

NARFE

FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
except July & August



**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
ASSOCIATION, BREMERTON CHAPTER 181**

P.O. Box 4514, Bremerton, WA 98312-0392

May 2025

NUMBER 05-25

General Meeting Date & Time: May 12, 2025

1:00PM

Meeting Place: Westside Improvement Club, 4109 West "E" Street, Bremerton, WA

**Program: Washington State 23rd Legislative District Representative, Greg Nance, Will
Provide an Update on State Legislation***

NARFE is recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors.

Executive Board meetings are held from noon to 2:00PM at the Westside Improvement Club the Wednesday prior to general meetings. Members are welcome to join us.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 4-10.....Public Service Recognition Week

17 May.....Armed Forces Day Parade

9 June.....Membership Meeting

8 September.....Membership Meeting

13 October..Membership Meeting

PRESIDENT

Bill Powers

With the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) continuing to be a hot topic in our daily news, NARFE's actions to counter emerging threats to federal services are ongoing. Chiefly among these, NARFE filed a lawsuit to block implementation of Schedule F, now called Schedule P/C (Policy/Career). This executive action is an attempt to ignore merit based civil service protections and implement a spoils system for political supporters. As stated in our April newsletter, Schedule P/C would take civil service back to the early 1880s when each incoming administration would fire employees willy-nilly and replace them based on patronage to the incoming administration. The administration will do this by reclassifying employees into at-will positions through the

***Congresswoman Randall's field representative James Bray has been rescheduled to 13 October.**

new Schedule P/C. At-will positions would not have civil service protections. All senior executive service members and congressional leaders agree that aspects of civil service reform are needed but differ on implementation. As NARFE, we can push back against threats and work to ensure federal employees and retirees are treated fairly.

President Trump has taken up the "Move Fast & Break Things" practice that some dot-com tech sector startup businesses have used. Prime Minister Viktor Orban of Hungary, an eastern European Union (EU) affiliate, has been practicing this policy. Now in his fourth term, he started his candidacy by stating he would restructure government and eliminate corruption and inefficiencies. He then started eliminating his enemies followed by eliminating news media bias. He now controls the government via the National Assembly whose majority party reelects him with EU support vanquished. Populous districts have been gerrymandered by the National Assembly so

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MOVING? SNOWBIRDS?

Even if it's from one apartment to another in the same building or complex, please contact Bea at 360-286-7798 to update your mailing address!!! USPS charges a fee for returned newsletters. THANK YOU!!

President cont.

that fewer votes are required to maintain control.

He is slowly hollowing out and destroying democracy in his country and brought clashes with the EU so they cut funding to Hungary over rule-of-law concerns. We do not want this scenario. It seems to me, if something like this continues, it may have a negative impact on Social Security or healthcare.

NARFE PAC contributions for the first quarter 1/1/2025 thru 3/31/2025 for the 119th Congress: Bremerton Chapter members contributed \$1,524.84 from 18 contributors with 5 sustainers (members who set up automatic contributions from either a credit card or their annuity). All Washington State Chapters contributed \$6,140.10 from 61 contributors with 22 sustainers. Washington National-only members contributed \$5,080.50 from 61 contributors with 6 sustainers. Grand Total contributions from NARFE members were \$252,558.40 from 4,078 contributors with 547 sustainers.

This month's guest speaker, Congresswoman Randall's 6th Congressional District Field Representative, James Bray, is not able to attend our May meeting. Bea Bull arranged for State Representative Greg Nance, Legislative District 23, to speak instead. Greg will bring us an update from Olympia.

To track progress on Project 2025, the Heritage Foundation's blueprint to eliminate federal programs and cut federal spending, go to <https://www.project2025.observer/>. For the latest updates on WEP/GPO go to www.NARFE.org, mouse over "News & Events" and select "All News From NARFE." Scroll down and click on "WEP/GPO Update from Social Security." At the bottom of the third paragraph click on the provided link to access the Social Security WEP/GPO information page.

Finally, May 12th is our chapter's 73rd birthday. Happy Birthday Chapter 0181!

CORRECTION: I made a decimal point error in last month's article. A trillion dollars in \$1,000.00 bills is 67 miles high. This is still staggering and incomprehensible. A four-inch stack is a million dollars.

Tariffs & Stocks

President Powers

President Trump has long been an advocate of tariffs and imperialism. He was advocating for them prior to his first term in office and considers tariffs a short-term solution to the long-term problem of

America's reliance on imports. We are a consumer nation, more so than any other nation, so import/export trade is big business. A previous president who raised protective tariffs was William McKinley, the 25th president (1897 to 1901); he campaigned on imperialism and protectionism. Trump admires the fact that McKinley realigned the Republican Party to become dominant in the early 20th century. During his presidency, the United States acquired Hawaii, Guam, and Puerto Rico and became a leader in manufacturing by raising tariffs on imported goods. McKinley's imperialism explains Trump's desire for Greenland.

Some tariffs are considered good to promote jobs in a depressed area of our country. They are slightly inflationary but considered a positive in the long run. Other tariffs don't create jobs; they only cause inflation because the country where these items are made is a very poor country and does not reciprocate trade.

The present tariff problem is the on-again-off-again yo-yo effect plus the trade war with China. Manufacturers and stock market traders do not like uncertainty. Therefore, we are experiencing huge swings in the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Nasdaq Composite, and Standard & Poor's 500. Due to this uncertainty, some businesses are thinking of opening warehouses outside the United States. Also, toy manufacturers must put in their manufacturing orders for Christmas way ahead of the holiday season since most toys are made outside the US. Some wholesalers are saying toy store shelves will be empty by Halloween.

In his first term, President Trump nominated Jerome Powell as Chairman of the Federal Reserve. Powell and his constituents have been fighting inflation, which is one of the two key items Trump ran on for presidency. Then Trump came out saying that Powell was doing a horrible job and wanted to fire him because Powell would not advocate lowering the prime interest rate. This and controlling the money supply are the two main tools the Fed uses to fight inflation. When Trump rescinded his remarks, it caused another huge upward swing in the stock market.

<https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/23/business/stock-market-dow-jerome-powell-fed-trump/index.html>

The point is that the present turmoil in tariffs, monetary policy, and taxes is not good for business, jobs, inflation, and the stock market. Trump likes to play "The Art of the Deal" and seems to enjoy turmoil in his administration but turmoil is not good for the American image overseas.

MEMBERSHIP

Secretary Bull

As of 26 April we have 358 chapter members.

Two members are missing from our member listing: Elaine [REDACTED] and Karen [REDACTED]. Judy [REDACTED] transferred to National-only membership. "Thank you" to Alice [REDACTED], Ray [REDACTED], Ken [REDACTED] and Gary [REDACTED] for reinstating their membership!

We have three new members: Laurie [REDACTED], Patrick [REDACTED] and Lee [REDACTED]. Welcome to NARFE and to the Bremerton chapter!

BREMERTON FEDHub

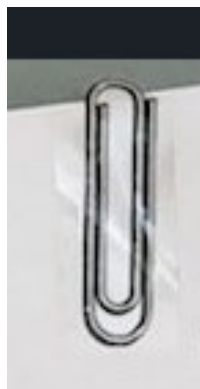
Nine more people have agreed to terms for a total of 65; thank you! Of our 358 members, 135 have no email address in the NARFE database. Please consider providing me with your email address so I can add it.

Bill Powers Attends Manette Bridge Rally

Several of our members have attended rallies around Kitsap County to promote awareness of NARFE as a resource for federal employees. The paperclip became a symbol of unity and resistance in the Nazi-occupied Norway during World War II.



Thank you, Bill, for promoting NARFE and Chapter 0181!



PROGRAMS

9 June – Madysen McLain, The Mustard Seed Project, a senior living community in Key Center

8 September – Ashlee Cameron and Scott Lake, Future First, to discuss reverse mortgages

12 October – Emily Randall's Field Representative for Kitsap and Mason Counties, James Bray

WSF BYLAWS AMENDMENT

Washington federation members will **vote on a WSF Bylaws Amendment in June**. You will find a prominent link on the WSF home page at www.narfe.org/wa for the changes and voting instructions. You will also receive emailed voting instructions from WSF Secretary Curtis Price on 16 June 2025. If you are unable to vote using the online platform link in that email, or need a paper ballot, please contact him at curtprice@gmail.com or 605-390-3053.

TREASURER

Bea Bull and Rex Tauscher

Mar 1, 2025 Acct Bal	\$64,247.85
Income	540.97
Expenses	280.98
Mar 31, 2025 Acct Bal	\$64,507.84
USPS Bulk Mail Acct	138.55
USPS Return Mail Acct	124.25
TOTAL Net Worth Jan 31, 2025	\$64,770.64

The Chapter Life Membership Trust account value will be reported until the end of the 2025 tax year at the December 31, 2024 share value, which was \$16,213.31.

A Treasurer's report for April 2025 will be available at our May meetings.

ALZHEIMER'S CHAIR

Secretary Bea Bull

At the April meeting, donations were received from Bea Bull, Bill [REDACTED] and Pete [REDACTED]. Thank you!

**To make a tax-deductible donation to the NARFE Alzheimer's Research fund please make your check payable to "NARFE Alzheimer's Research", write "Bremerton Chapter 181" on the notation line, and mail it to: Alzheimer's Association
225 N Michigan Ave, 17th Floor
Chicago, IL 60601-7633**

SUNSHINE CHAIR

Lois Barber

A speedy recovery card was sent to Loraine [REDACTED] and a birthday card was sent to Burton [REDACTED] who is celebrating his 101st birthday.

If you know of a chapter member in need of a little sunshine, please contact Lois at 360-297-2671.

<p>PRESIDENT NARFE-PAC CHAIR Bill Powers 360-473-6301 powersw@silverlink.net</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT Vacant</p> <p>SECRETARY/TREASURER NEWSLETTER EDITOR Bea Bull</p> <p>ASSISTANT TREASURER Rex Tauscher</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE CHAIR-NATIONAL Vacant</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE CHAIR-STATE Vacant</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP CHAIR Vacant</p> <p>SERGEANT AT ARMS William Fuhrmeister</p> <p>SUNSHINE CHAIR Lois Barber</p> <p>EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS UNTIL DECEMBER 2025 Stan Barber John Burch</p> <p>UNTIL DECEMBER 2026 Ralph Petersen Rex Tauscher</p>	<p>WESTERN WASHINGTON DISTRICT VP Bea Bull 360-286-7798 tbkbull@gmail.com</p> <p>REGION IX VP Steven Roy 425-344-3926 stevenroy1@yahoo.com</p> <p>WSF SERVICE OFFICER Charlie Caughlan 360-693-0435 csquare@pacifier.com</p> <p>NARFE NATIONAL WEBSITE www.narfe.org</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE HOTLINE 877-217-8234</p> <p>ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS 800-456-8410</p> <p>NARFE STATE WEBSITE www.narfe.org/wa/</p> <p>NARFE DISTRICT WEBSITE Webmaster – Bea Bull www.narfewadistiv.org</p> <p>CHAPTER FACEBOOK PAGE https://www.facebook.com/narfechap181</p> <p>OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT (OPM) Phone: 1-888-767-6738</p> <p>Hours of operation: 7:30AM – 7:45PM ET with best time to reach someone being 6:30PM – 7:30PM or at 7:30AM.</p> <p>Mailing Address: Office of Personnel Management Retirement Operations Center P.O. Box 45 Boyers, PA 16017</p>	<p>SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE 360-337-5700 OR 1-800-562-6418</p> <hr/> <p>OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES</p> <p>Senator Patty Murray 950 Pacific Avenue #650 Tacoma, WA 98402 Tacoma Phone Number 253-572-3636 D.C. Phone Number 202-224-2621 www.murray.senate.gov</p> <p>Senator Maria Cantwell 915 – 2nd Avenue, Suite 3206 Seattle, WA 98174 Seattle Phone Number 206-220-6400 D.C. Phone Number 202-224-3441 www.cantwell.senate.gov</p> <p>Congressional District 6 Emily Randall 345 – 6th Street, Suite 500 Bremerton, WA 98337 360-373-9725</p> <p>1102 A St, Ste 326 Tacoma, WA 98402 253-272-3515</p> <p>D.C. phone number 202-225-5916 http://randall.house.gov</p> <p>Congressional District 10 Marilyn Strickland 6000 Main Street SW, Suite 3B Lakewood, WA 98499 No phone number listed</p> <p>Lacey City Hall - 3rd Floor 420 College St SE, Suite 3000 Lacey, WA 98503 360-459-8514</p> <p>D.C. phone number 202-225-9740 https://strickland.house.gov</p>
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