

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-120 (Civic Center BART station)

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NOVEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 20, 2013 AT FOB, 90 7TH ST.
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 10:30 AM; 11TH FLOOR RM 11-010
GENERAL MEETING 1:00 PM - LOWER LEVEL - "RM B-120"
PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO ENTER BUILDING.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOV 11-DEC 9 FEHBP OPEN SEASON
NOV 06 DOL HEALTH FAIR 90 7TH STREET, LOWER LEVEL B-040 9 -11 AM
NOV 20 CHRISTINE HARRIS SF JAZZ HERITAGE CENTER-HISTORICAL & MODERN DAY JAZZ
DEC 11 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AND INSTALATION OF OFFICERS AT BISTRO 10UN
JAN 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 NOVEMBER... Due to the government shutdown, the San Francisco Chapter was unable to hold its monthly meeting in October (normally in the 90 7th Street Federal Building). I hope you are as tired as I am in regards to the bickering and grandstanding that undermines government on all levels. I am not sure how disregard for the working families of America, contributes to the betterment of U.S. society. I guess if Congress gets paid, that is all they care about. The two million plus federal workers whether working or not did not get paid until someone said "uncle."

Besides the above, I spent most of the 2.5 weeks during the "shutdown" thinking about how little respect there is for federal service. I keep thinking that federal workers and retirees have "accepted" this disrespect for their service. Then I concluded that we simply have to be more vocal and speak out until the politicians get tired of the message that public service is valuable and needs to be appreciated by our country. I have friends in other countries and they talk about graft and corruption in their countries. I tell them there is little in the U. S. because we pay government workers appropriate wages and provide them with benefits that helps to prevent the graft and corruption they see in their countries. Then I wonder how long that will be the case in the U. S. if we marginalize and disrespect our government workers. There seems to be a lack of big picture thinking on the political level. I am not sure what the "end goal" is for some of these folks in Washington. Even thoughtful CEOs understand that they need a middle class to buy the products they sell. Making the middle class and the poor poorer will not help business.

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On a more positive note, active federal employees can sign up for a free six months NARFE membership. They simply go to the NARFE.org website and click on the banner "Enough is Enough"..then click on join NARFE for six months free..all it requires is basic information, name, address, and an email. Being an aggressive recruiter, I suggest that you contact any active federal employees you know and tell them you are signing them up for a free membership in NARFE. Tell them you are doing it and there is no obligation to continue. Hopefully they will see the light and continue their membership. This membership is an electronic membership only but they will receive the monthly magazine as well. They will be advised via email about their membership benefits.

I like the "Enough is Enough" slogan on the NARFE website. You can tell congress enough is enough by going to the NARFE.org website and clicking on legislation. A simple click or two with your identifying information will send your message to congress. Try it you might like it.

The last 4 years without any federal worker raises has taken a toll on the morale of federal workers and forced their families to be "less middle class." You can go to the website and see the article about what it may take for the small 1% increase in wages to occur. I am sure their medical and other costs have risen more than 1% over the past 4 years.

You can also get information on the NARFE website about the proposed pay raise and on the committee assigned to address this year's budget. Additionally the legislation section has a letter you can send in regards to the proposed chained CPI if you like. (Chained CPI is a quick way to take tens of thousands of dollars from every federal retiree, every social security beneficiary, and every federal employee.)

If you do not have internet access you can always call (202) 224-3121 to contact your representatives. For those who like to write their congressperson, use the following example: To a Senator: The Honorable (full name), Senate Office Building, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510; To a Representative: The Honorable (full name) House Office Building, United States House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.

November 2013

"NARFE –Your voice in Congress!"

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

CSFC President Richard Ostergren passed this message on: I am pleased to report that as of 8/31/2013, the NARFE fundraising total is \$10,470,008.55. During the month of August 2013, you and your members raised a total of \$25,565.26 Please feel free to contact me with any questions and thank you for your continued support of the Alzheimer's Association.

TREASURER'S REPORT: DIANNE JOSEPH, 179 CHILTON AVE, SF, CA 94131; 334-6380

Balance on 9/01/13	\$2,595.10
Income	\$ 511.72
Expenses	\$ 645.17
Balance on 9/30/13	\$2,461.65

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

We **WELCOME** our newest member **Juan Coria**, and we also thank **Carol Kiser and Stephen G Newman** for reinstating their memberships.

The Department of Labor-sponsored annual Health Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, November 6. at the Federal Office Building, 90 - 7th Street, San Francisco from 9-11 am . It may be held in either Room B-040, Lower Level, or the lobby of the building. We'll be having a table at the Fair and any chapter member is welcome to attend and/or help to spread the word about NARFE!

San Francisco chapter members, your program committee will be meeting on November 20, after the general meeting. to discuss the 2014 program schedule. Please contact one of the members and give him/her your ideas for speakers, restaurants, or an event.

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

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.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON: Our annual Holiday luncheon this year will be held at **Bistro 10UN 1130 Market Street (6th floor) at 7TH Street, San Francisco. (415) 276-4048.** Lunch will be a salad, desert and a choice of: **Grilled Local Swordfish, White Bean Puree, Salsa Verde, Bell Peppers, Blue Lake Beans; Roast Beef Sirloin, Sauce Foyot, Broccolini, Pommes Anna; or Risotto, Wild Mushrooms, Mascarpone, Kale** coffee, tea or lemonade. Other beverages can be purchased individually at the bar. Price for the three-course luncheon, including tax and tip will be \$22. **Doors open 11:45 am.** Please send your check with the attached coupon by November 18th, as the restaurant will need the number of attendees by the 20th.

==== ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE NOVEMBER 18TH ====

Mail Reservation coupon and check to Jerry Hall, 229 De Montfort Ave, San Francisco, CA 94112.

Name _____ Tel No. _____

Address _____

Check Choice of Entree: Grilled Swordfish [] Roast Beef Sirloin [] Risotto []

Number in Party _____ @ \$22.00 each Total Enclosed \$ _____

Attach names of guests and their choice of entrée. Make checks payable to NARFE CHAPTER 65