

The Federal Reporter



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

April, May, June 2010

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Washington State Federation of Chapters
Federal Reporter
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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

Washington Federation of Chapters

www.narfewa.net

From the WSFC President, Sandy Cagle



It is hard to believe that the WSFC State Convention is just around the corner. I attended several convention committee meetings and can report they have done an outstanding job of planning and preparing for this convention. I hope their efforts are rewarded with a good turn out.

Since this newsletter will arrive just before the convention, I want to encourage you to go to the www.NARFEWA.net web site and review the proposed bylaws revision and new standing rules as well as two other bylaw proposals that are posted there. Each chapter was sent advanced copies for discussion at your chapter meetings.

Besides the business portion of convention, training sessions will be offered as well. Take advantage of this great opportunity to learn more about; using recruiting techniques and PR for results, the responsibilities of leadership positions and chapter operations, preparing for effective meetings with elected Congressional members, and improving your use of the NARFE.org web site for reports and communication. Titles and descriptions of those sessions are also on the NARFEWA.net web site.

The Federation's responsibilities include assisting and keeping chapters informed through effective communication. Effective communication must include providing and receiving information through electronic methods. I recently read an excellent article from another Federation President who challenged his Federation to move into the 21st Century through the use of electronic communication and by conducting their business meetings using electronic meetings, such as "Go-to-Meeting".

We still have many members and even some chapter leaders without computers or who are reluctant to use them, but I also know they don't want to be left out of the loop. To make sure no one is left out, I would challenge every chapter president and secretary to have computer access and use it in a timely manner or – if they don't, then designate a member with access to retrieve and pass on the information as quickly as possible. Most of the District Vice Presidents are already making sure that chapters receive valuable information via emails. As Federation leaders, it is also our responsibility to make sure that information gets to every member in the fastest method available to ensure good communication. The NARFE Legislative Action Hotlines, GEMS messages, and news releases are examples of how rapidly information comes to us that

should be shared with every member and at every chapter meeting. Think about having, at your meetings, a "What's new from NARFE" to communicate the information from those sources.

President Obama has established an Entitlement Commission that will look hard at areas that could seriously impact us over the next few months. More than ever, we will need the most current NARFE information available, as well as, our position so we can communicate quickly with our congressional delegate on issues that threaten our benefits. Now is the time to communication in the electronic era of the 21st century.

To quote the article, "We need NARFE and NARFE needs us". Let's move into this era accepting change and make it work for us."

Sandy

PHIL GLEN, PAST WSFC PRESIDENT



Past WSFC President Phil Glen passed away last month. He worked his federal service career for the Seattle Post office. He was very active in NARFE for many years. He was Seattle Chapter #42 President from 1988 to 1993 and again in 2005 & 2006.

He served as WSFC President from 1994 to 1996 and also as Treasurer from 1992-1994. He is survived by his wife Martha. She can be reached at Martha Glenn, 6609 S 131st Street, Seattle, WA 98178.

JULIA FRYAR, PAST WSFC SECRETARY



Julia FRYAR, Past President of Yakima Valley Chapter #238 passed away from kidney failure on March 17th. She was born in 1927 at Pittsburg, KS and was mother to 3 sons and 6 daughters. During WW II she worked at the Boeing Plant in Wichita. About 1967 she took a job with the US postal Service in Yakima. Over the next 20 years she worked her way from clerk sorter to station supervisor (the first woman Supervisor).

Julia was very active in NARFE. She served the WSFC as Secretary from 1992 to 1998. She was Chapter president for many years. Please send condolences to Vic Rohret, acting chapter president at P.O. Box 1, Naches, WA 98937 and he will share them with the family.

VICE PRESIDENT – Richard Wilson



It's already time for the 2010 Federation Convention. There is much to be covered at this year's convention. There are major revisions proposed for the Federation's By Laws.

I have been busy during the past year. I have installed officers for Everett Chapter #193 and North

Cascades Chapter #196 at their joint meeting in December. I visited Wenatchee in March to discuss a new way to produce and mail their chapter newsletter. I also attended the District II and District V Workshops, making presentations at each. I continue to support the Retention Attention Program Sandy Cagle developed earlier in 2009. I have a supply of postcards for the Retention Attention Program should any chapter require a replenishment of them. With WSFC Secretary Paul Shell, I'll be making a presentation in one of the four workshops offered at the WSFC Convention.

I offer my services to assist any chapter in converting their newsletter to a more automated method of producing and mailing their newsletter. Basically it boils down to making their M-114 database compatible with US Postal Service Automation Standards. This goes a long way to ensure that the mail you're paying money to produce and mail is actually delivered. I'd be happy to talk to any chapter about this. Simply, either write me at narfe1404@comcast.net or call me at 253-210-5609 (home). Lastly, I'll be developing a postcard in the near future for chapters to use in welcoming new members to their chapter.

NARFE PAC (NARFE Political Action Committee) plays an important role for NARFE. Our politicians remember who provides them with funds for their re-election campaigns. While I don't have the exact amount of funds going to Washington State Members of Congress and Senators, I do know there is a current request by Senator Patty Murray for \$5,000.00. NARFE PAC donations are necessary and should be supported by every NARFE Member. Recently NARFE HQ sent all active members a request for NARFE PAC funds. I hope many of you made a contribution as I did.

I hope you enjoy the Washington State Federation of Chapters 2010 Convention.

Rich

SECRETARY – Paul Shell



I am hoping that the days of loads of paper are fading. The time and energy of the paper chase is not what the future holds. We must rely on computers and come into the 21st Century. That's where most of the AFEs are. That's where we must be if we have any chance at all at recruiting their help to keep our organization alive.

It is a continuous battle to recruit and retain members, officers and committee chairs. We should be using that energy for our main reason for being: lobbying for the Federal employee and retiree.

How do we do this? I don't rightly know. But I do believe we can streamline our current way of doing business, delve into the realm of the AFE and use the savings of energy, time and money for promotion of our political agenda.

Can we have business as usual? Can we just say it didn't work in the past? We've got to get serious, as our benefits will be under attack more and more as time goes on.

Are you actively promoting our agenda to our representatives in the Senate and House? Are you telling your members what is going on and urging them to act? Are you getting out and talking to the AFEs in your area?

Will you join me in this effort? Let me know what is working or not working for your chapter. Maybe we can start a blog to share ideas or some other modern ideas.

Paul Shell

DISTRICT I VP – Bob Elmore

Spokane Chapter #32 celebrated its 60th anniversary on March 8, 2010. Our chapter historian, Mari Sullivan, gave an overview of the chapter's history. Mari shared the following: In 1950 in Spokane a few retirees decided to form a chapter and on March 20, 1950 a charter was issued to the 32nd chapter in the nation. There were 17 petitioners, all males except for one woman. Spokane was the first chapter in Washington State. Helping to cut and serve the cake were five past presidents: Lois Pace, Bob Elmore, Art Hathaway, Jean Flechel and John Monteith.

Chapter #32 will host the State Convention in 2011 at Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley. The room rates are \$83.00 plus tax. The dates are May 16th and 17th. We will have a table at the Everett convention.

Walla Walla Chapter has a new treasurer and our Workshop on April 17th will elect a new District I Vice President. I will be stepping down as I will be running for State Vice President in the up and coming election at the State Convention.

Bob

DISTRICT II VP – Quentin Gates

NARFE – Working All Year Long!

As many Washington Federation Chapters wind down their meeting schedules for the summer months, it's important to remember that NARFE must keep on working. Some Congressional leaders have their eyes on the earned benefits of active and retired federal employees, annuitants and survivors. They see those benefits as targets for their budget axes. It is especially important during these times of economic turmoil to be vigilant... to keep our NARFE guard up. There are two ways to do that.

First... with Money. NARFE PAC funds help keep legislators informed and support those legislators who will fight to maintain our earned benefits. Also, your dues fund the important work that our national NARFE staff does on our behalf in Washington.

Don't let your membership lapse – **Do** ask your spouse to join NARFE, too. Even if you and your spouse aren't active in your local chapter, the few dollars you pay in dues buys excellent insurance protection for your benefits. The District II Workshop in April featured a special session on encouraging dual memberships.

Second... with Numbers. When our national officers testify before Congress on our behalf, those legislators are as impressed with the number of members NARFE represents as they are with any arguments made in those committee rooms. Further, letting your congressional representatives hear from you directly carries great weight when they consider

new legislation. Your voice is a vote!

So don't take the summer off... not this year. Even though your chapter may not meet until fall, there are simple things you can do all year long to help yourself and your fellow federal workers and retirees.

Quentin

DISTRICT III VP -- Bonnie Seesholtz

I was able to visit all of my chapters this year. In November I attended Longview/Kelso Chapter #1070's meeting. December took me to Tacoma Chapter #163 for their Christmas Potluck and I was able to install their officers for 2010. January found me at Olympia-Timberland Chapter #236 where I had the privilege of installing their officers also.

I also attended the 3 Executive Board meetings (2 in Tacoma and 1 in Everett).

The fall brought a lot of attention to the national "NARFE DUES" voting and I was able to keep in touch with all the chapters as to their progress and votes by telephone. Happily I can report that my District voted heavily in favor of the amendment.

The District III Workshop was held in Vancouver on April 14th. Speakers were:

- Pat Jollotta – Stories of the Early Days In Vancouver, WA
- A Representative from Patty Murray's Office – Legislative issues of importance to NARFE
- Lanny Ross – Region IX Vice-President
- Sam Cagle – Public Relations
- John Cornette – Membership
- Natalie Leath & Sandy Cagle – Revised By-Laws and Standing Rules
- And of course the nomination and election of the District III VP for 2010-2011.

All in all, I'm pleased with how our year went and I have learned a lot by being one of the District Vice Presidents.

Bonnie

DISTRICT IV VP – William Powers

Our District IV Workshop was held in conjunction with Bremerton's Chapter #181 regular meeting on March 8th. We had 36 paid attendees. Their \$12.50 fee covered the handout, luncheon, pastries, and coffee. We had over sixty members present for Kristine Reeves', Patty Murray's Kitsap & Olympic Peninsula Director, presentation as our guest speaker. "Health Care" questions were her "hot topic." Lanny Ross, Ralph Sanders (our District IV membership chair), George (Sam) Sevier, Rex Tauscher, and I were also speakers. Emphasis was placed on "Retention Attention". I reported on our "Kitsap Bus" advertisement, see photograph. I was re-elected for

2010-2011. We finished the meeting with a presentation from US Census by Eric Davenport, Seattle Regional Census Center, titled, "It's Easy – It's Safe – It's Important".

Due to the lack of display time within popular Bremerton routes of our two queen bus advertisements, I requested, and the advertising agency granted, three additional months of exposure within popular Bremerton routes at no extra cost. Below is a picture of a bus dropping off its last shipyard workers at our *Westpark* transfer station before heading back to the barn.



We are already making plans for our 2011 District Workshop. Our District IV Service Officer, Ralph Angulo (a retired IRS lawyer), will be giving a workshop on the new computer download version of the F-100 report, "Be Prepared For Life's Events". The hard copy of this new version is twenty pages long.

Bill

DISTRICT V VP Acting – Vic Rohret

CARL GALLION, our District V Area Vice President, is still laid up in a convalescent facility in the Tri Cities. He was waiting for a hip Re-replacement when a staph infection was discovered. Carl sends his greetings and hopes to be up and around by the end of summer! He can be reached on his cell at 509-539-9179.

JULIA FRYAR passed away on 3/17/10. She was very active in NARFE and NAPS and also attended many postmaster conventions. She was my supervisor at the Yakima Post Office when I first started there as well as one of the people who brought me into NARFE. Julia was well known by many of the old-time postal employees as one of the **GOOD** supervisors! She was Federation Secretary for several years as well as Chapter #238 President until the doctor told her to step down. Julia will certainly be missed.

District V Workshop will be on Friday April 23rd at the Yakima Red Lion Inn from 9 AM to 3 PM. This is a

great chance to meet with the other chapter members from Wenatchee, Tri Cities, Yakima and Ephrata! The agenda will include an update on recent NARFE accomplishments, our impact in the political process, communications both inside and outside our chapters, a By-Laws update explained and more.

Federation President Sandra Cagle and Vice-President Rich Wilson will be in attendance. The Luncheon speaker will be Rebecca Thornton from Senator Patty Murray's office to speak on recent legislation that affects us all. Our afternoon speaker is not yet confirmed but we hope to have an officer from the Yakima Gang Unit to speak on Gangs and Graffiti.

Vic

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Al Driemeier

Before I start let me say I'm writing this article on the perfect day. April Fools Day.

As you know the Legislature has been in a special session now for about two weeks. They are trying to resolve a \$2.8 billion dollar shortfall.

First, the Legislature is attempting to come up with \$800 million in additional income. Of course this will call for a Tax Increase. The question is, will they rob, sorry... tax, Peter or Paul? The House would like to increase taxes on bank mortgage interest earnings, custom software and end a tax exemption for out-of-state shoppers in border counties. The Senate would like to raise the sales tax, temporarily of course, by 0.2 percent which would end in June 2013. Of course neither one has enough votes to pass the others idea. So, on April Fools Day there is a big stymie.

Plus, obviously, \$2 billion dollars of cuts are required. I'm sure there are programs that could be eliminated entirely and not missed. There are some programs that shouldn't be cut at all. However, don't be surprised that our brave legislature will just take the easy road and cut every program the same. So, if you have a program that is important to you call your Senator or Representative and tell them to leave it alone.

Enough BS. If you would like to see what bills have been signed by the Governor go to her website at <http://www.governor.wa.gov/default.asp> If you would like to find the status of any bill you're interested in, there is a link there that will take you to the Legislative website and you will be able to find it.

That's about it. Wish I could say Aprils Fool but I can't.

Al

TREASURERS REPORT – Rex Tauscher



The 4th quarter per capita taxes were due prior to our state convention. Payments were all made prior to 1 March 2010. Note: The determination of the number of voting members for each chapter and delegate strength of your chapters has been sent out by our Federation Secretary.

Your IRS form 990-N, for the 2009 tax year are due again with a due date of 15 May 2010. Review of the following IRS web site; www.irs.gov/app/ePostcard/searchFromResults.do, shows four chapters have already submitting their 2009 forms. An additional note to all chapters please include with your next years submittal your alternate/other name following the block for your legal name which is "NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION".

Other name could be "NARFE Chapter #1701"; "NARFE Olympia-Timberland Chapter #236", or "Walla Walla Chapter #0237 of NARFE". By adding this alternate name the identification helps identify your chapter entry has been completed. Note: if you do not file the Form 990-N or a 990 EZ for 2009 the IRS will drop you from the nonprofit organization data base.

Washington State corporation filing: There is a new online filing as of 11 February 2010 that simplifies your filing procedure. Only 9 chapters in the state are/were registered as incorporated within the state. I plan to have handouts at the convention and hope to speak on the subject during a training session at the convention, or you can speak with me at anytime on the subject.

Please note that all mail sent to the WSFC Treasurer should be mailed to REX TAUSCHER, WSFC-NARFE, Treasurer, PO Box 5025, BREMERTON, WA. 98312-0462. This is not my home mailing address, but NARFE Chapter #181, Bremerton post office box. Mail sent to my home address is subject to loss due to remote location and frequent removal of items by parties unknown. New postal employees have recently returned mail to individuals even though they have been correctly addressed, so if returned please resubmit.

WSFC Treasurers Net Worth Report

30 June 2005	\$26,887.89
31 March 2006	\$34,906.12
31 March 2007	\$40,402.83
31 March 2008	\$48,324.46
31 March 2009	\$41,263.71
31 March 2010	
Checking	\$14,415.04
Savings	\$104.91
Certificates of Deposit	\$32,876.31
Total Net worth 3/31/2010	\$47,396.26

ITEMS OF FINANCIAL CONCERN

OPERATING FUNDS FOR THE FEDERATION COME FROM THREE SOURCES;

- 10% FUND
- PER CAPITA TAXES FROM CHAPTERS
- NATIONAL MATCHING FUNDS

The funds received from the 10% and Per Capita Taxes are all based on voting members dues payments. Our Washington State NARFE membership continues to drop from **9,016 in 2006** to **8,124 in 2010**, a 892 member decrease. Even though we have been holding our membership level for the last several months we still have a lot of recruiting and retention to do to establish a needed increase in members. The decrease in membership has an impact on our budget for the coming years.

Rex

MEMBERSHIP- John Cornette

The WSFC Executive Board has dropped the Gift membership Rebate for Campaign 2010/2011.

A tasker is being sent out to Chapter Membership Chairs (or to Chapter Presidents for Chapters without a Membership Chair/email), requesting that M-112S monthly dropped members and second notice recipients be contacted by phone each month. This presents an opportunity in addition to Attention: Retention to attempt to reinstate/renew members. And to correct any member data that is incorrect on the national files, plus to gain GEMS users.

WSFC membership statistics for the period 1 May 2009 through 1 March 2010 are as follows.

Month	Total Voting Members	New Members	Reinstatements	New Prospects	Deceased	Members Dropped
Mar 2010	8123	28	16	3	38	87
Feb 2010	8180	62	25	32	20	69
Jan 2010	8175	91	15	47	18	53
Dec 2009	8137	73	19	0	20	52
Nov 2009	8120	82	23	4	28	78
Oct 2009	8102	18	24	4	26	99
Sep 2009	8172	23	25	11	12	100
Aug 2009	8236	18	24	15	26	58
Jul 2009	8266	35	27	15	18	71
Jun 2009	8296	90	26	70	22	81
May 2009	8271	100	30	20	24	72
TOT/CHG	-148	620	254	221	252	830

The February-March period is generally one of the worst periods of the year for Chapter statistics, the other traditionally being in the September-October period. Better times usually arrive with April-June, so don't despair.

Again, repeating an earlier statement: **Attention: Retention postcards** are available on Chapter request to Rich Wilson. Reimbursement of postcard mailing expense is open to all Chapters, upon submittal of an expense statement to Rex Tauscher. The widest usage of these postcards is encouraged.

John

PUBLIC RELATIONS – Sam Cagle

Scholarship Program. Is your chapter including anything in your newsletter or in your discussions with or presentations to federal employee groups to promote the Scholarship program to their members? The application deadline is April 30.

Building Chapter PR teams:

- At this point, out of our 22 chapters, only 15 have PR chairs, and only 9 of those have e-mail (and 4 of those are on the Federation board).

- Chapters without PR chairs are Seattle #43, Northwest Cascades #196, Poulsbo #881, Olympic Peninsula #1006, Longview/Kelso #1070, Tri-Cities #1192, and Evergreen #1801.
- Every chapter is encouraged to designate a PR chair that we can work with. Hopefully, these individuals would have e-mail access.
- I will be sending messages to chapter presidents, encouraging them to designate PR chairs, with e-

mail capability and discussing this at the District I, District II and District III workshops and at the WSFC convention.

- In the meantime, if there are people in the Districts who are interested in doing public relations work on a district or federation level, please let me know.

Postal Conventions and Special Events

- WSFC representatives will be present at four postal conventions in Washington State this spring and summer. They are:
 - National League of Postmasters WA/ID – April 16-19, Spokane Valley Quality Inn Value Suites. (Autie Bergman)
 - NAPS (Northwest Area – AK, ID, MT, OR, WA) – May 14-15, Yakima. (Vic Rohret)
 - NAPUS WA Chapter – June 25-27, Spokane Mirabeau Park Hotel. (TBD)
 - In addition, the NARFE national office will have representatives at a booth for the Rural Carriers national convention in Spokane on Aug 17-20. (John Clements and Dave Snell)
- WSFC Public Affairs will be providing displays and presentation items for these conventions, as well as possible PR funding.
- During the April – June time frame, a number of organizations, particularly those focused on government employees, and communities will be conducting events where a NARFE presence could be appropriate. If you become aware of any of these, please let me know.

Presentation items:

We have 100 NARFE pens on hand and have ordered 1,000 more from a local provider, and are requesting matching funds from NARFE. District VPs and chapter presidents can obtain some of these by contacting me at caglels@comcast.net. In the meantime, we will be looking at other possible items to reinforce our NARFE message.

Getting ready to support a special event:

This is an excellent time for chapters to review the stock of materials that they currently have on hand, make sure that they don't have outdated publications, and order new ones to meet their anticipated recruiting and PR needs. Remember, it typically takes three weeks to a month to fill an order.

So what do you order and how do you do it?

Call NARFE at 1-800-627-3394. Tell them that you will be working a special event, so you need X number of event kits. These will include a large envelope with a current copy of the NARFE magazine, a letter from

President Baptiste, a Legislative Accomplishments card (form F-117) and an application form, H-140A.

In addition, you need to order either during this phone call or online at NARFE.ORG (in the Leadership area, under Forms (F-18A), the following:

- F-123 – Pop Quiz
- F-126 – 10 Worst Mistakes Federal Employees Can Make
- F-127 – 10 Worst Mistakes Federal Retirees Can Make
- M-2 – Prospect Information Cards
- L-1 – Understanding GPO/WEF
- F-106 – Premium Conversion Brochure.

They will ship these to you by UPS Ground. Once they arrive, you will need to have a packet stuffing party. Here's how:

First, pull the Application Form out of the packet. Print out a couple of sheets of return address labels with your member number and chapter number on it. For example, mine would show ("10456262 236"). Paste the label on the line of the application that calls for the recruiter number and chapter number. You can do it without the label, but you might suffer hand cramps...plus you and the chapter get credit for any new members that sign up (and you or the chapter get an \$8 recruiter check).

I then line up the forms on the counter (Pop Quiz, 10 Worst-Employees, 10 Worst-Retirees, Legislative Accomplishments, GPO/WEF, Premium Conversion, and Application Form in that order), stuff the envelopes, then you will almost be ready. (I have found that the NARFE tote bags are pretty handy for carrying bundles (about 20 packets per bag).

You can use any completed packets that aren't passed out at the event at other chapter recruiting efforts over the next year.

Webmaster:

All of the 2010 Convention letters, promotion and forms are now on the NARFEWA.NET web site in both Word and PDF formats so chapters and members can access them. We are also adding descriptions of the Convention breakout workshops. This should be a step up from the "paper copies only" approach. Updated Chapter information according to the latest Federation directory is on the web site. Please let me know if there are any changes necessary.

The NARFE Recruiting presentation continues to be updated and posted to the web site. Please make use of it if you have an opportunity to speak to a group of retirees or active federal employees.

Sam

WSFC EDITOR – David Seesholtz

Chapter newsletters have continued to improve during the past year. The NW Cascades Chapter #196 has started publishing a bi-monthly newsletter after several years without a newsletter. Yakima Chapter #238 is producing a very well done newsletter three times a year. Poulsbo Chapter #881 started a quarterly newsletter in 2009 and has continued doing it in 2010. Kelso/Longview Chapter #1070 had contracted with Vancouver Chapter #131 to have their chapter information included in their newsletter 4 times during 2009. They have continued to do the same in 2010.

During 2010 we had a volunteer from each of the five districts to act as newsletter judges. They have been receiving copies of all the newsletters in the state and evaluated them. Each chapter that produces a newsletter will be acknowledged at this convention with a Blue, Red or Yellow Ribbon. If you have not been mailing your chapter newsletter to at least one of these judges, please call one of them and make arrangements to do so. It would be great to have every chapter represented in the competition.

The newsletter judges in 2010 are:

Paul Robisch
Seattle Chapter #43
parobisch@earthlink.net
206-363-1989

Mike & Joyce Kaaland
Port Orchard Chapter #888
Kaaland4648@wavecable.com
360-871-3002

Bill Beatty
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Johanna Caylor
Tri-City Chapter #1192
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509-375-0739

FEDERAL REPORTER

For the past 4 years I have been your Federal Reporter editor. I will be stepping down from this position at the end of June. When I first started in the job there were some of you that wanted a paper copy of the Federal Reporter to go to every member in the state. Although we presently do not send a hard copy to every member, it is available on the WSFC website to everyone who has access to the internet and the interest to go and find it. I would urge you as the leadership of NARFE to tell all of your members how to access this publication electronically.

I often think how easy it would be on both the federation and chapter leaders if they could just send a newsletter by email to every member or ask each member to go to the web site and read the newsletter. It would be quick and it would save a lot of money. In reality, I have learned by experience that it would not be successful. After constantly asking members to sign up for the electronic version of the Vancouver Chapter #131 Newsletter, we have only 15 members out of 600 plus members that have signed up.

We need to do what is best for NARFE and that's not always what's the easiest or least expensive for the leaders of the organization. The reason I put so much energy into chapter newsletters is that it is the only contact we have with the 90% of our members that do not come to chapter meetings.

Dave

PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE #3, WSFC CONVENTIONS EVERY TWO YEARS - editor

This year there are some big changes proposed to our by-Laws. It is proposed that our present by-laws be separated into two documents, which consist of revised by-laws and new standing rules. One of the big changes that would be made in all of this is to change the frequency of our WSFC Convention from annually to every two years in alternating years to the National Convention.

I enjoy seeing the many NARFE friends that I've made over the years at state conventions but attending is expensive. I'm at the point financially that I will have to choose between going to the state or the national convention in the even numbered years. In those even numbered years the federation, chapters and members have to pay for two conventions or make a decision on which one to attend. I believe we would improve attendance at the national convention by voting to approve this change. I also believe that members will benefit more from a national convention experience. Since most of you as delegates are the ones who will be affected by this change, I hope you will consider approving the new WSFC By-Laws.

Dave

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