

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Seattle Chapter 0043 – Spring 2026

President: Robert Rust robert-rust@hotmail.com Secretary: Theresa Blahato [REDACTED]
Treasurer: Gene Blahato [REDACTED] Western WA District VP: Bea Bull 360 286 7798 tbkbull@gmail.com
We have opportunities for anyone who would like to be an officer or committee chair.

MEETING: The meeting will be a Lunch Meeting on 21 May, 2026 at Spiro's Pizza and Pasta Restaurant, 18411 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133. The no host lunch will start at 11:30 and business and presentations by noon. Please RSVP to the [Theresa](#) Blahato at [REDACTED] to help us plan. Future meetings for 2026 are tentatively scheduled for August 20 and November 19.

AGENDA: Theresa has been working hard to get someone to speak on Ageing Services available in the Seattle area.

We will also have an open discussion on the status of Federal Employees. We want to focus on the real issues and what we can do to assure Federal workers are treated fairly.

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

As it seems to be coming up more, I want to address why NARFE is nonpartisan.

The first reason is that NARFE is laser focused on federal employees and their benefits. Partisan politics focus on a party's policies on many issues. This distracts from our focus. A lot of people may ignore the fact that federal wages are being frozen if the party they have chosen, supports a social policy they agree with. This is one of the problems the federal labor unions have had. We have to always and only look at the laws and policies that effect federal employees.

The second reason is if we pick one party over another, we alienate a large portion of our supporters. Both parties have people that support us and people who do not. By picking a party, we lose supporters from the other party and end up supporting people that vote against federal employees benefits and protections.

From District VP Bea Bull

The National Special Referendum passed by about 85 percent of members voting and cost \$29,120. Beginning in 2028, all National Executive Board (NEB) members (President, Secretary/Treasurer and

Regional Vice Presidents) may run for two consecutive three-year terms.

REGION IX VP – Region IX VP Steve Roy is not running for re-election.

FEDERATION ELECTIONS – The federation continues to search for candidates for president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Please consider stepping up. Contact me for more information.

FEDcon26 – Registration is now open for this event; go to <https://fedcon.narfe.org/>. The early-bird rate (now through 5/22/2026) is \$225.00. For WSF assistance with the cost of registration and travel, please contact WSF President Tony Merola at TIGER7565@AOL.COM and copy WSF Treasurer Arlene Patton at apatton1202@outlook.com.

REGION IX SYMPOSIUM – This event in Ellensburg, Washington, October 1 -3, 2026, will be held on the Central Washington University campus. For more information, visit the Region IX website at <https://www.narfe.org/region09/meetings-events/meetings/symposium2026/>. Again, the federation has funds available to help 30 members attend this event by contacting Tony Merola and Arlene Patton (see above instructions) can apply for a reimbursement of their registration fee.

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
Western WA District ___ www.narfewadistiv.org

NARFE Webinars are a great source of information on your benefits. It is easy to log on 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.

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. Email me: 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.

VERITY CREDIT UNION: Balances as of 4/10/2026: Checking \$3,610.57and Saving \$9,720.45.

CHAPTER 43 MEMBERSHIP IS 242

Please welcome new chapter members: Kim [redacted], Jon [redacted], Sharon [redacted], and Raquel [redacted]. Sadly, Lola [redacted] passed.