



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August

**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION, BREMERTON CHAPTER 181**
P.O. Box 5025, Bremerton, WA 98312-0462

October 2022

NUMBER 08-22

General Meeting Date: October 10, 2022 Time: 1:00PM

**Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club
4109 West "E" Street, Bremerton, WA**

**Program: Paul Andrews, Kitsap County Auditor, Will Explain
Ranked Choice Voting**

NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors.

Executive Board meetings are held from noon to 2:00PM at the Westside Improvement Club the Wednesday prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to join us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 10 OctoberMembership Meeting**
- Week of 10 October.....WSF Virtual Conference**
- 2 November.....PSNS FEHB plan health fair**
- 14 November.....FEHB plan health fair and Membership Meeting**
- 12 December.....Holiday Luncheon at the Bremerton Elks Lodge**
- 9 January.....Membership Meeting**

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

Our secretary hosted a successful panel discussion concerning the Gorst bypass for our September meeting. We advertised the meeting in the Kitsap Sun newspaper, our newsletter, on FEDHub, Facebook, Nextdoor and on the district website. The panelists for the discussion were Captain Richard Massie of Naval Base Kitsap, Congressman Derek Kilmer, State Senator Emily Randall, Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler, Port Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn, and Suquamish Tribal Representative Alison O'Sullivan. Josh Farley, Kitsap Sun reporter, covered the meeting and wrote a front-page story in the Wednesday, September 14, 2022 newspaper. Ironically, a Waste Management garbage truck, traveling through Gorst that afternoon, had a front tire blow out causing the truck to overturn, closing Highway 3 for 90 minutes. Several chapter members, as well as some panelists, spent hours trying to reach their destinations after the meeting.

The state presently has \$75 million to determine the route, either over or around Sinclair Inlet, and to design the project. Funding to construct the revised corridor will be at least \$500 million, but probably more.

Bill Shackelford was elected as the new NARFE National President; his two-year term begins in January 2023. His emphasis will be on lobbying. He also wants to redraw chapter boundaries to coincide with congressional districts. The chapter president would evolve into a Congressional District Leader (CDL). This means that the Sequim/Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006 would be incorporated into our chapter. It also means that the Seattle Chapter 0043, which is already weak, would be split up to coincide with the congressional districts along the I-5 corridor. We will provide additional information regarding the status of these proposed changes once Bill Shackelford takes office.

Cray Henry, a National-only member from Port Hadlock (north of the Hood Canal Bridge), has been nominated for **Washington State Federation (WSF) President**. He has an information technology background in the Department of Defense including legislation relations and conference management. He was recruited to fill the position because our current WSF President, Steven Roy, has been elected as the NARFE Region IX Vice President

covering Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. Steven is replacing the current Region IX VP, Linda Silverio, who is moving out of our region.

Mary Traxler, a member of the Olympia/South Puget Sound chapter, has been nominated for **WSF Vice President**, replacing Mary Binder, who is stepping down due to health and family issues. Mary Traxler serves on the Olympia chapter advisory committee as their program coordinator.

Arlene Patton and **Linda Wallers** have agreed to continue serving as **WSF Treasurer** and **WSF Secretary** respectively.

Elections are now LIVE; if you didn't receive an email invitation to vote, please contact Bea Bull. You may tell her for whom you wish to vote: The four people **(in bold)** listed above or "write-in(s)". She will submit your vote to the federation. Elections close at noon PST on 10 October with newly elected officers beginning their term on 13 October after the federation virtual conference. Once the new officers have settled in, we will invite Cray Henry as a guest speaker at a future membership meeting.

GOP/WEP Secretary Bea Bull

We continue to watch the status of H.R. 82. This legislation, with 299 co-sponsors, was placed on the House Consensus Calendar, which put it in line for a potential House floor vote. However, the House Committee on Ways and Means scheduled a markup for the bill on 20 September. According to an email from NARFE President Ken Thomas, "this removes the bill from the House Consensus Calendar, altering the path for potential floor consideration. But it also represents the most significant official action taken to advance the bill ever, and could still set the stage for a full House vote. With committee action imminent, now is a pivotal time to keep up pressure on representatives and House leadership to bring it up for a vote."

If you received the email from NARFE President Ken Thomas on 19 September and tried to use the link to contact your congressional representative, you will have found that it didn't work. Yes, there was a computer glitch that day. It is now working so I hope you take the time to fill out the form; it's not too late.

MEMBERSHIP & MUSINGS

V. P. Ralph Sanders

My musings this month are personal. Linda and I have moved to new surroundings. After nineteen years in the Allyn area, we have moved back to Kitsap County to be close to family. Because of this my computer was not available and our membership got out of control. I don't mean you personally, but that the numbers and locations were not kept up to date. So, this is what we now know.

This report will cover August 25 to September 25, 2022. We have a total of 441 members in the chapter as of this date. There was one member dropped for nonrenewal: Glen Carden. If you know Glen, give him a call. One of our members passed away this month: Bobby Kennedy. Our condolences to the family.

We have a new member on board this month, Michael Stepherson, transferred from our Prospective Member list. Welcome aboard, we hope you find what you are looking for here and maybe even become a member of our leadership team.

If any member has questions regarding NARFE or Bremerton Chapter 181, please contact any one of our board members listed on the back of this newsletter.

NARFE-PAC

Secretary Bea Bull for PAC Chair Lanny Ross

According to the Sixth Quarter PAC reports, Bremerton members contributed \$660.00 during the past quarter and had sixty-nine contributors. Thank you to the four member sustainers who contribute monthly.

You can now make your sustainer contributions via an annuity deduction; go to narfe.org/pac-sustainer to get started or call the NARFE National office to get set up.

COLA UPDATE

Steve Ferguson

The CPI-W value declined again for the month of August. July was 292.219 and August was 291.629. The July and August average for this year was 8.756 percent

higher than the July/August/September average in 2021. So far, we're looking at an 8.8 percent COLA. We will see what September brings.

SECRETARY

Bea Bull

Bylaws Revision – Following a review of our current chapter bylaws it was decided to reduce the membership meeting quorum requirements from thirteen members in-good-standing to ten. A few other wording changes are also needed. These changes will be presented and voted on at the October membership meeting. If you have questions or wish to discuss the changes, please contact me.

PSNS FEHB Plan Health Fair – This event will be on 2 November from 7:00AM to 5:00PM. The location has not been confirmed.

2022 NARFE Fall Membership Drive – Recruit a new member between 1 September and 31 December and receive \$10.00 and be entered for other prizes. Check out the article on page 56 of the September *NARFE Magazine*.

PROGRAMS

14 NOVEMBER – FEHB plan health fair. There's a flyer on the events page of the district website that you can print and place in the community. United Healthcare is unable to send a rep, but will send brochures.

12 DECEMBER – Holiday Luncheon at the Bremerton Elks Lodge located at 4131 Pine Rd NE.

The price is \$15.00* per person. John Burch has graciously accepted the task of taking members' reservations and money. Please contact him (see back of newsletter) **AFTER** 15 October to make your reservation; payment must be **RECEIVED** no later than 28 November.

*This quoted amount may change slightly; John will update you when you call.

LUNCHEON MENU

*green salad
roast beef
mashed potatoes
vegetable*

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

Can you say “hot and smokey”?! Because of a county restriction on tent square footage, only Alzheimer’s staff had tents; the rest of us “enjoyed” some sun time. Thank you to Rex Tauscher for sitting with me; thank you to Bill Powers for walking; and thank you to John Burch and Melinda Ellis for stopping by to say “hi”!

We had the opportunity to share with attendees what NARFE is and what we do for Alzheimer’s research and for the federal family. Thank you to my team and to everyone who donated! Additional donations are welcome through 31 December; visit the Alzheimer’s tab on the district website.

NOMINATIONS

This year we elect two executive board members. Ralph Petersen and Lanny Ross have agreed to run for another two-year term (2023-2024) but we welcome some competition. We will take nominations from the floor at the October membership meeting.

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

Our income for September was \$298.81 with expenditures of \$100.61. Our net worth as of 31 August was \$35,725.81. A Treasurer’s report for September 2022 will be available at our October meetings.

ALZHEIMER'S CHAIR

Secretary Bea Bull

The balance in the Alzheimer’s account as of 24 September 2022 is \$135.00. Thank you to Lois Barber, Carolyn Minder and an anonymous donor for their donations. And thank you to everyone who sends their donations directly to Lorie Bennett!

To make a tax deductible donation to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research fund please make your check payable to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research", write Chapter 181 on the notation line, and mail it to:

**Lorie Bennett, WSF Alzheimer's Coordinator
4310 S. Kingwood Street
Kennewick, WA 99337-5706**

SUNSHINE CHAIR

Lois Barber

Birthday cards were sent to two centenarians: Myra Clodius and Anthony Roozen.

If you know of a chapter member in need of a little sunshine, please contact Lois at 360-297-2671 so she can get a card out to them.

If you have questions or need assistance with this newsletter, please feel free to contact me at tbkbull@gmail.com. Thanks!! Bea Bull

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers 360-377-7917
powersw@silverlink.net

**VICE PRESIDENT
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR**

Ralph Sanders

**SECRETARY
NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Bea Bull

TREASURER

Rex Tauscher

LEGISLATIVE CHAIR

Vacant

NARFE-PAC CHAIR

Lanny Ross

SERGEANT AT ARMS

William Fuhrmeister

CHAPLAIN

Lyn Damshen

SUNSHINE CHAIR

Lois Barber

WSF SERVICE OFFICER

Charles Caughlan
360-693-0435
csquare@pacifier.com

EX BD MEMBERS**UNTIL DECEMBER 2022**

Lanny Ross

Ralph Petersen

UNTIL DECEMBER 2023

John Burch

Stan Barber

District III VP

Bea Bull 360-286-7798
tbkbull@gmail.com

Region IX VP

Linda Silverio
503-391-2963
l.l.silverio.narfe@gmail.com

NARFE DIST IV WEBSITE

Webmaster – Bea Bull
www.narfewadistiv.org

CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/narfechap181>

NARFE STATE WEBSITE

www.narfewa.org

NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE

www.narfe.org

LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE

877-217-8234

**ADD YOUR E-MAIL
ADDRESS**

800-456-8410

**OFFICE OF PERSONNEL
MANAGEMENT(OPM)**

Phone: 1-888-767-6738

Hours of operation:

7:30AM – 7:45PM ET with best
time to reach someone being
6:30PM – 7:30PM or at 7:30AM.

Mailing Address:

Office of Personnel Management
Retirement Operations Center
P.O. Box 45
Boyers, PA 16017

**OUR ELECTED
SENATORS**

Senator Patty Murray

950 Pacific Avenue #650
Tacoma, WA 98402
Tacoma Phone Number
253-572-3636
D.C. Phone Number
202-224-2621
www.murray.senate.gov

Senator Maria Cantwell

915 – 2nd Avenue, Ste 3206
Seattle, WA 98174
Seattle Phone Number
206-220-6400
D.C. Phone Number
202-224-3441
www.cantwell.senate.gov

**SENIOR INFORMATION &
ASSISTANCE**

360-337-5700 OR
1-800-562-6418

**OUR ELECTED
REPRESENTATIVES**

Congressional District 6

Derek Kilmer

345 – 6th Street, Suite 500
Bremerton, WA 98337
Bremerton phone number 360-
373-9725
D.C. phone number
202-225-5916
<http://kilmer.house.gov>

Congressional District 10

Marilyn Strickland

6000 Main Street SW, Suite 3B
Lakewood, WA 98499
No phone number listed
<https://strickland.house.gov>

Lacey City Hall - 3rd Floor

420 College St SE, Suite 3000
Lacey, WA 98503
Lacey phone number
360-459-8514
D.C. phone number
202-225-9740