



NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

"Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees"

CHAPTER 182 REPORTER
Volume 19, Issue 1 – Aug 2018



Las Cruces, NM



National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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



Chapter President

Sharon Reese

Hopefully everyone is having a fantastic summer. September will be here soon. Be sure to put our meeting on your calendar!

Judy Rosco, Nadine Boor, and I are looking forward to participating in **FEDcon18** (National Conference) later this month. We will provide you information at our **22 September** general membership meeting.

As part of my duties on the Advocacy Standing Committee I will be giving the committee report to the Federation Presidents on August 25th. The committee has streamlined the duties/responsibilities of Congressional District Liaisons and Senatorial Liaisons. I will miss this committee when it disbands the end of October. This committee has been very interesting and hard working as well as fun.

Have you heard our Chapter will be hosting the New Mexico Federation Conference/Region VII Conference **4, 5, and 6 April 2019**? Please put this on your calendar. Committee Chairs may be contacting you to see if you would like to volunteer to help in this endeavor. Please give it serious consideration. Remember, we will not be having a yard sale in 2019 so we will not be asking for volunteers. More information will be forthcoming in late September or early October.

Keep an eye out for your September *narfe* magazine. We all need to vote, electronically or by ballot for the National President. The candidates are: Steve Lenkart, Ken Thomas, Theodore A. (Ted) Van Hintum. Jon Dowie asked that his name be withdrawn.

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General Meeting Saturday, Sep 22 Esparanza Room Hilton Garden Inn



Franklin McKay, Program Chair

Mark your calendars now so that you don't miss out on all the upcoming programs for our chapter meetings:

Sep 22 - Legislative Program - We will invite our Legislators to come and speak about issues important to us. Please attend this meeting and bring your questions and a guest.

Oct 13 - Alzheimer's Program - We will have a local Alzheimer's care specialist speak to us about this devastating disease and give us updates on new findings and research.

Nov 10 - Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB) - FEHB representatives will provide us with information regarding plans, rates, coverages, etc. The entire program will be dedicated to insurance, so be sure to bring all your questions.

Dec 8 - Holiday Program - Our members unanimously agreed that we should have the New Desert Harmony Singers perform for us once again this year. This will be their eight performance for our Chapter. Please bring a guest to share in the warmth of the Holiday Season.

Current Chapter 182 Executive Board

President	Sharon Reese
1 st VP for Legislation	Judy Rosco
2 nd VP for Membership	Dan Carroll
Secretary	Marlene Mayfield
Treasurer	Craig Singleton

Committee Chairs (Voting)

Alzheimer's & Newsletter	Sarah McAdoo
Legislation	Judy Rosco
Member at Large	Emery Woodard
Member at Large	Nadine Boor
Membership	Dan Carroll
Programs	Franklin McKay
Public Relations	Marlene Mayfield
Records Officer	Carol Main
Service Officer	Jim Kielty
Sunshine	Marcele Skelton
Telephone	Carol Smith
Ways and Means	Craig Singleton

Special Committee Chairs (Voting)

Audit	Sharon Willoughby
Budget	Craig Singleton
Historian	Dan Carroll
Logistics – Electronics	Bob Main
Logistics – Room Control	John Reese
NARFE-PAC	Mary Ellen McKay
Parliamentarian	Irv Skelton
Webmaster	Jeffrey Smith

President's Message Continued from Page 1

I believe there will be discussion at the National Conference, or at least in the meeting of the Federation Presidents, on Preferential voting. Voting on all Bylaws and Resolutions to include the 4 additional questions passed. There will be detailed instructions on voting in the magazine.

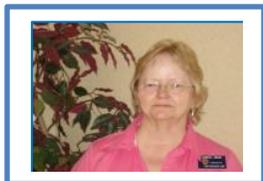
A reminder to mark your calendar:

-- 22 September (General Member Meeting, Hilton Garden Inn)

-- 4, 5, and 6 April 2019 (NM Federation Conference/Region VII Conference, Hotel Encanto, Las Cruces)

I am looking forward to seeing you September 22nd to hear about your summer!

Sharon



Records Report (Carol Main)

Welcome New Member:
Karen Berthold

Welcome New Prospective Members:
**Gilbert Amezcuita, Juan Briones, Flora Jacquez, Norma Lewis,
Carol Medeiros, and Manuel Ortiz**

We would like to see you at the September 22 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is 270 members strong!

We had 52 members and guests at our May meeting with 295 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.

Join Us!



Membership Notes

Dan Carroll
(VP for Membership & Chapter Historian)

It has been a long, hot summer but relief is on the way (I hope) with monsoon season. Be careful walking and driving in arroyos as our area is susceptible to flash floods. Lightning can also be dangerous.

We lost one of our chapter's past presidents, **Albert Garcia**, on June 26, 2018. He was a leader and will be missed.

New Medicare cards are coming in the mail shortly. You should be getting a new card with a Medicare number that's unique to you. Your social security number will not be displayed on the new card to help keep your information more secure and help protect your identity. As of this report (July 22nd), I have not received my new card yet.

Have a fun and safe rest of your summer and see you in September.



WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND OUR NEXT MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 22.



NARFE-PAC
Mary Ellen McKay



As a nation we are in full swing of an election happening in November. That means NARFE-PAC is very busy. Candidates are requesting funds from NARFE-PAC for their campaigns. This is an opportunity to answer a question or two from NARFE members.

1. NARFE-PAC is a Political Action Committee chartered to administer, disperse and disclose funds contributed voluntarily and used solely for political purposes.
2. Only NARFE members can contribute to NARFE-PAC.
3. Only candidates for the U.S. House and Senate will receive NARFE-PAC contributions.

Our Chapter has been very responsive to requests for funds and I am sure that will continue. I will bring printed materials to our September meeting for those who are interested in more information and would like to make a contribution.

I hope you had a restful and fun-filled summer. We may need to remember that as the elections get closer and more contentious.

SOME MEMBERS HAVE BEEN RECRUITING!

The following chapter members were recognized in the June issue of *NARFE's Recruiting & Retention Journal* for recruiting one new member each for Chapter 182: **Carol Main, Marlene Mayfield, Sharon Reese, and Morgan Stoops**. Out of 6 new members recruited in New Mexico, four were in our chapter! Thanks to all of you! Now, we all need to try to recruit one new member! Let's get our 2019 membership numbers up! You can find a NARFE Membership Application in your monthly magazine or you can contact our Membership Chair, Dan Carroll, at 932-9491, or email cardan116@comcast.net, and ask him to send you one.



The New Mexico Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is offering new presentations of "Skills for Dementia Caregiving: A Free Class for Family & Friends of a Loved One With Dementia." This is a multi-session course and will be presented each Thursday through August 23 (1-3 p.m.) at the Alzheimer's Association, 1155 S Telshor Blvd, Suite 202. For info contact Alexis Ramirez at **575-647-3868** or alramirez@alz.org.

(Sarah McAdoo)



Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FIGURES CONTINUE TO RISE DURING MONTHS OF APRIL-JUNE



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 2019, stood at 246.196 in June 2018 after registering 244.607 in April and 245.770 in May. The 246.196 figure for June 2018 is 2.72 percent higher than the 2017 CPI-W average for July-September 2017, which was 239.668. The July 2018 CPI-W figure will be released on August 10.

To determine if there will be a COLA beginning in January 2019, the CPI-W figures for July, August, and September 2018 will be compared with the July-September 2017 CPI-W average of 239.668, which is the reference point. The July-September 2018 average CPI-W must exceed the July-September 2017 average CPI-W for a 2019 COLA to be authorized. Based on the continuing upward trend in CPI-W monthly figures, chances appear good for a 2019 COLA increase which will exceed the 2018 increase of 2 percent.



Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)

These summer days are flying by. They say time flies when you are having fun. I hope you are enjoying the summer sunshine. Where is the monsoon weather? We could use some rain!



Many of you will remember **Albert Garcia**, a past chapter president and very active member of our chapter. Mr. Garcia passed away June 26th. A sympathy card was sent to his wife, Bessie. In June, a Thinking of You card was sent to **Kathy Treat** who fell and broke her wrist while mowing her lawn. Kathy was still in rehab, recovering from a fall and hip surgery early in 2018. Kathy is out and about and seems to be healing well.

The answer to the May riddle: **HOW MUCH DIRT IS IN A HOLE 4 FEET DEEP AND 2 FEET WIDE? (There is no dirt in the hole.)** Several people contacted me with the correct answer.

Have some sunshine fun by answering this month's riddle: **WHAT ROOM CAN NO ONE ENTER?** You can email or call me with your answer. (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

Yard Sale Volunteers: (L) Martha Beerman, Sharon Reese, Donna Harris, Carol Main (making change for a customer) & Marlene Mayfield) - (R) Emery Woodard & John Reese. (Photos by Bob Main)





**Chapter 182
Yard Sale
Ways 'n Means
(Craig Singleton)**

This year's Yard Sale was a great success. From donation pick-up, delivery, pricing, displaying, selling, and loading the truck from Goodwill, a good time was had by all.

The profit after expenses for advertising, and refreshments was just over **\$2000.00** which is more than twice the budget plan.

Thanks to all of the generous members of our chapter, along with their friends, relatives, and neighbors, who donated for the sale and also made purchases. 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 chapter members deserve special thanks for all of their donations and tireless efforts in pick-up, unpacking, pricing, set-up, cashiering, sales, repacking, and loading the truck: Martha Beerman, Nadine Boor, Angie & Dan Carroll, Cindy Cook & Oscar Otero, Joy Davenport, Blanche Goldsmith, Donna Harris, Dorothy Hays, Judy & Chuck James, Jim Kielty, Carol & Bob Main, Marlene Mayfield, Mary Ellen & Franklin McKay, Cathy Phillips, Sharon & John Reese, Judy Rosco, Marcele & Irv Skelton, and Emery Woodard. I do apologize if I missed anyone.



**1st VP for
Legislation**



Judy Rosco

I have enjoyed the summer break time and I hope everyone's summer is coming along well, humidity and all! I joined in on the July 17th NARFE webinar entitled "Grassroots Advocacy Month A-Z". The webinar was very informative and I learned a few "tips" to abide by when meeting with our Members of Congress. I am preparing letters of invitation to our Senators and Congressman Pearce. Since Pearce is not running for Congress again, I will also send letters of invitation to the candidates running for his seat in Congress.

NARFE's top three priorities right now are the President's 2019 Pay Freeze, Opposing Postal Retirees to Either Purchase Additional Health Insurance Coverage (Through Medicare) or Forfeit Their Earned Retiree Health Benefits, and Federal Benefits Cuts.

We must continue to remind our legislators to be diligent in giving Federal employees the benefits we signed on for when we began our civil service careers and the benefits we have earned through retirement. Write your letters today!



Telephone Committee (Carol Main & Carol Smith)

Carol Smith 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, **Nancy Banks, Martha Beerman, Joy Davenport, Kathy Mayer, and Craig Singleton** for all their hard work and perseverance this past year. We are currently updating our caller lists for the upcoming meetings which start in September. 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 Smith at 522-3033 or Carol Main at 382-7686**. If you would like to be added to the email reminders, send an email to cmain7@gmail.com. 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 22 meeting.



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

Return Service Requested

**NEXT CHAPTER
MEETING**
(4th Saturday in Sep)
September 22nd
Mark Your Calendars

★ **JOIN US** ★

You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers

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2 nd Vice Pres. (Membership)	Dan Carroll (575) 932-9491
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Secretary	Marlene Mayfield (575) 644-6851
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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.