

NARFE National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

"Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees"

CHAPTER 182 REPORTER Volume 19, Issue 6 – February 2019



National Web Site: <u>www.narfe.org</u>

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



Chapter President And NM Federation President

Sharon Reese

I ask each of you to go to pages 7 & 8 of this newsletter and take the time to provide your input on our Member's Survey. This is very important to your board as we want to utilize your comments to improve your services. Now you may return the survey via mail or you can bring it to the February 9th meeting. We will have a box so no one will know who completed the surveys.

It's the beginning of a new year where many of us start to clean out our paperwork. The American Document Services, 300 N. 17th Street, provides veterans, the disabled, or those 60 years of age, with 100 pounds free shredding on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00-11:30 or 1:00-5:00 only! For any questions, please call **575-847-0060**.

Do you want to interact with National Officers and get firsthand information on issues pertaining to NARFE members? Here is your opportunity!!!! Attend the joint New Mexico Federation and Region VII Conference April 4-6 at the Hotel Encanto. The price is too good to pass up – only \$125.00 which includes a lunch and the banquet. A registration form is attached to this newsletter. Mail it in or give it to Sharon Willoughby at the February 9th meeting. The committee is diligently working on making this a conference to remember. If anyone is interested in volunteering for any of our committees, please let us know. Also, we are in the process of selecting our entertainment for the banquet. You can attend a performance of the Las Cruces Ukes on Thursday evenings, 6:30-8:00 in the Creative Arts Room at Good Samaritan. Let us know what you think of them!

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Programs

Franklin McKay

General Meeting Saturday, February 9th, 8:30 a.m. Esparanza Room, Hilton Garden Inn

"Aggies Without Limits"

Founded in 2007 in the College of Engineering

Aggies Without Limits helps those in need throughout the world by involving Aggie students in sustainable engineering projects, ultimately fostering the development of internationally and environmentally responsible students and professionals.

Come join us and learn more about this wonderful Aggies Program.

Breakfast Buffet: \$13 cash only Reservations: NLT Feb 5th

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



President's Message Continued from Page 1

I have also attached my NM Federation Newsletter for those who are receiving our newsletters through the regular mail. I hope all of you who receive email have already received the Federation Newsletter and had a chance to read it. I just want to make sure **all** Chapter 182 members receive the information.

I hope to see you at our February 9th Membership Meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn! Sharon

NOTICE ABOUT NARFE MAGAZINE MAILING LABEL

Did you notice that your address label on your recent copies of the *NARFE* Magazine no longer has your NARFE ID number on it? We noticed because we always remind our chapter members to look at the address label if you need your ID number, especially if you are recruiting a new member and want to get credit for that recruiting effort! NARFE Headquarters has notified us that they are aware of the problem and are working on getting it placed back on future issues.



Dan Carroll

2nd VP for Membership & Chapter Historian

We now have **280** members in our chapter. Wow! Health Fair recruiting efforts paid off for 2018.

Our Federation Convention is coming up in April 2019. More to come in future articles.

On the topic of conventions, I recently saw a hilarious movie on television on the Turner Classic Movies (TCM) channel called "Sons of the Desert" starring Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. They were members of a fraternal organization called the "Sons of the Desert" which was having its annual convention in Chicago, Illinois. Stan and Ollie went without their wives' knowledge but their scheme went awry when the wives went to the local movie theater and saw a newsreel that showed Stan and Ollie in the convention's parade in Chicago. The wives had a big welcome home for the two and it was a riot. The film was made in 1942 and directed by Hal Roach. See you at the movies!





Welcome New Member: Donald Jansen

We would like to see you at the February 9th meeting.

Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is **280** members strong! We had 50 members and guests at our January meeting with 331 volunteer hours and 48 members with 410 volunteer hours at our December meeting.

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 <u>csmain7@gmail.com</u> 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.



1st VP for Legislation Judy Rosco



I attended a "Come and Go Chat" for Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small on January 20th at the Chamber of Commerce offices. There were approximately 25-30 people in attendance. We had a round table discussion and each attendee was asked to give their name, the organization they were representing, and a couple of issues they were concerned about. Of course I spoke about the government furlough and although I am retired, the shutdown of the government is affecting my family. I told her I hoped to visit her in March when I attend the NARFE FEDcon19 legislative training.

Congresswoman Torres Small has been appointed to the highly sought after House Armed Services Committee. She seems to be a representative that wants to solve issues for the people of New Mexico. I believe she will be amenable to the issues facing current and retired federal employees and I am looking forward to working with her. She still does not have any offices established in the state but you can email her at:

https://torressmall.house.gov.



Judy Rosco (representing NARFE Chapter 182) meets Congresswoman Torres Small at the "Come and Go Chat" on January 20th.



Sunshine Report Marcele Skelton



We need more sunshine to help us keep warm on these cold days. At least we don't have to deal with the snow, sleet and ice storms happening in several other states.

Since our December newsletter, a sympathy card was sent to Mike McMullen, whose wife, Meriam, passed away. Meriam was a former president of our chapter. A sympathy card was sent to chapter member, Joyce Hageman, whose husband passed away. A sympathy card was also sent to Jean Hay whose husband, Paul, passed away. Paul was a past chapter member.

A get well card was sent to Rodney Adleman, Region VII Vice President, who is experiencing some health issues. Thinking of you cards were sent to Sharon Wooden who was hospitalized and in rehab, and to Marlene Mayfield who injured her wrist.

The answer to our Christmas riddle: HOW DO SHEEP IN MEXICO SAY MERRY CHRIST-MAS? (FLEECE NAVIDAD)

Have some fun by answering our Valentine riddle: WHAT DID THE HAMBURGER GIVE TO HIS SWEETHEART ON VALENTINE'S DAY?

You can email or phone me with your guess for a surprise. (The answer will be in the next newslet-ter).

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.

Happy Valentíne's Day!







CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FIGURES FOR OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2018 REFLECT SLIGHT DOWNWARD TREND



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 2020, stood at 244.786 in December 2018 after registering 247.038 in October and 245.933 in November. The 244.786 CPI-W figure for December is -0.64 % lower than the 2018 CPI-W average for July-September 2018, which was 246.352.

To determine if there will be a COLA in 2020, the CPI-W figures for July-September 2019 will be averaged and compared with the July-September average CPI-W of 246.352, which is the reference point for determining if there will be a COLA in 2020. The July-September 2019 average must exceed the July-September 2018 average for a COLA to be authorized in 2020.



PREPARATION FOR INCOME TAX SEASON

With the arrival of the new year, tax preparation for the 2018 tax year is upon us. One of the key elements for efficient and timely tax preparation and submission is collecting all necessary instructions, forms, and income source documents (for example, Form W-2, Form 1099R, dividend and interest forms from payers) and storing them in a central location. One of the main tax documents for federal retirees and survivor annuitants is the Form 1099R (Statement of Annuity Paid) which is issued by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). OPM mails Forms 1099R during the last week of January. Your Form 1099R will be mailed to your address of record which is on file with OPM. If you have recently changed your residence or mailing address and did not notify OPM of your move, you should do so immediately. This can be accomplished by calling OPM at 1-888-767-6738; by signing on to www.servicesonline.opm.gov; or by sending OPM an email at retire@opm.gov.

If you have not moved, and have not received your Form 1099R by the end of the first week of February 2019, you may request a duplicate from OPM by calling the 1-888-767-6738 number, which is staffed from 5:40 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Mountain Time Monday-Friday. You may also go to the OPM website at <u>www.servicesonline.opm.gov</u> and use your OPM-provided Personal Identification Number (PIN) to view, print, or request a duplicate Form 1099R.

Federal retirees and survivor annuitants need to be aware that the Form 1099R will continue to be mailed to their address of record UNLESS you wish to receive your Form 1099R electronically, in which case you must "opt-in" for receipt of the electronic version using www.servicesonline.opm.gov. While OPM strongly encourages annuitants and survivor annuitants to receive the electronic version of the Form 1099R, as part of their "paperless" initiative, the agency recognizes that this would create a hardship for those individuals who are not computer literate or do not have ready access to a computer.



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

DON'T FORGET!

Please help us by completing the *Member Survey* on pages 7 and 8 and return either by mail or bring it to our February meeting. Thank you!

You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers		Members of Congress
President <u>nmreeses@msn.com</u> 1st Vice Pres. (Legislation) <u>rosco631@gmail.com</u> 2 nd Vice Pres. (Membership) <u>cardan116@comcast.net</u> Secretary/Public Relations <u>mayfield195@msn.com</u> Treasurer/Ways & Means <u>scsingleton575@gmail.com</u>	Sharon Reese (575) 532-9422 Judy Rosco (575) 635-7127 Dan Carroll (575) 932-9491 Marlene Mayfield (575) 644-6851 Craig Singleton (575) 373-0705	U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (D) Loretto Town Center 505 S. Main St., Suite 148, Las Cruces, NM 88001 (575) 523-6561 http:// <u>www.heinrich.senate.gov</u> U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D) 201 N Church St Suite 201B Las Cruces, NM 88001 (575) 526-5475 <u>http://tomudall.senate.gov</u> U.S. Representative Xochitl Torres Small (D) (Dist 2) <u>https://torressmall.house.gov</u> V.S. Representative Sochitl Torres Small (D) (Dist 2) <u>https://torressmall.house.gov</u> NARFE Monthly Meetings The Las Cruces Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association holds a breakfast meeting o the 2 nd Saturday of each month except in June, July, & Au- gust. The meeting is held at the Hilton Garden Inn, 2550 Don Roser Dr, Las Cruces. Doors open at 8:30am (break- fast at 8:45am), and the cost is \$13. All members, those tha might be interested in joining, and guests are most welcome Membership is open to all federal civilian employees, retir- ees, their spouses, and surviving spouses. For reservations, contact Carol Main (382-7686) or Carol Smith (522-3033) or email: lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com.
Alzheimer's/Newsletter Editor <u>mcadoosr@aol.com</u> NARFE-PAC: <u>memckay1@comcast.net</u>	Sarah McAdoo (575) 571-6364 Mary Ellen McKay (575) 527-4750	
Program Chair: <u>memckay1@comcast.net</u> NARFE-FEEA: <u>rswillowbee@comcast.net</u>	Franklin McKay (575) 527-4750 Roy Willoughby (575) 524-9395	
Records Officer: <u>csmain7@gmail.com</u> Service Officer: <u>jkielty70@yahoo.com</u>	Carol Main (575) 382-7686 Jim Kielty (575) 523-6044	

Regi	onal Active and Retired Federal Employees Association on VII Arizona-Colorado-New Mexico-Utah-Wyoming exico Federation Conference and Region VII Conference April 4 – April 6, 2019 Registration Deadline: March 13, 2019		
Name:(One person per form) (Please	PRINT) Phone:		
	Email:		
	State: Zip Code:		
	Chapter Name & Number		
I am a (circle one only) Federation Officer Chapter Officer Chapter Member Guest			
In case of emergency, notify:	Phone:		
Special Dietary Need			
Registration for New Mexico Federation Conference only: \$40.00 \$ Registration Fee for NM Federation & Region VII Conferences: \$125.00 \$ (includes Reception, Breaks, Lunch and Banquet) Lunch: Lunch: <i>CIRCLE CHOICE</i> : Mexican Club Dijon Chicken Salad Banquet: <i>CIRCLE CHOICE</i> : Grilled Salmon Spanish Marinated Pork Loin			
FOR GUESTS or VISITORS Only PI () \$15.00 Reception () \$25.00 Lunch – circle choice – Mexic () \$50.00 Banquet – circle choice - Grill Total Total Amount Enclosed	\$ can Club Dijon Chicken Salad \$		
REGISTRATION NOTES: (READ C	AREFULLY)		
 1/ Each attendee must complete a separate registration form. 2/ Registration forms must be postmarked no later than March 13, 2019 and forwarded with accompanying fees to: Sharon Willoughby, Conference Treasurer, P.O. Box 16424, Las Cruces NM 88004-6424 			
Makes checks payable to: 2019 NARFE Conferences . Conference registration fees are refundable if re- quested prior to April 1, 2019. Please contact Sharon Willoughby , 575-524-9395 , or <u>swillowbee@comcast.net</u> , for questions and/or refund.			
Hotel Information: (NOTE: Cut-off date is Wednesday, March 13, 2019) Hotel Encanto de Las Cruces, 705 S. Telshor Blvd, Las Cruces, NM. 1-866-383-0443 (Code: NARFE) Rooms \$94.00 + tax 13.3125% + \$2.50 Convention Center Fee or \$109.00 per night. (Problems? Call Sharon Reese: 575-649-6035.)			

CHAPTER OPERATIONS MEMBER SURVEY FEBRUARY 2019

As our Chapter continues to seek ways to provide value to members, it is important to hear from you. This survey will ask about chapter meetings and activities, preferred methods of communication, and members' needs and expectations from the chapter.

If you could take a few minutes to answer this survey and return it to:

NARFE Chapter 182, Attn: Sharon Reese, PO Box 16424, Las Cruces, NM 88004-6424 or bring it to our meeting February 9, 2019. You will help us determine how the chapter provides services to the membership. Questions about this survey should be directed to Sharon Reese, 575-649-6035 or <u>nmreeses@msn.com</u>. Results will be published in our March Newsletter.

Your city/town _____

Is your spouse a chapter member? () Yes () No

Personally, how committed do you feel to this chapter? (check one)

() Very Strongly

- () Strongly
- () Moderately
- () Slightly
- () Not at all
- () Don't know

How many chapter meetings or activities Have you attended in the past 12 months? Member of chapter for _____ year(s).

Do you consider yourself an active member of this chapter? () Yes () No () Not Sure

Have you recruited a new member in the past 12 months?

- () Yes () No
- () Plan to in the next few months

Why do you attend chapter meetings? (Check <u>all</u> that apply)

- () Socialize
- () Hear interesting speakers
- () Just to get out
- () Chapter Officer/Chair
- () Other

What would prevent you from participating in chapter activities? (Check <u>all</u> that apply)

- () Scheduling conflict
- () Health concerns
- () Primary caregiver to someone
- () Don't have reliable transportation
- () Not interested in programs/speakers
- () Don't know anyone who will be there
- () Don't learn about activities/meetings in time
- () Other _____

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CHAPTER OPERATIONS MEMBER SURVEY

What program areas would you like to see at future chapter meetings? (Check <u>all</u> that apply)

- () Health update
- () Retirement laws
- () Finances
- () Travel
- () Environment
- () Politics, current/international events
- () Entertainment
- () Small Business
- () Tax (and life) planning
- () Volunteer opportunities
- () Fitness
- () Legal issues (wills, trusts, etc.)
- () Technology
- () Today's markets/investments
- () Hobbies
- () Other _____

Would you be interested in participating in more chapter activities?

() Yes () No () Not sure

If you would like someone to talk to you about opportunities where you can participate in chapter programs, activities or leadership, please provide your name, phone number, and email. _____ Which meeting times are most convenient for you? (Check <u>all</u> that apply)

- () Morning () Weekday () Weekend
- () Lunch time () Weekday () Weekend
- () Early Evening () Weekday () Weekend
- () Evening (7:30 pm) () Weekday () Weekend
- () Weekends
- () Depends on time of year

What is the preferred method of chapter communication to you?

- () Newsletter
- () Mail
- () Email
- () Telephone
- () Bulletins or alerts
- () Legislative updates
- () Website
- () Notices posted in newspapers

In what areas would you like to participate? (Check <u>all</u> that apply)

- () Assist with a special event
- () Help with communications
- () Assist with meetings
- () Aid committee leaderships
- () Lend a hand with legislative affairs

What is the chapter doing right?

What could the chapter do differently?

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