

The Chapter 181 Newsletter was edited and sent to the webmaster on 23 March, in ample time to be published, but due to webmaster oversight, was not posted until 09 April, following the General Meeting. We are establishing a check and balance system to prevent a reoccurrence; apologies from the Webmaster for a delayed Newsletter.

Additionally, due to the Chapter's efforts to host the 2007 NARFE Washington State Federation Convention, we hope to have a May Newsletter. It might be abbreviated, but will be back to normal the following month.

Bob Edwards

Webmaster

APRIL 2007

NUMBER 04-07

**General Meeting Date & Time:** April 9, 2007, 1:00 p.m.

**Meeting Place:** Westside Improvement Club  
National Avenue & 'E' Street, Bremerton, WA

**Program:** SCAMS & CON ARTISTS

*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.*

**PRESIDENT:** Our clocks have sprung ahead, the first day of Spring has come and gone, and we are enjoying some Great Pacific Northwest weather. I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended the 2007 Legislative Conference in Washington DC. We had an opportunity to be informed about the pending legislation before Congress; mainly Premium Conversion and Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). We are all hopeful there will be some positive outcome in regards to these bills. However it turns out, we must always be thankful and watchful that we do not lose any of our current benefits as retirees or current Federal employees.

I encourage you as you get our wonderful NARFE magazine to read the articles and to keep abreast of current issues that affect each of us and our families. Please call the Legislative Hot Line Toll Free number 1-877-217-8234 for additional information.

Our legislative team at NARFE is among the best and most dedicated in the country. I am personally thankful for all the effort they put forth in our behalf.

The month of May is fast approaching. I hope you are planning to attend our very own STATE FEDERATION CONVENTION. I am thankful for the effort Amber and Don and many others who have been putting all the details in place so this will be a very successful convention.

I very much appreciate all of you chapter members. You try to make an effort to make all who come to our meetings feel welcome and encourage them to come back again. It is always important to treat each other with the utmost respect in spite of differences in opinion. I hope you will take the time to enjoy this Springtime of the year, a time of renewal and the beauty that surrounds us on a

daily basis. Thanks for your support in making Chapter 181 a smooth sailing chapter. *George Eads*

**BOOSTERS:** If you are unable to be a Delegate or won't be attending the upcoming Convention, but would like to support your Chapter - you can sign up to be a 'Booster.' For just \$1.00, you will have your name listed in the Program Book, along with members from other Washington State Chapters.

**SUNSHINE:** Get Well Cards have been sent to Zora Davis and Lillian Walker. Sympathy Cards have been sent to the families of Jean Carlsen, Raymond Finucan, James Hausdors, Richard Heroux, Warren Schmidt and Olga Wold. Three other Chapter members have passed away: Richard Blakey, Marjorie Musgrave and Chester Zukowski.

**ALZHEIMER'S (ALZ):** Donations in the amount of \$176.00 were received in the month of March, thanks to Joyce Libsack and Don Serry with memorial donations in memory of Warren Schmidt; others donating were Bob Brown, Louis & Loraine Brockerman, Ralph Sanders, Norene Torkelson, Lloyd Willette, Jerry & Norma Robinett. These donations again put us over \$500 in our ALZ account. The Aluminum for ALZ collection is going great and will continue through the summer. You may still add additional poundage to our account with Westsound Recycle in the East Bremerton WalMart parking lot. Our current on account collection for the first three months this year is 379.6 pounds as of 20 March. Payment for our current collection of Aluminum has been requested for the end of March. Keep up the good work as Aluminum prices seem to be

going up. Your aluminum can be dropped off at that site and

credited to NARFE Chapter 181, this should help those not attending our regular meeting were I normally collect the Aluminum.

Congress has recently introduced ALZ legislation to increase federal funding for research from 700 million dollars to 1.3 billion dollars for 2008. The House of Representatives introduced H.R. 1560 on 19 March 2007 and the Senate introduced bill S.898 on 15 March 2007. This funding legislation is similar to prior year's attempts to obtain the needed funding but was never moved out of committee. *Rex Tauscher*

**TREASURER:** Financial activity for February 2007, including Alzheimer's account, receipts totaled \$1,500.96 with expenditures of \$528.11. Income to date for March is \$1,055.44 with expenditures of \$1,929.66. Income from our Red Apple Market receipts has been averaging around \$50 a month which is below normal from past returns. This is a great program so please turn the cash register receipts in so we can get credit for them. Participating Red Apple Markets are Garguiles (Perry Avenue), Ralphs (Kitsap Lake) and Silverdale Market.

We received fewer returns of our Newsletter at the Post Office for last month so keep up the good work at notifying us of your address changes. Be sure to send us your change of address to **NARFE chapter 181, P.O. BOX 5025, BREMERTON.WA. 98312-0462.**

*Rex Tauscher*

Getting on with the report, our new members are: Michael Brown, Delpha Jordan, Ben Ormiston and

John Souza with Michael Dosa and Robert Houlder transferring in. Our reinstatements for the month are Rickey Ohlson and Clyde Wood. Thanks to all of you members, new and old.

Now for the members who have been dropped for non-renewal: Dee Armstrong, Gary Baker, Howard Bungard, Willis Coston, Barbara Heym, James Hofland, Alice Horner, Shannon O Dell, Charles Robinson and Robert Wieman. Thanks again for contacting these members and urging them to reinstate their membership. *Ralph Sanders*

**PROGRAM:** This month's speaker will be a representative from the Federal Trade Commission Northwest Region who will speak on Scams and Con Artists.

**THANK YOU FROM YOUR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT:** I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to the members of Chapter 181 who have so graciously sent me cards with warm thoughts and wishes in connection with my recent kidney surgery. Many of you have also called and sent e-mails expressing well wishes and prayers for my speedy recovery. I want you to know that each day I appear to be getting stronger and will soon be back on my feet representing you and your interests in NARFE. As soon as I am able to get around better, I will be seeing many of you at the chapter meetings. Just know that your kindness during this period is greatly appreciated. *Lanny Ross*

**SENIOR FAIR:** This year's Senior Fair will be held Thursday, 11 May at the Fairgrounds Pavilion. The celebrity speaker will be actress Marcia Wallace. Ms. Wallace is best known as the wise cracking secretary on the Bob Newhart Show. We should have more information at the next meeting on how you can register for this fun and informative annual event.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Over the last few months our chapter membership numbers have migrated down to under 1500 members, about one-half of what we were ten years ago. The fact that other chapters across the country are doing the same should provide us little comfort. There are a number of recruiting and educational philosophies that we could try if we had all of the resources necessary to go out and accomplish the tasks. As it is we continue our death spiral down to fewer and fewer members creating still fewer resources to accomplish the task. Moving on, I have had several phone calls from members receiving our second notice letter stating that they never received the first notice yet. If this has happened to you please give me a phone call I would like to hear from you. If we are establishing a pattern then we could have a problem in our billing.

Our annual NARFE Federation Convention is in Silverdale this year starting May 16 and ending on the 18<sup>th</sup>. We could use some more volunteers, especially on the "Registration Committee." Call me.

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