

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
SAN FRANCISCO
CHAPTER 65
SENTINEL

HERMAN BRACEY, EDITOR

Meets 3rd Wednesday each month, Odd Fellows Hall, 26 – 7th Street, near Market, SF

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NOVEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 14, 2007 AT THE ODD FELLOWS HALL, 26 7TH ST, SF
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:30 AM; MEMBERSHIP MEETING 1:00 PM 6th FLOOR
SOCIAL HOUR, DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE, BINGO 11:30 AM
CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

NOV 12 - DEC 10 - FEHBP OPEN SEASON

NOV 14 - LOIS KELLEY CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE / ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2008

DEC 11 - HOLIDAY LUNCHEON CAESAR'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT / INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: JANE RAMOS, 875 SANCHEZ ST., SF, CA. 94114; 826-3337 chilberg@ix.netcom.com

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER....Oktoberfest was a big success... we had lots of hot dogs, sausages, potato salad, sauerkraut, homemade cucumber salad, and all the fixings and to top it all off, ice cream and candy. Many thanks to all the members who brought food to share, Joe and Rosie Smith, Herman Bracey, Dave Garcia, Dianne Joseph, Martha Raup, Jane Ramos, and Bea Bertwell.

Our speaker, Gail Morthole, from the San Francisco League of Women Voters, filled us in on the San Francisco Ballot Measures which will be on the Tuesday, November 6, 2007 ballot. Not everyone had received their ballots as of our meeting day, but Gail gave us all a very informative guide to the PROs & CONS of each measure. Don't forget to ask for your Permanent Absentee Voter ballot, if you so desire, by October 30. If it's too late, take action now to prepare for the next election. You can VOTE AT HOME! And we'd like to publicly thank Gail Morthole for her time and expertise in presenting information to our members. She's a wonderful speaker, and very well informed.

Herman Bracey, Charles Minster, DorisMarie Hagopian and I made presentations at two Pre-retirement Seminars at the Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate, on October 18 and 19. We distributed literature on NARFE and applications to the federal employees attending, and hope we convinced them to JOIN NARFE! Our participation was made possible by Diana Louie of the Federal Executive Board -- and for this we are very grateful. Federal employees attending were from many departments, among them HUD, the Presidio Trust, U.S. Dept of Justice, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, Dept. of Labor, U.S. Mint, and GSA.

It's estimated that about 60 percent of the current federal work force are eligible to retire in 5 years and 85% of the Supervisors of the current work force are eligible to retire in that same period. At the same time almost every single federal agency in Los Angeles and San Francisco has a 20% vacancy rate. We need to recruit these retiring feds. As our potential "pool" of federal workers is diminishing even though the workloads and responsibilities have not.

Your Chapter 65 Executive Board all hope that if you haven't attended a meeting lately, that you'll come to our November meeting... we'll have a speaker from the California Academy of Sciences to fill us in on the new Academy which is being built in Golden Gate Park. Also at the November meeting, we'll nominate and vote for your Chapter officers for 2008. If you want to nominate anyone, please come to the meeting. You can also nominate someone by calling me. We'd love to have some new officers, new ideas are welcome!!

LEGISLATION: BEATRICE BERTWELL; 650-754-9962

Lobby Month contacts have boosted the number of cosponsors for NARFE priority legislation, Premium Conversion (S. 773 and H.R. 1110) and Repeal of the Social Security Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) (S. 206 and H.R. 82).

Rep. Tom Davis (R-VA), sponsor of Premium Conversion legislation, H.R. 1110, added three cosponsors recently. The total is now 272. However, 59 former cosponsors still serving in Congress are yet to be persuaded to cosponsor the current legislation. These "lapsed" cosponsors continue to need a message of thanks for their past support along with a reminder to again join the majority of their colleagues in cosponsoring the current legislation. In reading October's NARFE magazine on pages 20-23, I found that Lantos continues to be a lapsed cosponsor of Premium Conversion. Nancy Pelosi is a lapsed cosponsor of both the House GPO/WEP and Premium Conversion bills and her assistant told us in our March Lobby Month meeting, that because she is Speaker of the House, Pelosi almost never sponsors legislation. The Hotline message is available toll free at 877-217-8234 and is also posted on NARFE's website, www.narfe.org.

THIS MONTH'S MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 14, 2007. THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

NARFE – CHAPTER 65
651 COLE STREET APT 2
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DO NOT DELAY
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

NOVEMBER 2007

Remember....RECRUITING is everyone's job!!

NATIONAL WEB SITE: (<http://www.narfe.org>); CSFC WEB SITE: (<http://www.csfcnarfe.org>) CHAPTER 65 WEB SITE: (<http://www.narfe65.org>). NARFE DUES: Currently National Dues are \$29.00 and Chapter 65 Dues are \$8.00 annually. Mail check for the full \$37.00, along with your DUES RENEWAL NOTICE, to NARFE, Membership Services, 606 Washington St, Alexandria, Va. 22314-1914.

SERVICE OFFICER: DAVID GARCIA 510-235-7750

Important numbers: OPM 1-888-767-6738 (Administrative Problems); NARFE 1-800-456-8410 (Membership Problems); SOCIAL SECURITY 1-800-772-1213 (Life Cycle Problems); LTC 1-800 582-3337 (For Applications and Information Kits); OPM Toll Number 1-724-794-5216.... The next cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for millions of retired and disabled Americans will be 2.3 percent. Social security beneficiaries, as well as most civil service annuitants, Foreign Service and military retirees will be among those receiving the adjustment in their January 2008 checks. Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) annuitants age 62 and over, as well as FERS survivors and disability retirees will receive a full Social Security COLA, but the adjustment in their FERS annuity will be 2.0 percent. This is due to the fact that the FERS COLA formula differs from that used for CSRS retirees whose federal service did not earn them Social Security coverage.

ALZHEIMER'S: JESSE RAMOS, 875 SANCHEZ ST., CA. 94114

The Chapter wishes to publicly thank and acknowledge the generous donations from Beatrice Bertwell and Jane Ramos to the NARFE - Alzheimer's Research Fund. Their donations will be used to support research efforts toward finding a cure for this terrible disease that mostly afflicts individuals 65 and older. If you are able to make a donation and wish it to be used to support programs and services that help families and individuals coping with Alzheimer's, please make your check payable to the "Alzheimer's Association". On the other hand, if you wish your donation to be used solely to support Alzheimer's research, please make your check payable to "NARFE - Alzheimer's Research" To ensure that your donation is correctly acknowledged as coming from a NARFE Chapter 65 member, write "NARFE Chapter 65 in the memo section of your check. Please mail your donation to me at the above address; I'll then forward the donation to the Alzheimer's Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT: JESSE RAMOS 826-3337

Balance forward	\$4,504.56
Income	\$ 647.30
Expenses	<u>\$ 397.34</u>
Balance at 9/30/07	\$4,754.52

SUNSHINE: MARY TAYLOR, 661-1476

Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of Max *Kurtz and James L Simon*.

MEMBERSHIP: HERMAN BRACEY, 651 COLE ST APT 2, SF, CA. 94117; 668-2337

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS: *Aral S Durbin and Michele E Brouqua*.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY LUNCHEON is scheduled for **Tuesday December 11, 2007 at Caesar's Restaurant 2299 Powell Streets at Bay**. There will be No Host Cocktails at 11:30 AM with lunch at 12:30 PM. **The cost is \$26.00 and the choices of Entrees are Veal Parmigiana, Roast Beef Au Jus, Combination Seafood Plate (Scallops, Prawns, and Filet of Sole).** **Valet Parking** is available for \$6.00. **Public Transportation: the 15-Third, the F-Market, the 47-Loop and the 30-Stockton all stop nearby. Your door prize donations are invited and welcomed.**

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY AND USE THE COUPON BELOW!

===CUT HERE === HOLIDAY LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS ===== PLEASE RESPOND BY DECEMBER 7, 2007
MAIL RESERVATIONS TO DORISMARIE HAGOPIAN; 1895 Jackson St. Apt 502; SF, CA. 94109-2882

NAME _____ TEL NO. _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

NUMBER IN PARTY _____ \$26.00 EACH TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

ATTACH NAMES OF GUESTS. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NARFE CHAPTER 65