

# National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association Seattle Chapter 0043

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President: Robert Rust [robert-rust@hotmail.com](mailto:robert-rust@hotmail.com)

Legislative Chair: Lee Smythe

Treasurer: Gene Blahato

Secretary: Theresa Blahato

We have opportunities for anyone who would like to be an officer or committee chair

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## SUMMER 2024

**MEETING:** The next meeting is on 29 August at the Northgate Seattle Public Library at 10548 5th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125. The meeting is from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. There are several bus routes stop nearby. There is also a small off-street parking lot shared by the Community Center.

**AGENDA:** Open Discussion

### WORKING TOGETHER TODAY TO PROTECT OUR EARNED BENEFITS FOR TOMORROW

The Association, since July 1970, has been classified by the IRS as a tax exempt labor organization [not a union]; however, dues, gifts, or contributions to the Association are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.

#### From President Bob:

I am still concerned by the lack of participation at our meetings. We can't invite speakers with no audience. I would like to have the estate planning lawyers, financial planning, and senior living reps. Anyone interested to hear these or other topics, please email me and when I have enough response, I will invite them.

As of Aug, we now have 324 Representatives signed on for the H.R.82 and 63 Senators for S 597 the Social Security Fairness Act of 2023. If passed, this legislation would eliminate the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO). Representative Adam Smith is the only one from our state to not co-sponsor this legislation. If you live in his District, please urge him to co-sponsor the bill. Note that the House bill was sponsored by a Republican and Senate bill by a Democrat. It currently has enough votes to easily pass. No action has been made since the bills were introduced early 2023.

The chapter will sponsor some members to attend the Washington State Federation (WSF) meeting October 24-26 in Kennewick, WA. Let me know if with you would like to apply to be a representative.

**Election** As you know, we are having a general election and the results will affect federal employees. It is important to be informed on who is actually supporting us. NARFE is non partisan and we need to keep that way. We have friends on both sides of the aisle. Also, please also keep things in perspective. I have been through a lot of elections. Each was "the most important" and we all survived no matter the result. Our country is very resilient with lots of checks and balances.

**NARFE Webinars** are a great source of information on your benefits. It is easy to log on [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org) and not only take in the current lectures but also review past lectures. If you know any current employees let them know about this resource. It is a wonderful recruitment tool and you will be doing them a service.

**USEFUL INFORMATION for CHAPTER 43**

NARFE Headquarters-----800-456-8410  
NARFE Website-----www.narfe.org  
NARFE Member Records-----800-456-8410  
Legislative Hotline-----877-217-8234 [free]  
OPM---888-767-6738 [free] // 202-606-0500 [toll]  
Senator Patty Murray-----206-553-5545  
Senator Maria Cantwell -----206-220-6400  
Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-7)-----206-674-0040  
Rep. Adam Smith (D-9)-----425-793-5180  
Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-1)-----425- 485-0085  
Rep. Kim Schrier (D-8) -----425- 657-1001  
Rep. Marilyn Strickland (D-10) ---360= 459-8514  
WA Federation website \_\_\_ www.narfe.org/wa

Local Senior Services-----www.seniorservices.org  
206-448-3110 or 888-435-3377  
NARFE Service Officer----Charlie Caughlin  
360-693-0435----csquare@pacifier.com

**PLEASE KEEP YOUR ADDRESS AND EMAIL INFORMATION UP TO DATE.**

Your membership number is on your magazine mailing label. You can also set up a secure log in using you email address. Otherwise you can call the headquarters at 1-800-456-8410 or email them at memberrecords@narfe.org.

**NARFE**  
**PO Box 80631**  
**Seattle, WA 98108**

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Meeting Notice**

**RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS FOR NARFE**

If you are in contact with a Federal employee, at the post office, social security office, etc. be sure to tell them about NARFE. I can provide you with blank applications. Just email me at:  
robert-rust@hotmail.com

**NARFE PAC** is an important part of our efforts to influence Congress and protect our benefits. Legally only money given directly to the PAC can be used for PAC purposes. This is a nonpartisan effort and is based strictly on the candidate’s support of NARFE issues and benefits

**CHAPTER 43 FINANCES AS OF 7/31/2024**

Savings ----- \$ 5,301.26  
Checking ----- \$ 7,445.31

**CHAPTER 43 MEMBERSHIP IS 199.**

Please welcome our new chapter members Ina Gyls-Colwell. I am sorry to inform you that five members passed: Henri B [redacted], Lawreta M [redacted], Candace C [redacted], William A [redacted], and Christopher H [redacted] M [redacted].

Seattle Newsletter – August 2024

Bea Bull, Western Washington District VP

Greetings Sno-King members waiting to be Seattle members! Since National hasn't completed the transfer process yet so that Bob Rust has your addresses, I'm sending you the Seattle newsletter so you'll know about the upcoming meeting. Also, there are two important items for your attention:

1. It's time to nominate federation officers; you will find the fillable form on the federation website at <https://www.narfe.org/wa/> Mouse over the EVENTS tab and click on "Officer Elections." You'll be prompted to log in using your NARFE National login credentials. Deadline for nominations is 31 August.
2. Register for the Region IX Symposium in Tri-Cities, October 24-26. The registration form is on the federation website at <https://www.narfe.org/wa/> Mouse over the EVENTS tab and click on "Region IX Training Conference." You will not need to log in to complete the fillable PDF. Print and mail with your check as instructed. **The first 30 members to register can request a full reimbursement from the federation.** Contact Arlene Patton at the number on the form.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [tbkbull@gmail.com](mailto:tbkbull@gmail.com) or 360 286 7798.