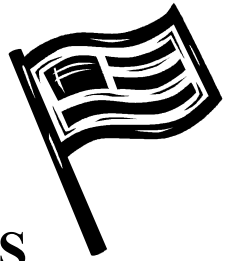




**INDEPENDENCE DAY JULY 4TH, 2009
MADE POSSIBLE BY THE SACRIFICES
OF THE U.S. MILITARY
SUPPORTED BY U.S FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**



**July/August 2009
NARFE PORT ORCHARD CHAPTER 888**

Art Haywood, President

Mary DeLaGrange, Publicity

Mike Kaaland, 1st Vice President

Virginia Julian, Travel & Reception

Nancy Johnson, 2nd Vice President

Bill Chaussee, Reception

Stu Higgs, Secretary

Enos Bryant, SGT AT ARMS

Suzanne Rueter, Treasurer

Helen Ristvet, Alzheimer's Chair

Bob Mueller, Legislative, NARFE-PAC

Sally Ann McCluskey, Decorations

John Smith, Programs Manager

Bob Edwards, District IV Webmaster

Helen Higgs, Chaplain

Bill Powers, District IV Vice Pres

Don Podraza, Membership

District IV/Chapter 888 website:

Carol Bailey, Service Officer

www.narfewadist4.org/ch888.html

Elaine Haywood, Newsletter Editor

NARFE HOTLINE (TF) 1-877-217-8234

www.narfe.org

Chapter Meetings are held at **11:30 am** on the **2nd Tuesday** of the month at the **EAGLES LODGE**, 4001 Jackson Rd in Port Orchard (**Potluck lunch**)

NO CHAPTER MEETING IN JULY

**August 11, 2009 – PICNIC – Entertainment: THE KITSAP CHORDSMEN
(Barbershop Singers)**

September 8, 2009 – Speaker: LARY COPPOLA--Mayor of Port Orchard

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Just a reminder that we do not have a Chapter 888 meeting in the month of July. So what are you going to do with the time you usually spend at the Chapter meeting? Why not contact a current or retired federal employee that you know who is not a NARFE member! Tell them that we need their help and support in our efforts to protect our Federal benefits. Anyone who does not know a current or retired federal employee to contact can call Don Podraza at (360) 876 - 1100. Don will be glad to give you the name and phone number of an employee/former member who will benefit from your telephone call. Be sure to tell those whom you call that a proposal has been made in the House to base the federal civilian annuity on the highest five years of salary instead of the high three. This change would cost the average annuitant over \$1200 yearly. Don't forget to extend an invitation to join us in Chapter 888 and our efforts on behalf of all federal employees and retirees. **Art Haywood**

SECRETARY

Draping of the Charter for Deceased Members: **PAUL WALKER** and **WILLIAM S. ROTHENBERG**. The program speaker for the June 9th luncheon meeting was Carol Haines from the Manchester EPA lab who warned of the presence in our drinking water of P&PCP's. (Pharmaceuticals & Personal Care Products). The interim budget from May through December 2009 was approved by voice vote.

Stu Higgs

TREASURER

Thank you to the Budget Committee (Art & Elaine Haywood, Nancy Johnson, Don Podraza and John Smith) for your help on planning our expenses till year's end. The budget was presented and approved at the June 9th membership meeting. Our next meeting will be in early December and I hope I can count on all of you to serve again. Anyone who would be interested in serving is also welcome to join us.

Suzanne Rueter

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Port Orchard Chapter 888 is around 447. So we have gained about 10 members! Keep up the good work! Recruiting new members is crucial! Look for appropriate times to recruit qualifying friends and acquaintances into our chapter. This includes retired and currently employed Federal employees. Don't forget—spouses of current members qualify to join! If any spouses would like to join NARFE, sign them up today!!

MAGAZINES:

After you finish reading your monthly NARFE magazine, give it to another retired or active federal employee. This is a great way to introduce them to NARFE. Also, if you're not good with words, the magazine speaks for itself. You might even show them the application form--there's one in every issue. I try to keep a magazine in the car. That way I'm ready if I meet a qualifying candidate when I'm out and about.

Don Podraza

NARFE WSFC 50TH CONVENTION

(Wenatchee, May 13-15, 2009)

We congratulate the Wenatchee Chapter on producing a great convention.



Speaker:
Margaret Baptiste,
National President

There were 10 attendees from Chapter 888: Art & Elaine Haywood, Suzanne Rueter, Mike & Joyce Kaaland, Bob Mueller, Wally & Dee Niesen, John & Doris Smith.



The new state officers for 2009/10:

- President: Sandra Cagle, Olympia Chapter 236
- Vice-President: Richard Wilson, Eastlake Chapter 1404
- Secretary: Paul Shell, Tacoma Chapter 163
- Treasurer: Rex Tauscher, Bremerton Chapter 181

John Smith stated: "As one of your Chapter Delegates, I was in charge of the Sgt of Arms who must keep order and keep out the visitors during elections. Things went smoothly, with no riots or arguments. From my perspective, it was a good convention."

ALZHEIMER'S

Port Orchard NARFE sent \$392.87 to the State Alzheimer chairman in May. Since then we have collected \$72.48. \$6323.00 was contributed by the Washington state chapters, with Alzheimer's Research receiving OVER 8 MILLION DOLLARS from NARFE nationally. Much of this was a large memorial gift. If you would like to make a memorial gift to Alzheimer's, you can send it to the chapter with your name, address, and the name of the person for whom the memorial is being made.

Remember your aluminum cans. Bring them to the picnic in August or take them to the recycling truck in Port Orchard and tell them to credit Port Orchard NARFE Chapter 888.

A sign of Alzheimer's is poor judgment and decision making (turn left instead of right). However, we all make poor decisions occasionally.

Suggestions on how to keep Alzheimer's at bay:

- 1) use your brain—read, converse, play games
- 2) exercise—walk, swim, garden, do housework
- 3) eat your veggies.

Helen Ristvet

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
CHAPTER #888
1904 Valley Ave E
PORT ORCHARD, WA 98366**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Guardian
of your
Federal
Benefits**

CHAPLAIN

If anyone knows of a sick member or a member's death, please call me at 674-2424. **Helen Higgs**

LEGISLATION

NARFE has been actively involved in the following victories:
\$250 stimulus bill/tax credit for those not receiving Social Security

Blue Cross/Blue Shield restored medical benefit for non-network procedures

Bill on unused sick leave has passed the House

A resolution to cut "entitlement" by more than \$1 trillion was defeated in the House.

On June 10, Sen. Patty Murray was (again) made a cosponsor of NARFE priority legislation called Premium Conversion. This legislation, S. 491 sponsored by Sen. Jim Webb, would allow civilian and military retirees to pay certain health care premiums on a pre-tax basis. On June 10, Sen. Webb added Sen. Murray as the 36th cosponsor.

Use any of three paths to say thanks: **1)** the NARFE sponsored toll free number for the Capitol switchboard, 1-866-220-0044 (ask for your Senator by name), **2)** the NARFE Legislative Action Center, <http://capwiz.com/narfe/dbq/officials>, or **3)** the Senate gateway to individual Members' "web forms" (www.senate.gov).

NARFE-PAC

Support the efforts of NARFE to preserve our benefits by contributing to NARFE-PAC and contacting your Legislators about current legislation being considered.

Senator Maria Cantwell

Website: www.cantwell.senate.gov

The Commerce Building
950 Pacific Ave, Suite 615, Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-572-2281; Fax: 253-572-5879.

Senator Patty Murray

Website: www.murray.senate.gov

The Commerce Building
950 Pacific Ave, Suite 650, Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone: 253-572-3636; Fax: 253-572-9488.

Representative Norm Dicks

Website: www.house.gov/dicks

345 6th St, Ste 500, Bremerton, WA 98337
Phone: 360-479-4011; Fax: 360-479-2126.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The next newsletter will be issued in **September 2009**. Items for publication in the **September/October** newsletter must be in the hands of the editor by the **20th of August 2009**. I can be reached at 1904 Valley Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366, 360-769-9670; email: elainhay@aol.com. **PLEASE notify me if you have a change of address including change of zip code** or if you will be temporarily away

THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE CHANGED THE DELIVERY OF THEIR NEWSLETTER TO EMAIL. If you would like this service, please advise by sending me an email. **Each e-mail newsletter saves the chapter printing & mailing costs**

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