

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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**SEPTEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER**

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON SEPTEMBER 15, 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.**

SEP 11 ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION'S MEMORY WALK-MISSION CREEK PARK, SF

SEP 15 REGULAR MEETING, SPEAKER FROM SF CITY GUIDES

OCT 7 SKY GARDEN SOCIAL EVENT 4PM TO 6PM (11<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR 90 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET)

OCT 20 SF STATE VISITA ROOM

NOV 17 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...** We had a good turnout for our meeting in August to listen to Mark Herbert from Speaker Pelosi's office. Your membership and presence at meetings like this strongly communicates the issues that federal workers and federal retirees want addressed. If you have other questions you wish to be addressed by House Speaker Pelosi, please contact Rolene Walker, your legislative chairperson, at 415-359-9297 or [RoleneWalker@aol.com](mailto:RoleneWalker@aol.com). She will be glad to direct your questions and get back with you with the Speakers responses.

We held our second annual recruitment drive in the new federal building the last week of July. I wanted to specifically thank Jane Ramos, Herman Bracey, Frank Morelli, Francis Chan, and Leslie Ching for making the drive a success through their participation and commitment. We handed out more than 150 magazines and applications for membership and received checks or credit card information from 15 new members. Several of our new members from last year's recruitment drive renewed their membership when they saw us in the lobby for our three day recruitment effort.

We will again this year celebrate the success of our recruitment with a Sky Garden Social on October 7th from 4pm to 6pm. All NARFE members are invited to attend and asked to bring a prospective new member to the event. This wine and soda, cheese and appetizer event was quite successful last year and we hope to continue it. It is an opportunity for NARFE Active Federal Employees in the Civic Center area to socialize with each other and bring their friends to hear about the important work that NARFE does for them.

Please feel free to contact me in regards to any concerns you may have, programs you would like us to have at one of our meetings, other events, and anything I and your executive board can do to make San Francisco Chapter 65 a great NARFE Chapter that you are proud to belong. *Jerry*

**SEPTEMBER SPEAKER:** Do you want to learn more about San Francisco? Have you ever joined a San Francisco City Guides walking tour? Ever thought about volunteering as a City Guide for the organization? Does it interest you? Then, come join us on September 15! Our special guest speaker from SF City Guides will talk about the history of the organization, the multitude of walking tours available year-round (they're FREE), and how you can become a City Guide.

**OKTOBERFEST:** Please set aside the **20th of October for our Oktoberfest luncheon** and brief meeting at the **SF State Vista Room**. The restaurant is located in Burk Hall on the campus of San Francisco State in Room 401 (fourth floor). Burk Hall is located right behind the student center and bookstore in the main campus area. It is approximately one block from Muni bus stops (28, 29, 17, and M) at 19<sup>th</sup> and Holloway Ave. It is approximately two to three blocks from the Stonestown Galleria parking lot. Don't miss this opportunity to taste a luncheon prepared by Chef Dan Honan, served by an excellent student staff; it's said to be the best lunch in town for only \$15, coffee & tea included. The number of accommodations are limited, so do reserve early. Payment needs to be in by 1st of Oct.

Please make checks to NARFE Chapter 65 and mail to Fran **Chan, 1333 Gough St Apt 9J, SF 94109**. You can also call me at 415-771-7892 if you have any questions about this event.

***DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND MY CONTROL (MY COMPUTER CRASHED) YOU WILL RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER EDITION MUCH LATER THAN USUAL.***

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SEPTEMBER 2010

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**

The treasury received a \$50 donation from *F.M. Palacios and H. L. Palacios*

Balance on: 07/01/10	\$ 6,246.54
Income	\$ 1,549.21
Expenses	\$ 1,524.24
<b>Balance on: 07/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 6,271.51</b>

**SUSHINE: EDITH HIGA 566-7358**

Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of *Fernando Palacios*.

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

A warm WELCOME to our newest members: *Gregory M Battle, Corazon B Delago, Suzanne Pereira & Michael Work*.

**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 our 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 Cal Train up from the Peninsula to the King Street Station. Walk one block south on 4th Street to **Mission Creek Park**.

**FEDERAL TIMES:** The federal government, smarting from months of accusations that its employees are vastly overpaid, in September will begin reconsidering the way it determines the gap between federal and private-sector employees' pay. Office of Personnel Management Director John Berry said Wednesday that pay and economic experts from his agency, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Labor Department will review the method the government uses to measure pay — which consistently finds federal employees earn 22 percent less on average than their private-sector counterparts — and decide whether any changes are needed.

"I think the [current] pay gap numbers are good ones, and the process is accurate," Berry said in an interview with Federal Times. "But all that being said, [the process] is over 20 years old. My sense is it's time to get folks together to look at this and say, 'Are improvements in order?'"

For example, Berry said that tight budgets have forced Labor in recent years to rely less on direct job-to-job comparisons and more on statistical modeling to estimate the pay gap for certain jobs. That may be one area the panel will look at in September.

Berry has strongly refuted recent news stories and reports from the Cato Institute and Heritage Foundation that have found feds are paid much more than private-sector workers. Those stories are inaccurate and based on "apples to oranges" comparisons of salary data, he said. **By Stephen Losey**