

**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

PRESIDENT

Jerry Hall
412-0488

1st VICE PRES

Martha Raup
334-6380

2nd VICE PRES

Herman Bracey
668-2337

SECRETARY

Jane Ramos
826-3337

TREASURER

Dianne Joseph
334-6380

EDITOR

Herman Bracey
668-2337

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SERV OFFICER

David Garcia
510 235-7750

MEMBERSHIP

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359-9297

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641-6245

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SUNSHINE

Edith Higa
566-7358

ALZHEIMER'S

Frank Morelli
563-8361

TELEPHONE

Ruby Dale
DorisMarie Hagopian
776-5199

ACTIVE EMPLOYEE

LIAISON
Rebecca Clark
625-7726

WEBMASTERS

Dianne Joseph
Martha Raup
334-6380

MAY 2011 NEWSLETTER

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON MAY 18, 2011 AT FOB, 90 7TH ST,
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:30 AM; 11TH FLOOR RM 11010
GENERAL MEETING 1:00 PM - LOWER LEVEL - "RM B-120"
PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO ENTER BUILDING.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 18 REGULAR MEETING/SPEAKER KATHLEEN BUTTERFIELD, US COURT OF APPEALS
JUN 15 TOUR OF CHRIST THE LIGHT CATHEDRAL AND LUNCH IN OAKLAND
JUL 20 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 MAY... First, I would like to thank the members of the executive board who contributed to the success of our meeting on April 20th at the New Federal Building. Ann Lindsay DOL Benefits Officer, a long time NARFE member, presented information that affects both current and retired federal employees. More than 50 people attended the presentation. Your board greeted and welcomed the large number of Active Federal Employees who attended the session. Ann indicated during her talk the importance of the educational information that NARFE provides its members and encouraged non-members to go to the NARFE website and consider joining NARFE.

Next month's 1:00 pm meeting at the Federal Building on the 18th of May will feature a presentation by Kathleen Butterfield, US Court of Appeals. She will provide insight into the operations of the court and the historic building in which the courts reside. Please remember that your program committee is always seeking input from members as to programs of interest that NARFE can sponsor at the Federal Building every third Wednesday of the month. Additionally we have our executive board meeting at 10:30 am and all members are invited to attend.

Please remember that your Chapter 65 has a very excellent website at www.narfe65.org where you can always find a copy of the current and previous newsletters as well as a host of other information about NARFE and issues affecting Active and Retired Federal Employees.

While NARFE is a great source of educational materials for active and retired federal workers, it actively works to protect the benefits that federal employees have earned during their years of federal service. Martha Raup, Dianne Joseph, and I attended the California Federation Convention April 16th, 17th, and 18th as delegates from Chapter 65. Speakers at the convention emphasized the importance of vigilance by NARFE members to protect their earned benefits. Unfortunately, there is significant misinformation in the media insinuating that Federal Workers are overpaid. These statistics compare federal workers to minimum wage unskilled workers rather than to highly skilled comparable jobs in the private sector. These inappropriate comparisons indicate federal workers are overpaid when actually federal workers are paid 23% less than workers in comparable jobs in the private sector. Moreover, our benefits are very comparable to those found in many large private industry corporations. There are a number of congressional proposals out there to reduce federal workers benefits and wages based upon these inaccurate comparisons. Please renew your memberships timely and encourage your federal worker and retiree friends to join if they have not already joined. Multiyear memberships are less expensive. Dues withholding is available to all retirees and also reduces the cost for membership. Go to our website to learn how to implement dues withholding. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns about NARFE and the issues found in our newsletter. I serve as president to assist you as needed.

Don't forget that in June we will be having a field trip which includes an architectural tour of the Cathedral of Christ the Light, 2121 Harrison, near Lake Merritt in Oakland, followed by lunch at Jack London Square. Please see the information at the bottom of the newsletter on making your reservation for the tour. While the tour normally is \$5.00, NARFE members will receive the tour free and only need to pay for their individual lunches and transportation to and from the site. The Cathedral is within a few short blocks of the 19th Street BART Station and the [free](#) Broadway Shuttle between Grand Street and Jack London Square where Ferries arrive from and depart to the San Francisco Ferry Building. There is also parking at the Cathedral.

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

A warm **WELCOME** goes out to our newest members **Ruth E Bitzel, Gerald Chan and Terence Trotter.**

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

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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 \$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: 3/01/11	\$ 5,916.20
Income	\$ 831.86
Expenses	\$ 933.26
Balance on: 3/30/11	\$ 5,814.80

SUNSHINE: EDITH HIGA; 566-7358

Our prayers and condolences go out to the families of our deceased members **Marjorie H Barnard, Mardell H Corning and Jack Nayer.**

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

We wish to thank **Walter & Mitzie Slater** for their generous contribution to the **Alzheimer's Association.**

Update: NARFE Donations top \$9 million for Alzheimer's Research NARFE members, chapters and federations, from across the country have donated more than \$9 million since the organization joined with the Alzheimer's Association in 1985. NARFE is a member of the Alzheimer's Association's distinguished donor program, the Zenith Society. NARFE has funded a total of 49 research grants. A big thank you to all Chapter 65 members who have donated over the years!!

CONVENTION REPORT, MARTHA RAUP:

Jerry Hall, Dianne Joseph, and I attended the 3rd Biennial California State Federation of Chapters Convention in Ontario CA on 4/16-18/11. The meetings were well-run and informative, and the convention afforded us opportunities to connect with other chapters in District V and others from around the State. Congressmen Brad Sherman and Joe Baca addressed the convention, as did National NARFE President Joe Beaudoin and NARFE National Legislation Director Dan Adcock. Convention summaries have been sent to all subscribers to NARFE's Global Email Messaging System (GEMS), and PDF copies and photos will be posted on Chapter 65's website (www.narfe65.org). Our elected **CSFC Officers** for the next two years are **President - Dottie Schmidt, Executive Vice President - Dee Schalenberger, Secretary - Vivian Nathanson, Treasurer - Mary Foster**, and our **District V VP - Lennie Lund** from Chapter 50.

We'd like to thank all those who participated in last year's raffle, which collected over \$800 to help defray our expenses at the convention. Raffle tickets for our next raffle will be included with our October newsletter, and will raise money for the National Convention in Reno NV at John Ascuaga's Nugget from **August 26-30, 2012** (winners will be selected at our December 14th luncheon). All Chapter 65 members are eligible to attend. We'd love to see you there!

ARCHITECTURAL TOUR OF THE CHRIST THE LIGHT CATHEDRAL

Please reserve a space for me to take the one hour architectural tour of the Christ the Light Cathedral at 2121 Harrison St., Oakland, California 94612, at 10:20 am on June 15th. Send your reservation request to Jerry Hall, 229 De Montfort Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112 by US Mail or via email to fritz1313@hotmail.com with the heading "June Cathedral Tour." Reservations must be requested by June 5, 2011.

Name _____ Contact Information _____

Number in party _____