



Spotlight on Retirees in Action

President's Message Happy Fall!



Since our last two Board meetings we have been busy! Our goal was to get information out to everyone on Social Security Works, PSARA events, Medicare updates and any other information that we felt would be useful to all our retirees. One way to help get information to everyone was to place important information on our website. First, though, we had to update it! So a team was created and we began that project. Please check it out at <http://wa.aft.org>! Go to Membership, then click on Retirees. Let us know what you think! We also would appreciate it if you would let us know what you would like to have on the website. You can contact Cortney Marabetta at cmarabetta@aftwa.org, myself at merrilee.miron@gmail.com or Karen Post at kbpost@comcast.net. We are the website team!

One thing I would like to ask of you is if you have not filled out a Retiree Membership Form, please do, it's on the website. Another big ask of all of you is please send us your email address if you have not already. It is the fastest way we can communicate with everyone.

Stay Safe! And have a great Fall!

Merrilee Miron

We Want To Keep In Touch

By Susan Levy, Director, Social Security Action

We want to keep in touch with you. Please send us your e-mail address if you have one.

Your retiree leadership team met over the summer and decided we want to do a better job keeping in touch with all our members. We talked about providing a brief monthly update on important happenings around Social Security and Medicare. (If we have your e-mail address, you should have gotten that message on September 17th.) We also talked about forwarding you a really good newsletter from PSARA (Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action) or timely information from the Senior Lobby in Olympia or the Washington State Labor Council. We promise not to overload your inbox. For this to happen in a timely and cost-effective fashion, we would really appreciate your e-mail address.

Send your email address to Cortney Marabetta at cmarabetta@aftwa.org. Let us know what you think of the newsletter, and what kind of information you'd like to see in it – it doesn't have to be all political! Send feedback to the President of the chapter, Merrilee Miron, at merrilee.miron@gmail.com or the newsletter coordinator, Susan Levy, at sjlevy.01@gmail.com.



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Healthcare Is A Human Right

By Jim Howe, Legislative Director, Retiree Chapter



As the Retiree Chapter's Legislative Director, one of my areas is the Healthcare is a Human Right (HCHR) group. In September, I was on a call with US Representative Adam Smith, a variety of Washington legislators, and leadership from the Washington State Labor Council and the Washington State Nursing Association. We really stressed the immediacy of getting the State Based Universal Healthcare waivers so Washington's permanent commission can start moving forward.

As a follow up, HCHR volunteers are calling key Senators every Tuesday to tell them to support the full Expanded Medicare package, which uses savings from federal negotiation of lower drug prices for Medicare and ALL health plans to:

- Lower the Medicare eligibility age from 65 to as low as possible.
- Add an out-of-pocket cap for Medicare beneficiaries.
- Include dental, vision, and hearing benefits.

If you are interested in getting involved, check out the website at <http://www.healthcareisarithwa.org>.