

# The Federal Reporter



Washington State Federation of Chapters  
National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

January, February, March 2008

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This newsletter is mailed to all elected officers and committee chairs listed in the Federation directory, and to a courtesy listing. If you prefer **NOT** to receive this publication, notify the editor and you will be removed from the mailing list.

NARFE – Advocates for Active and Retired Federal Employees  
[www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

## From the WSFC President, Dale Brighton



I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season with loved ones and friends. Our family enjoyed having all of our children and grandchildren together. And, we always look

forward to receiving news of friends---old and new---from whom we don't often hear.

The past few months have been busy but productive. I have had the opportunity to visit several chapters including Tacoma, Richland, Walla Walla and Ephrata. It was encouraging to witness the dedicated leadership in these chapters. We have much to look forward to and work toward in 2008 and I believe it can be a successful year. I will also attend the District I Workshop in Spokane and a Bremerton Chapter meeting.

A meeting with the **2008 Convention committee in Walla Walla** gave a group of us the opportunity to visit the Marcus Whitman Hotel (the 2008 convention site) and to review the convention committee's proposals. Plans have been laid for good speakers and workshops.

State conventions always offer the opportunity to interact with other chapters, meet members from throughout the State, to learn the function of the Federation and to have a good time. I encourage every member to attend. It's not too early for chapters to make plans for delegate participation. Also, please encourage your members to **volunteer for serving on a convention committee**. The forms, due to me by April 1<sup>st</sup>, are included in the convention packets sent to you by Secretary Vic Rohret.

As you know, John Cornette and his committee have structured a new membership plan. The deadline of April 1<sup>st</sup> makes it important for chapters to inform their members of the great benefits offered to active federal employee reinstatement members, renewing and dues withholding individuals and spousal members. All of us have a stake in recruitment and retention and we can't afford to place all of the responsibility on chapter membership chairs.

Thank you to the members who stepped forward as officers and committee chairs. Your willingness to serve is central to keeping our organization vital and strong. Now is the time to do strategic planning for the year. We'll be doing it at the Federation level and, hopefully, the chapters will do the same at the local level. We need to review communication, public relations, membership recruitment and retention, legislative action, NARFE-PAC proposals, Alzheimer's projects and service officer duties.

Let's also discuss how we can give added focus to our members who remain in the federal work force. They are so essential to this organization but, as leaders, we must keep them cognizant of NARFE's importance to them now and in the future.

With all of us taking an interest I feel confident 2008 can be productive. Please join me in looking forward to an enthusiastic and fruitful new year for Washington State NARFE. I wish a personal happy and healthy New Year to you all.

Dale

## REGION IX VICE-PRESIDENT – Lanny Ross

It's not too early to be thinking about the national convention especially if you want to request a committee assignment. If you want to be appointed to one of these committees you need to submit your request on Form C/08-22, Request for Committee Assignment, to the chapter president. The chapter president will then submit the request to the federation president. The federation presidents will send these requests to me. I will send them along with their recommendations to the office of the National President.

All requests must follow the above procedure and must be received by the Office of the National President no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>. You can easily see that it is going to take time to pass your application along to the final destination. It's important that you start the process as early as possible.

The convention committees are: Ballots & Tellers, Bylaws, Credentials, Legislative, Membership, Officers Salary, Resolutions, Rules, Sergeant-at-Arms and Timekeeper. Since there are 54 federations and not very many positions to fill, it is very important to have these applications in the National office before the March 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

One other item of business that I would like to pass along is the new terminology for our members that are still working. Since we changed the name of our organization to the National Active and Retired Federal Employees, we need to start referring to those that are still working as Active Employees.

**Don Palmer, Region IX Alzheimer's Chair**, is retiring after many years of service to NARFE in that position. **Gen Boguflawski** from Chapter 1025 in the Idaho Federation is replacing him. Thank you Don for all you did to further the cause of Alzheimers Research in the Northwest.

May you have a wonderful and a happy new year.

Lanny

## Important Dates WSFC

Board Meeting	Tacoma	January 17
District I Meeting	Spokane	March 27
District III	Olympia	March 26
District IV	Port Orchard	March 11
Convention	Walla Walla	May 19 – 21

## WSFC National Legislative Chair – Natalie Leath

**NARFE NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!** While we have made progress in recruiting cosponsors for our legislation, we have members of the Washington delegation who are not yet cosponsors. NARFE members in congressional districts whose Member of Congress is not yet a cosponsor should become proactive, and take steps necessary to meet with the MOC and/or the district legislative director to persuade them to become a cosponsor and ultimately vote for passage of our legislation. Senators' Murray and Cantwell are cosponsors of S.773 and S.206.

NARFE is continuing the fight to gain repeal or modification of the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provisions of the Social Security Act (H.R. 82, S. 206). The Social Security Fairness Act of 2007 amends the Social Security Act to repeal both the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision Offsets that eliminate or significantly reduce a federal retiree's Social Security benefits.

### Status of Congressional Co-Sponsorship as of 12/20/2007

S. 773	Extend Premium Conversion Tax Benefit	58 Cosponsors	27 R	30 D	1 I
H.R. 1110	Extend Premium Conversion Tax Benefit	300 Cosponsors	119 R	181 D	
S. 206	Repeal GPO and WEP	35 Cosponsors	6 R	28 D	1 I
H. R. 82	Repeal GPO and WEP	337 Cosponsors	124 R	213 D	

### Non-Cosponsors of H.R. 82

H.R. 82	Repeal Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination	<b>Richard "Doc" Hastings</b>	R-4th
		<b>Cathy McMorris-Rodgers</b>	R-5th
		<b>Norm Dicks</b>	D-6th
		<b>Jim McDermott</b>	D-7th
		<b>Dave Reichert</b>	R-8th
		<b>Adam Smith</b>	D-9th

### Non-Cosponsors of H.R. 1110

H. R. 1110	Extend Premium Conversion Tax Benefit	<b>Jay Inslee</b>	D-1st
		<b>Brian Baird</b>	D-3rd
		<b>Cathy McMorris-Rodgers</b>	R-5th
		<b>Dave Reichert</b>	R-8th

Since 1983, the GPO has prevented retirees from collecting both their federal annuity and any Social Security benefit based on their spouse's work. Two-thirds of the amount of the **earned** civil service retirement annuity is used to offset whatever Social Security spousal or survivor benefits that might otherwise have been payable. The WEP reduces the **earned** Social Security benefit of a federal worker who also receives a government annuity based on his/her own work.

Recent data indicates approximately 401,200 Social Security beneficiaries are affected by the GPO and roughly 971,300 Social Security beneficiaries are affected by the WEP. NARFE has long led a campaign to rid the Social Security Law of the GPO and WEP provisions. "It is time for Congress to act to rid the law of these discriminatory provisions."

H. R. 1110 and S.773 legislation amends the Internal Revenue Code to permit federal civilian and military retirees to pay Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premiums and TRICARE supplemental premiums on a pretax basis (i.e., exclude premiums from gross income); and a tax deduction (available to itemizers and non-itemizers) for TRICARE supplemental premiums or enrollment fees.



On **Tuesday, November 4, 2008**, we will elect a new president and a new congress. Thirty-seven counties in Washington will vote by mail. If your name/address has changed, you must update your registration with your county elections office to make certain you receive a ballot. To locate your local county elections office, contact the Washington State Elections Division at [elections@secstate.wa.gov](mailto:elections@secstate.wa.gov) TEL: 360-902-4180 or TOLL FREE 1-800-448-4881 or 800-422-8683 TDD/TTY. **Mail:** PO Box 40229; 520 Union Avenue SE; Olympia, WA 98504-0229.

**DONATE!!!** During an election year, it is especially important that members donate to NARFE-PAC. Your donations help NARFE-PAC to provide a campaign contribution to the Members of Congress and candidates who support NARFE's legislative goals.

Natalie

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS – Sam Cagle**

The 2007 FEHBP Open Season recently concluded with chapters around the state making good use of local health fairs to pass out NARFE literature and Active Federal Employee applications. Thanks to NARFE volunteers who pitched in to help support major health fairs in key locations. These fairs are a significant means of reaching AFEs with the NARFE message. Chapters need to continue to think of ways they can participate in health fairs as well as other activities in their area.

The NARFE tabletop and pull-up “ZAP” display units are available for chapters to make use of throughout the year, at functions such as pre-retirement seminars, special chapter meetings, and presentations or booths at events that are likely to draw active federal employees, retirees or survivors. Be alert to opportunities that may be occurring in your area and contact Sam Cagle to schedule a display.

Sam also has new NARFE Mart ballpoint pens available for pre-retirement seminars and other recruiting activities. Call him at 360-456-8509 or e-mail at <mailto:caglels@comcast.net> to receive some of these items.

If you become aware of any special conventions of federal employees, such as postmaster organizations, please contact Sam Cagle so we can see about participating with a NARFE booth or presentation. We applaud the efforts of Vancouver Chapter, which is working with monthly presentations to Portland Federal Executive Board pre-retirement seminars.

Federation matching funds, along with those from the national office, can still be obtained to support approved chapter public relations and advertising activities. Details on requesting funding are on the Federation web site, [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net), in the Public Relations area.

Don't forget to take advantage of opportunities to make NARFE presentations to local groups that are likely to contain Federal employees or retirees. Samples of slide presentations or speeches are also available on the web site, or online from [caglels@comcast.net](mailto:caglels@comcast.net).

NARFE Scholarship season is on us once again. A total of sixty \$1000 scholarships will be made available nationally, six of those in the Northwest's Region IX. The scholarships are open to children, grandchildren, stepchildren and great-grandchildren of any NARFE member in good standing. All applicants must be current high school seniors, with at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Detailed information and application forms will be available in the February, March and April editions of NARFE magazine and on the NARFE web page, [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org). A number of chapters are sending copies of NARFE form F-105 “A Guide to NARFE's Annual Scholarship Awards Program” to high school counselors in January, with a cover letter. Chapters can find school address information on web sites like [www.schooltree.org](http://www.schooltree.org). Newspaper releases will be made

available shortly to Public Relations Chairs for direct placement by chapters. Be sure to carry articles on the scholarships in your chapter newsletters as well to encourage members to have their children, grandchildren, etc participate.

**Help spread the word.** There are still a substantial number of active federal employees, retirees and annuitants who have never heard of NARFE and need to be made aware of our mission and services. Two excellent recent publications from NARFE are F-122, “What Has NARFE Done for You Lately?” and F-123, “Federal Employees Pop Quiz”. The new “Vanishing Benefits” poster also helps drive home the point that earned benefits are threatened and NARFE is beneficial in keeping them intact.

### **Webmaster.**

Be sure to bookmark and make regular use of your Federation website, [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net). It contains information on NARFE activities throughout the state and provides tools for you to use in membership, legislation, and public relations programs. Through it, you can also link to chapter and other organizational sites.

Some recent additions to the Federation web site include:

- An updated listing of District Workshop dates and locations,
- Federal Legislative “recess” dates,
- Direct legislator contact links,
- Membership reports plus updates on Recruiting and Retention incentives,
- Current and past copies of the Federal Reporter in PDF format,
- Updated Washington NARFE-PAC donation information,
- A page for information from the Region IX Vice President, Lanny Ross,
- Regularly updated PowerPoint presentation that can be used when speaking to active and retired Federal Employee audiences,
- Links to chapter newsletters,
- Chapter officers, as well as meeting dates, times and locations

Chapter webmasters who are interested in linking to the Federation site should contact Sam Cagle, [caglels@comcast.net](mailto:caglels@comcast.net).

**Sam**

### **A Volunteer's Prayer**

"I thank Thee, Lord, as a volunteer  
For the chance to serve again this year,  
To give of myself in some small way,  
To those not blessed as I each day.

My thanks for health of mind and soul  
To aid me ever toward my goal,  
For eyes to see the good in all,  
A hand to extend before a fall:

For legs to go where the need is great,  
Learning to love, forgetting to hate:  
For ears to hear and heart to care  
When someone's cross is hard to bear;

A smile to show my affection true,  
With energy plenty, the task to do.  
And all I ask, dear Lord, if I may  
Is to serve You better, day by day."

Author Unknown

Thank you all for your generous contributions  
for Alzheimer's Research. May you have a  
glorious New Year. Stay warm and well.

**June Christie, WSFC Alz. Chairperson**

Here's hoping that our paths will cross often in 2008 and  
that our actions in the community will make our country  
and the world a better place! Peace! Love! And Happy  
New Year!

**Vic**

### **Invitation!**

**To the 49th Annual WSFC Convention**

**May 19, 20, & 21, 2008**

**The Historic Marcus Whitman Hotel  
and Conference Center in Walla Walla, WA.**

The very first time for us,

The very best time for you!

Wine & dine, enjoy the sunshine,

Step back into history,

Explore the Walla Walla mystery.

This convention will be great,

So we invite all of you to participate!

**NARFE is the reason,**

To be here this spring season.

So come present your resolutions,

NARFE needs your solutions.

Your help deciding our future will,

Insure your voice is heard on Capital Hill.

So much better we will all be,

Together making NARFE history.

Conference Hotel lodging at the Government Rate of  
\$70 plus tax will also include a "Hot & Healthy" breakfast  
buffet. Within four blocks of the Hotel, there are 25  
Eateries and 11 Wine Tasting Rooms.

**Walla Walla Chapter 0237**

### **SECRETARY – Vic Rohret**

Hello NARFE Family!

The last few months have been busy ones for me as  
Secretary with updating new officers in our directory and  
planning for the 2008 Convention in Walla Walla.

I want to encourage everyone to become more familiar  
with our National WebSite: <http://www.narfe.org> and with  
our own Washington State WebSite:  
<http://www.narfewa.net>

These are both important sources of information of  
legislative news and state happenings. I personally try to  
check each one weekly for new information and I  
encourage everyone else to do so.

The Walla Walla Convention (May 19-21) promises to be  
one of our finest and well worth a trip down to that sunny  
section of the state! I hope to see most of you there!

Dues for active employees have gone up slightly as of  
Jan 1 but the membership is still a bargain! Spread the  
word among your federal acquaintances of the value of  
belonging. Make it a point to bring up the NARFE word  
in conversations and you will be surprised at the interest  
it raises!

### **NARFE/FEEA Disaster Fund**

It seems like there are more forest fires, floods,  
windstorms and other natural disasters every year. Many  
of these are occurring closer to home and sometimes  
affect active or retired federal employees. Every issue of  
"NARFE" magazine has a contribution form for the  
NARFE/FEEA Disaster Fund. Please check it out in your  
current magazine.

**Bob Deurbrouck, Treasurer Chapter 196**

## **DISTRICT I VP – Bob Elmore**

### **Spokane Chapter 32:**

1. Voted to do the 2011 convention in Spokane with the possibility of help from the Colville Chapter.
2. Participated in a PR activity for NARFE with Spokane PBS Station on December 8. 14 people answered phones, to raise \$22,000 for the station while receiving free NARFE advertising.
3. In the Recruiter Journal, Chapter 32 was listed on top of all chapters in the United States.
4. I've arranged for our annual workshop meeting to be on March 27, 2008 at the Spokane Community College from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. This year we will train new and old officers for the chapter, especially those people who might want to be officers but do not know what the expectations for the office might be. I am hoping for a good turn-out.

### **Colville Chapter 1247:**

On September 4, 2007, we discussed the NARFE 2008 State Convention in Walla Walla. I will be going back to Chapter 1247 to install new officers on January 8, 2008.

### **Walla Walla Chapter 237**

A planning meeting was held with the 2008 Convention committee which I attended with our president, Dale Brighton, followed by their regular chapter meeting.

Chapter 237 has been working very hard for the last year to make the 2008 convention a great one. Because they are a small chapter, we want to give them our total support so that we can have a great convention in Walla Walla.

**Bob**

## **DISTRICT II VP – Richard Wilson**

Greetings and Happy New Year to everyone! I hope your holiday season was great and you celebrated to the "Max!"

Now it is time to get back to the business of NARFE. I believe we need to aggressively address our membership issue. Overall, Membership continues to decline. Although, during the month of December 2007, The State Federation had a gain of 98 new members and there were 87 members lost. Over 190 second notices were sent out. This is where I think we can help our membership. Chapter Membership Chairs need to contact these folks. Their names and telephone numbers (in most cases) are available via the NARFE Report M-112. Another important area we all can address is talking about dues withholding through the allotment system via the Office of Personnel Management. Dues could be \$2.75 per month instead of one big hit of \$33.00 once a year. You'll find this option in the new membership incentive program as well. Congratulations to Membership Chair John Cornette and the committee he assembled for our new membership incentive program.

Next, we all need to be our organization's best spokespeople with our Members of Congress and Senators. We need to let them know how economically important it is for us as retirees to get on with passing our two most important pieces of legislation, namely, Premium Conversion (HR 1110 and S 773) and to repeal the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision (HR 82 and S 206). Make it a point to write (email is great too!) AND call them asking for their support and to move the legislation along to passage as soon as you read this article.

I have visited each of my seven chapters since the beginning of the fiscal year and some twice. I am still working on a venue for the District II Annual Workshop. I do plan to hold it during the week of March 10, 2008. In visiting the District II Chapters, I have found generally the same people attend the meetings and with some minor exception those serving in chapter officer positions continue to serve in those positions as nobody is willing to step forward and take on that role. Yes, chapter officer positions do require some work and time, but I do not think it requires the amount of time some anticipate and therefore refrain from stepping up to the plate. I am always amazed at how many good people come to meetings and participate in their chapter meetings.

I want to wish you all the best 2008 has to offer. Let's all be healthy, happy, wise, informed, and vigilant (regarding our retirements).

**Rich**

## **DISTRICT III VP – Autie Bergman**

The District III Workshop will be held at the Capital Place Community Retirement Living Center, 700 Black Lake Blvd. in Olympia, WA on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Autie**

## DISTRICT IV VP – William Powers

I have scheduled our annual District IV Workshop for March 11<sup>th</sup>, in Port Orchard. It will be held at the Port Orchard Eagles, 4001 Jackson Avenue. It is being held at the same time as the Port Orchard Chapter 888 regular meeting, so we will have a good turnout. The meeting will be “Pot Luck” but be reassured that there will be plenty of food if you do not want to bring anything. We will be accepting donations to cover the added costs for the district workshop, morning doughnuts, and coffee.

For the workshop I have invited, Clark Mather, our District Director for Norm Dicks Tacoma office. Also for the workshop, we will have a critique of our district website, <http://www.narfewadist4.org>. Our site will have been active for one year and we should be getting some ideas from problems or ways to improve the website. The Port Orchard Eagles has wireless internet access so we will be able to pick up our website and go over any area that people want to discuss.

Rex Tauscher, our State Treasurer, will give a session on his proposed per-capita change he wants passed at May’s State Convention in Walla Walla. Another workshop item will be on suggestions for speakers at our chapter meetings. Also, with some help, we plan on covering the differences between the CSRS and FERS retirement systems now that some FERS employees are actually retiring.

For district news, we submitted a thank you letter to Norm Dicks Bremerton office signed by most everyone at the Bremerton Chapter 181 November Health Care Fair. Norm Dicks recently signed on as a cosponsor for Premium Conversion legislation.

Poulsbo Chapter, 881, has been having trouble getting members to their monthly meetings so they will switch to quarterly meetings, send out postcard notices of the meeting, and telephone tree their normal attendees.

I installed 2008 officers for Poulsbo Chapter 881, Port Orchard Chapter 888, and Olympic Peninsula Chapter 1006. Chapter 1006 has a new president, Albert Burge. Bremerton Chapter 181 has a new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Amber VanSantford. She was the co-chair of the 2007 State Convention and is taking over my old spot.

**Bill**

## DISTRICT V VP – Carl Gallion

As you read this, it will be the New Years and so I extend my sincere Best Wishes to everyone for a prosperous and “healthy” 2008. I’m sure an enjoyable Holiday Season was tops on everyone’s Santa-List and you are anxiously trying to shed those extra pounds that you acquired while benefiting from your celebrating.

This past Fall was a special time for me. I visited each of the active chapters in my district and continue to extend written, internet as well as phone communications with our members in the Okanogan area. And speaking of

Chapter # 1157, I’m pleased to report that every member I’ve talked to still wants to remain a member of NARFE!!!! They see the great value of our combined “clout” to influence our Congressional delegations. They may be scattered in many remote miles but they remain a valuable part of our Federation. Chapter closure seems to be a very long, drawn-out process that I hope to complete as soon as possible...with the members all transferred to other chapters.

And a word is due here of sincere “congratulations” to each of our chapters who participated in the Fall Health Fairs. Each of you devoted lots of time and effort to publicize our organization and its value. I know you were all as gratified as I was to mingle with “active” Federal workers to tell them of the reason they need NARFE-membership. We (in Chapter # 1192) gained several new members, most on a 3 year commitment.

Each chapter held elections and I’m proud to report I officiated in installing new officers in the Wenatchee as well as the Tri-Cities Chapters. Both held excellent December meetings with lots of festivities. Yakima and Ephrata chapters also continue to have strong leadership and I’ll visit them again in the Spring.

I continue to provide what assistance I can to the Walla Walla chapter...in their final plans for our 2008 WSFC Convention. Some of the events that they have shared with me should present an “outstanding show-case” of this city and region. Please don’t miss this!!!

District V Spring Workshop is still in the planning stages and I expect to hold it in April.

**Carl**

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE – Quotes by Albert Schweitzer

“Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate.”

“Example is not the main thing in influencing others. It is the only thing.”

“Do something wonderful. People may imitate it.”

“You must give some time to your fellow men. Even if it’s a little thing, do something for others, something for which you get no pay but the privilege of doing it.”

**Editor’s comment** – Could that something be volunteering as a leader for NARFE?

Dr. Schweitzer built hospitals in Africa, wrote books on theology and philosophy and was award the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1952.

## TREASURER REPORT- Rex Tauscher

Per Capita Tax for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is due no later than 29 February. All chapter treasurers should go over the procedures with any new incoming treasurers if possible.

I mentioned last quarter about the new requirement from the IRS for all nonprofit organizations submittal of form 990-N. I did include some information along with your 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter per capita tax receipts. Additional information was also provided by NARFE National in the Quarterly News dated October 2007. The following information is provided to assist you with meeting these requirements;

1. How do you find out your Tax Identification Number (TIN) or (EIN)?  
If you have a chapter bank account this number should have been used on account opening. Your bank will provide the number to you if you are on the account. Also, if you have submitted an IRS form, the number was used to identify your return form.
2. If your chapter has not received an information letter from the IRS about the requirement for the 990-N reporting form the following may apply. The IRS sent letters to the address listed on your original or revised EIN request form and to the individual submitting the request. Note that if your chapter has changed its name or address since receiving your EIN you must submit Form 8832, Change of Address.
3. If you misplaced your EIN and the above actions failed to locate it, you may contact the IRS by calling Business & Special Tax Line at (800)-829-4933 between 7:00 a.m.- 10:00 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday. An assistor will ask you for identifying information and provide the number to you over the phone, as long as you are authorized to receive it.

### WSFC Treasurers Net Worth Report

1 July 2007	\$36,314.52
30 November 2007	
<u>\$41,738.29</u>	
Increase in Net Worth	\$5,423.77
Income for period 1 July 2007 to 31 November 2007	
10% Fund	\$9,421.73
Per Capita Tax	\$6,166.64
Other Income	\$299.02
Interest Income	<u>\$585.01</u>
Total Income	\$16,472.40

### Expenditures for period 1 July 2007 to 30 November 2007

Total Expenditures	\$11,048.63
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## Raffles conducted at NARFE meetings:

Many chapters conduct raffles at their General meetings, District meetings, and conventions. The State of Washington "Gambling Commission" has specific requirements for conducting raffles. Most of our raffles are designated as "Members only raffles" but do require some minimal record keeping in case you are audited by the state. New laws and regulations are being prepared at this time with an expected issue date of January 2008. These laws are currently located at <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC> WAC 230-11 series is applicable to raffles. Current guidelines require the following records be taken and maintained when conducting "Members Only Raffles; Note that you are not required to obtain a license if your annual gross income from raffles is less than \$5,000.00;

- A. Record Keeping; (WAC 230-11-095)
  1. Gross receipts; (Starting and Ending ticket numbers from consecutive ticket roll for total tickets sold)
  2. Prizes paid; (If 50-50 format separate and indicate number of members paid)
  3. Net income (amount retained in operating account)
  4. Documentation of expenses; (example ticket expense)
  5. Documentation of how the proceeds were used. (operating account, Alzheimer's fund, relief fund, scholarship fund.)
- B. Retain and store raffle records; (WAC 230-11-105)
  1. Unlicensed raffles must be kept for one (1) year following the date of the raffle drawing.
  2. Records must be kept at the main administrative or business office of the organization.
- C. Limit number of guests for members-only raffles; (WAC 230-11-075)
  1. The total number of guests participating in a raffle must not exceed twenty-five percent of the total attendance of the meeting.
  2. The organization must maintain records to show compliance with this requirement. (Meeting attendance sheet should satisfy this requirement)
- D. Post rules of play for members-only raffles; (WAC 230-11-080)
  1. Organization must post a sign at point where they sell tickets to provide participants with all rules of play .

**Rex**

## EVERGREEN CHAPTER 1801

On Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, the Evergreen Chapter 1801 became the third NARFE chapter on the west side to hold a chapter meeting for Current Federal Employees (CFEs). The other two were Tacoma and Bremerton and both had very low turnouts . . . and Tacoma tried it three times. We had a really good agenda with four speakers and sent out over 60 invitations to current and former CFE members of the chapter and we even asked them to invite their fellow co-workers. In spite of that, only two CFEs showed up at the meeting, which was disappointing, but not surprising given the results of the Tacoma and Bremerton Chapter meetings.

It takes a lot of effort (in terms of time and expense) to put one of these meetings on and we made it clear that this meeting was on a “test basis”. Since it is clear that the CFEs are not willing to make the effort to come to the meeting, we will not be doing it again . . . but we tried.

**Gary Robertson**

## TACOMA CHAPTER 163 --Paul Shell

The Tacoma chapter decided to try at least one CFE meeting per year for three years, on a trial basis. The Olympia chapter was invited to participate and they did. Night meetings were ruled out as most of our regulars said they would not attend, so Saturday was it.

In 2005, we tried twice – in May and in September. Results were terrible. At both meetings we had 18 people with only 1 CFE. We invited Congressional/Senatorial aids as speakers but no special advertising beyond our newsletter.

In September 2006, we did a lot of work including post cards to all of the CFEs in Olympia, Tacoma and Puyallup chapters’ roster. We invited staff from three congressional districts and the senators to discuss NARFE and related issues. Turn out was better: 56 total with 5 CFEs.

The September, 2007, meeting was on a different key. We had representatives from Congressmen Dicks and Smith, AFGC President at VAMC American Lake and Regional VP Lanny Ross. The program was designed as a town hall format with 4 major issues that concerned both CFEs and retirees. Advertisement was massive. Posters were sent out to all of the agencies that we and Olympia have contact with as well as nearby NARFE chapters; updates in our newsletter; postcards to all CFEs in the Tacoma and Olympia database; and, a few speaking engagements. The results: 37 total with 1 CFE (not counting our speakers). After discussion with our Board, knowing we get between 30-40 people on average at a regular day meeting, we decided that the cost and effort required to pull off a Saturday meeting was not worth it.

We are trying a new way to get in touch with our CFEs: interim newsletters directed at all those who have email and attend our regular meetings – which I suspect are

mostly CFEs that have email. Expected cost will be minimal. Effort will be much less than the Saturday meetings once the template is made. Now we need more email addresses beyond our current roster. Hopefully the list will grow. This is a test, also, but plans are a-foot to expand more into the digital world. If any of you want to be on the roster, please let me know by e-mail: pshell@aol.com.

**Paul**

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Ray Weinmann

It is not too early to think about running for Federation Offices. If you are interested, you can contact any of the Nominating Committee to submit your name and which office (Pres., VP, Secretary or Treas.) you would like to be considered for. Elections will be held at the May Federation Convention.

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**Ray**

## EDITOR—Dave Seesholtz

This is the most difficult issue of the “**Federal Reporter**” to mail out to the leadership of the WSFC. Some of you are switching to different positions or stepping away from being an officer or committee chair. Hopefully, there are a lot of new members taking on these positions vacated. My problem is that at this early time of the chapter new year I don’t have all the changes.

The solution for this first issue of the year is for those of you who are stepping down to pass this issue of the “Federal Reporter” to the person that is replacing you. Perhaps the longer-term solution may be to put the first issue of the year out in February to provide more time for this information to evolve. Thanks for putting up with this inconvenience.

In addition to being the editor of this newsletter, I’m the editor of the **Vancouver Chapter 131 NARFE News**. I’ve always felt that the newsletter was extremely important to provide information to the 90% of our members who do not wish to attend meetings. We have a dedicated group that gets together each month to fold, label and mail out about 650 newsletters.

For years we’ve been using an antique folding machine to help with this task. The problem is that it does not do a good job of folding and the group spends most of its time tightening the folds. It also makes fans out of a large number of our newsletters.

Last month we asked our members to donate toward a new folding machine. We were overwhelmed by the response. It was a “feel good” experience to know people who don’t attend meetings are willing to contribute to keep the newsletter coming.

**Dave**

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