

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER 65
SENTINEL

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

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NOVEMBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 17, 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:

NOV 17 REGULAR MEETING / SAN FRANCISCO WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL
DEC 15 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AT DELANCY STREET/INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
JAN 19 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 NOVEMBER...Thanks to the 36 folks who participated in our October Luncheon at the San Francisco State Vista Room. We had a great meal for only \$15. Thanks to Frances Chan for organizing another successful event.

Also thanks to the dozens of folks who helped to make our Sky Garden social on the 7th at the Federal Building even bigger than last year. We signed up new members as well as renewed a few memberships. Thanks to Frank Morelli, Jane Ramos, and Herman Bracey for working on the set up for this event. Also thanks to Doug Betten and Cara Morket for their support and assistance. Current federal employees joined with retired annuitants are essential to the success of NARFE. A large membership helps NARFE maintain a strong voice as some members of congress try to reduce federal benefits and freeze wages.

Please realize that membership renewal is very crucial to our success. It is easy to go on line and renew your membership (your membership number is on your monthly magazine) the more years you renew for, the less you pay per year. For retired annuitants you can find the dues withholding form on our NARFE65.org site. It eliminates the need to renew and reduces your dues by approximately 15%. Simply send in the form and have a couple dollars deducted from your annuity each month. NARFE continues to expend its resources to ensure that federal workers receive the benefits they work so hard to earn and your support as continuing members makes NARFE have a stronger voice in Washington.

Please join us for our next meeting at 1:00 PM on Wednesday November 17th in room B-040, lower level, of the new federal building at 90 7th Street. Our meeting will feature a speaker from the San Francisco World Affairs Council. It should be interesting and informative and provide you with information about their excellent programs that keep our community informed about events around the world.

ACTION ALERT: NARFE President Margaret Baptiste has issued an Action Alert, asking all NARFE members to urge their members of Congress to include retired public service employees in any legislation offering a \$250 payment to older Americans.

On October 14, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced that, when Congress reconvenes for a "lame duck" session after the elections, the House of Representatives will consider legislation that would provide a \$250 payment to Social Security recipients, veterans and individuals with disabilities (recipients of disability insurance under Social Security).

Rep Pelosi proposed the payment in anticipation of the October 15 announcement by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, confirming what has been reported for several month-there will be no cost of living adjustment (COLA) in three federally administered retirement programs –Social Security, military retirement and federal civil service retirement. This would be the second straight year with no COLA.

In the past, with NARFE's urging, Congress has added retired public employees to such a payment. During consideration of the 2009 economic stimulus bill, retired public employees were initially excluded from a \$250 payment to Social Security recipients. But later – through NARFE's efforts – a \$250 refundable tax credit for public service retirees was included in the legislation that became law.

NARFE is asking all NARFE members – including those who are eligible for Social Security benefits – to contact their members of Congress immediately. NARFE's toll free number for the Capitol Switchboard makes it easy to call your Representative and two Senators. **The NARFE toll-free number for the Capitol Switchboard, 1-866-220-0044,** allows callers to ask for any Representative or Senator by name. When doing so, tell your Congressional delegation the following: "I urge you to include federal, state and local government retirees who are not eligible for Social Security in the \$250 payment to seniors."

NARFE – CHAPTER 65
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NOVEMBER 2010

"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: 09/01/10	\$ 6,472.00
Income	\$ 632.22
Expenses	\$ 263.69
Balance on: 09/30/10	\$ 6,840.53

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

A warm WELCOME to our newest members: *Gae Conte, Adena Kershner, James Kiss and Richard Longo*. We also thank *Jack H Glazer and Keiko H Kuroiwa* for reinstating their memberships.

These are stressful and troubling times for many active and retired federal employees; many of us have been affected by losses in the financial and housing markets and the deepening uncertainty that touches all areas of our lives. The America as we have known it appears to be passing into history. Unfortunately, it's also a time when some NARFE members choose to not renew their NARFE membership. I am saddened that they don't see or appreciate the value in their NARFE membership and perhaps their action is a bit short-sighted.

NARFE acts as your insurance policy against a reduction in your annuities and health care protection. Federal health care and retirement benefits are always vulnerable, particularly with a record high budget deficit and national debt. Indeed, in the not too distant future, lawmakers may want to cut federal benefits in response to the tremendous pressure 77 million retiring baby boomers will place on the budget. So ask yourself whom do you owe the fact that you are still receiving your full annuity, health care benefits and years of cost of living adjustments? You can THANK NARFE! A strong membership means enhanced clout with congress. **NARFE NEEDS YOU – YOU NEED NARFE.**

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON: Our chapter's luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, December 15, at the Delancey Street Restaurant, 600 Embarcadero at Brannan Street in San Francisco. No-host cocktails at 11:30 a.m. (please order directly from the bartender), with lunch at 12:00 noon. The entrees are: seared sea scallops with mango-papaya salsa and organic field greens and vinaigrette, linguini with smoked chicken and shitake mushrooms with red or white sauce, and apple glazed loin of pork with sweet and sour red cabbage. Lunch includes: appetizers, soup du jour with assorted flat breads; one soft beverage per person and unlimited coffee or hot tea or iced tea. Dessert is a choice of vanilla bean ice cream and biscotti or chocolate mousse.

Attendance is limited to 36 people, so please send in your reservations ASAP. There is valet parking at \$4 per vehicle or ride public transportation via Muni Metro street cars T-Third or N-Judah toward AT&T Ballpark. Disembark at the outdoor Brannan Street Station and walk across the street. Donated door prizes happily accepted.

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATION EARLY AND SUBMIT THE COUPON BELOW:

===== Please respond NO LATER than MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 =====

Mail reservations to: Leslie Ching, 160 Gardenside Drive, #101, San Francisco 94131

Name _____ Telephone No: _____

Address: _____ Zip _____

Check choice of entrée: [] Sea Scallops [] Linguini with Smoked Chicken [] Glazed Loin of Pork

Number in Party _____ @ \$26 per person Total enclosed: \$ _____

Please attach names of guests and entrée. Make checks payable to: NARFE Chapter 65