



NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

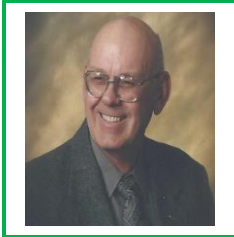
Chapter 182 Reporter

Las Cruces, New Mexico Volume 16, Issue 7 – March 2016

National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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

(March Meeting - Chapter Officer Nominations) (Register Now for the NM Federation Convention)



Chapter
President

Roy
Willoughby



Happy
St Patrick's
Day
Everyone!

We are looking forward to Saint Patrick's Day and wearing of the green with family and friends' celebrations and especially enjoying great Irish parties.

Our February Chapter meeting featured Shaunna Foster presenting a very informative talk about the senior exercise program offered by the City of Las Cruces, including walking, hiking and bicycle riding. She also covered her adventures as part of the Search and Rescue teams. And beginning with our March meeting, we will continue with presentations of other City of Las Cruces Senior Programs.

As you know, this year will be the NARFE New Mexico Convention on the 21st to the 23rd of April in Albuquerque at the Isleta Resort and Casino. This will be a very important convention because of the many changes coming our way as a result of the latest Strategic Planning effort by the NARFE National Executive Board which is considering a total reorganization of NARFE which will affect how we transition into the future. If you decide to attend this upcoming convention, you may volunteer to be a voting delegate or if that list is full, an alternate delegate. For more information on this, please see one of our Board members.

Our Chapter's Executive Board has developed a number of Resolutions aimed at trying to keep NARFE as a "grass roots" organization by offering changes that reflect our view of the future while also recognizing the National Strategic Plan's view of the future. Those seven Chapter Resolutions were voted on at our February Chapter meeting and will be presented at the NARFE NM Convention in April.

March 12, 2016 Meeting (Franklin McKay)

Beginning with the March meeting we will have a two-part series of programs dealing with the "City of Las Cruces Senior Programs". In March the presenter will be **James Mitchell, Human Services Case Manager for Senior Programs**. Senior Programs are for people 50 years of age and older.

The April program will be presented by **Adrian Holguin, Senior Long Term Care Services Specialist**.

There are numerous (way too many to mention) activities and services available to our citizens. These two programs will give us an idea of what we might want to participate in. Also, these two presenters will be eager to answer our questions.

All current and retired Federal employees are encouraged to attend the meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn. \$13 (cash only) for the breakfast buffet at 8:45, and reservations must be made by **March 8th** by calling Carol Main at **382-7686** or Carol Smith at **522-3033**.



Sunshine Report



Trees and shrubs are budding, the Santa Ana winds are blowing and daylight saving time will begin. It must be March! Enjoy these days of longer sunshine and the added activities of spring.

A Get Well card was sent to **Norman Newcomer** who spent some time in the hospital recently.

We were sorry to hear that member **Thomas Reader** passed away on Feb 7, 2016.

Please let me know if you hear of a member who is ill, has passed away or could use a little sunshine in their life.

Marcele: PH 575-521-4954 or email: marcele@skelton.net

Have a Happy St Patrick's Day.



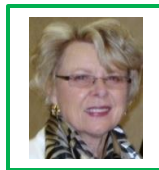
February Meeting

45 attendees

385 volunteer hours reported

Prospective members, Jerry & Kimie Allison, and Sonny & Kathy Mayer attended our February meeting. Guest, Lena Casson, also attended.

We hope to see them again at a future meeting.



NARFE-PAC

Mary Ellen McKay

March is NARFE-PAC Month

Members have received the March issue of the **narfe** Magazine. A unique feature is the paper wrapper dedicated to information about NARFE-PAC. If you have read the information you will know why there is a PAC (Political Action Committee), a contribution form, the number of Representatives and Senators who will be elected this year and the top five reasons to give to NARFE-PAC. This is a wealth of information! Inside the magazine there are 4 pages of great information. The article ends with a feature on frequently asked questions about NARFE-PAC. I recently participated in a webinar from National Headquarters on our Political Action Committee (PAC) arm of NARFE. It also answered a lot of questions about the program.

If you are already giving to NARFE-PAC, thank you!

If you are not giving because you have questions and concerns about the program and its effectiveness, please call or e-mail me and I will try to help you. If I don't know the answer to your questions, I will put you in touch with someone who can answer. Please think about making a contribution.

**New Mexico Federation Convention April 21-23
"Working toward the Future"**

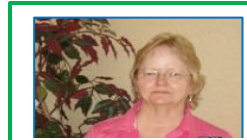
**Isleta Resort & Casino
Albuquerque**

**All details are available at:
www.narfe-nm.net**

**For additional info: call
Roy Willoughby
575-524-9395**

**President's Message
Continued from Pg 1**

Our Chapter is still seeking nominations for our Chapter's Executive Board officers. Please contact **Irv Skelton** at **521-4954**. At our March Chapter meeting we will also be asking for nominations from the floor and voting for the Executive Board Officers. The new Board members will be installed at the April Chapter meeting and the new officers will take command in May. The Federation Executive Board is also looking for nominations. Please contact **Harry Palmer** at **524-4311** for information on the Federation Executive Board.



**Carol Main
Records Officer Report**

**Welcome New Member:
Frank Chavez**

**Welcome back:
Rhonna Hall**

We would like to see you at the March 12 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is **337** members strong!



Ways 'n Means

Craig Singleton

It's time to start sorting out and saving items for the NARFE Chapter 182 yard sale. It will be held once again at Roy & Sharon Willoughby's home in Mesilla Park on **Saturday, April 16th**. Remember, if you have items that you would like to donate but need help getting them to the yard sale we will be happy to pick them up. You can let us know when you see us at this month's meeting on March 12th, and next month's meeting on April 9th. If you miss us at the meetings, then please call Roy Willoughby (575) 524-9395, Craig Singleton (575) 373-0705, or Carol Main at (575) 382-7686. Items should be ready by Saturday, April 9th which will allow us to coordinate a convenient time for pick up. Big items are welcome! Look for more details in next month's newsletter.



*Judy Rosco
VP for
Membership*

We are in our last month of our Chapter Membership Contest and it's not too late to enlist as many members as you can reach.

Prizes are:

- 1st Place: \$100 Visa or Valero Gas Gift Card
- 2nd Place: \$ 75 Visa or Valero Gas Gift Card
- 3rd Place: \$ 50 Visa or Valero Gas Gift Card

Look for the winners to be announced in our April newsletter.



*Alzheimer's Report
(Sarah McAdoo)*

We gave away lots of Valentine themed prizes at our February meeting. **Terry Bloom** made and donated another pretty lap size afghan which was won by **Sue Merrick**. Other prizes were donated by: **Sharon Reese**, **Mary Beth Reinhart**, and **The Three Crosses Federally Employed Women (FEW) (Judy Rosco)**.

Thanks to all our members who participate in our monthly raffles to make money for Alzheimer's research. As of Dec 2015, NARFE members had contributed \$11,629,668 toward our \$12 million goal for Alzheimer's Research. If you don't attend our meetings but would like to make a personal donation to Alzheimer's, please send a check to: Alzheimer's Association, 225 N Michigan Ave, 17th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601-7633. (There is a form for your convenience on page 43 on the March **narfe** Magazine.)

Also, I'd like to bring your attention the interesting article on Early Onset Alzheimer's on page 40 of the March **narfe** Magazine.



Judy Rosco presented a beautiful White Sands Missile Range Throw that was donated by the Three Crosses Chapter of Federally Employed Women (FEW) for our February Alzheimer's Raffle. **Sharon Willoughby** was the lucky winner! (Note: If you are interested in buying one of these WSMR Throws, please contact **Judy Rosco** at 575-635-7126 or email rosco631@gmail.com.



Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)

**CPI-W SHOWS SLIGHT INCREASE IN JANUARY
FOLLOWING THREE MONTHS OF DECLINE**

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Personnel (CPI-W), used to determine if Social Security recipients, federal retirees, and survivor annuitants will receive a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) in 2017, slightly increased by 0.12 percent in January 2016 to 231.061. This increase occurred after declines in the CPI-W in October, November, and December 2015. The October figure (232.373) was 0.80 percent lower than the average CPI-W figure for the third quarter of 2014 (July-September 2014), which was 234.242. Since there was no COLA in 2016, the 2014 third quarter average (234.242) remains the reference point for determining if there will be a COLA in 2017. Similarly, the November 2015 figure (231.721) was 1.08 percent lower than the 234.242 reference point, and the December 2015 figure (230.791) was 1.47 percent lower than the reference point. Despite the January CPI-W increase to 231.061, this figure is still 1.36 percent lower than the 234.242 third quarter 2014 average which constitutes the COLA reference point. In order for a COLA to be authorized in 2017, the average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2016 (July-September 2016) must exceed the 234.242 CPI-W average for the third quarter of 2014.

There remains a distinct possibility that a second straight year without a COLA is on the horizon. The February 2016 CPI-W will be released on 16 March. Stay tuned for future developments.

Celebrate **St. Patrick's Day** at our March meeting by wearing a wee bit of **green**! Invite one of your retired friends, co-workers, or neighbors who are eligible to be a NARFE member to join you at our breakfast meeting.

Why do people wear shamrocks on St. Patrick's Day?
(Real rocks are too heavy!)

Why can't you iron a four-leaf clover?
(Because you shouldn't press your luck!)

How can you tell if a leprechaun is having a good time?
(He is Dublin over with laughter!)

When is an Irish potato not an Irish potato?
(When it's a French fry!)



***National Legislative
Salaries and Benefits***

Sharon Reese, Chapter 182 VP for Legislation and the NM Federation VP for Legislation, posted a very informative document on the salaries and some of the benefits that national elected officials receive both while in office and, in some cases, after they leave office.

This document should provide some interesting reading before the November elections.

Please check out this information on the following web page: www.narfe-nm.net



Member Spotlight – Louis “Lou” Corpening

Lou retired in March 2005 with 32 years Government service. He worked for the Corps of Engineers (Ft. Worth, TX), Air Force Base Engineering (Holloman and Cannon AFB, NM), Army Post Engineers and WSMR Plans Office (WSMR, NM) and the Engineering Division, (DoDDS in Okinawa, Japan).

For the military, he was classified 1-A, and his draft number was 115. The Draft Board he was under selected up to 114, so he missed military service by one number! Vietnam was his generation’s war and the draft was in full force at the time.

Lou was born in El Paso on July 3, 1948 and grew up in Anthony, NM-TX. He was an only child whose Dad was a farmer and Mother was a teacher at Gadsden ISD. His parents were both descendants of settlers of the Mesilla Valley. He graduated from Jesuit HS of El Paso in 1966 and earned BS degrees in both Mechanical (1972) and Civil (1974) Engineering from NMSU.

He married Nora Audetat of Las Cruces in 1971, had four children, John, Aimee, Michael, and Joe. While raising their children, Lou and Nora were active in school activities including Boy and Girl Scouts, coaching soccer, and sailing. The boys all became Eagle Scouts and all the children are university graduates. The youngest, Joe, is a graduate of the USAF Academy and is now an airline pilot. He and Nora celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in December 2015. They have five grandchildren, four boys and one girl, ranging in ages from 18 months to 12 years old.

Hobbies - Between grandkids, care of aging parents, care of wife with back issues, and taking care of house, he stays pretty busy. He enjoys gardening and yard work, reading, surfing internet, and enjoying a cup of coffee with others. In the past he enjoyed sailing and water sports. Now, he says he still does water stuff in the form of physical therapy!!! He would like to do more traveling and do more exercise. Oh yes, and he is like the rest of us in that he wants to downsize, both physically and materially!

He is interested in Alzheimer’s since his Dad had it the last few years of his life. Lou joined NARFE when he retired and has been an active member for ten years.

SAVE YOUR CANS!

Please remember to save your aluminum cans and bring them to our meetings. **Bob Main** has a pretty new red truck just waiting to be filled up with them! Bob parks his truck in the back corner of the hotel. There is a **NARFE-Cans** sign on the back of it. You can’t miss it.

If you don’t attend our meetings but you have cans to donate, call **Sarah McAdoo** at **571-6364** and she will arrange to have them picked up.

The money from the can collection helps pay for our Chapter Newsletter.

Thank You!

HAVE YOU HAD A CHANGE IN YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR CHANGE IN YOUR E-MAIL OR HOME ADDRESS?

If so, please don’t forget to notify our Records Officer, Carol Main at: **575-382-7686** or e-mail at: cmain@zianet.net.

We don’t want you to miss any copies of the **narfe** magazine, newsletters, or important notices that we send out.

Would you like to be part of our Member “Spotlight” articles? Do you have someone you’d like to see in the “Spotlight”? If so, contact our Newsletter Editor at: mcadoosr@aol.com.



National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association
Chapter 182
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You Need NARFE – And NARFE Needs You!

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<http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>

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Las Cruces, NM 88001
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<http://tomudall.senate.gov>

U.S. Representative Steve Pearce (R) (Dist 2)
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(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 2nd 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 Smith (522-3033)**

6 - or email: lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com.