

**NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CHAPTER 65  
SENTINEL**

**HERMAN BRACEY, EDITOR**

**Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, Odd Fellows Hall, 26 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street, near Market, SF**

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**AUGUST 2008 NEWSLETTER**

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON AUGUST 20, 2008 AT THE ODD FELLOWS HALL, 26 7TH ST,  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:30 AM; MEMBERSHIP MEETING 1:00 PM 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR  
SOCIAL HOUR, DOUGHNUTS AND COFFEE, BINGO 11:30 AM**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

AUG 20 REGULAR MEETING LORENA LANCE SENIOR ADVANTAGE MANAGER FROM KAISER  
SEP 7-11 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY  
SEP 17 CHAPTER PICNIC DETAILS TBA  
OCT 11 ALZHEIMER'S MEMORY WALK ON TREASURE ISLAND  
MAY 1-3-2009 2<sup>nd</sup> CSFC BIENNIAL CONVENTION CONCORD, CALIFORNIA

**PRESIDENT: JANE RAMOS, 875 SANCHEZ ST., SF, CA. 94114; 826-3337 jecramos@sbcglobal.net**

**GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST...** Well, if you weren't with us at the July luncheon held at Sinbad's on the Embarcadero, you missed a very nice event. Our keynote speaker, H. Ray Harrington (President of the California State Federation of Chapters) and his wife, Thea, drove from Paradise, CA. where fires have been burning fiercely but now they are mostly controlled. H. Ray noted that the residents of Paradise were very grateful to all the firefighters from around the state, including San Francisco firefighters whose fire engines he noticed on the streets while driving around Paradise.

H. Ray gave us a very informative talk and filled us in on a number of resolutions that are scheduled to be discussed and voted on at the National Convention in Louisville in September (Single Dues Structure-all chapters have one uniform dues; One member one vote - all members of NARFE should be able to cast votes for National Officers and other issues by mail; Raising the salary of national resident officers and providing them with a monthly living allowance of \$2,000). Five Chapter 65 members will be attending to represent our Chapter and to vote on proposed resolutions and National Officers. If you are interested in hearing some of the proposals, give me a call, and I'll try to summarize them for you. H. Ray also mentioned that to date, our next COLA will likely be above 5%; this is both good and bad. Good for retirees to ease some of the stress of raising prices; bad because of the size of the government deficit. As usual, FERS retirees' COLA is 1% below that of CSRS retirees.

We were glad to see so many of our Chapter 65 members attending the luncheon, **Bea Bertwell, Mary Bidegain and guest, Bill Branzburg, Herman Bracey, Frances Chan, Luke Collier, Robert & Helen Cope, Ruby Dale, Donald Enochson, Esther Jennings, DorisMarie Hagopian, Ida May Jones and guest, Susie Jones, Dianne Joseph Esther Lee and guest Tessie Henry, Charles Minster, Robert Nelson, Claire Rains and guest, Earle Mills, Jesse & Jane Ramos, Martha Raup, Joe and Rosie Smith, C P Vandersommen, Este White,** and also **Spence Sutherland from Marin Chapter 400.**

In August, our speaker will be Lorena Lance, Project Manager for FEHBP at Kaiser Permanente. If you want to know about Senior Advantage, this talk should give you the information you need. You are no doubt aware that when you reach 65, you are eligible for Medicare, Part B, and if you are a Kaiser member, you are eligible to enroll in Senior Advantage. This is not mandatory, but you may want to know exactly what advantage there is in Senior Advantage. You can come early for the Board meeting at 10:30 and help us plan for our September "picnic." We'd love to have your input -- let us know your ideas.

August has also been designated "Meet Your Candidates Month". And it's appropriate to find out what the candidates seeking our votes think and feel about NARFE priority legislation. You should be able to catch them in various venues, forums or candidate meetings around town any time before Election Day.

Our 2008 drawing winners are: **\$100- Ana M Chavez, \$50 -Cezaria R Gonzales, \$25- John Lockley and \$25- Frank Morelli.** Many thanks to you all for your support of NARFE! Remember, we can never, never give up hope!

**ALZHEIMER'S: JESSE RAMOS; 875 SANCHEZ ST., SF, CA. 94114; 826-3333**

As I mention in every newsletter, if you wish to make a donation to support programs and services to individuals and families coping with Alzheimer's disease, as well as supporting research efforts to find a cure, please make your donation check payable to "Alzheimer's Association". On the other hand, if you wish your donation to be used solely to support research into finding a cure, please make your check payable to "NARFE-Alzheimer's Research" To ensure that your contribution is correctly acknowledged as coming from a NARFE chapter 65 member, write "NARFE - Chapter 65" in the memo section of your check. Mail your donation to me at the above address; I'll then forward it to the Alzheimer's Association.

NARFE – CHAPTER 65  
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AUGUST 2008

**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).**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: JESSE RAMOS 826-3337**

<b>Balance at 6/1/08</b>	<b>\$6,884.32</b>
Income	\$ 693.97
Expenses	\$1,098.40
<b>Balance at 6/30/08</b>	<b>\$6,479.89</b>

We've continued to receive donations to help defray some of the expenses the chapter's delegates will have who will attend the NARFE National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky this September. All members who filled out the stubs that were included with our May newsletter will participate in the drawing for cash prizes at the chapter's **summer luncheon at Sinbad's Restaurant on July 16**. Since the last newsletter the following members made donations and will be included in the drawing: **Mary Bidegain, Cezaria Gonzales, Alan Hall, Alma Harris, Victor Keyak, John Low, Sabina Maguire, Jimmie Takeuchi, and Margaret Vetter**. The delegates thank you for participating in the drawing.

**LEGISLATION: BEATRICE BERTWELL; 650-754-9962**

August is "Meet the Candidates Month," a time for NARFE members to get to know the people who may be representing their interests in the 111th Congress. As first announced in the May issue of NARFE magazine, Meet Your Candidates Month is an opportunity for NARFE members to acquaint candidates and incumbents with our Association's work and our legislative concerns and priorities. Congress will be in summer recess from August 8th until September 8th, and NARFE members should use this time to get a clear idea of their candidates' positions on issues of importance to NARFE. Chapters should be making plans to meet with their Congressional candidates.

It might be an especially good idea to arrange a meeting with the newly elected Congresswoman from the 12th District, Jackie Speier. She was recently elected to fill the seat of Tom Lantos, who passed away earlier this year, and must now run again for her next term for the years 2009-2010, but the website [www.cqpolitics.com](http://www.cqpolitics.com) says her seat is safe. Maybe we could join with the San Mateo Chapter and arrange to meet with her some morning. Jackie Speier's website is <http://speier.house.gov> and her Washington number is (202) 225-3531. I have an important piece of information about a change in her local number. She now has an official number replacing her old campaign headquarters number. The new number is (650) 342-0300.

**SUNSHINE: EDITH HIGA; 566-7358**

Our condolences and prayers go out to the family of **Herbert C Smith**.  
Contact me when you have any information on ill and or deceased members.

**MEMBERSHIP: HERMAN BRACEY; 668-2337**

WELCOME to our newest members **Donald Enochson and Frances E Foree**.

**NARFE-PAC:**

H Ray Harrington, President of the California State Federation of Chapters, asked me to thank the members of Chapter 65 for their improved financial participation in NARFE-PAC. We have moved from 10 members contributing \$595 at the end of March to 146 members contributing \$4,475 at the end of June. I personally thank each of you who responded to my request for NARFE-PAC support. I suggest to those of you still thinking about donating, now is the time to do so and join us in the fight to protect our earned benefits (the donation coupon is on page 16 in the August issue of NARFE magazine). Place chapter 65 in the memo section of your check.