

# NARFE PORT ORCHARD CHAPTER 888

Nov./Dec.

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

2010, NO. 6

Mike Kaaland, President

Stu Higgs, Secretary

Don Podraza, Membership

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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)**

## CHAPTER 888 OFFICER NOMINATIONS

I, along with John Smith, have been serving as the Nominating Committee for a new slate of officers to govern Chapter 888, effective December 2010.

Vacancies to be filled include: **President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary, and Chaplain.** At this point in time, we have candidates for President and Chaplain only!

**TAKE NOTE**

Chapter 888 cannot continue to function without a full slate of officers. If you are interested in volunteering (or just finding out about the duties) for any of the above positions, please call me or John Smith. ■

**Art Haywood** 360-769-9670  
**John Smith** 360-792-2626

## PRESIDENT

All of Chapter 888 is saddened to report that Nancy Johnson, Chapter 888 2nd Vice President, passed away Friday morning, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Nancy's husband, Doug Johnson, sent this message: "Nancy really enjoyed her relationship with NARFE. I'm sure you will all miss her nearly as much as I and our children do. There will be a service to celebrate Nancy's life at the First Lutheran Church in Port Orchard at 1PM on Saturday, Oct 30, with a lunch reception following. Family and friends are welcome to attend to share memories and celebrate Nancy's life."

**FEHB Open Season dates are Nov 8<sup>th</sup> through Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** Chapter 181, (Bremerton), will host FEHB Open Season Health Fair at the Westside Improvement Club, National Avenue & 'E' Street on November 8<sup>th</sup>.....↑

Health care providers will be available to hand out literature and provide answers to questions. Doors will open at 10:00 AM.

I hope everyone is having a great start to Autumn. There are several initiatives to keep your eye on and do the homework on before voting on November 2. Initiatives 1053, 1098, 1100, 1105 and 1107 could significantly impact our state's ability to meet basic public needs. Please read all that you can. There is great information from the Washington State Budget and Policy Center.

**From the National Convention in Grand Rapids, MI:** An increase to the NARFE National dues was approved by 72% of the delegates. National Dues will be increased to \$40 a year (up from the current \$29 a year). This is **not** the single dues structure that has been presented at the last several conventions with failing results. Our Chapter 888 Dues of \$10 per year will be added to that amount. A three year's structure for National Dues is: 1 year - \$40, 2 years - \$72 and 3 years - \$102. The best deal would be to sign up for **Dues Withholding**, which would be only \$34 per year (a 15% reduction). A small sum would be taken out of your pension check each month. **Remember:** You would still be required to pay your chapter dues of \$10 a year. This dues increase will take effect in 2011 on the **anniversary** of your joining NARFE. ■

**Michael Kaaland**

## 1st VICE PRESIDENT

**TAKE NOTE**

**I open this article hoping it's not the last newsletter for NARFE chapter 888.** I spoke with our Nominating Committee chairman, Art Haywood, and was informed that we do not have enough volunteers to fill the required offices to keep our chapter operating. Stu Higgs, our secretary, has served our chapter admirably but finds it necessary to relinquish that office. Nancy Johnson, our 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, whom I had hoped would be able to continue, has passed away and gone home to be with the Lord. Thankfully, as I understand it, the .....↑

other officers are able and willing to continue. However, the two offices of secretary and either 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President are required to keep our chapter operating. I hope this information will result in all members looking at their schedules and determining where NARFE chapter 888 fits in as a priority. I will submit my name for consideration as President if those positions are filled. Even some of those serving in other capacities need to consider the possibility of taking on either secretary or one of the VP positions.

If we all make a concerted effort to recruit new members during the next month there is a possibility new members would be willing to serve in those required positions. ■

Hoping for a continuing chapter 888.

**Wally Niesen**



## From the Secretary

 Our dedicated 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, **Nancy Johnson**, passed away on October 15, 2010. She will be sorely missed by her many friends in Chapter 888.

Region IX Vice President, Lanny Ross, was our speaker for the October Chapter Birthday meeting at the China Sun Buffet. He reported that the 2010 National Convention approved a dues increase for current members as follows: One year National dues - \$40.00; Two years National dues - \$72.00; Three years National dues - \$102.00. Members with National dues withholding will have a 15% reduction to be at \$34.00. The new member fees will start with members whose renewal date is March 2011. Our chapter dues remain at \$10.00 per year.

*continued on page 2*

**Secretary's desk continued**

NOTE: **NEW MEMBERS** receive a **First Year Membership Fee** of \$45.00. Under NARFE bylaws, "one-third (1/3) of the membership fee shall be returned to the chapters in lieu of the first year's chapter dues."

Lanny reported that at the end of August 2010 NARFE's total donations to Alzheimer's research was \$8,813,740.00. 1,001 members in Region IX passed away between the 2008 and 2010 National conventions Only Lanny and one other member of the NARFE National Board are incumbents; there are 8 new board members. The Bipartisan National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform's report is due to Congress on December 1, 2010. There have been no 'leaks' on what the report contains but *everything* is on the table and this includes federal retiree benefits. It will be very interesting to see what is in the report; and even more interesting to see what Congress decides to do with it.

And finally, I shall not be your secretary next year. The office of Secretary is open and a complete turnover will be provided to my successor. ■

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in Port Orchard Chapter 0888 is **431**. Recruiting new members is crucial! Look for appropriate times to recruit qualifying friends and acquaintances into our chapter. Be sure to use your NARFE magazine to recruit. Our Chapter receives an additional \$5.00 in dues from National for every **NEW** member recruited.

**MEMBERS DROPPED IN SEPT/OCT:**  
**Joe Abeyta**

I'm always available to answer questions about membership. ■

Give me a call at 360-876-1100.

**Don Podraza**

**LEGISLATIVE**

The election will be held on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The voter's pamphlet reviews and explains each initiative, including arguments for and against, and an estimate of the effect on state and local revenue for the next five years. Voters are asked whether they want: (1) a state income tax (2) to remove the state from the business of selling liquor (3) to require 2/3 of the state legislators' approval to pass tax increases (4) the recent tax on certain foods removed (5) employers to be allowed to purchase private industrial insurance.

Referendum 52 would allow funding bonds to be issued to increase energy efficiencies in public schools. Should we allow more taxes to improve energy efficiency at the schools?

The pamphlet also covers local candidates for Senator and all Federal and State offices. A history of experiences and education, as well as a statement from each candidate is included, explaining what their plans are and the reason why they believe you should vote for them.

Kitsap County Voter's Pamphlet contains a sample ballot and a statement from each candidate for county offices, District Court Judges and Public Utility Districts. These pamphlets should be studied very carefully before you select the way you wish to cast your votes.

**EVERY GOOD CITIZEN SHOULD VOTE AND VOTE WISELY.**

**Bob Mueller**

**ALZHEIMER'S**

 Chapter 888 has \$72.10 in our Alzheimer's Fund. Don't forget to save and turn in your aluminum cans at Towne Square Mall to be credited to NARFE Chapter 888.

**10 warning signs of Alzheimer's: Are found at [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org)**

**Helen Ristvet**

**IN MEMORIAM**

Chapter 888 extends their sympathy to Doug Johnson on the death of his wife, Nancy, who passed away on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Nancy was Chapter 888's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. We will all miss her smile and warm personality at our meetings. Chapter 888 members, Arthur L. Hall and Warren Howard, also passed away recently and we extend our sympathy to their families.

 **To contract new debts is not the way to pay old ones.**  
**George Washington, letter to James Welch, April 7, 1799**  
 *dkn*

**Guardian of your Federal Benefits NARFE**

-  Wally Niesen, 1st Vice President
-  Suzanne Rueter, Treasurer
-  Bob Mueller, Legislative, NARFE-PAC
-  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 Telephone Committee,
-  Sally Ann McCluskey, Decorations



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