

NARFE PORT ORCHARD CHAPTER 888

July/August

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

2010, NO. 4

Mike Kaaland, President

Stu Higgs, Secretary

Don Podraza, Membership

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www.narfewardist4.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)



NO CHAPTER MEETING IN JULY HAPPY 4TH... August 10th is our BBQ

PRESIDENT

The weather man states that summer is here, FINALLY!

The 51st Washington State Federation of Chapters Convention has come and gone, May 17th-19th. On Monday, I participated in the newsletter judging and every chapter that produces at least one newsletter during the year received recognition. On Tuesday the business of the convention got underway with the opening ceremonies. Everett Mayor, Ray Stephanson, welcomed us and included information on Everett's transportation and growth. He also proclaimed **May 18, 2010 as NARFE day.**

CONGRATULATIONS

There were 121 registered voters at the convention. **Sandy Cagle** from Olympia Chapter 236 was re-elected as President; **Richard Wilson** from East Lake Washington Chapter 1404 was elected Vice President; **Paul Shell** from Tacoma Chapter 163 was elected Secretary. The treasurer's spot is still vacant and will be filled by Rex Tauscher until the executive committee can find a replacement.

CHECK THIS OUT

Of importance is the convention year. Starting with 2012, the WSFC convention will be held on a biannual basis which will correspond with the **NARFE National Convention.**

All convention presentations are available online on www.NARFEWA.net.

Mike Kaaland

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
Mercedes Vargas
Thelma Eggleston,
Rodger Igulsrud

WELCOME BACK
C E Knight
Russell Beard,
Harvey Tzudiker
membership: **Don Podraza**

1st VICE PRESIDENT

I attended the Washington State NARFE convention in Everett from May 17-19. My commute to the convention every day was made easier by the convenient location of the Holiday Inn with accommodations that were more than adequate for hosting the convention.

I received an education regarding some NARFE policies and procedures. Having been on the Bylaws Committee I helped draft proposals for change. My anticipation of a simple and smooth process was proven very wrong. After a lengthy period of questions and considerable confusion, the issues were finally settled and some new policies were voted in. Some lessons learned.

The speakers were interesting and informative. I believe we all need to stay abreast of the progress of the Bipartisan National Committee on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform appointed by the President. Its goal is to identify policies to improve the fiscal situation in the medium term and achieve fiscal stability over the long run. They will be reviewing all ways of cutting \$ that will be as politically palatable as possible. Federal employees and retirees will have their \$ and earned benefits scrutinized under a microscope so we need to stay informed and let our representatives know **we are watching** how they vote on these issues. This Committee's report is due out in December 2010.

Hope to see many of you at the annual NARFE Chapter 888 "picnic" in August.

Charles Niesen

EDITOR'S NOTE

August is "Meet Your Candidates Month" Congress's summer recess (Aug 7-Sep 14) is NARFE's "Meet Your Candidates Month." We are eager to improve on our successful 2008 election outreach to congressional candidates. **Spending Cut Proposals to be Solicited at Town Hall Meetings:** Face to Face Town Hall meetings on weekends and upcoming recesses (July 3-12 and Aug 7-14) and Telephonic Town Hall Meetings any time the Congress is not meeting will be used by some Members of Congress to solicit spending reduction proposals from the public. In turn, legislators could gather these suggestions, as the recent federal pay freeze demonstrates, and seek to offer them as amendments to pending legislation, especially appropriation bills, before their primary or the general election!

Participate to Defend NARFE members are urged to be cautious of proposals of members of Congress at these meetings which would promote benefit cuts and take acquiescence by attendees as endorsement. NARFE members should contact their Representative and Senators and ask to be informed when any Town Hall Meetings (in person or telephonic) are scheduled for the rest of the year. NARFE continues to make its Toll Free number, 1-866-220-0044, available for reaching the Capitol switchboard. Ask for your Representative and Senators by name. The NARFE web site (www.NARFE.org) also provides regularly updated information about many, but not all, Congressional Town Hall Meetings. (To access the link to Congressional Town Hall Meetings, enter your name and membership number, open the Legislation Home Page and look under NARFE LEGISLATIVE ACTIVISTS.) **NARFE President Margaret L. Baptiste asks each NARFE member** to enlist in the defense of our earned benefits by sending a MESSAGE to your Representative and two Senators. Join the 6023 members who have already used the Legislative Action.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Attempts to freeze federal work pay continue. Supporters of proposals to deny federal workers a modest 1.4 percent pay raise in 2011 are continuing their attempt to attach their proposal to must-pass legislation. The latest example is Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) pay freeze amendment to H.R. 4213, a tax and benefits bill. In a June 15th letter to all 100 Senators, NARFE President Margaret L. Baptiste urged Senators to oppose the Coburn amendment to H.R. 4213. Baptiste wrote, "NARFE supports putting our fiscal house in order, but not if it means undermining the invaluable contributions made to our country by Americans who devote their careers to public service. This pay freeze proposal is particularly ill-timed as we call on federal workers to do more with less, respond to disasters like the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, fight terrorism here and abroad and serve alongside their uniformed colleagues in Iraq and Afghanistan." ■

TAKE NOTE

The next newsletter will be issued in **Sep 2010**. Items for publication in the **Sep/Aug** newsletter must be in the hands of the editor by the **13th of Aug 2010**. I can be reached at 1904 Valley Ave E, Port Orchard, WA 98366. (360)769-9670; e-mail: arthayw@aol.com. **PLEASE notify me if you have a change of address including change of zip code** or if you will be temporarily away. The Chapter 888 bi-monthly newsletter is available by e-mail. If you would like this service, please advise by sending me an email. **Each e-mail newsletter saves the chapter 16¢ plus postage.** ■

Art Haywood

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Port Orchard Chapter 888 is **440**. Keep up the good work! Recruiting new members is crucial! Look for appropriate times to get other retired and currently employed Federal personnel interested in joining Chapter 888 and attending the monthly meetings. Perhaps you could pass along your NARFE monthly magazine. I'm always available to answer questions about membership. Give me a call at 360-876-1100. ■

MEMBERS DROPPED

Craig Hatfield, Martha McMurray, George Curtis, Jack Grable, Dana Harmon, Ann Johnson, Michael Kinyon, Lawrence Myers, Delia Ranes, Malcolm Robison, Gordon Strasbaugh.

Don Podraza

ALZHEIMER'S



A special **THANK YOU** to all who contributed to our Chapter 888's Alzheimer's Fund. We sent **\$350** to the State Alzheimer's Fund at the WSF Convention, leaving a current balance of \$34.55. Don't forget to bring your aluminum cans either to the monthly NARFE Chapter 888 meeting or to the truck at Towne Square and ask that the money be credited to NARFE Chapter 888.

Remember to help prevent Alzheimer's: watch your diet, exercise and communicate. ■



Helen Ristvet



Experience teaches us that it is much easier to prevent an enemy from posting themselves than it is to dislodge them after they have got possession.
George Washington dn



IN MEMORIAM

*Geraldine Grimm,
born February 2, 1931
passed away April 21, 2010*

**Guardian of your Federal Benefits
NARFE**

- Wally Niesen, 1st Vice President
- Nancy Johnson, 2nd Vice President
- Suzanne Rueter, Treasurer Bob Mueller, Legislative, NARFE- PAC
- Helen Higgs, Chaplain
- Art Haywood, Newsletter Editor
- dn 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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