



## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

### CHAPTER 236 OLYMPIA –TIMBERLAND

Thurston, Mason, Lewis & Grays Harbor Counties, Washington  
"Capitol to the Coast"

March 2008

**Chapter Meeting**  
Tuesday,  
March 18,  
11:30 p.m.  
**Speaker:**  
**Debra Entenman,**  
**Field**  
**Representative**  
**for**  
**Congressman**  
**Adam Smith,**  
**Chamber House**  
**Restaurant,**  
**Panorama**

**Chapter Officers**  
**for 2008**  
**President:**  
Sandy Cagle  
456-8509  
**1st VP**  
Al Driemeier  
456-3718  
**Secretary:**  
Ida Sevier  
432-9201  
**Treasurer:**  
Betty Fugazi  
491-4970

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**Legislative:**  
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State—Al Driemeier  
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John Cornette  
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**Alzheimers:**  
Charlotte Hopper  
438-5296  
**Service Officer**  
Loretia Cornette  
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**NARFE-PAC**  
Sam Sevier  
432-9201  
**Newsletter Editor**  
Sam Cagle  
456-8509

**President's message:**

### March features District III workshop in Olympia with Brian Baird and Panorama luncheon meeting with Adam Smith rep

It's beginning to look and feel like spring, which is the time of year that NARFE holds the District III Workshop and State Convention.

The **District III Workshop** will be held on Wed., March 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Capital Place Retirement Home, 700 Black Lake Blvd, Olympia, WA. Since this is in our back yard, let's try to have a good turn out from our chapter. Lunch will be served and the chapter will pick-up the \$7.50

cost. **Rep. Brian Baird** will be speaking along with our State Federation Treasurer Rex Tauscher. The workshops will include a presentation on FERS/CSRS comparables and other key issues for NARFE. If you plan on attending, please let me or Al Driemeier know by March 18.

It is not too early to begin planning for the **State Convention** to be held at the Marcus Whitman Hotel and Conference Center in Walla Walla, from **May 19-21, 2008**. I understand this is a wonderful facility and area to visit. Our chapter is allocated eleven delegates who will vote for you at the convention. If you are interested in being a delegate, let me know as soon as possible. Ida Siever will again have registration forms and information available at the March 18 NARFE meeting. Early registration is \$40 with optional meal costs for Monday evening; Tuesday lunch and Wednesday Banquet. All convention registration and fees are due March 31. To make reservations at the hotel, call 1-866-826-9422 or register on line <http://marcuswhitmanhotel.com>. The government rate is \$70 per night + 10.3% tax for King & Queen rooms. Mention "NARFE Group" when making reservations. The room rate includes breakfast. Cut off date for Government Rate is April 18, 2008.

If you will recall in last month's newsletter, I said the **March 18 meeting** will be a

luncheon meeting at **Panorama's Chambers House Restaurant** starting at 11:30 a.m. We will order from the menu but need a head count for the restaurant so let Al Driemeier know if you plan to attend **by March 17**. Our guest speaker will be **Debra J. Entenman**, Field Representative for Congressman Adam Smith. I'm sure you will have many questions for Debra regarding current Congressional and NARFE issues.

I have received 20 surveys so far. We had hoped to have more so if you didn't make the March 1 deadline I will continue to receive the surveys. We truly do want to know what we can do to improve our chapter.

Don't forget that **March is NARFE-PAC month**. Please be a part this program that provides financial support to legislative incumbents or candidates who support NARFE issues. Sam Sevier, our NARFE-PAC chair will cover this item more fully in a separate article.

As you have all heard by now, postage will be going up to \$.42 in April. Of our 389 members, 122 currently get their newsletter by email. It would really help to cut down on mailing costs if more of you would receive your newsletter by email. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, let Sam Cagle know, at [caglels@comcast.net](mailto:caglels@comcast.net). Also if you haven't been getting your emailed newsletter, make sure we have your correct e-mail address, since a number of messages have been "bouncing".

I want to congratulate our 25 Honorary Life Members, who have reached age 85 and have been with NARFE for over 20 years. Their certificates and membership cards are in the mail.

Sandy Cagle  
President



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association  
Olympia-Timberland Chapter No. 236  
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### **NARFE Chapter 236 Meeting information**

**Tuesday, March 18, 11:30, Chamber House Restaurant, Panorama, Lacey, WA**  
**Wed, March 26, District III Workshop, Capital Place Retirement Home, 700 Black Lake Blvd, Olympia, WA.**

#### **Membership Notes**

We would like to welcome two new members, **Robert Dale** of Shelton and Active Federal Employee **Jean Caird**, McCleary, Washington.

Two members have transferred out of the Chapter: **David Thompson**, to Fancy Farm, Kentucky, and **Sandi Boughton**, to Woodbridge, VA.

One chapter member, **Arthur Wheeler** of Aberdeen, passed away recently. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Congratulations to 26 of our chapter members who have been designated as Honorary Life Members, being at least 85 years old, with more than 20 years of NARFE membership. Unfortunately space in this newsletter precludes listing of their names, but they will be posted on the Chapter 236 page on the [www.narfewa.net](http://www.narfewa.net) web site.

25 members were sent second membership renewal notices.

We encourage them to sign back up with their membership or transfer to Dues Withdrawal. The process is simple, reduces the amount of dues, and automatically renews membership, plus WSFC will provide a \$10 rebate to everyone who signs up for it before April 30, 2008.

#### **- Please Contribute Your Share to these worthy causes! -**

Alzheimer's Association reports that as of 1/31/2008 the NARFE total is \$7,315,498.15. Reminder: Any donation members make to Alzheimer's is tax deductible. Charlotte Hopper, Chapter Alzheimers chair, notes that 100% of your donations through NARFE go directly to Alzheimers Research.

NARFE-PAC for the first half of 2007-2008 cycle reports 387 Region IX (WA/OR/ID/MT/AK) members contributed \$11,419.00, with an average donation of \$29.51 per person of those members donating. Lapel pins are available from Sam Sevier, Chapter 236 NARFE-PAC chair.

Donation forms for both programs are in the NARFE magazine.

#### **Status of NARFE-supported legislation in Washington State as of March 1, 2008**

*HR82 – Repeal GPO/WEP. 340 Co-Sponsors. Yes: Inslee, Larsen, Baird*

*S206 – Repeal GPO/WEP. 36 Co-Sponsors, Yes, Murray, Cantwell.*

*HR1110 – Premium Conversion, 310 Co-Sponsors. Larsen, Hastings, Dicks, McDermott, Smith.*

*S773 – Premium Conversion. 60 Co-Sponsors. Yes, Murray, Cantwell.*

HR 1110 and S773, as introduced in March, both amend the Internal Revenue Code to permit: (1) federal civilian and military retirees to pay Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) and TRICARE supplemental premiums on a pretax basis (i.e., exclude premiums from gross income); and (2) a tax deduction (available to itemizers and non-itemizers) for TRICARE supplemental premiums or enrollment fees.

#### **Final Economic Stimulus package covers more retirees**

The economic stimulus package first negotiated by House leaders of both parties and President Bush was signed early in February. It provides economic stimulus through recovery rebates to individuals, incentives for business investment, and an increase in conforming and FHA loan limits. The compromise made by Democratic and Republican Senate leaders expanded eligibility for tax rebate checks to disabled veterans and most low-income seniors. Enlarging the number of rebate eligible retirees is a victory for NARFE and our coalition partners in the Leadership Council of Aging Organizations, which had strongly supported including additional retirees.