



TRI-CITIES CHAPTER 1192 NARFE NEWS

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

www.NARFE1192.org

September – October, Volume 2009, Issue 4

2009 Chapter 1192 Officers & Board Members

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1st Vice President, <i>Gary Hagedorn</i>	509-547-3015
2nd Vice President, <i>Carl Gallion</i>	509-967-9161
Treasurer, <i>Phil LaMont</i>	509-582-7153
Secretary, <i>Mary Alice Binder</i>	509-585-1393
Legislative, <i>Don & Mary Alice Binder</i>	509-585-1393
NARFE-PAC, <i>Don Binder</i>	509-585-1393
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Alzheimer's, <i>Bill Darke</i>	509-375-7757
Public Relations, <i>Gary Hagedorn</i>	509-547-3015
Sunshine, <i>Anne Ross</i>	509-586-3355
Parliamentarian, <i>Mable Rutt</i>	509-943-1812
Hospitality, <i>Carl Gallion</i>	509-967-9161
Membership, Newsletter, <i>Johanna Caylor</i>	509-308-6664
Webmaster, <i>Larry Williams</i>	509-783-8554
Deacon, <i>Al Rizzo</i>	509-375-0446

CHAPTER MEETINGS/EVENTS

Meetings: 1st Wednesdays, except July/August
11:30 a.m., Kennewick Red Lion,
Clearwater Room A
Lunch: \$12; reservations requested
Executive Board meets after Chapter meetings

September 2 – Meeting: Cindy Henriksen from
the Tri-Cities Visitor and Convention Bureau
Menu: Beef Lasagna

October 7 – Meeting: WSFC Representative to
discuss NARFE Dues Referendum
Menu: Hot Open-Faced Turkey Sandwich

November 4 – Meeting: White Elephant Auction
for Alzheimer's
Menu: Mustard-Crusted Pork Loin

Hidden Numbers: There are 3 in this issue –
last 4 digits of your membership number.
Contact Johanna Caylor, 509-308-6664, if you
find yours and win \$5! The 3 hidden numbers in
the May – June newsletter belong to *Jack Collins,*
Sandra Keating and John Long... sorry!!!

SERVICE CENTER

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

Your Chapter 1192 Service Office staff highly
recommends you read Washington State
Federation of Chapters (WSFC) Service Officer
Marion Wilson's newsletters. They contain
important information for both active and retired
members, and are available electronically on the
WSFC Service Office Web site:

<http://www.narfewa.net/id43.html>

And, another reminder that it is **very important**
for family members to have information they will
need when an individual receiving payment from
OPM dies. **The important toll-free OPM number
for reporting such a death is: 888-767-6738.** For
active employees, family members would need to
contact the employee's servicing HR office. The
Service Center can also assist. Finally, a good
NARFE publication to have is F-100, *Be Prepared
for Life's Events*. It is at the Service Center, or at;
www.narfe.org.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance forward	\$ 7946.97
Total income	\$ 2022.57
Total expenditures	\$ 3577.34
Total dedicated funds*	\$ 2685.00
Balance on hand	\$ 3707.20

*Estimate as of July 30, 2009

Chapter President – Nancy Crosby

Here it is – already close to the end of summer and the beginning of a new and exciting year for our Chapter 1192. We are planning many interesting and informative programs for the coming year, starting with September's program and our guest speaker, Cindy Henriksen from the Tri-Cities Visitor & Convention Bureau.

2009 NARFE Dues Referendum – one of NARFE's big issues in the coming months. For details, see your August *NARFE* magazine. Like all 0422 chapters, we will be discussing and ultimately voting on the referendum. Our chapter ballot is due December 8.

The referendum is an attempt to simplify NARFE's complex and multi-tiered dues structure. It is believed that such simplification will help in everything from recruiting to a treasurer's duties. But as with many things, there are pros and cons to a unified dues structure.

The referendum calls for \$40 yearly membership dues for regular members. In your August *NARFE* magazine, pages 43-44, there is more information, including a sample ballot and information on the voting process. We, as a chapter, will vote on this referendum. Please read the information on the referendum carefully, and plan on attending our monthly meetings for discussions and updates.

In October we plan to invite an officer from the Washington State Federation of Chapters (WSFC) to give us more insights on this proposal from a federation perspective. Meanwhile, please log onto our Web site: <http://www.narfe1192.org> and to National's Web site, <http://www.narfe.org/home/> to become informed on this issue.

Finally, on page 36, August *NARFE* magazine, there is a voter's coupon to send to me if you cannot attend our meetings. Prior to voting, please ensure you have read and understand the information. If you have questions, please call me: 509-735-2388. Completed ballots must be sent to me at my home address: 7612 W. 21st Ave., Kennewick, WA 99338. Do not send it to National.

Volunteers – As we begin another meeting year, I am looking to our membership to fill important positions. For example, Phil LaMont, our treasurer, has expressed his desire to resign as soon as

possible. We need someone to fill his position. All our committees can use additional help. And, it is not too early to think about officer and committee positions for next calendar year. I am hopeful that you, our wonderful members, will step up and volunteer in some capacity. Our strength is in our involved members, and we need you.

Hope to see you September 2!

District V Vice President – Carl Gallion

Hope you are enjoying these quickly fading days of summer. I know many of us have taken time to enjoy our other activities but with fall approaching, it's time to get back to NARFE business. I also know many of us have continued in our recruiting and retaining efforts and even with the Congressional recess, others are keeping up with pending legislative changes that affect us. In times of unprecedented Federal spending and searching for funds to pay for them, our most important mission must be to protect our current benefits.

The Wenatchee chapter hosted another wonderful summer picnic, August 12. This annual event was well attended and, as usual, contributed to the chapter's Alzheimer's donation while giving a platform to discuss the pending NARFE dues referendum and other issues.

Speaking of the dues referendum, as our chapter president, Nancy Crosby, wrote, please read your *NARFE* magazine, ask questions of your officers and be sure to come to our fall meetings where a "chapter decision" must be reached. Don't be complacent ... be informed and cast your opinion.

I attended the WSFC meeting in Tacoma, August 20, and will have much to share at the chapter meeting September 2 ... hope to see you there!

Besides being our chapter's NARFE-PAC chairman and legislative co-chairman, Don Binder has assumed the position of WSFC-PAC chairman. And, our chapter president, Nancy, now is also serving as the 8354 WSFC Nominating Committee chairman. My thanks to both Don and Nancy for taking on these additional responsibilities.

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

Legislative – Don and Mary Binder

Due to the recession we as a nation are still confronting, it appears all but certain that there will be no Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for either Social Security or Federal employee retirement benefits this coming January. However, under current law, even though the COLA has been reduced, our retirement annuity will not be.

Next, although the figures have not yet been released for 2010, it appears likely that our health benefit costs will increase, thus resulting in a reduced “take-home” or net payment each month starting in February.

Please continue to follow the discussion regarding health insurance being debated by the Obama Administration, members of Congress and print and broadcast media. While we, as current, retired or spouses of Federal retirees, have one of the best health insurance programs in the country, the pending legislation could impact on us. Our congressman, “Doc” Hastings, is opposed to the legislation presently before Congress, but already approved by 3 different House committees. Letting him, and our senators, Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, know your feelings in this regard, helps give you a voice in this critical debate. Information for contacting these representatives is:

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 you may know, the voluntary contributions to the NARFE-PAC are used to provide funds to people seeking election to Congress, either an incumbent or someone running for that office, who support the legislative issues important to NARFE members.

To date, since the start of this cycle for contributions, only 8 members of our chapter have contributed to NARFE-PAC. While the total is a very generous amount, \$395, other members need to consider what NARFE-PAC does for you. Besides contributions to those 3208 seeking Congressional office, it also provides funds to permit headquarters staff to work on NARFE’s legislative goals – to maintain our existing benefits and work toward repeal of GPO and WEP.

So, if you can contribute \$20 or more, we’ll get you the bi-annual NARFE-PAC pin. But any amount, from \$1 on up, will be greatly appreciated and aid NARFE in its work on behalf of all Federal employees – those still working, those retired, and surviving spouses.

If you have any questions or wish to contribute, please contact me at 509-585-1393 or don_binder@msn.com.

Alzheimer’s Fund – William (Bill) Darke

November is Alzheimer’s month. As we did last year, we will hold a fundraising auction during the Chapter’s November meeting. So, please start thinking about items to donate for the auction. We had a lot of interesting items last year, and I believe members had a good time bidding! Just remember, it’s for a good cause.

Sunshine News – Anne Ross

Sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of NARFE members: Kathleen Connor (7/09); Donald Gier (5/09); Dora Henning (7/09); Paul Weaver Jr. (niece); Phil LaMont (aunt 8/09) and Estelle Bellefeuille (husband Cheech 8/09). Get-well and thinking-of-you cards are mailed to NARFE family members. Please call me, 509-586-3355, if you know anyone needing a card.

Membership – Johanna Caylor

Welcome: Phil Craig; Wanda and Gene Glover (USPS-R); Audrey D. Goodbrake (Spouse-Annuitant); Janet Humphrey; Molly Norman; Norma Page (Spouse-Annuitant) and Gary White (BPA).

Dues Withholding: Phil Craig; Wanda and Gene Glover.

Reinstatements: Allan Erhart; Victoria Evans; Diane Johnson; Michael Laituri; Helen Menneke; Cynthia Rezac; and Gary Youngquist.

Transferred Out: Laura Burge; Joanne Clark; and James McCracken.

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.

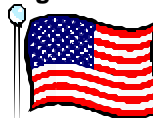
Help: NARFE not only needs new members – we need to **retain** the members we have. Help our chapter and NARFE grow and sustain strength!

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

The annual FEHBP fair will be held October 15 in the Federal Building, Richland, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and out at the Stevens Center, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

NARFE was represented in the Federal Building and the Stevens Center, July 15. We handed out several membership packets. Thanks Mary Goldie and Nancy Schreckhise for assisting.

Display your flag to commemorate 9/11



Friday, September 11th, 2009

National Active and Retired Federal Employees
Johanna Caylor

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Richland, WA 99354
Email: caylorx2@aol.com

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Non-Profit Organization

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Richland, WA