

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

HERMAN BRACEY, EDITOR

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, FOB 90 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SF, Lower Level Room B-040; (Civic Center BART station)

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## AUGUST 2010 NEWSLETTER

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON AUGUST 18, 2010 AT FOB, 90 7TH ST,  
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:30 AM; 11TH FLOOR RM 11010  
GENERAL MEETING 1:00 PM - LOWER LEVEL - "RM B-040"  
PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO ENTER BUILDING.**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUG 18 REGULAR MEETING, MARK HERBERT-CONGRESSWOMAN NANCY PELOSI'S OFFICE  
AUG 29- SEP 2 NARFE 31ST BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION, GRAND RAPIDS, MI  
SEP 11 ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION'S MEMORY WALK-MISSION CREEK PARK, SF  
SEP 15 REGULAR MEETING, PROGRAM TBA

**PRESIDENT; JERRY HALL; 229 De Montfort Ave, SF, CA 94112; 412-0488, fritz1313@hotmail.com**

**GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST..**Thanks so much to the 43 folks who signed up for the July Luncheon at Caffe Bella Venezia. We try very hard to offer a variety of activities for our members and hope you enjoyed the fresh Italian food prepared by Lorenzo. Lorenzo, the owner, works hard to have a small affordable restaurant in downtown and I hope you will get a chance to make a return visit on your own to support his business.

While we have not been able to obtain a date at the 450 Golden Gate Federal Building for our recruitment drive directed at active federal employees, we will hold our three day outreach at the 90 Seventh Street building, on the 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> of July, in the main lobby near the coffee shop from 8:30 am to 1:00 pm. Recently there have been a number of congressional calls for reducing federal workers' benefits; so it really behooves us to keep our membership strong. Please realize that renewing your membership is very easy to do online. Simply go to the NARFE.org website, click on **membership**, then **membership renewal**, enter you membership number found on your monthly magazine, on the second line directly above your name, enter your birth date, click on **submit** and then provide your credit card information. A dues withholding form can also be obtained in the membership section of the site for those receiving a retirement annuity.

I am happy to report that we have finalized the date and time for our second annual Sky Garden social event (on the 11<sup>th</sup> Floor of the 90 7<sup>th</sup> Street Federal Building) on **October 7<sup>th</sup>, from 4pm to 6pm**. All members are invited and are requested to bring a prospective new member to the social where we will celebrate the new members from our recruitment drive. The event features light snacks and drinks (water, soda, and wine). Last year's social was a big success and five new members were signed up at the event. Please put this date on your calendar and plan to bring a prospective new member and/or volunteer to help with the set up or clean up. Feel free to call me or email me if you have any questions or would like more information.

Finally, we are very pleased to have Mark Herbert from Nancy Pelosi's office at our August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. He will be our featured speaker. Please let Jane Ramos know as soon as possible if you would like him to address any specific topics during his presentation. As always we are looking for your suggestions for Chapter meeting topics and events. Feel free to contact me or any of the members of the program committee to discuss program and event suggestions.

**ALZHEIMER'S: FRANK MORELLI; 1237 Filbert Street; San Francisco, CA 94109-1713; 563-8361**

With the annual Alzheimer's Memory Walk upon us, we have an opportunity to focus our attention on the disease and the fight for a cure. For past walks, members of Chapter 65 have chosen not only to make a special contribution but to also participate in the walk. Your checks for a minimum of \$25 should be sent to your Alzheimer's Chair; checks should be made payable to the Alzheimer's Association with NARFE Chapter 65 in the memo section. At this time you can also let me know if you are planning to make the walk.

**The 2010 San Francisco Alzheimer's Memory Walk, 9:30 AM Saturday September 11**, is the largest Memory Walk in the country. They are proud to have reached the MILLION DOLLAR fundraising mark three years in a row, and we look forward to another million dollar Memory Walk in 2010. This year we have a great new walk location in San Francisco! Join thousands of Memory Walkers from in and around the Bay Area. **Walk Distance:** 3 mile walk or 1.5 mile shortcut. **Walk Route:** The walk will begin in **Mission Creek Park** and we will walk down the 3rd Street Bridge, behind AT&T Park, up the Embarcadero and back again. This route is scenic, flat, and wheelchair accessible. **Public Transportation:** Take any MUNI route that will take you to the corner of Market Street & Spear Street where a free Memory Walk shuttle will then take you to the event site. If you take BART, exit at the Embarcadero Station. Take CalTrain up from the Peninsula to the King Street Station. Walk one block south on 4th Street to **Mission Creek Park**.

NARFE – CHAPTER 65  
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## "NARFE - Working for You"

Visit OUR CHAPTER 65 WEB SITE: (<http://www.narfe65.org>) for more Chapter information, photos, archived newsletter, etc. NATIONAL WEB SITE: (<http://www.narfe.org>); CSFC WEB SITE: (<http://www.csfcnarfe.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**, when you receive it, 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: DIANNE JOSEPH; 179 CHILTON AVE, SF, CA 94131; 334-6380

Balance on: 05/31/10	\$ 5,091.55
Income	\$ 1,575.72
Expenses	\$ 420.73
<b>Balance on: 06/30/10</b>	<b>\$ 6,246.54</b>

**FUNDRAISER SUPPORTERS:** Chapter 65 would like to acknowledge and thank all our members who continue to support the July fundraiser and luncheon raffle. Prizes were awarded at the luncheon on July 21. Following are additional names of the members who have participated in the fundraiser: **Rose Marie Azinheira, Walter Dow, Roger Fahlstrom, Cezaria Gonzales, Ralph M Hockley, Christine Plumb, Ruth Rosenbaum, Dietrich Wagner.**

### RAFFLE WINNERS:

**\$100 - Ralph Sellech; \$50 - Leslie Ching; \$25 - Joseph Smith; \$25 - Jim Kashiwagi**

### SUSHINE: EDITH HIGA 566-7358

Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of **Hung Dere and Edna L Green.**

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

A warm WELCOME to our newest members: **Mercedes M De Asis, Robson S Holmes, Victoria Mcallister Miller, Jim Miller, Stephen L Shelton, Fumiko Shimano, Sampson O Tang and Eugene Wong**

**National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform:** **President Margaret L. Baptiste** speaking before the Commission created by President Obama to craft proposals to reduce the long term debt, Baptiste noted that while entitlements will be a focus of the group, federal retirement and health benefits differ from other entitlement programs. "There is one significant difference: civil service retirement and health benefits are earned by employees, and designed to attract and retain a skilled workforce. They are not modeled on social insurance, health-based, or means-tested."

Over 2.3 million retirees and survivors depend on either the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) or the newer Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). "The federal service has always been a program of shared costs between the agency and the worker. Regrettably, the public is often misinformed -- believing federal employees get 'free' or overly generous benefits." President Baptiste told Commission members. In past, however, civil service pay and benefits have taken outsized reductions during budget cutting legislation, particularly with regard to Cost of Living Adjustments that were canceled in the 1980s without similar action to other federal programs.

Responding that everyone is concerned about the fiscal future facing American, Baptiste observed that the cost of federal retirement programs will barely increase as a share of the Gross Domestic Product in contrast to Social Security and health costs due to increasing retirements on the less costly FERS model. "In federal personnel programs, that goal must be balanced against the skills, retention and productivity of the next generation of employees -- also a long-term balance. Outsized reductions diminish the federal workforce needed to meet the complexities of globalization, and to make government more efficient and responsive to the taxpayers. Please keep these competing elements in mind as you develop a new fiscal blueprint for America." Baptiste remarked. The Commission is schedule to make its recommendations December 2010. Should any proposal receive 14 votes, its recommendations will be considered in an expedited procedure by both the House and Senate without amendment.