



Chapter Chatter — The Monthly NARFE Chapter Newsletter

CHAPTER MEETING — 22 SEPTEMBER @ 2:00 p.m.

**Heather Farms Community Center
301 N San Carlos, Walnut Creek**

Our speaker will be from Congressperson Tauscher's office. Field Representative Ms Terri Gillem will talk about Congressperson Tauscher's position on matters of concern to retirees. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions and she will take your concerns back to Congressperson Tauscher.

Be sure to attend this important meeting and bring your friends. We'll have coffee and goodies and a time to visit. Lots of free parking and a lovely view over the pond.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE: Herb Roth

In the last several months the topic of elections has been discussed rather extensively. As NARFE Members and as Americans we will be making selections as to whom our next leaders will be. We all believe in a well organized and functioning society and with this we are expected to take the responsibility to choose the people that will consist of our leadership.

We have been receiving, thru the media, considerable information about the forthcoming National election for a new President and some members of Congress. It is of utmost interest to be informed and it is important that we participate by voting. There have been a number of articles in the *Chatter* to that effect and hopefully these articles are making an impact. Also, you are encouraged to attend the September 22nd NARFE meeting at Heather Farms where you will have the opportunity to hear and ask questions to a Field Representative from Congressperson Tauscher's Office. And if that isn't enough you can volunteer to work at the polls in November, Paul Andrews who is coordinating the program, will be thrilled if you volunteer.

On September 6th a delegation of Chapter 531 Members will be travelling to Louisville, Kentucky, to represent each of you at our National Convention. Again, we will be voting on resolutions that affect NARFE nationally as well as locally. We will select a new slate of officers at the National level. It is ex-



tremely important that we have your feedback, much information can be found in the NARFE Magazine. If you have questions or input please do not hesitate to call one the Executive Board Members (as listed in on page 2).

Now one of the most important parts of this entire election process is going to be when we in Chapter 531 select a new slate of officers. in the next several months I invite anyone interested in running for an office to come forth and volunteer to share your talents and past experience. As your President, I have found it challenging, not impossible, and rewarding to participate as an officer of this Chapter. You will be hearing more about this soon and I ask each member to consider taking part in the functioning of our Chapter.

MEMBERSHIP: Paul Andrews

In July we gained two new members, had one reinstated and lost nine to death and failure to pay dues. Our total voting members are 696; non voting 73.

New Members: Calvin Fong and Suzanne Pouteau

Reinstatement: Evan Sanchez

In Memory: Lavonne McDonald, Nancy Roth and Gerald Witucki

.ANNUAL CHAPTER PICNIC — MONDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2008

Our October Membership meeting will be a picnic held at the Roger Smith Pleasant Hill City Park on Columbus Day (October 11), starting at approximately 11:30 a.m. **The cost is just \$10. The park is on Grayson Road between Taylor Blvd and Pleasant Hill Road.** The committee will barbeque Tri Tip Steak and Sausages and provide disposable dishes and flatware They will provide Beer, Wine and Soft Drinks. We are seeking volunteers to help set up, clean up, barbeque, or bring picnic side dishes. Currently working federal employees are especially invited since this is a federal holiday! Bring your favorite game to share. Lots of trees and tables. Send in coupon today.

Send reservations by 8 October to: Phil Waggoner, 351 Glacier Dr. Martinez, CA 94553.

Or call 228-6637 and you can pay at the picnic.

Enclosed is my check (payable to Mt. Diablo Chapter 531) in the amount of \$_____ for _____ people at \$10 each.

NAME _____ GUESTS (S) _____ PHONE # _____

ALZHEIMER'S: June Duncan

The Memory Walk is on Saturday, October 11, 2008 on Treasure Island. It starts at 9:30 a.m. and ends at 5:00 p.m. Go through the balloon art entrance before 9:30. You can use BART by going to the Embarcadero station and a free shuttle will be available on Market St. to get to Treasure Island ever 15 minutes. Or, just drive onto the Bay Bridge and take the Treasure Island exit for on-site parking..

The walk is 3 miles long with a 1.5 mile short-cut and has a beautiful view of the Bay and San Francisco. Walk at your own pace (or sit and enjoy the day). Actually, come when you are able, walk as far as you are comfortable and leave when you need to! Bring your family and friends. Wear comfortable walking shoes—and bring your camera.

Free bottled water and oranges will be provided and several food vendors will sell a variety of snacks. Musical entertainment and family fun activities are provided. The Chapter plans a picnic together after the walk. Bring your own lunch bag.

I am the Team Captain for NARFE Mt. Diablo Chapter 531 and ask you to call me at 925-228-5036 to register with our team and reach an established goal with your donations.

HAVE FUN.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION: Rolland Hamilton SCHEDULED MEETINGS

<u>MEMBERSHIP MEEINGS</u>	<u>EXEC. BOARD MEETING</u>
• 22 SEP @ 2:00 pm—Rep Tauschers office	• 13 OCT @ Picnic
• 11 OCT @ 9:30 am —TI Alzheimer Walk	• 22 SEP @ 1:00 pm —@ Heather Farms
• 13 OCT @ 11:30 am — Picnic	• 10 NOV @ 1:30 pm —@ Chateau
• 24 NOV @ 2:00 pm — Open Season speakers	• 1 DEC @ 10:00 am —@ Chateau
• 8 DEC @ 11:30 — Holiday Lunch	<u>Note:</u> National Convention in Louisville KY, 7-12 SEP

The increased inflation trend continued in July, by 0.5%, producing a cumulative 6.2% increase since October 2007. That means if there is no other change in the CPI in August and September, your monthly retirement benefits (dollars) would increase that much in your January payment. Similarly for Social Security, Military, and other Federally adjusted retirement programs. Former Federal Employee Compensation (FECA) retirees index is now 5.2% above the December 2007 base. But let caution rule your checkbook, for as the old saying goes there can be many a slip between the cup and the lip. The Congress is a 535

member committee controlling your retirement. It is no secret that volume of correspondence and other contacts to legislators MATTERS! It is not a gift, as you earned and purchased your retirement benefits.

And that reminds of the November elections. All citizens will be voting to select people and proposals that we consider paramount to our, and the government's, welfare. The President and Vice President, every member of the House of Representatives, about a third of the Senate members will be elected to run the Federal Government. Similarly the politicians who rule the States and the lesser subdivisions will be elected.

For Californians, there are many propositions and measures to be considered. Half of the 12 State Propositions relate to funds, bonds, money, and all require a Majority vote to pass. In Contra Costa County there are two Regional Measures, W and WW, concerning the governance of AC Transit and the East Bay Regional Park District. A total of 19 Measures in the County will be decided, 9 of which seem to be a plea for funds by various school districts. Fortunately, only a few of these will be on your ballot as pertain to your residence location.

It is not too late (and still needed) to make at least your \$20 contribution supporting NARFE-PAC to assist candidates to Congressional Seats who will at least hear NARFE positions. See any NARFE Magazine for information and coupon for NARFE-PAC. Study the candidates and proposals, and V O T E !

Mt. Diablo Chapter 531 Officers

President: Herb Rolh, 828-1299

Secretary: Carole Roth, 828-1299

Treasurer: Werner Gumpert, 934-0288

Immed. Past President and Membership Chair

Paul Andrews, 687-5162

1st Vice President for Community Relations & Chap-

ter Historian: Joan Byrens, 944-0466

2nd Vice President, Ways & Means & Sunshine:

June Zaloumis, 676-6759

Vice President for Service & NARFE-NET Coordinator:

Duane Peterson, 825-2109, duanep@astound.net

Parliamentarian, Federal Legislative Chair

& PAC Coordinator: Rolland Hamilton, 935-0395

Alzheimer's Coordinator & Co -Chair Ways &

Means: June Duncan, 228-5036

Public Relations Chair: Fred Mewes, 932-2626

Chapter Chatter Editor:

Betty & Duane Peterson, 825-2109

Sgt at Arms/Set up: Phil Waggoner

Registrar: Jean Potts

Greeter: Bud Morris

Time Sensitive Material

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association



Walnut Creek, CA 94597-3110

50 Picardy Ct.

Chapter 531

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