



NARFE NEWS

Chapter 4, San Diego, California

Volume 70, No. 5

Web Site: <http://www.NARFESanDiego.Org>

Sep/Oct 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The NARFE National Election is complete. Fewer than 7% of NARFE members voted. There is a runoff election for President, as none of the candidates received over 50% of the vote. Please review the candidates' statements and vote by September 30, 2018. All national board recommended resolutions were approved, and none of the member submitted resolutions passed. As a result, members have lost some important rights. This may have partially resulted from the poor way the resolutions were presented on the ballot.

Chapter 4 will hold a vote at our October meeting to increase the Chapter 4 membership dues to \$12 per year. If approved, the increase will become effective in January 2019. This increase in dues will enable us to remain solvent for years to come. Plan on attending the October meeting and cast your vote for a change, or not, in membership dues. We need to hear from our membership!

The annual election for Chapter 4 Executive Board members will be held at the November meeting. The Executive Board needs your help. If you are willing to run for a position, please send an email to info@narfesandiego.org indicating that you are willing to help manage Chapter 4. We especially need a President, as we have gone the past year without one, as well as a NARFE-PAC

Chair. Your help in managing Chapter 4 is greatly appreciated.

Beginning with the November Chapter 4 newsletter, only the electronic version will be sent to those members with an email address – please ensure your current email address is on file with NARFE headquarters. If you have an email address on file and still wish to have a printed copy mailed to you, send an email to info@narfesandiego.org to request a printed newsletter. Members without email will continue to receive a printed copy in the mail. If you want to add your email address to the Chapter 4 membership list, or you are not sure if it is correct, contact Bob Humphreys at 1-858-278-0414 or roberth148@aol.com for help.

Our annual Holiday Luncheon will be held December 10. Tickets will cost \$20 per person, and go on sale at the October meeting. There will be no tickets sold at the door. See Special Announcements below for additional details.

There are many websites that provide good information on Federal issues. Among them are www.govexec.com, www.fedweek.com, and www.narfe.org. These sites are free, and provide a wealth of information on current nonpartisan events.

CALENDAR

- Sep 10, Mon, 11:00 AM Exec Board Meeting
- Sep 10, Mon, 1:00 PM General Members Meeting: Aging-in-Place & Air Medical Transport
- Oct 8, Mon, 11:00 AM Exec Board Meeting
- Oct 8, Mon, 1:00 PM General Members Meeting: 71st Anniversary Party & Dues Vote

General Membership Meetings are normally held on the second Monday of each month at 1 PM in the War Memorial Building, 3325 Zoo Dr., San Diego, 92101. Check the website for any updated information.



New choices for TSP withdrawals become effective in September 2019. More information will be published later.

Chapter 4 Executive Board

PROGRAMS

September's program will feature a presentation from the National Aging in Place Council, providing vital information for older adults with knowledge, tools, and options to help them live safely and independently as they grow older. In addition, we will have Kelly Forman from Air Methods (MERCY AIR), who will discuss the services provided for Air Medical Transportation.

Our October program celebrates our 71st year as a NARFE Chapter, but our program is not finalized. We are planning on asking the membership to increase the annual Chapter 4 dues to \$12 from our current \$6, so plan on attending!

Please let me know if you have any recommendations for future programs. Check our website, <narfesandiego.org>, for updated information on our program schedule..

Connie Vickers, Chapter 4 Programs Chair, 1-619-477-8628.

SPECIAL NEWS

Holiday Luncheon

Our Holiday Luncheon is scheduled for December 10th from 11:30 to 3 PM. Tickets are \$20 per person, and will go on sale at our October 8th meeting. You must have a ticket to attend – tickets will not be sold at the door. Buy your tickets at our October or November meeting, or call to receive your tickets by mail. Details on ordering by phone will be provided in the November / December newsletter, and will be posted on our website.

Newsletter Delivery

Starting with the November / December newsletter, we will not mail a printed version of the newsletter to members and guests of Chapter 4 who have an email address on file with Chapter 4. We will send those members and guests an electronic version of the newsletter, which will be the same as the printed version, content wise, but lack the graphic flourishes of the printed version. (There will also be a link to an online version, with *color* graphic flourishes, to download if you like.)

If you have an email address on file with Chapter 4 and want the printed newsletter, send an email to <info@narfesandiego.org> requesting the printed newsletter. If you are not sure about your email status with Chapter 4, contact Bob Humphreys at 1-858-278-0414 or <roberth148@aol.com> for help.

MEMBER SERVICES

CSA / CSF Claim Number: The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) requires annuitants / survivor annuitants to use their claim number for identification. OPM is not accepting Social Security Numbers (SSN) for identification. The only exception is when reporting a death, but OPM prefers the use of the CSF / CSA number in lieu of SSN. Your CSA / CSF Number (CSA+seven digits) can be found on the following three forms: Open Season Health Card, Annuity Adjustment Form, or IRS 1099R Earnings Statement.

When I called at 4:50 AM local time (7:50 Eastern), OPM asked for my CSA, Name, Date of Birth, Mailing Address, and the Agency last employed. I suggest that you make calls from 4:50 – 6:00 AM Pacific.

OPM Open Season: Warning: Be sure you use the correct plan code for selecting Self Only, Family, or Self Plus One FEHB plan. OPM's 2018 Open Season starts November 12 and ends December 10. Retired / Survivor Annuitants, if you do not receive 2018 Open Season materials / instructions by the first week in November, call OPM at 1-888-767-6738. Active Employees should contact your Human Resources or Payroll Office. Review the October *narfe* magazine for the Open Season Preview. FEHB plan rates, plus additional information, will be in the November 2018 issue.

Q. My FEHB plan will continue to participate in 2019. What should I do if I want to stay with my current plan?

A. Do nothing, you will remain enrolled in current plan.

Q. My current FEHB plan will not participate in 2019. What happens if I don't enroll in another plan before Open Seasons ends?

A1. Active Federal Employees must elect a new FEHB plan before Open Season ends or you will not have FEHB plan coverage in 2019.

A2. OPM will enroll Retired / Survivor Annuitants in Blue Cross / Blue Shield Standard plan if they do not choose another FEHB plan before Open Season ends (December 10, 2019).

Medicare Open Season 2018 starts on October 15 and ends December 7.

Bill Doll, Chapter 4 Service Chair, 1-619-303-6488

NARFE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (NARFE-PAC)

The election is coming fast. Winners from the primary election may have new names – be familiar with them. We need to make sure the candidate is strong and determined to hold our viewpoints against others that are trying to misuse our earned entitlements. Some in Congress are still trying to use a portion of our earned entitlements to build roads and bridges. Be an informed voter! Be a NARFE-PAC supporter!

Chapter 4 members have contributed \$8,612 to the PAC fund between January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. This amount has been given by 127 members – “Thank you” to those supporters. We need more members to join the NARFE-PAC list of contributors. You can contribute at the monthly informative meeting, or use the coupon in the *narfe* magazine, just be sure to notate Chapter 4.

Martin Kocher, NARFE-PAC Chair, 1-619-448-7552

WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S

NARFE continues to be a proud National Team Sponsor for the Alzheimer’s Association Walk to End Alzheimer’s. NARFE chapters do this walk every year, and now get credit for our work. The donations to NARFE’s Alzheimer’s Research and the Walk to End Alzheimer’s are accounted for separately. Donations from the Walk are used locally for Alzheimer’s care, support, and research efforts.

Join Barb Leetch (Region VIII Alzheimer’s Coordinator) and Connie Vickers (CSFC Alzheimer’s Coordinator) in supporting the “Walk to End Alzheimer’s” in San Diego, on September 23, 2018. Our team name is: **NARFE CA Federation**. Location of the Walk is Crown Point in Mission Bay.

Donate / register at
<http://act.alz.org/site/TR/Walk2018/CA-SanDiegoImperial?pg=entry&fr_id=11094>.

Connie Vickers, CSFC Alzheimer’s Coordinator, 1-619-477-8628

MEET & GREET

The last Meet & Greet of the year is scheduled for October 15th from 5 – 7 PM at the 94th Aero Squadron (8885 Balboa Ave, San Diego). You can get an Early Flight Dinner from 4 – 6 PM plus, the 94th provides really good (free) snacks. No reservations required. This is an opportunity to meet your peers and discuss legislative and other issues relating to NARFE.

Elizabeth Skelding, 1-858-576-0882

WELCOME TO CHAPTER 4

New Chapter 4 member:

Jose Franco

Bob Humphreys, VP Membership, 1-858-278-0414

CONDOLENCES

Deceased Members:

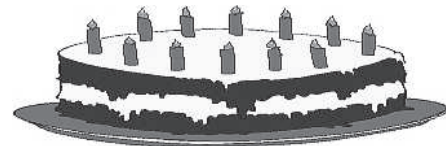
Robert L Burks, James J Carter, Margaret B Duncan, Peter Simon, Christine R Wang, and Fred K Wong.

Special Sympathy

Connie Vickers, her brother passed away in August.

Carol Weiss, Sunshine, 619-303-7942

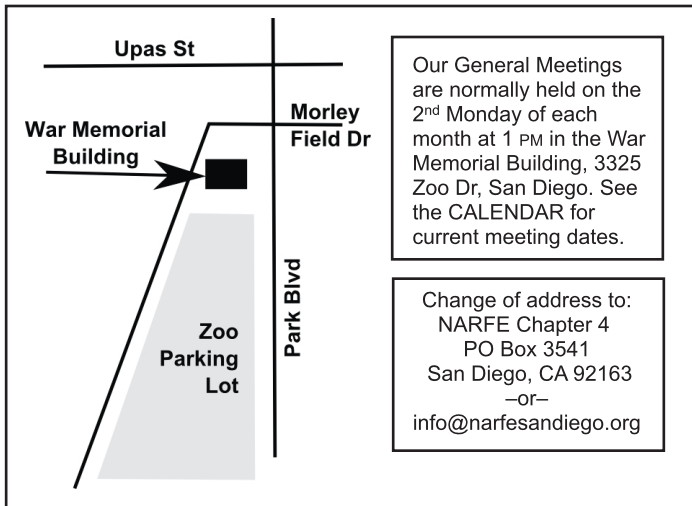
GOODY TABLE



The “Goody Table” proceeds help pay expenses of our delegates to conventions. Help keep this event a success by donating some “goodies.” Thanks to our recent donors: Horacio Baca, Jeanette Castor, Pearl Davis, Bill and Merlyn Doll, Bob Humphreys, Ed Jahn, Sharon Nelson, and Elizabeth Skelding.

HUMOR

Chuck Nevitt, North Carolina State basketball player, explaining to Coach Jim Valvano why he appeared nervous at practice: “My sister’s expecting a baby, and I don’t know if I’m going to be an uncle or an aunt.”



CHAPTER 4 WEB SITE

NARFE San Diego Chapter 4 is on the World Wide Web. You can find the latest information about the doings of both your local chapter and National Headquarters by pointing your browser to <narfesandiego.org>. Make sure to bookmark the site!

Also, if you have an email address and would like to receive the Chapter 4 Newsletter via email, send your request to <info@narfesandiego.org>.

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SAN DIEGO CHAPTER 4
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