



NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

Chapter 182 Reporter – Las Cruces, New Mexico

Volume 18, Issue 8 – April 2018

Facebook – <http://www.facebook.com/NARFE.LasCrucesChapter.182/>



National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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

April 14th (New Officers Sworn In)

April 19-21 (NM Federation Convention)

May 5th (Yard Sale)



*Chapter
President*

*Sharon
Reese*

Spring is here, we've turned our clocks up an hour, lost an hour of sleep, and the weather is saying the heat is on! It's time to work in the gardens and spruce up the yards. Please be cautious and don't overdo it....

Members attending the 2016 NARFE Convention in Reno voted to incorporate One Member One Vote forever changing the way NARFE does business. Thus, we will be voting for National Officers, Regional Vice Presidents and Bylaws and Resolutions prior to the National Conference in Jacksonville, Florida in August.

The candidate statements were published in the March magazine pages 52-64. There are 4 candidates for President, 2 candidates for Secretary/Treasurer, and only one candidate for Region VII Vice President.

Key dates to remember for balloting information in the *narfe* Magazine is as follows:

April issue – Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Report Published

May 10 – Internet Voting Site Live



*Saturday, 14 April
8:30 a.m*

*Hilton Garden Inn
Esparanza Room*

*Speaker: Dr. Deb Dennis
Vice President of the Amador
Hotel Foundation and President of
Human Systems Research*

Dr. Dennis will give us an update to her presentation of more than a year ago regarding the historic Amador Hotel. Dr. Dennis is dedicated to preserving this core building of historic Las Cruces. She has been a key player in the work done to date on restoring the Amador, which after being a part of daily life in Las Cruces for more than 125 years, fell silent in 2006 when Dona Ana County staff locked the doors for the final time.

And,

Karla Candelaria from *Blue Cross/Blue Shield* will join us again this month to offer advice and assistance to annuitants who were on the HBO Blue Preferred Plan and switched to Blue Cross/Blue Shield Basic or Standard Plan.

Breakfast Buffet: \$13 cash only
Reservations: NLT Apr 10th
Call Carol Main (382-7686) or
Carol Smith (522-3033)

Franklin McKay, Program Chair





Sharon Reese
Chapter President's Message
Continued

June issue – Ballot Published
June 30 – Voting Cutoff

For additional information you can go to the NARFE website under 2018 Balloting Information to review the Candidate Statements and the Proposed Bylaws and Resolutions.

We have convened a committee to review all the Proposed Bylaws and Resolutions that will be voted on in June. We met on Tuesday, March 27th, to review and suggest whether to accept or reject the Bylaw or Resolution. The committees' findings will be consolidated to make it easier for everyone to follow. The findings/report will be made available to all members of our Chapter. There will be handouts at meetings, a page in the newsletter, and if anyone needs to be mailed a copy just let me know. We have had 20% of our members vote for Chapter officers and would like to see that number of our members vote in the National elections. We want your voice heard loud and clear at the National level.

Currently we have 12 delegates registered to attend the New Mexico Federation Convention in Tucumcari 19-21 April. As of today, our Chapter members will be 1/3 of the total attendees at the Convention. The nominating committee only received 3 candidate statements: Sharon Reese for President, Mark Michelson, Vice President for Legislation, and Marlene Mayfield for Secretary. Hopefully someone will be nominated from the floor to fill the positions of Vice President for Membership and Treasurer. The Federation Bylaws have been revised to incorporate the One Member One Vote. These Bylaws will be voted on at the Convention. If they pass we will no longer have District Vice Presidents and voting will take place prior to the Conferences. There will be a report generated by the attendees for your reading pleasure at our May meeting.

A reminder that at our April meeting we will have an update on the Amador Hotel and installation of your officers. Hope to see you there.

Sunshine Report

**Marcele
Skelton**



We are having more sunshine every day. With daylight savings time and the Santa Ana winds fading, we can enjoy outdoor activities later in the day. April is a beautiful spring month with all the trees, shrubs and many plants blossoming.

A sympathy card was sent to the family of **Mike Miyagashima**. Mike was a long-time NARFE member, and the father of our current mayor.

The answer to the March St. Patrick's Day riddle: **WHY DO PEOPLE WEAR SHAMROCKS ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY?** (Because regular rocks are too heavy)

Have some sunshine fun by answering this month's riddle: **WHAT GOES UP AND DOWN WITHOUT MOVING?** You can email or phone me with the answer for a surprise. (The answer will be in the next newsletter)

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



March Meeting --
\$130 collected for
Alzheimer's!

Thanks to **Bill Beerman, Terry Bloom, Dan Carroll, and Chuck James** for donating prizes for our March raffle. Bill (William J. Beerman, Sr.) donated a copy of his book **"Mary Regina's nursing home"**. His book is an easy-to-read, memoir-like framework, and a three-part narrative (1) the human interest background story, (2) details of Mary Regina's hospital and nursing home experiences, and (3) what Bill learned about government oversight of nursing homes. Some of our chapter members have already read his book and highly recommend it, including me!
(Sarah McAdoo, Alzheimer's Chair)



Membership Notes

***Dan Carroll
(VP for Membership &
Chapter Historian)***

We now have 283 members. As always, be careful when renewing your membership that you are signing up for local chapter and national membership if that's what you want. National membership only is \$40 per year. National and local is \$50. This is tax season and phone scammers are out there. IRS doesn't use any kind of telephone or electronic means (email etc.) to contact you regarding back taxes. Easter is early this year, April 1st. Happy Easter to all!

I enjoyed last month's program, Daniel Barron, from the U.S. Border Patrol. It brought back a lot of memories for me as I spent 24 years with the BP and then 5 years with ICE at the end of my career. It was a fun job and we enforced the law humanely. I started every shift with a fresh canteen of water and always had a sandwich or apple with me just in case we came across any thirsty or hungry aliens.

Continue to support our raffle at the end of meetings. Proceeds go to Alzheimer's research.



***NARFE PAC
Mary Ellen
McKay***

Once again our Chapter 182 exceeded all expectations and had a fantastic response to the request for NARFE-PAC contributions! I can't think of enough superlatives to tell you what a great job you did. At our recent March meeting we had a total of 27 members who contributed a total of \$470.00. Wow! Let me repeat that -- **\$470.00**. It is the best we have ever done for a single collection event.

Give yourself a big pat on the back and know you are helping to advocate for Federal Employees and Retirees earned benefits. If every Chapter and member did as much as Chapter 182, NARFE-PAC would be able to distribute more funds to candidates for Congress.

As some of my friends from the South would say, ***"You done good."***



***Chapter 182 Telephone Calling Committee Members
Nancy Banks, Carol Smith (Chair), Martha Beerman, Craig Singleton,
Joy Davenport, Kathy Mayer, and Carol Main***



Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)

ISSUANCE OF NEW MEDICARE CARDS WITHOUT SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS WILL BEGIN IN APRIL 2018

This is an update to an article which first appeared in the August 2015 edition of the Chapter 182 **Reporter**. In 2015 Congress passed, and the President signed, Public Law 114-10, Section 501 of which required the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to develop and issue new Medicare cards which did not contain the Social Security Numbers (SSNs) of individual Medicare beneficiaries. The CMS was given a deadline of April 2018 to begin issuing the new Medicare cards, and this task was to be completed not later than April 2019. The purpose of this legislation was to reduce the chances of identity theft and to better maintain the privacy of an individual's medical information.

In compliance with this legislation, the CMS recently announced that it would begin mailing out the new Medicare cards in April 2018. Because approximately 50 million Americans are covered by Medicare, and over 5,000 additional people apply for Medicare every working day as they become eligible, these mailings will take place in seven stages in groups of states by geographic location. Texas and New Mexico Medicare beneficiaries along with the residents of eight other states are in mailing group 6 of 7. CMS estimates that the new Medicare cards will be mailed to beneficiaries in group 6 sometime during the latter part of 2018 or very early in 2019.

In place of one's SSN, each new Medicare card will have an eleven-character Medicare Beneficiary Number (MBI) for each person which contains randomly generated numbers and upper-case letters not derived from a person's SSN. Upon receipt of a new Medicare card containing the MBI in place of the SSN, beneficiaries may immediately begin to use the new card to obtain medical services. In accordance with past practice, if your new Medicare card is lost or stolen, you can request a replacement by calling the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213 or by going online at www.ssa.gov/medicarecard.



Records Officer (Carol Main)

Welcome New Members: Chuck Booth and Cindy Cook
Welcome New Prospective Members: Gilbert Amezcuita and Gabriela Rodriguez

We would like to see you at the **April 14** meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is **283** members strong!

We had **48** members and guests at our January meeting with **311** volunteer hours.

Reminder: Have you changed your home address, telephone number, or email address? If you have dropped your landline and are using your cell phone only, let me know. Please notify me at **csmain7@gmail.com** or phone **(575) 382-7686**. We don't want you to miss any copies of the *narfe* magazine, our chapter newsletter, or any notices we send out.



REMINDER - SAVE YOUR CANS!

Please save your aluminum cans and bring them to our meetings. Bob Main collects them and the money helps pay for our newsletter costs. **THANKS!**



March 10th Meeting – Speaker: Daniel Barron (Border Patrol) and Franklin McKay (Chapter 182 Program Chair)



Members Mary and Jerrald Woodcox drive from Deming to attend our meetings.



Board Member Charles “Chuck” James congratulates and thanks Board Member John Reese for bidding on and winning the Bailey’s Irish Cream Set at the March 10th Alzheimer’s Raffle. This is the second time Chuck has won a raffle prize and then held an impromptu auction on the prize to earn more money for our Alzheimer’s fund. Many thanks to Chuck for this great idea and to members like John who have fun bidding on items. Way to go!

(Sarah McAdoo, Alzheimer’s Chair)



Judy Rosco & Craig Singleton at last year’s yard sale displaying our Chapter Flag with pride and, of course, smiles!

**YARD
SALE
MAY 5
8 a.m.**

**3142
McDowell
Road
Mesilla Park**

The schedule is as follows:

**Wed (2 May) Thurs (3 May) & Fri (4 May) – Delivery of Items and pricing after 9:00 a.m.
Sat 5 May – Gather at 6:30 a.m. - Open to the Public at 8:00 a.m.**

If you need help getting your donations to the yard sale we will be happy to pick them up. Items will need to be ready for pick up on April 30th so that we can arrange a convenient time. You can let us know when you see us at this month’s meeting on April 14th. If you miss us at the meeting, please contact Craig Singleton (575) 373-0705, Carol & Bob Main (575) 382-7686, Roy & Sharon Willoughby (575) 524-9395 or Sharon Reese (575) 532-9422 to make arrangements.

Big items are most welcome. Any items that you can price in advance are especially welcome and would save us time. If you are donating any “Treasures” please let us know. We haven’t had much luck with selling clothing but accessories do well. If you would like to help with the pricing or help on the day of the sale, even for an hour or two, contact me. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be available at the meeting. Or, you can just show up. I would also encourage any of our members who are fortunate enough to be bilingual, especially in Spanish, to come and help on the day of the sale

A special thank you to the Willoughby’s for allowing us to use their home for the sale.
(Craig Singleton, Ways ‘n Means)



National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association
Chapter 182
PO Box 16424
Las Cruces, NM 88004-6424

Return Service Requested



MAY 5th
Mark Your Calendars!

You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers

President	Sharon Reese (575) 532-9422 nmreeses@msn.com
1 st Vice Pres. (Membership)	Dan Carroll (575) 932-9491 cardan116@comcast.net
2nd Vice Pres. (Legislation)	Judy Rosco (575) 635-7127 rosco631@gmail.com
Secretary	Marlene Mayfield (575) 644-6851 mayfield195@msn.com
Treasurer/Ways & Means	Craig Singleton (575) 373-0705 scsingleton575@gmail.com
Alzheimer's/Newsletter Editor	Sarah McAdoo (575) 571-6364 mcadoosr@aol.com
NARFE-PAC:	Mary Ellen McKay (575) 527-4750 memckay1@comcast.net
Program Chair:	Franklin McKay (575) 527-4750 memckay1@comcast.net
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Records Officer:	Carol Main (575) 382-7686 csmain7@gmail.com
Service Officer:	Jim Kielty (575) 523-6044 jkielty70@yahoo.com

Members of Congress

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (D)
Loretto Town Center
505 S. Main St., Suite 148, Las Cruces, NM 88001
(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 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: lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com.