



**National Active & Retired
Federal Employees Association**

**Las Cruces Chapter 182
REPORTER**

Volume 20, Issue 7 – March 2020

National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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



**THOMAS BRANIGAN
MEMORIAL LIBRARY**

The library was founded in 1935 and a library building constructed as the result of a bequest from Mrs. Alice Branigan in memory of her husband Capt. Thomas Branigan.

**General Meeting – Saturday – March 14th – 8:30 a.m.
Esparanza Room - Hilton Garden Inn**

PROGRAM: Margaret M. Neill, Library Administrator

Ms. Neill will provide information on the services Branigan Memorial Library has to offer. Please bring a friend to learn about the many services being offered.

Breakfast Buffet: \$13 cash only

Reservations: NLT March 10th

Call Carol Main (382-7686)

or Carol Decker (522-3033)



**Donna Harris
Chapter Program Chair**



Chapter President (Sharon Reese)

Thank you to our Nominating Committee, John Reese and Chuck James. The slate of proposed officers was presented at our February meeting: President Sharon Reese, Executive Vice President for Advocacy Judy Rosco, Vice President for Membership Dan Carroll, Secretary Marlene Mayfield, and Treasurer (no candidate). No other candidates were nominated from the floor. All were elected by acclamation. The officers will be installed at our April General Membership Meeting. If anyone is interested in the Treasurer position, please contact me or any board member. We need to fill this position as soon as possible.



**Happy
Saint
Patrick's
Day !**

Here's an update on Federation Treasurer, Lee Tomlin, who suffered a severe stroke on October 22nd. His recovery is extremely slow, as he goes between a stroke physical therapy hospital and assisted living. He has asked that no one visit him. Cards may be sent to his residence, 9804 Lorelei Lane NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111-1248.

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*President's Message (Sharon Reese)
Continued from Page 1*

Our Annual Meetings will take place in April. The South Meeting will be on April 23rd at the Good Samaritan Village, Las Cruces, NM - see attached Registration Form. The agenda is being finalized at this time and will be available by April 1st.

FEDCon20 will be August 30 – September 1st at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Arizona. Hotel rate is \$115.00 per night plus taxes. Registration opened on February 3rd. The resort fee is waived and you will have complimentary self-parking with valet parking at \$29.00 per night. Early Bird Registration is open now at \$165.00 until March 31st. April 1 through August 30 registration is \$190.00. Register on-line at www.narfe.org.



*Ways and Means
Committee*

(Craig Singleton)

NARFE Chapter 182 is planning a YARD SALE on May 2nd. We want to thank Sharon and Roy Willoughby for allowing us to use their home.

It's not too early to start thinking about the items that you no longer need, use, want, or if you just want to declutter your life.

Details on the yard sale schedule, information about help transporting your donations, and points of contact will also follow in the April Newsletter. Thanks for your support and I hope to see you soon.



FEEA

Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA) - Roy Willoughby
This is a NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Deadline Alert



The deadline for the 2019 NARFE-FEEA Scholarship Program is the 25th of March 2020. The scholarship is open to children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of NARFE members. Applicants must be high school seniors planning to attend their first year of an accredited college full time (in a two – or four-year degree program) in the fall/winter of the award year.

Find the online Application and Information at: feea.org/scholarships

Here you will find all the information you need to apply for Scholarships.

Other Important FEEA Programs

Helping Federal Public Servants in Need - Disaster Assistance:

NARFE-FEEA disaster funds in the form of cash grants of \$500 maximum and no-interest loans are available to all NARFE members in times of emergency.

Find Disaster Relief Help Information online at: feea.org then click **Disaster Relief**

Here you will find information on Eligibility and how to apply.

FEEA'S FEDLIFEHACKS PROGRAM

Find online at: feea.org/hacks

Here you'll find advice, information, and resources for all ages and stages of life.

Financial Wellness – meeting your financial goals and getting help.

FEEA Donation Funding at the next NARFE General Meeting

NARFE relies on donations from NARFE members to finance its FEEA relief and scholarships. This is the time that Chapter 182 is asking for donations at our next General meeting. We will have envelopes at each table to collect donations for NARFE-FEEA. Thank You for your support!!

Remember donations can be made directly online at: feea.org/givenarferelief. For more information call Roy at 524-9395.





Dan Carroll

*(VP for Membership and
Chapter Historian)*

Another month with NARFE. We have 261 members in Chapter 182 as of February 17, 2020. Wow! Remember to set your clocks one hour ahead on March 8th at 2:00 am. Full moon is on March 9th. St. Patrick's Day is coming up on March 17th. Don't forget to wear green at next chapter meeting on March 14th at 8:30 am at Hilton Gardens Inn on Don Roser and University Ave. Quote of the month: ***"Sometimes things can go right only by first going very wrong."*** by Edward Tenner. See you at the meeting!



Marcele Skelton
Sunshine Report

We can all look forward to sunnier days this month. March is the month when spring is in the air. Daylight Saving Time arrives, resulting in more hours to enjoy the sunshine. St. Patrick's Day activities, "March Madness" basketball, school and community concerts and events help get us out and about to have some fun.

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Richard Dale, who passed away February 1st. Richard was a chapter member for several years. A sympathy card was also sent to Marlene Mayfield, whose sister-in-law passed away February 5th. Marlene is our Chapter Secretary.

The answer to our Valentine riddle: IF YOU WANT TO BE ROMANTIC FOR VALENTINE'S DAY, WHAT FLOWERS SHOULD YOU AVOID SENDING? (CAULIFLOWERS)

Have some fun by answering this month's riddle: THROW AWAY THE OUTSIDE AND COOK THE INSIDE. THEN EAT THE OUTSIDE AND THROW AWAY THE INSIDE. WHAT IS IT?

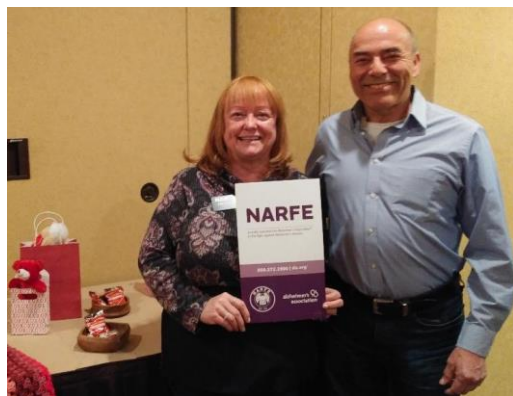
Please let me know if you hear of a member who is ill, has passed away or could use a little sunshine in their life. Marcele: 575-521-4954 or marcele@skelton.net.

Alzheimer's Report (Cindy Cook)

Thanks for everyone's participation in our Alzheimer's raffle held at our February 8th meeting.

\$123.00 collected in sale of raffle tickets. \$60 was given as raffle prizes but all \$60 was given back. \$100 collected from 2 auctions. Total sent to Alzheimer's was \$223.00.

Thanks to the following members for their donation of prizes: Terry Bloom, Dan Carroll, Chuck & Judy James, Marlene Mayfield, Sarah McAdoo, Mary Ellen & Franklin McKay, John & Sharon Reese, Mary Beth Reinhart, and Kathy Treat.



***Our Chapter Alzheimer's Team
Cindy and Oscar***

An Old Irish Proverb

**May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
And rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God
Hold you in the palm of His hand.**



Service Officer Report (Jim Kielty)



PASSAGE OF SECURE ACT WILL EXTEND AGE BY WHICH TSP PARTICIPANTS MUST BEGIN TAKING REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS

On December 20, 2019, Congress enacted the SECURE Act which was part of a larger federal appropriations bill signed by the President. The SECURE Act is an acronym which stands for Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE). Most of the provisions in the legislation were directed toward broadening the opportunities for private sector employees to have a 401-K Individual Retirement Account (IRA). However, some sections will apply to the federal Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), which is the federal government's version of a 401-K account.

One major change resulting from the SECURE Act will directly affect certain federal retirees who are participants in the TSP and have not yet reached an age when they are required to begin taking a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from their TSP account under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations. The SECURE Act has established a new required beginning date for a TSP or other IRA participant to make withdrawals. That date now is April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the individual attains age 72, rather than April 1 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which the individual reaches age 70 1/2.

Under the SECURE Act, this change became effective for RMDs required to be made after December 31, 2019 with respect to individuals who will reach age 70 1/2 after that date. TSP participants who reach age 70 1/2 in 2020 will not have a required beginning date for withdrawals of April 1, 2021. Anyone turning 70 1/2 in 2020 won't become age 72 until 2021 or 2022, depending on their birth month. This means the first RMD will now have to be taken from the TSP account by either April 1, 2022 (if you reach age 72 in 2021) or by April 1, 2023 (if you reach age 72 in 2022). The 18 month extension of the time an RMD must be taken will allow your money to grow in your TSP account, provided you can afford to leave your money in the account for the longer period.

The federal TSP program has indicated on its website that they are evaluating the impact of the entire SECURE Act on the TSP program and will be issuing additional guidance. NARFE members who are TSP participants are advised to check the TSP website at <http://www.tsp.gov> or to call TSP at 1-877-968-3778 if they have specific questions.



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

We had **50** members and guests at our February meeting with **581** 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.



Legislative Report (Judy Rosco)



Races are heating up with the Primary elections and I think we are all watching them closely.

If you would like to know more, check out www.narfe.org/GOTV2020. GET OUT THE VOTE! Whether you believe it or not, YOUR vote counts. The NARFE website mentioned here is a good source of information on voting...local, state, and national. Be an informed voter.

Please help me, help our federal employees (active and retired) by asking your legislators to support these bills: H.R. 141 Social Security Fairness Act of 2019 and H.R. 3934 The Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act of 2019. I will also seek support for the H.R.1553 - Fair COLA for Seniors Act of 2019 which is based on the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E).

Your Legislators can be reached at:

U.S. Senator Tom Udall, (575) 526-5475, or <http://www.tomudall.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich, (575) 523-6561, or <http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>

U.S. Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small, (575) 520-5319, or xochitl.torressmall@mail.house.gov



**MARCH IS
NARFE-PAC
MONTH**

NARFE-PAC fights for you by:

1. Helping elect members of Congress who support the federal community
2. Building strong relationships with lawmakers, a key component of winning legislative fights
3. Ensuring the federal community is a powerful political force across the country
4. Pooling individual contributions to maximize impact nationwide
5. Empowering our strongest supporters to become leaders in our fight

CONTRIBUTE TO NARFE-PAC TODAY!



Valerie Stiles (MountainView Senior Amigos Program Manager) and Donna Harris (NARFE Chapter 182 Program Chair)

Members enjoyed Ms. Stiles' presentation at our February 8th meeting on popular activities available at Senior Amigos for Seniors age 50 or better.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
NOW FOR OUR
APRIL 11TH MEETING!**

Michele Ungvarsky, Estate Planning Attorney, will give a presentation at our April 11th meeting. She will speak on Probate, Medicare and Medicaid, Estate Planning, Trusts, Last Will and Testament, Power of Attorney and other topics of interest.



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

New Mexico Federation Annual Meeting & Training

April 23, 2020 (9:30 am – 3:00 pm)

**Good Samaritan Las Cruces Village
Creative Arts Room
3011 Buena Vida, Las Cruces, NM**

Registration Deadline: April 15, 2020

Name _____ Phone: _____

(Please PRINT)

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

NARFE Chapter Name & Number _____

In case of emergency, notify: _____ Phone: _____

Special Dietary Need: _____

Registration Fee for each member and/or guests \$14.00 (times number attending) \$ _____
(Includes morning coffee and lunch) (Lunch: salad, wrap, chips and dessert)

REGISTRATION forms must be received no later than **April 15, 2020** with accompanying fees to: Sharon Reese, 1625 Thunderbird Street, Las Cruces, NM 88011-4967

Make checks payable to **New Mexico Federation**. Conference registration fees are refundable if requested prior to April 1, 2020. Please contact Sharon Reese, 575-524-9395 or sreese346@gmail.com, for questions and/or refund.



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

You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers

President	Sharon Reese
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1st Vice Pres. (Legislation)	Judy Rosco
rosco631@gmail.com	575-635-7127
2 nd Vice Pres. (Membership)	Dan Carroll
cardan116@comcast.net	575- 932-9491
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mayfield195@msn.com	575- 644-6851
Treasurer/Ways & Means	Craig Singleton
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Service Officer:	Jim Kielty
jkielty70@yahoo.com	575-523-6044

Members of Congress

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich (D)
201 N Church St Suite 305
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 Xochitl Torres Small (D) (District 2)
240 S Water St, Las Cruces NM 88001
575-520-5319
<http://xochitl.torressmall@mail.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 Decker (522-3033)**.
Or email: lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com.
Newsletter Editor (Sarah McAdoo): mcadoosr@aol.com