

# 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)  
Treasurer: Gene Blahato

Legislative Chair: Lee Smythe  
Secretary: Theresa Blahato

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

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## Winter 2024

**MEETING:** The next meeting is on 22 February at the Northgate Seattle Public Library at 10548 5th Ave NE, Seattle, WA 98125. The meeting is from 1:00PM to 3:00PM. The library is across from the east entrance to the Northgate Mall. There are several bus routes that stop nearby. There is also a small off-street parking lot shared by the Community Center.

**AGENDA:** Discuss Future Meetings

### 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:

Welcome to 2024. As the we start the new year, I want to reflect on the lack of participation at our meetings. Last year we had some great speakers but we can't continue to invite people if only a few people attend. Please email me if you have a speaker that would draw you to a meeting or if you think we should just suspend regular meetings.

As of 5 Feb, we now have 307 Representatives signed on for the H.R.82 and 51 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). Representatives Kristina Marie Gluesenkamp Pérez and Adam Smith are the only two from our state to not cosponsored this legislation. If you live in Congressional District 3 or 9, please urge them to cosponsor H.R. 82. The good news is Senator Marie Cantwell joined the cosponsors 10/31/2023. The "GovTrack" website

still shows a 4% chance of this becoming law. This is frustrating as the votes are there. Note that the House bill was sponsored by a Republican and Senate bill by a Democrat.

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

The WSF is looking at updating its bylaws. You can review the changes at <https://www.narfe.org/wa/about-us/policies-and-procedures/>. Please submit your comments to Bea Bull at [tbkbull@gmail.com](mailto:tbkbull@gmail.com); by 30 March 2024.

The Washington State Federation voted to combine districts II and III to form the Western Washington District with Bea Bull as the VP.

## USEFUL INFORMATION for CHAPTER 43

NARFE Headquarters-----703-838-7760 (toll)  
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/

### 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](mailto:memberrecords@narfe.org).

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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](mailto: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  
Local Senior Services----206-448-3110 or 888-435-3377-----www.seniorservices.org

### CHAPTER 43 FINANCES AS OF 12/31/2023

Savings ----- \$ 4241.85  
Checking ----- \$ 7803.07

### CHAPTER 43 MEMBERSHIP

We currently have 211 members. We want to recognize two members who have passed away:  
Norman P and Joel D.

**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.