

**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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JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

**NO MEETING THIS MONTH SEE YOU AT THE ANCHOR BREWING COMPANY
1705 MARIPOSA STREET SAN FRANCISCO CA**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUN 18 & 25	TOUR ANCHOR BREWING CO. 10:00 AM (LIMITED TO 10); 1:00 PM (LIMITED TO 8)
JUL 16	JANET ALLEN DIRECTOR OF PEACE CORPS WESTERN REGION
AUG 18-20	MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT DRIVE FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING 8:30 AM – 1:00 PM
AUG 20	ANN LINDSAY DOL BENEFITS OFFICER "PREPARING FOR RETIREMENT"
AUG 24-28	NATIONAL CONVENTION ORLANDO, FLORIDA

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 JUNE...

Probably one of the more interesting proposals from the House of Representatives is the creation of a new CPI-E, which would be specifically designed to reflect the cost in expenses that older Americans and seniors face as they age. The CPI-E Act of 2014 (H.R.4202) is sponsored by Rep. Michael Honda, D-CA, and would result in more accurate COLAs that reflect seniors' spending by taking into account the significant increase in health costs that seniors experience. The CPI-E would replace the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), to determine annual cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) for federal and military annuities and certain veterans' benefits. There is a letter on the national NARFE website that can be sent electronically or mailed to your congressperson, requesting your congressperson's support for this more accurate formula. You can also contact your representative personally to offer your support for this index. While the bill probably has little chance of passage, it is a way to communicate that if there are to be any changes to the CPI index, those changes should reflect the reality of the spending increases seniors face.

There appears to be a large amount of misrepresentation and inaccurate characterizations about the Future of NARFE Committee's (FONC) proposal and what it means. Since I worked on committee, I am most willing to answer any questions and clarify any issues in regards to the proposal. The proposal came from a group of 12 representatives from throughout the country. The committee attempted to look at the issues facing NARFE and honestly address the declining membership, the loss of hundreds of Chapters, and the complex structure that was created in the 1950s to address the needs of Federal retirees. The committee looked at the primary mission of the organization (of protecting the earned benefits of federal workers and retirees.) and proposed a new structure that would keep focused on and facilitate that mission.

The huge technological changes our society has experienced and changes to how we communicate were always a part of our discussions. We understood that change is difficult, but we believed NARFE needed a modernized structure and leaner organization with professional management. After six months of many meetings and discussions, the group proposed what it believed NARFE needed to do to maintain its vibrancy and relevance. Just as other non-profits today have adapted and changed to maintain their relevance, the committee concluded that NARFE needed to change. At its February 24-27 meeting, the National Executive Board (NEB) went through each of the 35 FONC recommendations. The NEB agreed that four bylaws amendments and one general resolution would be brought to the 2014 National Convention. Subsequently, on the advice of legal counsel, the NEB decided that two of the proposed bylaw amendments (to open NARFE membership to everyone and to create a special youth membership for those under age 26) will not be presented, but will be subject to more study and research. Thus, only two bylaw amendments will be brought to the 2014 National Convention: 1. Reduce the four National Officers to two: National President and National Treasurer (eliminating the National Vice President and National Secretary positions) and 2. Eliminate mandatory chapter membership. In addition to the two bylaw amendments, the NEB will bring one general resolution to the 2014 National Convention: "That the NEB continue developing the model for the Future NARFE using the Future of NARFE Committee report as a foundation, and provide implementing resolutions and bylaw amendments for consideration at the 2016 National Convention. This will be done through strategic planning, with stakeholder participation, to decide the best organization for the future of the Association." The resolution takes everything and everyone into account, and allows for healthy and productive discussions to occur during the next two years. A vote for this resolution only authorizes the NEB to continue to work on the FONC recommendations. It does NOT mean you are voting to implement the FONC recommendations, but only authorizing the Board to continue to develop the model with member input. The FONC report and recommendations will be used as a starting point from which to build a future NARFE.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

With the publication of this newsletter, Herman Bracey, our Editor for the past seventeen years is retiring. The membership would like to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to Herman on behalf of Chapter 65 for all he has done and will continue to do for our chapter. Starting with the July newsletter our Editor will be Joe Mangiameli. He can be contacted at joemangia@comcast.net or 415-359-9644.

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

Balance on 4/01/14	\$ 2,499.60
Income	\$ 241.19
Expenses	\$ 392.60
Balance on 4/30/14	\$ 2,348.19

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

We thank *Gerald T. Hemstock, Robert F. Phipps, Margaret Y. Tong and Michael L. Wimer* for reinstating their membership.

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

We thank *Alma Harris* for her generous donation to the Alzheimer's Association.

SERVICE OFFICER: DAVID GARCIA, 510-235-7750

One of our NARFE members called for help in changing her direct deposit annuity payments over to another bank. There are two ways to make this change. She could go to her new financial institution and complete Form SF1199A and either mail it or fax it to OPM, or she could request the change be done over the phone making sure she furnished the institution's routing number and her own individual account number. In either case, the annuitant's claim number including either CSA or CSF prefix should be included. It is advisable to not close the account at the old institution until after the first payment is received at the new institution. The mailing address is: OPM, Retirement Operations Center, P O Box 45, Boyers, PA 16017-0045, and their fax number is 724-794-6633.

NARFE's June 2014 Tour

NARFE's June tour is at the **Anchor Brewing Co.** 1705 Mariposa Street, San Francisco. The tour is free. Each tour lasts 1.5 - 2 hours with tasting of some 14 beers/ales in the last half. There are stairs, but a freight elevator is available for those who need it. Restaurants are close by, mostly on De Haro St. Only street parking (with unlimited time) is available. Muni buses 19 & 22 stop nearby. For driving instructions call Anchor at 415-863-8350 ex 3 & then #2.

For your Anchor Brewing Co. visit pick a first choice and a second choice. Give number in your party and names (for NARFE check-in list). Mail (or email) information to **Helen Rogers: hobanrogers@mindspring.com; 132 Lawton St., San Francisco, CA 94122; 415-759-8478**. Call Helen with any questions. Tour address: 1705 Mariposa Street (at De Haro St.) San Francisco. Meet in lobby of Mariposa entrance. **Please arrive 15 minutes early for check-in.**

*******Please Detach Coupon & Respond NO LATER THAN Monday, June 9th*******

1st Choice: [] **June 18th 10:00 am** or 2nd Choice: [] **June 18th 1:00 pm**

1st Choice: [] **June 25th 10:00 am** or 2nd Choice: [] **June 25th 1:00 pm**

No. in your party _____, Participant(s) Name(s) _____

Your contact email or phone No. _____