



# NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

*Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees*

## Chapter 182 Reporter

Las Cruces, New Mexico Volume 16, Issue 1 – Aug 2015

National Web Site: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

Local Web Site: <http://www.narfe-nm.net/ch0182/ch0182.html>

**JOIN US IN ELEPHANT BUTTE FOR A STATEWIDE GATHERING SEPTEMBER 25-26**



### President's Message (Roy Willoughby)

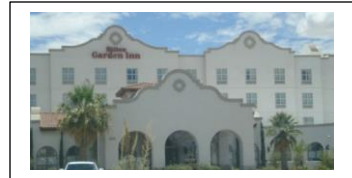
I hope everyone is having a great and rewarding summer and is looking forward to having an eventful fall season. We hope that Chapter 182 will make it even better.

Our Board of Directors meeting in August will be dedicated to planning new and exciting programs, events and making sure that we continue to inform the membership of all the important Congressional happenings that could affect us in the future. Above all, we want to make sure that by informing you directly, you will actively call your representatives and senators asking them to vote no on legislation that would be harmful to our earned benefits. This also includes keeping you up to date on the impact of the OPM security breach.

We want to thank all of our members that worked so very hard to make our NARFE Yard Sale a resounding success this last May. Also, a thank you to Craig Singleton for leading us to success and Sharon and I were pleased to provide our home for hosting this event. Our Ways & Means committee did a great job and is now well on the way to adequate funds to support the chapter.

Starting in September our chapter meetings will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn at 2550 Don Roser Drive just east of Interstate-25 and just north of University Avenue. This is the same place we held and enjoyed our 2013 State NARFE Convention. We hope our new breakfasts will continue to be delightful and inexpensive in our new location.

Also, this September the New Mexico Federation Chapters and the Sierra County Chapter 1341 will be hosting and are inviting all NM chapters to a NARFE "Gathering" in Truth or Consequences (T or C) this 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> of September. See details in this Newsletter.



### NOTICE - CHANGE IN LOCATION FOR OUR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Beginning on September 12<sup>th</sup>, we will hold our meetings at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2550 Don Roser Drive. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet Cost: \$13. September is our Legislative Update Program and we will publish more information on this in the September issue of *THE REPORTER*.

**JOIN US  
AT THE**

**NARFE STATEWIDE  
GATHERING**

**SEP 25-26, 2015**

**ELEPHANT BUTTE**

**(SEE PAGE 5  
FOR ALL DETAILS)**



**Sunshine Report**

**Marcele Skelton**

Summer is flying by quickly but we can still enjoy lots of sunshine and outdoor activities. I hope you are enjoying summer's more leisurely pace.

Get Well cards were sent to **Terry Bloom** following her surgery and to **Gloria Chappell** after her fall. Recently, a Thinking of You card was sent to **Judy Rosco**, upon the hospitalization of her husband, and to **Mary Beth Reinhart** following her surgery.

All in all, it seems to have been a pretty good summer for most of our members. Please contact me if you know of a member who is ill, has passed away, or could use some sunshine in their life.

**(Marcele – 575-521-4954)**



Welcome to New Executive Board Member



**Mr. Dan Carroll**

A big thank you to Dan for volunteering to be a member of our Chapter's Executive Board. Dan has already started attending our Board meetings and helped out at our Garage Sale.

**Records Officer Report (Carol Main)**



Welcome New Members:  
**Connie M. Candelaria**  
**Larry F. Candelaria**  
**Margaret Jorgensen**  
**Idella J. Mirabal**

Welcome Back:  
**Mary Harbison**  
**Mark Lafountain**  
**Eunice Santmyer**

New Prospective Members:

**Chris Cable**  
**James Cox**  
**Janet Danneman**  
**Bryan Holtsberry**  
**Jose Mendez**  
**David Telles**

We would like to see you at the September meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is 335 members strong!

**Member "Spotlight"**



**Edward & Wanda Wallace**

We were very happy to see Edward and Wanda at our May meeting. They have been members of our chapter for many years. We look forward to seeing them again soon!

**Membership Report (Judy Rosco)**



Here it is already August and our general membership meeting is right around the corner on September 12th.

We have some new and awesome ideas coming your way to generate new interest in our chapter. Each board member will be doing their part too to increase and retain membership. Coming up, we have a Membership Contest that I first told you about at our May general membership meeting. Everyone who recruits a new member will win something (stay tuned).

If you are trying to recruit a person and they ask "What can NARFE do for me"? You can tell them "NARFE is the only membership organization solely dedicated to protecting and preserving the benefits of ALL federal workers and retirees. That means a lot, since congress is constantly trying to reduce our "earned" benefits. NARFE is an organization worth joining and one that benefits all of its members. See you in September.



**Marlene Mayfield** recruited two new members to our chapter.

Way to go!



*Ways 'n Means (Craig Singleton)*

*Chapter 182 Yard Sale*

**From donation drop off to packing up and loading the truck from Goodwill, this year's Garage Sale was a great success.**

The net profit was over **\$1,750.00** which is almost twice the amount that was planned for the budget. Thanks to all of the generous members of our chapter, along with their friends, relatives, and neighbors, who donated the items to be sold. We give a special thank you to Sharon and Roy Willoughby for letting us use their home to hold the sale. Along with Sharon and Roy, the following members deserve special thanks for all of their tireless efforts in unpacking, pricing, set-up, traffic control, cashiering, sales, repacking, and loading the truck: Dan Carroll, Carol Decker, Allaire Dunn, Jim Kielty, Carol & Bob Main, Mary Ellen & Franklin McKay, Marlene Mayfield, Anitta Montijo, Harry Palmer, Cathy Phillips, and Sharon & John Reese.

*Roy & Sharon Willoughby worked many hours coordinating the sale at their home.*



*Carol Main worked hard at sorting and arranging items.*



*Craig Singleton, Sharon Reese & Cathy Phillips spent many hours sorting and pricing items for sale.*



*All the chapter volunteers helped to pack up unsold items and loaded them onto the Goodwill Truck.*

*(Photos provided by Marlene Mayfield)*



**Service  
Officer  
Report**

**LEGISLATION WILL REMOVE SOCIAL  
SECURITY NUMBERS FROM  
MEDICARE CARDS**

*Jim Kiely*

A new federal law signed by the President on April 16 will over time remove Social Security Numbers (SSNs) from Medicare cards, thus reducing the chances of identity theft for Medicare beneficiaries. This new provision is contained in Section 501 of Public Law 114-10, the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015.

Federal officials will have up to four (4) years from the effective date of the legislation, i.e., 16 April 2019, to issue Medicare cards without SSNs to those applying for Medicare for the first time. Approximately 4,500 people apply for Medicare every day, and about 50 million people are covered by Medicare.

For those already enrolled in Medicare who now have Medicare cards containing their SSNs, Medicare officials will have four (4) additional years after all the new Medicare enrollees have received cards without SSNs to issue new cards to this larger group. Thus it will take up to eight (8) years (not later than 16 April 2023) before all Medicare enrollees will have new cards which do not contain SSNs. The new cards will have a Medicare Beneficiary Identifier not derived from a person's SSN.

Until this lengthy new card issuance process can be completed, protect your card and check for any Medicare fraud by closely reviewing your Medicare Summary Notices to detect medical services or supplies you did not receive. You can report potential fraud by calling Medicare's Inspector General Hotline at 1-800-447-8477. If your Medicare card is lost or stolen, you can request a replacement by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or going online at [www.ssa.gov/medicarecard](http://www.ssa.gov/medicarecard).



*Alzheimer's (Sarah McAdoo)*

**How Couples Affected by Alzheimer's Nurture Their Bond**

In a new study, researchers looked at how couples affected by Alzheimer's disease maintained their relationships and uncovered ten patterns of communication that can help them sustain engagement and intimacy in their relationships.

(Read more at: <http://psychcentral.com/news/2015/07/14/how-couples-affected-by-alzheimers-nurture-their-bond/86830.html>.)

An estimated 47 million people globally have Alzheimer's disease and that number is projected to triple by 2050. According to the Alzheimer's Association, there are some things you can do to keep memory loss at bay such as exercising, not smoking, getting adequate sleep, staying socially engaged, learning new things, taking care of your mental health and eating a healthy diet.



**Chapter VP for Legislation (Sharon Reese)**

**Upcoming Statewide Gathering**

- Join us for a [Statewide Gathering](#) in Elephant Butte from noon Friday September 25 to noon Saturday September 26.
- **\*New\*** information is available on the [Gathering 2015](#) page.

SITE & RESERVATION INFORMATION: Elephant Butte Inn and Spa; Elephant Butte RV Resort 402 Highway 195, Elephant Butte NM 87935, 575-744-5431, [rv@ebresort.com](mailto:rv@ebresort.com).

Amenities: free Wi-Fi, free parking, non-smoking rooms, pet friendly rooms, outdoor swimming pool, restaurant on site, ATM across the street at RV Park, walking distance to Event Center for NARFE meetings.

To reserve a room: Cut off is September 10<sup>th</sup>.

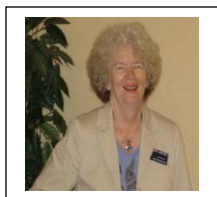
Call 575-744-5431 and specify NARFE block of rooms. We have 20 rooms blocked for 2 nights (Sep 25 and 26) and 18 rooms blocked for Sep 25 only. Only one room in that block is wheelchair accessible. Room rate for NARFE is \$75 plus tax per night (1 or 2 persons). For a third person in a room, the additional charge is \$10 per night. Make your reservation before Sep 10. Show photo ID and credit card at check-in. Check-in is 3 p.m. and Check-out is 12 noon.

Click on the **highlighted Statewide Gathering (at top of page)** to read the invitation letter from our host: the Sierra County Chapter, print the Registration Form, get the address for mailing checks for registration fee, and read the Topics approved by the Federation Executive Board.

Registration fee for the Gathering is \$25 per person/\$40 per couple (postmarked before Sep 1)  
Or \$30 per person/\$50 per couple (postmarked after Sep 1).

**September 12th Chapter Meeting**

Mark your calendars now because you don't want to miss out on important information that will be presented at our September meeting which is dedicated to Legislation. More information will be published in our September issue of **THE REPORTER**.



**Telephone Committee**

Carol Decker and I will remain the co-chairs for the telephone committee when our meetings resume in September. We would like to thank all our callers, Martha Beerman, Joy Davenport, Allaire Dunn, Dorothy Figgins, Craig Singleton, and Cynthia Zaklan for all their hard work and perseverance this past year. We are currently updating our caller lists for next year. If you are receiving phone calls about the meetings or volunteer hours and have been unable to attend or report any volunteer hours for the past year, please let us know if you would like to continue receiving telephone reminders. If you have not been receiving calls and would like to be added to the call list, please call Carol Decker at 522-3033 or Carol Main at 382-7686. When you are contacted in September, please report volunteer hours for May, June, July and August. Hope to see all of you at the September 12 meeting. **(Carol Main)**





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Federal Employees Association  
Chapter 182  
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**You Need NARFE – And NARFE Needs You!**

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<a href="mailto:jkielty70@yahoo.com">jkielty70@yahoo.com</a>	(575) 523-6044

**Members of Congress**

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(575) 523-6561  
<http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>

**U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D)**  
201 N Church St Suite 201B  
Las Cruces, NM 88001  
(575) 526-5475  
<http://tomudall.senate.gov>

**U.S. Representative Steve Pearce (R) (Dist 2)**  
570 N Telshor Blvd., Las Cruces, NM 88011  
(855)473-2723  
<http://www.pearce.house.gov>

**NARFE Monthly Meetings**

The Las Cruces Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association holds a breakfast meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month except in June, July, & August. The meeting is held at the **Hilton Garden Inn, 2550 Don Roser Dr, Las Cruces**. Doors open at 8:30am (breakfast at 8:45am), and the cost is \$13. All members, those that might be interested in joining, and guests are most welcome. Membership is open to all federal civilian employees, retirees, their spouses, and surviving spouses. For reservations, contact **Carol Main (382-7686) or Carol Decker (522-3033)**

6 - or email: [lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com](mailto:lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com).