

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER 65
SENTINEL

HERMAN BRACEY, EDITOR

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

Sen Barbara Boxer
Senate Office Bldg
Wash DC 20510
Phone 1 202 224 3553
1700 Montgomery St
SF Ca 94111
Phone 415 403- 0100

Sen Dianne Feinstein
Senate Office Bldg
Wash DC 20510
Phone 1 202 224 3841
1 Post St Ste 2450
SF Ca 94104
Phone 415 393-0707

Cong Nancy Pelosi
House Office Bldg
Wash DC 20515
Phone 1 202 225 4965
90-7th St Suite 2-800
SF Ca 94102
Phone 415 556-4862

Cong Jackie Speier
House Office Bldg
Wash DC 20515
Phone 1 202 225 3531
400 S El Camino Real
San Mateo Ca 94402
Phone 650 342-0300

NARFE Hot Line
Ph 1 877 217-8234
White House
Ph 1 202 234 1111
Congress Switchboard
Ph 1 866-220-0044

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412-0488

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334-6380

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668-2337

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ALZHEIMER'S

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563-8361

TELEPHONE

Ruby Dale
DorisMarie Hagopian
776-5199

ACTIVE EMPLOYEE

LIAISON
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625-7726

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Martha Raup
334-6380

MARCH 2011 NEWSLETTER

**NO MEETING THIS MONTH; SEE YOU 11:30 AM AT
SF STATE VISTA ROOM - BURK HALL 4TH FL ROOM 401**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAR 16 LUNCHEON 11:30 AM SF STATE VISTA ROOM - BURK HALL 4TH FL ROOM 401

APR 16 -18 3RD BIENNIAL CSFC CONVENTION AT ONTARIO. CA

APR 20 REGULAR MEETING/SPEAKER ANN LINDSAY BENEFITS OFFICER DEPT OF LABOR

MAY 18 REGULAR MEETING/SPEAKER KATHLEEN BUTTERFIELD, US COURT OF APPEALS

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 MARCH... Don't forget to sign up for our March 16th's luncheon at the Vista Room at San Francisco State. The Vista Room provides excellent three course meals for only \$15. It is easily accessible by both public transportation and car. See information on how to make a reservation at the bottom of this newsletter.

Please consider having your NARFE dues deducted from your annuity. This \$3.50 a month deduction for your membership is an easy way to ensure continued receipt of your magazines and newsletters and reduces the yearly membership dues by 15%. It eliminates the need to worry about whether you sent in your renewal or are up to date on your membership. You can get the form for dues withholding at any of our meetings at the Federal Building or you can go online to our website at <http://narfe65.org> click on membership and then on dues withholding. Next fill out the form and mail it in as indicated.

It is crucial to NARFE that we continue our memberships and seek to recruit new members. There are several million current and retired federal employees and their beneficiaries who are eligible for membership but we currently have only 300,000 members. I believe these low membership numbers send the wrong message to congress, that we are comfortable and content with the growing attacks on our earned benefits, that we are disorganized and willing to have our modest benefits reduced. **Please make it your goal to recruit one new member this month.** If your spouse does not belong, sign him/her up. Remember they will be affected by the numerous reductions in benefits currently being floated.

Feel free to contact me if you have concerns or suggestions on how to increase membership and maintain a strong NARFE as this year we celebrate the 90th birthday of our NARFE organization.

FEDERAL TAX WITHHOLDING: In response to high call volume, the Office of Personnel Management has established a new Tax Hotline that retirees can call to change the federal tax withholding on their monthly annuity payments. The number is 800-307-8298. (Dave Snell, Retirement Benefits dsnell@narfe.org)

NARFE President Responds to President's Budget Proposals: Joseph A. Beaudoin, President of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), one of America's oldest and largest associations, released the following statement today, Feb. 15, 2011, in response to the release of President Obama's FY 2012 Budget.

"America's federal work force understands the importance of fiscal responsibility; federal employees are already doing their part to reduce the deficit by undergoing a two-year pay freeze. I also realize that the president's proposed \$400-billion reduction in discretionary spending will have consequences for all of us, as will the other less friendly proposals before Congress. On behalf of the 4.6 million active and retired federal workers, we must make sure that federal employees who are doing their jobs for our country don't get caught unfairly in the middle of these consequences. The commitment of federal workers to providing critical services, particularly in these tough economic times, cannot be overstated."

Fight Back by Telephone on March 8th: On Tuesday, March 8th, some 300 NARFE officers and activists are scheduled to descend on Capitol Hill to meet with their lawmakers as part of NARFE's biennial Legislative Training Conference. Add your voice to theirs by calling toll free to your Congressional delegation on March 8th. Page 10 of the March magazine provides a CUT AND SAVE feature with complete information including request for response in writing from lawmakers. The toll free number for reaching the Capitol switchboard is 1-866-220-0044.

NARFE – CHAPTER 65
651 COLE STREET APT 2
SAN FRANCISCO, CA, 94117-2849
www.narfe65.org

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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 \$40.00 and Chapter 65 Dues are \$8.00 annually. Mail check for the full \$48.00, 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: 1/01/11	\$ 7,184.75
Income	\$ 601.50
Expenses	\$ 1,609.85
Balance on: 1/31/11	\$ 6,176.40

SUNSHINE: EDITH HIGA 566-7358

Our prayers and condolences go out to the family of **Ralph D House**.

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

A warm WELCOME goes out to our newest members **Richard Brown, James A Davis, Imelda A Gaspay, Harriet M K Ishimoto, Michael F Kruley, Linda Nanbu, Stephen W Pichel, Margaret Ryder and Anthony M Talbird**. We thank **Diane Reese Beyer, Patricia Dangerfield and Margaret Santiago** for reinstating their membership.

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

We wish to thank **Ana M Chavez** for her donation to Alzheimer's research.

As we mention in most newsletters, 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 efforts into finding a cure, please make your check payable to "NARFE-Alzheimer's Research". To insure 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 forward it to the Alzheimer's Association.

ST PATRICK DAY LUNCHEON; WEDNESDAY MARCH 16, 2011: It's not to late to make your reservations for the 3 course meal at SF State's VISTA ROOM, with soup or salad, choice of 3 entrees, dessert & beverage, only \$15. Call co-workers, friends and meet us and get a short informal update on NARFE concerns. Lunch begins at **11:45AM, in the SF STATE VISTA ROOM in BURK HALL Room 401**, which is behind he Student Center & Bookstore on the Main Campus Area, just about a block walk from MUNI junction at 19th & Holloway, for buses: 28, 29, 17, & M. (Also it is 2 or 3 blocks from Stonestown Galleria's parking lot.) For Information or confirmation call: **Fran Chan (415) 771-7892** (if you want to sit in a group, state so when you send in your check, I'm happy to serve you, and I look forward to seeing you there.

===== Please respond NO LATER than SATURDAY, MARCH 5 =====

Mail reservations to: Fran Chan 1333 Gough ST. Apt 9-J San Francisco 94109-6529

Name _____ Telephone No: _____

Address: _____ Zip _____

Check entrée: [] Boiled Corned Beef & Cabbage [] Seafood Pie in Cider Cream [] Spinach Pasta with vegetables

Number in Party _____ @ \$15 per person Total enclosed: \$ _____

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