



NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association
Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

Chapter 182 Reporter

Las Cruces, New Mexico Volume 17, Issue 9 – May 2017

National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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

Saturday, May 6th (Yard Sale)

General Meeting – Saturday, May 13th



President's Message

**Sharon
Reese**

This is my first newsletter as your Chapter President and I am looking forward to working and representing all of you! It has been busy since the installation of our new officers. Before I forget, Judy Rosco will be installed at our meeting on May 13th.

Craig and I have signed our new contract for the Hilton Garden Inn for September 2017 through May 2018. We are fortunate that the cost will remain the same, \$13.00 per person.

Sharon Willoughby, Marlene Mayfield and I attended the NE/NW Workshop in Espanola on April 22nd. Even though it was only a good half day (excluding lunch time) it was an informative session.

Chris Farrell, NARFE Senior Analyst (state advocacy) called to let me know that the June issue of our *NARFE* magazine will have an article on Governors. As part of

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**Craig Singleton
Ways 'N Means
NARFE Yard Sale
8 a.m., Sat, May 6th
3142 McDowell Rd
Mesilla Park
(The Willoughby's Home)**

Wed thru Fri (May 3 – May 5)
-----Delivery of items and pricing
after 9 a.m.

Sat (Day of Sale) - Volunteers
gather at 7 a.m. – Open to public
at 8 a.m.

If you missed the volunteer sign-up sheet at the last meeting, please feel free to stop by to help as your schedule permits. We always have a good time. And, I encourage any of our members who speak Spanish to come and help on the day of the sale.

If you need help getting your donations to the yard sale we will be happy to pick them up. Please call me at **575- 373-0705**—leave a message if I am not at home and I will return your call.

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**Franklin McKay,
Programs Chair, and
Speaker: Michele Ungvarsky,
Attorney at Law
Estrada Law Firm**

**Saturday, May 13th
8:30 a.m. – Esperanza Room
Hilton Garden Inn**

Attorney Ungvarsky will be expanding on the presentation she gave to the Chapter at our March meeting. She will speak on Probate, Medicare and Medicaid, Estate Planning, Trusts, Last Will and Testament, Power of Attorney and other topics of interest.

Please bring a friend and join us for this interesting program!

Breakfast Buffet: \$13 cash only

Reservations: *NLT May 9th*

*Call Carol Main (382-7686) or
Carol Smith (522-3033)*

President's Message Continued

the article, a picture will be included of our Governor, Susana Martinez, me and John taken at the Las Cruces Days in Santa Fe in late January.

The SE/SW Workshop in Elephant Butte, 28/29 April was exceptional! Sharon Willoughby (SW District VP), Gary Montoya (T or C Chapter President), and Dennis Clark (SE District VP) deserve a big "thank you" for all of their hard work. Sharon will expand on the workshop in her newsletter article.

I hope that you will take the opportunity to join many of our Chapter members in Aurora, Colorado for the Region VII 13th Biennial Conference, June 29 – July 1st. This year's theme "Transforming NARFE Together" will focus on collaborative improvement ways to work with the new Bylaws that were passed at the National Convention last summer in Reno. Of particular interest will be the session on One Member One Vote and Optional Chapter Membership. There will also be sessions on Legislative Advocacy and PAC, Marketing – Membership and Non Dues Revenue, to name a few.

I hope to see and talk with you at our May 13th Chapter Meeting.

Since we will not be meeting again until September 9th, I hope that everyone has a wonderful summer!

YARD SALE Continued

I can also be reached via email at scsingleton575@gmail.com.

You can also call Roy and Sharon Willoughby at (575) 524-9395, Carol and Bob Main at (575) 382-7686, or any member of the Executive Board and they will contact me about arranging a convenient time to pick up your items.

Big items are most welcome. Any items that you can price in advance are especially welcome and would save us time. We haven't had much luck with selling clothing but accessories do well. From past years, it is amazing just what people are looking for and will purchase. Items that do not sell will be donated.

Thanks for your support and hope to see you soon!



**Chapter
Records Officer**

(Carol Main)

We don't have any new members to announce this month, but we still have a strong chapter membership of **313** members! We had **46** members attend our April meeting and **478** volunteer hours reported. We would like to see you at the May 13th meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

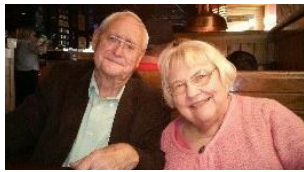
Reminder: Have you changed your home address, telephone number, or email address? Please don't forget to notify me at csmain7@gmail.com or phone (575) 382-8786. We don't want you to miss any copies of the **NARFE** magazine, our chapter newsletter, or any notices we send out.



SAVE YOUR CANS!

Please save your aluminum cans over the summer and bring them to our September meeting.

Bob Main is always ready to collect them with his truck parked in the back of the hotel. The money we get from the cans helps pay for our newsletter. Thank you!



Sunshine Report

Marcele Skelton

*Marcele spreading some sunshine
with her hubby, Irv!*

A cloudy/rainy day - a windy day - a sunny day. That describes several of the days in April. I hope you have lots of sunny days in May and throughout the summer!

We have just returned from the NARFE Southern New Mexico Workshop in Elephant Butte. Learning through workshops and exchanging ideas with other chapters always motivates me to work harder to achieve our goals.

A Get Well card was sent to **Dorothy Hays** who experienced a bout with pneumonia. A sympathy card was sent to **Charles and Judy James** after the death of Charles' father. A sympathy card was sent to the family of **Jill Thompson** who passed away. Jill was a member of Chapter 182.

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

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



**Sunday
May 14th**



**Sunday
June 18th**

**Next Chapter Newsletter – August
General Meeting Schedule – May 13, Sep 9,
Oct 14, Nov 11, and Dec 9**



Southern New Mexico Workshop Truth or Consequences, April 28-29 Dennis Clark, SE District VP Sharon Willoughby, SW District VP

The Southern New Mexico Workshop was a great success for all who attended. The speakers were knowledgeable and best of all they were mostly Chapter 182 members. The information they shared was quite extensive and even the old timers walked away knowing more than when they came. The speakers from our chapter were Mary Ellen McKay, Marlene Mayfield, Roy Willoughby, Carol Main, Sharon Reese, and Jim Kielty. You would have been proud of them all, I know I was. I want to thank all of them and all who attended.

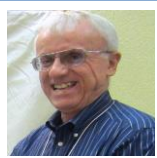
The venue was extremely good for this Workshop. The T or C Chapter 1341 went out of their way to make sure everything was covered. We were treated to a great Bar-B-Q and very friendly folks.

I can't say enough to express my gratitude to all of the speakers. My one wish was that more of you could have attended. NARFE needs all of us to participate or we will not survive. We must protect our earned benefits.

(Sharon Willoughby)



Chapter 182 members who attended the Workshop were: Terry Bloom, Jim Kielty, Carol and Bob Main, Mary Ellen and Franklin McKay, Sharon and John Reese, Marcelle and Irv Skelton, and Sharon and Roy Willoughby



Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)

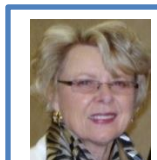


CPI-W CONTINUES TO RISE FOR PERIOD OF JANUARY-MARCH 2017

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 2018, showed a steady increase during the months of January, February, and March 2017. In order to determine if there will be a 2018 COLA, the monthly CPI-W figures for July, August, and September 2017 will be averaged and compared with the CPI-W average for July, August, and September 2016, which was 235.495. The CPI-W average for July-September 2017 must exceed the 235.495 reference point to trigger a 2018 COLA. The January CPI-W was 236.854, rose to 237.477 in February, and again increased to 237.656 in March 2017. The 237.656 figure for March is now 1.11% above the 2016 reference point of 235.495. If this upward trend for the CPI-W continues through September 2017, there is a strong likelihood that the 2018 COLA will exceed the 2017 COLA, which was 0.3%.

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION EXPECTED TO RECOMMEND 1.9 PERCENT PAY RAISE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN 2018

Reports from Washington, DC appear to indicate that the Trump administration plans to recommend a 1.9% pay increase for federal employees when the 2018 federal budget proposal is released in mid-May. Any proposed increase is subject to Congressional approval. If a 1.9 percent increase is approved, it would be consistent with the increases federal employees have received in recent years. During the period of 2014 through 2017, federal employees have received raises of 1.1%, 1.3%, and 2.1%, respectively.



NARFE-PAC (Mary Ellen McKay)

At the Southwest and Southeast Districts Workshop this past weekend in T or C, Linda Clark the NM Federation NARFE-PAC Chair shared the latest contribution amounts from the state. I shared those figures with you in last month's newsletter and I don't have any new figures to share at this time.

I just want to encourage you (as Linda did) to become a sustainer for NARFE-PAC. It makes it so easy to give. You don't have to think about it once you have your credit card information available for the monthly donation. I can't be at the May meeting to hand our contribution forms, but it is on page 13 of the May monthly magazine. Please consider this contribution.



Southern NM Workshop Attendees April 2017 – Photo by Bob Main



Installation of New Chapter Officers

Mary Ellen McKay – Gave the Oath of Office
Sharon Reese – Newly Elected Chapter President
Dan Carroll – New 1st VP for Membership
Marlene Mayfield – Chapter Secretary
Craig Singleton – Chapter Treasurer
(Not Pictured) Judy Rosco – 2nd VP for Legislation



*Thank You
 Outgoing
 President
 Roy Willoughby*



All members of Las Cruces Chapter 182 send a big Thank You to outgoing Chapter President **Roy Willoughby** for his dedication and service to NARFE, the NARFE NM Federation, and especially to our Las Cruces Chapter!

Roy served as our Chapter President in 2007-2009 and again from 2015-2017. He has served on our Chapter 182 Executive Board in several positions such as Programs and Membership. He and his wife, Sharon, have always been completely involved in our Ways and Means Committee by not only working the events but hosting them at their Mesilla home. Roy served as the New Mexico Southwest District VP and is always ready to work hard on conventions and area workshops. Roy is the type of leader who invites our Federation colleagues to visit our chapter and makes sure they are comfortable and cared for while they are here.

He and Sharon have hosted many meetings, dinners, and events at their home. He has spent a lot of time, effort, and money in hosting, planning and attending events – all for the good of Federal employees and retirees. Again, we THANK YOU Roy!



*Alzheimer's
 Sarah McAdoo*

Thank you for your support of the Alzheimer's Association. Your donations in support of the NARFE Alzheimer's Research program are appreciated now more than ever. Alzheimer's is the only cause of death among the top 10 in America without a way to prevent it, cure it or even slow its progression. In New Mexico alone, 36,000 individuals who are age 65 or older have the disease.

NARFE has currently reached \$12.2 million of our \$13 million goal.

Our chapter members participate in our raffles at every meeting by buying tickets, donating their winnings back to the Alzheimer's fund, donating prizes, and giving extra cash because they want to help and envision a world without Alzheimer's.

The Alzheimer's Association New Mexico Chapter offers free classes to caregivers and families facing the ease. Steven Montano is the Southwestern Regional Manager for the Alzheimer's Association in Las Cruces.

Phone: (575) 647-3868 -
www.alz.org/newmexico.



National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association
Chapter 182
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Return Service Requested



**HELP SUPPORT
OUR CHAPTER**

You Need NARFE – And NARFE Needs You!

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201 N Church St Suite 201B
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<http://tomudall.senate.gov>

U.S. Representative Steve Pearce (R) (Dist 2)
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(855)473-2723
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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)** or email: lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com.