



# TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192

## NARFE NEWS

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

[www.NARFE1192.org](http://www.NARFE1192.org)

**March – April, Volume 2010, Issue 2**

### **2010 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members**

<b>President,</b> <i>Nancy Crosby</i>	509-735-3288
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President,</b> <i>Gary Hagedorn</i>	509-547-3015
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President,</b> <i>Carl Gallion</i>	509-967-9161
<b>Treasurer,</b> <i>Bob Stewart</i>	509-627-5622
<b>Secretary,</b> <i>Mary Alice Binder</i>	509-585-1393
<b>Legislative,</b> <i>Don &amp; Mary Alice Binder</i>	509-585-1393
<b>NARFE-PAC,</b> <i>Don Binder</i>	509-585-1393
<b>Service Officers,</b> <i>Mary Goldie,</i>	509-582-8757
<i>Nancy Schreckhise</i>	509-585-7558
<b>Alzheimer's,</b> <i>Bill Darke</i>	509-375-7757
<b>Public Relations,</b> <i>Gary Hagedorn</i>	509-547-3015
<b>Sunshine,</b> <i>Carolyn Reeploeg</i>	509-375-1229
<b>Parliamentarian,</b> <i>Mable Rutt</i>	509-943-1812
<b>Hospitality,</b> <i>Carl Gallion</i>	509-967-9161
<b>Membership/Newsletter,</b>	
<i>Johanna Caylor</i>	509-308-6664
<b>Webmaster,</b> <i>Larry Williams</i>	509-783-8554
<b>Deacon,</b> <i>Al Rizzo</i>	509-375-0446

### **CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS**

**Meetings:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays, except July/August  
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion,  
Clearwater Room A  
Lunch: \$13; reservations requested  
Executive Board meets after Chapter meetings

**March 3 – Meeting:** Norma Miller,  
Better Business Bureau – Scams and Seniors  
**Menu:** *Tilapia Filet seasoned w/lemon pepper*

**April 7 – Meeting:** Terry/Kathy Maurer,  
antique appraisers  
(Bring: one small item for appraisal)  
**Menu:** *Vegetarian Lasagna*

**April 23 –** District V Annual Workshop, Yakima  
breakfast bar; lunch; guest speakers; and more  
(*All Chapter members welcome!*)

### **SERVICE CENTER**

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.,  
Federal Bldg., Richland, Room 137  
Phone: 509-373-9536

The Federal Trade Commission has an excellent  
guide with information on specific health-related  
issues, medical identity theft and fraud, elder  
abuse, and medications. To view the guide, go to:  
[www.ftc.gov/whocares](http://www.ftc.gov/whocares). Copies are also now at  
the Service Office and will be at Chapter meetings.

### **Good to Know**

**OPM:** 888-767-6738, “Retirement Info Line”

**OPM:** [www.opm.gov/retire/](http://www.opm.gov/retire/)

**WSFC Website:** [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net)

### **HOSPITALITY**

Please remember, the Chapter must pay for the  
number of reservations given to the hotel, even if  
someone who made a reservation does not show.

If you have to cancel, please call Mary Goldie,  
582-8757, or Nancy Schreckhise, 585-7558, as  
soon as possible. Finally, feel free to contact me,  
Carl Gallion, hospitality chairman, 967-9161, or  
[cbgallion@aol.com](mailto:cbgallion@aol.com), with your suggestions to  
improve our venue service.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Balance forward	\$ 7797.99
Income	\$ 705.64
Expenditures	\$ 524.82
Dedicated funds* 18-mo. Budget	\$ 4466.00
Balance on hand	\$ 3511.91

\*Estimate as of January 31, 2010

## Chapter President – Nancy Crosby

Welcome spring! At least we had a milder winter this year, and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to green grass and spring flowers. I know I am.

**Meeting Programs** – For our March 3 program, Norma Miller from the local Better Business Bureau office, will talk about local scams that are targeting seniors and how we 3071 can protect ourselves from scam artists. Then in April, one of our favorites – the Maurers and their antique appraisal program. Don't forget to bring a small item for appraisal! Also at our April meeting, we will be honoring our "Distinguished Members" – those at least 85 years of age and with 30 years or more NARFE membership.

### **Needed! Program Ideas**

Your Chapter Executive Board wants  
*your ideas and suggestions*  
for future meeting programs.

Call or e-mail:

Nancy Crosby, 735-3288, [ncrosby2b@charter.net](mailto:ncrosby2b@charter.net)  
or

Mary Binder, 585-1393, [mary\\_binder@msn.com](mailto:mary_binder@msn.com)

**Taxes** – Do you need free help preparing your 2009 income tax return? Online, the IRS web site, [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov), has information under "freefile" about companies providing free services. Also, the Kennewick, Pasco and Richland community centers are offering assistance using trained volunteers with AARP Tax Aide. Appointments are recommended and you would need to bring your: 2008 income tax return; 2009 tax information, including property tax information, if applicable; and, Social Security card and photo I.D. Following is contact information for the centers:

**Kennewick Senior Center**, 500 South Auburn,  
585-4303 (Thursdays, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.)

**Pasco Senior Center**, 1315 N. 7<sup>th</sup>, 545-3459,  
(Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

**Richland Community Center**, 500 Amon Park  
Drive, 942-7529 (Tuesdays and Thursdays,  
Activity Room, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.)

## **Stimulus Package One-Time \$250 Payment –**

Last year Social Security recipients received a one-time \$250 "economic recovery payment." But, Federal, state and local government retirees did not as they weren't entitled to Social Security. However, through NARFE's efforts, those retirees

will be eligible for a \$250 refundable tax credit for tax year 2009.

***Even if you don't itemize, CSRS annuitants can apply for this tax credit. However, to receive the credit will require completing a Schedule M form.***

The IRS 1040 instruction web site provides information about eligibility for government retirees:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040sm.pdf>.

The Schedule M form is at:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040sm.pdf>.

Forms are also available at locations providing tax forms and filing information, e.g., public libraries.

## **Washington State Federation of Chapters**

**Annual Convention** – This year's convention is May 17-19 in Everett. The convention is a great opportunity to learn more about NARFE and information pertinent to federal active and retired employees. Registration forms and information will be available at our March 3 Chapter meeting. Registration is due by March 31. Forms are also on the WSFC web site at:  
<http://www.narfewa.net/conventions.html>.  
Our Chapter does budget to assist our members with registration costs.

## **District V Vice President – Carl Gallion**

Our 2010 District V Workshop is scheduled for Friday, April 23, Red Lion Hotel, Yakima. Tentative times are 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. There is no cost to our Chapter's members and, all Chapter members are welcome! Meeting includes a light breakfast bar of fruit and pastries and coffee/tea to welcome you; a sit-down lunch; and, informative guest speakers and sessions. There will also be an election for a new district vice president. While I certainly intend to continue my support to NARFE to the fullest extent of my abilities, I believe it's time for a new district vice president from the "Heart of Washington." More information about the workshop will be announced at the Chapter's March and April meetings.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 509-967-9161, or at [cbgallion@aol.com](mailto:cbgallion@aol.com).

### **Get Well Wishes**

**From the Board: Carl recently underwent hip surgery. We wish him a speedy and complete recovery!**

## **Alzheimer's Research Fund – William Darke**

At the Washington Federation's annual state convention in May, there will be a statewide Alzheimer's research report, **which includes recognition for the Chapter contributing the most during the year!** I've reviewed Chapter 1192's contributions since last year's convention – to date, \$1,025. We will continue to collect funds for the current program year through the Chapter's April meeting, so it is not too late to contribute if you haven't done so already. Also, contributions of \$20 or more will receive an Alzheimer's lapel pin.

## **Sunshine News – Carolyn Reeploeg**

As your sunshine chair, I rely on members to provide me information about other members affected by a significant event such as an illness, loss or extra-special occasion. To contact me: [jdmcser@juno.com](mailto:jdmcser@juno.com) or 509-375-1229.

**Sympathy and condolences** were recently sent to: the family of deceased member Dean Davis; Julie Goeckner for the loss of her mother-in-law. **Get well wishes** were sent to members: Carl Gallion; Elizabeth Howe; and, Marilyn McNeill.

## **Legislative – Don and Mary Binder**

**Medicare Part B** – As we have been reporting, federal, state and local government retirees not eligible to receive Social Security have seen their Medicare Part B premiums jump from \$96.40/month to \$110.50 in 2010. Current law protects – “holds harmless” – most other beneficiaries from a Part B rate hike when there is no Social Security cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). On Sept. 24, the House passed H.R. 3631, the Medicare Premium Fairness Act, which would protect more than 1 million federal, state and local government retirees from the Part B premium increase in 2010. The Senate needs to approve this needed legislation, too. So, if you have not yet done so, please contact both Senators Cantwell and Murray and request their support and assistance in this regard. Their contact information is listed on this page.

**Fiscal Year 2011 Federal Budget** – President Obama's recently released budget blueprint for fiscal year (FY) 2011 did not recommend any reductions in the earned retirement and health security of federal annuitants and workers. Since many past administrations have recommended changes, NARFE has had to “fight” to ensure Congress did not take such action. Therefore, the President's FY 2011 budget blueprint is a much needed first step in the budget process that will

hopefully not negatively impact on federal retirees. So, yes, contacting our congressional representatives will continue to be important!

For updates, check the following web sites: NARFE HQ, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org); Washington State Federation of Chapters [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net); and Chapter 1192 [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org).

### **Contacting our Federal Legislators**

#### **The Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings, U.S. 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

#### **The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senate**

Phone: 202-224-2621; Fax: 202-224-0514

<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, U.S. 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

## **NARFE-PAC – Don Binder**

As previously reported, the elections later this year will provide opportunities for NARFE to influence outcomes through NARFE-PAC. The PAC is NARFE's legislative arm and helps ensure NARFE issues are “front and center.” An example – PAC contributions of up to \$5,000 to those running for re-election or against an incumbent when there is a clear difference 5101 between the candidates, and one clearly backs NARFE legislative initiatives and the other does not.

With about 30 House members already deciding not to run for re-election, plus those who are remaining or running against incumbents and having a clear distinction regarding NARFE initiatives, the funds we contribute to the PAC go directly to those candidates. So, please consider contributing now – or contributing again – to help NARFE's legislative office ensure these funds do the most good. And yes, contributions of \$20 or more will entitle you to a PAC pin for the 2009/2010 legislative term. Questions? Contact me at: [don\\_binder@msn.com](mailto:don_binder@msn.com) or 509-585-1393.

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees**  
**Johanna Caylor**  
514 Stagecoach Ct  
Richland, WA 99354  
Email: [caylorx2@aol.com](mailto:caylorx2@aol.com)

**Return Service Requested**

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Permit No. 173**  
**Richland, WA**

### **Membership – Johanna Caylor**

**Welcome:** Guy Potter

**Reinstated:** Noble Atkins; Oneta Denson

**Renewals:** Lost your renewal slip and need help?  
Call me and I will walk you through the process.

**Remember:** The 2009-2010 WSFC Federation  
Membership Campaign with \$10 rebates for:  
**1 - Dues withholding; 2-Gift memberships;**  
**3-Spouse sign up.**

**Reminder:** If you change your mailing or e-mail  
address, or phone number, please contact me.

This is very important so we can continue to  
provide you Chapter information.

**Help:** NARFE not only needs new members – we  
need to **retain** the members we have. Help our  
Chapter and NARFE grow and sustain strength!

**Hidden numbers:** There are 3 in this issue – last  
4 digits of a membership number. Contact me if  
you find yours, and win \$5! Dick Bradley won \$5  
for finding his number in the January-February  
newsletter; he donated the money to NARFE's

Alzheimer's Research Fund. The other numbers  
belonged to: *Howard House* and *Dorothy Smith!*

**Call me:** If you have questions, please call me. My  
numbers are: 509-375-0739 or 308-6664.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:**  
***Daylight Saving Time begins, March 14***  
***St. Patrick's Day, March 17***  
***Passover begins, March 29***  
***Easter, April 4***  
***Income Tax Deadline, April 15***

