



# TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192

## NARFE NEWS

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

### 2008 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

<b>President, Nancy Crosby</b>	509-735-3288
<b>Vice President, Carl Gallion</b>	509-967-9161
<b>Treasurer, Phil LaMont</b>	509-582-7153
<b>Assistant, Carolyn Reeploeg</b>	509-375-1229
<b>Secretary, Mary Alice Binder</b>	509-585-1393
<b>Legislative, Don &amp; Mary Alice Binder</b>	509-585-1393
<b>NARFE-PAC, Don Binder</b>	
<b>Service Officers, Mary Goldie,</b>	509-582-8757
<b>Nancy Schreckhise</b>	509-585-7558
<b>Alzheimer's, Bill Darke</b>	509-375-7757
<b>Public Relations, Nancy Crosby</b>	509-735-3288
<b>Sunshine, Anne Ross</b>	509-586-3355
<b>Parliamentarian, Mable Rutt</b>	509-943-1812
<b>Hospitality, Carl Gallion</b>	509-967-9161
<b>Membership, Newsletter</b>	
<b>Johanna Caylor</b>	509-308-6664
<b>Webmaster, Larry Williams</b>	509-783-8554
<b>Deacon, Al Rizzo</b>	509-375-0446
<b>Immediate Past President,</b>	
<b>Verneice Skinner</b>	509-627-2053

### CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays, except July/August

11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion

Exec Board meets after Chapter meetings

### Chapter Meetings:

**Note: Reservations are needed whenever possible.**

**Nov. 5** – Election of 2009 Officers; Alzheimer's Fundraiser

**Bring White Elephant Donations and/or Monetary Donations**

**Dec. 3** – Installation of Officers; Holiday Festivities

**Bring Food for Tri-Cities Food Bank**

### Other Events:

**November** – National Alzheimer's Month

**Nov. 10–Dec. 8** – FEHBP Open Season

### SERVICE CENTER

Open Tuesdays, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.,

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

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance Forward	\$ 7,495.78
Total income	\$ 608.60
Total expenditures	\$ 583.56
Total obligations *	\$ 3,688.11
Balance on hand	\$ 3,832.71

\*As of September 30, 2008

### HIDDEN NUMBERS

There are three hidden numbers in this issue – the last 4 digits of members' ID numbers. If you find your number, call Johanna Caylor, 509-308-6644 or 509-375-0739, and a \$5 check will be heading your way. Numbers in Issue #3 were for members: Laurette Beitz, Levi Duberry and Joanne Clark. Sorry folks, Johanna did not get any calls!

November-December, Volume 2008, Issue 4

### LEADERSHIP NEWS

#### **Chapter President – Nancy Crosby**

Vote! Vote! Vote! As citizens, federal employees or retirees, we will be impacted by the results of the upcoming elections.

Recently NARFE released "Mc CAIN AND OBAMA RESPONSES TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE." For their answers, go to: <http://www.narfe.org/pdf/2008NARFEPresidentialCandidateSurvey.pdf>. President Margaret Baptiste said NARFE asked the candidates their views on such key matters as:

- Cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) equity between Social Security, federal civilian and military retirees.
- How the 9 million FEHBP enrollees would be affected by comprehensive health care reform.
- Tax treatment of employer sponsored health insurance, including NARFE's goal to extend "Premium Conversion" benefits to four three one zero federal annuitants as well as military personnel and retirees.
- Repeal or reform of the unfair and arbitrary Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).

The Nov. 4 elections will impact us all, one way or another. So please, be sure to vote – it is your opportunity to participate in federal, state and local elections and issues.

Unwelcome news from OPM is the FEHBP premium increases for 2009. Retirees and active employees with self-only coverage will pay on average \$10.42 a month more and family coverage will average \$24.09 per month. You can view the rates on the OPM website [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov) or go to <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/09rates/index.asp>. The Open Season will begin Nov. 10 and run through Dec. 8. OPM will mail CSRS and FERS annuitants detailed information about costs and benefits in FEHBP.

Our October meeting to recognize active Federal employees was very well seven nine eight five attended with 35 members and guests. We welcomed 3 guests from TSA and 1 from Umatilla Chemical Depot, and all became new Chapter members!

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

It has been a busy fall. Looking back – the Wenatchee Chapter's Aug. 27 picnic to raise money for Alzheimer's was well attended and successful, raising more than \$140 at a white elephant sale. Also, George Fearing, who is running against Doc Hastings for his Congressional seat, addressed the attendees and answered questions.

Besides our Tri-Cities chapter, I am planning to visit the district's other chapters – Yakima, Wenatchee and Ephrata – in the weeks ahead. As always, feel free to contact me at [cbgallion@aol.com](mailto:cbgallion@aol.com) or 509-539-9179, if you have questions.

### Legislation - Don and Mary Binder

President Nancy said it all – vote, vote, vote! A vote here, a vote there add up and yes, can make a difference. We saw that in Washington's last gubernatorial election.

The 2009 COLA increase, unless congress intervenes, is 5.8% for CSRS and 5.0% for FERS retirees, respectively. For current employees, the increase is 3.9%.

We will continue to monitor these and other issues that may pertain to federal employees and retirees. Feel free to contact us. Phone: 509-585-1393.

### NARFE-PAC News – Don Binder

As the election draws ever nearer and our PAC fundraising cycle draws to a close, some of you may be wondering whether we are getting any attention from the candidates. As discussed previously, we had received funding requests from Senator Maria Cantwell (later withdrawn as she decided she doesn't accept PAC contributions) and George Fearing. There are currently requests for funding from Jay Inslee, Dave Reichert, Rick Larsen, Brian Baird and Doc Hastings.

The decision whether to fund any of these requests is made by NARFE's national office. However, the decision whether to fund the PAC itself is made by NARFE members. Please consider contributing generously to support our legislative issues and protect our earned benefits. Thanks for your help. *(Written by Bill Darke, past Chapter NARFE-PAC chairman)*

### Sunshine News – Anne Ross

**Sympathy and condolences** to the following NARFE family members and/or co-workers: Carl Gallion (spouse Marlene), and Gar Norman. 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

Summer was slow recruiting **but we do welcome** Ralph M. Peterson (from the NAPUS Convention in July).

**Dues Withholding** – Nancy Crosby, Burr and Hazel Elliott, J. D. Furubotten, Mitsuko Loth, Gail McClure, R. Ray Manual, and Verneice Skinner. **Reinstatement** – Robert Rosson **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 Court, Richland, WA 99354. I will transmit it to the national office. If you are an Active Federal Employee, please call me, 509-308-6664 or 509-375-0739.

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

### Alzheimer's Fund – William (Bill) Darke

I have a correction to the previous report. At NARFE's recent National Convention, it was announced that Washington State **was** the TOP 2007-2008 donating State. It was previously eight nine eight nine reported that Virginia was first; Washington second. Thanks to all who donated to our Chapter's Alzheimer's Fund this past year. Let's make 2008-2009 an even better year!

### Remember - November is National Alzheimer's Month.

If you are writing checks, make them payable to "NARFE Alzheimer's" and put "Chapter 1192" on the check's memo line. Our Chapter's balance as of Sept. 30 is \$175.83 and does not include large individual checks mailed directly to our WSFC chairperson.

SPECIAL THANKS TO  
HAPO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION FOR GENEROUSLY  
SUPPORTING THE COST TO PRINT OUR NEWSLETTER

### National Active and Retired Federal Employees

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### [www.narfe1192.org](http://www.narfe1192.org)

The website has  
current information,  
meeting minutes, forms,  
newsletters and  
announcements

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