on the website so you can print a copy and place it yourself.

PSNS Health Fair

The 2018 Open Season Calendar DRAFT is out and I've posted the full schedule on the District IV website under the OPEN SEASON tab. At this time the PSNS Health Fair is set for Tuesday, 6 November from 7:00am – 5:00pm. Watch for updates since this is just the first DRAFT. As in recent years, it will be held in the conference room behind the Navy Museum near Main Gate. The address for the Navy Museum is:

**251 - 1st Street
Bremerton, WA 98337**

Again, watch for updates in case the date changes!

Holiday Luncheon

The Willows will host us again this year with the same menu as last year:

**Salmon with lemon sauce, rice pilaf,
and sautéed asparagus**

or

**prime rib with au jus and horseradish sauce,
garlic mashed potatoes, and maple glazed
carrots**

Myra has graciously agreed to take reservations and money beginning in October.

Audit Report

The 19 May 2018 Chapter 181 Internal Financial Audit found the chapter's accounts, files, and records in good order. Receipts for two (2) vouchers were missing and a better method of tracking Alzheimer's receipts was put in place.

New Phone Number

Rex no longer has a landline and will be using only his cell phone. See back of this newsletter for his correct phone number. Please update your phone contacts accordingly.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for June and July was \$674.86 with expenditures of \$1,197.59. Our net worth as of 31 July was \$30,043.96. 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 21 August was \$133.23. We collected \$11.00 following our June meeting and \$45.00 in August thanks to Bea Bull and 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.

ALUMINUM FOR ALZHEIMER'S

NOTE: Chapter 181 is discontinuing this program as of 31 December 2018. The Chapter 181 ledger sheet will remain open at the recycle site until that date. You may take your recycling directly to them and request that it be donated to Chapter 181. We will request a check from the recycler at the end of 2018.

ALUMINUM/COPPER DROP-OFF POINT

Westsound Recycle
1700 Mile Hill Drive, Port Orchard

**Tell them your donation is for
Bremerton NARFE Chapter 181**

217.4 pounds collected in 2018

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Amber VanSantford

Sympathy cards sent to the families of Clifford D. Connors, Herman Gehlhausen, Floyd Langton, Walter H. Ruef, Evelyn Stouffer and John N. Wierman.

A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Shirley Fuhrmeister.

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.

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers 360-377-7917
powersw@silverlink.net

**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

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

CHAPLAIN

Myra Clodius

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
UNTIL DECEMBER 2018**

Donald A. 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

877-217-8234

ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

800-456-8410

**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 253-572-3636
D.C. Phone Number 202-224-2621
www.murray.senate.gov

Senator Maria Cantwell
915 – 2nd Avenue, Suite 3206
Seattle, WA 98174
Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400
D.C. Phone Number 202-224-3441
www.cantwell.senate.gov

Congressman Derek Kilmer
345 – 6th Street, Suite 500
Bremerton, WA 98337
Bremerton Phone Number 360-373-9725
D.C. Phone Number 202-225-5916
http://kilmer.house.gov