

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)

Sen Barbara Boxer
Senate Office Bldg
Wash DC 20510
Phone 1 202 224 3553
70 Washington St Ste 203
Oakland, CA 94607
Phone 510 286- 8537

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

EXEC BOARD

David Garcia
DorisMarie Hagopian
Frank Morelli

SERV OFFICER

David Garcia
510 235-7750

MEMBERSHIP

Herman Bracey
668-2337

LEGISLATION

Rolene Walker
359-9297

PUB. RELATIONS

Fran Chan
Leslie Ching
641-6245

AUDIT & BUDGET

Jesse Ramos
826-3337

PROGRAM

Jerry Hall
Juanita Lott
Jane Ramos
Helen Rogers

SUNSHINE

Edith Higa
566-7358

ALZHEIMER'S

Frank Morelli
563-8361

TELEPHONE

Ruby Dale
467-9376

DorisMarie Hagopian
776-5199

ACTIVE EMPLOYEE

LIAISON

Rebecca Clark
625-7726

WEBMASTERS

Dianne Joseph
Martha Raup
334-6380

IMM PAST PRES

Jane Ramos

MARCH 2014 NEWSLETTER

**NO MEETING THIS MONTH. SEE YOU AT THE
MANDARIN VILLA, 101 OAK STREET AT FRANKLIN**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAR 19 LUNCHEON – MANDARIN VILLA AT FRANKLIN AND OAK (101 OAK STREET)
APR 16 FRANCINE ROBY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD
AUG 24-28 NATIONAL CONVENTION ORLANDO, FLORIDA

PRESIDENT: JERRY HALL, 229 De Montfort Ave, SF, CA 94112; ph:412-0488, fritz1313@hotmail.com

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR

ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH.... I guess the snow in Washington DC has provided a bit of relief for federal employees and retirees. I was in Alexandria, VA at the Future of NARFE committee meeting in January. The weather was cold and icy but the ideas were warm and exciting. The Future of NARFE Committee continues its daunting task. Here is the latest information that I can share. The structure of NARFE really suggests that the National Executive Board have an opportunity to discuss and respond to the recommendations from the Future of NARFE Committee before the report is released to members. The Board is your elected representatives and they will consider the recommendations and support those ideas and suggestions they deem important and worth pursuing. The committee has been faced with a challenging task, to try to determine what NARFE should look like 10 years, 20 years, and even 30 years from now. The committee struggled to meet the challenge. As Frederick Douglas said, **"If there is no struggle, there is no progress."** The committee wanted to suggest ways that NARFE could modernize, move forward and progress as an organization.

Among the issues that the committee tried to address was the continuing decrease in membership. While NARFE had increased its membership between 1978 – 1982, by 200,000 members (approximately 50,000 per year), with membership reaching more than 495 thousand at its height, unfortunately we have lost almost 250,000 members since the mid 1980's. NARFE has closed more than 100 chapters (29 in 2010, 28 in 2011, 39 in 2012, 54 in 2013). Moreover, NARFE has lost many members to death (8405 in 2010, 8335 in 2011, 8221 in 2012 & 12,409 in 2013). NARFE Headquarters has gone from over 100 staff persons to the present staff of 51 + the four resident elected officers. NARFE has 5 layers: Chapters, Districts, Federations, Regions and HQ; this structure which arose in the 1950's clearly supported the growth of the 1980's. However, now NARFE has half the number of members and still maintains the structure of the 1980's. NARFE depends significantly on members' dues payments for approximately **68-69%** of our expenses. The rest of NARFE's income comes from advertising and those fundraising activities that some of you may or may not like, cards, calendars, etc., in order to pay its bills and maintain the current structure.

The Future of NARFE Committee was charged to address *how NARFE as an organization might change to ensure that it continues as a viable and influential organization for decades to come.* The world has significantly changed since the current structure of NARFE was developed. In fact, the changes in the way we communicate and meet in the world of 2014 is quite different from the ways of the 1950's.

The Future of NARFE Committee spent 5 months working on its report that will be presented to the full executive board the week of February 24th. The details of the report and the action taken by the executive board should be available shortly after that meeting. **"Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."** - President Barack Obama

Please be aware that the nine chapters in District V will be holding a training meeting in San Mateo on Wednesday April 23rd. Some of the issues that will be discussed and presented will include legislative advocacy, providing services to members in regards to their benefits, creating Facebook and Twitter accounts and chapter websites. The meeting will begin with registration at 9:30 am, will include lunch, and end before 2:30 pm. More details on cost, location, and the luncheon will be available via flyers and in next month's newsletter. Your help is needed to put on this event; please contact me at the above number if you are willing to help.

MARCH 2014

"NARFE – Your voice in Congress!"

There is still time to make your reservation for our March luncheon that will be held at **Mandarin Villa (101 Oak Street)**. This multi-course family style Chinese meal is only \$16. Please mail your luncheon reservations to Leslie Ching, 160 Gardenside Drive, #101, San Francisco 94131. Checks should be made out to NARFE Chapter 65 and sent to Leslie by March 10. **Our annual fundraiser raffle drawing will be held at the luncheon.**

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

Balance on 1/01/14	\$2,420.01
Income	\$1,168.19
Expenses	\$1,459.77
Balance on 1/31/14	\$2,128.43

SUNSHINE: EDITH HIGA, 566-7358

Our condolences and prayers to the families of **Esther L Lee, 1983 Oakdale Ave, SF, CA 94121-2003; Robert R Smith, 1344 Pacific Ave, Apt 417, Santa Cruz, CA; Maxine E Smith, 2442 Palmwood DR, Holiday, FL 34690-4045; Phillip Woolfe, 1782 28TH Ave, SF, CA 94122-4219.**

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

We WELCOME **Xavier Guerrero** who recently transferred into our Chapter and we THANK **Stephen Bacharach** for reinstating his membership.

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

We wish to thank **Susan & Joseph Mangiameli, Ana M Chavez and Helen H Rogers** for their Alzheimer's donations.

SURVEY ON FUTURE OF CHAPTER 65 NEWSLETTER AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

After more than 15 years as our able and dedicated Chapter 65 newsletter editor, Herman Bracey is resigning with the June 2014 issue. We appreciate his service and the opportunity to consider other communications with members especially given greater use of social media. Please complete this short survey of 3 questions and return by email or postal mail to Martha Raup, 179 Chilton Ave. SF, CA 94131 or mailladymartha@yahoo.com by March 15

1. The monthly newsletter, sent to over 600 members, is the chapter's largest expense. Preparing each edition takes a minimum of 4 - 6 hours each month. Are you willing to be the editor for a paper version?
2. Do you have on-line access to read on-line versions? Would you prefer on-line newsletters?
3. Would you prefer a hard copy mailed to you?

Based on responses, Executive Committee will decide on chapter communications after the June 2014 issue.

HEALTH BENEFITS IN RETIREMENT: All retirees and soon to retire or thinking about retiring folks are invited to attend these seminars being held in the Arizona Room of the 450 Golden Gate Federal Building on the Second Floor from 11 am to 12:30PM. **The dates this year are April 17th, August 14th, and December 18th. Blue Cross Blue Shield, Kaiser, GEHA, Mailhandler's, Social Security, and Medicare will participate. PHOTO ID REQUIRED TO ENTER BUILDING.**

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.