

# NARFE PORT ORCHARD CHAPTER 888

May/June

*Protecting the Future For  
National Active and Retired Federal Employees*

2010, NO. 2

Mike Kaaland, President

Stu Higgs, Secretary

Don Podraza, Membership

NARFE HOTLINE (TF) 1-877-217-8234  
www.narfe.org



Carol Bailey, Service Officer

Bill Powers, District IV Vice Pres

District IV/Chapter 888 website:  
www.narfewadist4.org/ch888.html

Bob Edwards, District IV Webmaster

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

**Guest Speakers: May 11, Jodie Holderoft K.C.H.D. Septic Systems: June 8, Jan Angel, State Representative 26th District**

## PRESIDENT

**T**he Tax season is 99% over for us. Joyce and I, along with two other volunteers, helped over 860 people with their Federal Tax Returns, most of them from the Port Orchard area. Three of us are Federal Retirees. It was good to see a lot of the familiar faces again; we did get quite a few new people from the Gig harbor area as the AARP Tax Aid site for Gig Harbor was shut down.

Our next important event will be the Washington State Federation of

Chapters 2010 NARFE Convention.

We will be voting on a change to the current bylaws.

1. To be separated into two documents which are totally revised bylaws, and new standing rules;

2. A Federation Convention shall be held on a biennial basis every two years in alternating years to the National Convention;

Also, a proposed convention resolution to change the National dues structure: NARFE dues for Regular Members shall be forty dollars (\$40.00) with ten percent (10%) rebated to the Federation and nine dollars (\$9.00) going to the chapter of record. NARFE Life membership shall be established by the National Executive Board based on actuarial tables; National dues for Honorary members shall be waived and any member whose dues are in arrears for three (3) months or more shall, after due notice by Headquarters, be dropped from the rolls and all rights and privileges granted under the provisions of the Bylaws shall cease. Two dollars (\$2.00) of the first year's dues of all new members recruited by the chapters shall be rebated to the Chapters by the Treasurer's office.

**These proposals can be found on [www.NARFEWA.net](http://www.NARFEWA.net)**

**Note.** Time is getting short, **April 30th**, for high school seniors who are children or grandchildren of NARFE members to submit for a \$1,000 scholarship. Odds are very good for this scholarship. A 3.0 GPA is required for submittal. ■

**Mike Kaaland**



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS  
**Zachary McLellan,  
Stephen G. Michalec**  
REINSTATEMENT –  
**Welcome Back,  
Charles Preston**  
membership: *Don Podraza*

## 1st VICE PRESIDENT

I wonder if everyone is as encouraged as I am about the arrival of spring. It keeps making valiant attempts to get here in full force but has been pushed back by the last gasps of winter. It's finally getting warmer, though. The temperature has reached the 70's twice now at our home.



We had a great 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday meeting April 13<sup>th</sup>. As usual the potluck food was delicious. Everyone enjoyed the guest speakers. The South Kitsap Fire Dept. was well represented by the Assistant Fire Chief, one of our Fire Commissioners, and one of a number of new recruits made possible by the passage of the last Emergency Services levy. We all appreciated the information presented.

I'm looking forward to going to the State NARFE Convention in Everett next month. I'm on the rules committee this year and am sure I will be getting an education about some important NARFE processes. I will give a report at the June meeting.

I'm encouraged that, because I gave a friend a copy of the NARFE magazine, she is signing up as a new member of Chapter 888. She is concerned about the security of our earned benefits and recognizes the critical role NARFE plays in maintaining them.

We would like to see more folks join us at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday meetings. I live by Bel-fair and if anyone from this general area needs a ride, I'd be glad to provide it. My wife and I have a van so we have plenty of room. My phone number is (360)674-2486. Hope to see you May 11<sup>th</sup>. ■

**Charles Niesen**

## LEGISLATIVE

BE A WATCHMAN

On April 14, 2010, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved two NARFE supported bills. **H.R. 4865** allows federal employees, like private sector employees, to invest the cash value of unused annual leave in their Thrift Saving Plan (TSP) Account. **H.R. 1722**, the Telework Improvement Act, expands telework opportunities for all federal workers, allowing employees to perform their duties and responsibilities from home or from another work site removed from their regular place of employment.

Both bills are now ready for the next stage in their legislative process, House Floor consideration. NARFE President Margaret Baptiste congratulated Congressman Jim Moran on introduction of Legislation to Require Indexation of Deferred Annuities for Departing Federal Employees. "At a time when the Federal Government needs to recruit the best and brightest into Service, **H.R. 4979** is an important recruitment tool", said **President Baptiste**. ■

## From the Secretary's desk:

Chapter 888 has made the following preparations for the WSFC convention in Everett on May 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: Delegate credentials have been issued to the five delegates – Mike & Joyce Kaaland, Wally & Deanna Niesen, and Bob Mueller; the list of members deceased in 2009 has been sent to the convention Memorial Booklet; Chapter 888's ad in the convention program has been prepared, submitted and paid for; the list of Chapter 888 Convention Boosters (Suzanne Rueter, Bob Mueller, Carol Bailey, Mary Delagrang, Wally Niesen, Helen Higgs and Stu Higgs) and their contributions have been forwarded to the convention committee; and forms have been distributed to convention delegates who wish to volunteer for committees at the convention. A

BE A WATCHMAN

number of items are on the agenda for the convention, including revision of the by-laws and establishing a new set of Standing Rules, forwarding *continued on page 2*

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a Resolution to the National Convention (to be held in Grand Rapids, MI Aug 29 – September 2) to install a single dues revision of the by-laws and establishing a new set of Standing Rules, and a Resolution to be presented at this convention to hold the Washington State conventions on a biennial schedule to be held on those years when a National Convention is not being held. This would necessitate electing state officers for 2 year terms as they are elected at the state convention. ■

**Stu Higgs**

### SERVICE OFFICER

Copies of the NARFE Guide, the **NEW, REVISED F-100**, have been ordered and will be made available at a future Chapter meeting when they arrive.

For assistance, you can email the Port Orchard Chapter 888 Service Officer (Carol Bailey) at [ch888serviceofficer@narfewadist4.org](mailto:ch888serviceofficer@narfewadist4.org).

If I don't have the answers, I'll find someone who does. ■

**Carol Bailey**

### ALZHEIMER'S



We have \$345.55 in our Alzheimer's Fund. Save your aluminum cans. Bring them (crushed, if possible) to the meeting or take them to the truck at the old South Kitsap Mall (Now Towne Square Mall) and tell them to credit NARFE Chapter 888. We made \$65.50 for several months worth of cans. If we each contribute three cans per month, we could easily triple that amount.

**Remember to stay healthy and avoid Alzheimer's by using your brain, exercising and eating your vegetables. ■**  
**Helen Ristvet**



Associate with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for it is better to be alone than in bad company.

**George Washington** *dkn*

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Port Orchard Chapter 0888 is **442**. 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 personnel. Don't forget—spouses of current members qualify to join! If your spouse would like to join NARFE, sign them up today!!

#### MEMBERS DROPPED

Dennis C. Moen, Russell Beard, C E Knight, Nelson Lanchester, Laverne Murley, Diane Watrous

I'm always available to answer questions about membership. Give me a call at 360-876-1100. ■

**Don Podraza**

### EDITOR'S NOTE

#### Living Will Directory.

The Washington State Department of Health has established a Web-based registry that stores the living will documents of state residents. Important documents such as health care directives and durable power of attorney forms are stored in a secure, online database. Living will documents contain information about treatment wishes in case a patient is unable to communicate. The system stores emergency contact information so next of kin can be contacted immediately.

**People of all ages** are advised to have a living will. Registering living will documents is easy and it's free. Registrants receive a wallet card with a unique registration identification number and instructions to access the living will documents they've filed. They also get stickers to put on their driver's license insurance or identification card. They can access, make changes, or remove their living will documents at any time. Each year, they'll automatically receive a letter reminding them to update their information.

Details on Washington's Living Will Registry ([www.doh.wa.gov/livingwill](http://www.doh.wa.gov/livingwill)) are available online or by calling toll free 1-800-525-0127. ■

**Art Haywood**



### IN MEMORIAM

Lester A. Sharrett, long time chapter member and husband of chapter member Eleanor Sharrett passed away on March 27, 2010.

Also, Phil Glen, WSFC Past President and Julia Fryar, WSFC Past Secretary recently passed away.

### NARFE

#### Guardian of your Federal Benefits

- Wally Niesen, 1st Vice President
- Nancy Johnson, 2nd Vice President
- Suzanne Rueter, Treasurer
- Bob Mueller, Legislative,
- Helen Higgs, Chaplain
- Art Haywood, Newsletter Editor
- dkn* Deanna Niesen, Newsletter Design
- Elaine Haywood, Newsletter production
- Mary DeLaGrange, Publicity
- Virginia Julian, Travel & Reception
- Bill Chaussee, Reception
- Enos Bryant, SGT AT ARMS
- Helen Ristvet, Alzheimer's Chair
- Sally Ann McCluskey, Decorations



**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Chapter #888**  
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