



CHAPTER 236 SOUTH PUGET SOUND

Due to health issues Chapter 236 President Sam Cagle is not available to write a message for this month's issue. Get well cards can be sent to Lyburn S. Cagle CHI Franciscan Acute Rehab Center, 815 S. Vassault St, Room 206, Tacoma, WA 98465. He is scheduled to be discharged 20 June.

Vice President Tony Merola will serve as acting president while Sam is recovering. The next chapter meeting has not been scheduled but will likely be in September 2022. We hope everyone has a great summer.

Election of National and Regional Officers and Vote on Bylaws Amendments

This year an election for National President, Secretary Treasurer and the 10 Regions vice-president offices will be held. Amendments to the National Bylaws will also be voted upon. If you haven't done so already, you can read the Officer candidate statements in the May NARFE Magazine. Our own Federation President Steve Roy is candidate for Region IX Vice President. The Bylaws amendment proposals are on page 53 of the June edition, and you can read the complete text of each bylaw proposal at www.narfe.org/2022/election. On July 15th the internet voting site at NARFE.org goes live. Ballots will be issued 1 August and voting ends on 31 August.

Treasurer's Report

Our month end May balance is \$14,994.40. Dues collected in May were \$89.06. A check for \$291.76 was received due to the closure of East Lake Washington Chapter 1404.

Membership

Our chapter membership is 178. We have 1 new member, Scott Barrett of Tenino who joined in April. With the closure of East Lake Washington Chapter 1404, 4 members transferred to Chapter 236: Frank Dvorak of Everett, Rosemary Igrac of Auburn, Rudy Johnson of Tacoma, and Dorothy Thorson of Olympia. A hearty welcome to our new members. One member was dropped for non-renewal. We have learned of the passing of 3 members, Donald A. West of Tacoma, Jutta Bandy of Lakewood, and George Lanning of Olympia. Our heartfelt condolence to each of their families.

Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA)

The list of the scholarship finalists for the 2021-2022 school year is available at the FEEA website. Go to: www.feea.org. The organization also makes no-interest loans up to \$1500 to full or part time Federal employees with 1 year or more service to assist in times of emergency. You can find all the details and application procedures at the website.

OPM Retirement Accounts - Important

Do you have online access to your OPM retirement account at servicesonline.opm.gov? Now you will see a new process for signing into Services Online. To log in you will be prompted to create a new username and password with login.gov. After that, whenever you log into the Services Online site, you will use the login.gov username and password, as well as a special code which they will text or email to you to authenticate your identity and protect your account. You will no longer log in using your retirement claim number and password.

TSP Accounts

Effective 1 June you must create a new user ID, password, PIN number and select 2 security questions to log on to your TSP account. The TSP site will take you through the process on a step-by-step procedure. Once you are in your account you will find a new format.

COLA UPDATE

The CPI-W increased 0.494 percent in April 2022. This is a 6.018 percent increase from the Jul/Aug/Sept 2021 average of 268.42066. If inflation continues at this pace, the COLA for 2023 annuity adjustment may again be in the 5 to 6 percent range.

FEDcon 22 Scholarships

The Fedcon22 will be held August 21-23 at the Westlin Kierland Resort & Spa in Scottsdale, Arizona. All the details and registration are at fedcon.narfe.org. Of particular interest to seniors, there will be a presentation on how to declutter your life, downsize and move forward with your life. The federation will reimburse all members in good standing (dues up-to-date) \$190.00 toward the registration fee and up to \$750.00 for travel expenses upon receipt of the Washington State Federation Form F-1 and relevant receipts. Members must attend all sessions. Contact Steve Roy, at 425-344-3926 or stevenroy1@comcast.net for more information.

Legislative Action

On May 3, Reps. Eleanor Holmes Norton, D-DC, and Dutch Ruppersberger, D-MD, introduced [H.R. 7657](#), the Reducing the Effects of the Cyberattack on OPM Victims Emergency Response Act. Dubbed the RECOVER Act, this bill would provide a lifetime's worth of free identity protection coverage for those whose data was breached during the 2015 hack of the Office of Personnel Management. A previous version of this bill was approved by Congress in fiscal year 2017 appropriations. However, the bill failed to provide afflicted employees with identity protection beyond fiscal year 2026. Norton [stated](#) that "because there is no limit to the duration on when the compromised personal information can be used, Congress must protect these federal employees and contractors in perpetuity." Ruppersberger shared a similar sentiment, stating that affected federal workers' personal information has "no shelf life," so neither should identity protection related to the data breaches.

With NARFE's support, Sen. Alex Padilla, D-CA, introduced [S.4221](#), the Equal COLA Act, on May 16. Companion legislation to [H.R. 304](#), S. 4221 would ensure that cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to Federal Employees Retiree System (FERS) annuities match the measured change in consumer prices. Mirroring its House counterpart, S. 4221 would provide full COLAs to FERS retirees, creating parity with Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and Social Security COLAs. Without this amendment to the current system, FERS retirees will continue to see their annuities, earned through years of dedicated public service, decrease in value annually – the very issue COLAs were designed to prevent

Alzheimer's

The 2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's-Pierce County is scheduled for Saturday 24 September in Tacoma. The location is Dune Peninsula Park, 5361 Yacht Club Rd, Tacoma. The Alzheimer's South Sound walk is scheduled for 8 October in Olympia. The location is Heritage Park, 5th Ave SW, Olympia. You can get more information for either location at 206 529-3861. Or log on the internet to: 2022 walk to end alzheimer's – pierce county wa or 2022 walk to end Alzheimer's south sound, wa. Alzheimer Research donation forms are available in the NARFE magazine. Be sure to write Chapter 236 on your check memo line.

NARFE-PAC

NARFE has partnered with the OPM to allow members to contribute monthly from their annuities directly to NARFE-PAC. This enables NARFE to avoid paying transaction fees for donations made by credit card. Further information is on page 10 of the December NARFE Magazine. This provides NARFE-PAC with a steady flow of funds that they can rely upon.

Chapter Officers

President – Sam Cagle

[REDACTED]

Vice President – Tony Merola – 253-564-0086

TIGER7565@AO.com

Secretary – Bonnie Ecker

[REDACTED]
[w](#)

Treasurer – Baron Powell – [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Newsletter – Milton Oster – [REDACTED]

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Membership – Milton Oster (temporary)

Service Officer – Tony Merola

Programs – Mary Traxler – [REDACTED]

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Chapter Website:

narfewadistiv.org/Olympia-chapter-0236

Chapter email: narfe236@gmail.com

Mailing address: NARFE Chapter 236

PO Box 8554

Lacey, WA 98509-8554

Vacant Positions: Alzheimer's, Legislative, PAC

We are still growing the chapter, but we need your help for volunteering. Please step forward to lend a hand to help us grow further. We many chapters closing, we don't want to let you down by also having to fold.

A Note from Secretary, Bonnie Ecker

Hello membership. I became secretary for Chapter 236 in 2021 when the Tacoma chapter closed. My husband and I live on five acres with a large house. We've spent our five years here transitioning the property and still have not tackled the house. We have apple trees, chickens, gardens and a large amount of rock to deal with. My goal is to open a brunch & dinner B&B (but a B&D). I am also secretary to the Washington Kitefliers Association. As much as I would love to continue as secretary, I am simply spread too thin to work this property pretty much on my own since my husband's heart attack and keep my duties as Chapter 236 secretary. If you heart pulls you in this direction, please volunteer to be secretary. Feel free to call or email me with any questions.

Our Elected Representatives

Senator Patty Murray
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