



TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192

NARFE NEWS

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
Advocates for Active and Former Federal Employees

January – February, Volume 2009, Issue 1

2008 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

President, Nancy Crosby	509-735-3288
1st Vice President, Gary Hagedorn	509-547-3015
2nd Vice President, Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
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Assistant, Carolyn Reeploeg	509-375-1229
Secretary, Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
Legislative, Don & Mary Alice Binder	509-585-1393
NARFE-PAC, Don Binder	509-585-1393
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<i>Nancy Schreckhise</i>	509-585-7558
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Public Relations, Nancy Crosby	509-735-3288
Sunshine, Anne Ross	509-586-3355
Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt	509-943-1812
Hospitality, Carl Gallion	509-967-9161
Membership, Newsletter	
<i>Johanna Caylor</i>	509-308-6664
Webmaster, Larry Williams	509-783-8554
Deacon, Al Rizzo	509-375-0446

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS/NEWSLETTER

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August

11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion, Clearwater Room A

Lunch: \$12; reservations needed whenever possible

Executive Board meets after Chapter meetings

Jan. 7 – Meeting: Genie Tours presents vacation opportunities

Menu: *Tender Marinated London Broil with Demi-Glace*

Jan. 31 – REMINDER: Health Benefits Open Season extension.

Enrollees can make changes to their health, dental and vision coverage. OPM granted the extension due to concerns about Blue Cross Blue Shield out-of-network reimbursements. For information, retirees – call 800-332-9798; employees – contact your HR offices.

Feb. 4 – Meeting: RailEx operations presentation (tentative)

Menu: *Italian Meatloaf with Tomato Relish*

Bring: *non-perishable food items for local food banks*

May 14-15 – Washington Federation Convention, Wenatchee

All members welcome; contact Mary Binder, secretary

Hidden Numbers: There are 3 in this issue – last 4 digits of your membership number. Contact Johanna Caylor, 509-308-6665, if you find yours and win \$5!

SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.,

Federal Bldg., Room 137; Phone: 509-373-9536

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Forward	\$ 7,125.87
Total income	\$ 701.32
Total expenditures	\$ 474.92
Total obligations, as of Nov. 30	\$ 3,073.13
Balance on hand	\$ 4,279.14

LEADERSHIP NEWS

Chapter President – Nancy Crosby

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe 2009 is here; where does the time go?

- Congratulations to our new 1st VP Gary Hagedorn. I am excited about the new members, committee chairs and officers that we have and know that as an organization we will continue to thrive.
- This will be a particularly challenging year for active and retired federal employees. It is vital that we hold on to the benefits we have earned as well as 3267 remain vigilant to proposed changes in our benefits.
- We will be receiving an increase in our retirement annuities, but will experience changes and increases in many of our health benefits.
- A variety of programs for our meetings are planned for 2009. Topics include: travel; local businesses; health issues; the state's wine industry; and, one of the chapter's favorites – Terry Maurer's antique appraisals (April meeting). Ideas/suggestion? Let us know!

Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous 2009!

District V Vice President – Carl Gallion

In my travels to each district chapter, I see great excitement in members in many areas:

- support to Alzheimer's and NARFE-PAC
 - newsletters
 - legislative awareness via communication with legislators
- All are showing progress, but there is still much to do. With a new Congress, NARFE objectives must be re-energized! Looking ahead:
- The next Federation meeting is scheduled for January.
 - Our district workshop is tentatively planned for mid April in Wenatchee. Look for details in the next newsletter.
 - The Federation's annual convention is May 14-15.

As always, feel free to contact me at cbgallion@aol.com or 509-539-9179, if you have questions or concerns.

NARFE-PAC News – Don Binder

What is NARFE-PAC? With a major election behind us and new year ahead, good time for a refresher and/or clarification for new members. As outlined in NARFE's literature, NARFE-PAC is a separate, segregated NARFE fund of voluntary contributions from NARFE members specifically for political purposes. NARFE's four elected national officers constitute NARFE's Political Action Committee (PAC), and are responsible for deciding which House 8319 and Senate candidates will receive PAC contributions.

NARFE-PAC contributions help fund NARFE's political arm in Washington. Its sole purpose is to protect the benefits of individuals with a vested interest in the federal government's civilian retirement systems. The PAC helps elect U.S. senators and representatives sympathetic to the concerns of

federal employees and retirees, and who support fair and equitable federal retirement programs.

Again, with a major election behind us and a new year ahead with the potential for benefit changes, it is an important time to consider donating to our PAC to help maintain it as a strong political arm. Questions? Call me at 509-585-1393.

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

New president, new Congress – many changes, many unknowns. But, one thing has not changed – elected officials need to hear from us, their constituents! What are your issues, your concerns? Let them know. To assist you, here is contact information for our U.S. Congressional officials:

The Honorable Patty Murray

United States Senate

Phone: 202-224-2621; Fax: 202-224-0238

<http://murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm>

402 East Yakima Avenue, Suite 390

Yakima, WA 98901

Phone: 509-453-7462; Fax: 509-453-7731

The Honorable Maria Cantwell

United States Senate

Phone: 202-224-3411 Fax: 202-228-0514

<http://cantwell.senate.gov/contact/index.dfm>

825 Jadwin Avenue, Suites 204/204A

Richland, WA 99352

Phone: 509-946-8106 Fax: 509-946-6937

The Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings

United States House of Representatives

Phone: 202-225-5816 Fax: 202-225-3251

<http://hastings.house.gov/ContactForm.aspx>

2715 Saint Andrews Loop, Suite D

Pasco, WA 99301

Phone: 509-543-9396 Fax: 509-546-1972

If you need help in contacting elected officials, feel free to contact us at 509-585-1393.

Sunshine News – Anne Ross

Sympathy and condolences to the following NARFE family members and/or co-workers: Douglas Sharpe (LSA), James Stapleton and Mable Rutt (brother-in-law). It is sad to lose friends, but what great memories we retain. Get-well and thinking-of-you cards have been mailed to several members. Please call me, 509-586-3355, if you know anyone needing a card.

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: 12 new members, as of Nov. 30: John Long; John Niezgoda; Edith Stoltz; Sandra Haats; Carol Devine; Shirley Bradford; Randy Small; Marjorie Derouin; Viktoria Milhauser; Michael McBrearty; Margo Qualheim and Joseph Sebastian.

Dues Withholding: Sharon Kirkpatrick and Carol Strom.

Reinstatement: **Welcome back** Connie Castleberry, Ellen LeVee, Clifford Clark, Sharon Kirkpatrick, Bettye Milton.

Transfer: Daniel A. Fryberger (1866).

Remember: 2008-2009 WSFC Membership Campaign with \$10 rebates for: 1-**Reinstatements**; 2-**Dues Withholding**; 3-**Gift Memberships**; 4-**Sign up your spouse**.

Renewals: If you are a **retiree** and have misplaced your renewal slip, you can mail your \$39 check, **payable to NARFE**, to me at: 514 Stagecoach Ct, Richland, WA 99354. I will transmit it to the national office. If you are an **active** Federal employee, please call me, 509-308-6664. If you renew within 12 months of your anniversary date, you are eligible for a \$10 rebate. If you pass that period, you must rejoin and will receive a new membership number.

Alzheimer's Fund – William (Bill) Darke

November was Alzheimer's Month. At the Chapter meeting, we had a white elephant auction for NARFE Alzheimer's. Pam Griffin and I conducted 1483 the auction; it raised \$305. Along with other donations, we received \$857. Thanks to all who donated and/or contributed. Look for another auction in November 2009, so save up your "white elephants!"

Reminder – Writing an Alzheimer's donation check and want our chapter to get credit? Make it payable to "**NARFE Alzheimer's**" and put "**Chapter 1192**" on the memo line.

<p>SPECIAL THANKS TO HAPO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION FOR GENEROUSLY SUPPORTING THE COST TO PRINT OUR NEWSLETTER (www.hapo.com)</p>
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<p>www.narfe1192.org</p>

<p>THE WEBSITE HAS CURRENT INFORMATION, MINUTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>
