



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



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

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

October 2018

NUMBER 08-18

General Meeting Date & Time: October 8, 2018 1:00PM

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

Program: Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler Will Speak on the State of the City

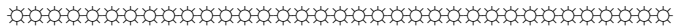
NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivor.

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..... **November 12th**
- * Chapter Meeting...**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON...** **December 10th**
- * Chapter Meeting..... **January 14th**
- * Chapter Meeting..... **February 11th**

NOTE: WATCH YOUR NEWSLETTERS FOR NOTIFICATION OF CANCELED MEETINGS.



PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

The results of the NARFE 2018 election were listed in our September magazine. The members voted to suspend the rules and use preferential voting for our new president. The results of this consensus method, and who will be our next president, will be available in early October.

Bremerton Chapter 181 had 498 eligible voting members at the time of the election; twenty-seven (27) members voted, which is a 5.42 percent participation rate. This is lower than our state average of 6.32 percent and national average of 6.77 percent, but higher than the other three (3) District IV chapters. Nationally, about 70 percent of the votes received were by internet with 30 percent by mail.

The economy is presently firing on all cylinders with the Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 both at all-time highs. Unemployment is at a forty-nine year low, corporate earnings are high, and consumer confidence positive. This foretells a robust holiday season. So sign up and join us for our December 10th Holiday Luncheon at The Willows for only \$10.00 per person. You'll find more information on page 3.

Our Past President, George Eads, passed away unexpectedly on August 27th due to cancer. He received a very nice Facebook post from Congressman Kilmer's office, our Sixth Congressional District Representative, commemorating George's advocacy on behalf of retired federal employees.

One of our retired members, Al McFarland, extended an invitation for "Lunch & Music" at The Hub Senior Center in Belfair. Enjoy live music every Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 10:00am to noon followed by a lunch. Seniors over 60 - \$3; under 60 - \$6.75. The address is 111 NE Old Belfair Highway; phone 360-275-0535.

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.

Please consider contacting Speaker of the House, Paul Ryan, at www.speaker.gov/contact and ask that the House endorse a 1.9 percent pay raise for current employees. I did so the day I prepared this article. The website home page has a section labeled "Speak Out" that gives you direct access to express your request. You can reference H.R. 6147, "Interior, Environment, Financial Services and General Government, Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2019".

Current federal employees don't deserve to be penalized for continuing to work for the government. The July and August CPI-W average indicates 2.7 percent inflation for the last year which basically means current employees have experienced a 2.7 percent pay cut. I just don't see a rational reason to deny a modest 1.9 percent pay increase.

Here are some other pieces of legislation on which to consider voicing your opinion/position:

- 1) Postal reform legislation (H.R. 756, H.R. 6076 and S. 2629). It would affect 76,000 postal retirees and their survivors by requiring them to acquire and pay for Medicare Part B or lose FEHB Program eligibility. **Congressman Kilmer IS NOT** a cosponsor of this legislation.
- 2) The Social Security Fairness Act of 2017 (H.R. 1205 and S.915). It would affect more than two million Social Security eligible retirees by repealing the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). **Congressman Kilmer IS** a cosponsor. He did so six days after introduction last year.
- 3) The Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R. 5389). Employees don't receive retirement service credit for their temporary service time worked since 1 January 1989. They are not allowed to "buy back" that time by paying their share and the government's share that would have otherwise have been paid into the system had they been permanent employees. I remember those years as being unusual in that numerous newer employees were "temporarily employed" for many consecutive years. I know of cases where "temporary" employee status was perpetuated by the shipyard for eight or more years. Imagine eight years of your work history not being considered for your retirement annuity calculation. I am pleased to say that **Congressman Kilmer introduced this legislation** on 22 March 2018. H.R. 5389 is not a give-a-way; it entitles the employee to pay their share and the government's share into their retirement with interest.

MEMBERSHIP

Ralph Sanders

This is election season for America and for Bremerton Chapter 181. Before we can have an election, we need some candidates to run for office. These candidates seem to be in short supply. Some of us have been in office for twenty-five years and many of us wear more than one hat. Please help us! In the past two years NARFE has lost 250 chapters and over 30,000 members. Many of these chapters that closed were healthy (they had enough membership and funds) but they had no one willing to lead their chapter.

Our membership report will be short today. We have one (1) member, if he has not renewed his membership, who will be dropped in October: William Parker. He was listed in error last month; our apologies for that mistake. There are no dropped members for this month.

Now for the positive side of this report. We have no new members or reinstatements for this month. We do have three (3) prospective members for the month of September: Jerry Davidson, Richard Day and Brad Fish. Thank you for trying out NARFE.

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.

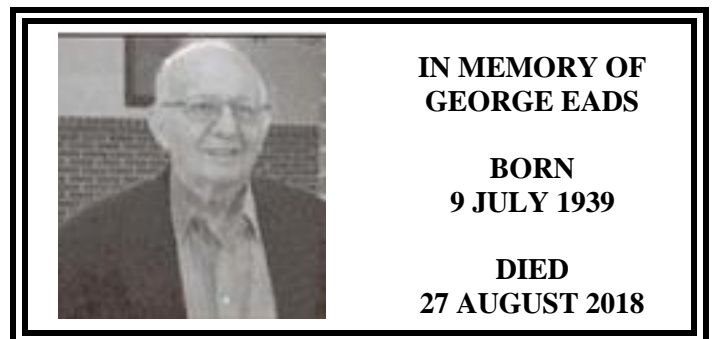
NOMINEES

Ex. Bd. Member – Don Palmer
Ex. Bd. Member – Ralph Petersen

Don would like to step down; please consider running for that position or any of the positions listed below:

Vice President
Alzheimer's Chair
NARFE-PAC Chair

There will be a call for nominations from the floor at the October General Membership meeting.



SECRETARY

Bea Bull

Bylaws Revisions

Chapter 181 is revising its bylaws. The proposed changes will be voted upon at the October 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 District IV website so you can print a copy and place it yourself; look for it in the November section under the EVENTS tab.

PSNS Health Fair

Due to privacy issues, I removed the Open Season Calendar from the District IV website. I now have the FINAL version and the date and time remain the same: Tuesday, 6 November from 7:00am – 5:00pm. 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.

FEHBP OPEN SEASON
12 NOVEMBER – 10 DECEMBER

Holiday Luncheon & Sweater Contest

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

**salmon with lemon sauce, rice pilaf
& sautéed asparagus**

or

**roast beef with au jus and horseradish sauce,
garlic mashed potatoes & maple glazed carrots**

The price is \$10.00 per person. Reservations are REQUIRED and money must be received by 1 December 2018! Please contact Myra Clodius at 360-377-2910 to make your reservations: mail checks to her at 912 Vandalia Ave., Bremerton 98310.

In the past few years there have been “Ugly Sweater Contests” during the holidays. So, we’ll have two contests; one for your favorite/lovely holiday sweater and one for the best “ugly” sweater. Please do not spend a lot of money on the “ugly” sweater; a favorite old paint-spattered sweat shirt can be quite festive if the paint colors are red and green. There will be a prize for each category.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for August was \$1,079.29 with expenditures of \$1,397.59. Our net worth as of 31 August was \$30,248.39. 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 20 September was \$176.23. We collected \$43.00 dollars following our September meeting from Lorraine Brockerman, Bea Bull, Bill Fuhrmeister, Deanna Gossett, 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 Lee Berndt, George L. Eads, Lorin M. Miller, and D. C. Williams.

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

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
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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

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

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

Senator Maria Cantwell
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Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400
D.C. Phone Number 202-224-3441
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Congressman Derek Kilmer
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