



NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

“Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees”



CHAPTER 182 REPORTER
Volume 19, Issue 2 – September 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



I have received numerous questions regarding our monthly member meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn. Our meetings are still scheduled for the second Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m. However, due to hotel conflicts our September meeting will be held on **22 September**. We resume our normal scheduled meetings in October through May. I apologize for this inconvenience. I just couldn't see looking for a new venue because of this little bump in the road. Our September meeting is our normal Legislative meeting. Ask/bring a friend as we hope to have a large gathering for this important meeting.

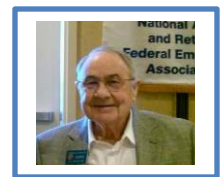
We are looking for a volunteer to assist Bob Main with our audio/visual (AV) equipment. Bob is unable to lift the AV equipment, but he is more than willing to train/assist a member with our equipment. We definitely need a back-up in this area. If you are interested and/or would like more information, please contact Bob at grmain@gmail.com or 382-7686.

The United States Postal Service (USPS) now has the ability for those receiving mail at their homes to see what will be arriving in their mailbox for that day. It is easy to sign up for and very handy to have when we are expecting a package, but it doesn't show up. The USPS Informed Delivery has an option within the website to click on if that piece was not received. Here is the link: <https://informeddelivery.usps.com/>.

In our next newsletter, look for an article from me, Judy Rosco, and Nadine Boor on the **FEDcon18 Conference** in Jacksonville, Florida. We hope to bring you good news regarding our organization!

General Meeting
Saturday
September 22
8:30 a.m.

Espananza Room
Hilton Garden Inn



Franklin McKay, Program Chair



Annual Legislative Meeting

Our September meeting is an important one! We have invited our New Mexico Legislators to join us and have asked each one to provide a short briefing with a question and answer session at the end of the presentations.

Please don't miss this meeting. Also, bring your important questions with you. We need a packed house so ask your friends, members or not, to join us.

Breakfast Buffet: \$13 cash only

Reservations: NLT Sep 18th

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



1st VP for Legislation

Judy Rosco

I am happy to report that I attended my first National training program by attending **FEDcon18**, 26-28 August, in Jacksonville, FL. I was very excited to have had this opportunity to attend this valuable training program. By attending this training, staying informed with NARFE webinars, and reading NARFE Daily News Clips, I can better serve you, our members.

I urge you to answer the call and write your congressmen regarding cuts to Federal employees and retiree benefits. These benefit cuts are not issues we can afford to let someone else fight for us...we need to continue to fight for our earned benefits.

I also want to send a reminder to VOTE in the NARFE National elections. We fought to get “One Member, One Vote” established in this organization. Now let’s DO IT!

I hope all of you make a special effort to attend our Legislative Meeting on September 22.

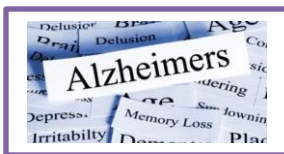


Why NARFE Members Renew Their Membership?

According to surveys conducted by NARFE, members cited the following reasons for renewal:

- To support NARFE’s legislative fight for my earned benefits
- To receive the **narfe Magazine**
- To obtain advice on retirement / health benefits
- To retain an affiliation with the federal community
- To received NARFE services, e.g., insurance, travel, moving services
- Camaraderie
- To participate in chapter programs
- To get information.

We’re counting on our chapter members to renew their membership as both National and chapter members. We want to keep our chapter strong and active! Remember, it’s very easy to renew on line at www.narfe.org. All you need to log in is your NARFE ID # which is on the label of your magazine. Thanks for being a part of NARFE and our chapter!



Chapter Alzheimer’s Awareness Month October 13th Meeting

October is our chapter’s annual Alzheimer’s Awareness Month and our speaker will be **Bonnie Zeiler** who is the Director of Alzheimer’s Services at The Village at Northrise/Morningside. Bonnie has years of experience and is dedicated to the fight against Alzheimer’s disease.

Support Alzheimer’s research through our chapter raffle every month. Thanks to all of you who participate in our raffles and to those of you who donates prizes. We are a generous chapter when it comes to the support of Alzheimer’s research. We send in an average of \$1100 annually from our raffles and personal donations. (Sarah McAdoo, Chapter Alzheimer’s Chair)

2018 WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S SATURDAY, SEP 15, 2018

Location: Young Park, 1905 Nevada Ave
8:30 a.m. Registration
9:30 a.m. Ceremony
10:00 a.m. Walk (2 miles)

Contact: Ashley Martinez (505-266-4473)
or amartinez@alz.org

(SW Regional Manager is Alexis Ramirez)
Las Cruces
Phone 575-647-3868 or
alramirez@alz.org





Membership Notes

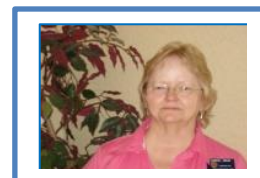
Dan Carroll
(VP for Membership & Chapter Historian)

Still hot! We've had some rain and thunderstorms lately. Watch out for flash floods and running water in arroyos. Use caution!

Our chapter membership is at 270 plus or minus one. Remember when you renew your membership to check local **and** national (if that's what you want). National dues are \$40 per year and local dues are \$10 per year -- \$50 for both.

Check the back of our **narfe Magazine** for discounts for NARFE members from supporting companies. Phone scams are still going on so be careful. If it sounds too good to be true, it is.

Next general meeting is September 22nd at Hilton Garden Inn. See you at the movies! Dan



Records Report

(Carol Main)

Welcome New Members:

Leticia Lerma
Dan Williams

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

Our chapter membership is **269** 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.

Chapter 182 Telephone Committee

Carol Smith and I will remain the co-chairs for the telephone committee when our meetings resume this month. 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 on the 22nd of this month. 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 about attending the September meeting, please report volunteer hours for May, June, July and August. Hope to see all of you at the September 22 meeting. *(Carol Main)*





Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)



SEPTEMBER 2019 DATE SET FOR NEW TSP WITHDRAWAL OPTIONS

The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB) recently announced that new Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) withdrawal options for TSP participants will be implemented in September 2019. These new withdrawal options were contained in the TSP Modernization Act which was signed into law in November 2017. The new law will afford NARFE members who are either current federal employees or federal retirees and who also participate in the TSP program with significant new options for withdrawing money from their TSP accounts. Passage of the TSP Modernization Act of 2017 was strongly endorsed by NARFE.

Among the many new flexibilities contained in the Act are (a) allowing multiple, partial post-separation withdrawals -- with a limit of one partial withdrawal every 30 days. These partial withdrawals can be taken even if the TSP participant is already taking monthly, quarterly, or annual payments from their account; (b) TSP participants who are older than age 59 1/2 and still working for the federal government may now take up to 4 age-based, in-service withdrawals per calendar year; (c) federal retirees receiving periodic payments may now choose among monthly, quarterly, or annual payments, whereas under the old rules monthly payments were the only option; (d) retirees may now stop the installment payments while leaving their remaining account balance in the TSP. Under the old rules, TSP participants could not stop their installment payments without withdrawing the entire remaining balance; and (e) beginning in 2019, TSP participants who fail to request a TSP withdrawal that satisfies the IRS Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) law by April 1 of the year following the year they reach age 70 1/2 and who are separated from federal service will receive an automatic distribution of the RMD from TSP. This RMD distribution will be in the form of a check mailed to the most recent mailing address on file with the TSP.

As the implementation date for the provisions of the TSP Modernization Act grows near, TSP will widely publicize the new options on its website (www.tsp.gov), by email, and by U.S. mail. NARFE also will publicize the changes to its members. NARFE members seeking more information about the new TSP withdrawal options should go to the NARFE website (www.narfe.org) under the Resource Library section and locate the NARFE White Paper titled "TSP Modernization Act of 2017 Frequently Asked Questions".



NOTICE Regarding Our Chapter CAN Collection Project (September will be our last month for collecting cans.)

We know many of you have collected cans over the summer for us and we appreciate your efforts. Please bring the cans you have collected over the summer to our September 22nd meeting. Our Executive Board made the decision that we no longer need to have the can collection, so September will be our last month! The money made from the can collection was used to help pay for mailing out our newsletters. Most of our members now receive their chapter newsletters by email; therefore, our postage costs have gone down to a reasonable amount which our chapter budget can support. Thanks to all of you who have collected cans for us over the past several years. A special "Thank You" goes out to our former Can Man (**Jack Dage**) who handled this for us for many years and to our current Can Man (**Bob Main**) who took over the task from Jack. Bob has been doing this for several years now, too. We really appreciate all the work that went into gathering the cans at the meetings, sorting them, and hauling them to the recycling area for us! We must also add our thanks to Bob's Assistant Can Lady and spouse, **Carol Main**, who helped accomplish these tasks!
(Sarah McAdoo, Newsletter Editor)



*Sunshine
Report*

*Marcele
Skelton*



Gone are the relaxing long days of summer. We hope yours were filled with sunshine and activities you enjoy. September is here and our NARFE meetings reconvene. It will be great to see everyone again.

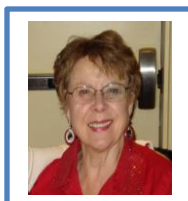
During August a sympathy card was sent to Raymond Griego, whose wife, Martha, passed away August 14th after a lengthy illness. A sympathy card was also sent to Wanda Wallace, whose grandson, Casey, passed away in mid-August. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to the Griego and Wallace families.

The answer to last month's riddle: WHAT ROOM CAN NO ONE ENTER? (A mushroom)

Have some sunshine fun by answering this month's riddle: WHAT WORD BECOMES SHORTER WHEN YOU ADD TWO LETTERS? (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.

Marcele (575-521-4954)
or marcele@skelton.net



**NARFE
PAC**

**Mary Ellen
McKay**



As Chapter 182 NARFE-PAC Chair, I am asking your opinion on a candidate who has requested money from NARFE.

The candidate is Xochitl Torres Small who is running for US Representative in District 2. We are in that District and it is currently represented by Steve Pearce.

Advocacy staff has met with her and introduced her to NARFE. They talked about many of the issues facing the federal community and where she stands on them, receiving positive responses.

We are facing a very short turnaround time on this request.

PLEASE, if you have any feelings one way or the other, let me know ASAP.

Our Chapter newsletter is the only way I know to poll as many people as possible.

Thanks. (memckay1@comcast.net
or 575-527-4750)



**SOME MORE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN
RECRUITING FOR OUR CHAPTER!**



Both *Jeffrey Smith* and *Judy Rosco* recruited one new member to our chapter!

Thank 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. Reminder: When completing the Membership Application, be sure to add our chapter number 182 because we want everyone to belong to NARFE National and our chapter!



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

President	Sharon Reese (575) 532-9422 nmreeses@msn.com
1st Vice Pres. (Legislation)	Judy Rosco (575) 635-7127 rosco631@gmail.com
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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 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.