

# NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

## SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER 65



# SENTINEL

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, FOB, 90 7<sup>th</sup> St, near Market



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Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20515  
Phone 1-202-224-3553  
50 United Nations Plaza  
Rm 5584  
San Francisco CA 94102  
Phone 1-916-448-2787

**Sen. Dianne Feinstein**  
Senate Office Building  
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**Rep. Nancy Pelosi**  
House Office Building  
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San Francisco CA 94102  
Phone 415-556-4862

**Rep. Jackie Speier**  
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Washington DC 20515  
Phone 1-202-225-3531  
155 Bovet Road Suite 780  
San Mateo CA 94402  
Phone 415-566-5257

**NARFE HOT LINE**  
Phone 1-877-217-8234

**White House**  
Phone 1-888-225-8418

**Congress Switchboard**  
Phone 1-866-220-0044

**MARCH 2017 NEWSLETTER**  
**NO MEETING THIS MONTH SEE YOU AT HARD KNOX CAFE**  
**2448 CLEMENT ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- MARCH 15 LUNCHEON AT [HARD KNOX CAFÉ](#), 2448 CLEMENT STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA  
APRIL 19 PRESENTATION: CANINE COMPANIONS FOR INDEPENDENCE  
MAY 17 PRESENTATION: THE U. S. COAST GUARD  
JUNE 21 TOUR OF SAN FRANCISCO CITY HALL (ADDITIONAL DETAILS NEXT MONTH)

**PRESIDENT: JERRY HALL; 229 De Montfort Ave, SF, CA 94112; 415-412-0488, fritz1313@hotmail.com GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH...**

**How FEHB And Medicare Work In Retirement:** There is an upcoming free seminar discussing how FEHB and Medicare work in retirement. This seminar, given quarterly, has been found to be helpful and informative by both our active and retired members. The major Health Care Providers, Social Security, and Medicare representatives will present on March 16th at the Phillip Burton Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate, 2nd Floor, in San Francisco. Prior registration is not necessary. The seminars are designed to help you learn how FEHBP and Medicare work in retirement and to assist you in making the necessary choices when you reach 65.

**Possible Reduction Of Health Benefits:** Reduction of the Government percentage of payment toward health benefits appears to be a proposal during this session of Congress. The impact of changing from the government paying on average 70 % toward your FEHB premium to something closer to 50 % could create a huge increase in the portion active and retired federal workers pay toward their health care. Preventing such a huge increase in the FEHB premiums is part of NARFE's legislative agenda for this year. As with all issues affecting the earned benefits of federal workers, I suggest you make your voice known to your congressional representative in regards to this and other attacks on the benefits for federal workers. Simply go to the NARFE.org website and click on the legislative action center for details about the several issues that may affect active and retired federal workers or simply call your representative and make sure they understand why it is important to pay and provide appropriate benefits to federal workers. **(PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)**

**NARFE WEBINARS:** Have you seen any of the NARFE Webinars? If not, you might want to watch the YouTube video created for the January Chapter 65 presentation called "Exploring NARFE Webinars". Two companion videos show the process of "Signing In to NARFE Webinars (for Members)" and "Signing Up for NARFE Webinars (for Non-Members)". Other videos are also available, so check out the Chapter 65 YouTube Channel! <https://www.youtube.com/user/narfe65>.

**MARCH LUNCHEON:** We will be going to Hard Knox Cafe on March 15th at 12 Noon, 2448 Clement St (between 25th Ave & 26th Ave), San Francisco. It is easy to get to on the 38R Geary, the California 1, and the 29 Sunset. There is street parking in the area. Each meal (entree and two sides) is served with two corn bread muffins and your choice of Ice Tea, Soda, or Coffee. Cost is \$22/person including taxes and tip. (Desserts and other drinks including beer and wine may be purchased separately.)

-----**Return this reservation coupon by Thursday March 9th**-----Make checks payable to NARFE Chapter 65 and mail **coupon and check** to Jerry Hall, 229 De Montfort Av, San Francisco, CA 94112. Select **one entrée** and **two sides** for each name attending. (Select three sides if you prefer vegetarian.) Check here  if you need downstairs seating.

1.Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrée (Circle 1)** Blackened Snapper, Fried Chicken, BBQ Spareribs, Country Fried Steak

**Sides (Circle 2)** Cole Slaw, Macaroni and Cheese, Yam Fries, French Fries, Garden Salad, Red Beans & Rice, Stewed Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes, Collard Greens.

2.Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Entrée (Circle 1)** Blackened Snapper, Fried Chicken, BBQ Spareribs, Country Fried Steak

**Sides (Circle 2)** Cole Slaw, Macaroni and Cheese, Yam Fries, French Fries, Garden Salad, Red Beans & Rice, Stewed Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes, Collard Greens.

**Total Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE CONTINUED:**

**California Federation NARFE Convention:** The California Federation will hold its 2017 convention on May 2nd and 3rd at the Grand Sierra Resort, 2500 East Second St., Reno, NV. Reservations can be made at <https://aws.passkey.com/event/14803370/owner/16854/home> or by calling 1-800-648-5080. Room rates are \$59 for a standard room and \$79 for an upgrade. Provide the Group Name: NARFE 2017 California Federation Convention and Special Code: (NCSFC). If you wish to be a delegate for your San Francisco Chapter or you need assistance or further information, please contact our Treasurer, Dianne Joseph or myself. Non-delegate NARFE members can register directly on the Federation website: [www.csfcnarfe.org](http://www.csfcnarfe.org). Registrations and reservations should be completed by the end of March. The convention will have a number of training sessions and a keynote speech by National President, **Richard G. Thissen**.

**President Directs Labor Department to Review Fiduciary Rule:** In February, President Trump signed a presidential memorandum directing a review of the Department of Labor’s (DOL) conflict of interest or “fiduciary” rule. The memo requires the DOL to examine the rule to determine whether it should be rescinded or revised. Last year NARFE applauded the issuance of the rule, noting that the DOL had heard concerns that federal employees invested in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) were receiving unsound financial advice regarding their TSP holdings and options for rollovers once retired. Under previous law, the best interest standard did not apply to advice given on a one-time basis, advice regarding rollovers, or any advice on investing in an individual retirement account (IRA). The fiduciary rule requires investment brokers to put their clients’ best interests first when giving investment advice. NARFE is deeply disappointed by the President’s action, which begins the process of reversing this simple requirement. The fiduciary rule’s initial compliance date is April 10, 2017, but DOL may issue a new rule delaying that date while it starts the longer regulatory process of rescinding or revising the fiduciary rule.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Balance on 01/01/17 = **\$2222.64**, Income \$675.33, Expenses, \$808.84, Ending Balance on 01/31/17 = **\$2089.13**

**MEMBERSHIP:** We welcome **Kevin Mayer, Ralph G. Mihan, Deirdre Miles** and **Donald Hawkey** to our Chapter and thank **Marc A. Lambert** for reinstating his membership.

**SUNSHINE:** Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of **Alma M. Canepa, Rosemary B. Loughman** and **Cornelis P. Vandersommen**.

**LEGISLATIVE OFFICER:** A February 7 NARFE webinar discussed the various House and Senate committees and subcommittees that impact benefits for active and retired Federal employees. It appears that none of the Chairs for these committees and subcommittees include members from California. However, our contacts with Federal elected officials should reference the appropriate committee/subcommittee especially California and Bay Area members. For example, Senator Kamala Harris sits on the Senate Homeland and Government Affairs Committee. The webinar also discussed NARFE opposition to Postal Reform bill, especially the requirement that all Postal retirees enroll in Medicare Part B. Slides from the webinar are available at: <http://www.narfe.org/member/articles.cfm?ID=3672>

**VISIT our CHAPTER 65 WEB SITE:** (<http://www.narfe65.org>); **READ our NEWSLETTER ONLINE:** (<http://www.narfe65.org/newsletter/>); **LIKE US on FACEBOOK:** (<http://facebook.com/narfe65>) **VIEW our NATIONAL WEB SITE:** (<http://www.narfe.org>) **and CSFC WEB SITE:** (<http://www.csfcnarfe.org>)

**IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS:**

**OPM 1-888-767-6738 (Administrative Problems); NARFE 1-800456-8410 (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.**

**NARFE CHAPTER 65 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

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