



**National Active & Retired  
Federal Employees Association**

**Las Cruces Chapter 182  
REPORTER**

**Volume 20, Issue 9 – May 2020**

National Web Site: [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

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



**Chapter 182 President  
(Sharon Reese)**

I hope that all members and your families are staying home and abiding by our governor's requests during this very trying time. John and I are both ready for returning to a safe and friendly time when we can go where we want and do what we want. We miss friends and our interactions.

Your board is not officially meeting but we are handling chapter affairs via email. We have passed our budget for 2020-2021. Craig did an outstanding job of preparing the budget with input from all board members.

A decision is still on hold for our venue for meetings starting in September. I am in contact with the Hilton Garden Inn to see if they will allow a contract for September through December due to our uncertain times. I am waiting for a reply before I take this matter to the board. I will definitely have info for you prior to our September meeting.

FEDcon20, our National Conference, is still a go. As of April 21<sup>st</sup> they are still planning the conference. The early bird registration is in effect until 1 May. Our approved budget allows for 20 members to be reimbursed the registration fee, early-bird or regular fee. We still have openings for members to be reimbursed, so register today!

*.....Continued on Page 2*



**Cindy  
Cook**



Hello Chapter Members, Since we are not able to have meetings yet, I wanted to give you the Alzheimer's information and address if you still wish to make a donation to this cause for our chapter.

Make check payable to: NARFE Alzheimer's Research; with reference to: Las Cruces NM Chapter 0182. Mail to: National Alzheimer's Association, 225 N. Michigan Ave, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601-7633.

Thank You and looking forward to seeing everyone after the restriction is lifted on meetings. Please take care!

Sincerely, Cindy Cook (Your Alzheimer's Rep)

**NARFE Chapter 182 Programs**

Our next chapter general meeting will hopefully be held on Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. All information including time, place, and program will be announced in our August newsletter. We look forward to seeing everyone. Reminder: If you have a specific topic or speaker you would like to recommend for one of our meetings, please contact our Program Chair (Donna Harris) at [md.harris1@comcast.net](mailto:md.harris1@comcast.net) or phone 575-382-9070.

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

I have the titles of all 21 resolutions that we will be voting on in August. However, I am waiting for the write-ups in order to provide information on the resolutions.

This chart is what I received with recommendation from  
the **Bylaws/Resolution Committee**  
which I will address in our next newsletter.

| Number | Subject                                       | Effect   | Recommendation |
|--------|---|--|----------------|
| S-2004 | National Executive Board Authority            | Clarifies NEB governance authorities                             | ADOPT          |
| B-2005 | National Officers' Vacancies                  | Updates national officers  | ADOPT          |
| B-2006 | Bylaws Revision                               | Eliminates general revisions of bylaws                           | ADOPT          |
| B-2007 | Voting  | Eliminates resolutions from bylaws                               | ADOPT          |
| B-2009 | Federation Mergers                            | Permits two or more states to merge federations                  | ADOPT          |
| B-2010 | Secretary/Treasurer Term Limits               | Limits to three consecutive terms                                | ADOPT          |
| B-2011 | National Officer/RVP Office Terms             | Beginning date of terms changed to January 1                     | ADOPT          |
| B-2015 | Executive Director Duties                     | Streamlines duties enumerated in the bylaws                      | ADOPT          |
| B-2020 | Dues Increases                                | Increases member dues  | ADOPT          |
| S-2003 | NARFE Audit Publication Deadline              | Eliminates June deadline for publication of audit                | ADOPT          |
| S-2005 | Chapter Payments                              | Reduces new member dues rebates to chapters                      | ADOPT          |
| BRC-01 | Member Categories (Combines B-2003/2012/2019) | Reorders membership categories and eliminates supporting members | ADOPT          |

| Number | Subject                               | Effect   | Recommendation |
|--------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| B-2002 | Ballot Design Standards               | Adds ballot design standards to the bylaws       | REJECT         |
| B-2008 | Equality in Proposing Amendments      | Reduces no. of members to propose amendments     | REJECT         |
| B-2014 | Simplify Voting Process               | Permits voting on bylaws at national conference  | REJECT         |
| B-2017 | Voting Member Privileges              | Requires voting after national conference        | REJECT         |
| B-2018 | Add Spousal Members                   | Adds spouses to membership at no cost            | REJECT         |
| B-2021 | Federation Payments                   | Reduces member dues rebates to federations       | REJECT         |
| S-2002 | Ensure Committee Diversity            | Includes all member categories on committees     | REJECT         |
| R-2001 | Eliminate WEP <sup>1</sup>            | Ends the WEP Social Security Penalty             | REJECT         |
| R-2002 | Increase Social Security <sup>2</sup> | Supports legislation to increase Social Security | REJECT         |



**Records Officer**

**Carol Main**

We do not have any new members to announce this month, but we still have a strong chapter membership of 246 members!

Since we will not be having meetings until the COVID-19 pandemic is resolved, please keep track of your volunteer hours starting in March. We will collect your total volunteer hours when we resume contacting you for the next 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 [csmain7@gmail.com](mailto: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.



*1<sup>st</sup> VP for Legislation*

*Judy Rosco*

The NARFE Federal Benefits Institute, hosted by Tammy Flanagan, is holding a WEBINAR on May 14, entitled WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision) and GPO (Government Pension Offset): Understanding Evil Twins.

The history of these laws will be reviewed and current legislation before Congress will be discussed by NARFE Staff Vice President, Policy and Programs expert, Jessica Klement.

Go online today and register to view this webinar. If you are a CSRS retiree, this is a must see program for you.

I am sending out my most sincere wishes that you are all doing well and staying safe in this difficult time. Please stay in touch with those you love by SKYPE, ZOOM, or the telephone.

We must all do our part to stop COVID-19 from spreading. Please follow the guidelines set out by the federal, state, and local government and STAY SAFE.

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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 <http://xochitl.torressmall@mail.house.gov>



*Sunshine Report*

*Marcele Skelton*



The weather this past month had several sunny days. We needed that sunshine to help us shelter in place. At least we could exercise and enjoy outdoor recreation in our backyards. With the coronavirus still a serious concern, we should remember to inject a little humor in our lives. Humor is great; it can even help to relieve anxiety around a worrying issue. Does the following quote resonate with you? "2020 is a unique leap year. It has 29 days in February, 300 days in March and 10 years in April."

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Dorothy Hays, who passed away March 24, 2020. Dorothy served as Historian for our Chapter. A sympathy card was also sent to Cindy Zaklan, whose husband, Dennis, passed away on March 24th after battling cancer several years.

The answer to the April riddle: APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS, BUT WHAT DO MAY FLOWERS BRING? (PILGRIMS).

Have some fun by answering this month's riddle: HOW CAN YOU THROW A BALL AS HARD AS YOU CAN, TO ONLY HAVE IT COME BACK TO YOU, EVEN IF IT DOESN'T BOUNCE OFF ANYTHING?

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](mailto:marcele@skelton.net)



*Mother's Day*

*May 10th*

*June 21st*

*Happy Father's Day*



*Mary Ellen McKay*

These are strange and difficult times we are going through. But, a lot of life as we know it cannot stop. We have a future to deal with. One of the things in our future is an election. I have tried to stop listening to all of the political back and forth the media has been feeding us. Having said that, we are still going to have an election in November. Keeping that in mind we still have to work to protect our earned benefits. One of the ways is to donate to NARFE-PAC. Money given is then given to candidates for U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

The people selected to receive PAC money is based on how much we feel they will respond to the needs of the Federal Family.

I am a little disappointed that contributions from our Chapter are not what I would like to see. But I fully understand. It's this feeling of "waiting for the other shoe to drop", and am I going to need that money before this is all over.

Thanks for supporting NARFE-PAC. We need strong voices in Washington, DC.

Personal note: I've been binging on old movies. You might enjoy "Second Hand Lions" from 2003. I promised myself I would use this time at home to sort files. BORING! Needless to say I haven't gotten very far.



*VP for Membership and Chapter Historian*

*Dan Carroll*

Greetings! Surviving but things are tough staying home all day except for trips to Wal-Mart and Walgreens. Working on the yard and feeding doves and a family of roadrunners that have a nest in tree in our front yard. They have two chicks and they have to guard them from predators such as grackles and hawks. We also have a pair of owls in the neighborhood. Two squirrels also hanging out in backyard eating birdseed. As of 04/18/2020 we have 251 members in our local chapter. Holidays for May include Cinco de Mayo (May 5<sup>th</sup>); Mother's Day (May 10<sup>th</sup>) and full moon (May 7<sup>th</sup>).

Quote of the month: "Reflection is the beginning of reform."—Mark Twain.

Hopefully we'll get back to our in-person monthly meeting in September 2020. The board is working on venue for our start up in the fall. See you at Wal-Mart!

**Three Easy Ways to Join NARFE**

- There is an application form in every *NARFE* magazine.
- Join online at [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org).
- Call 800-456-8410 Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET.



*Roy Willoughby*

**Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA)**

Please consider supporting the NARFE-FEEA program during this time of seclusion. Remember donations can be made directly online at: [feea.org/givenarferelief](http://feea.org/givenarferelief).

Find Disaster Relief Help Information online at: [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org) - then click **Disaster Relief**. Here you will find information on eligibility and how to apply.

For more information call Roy at 524-9395.



**Service Officer (*Jim Kielty*)**

**STATUS OF 2020 CENSUS: AFFECTED BY  
CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC,  
BUT STILL REQUIRED BY LAW**

The conduct of the 2020 Census, like many aspects of American life, has been disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic. However, all NARFE members are reminded that completion of the census questionnaire is still required by law in order to obtain an accurate count of all individuals living in the United States.

Article 1, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution requires that the country conduct a count of its population once every ten years. The results of the census are used for such purposes as establishing state and federal legislative districts for the next decade and for determining the distribution of federal funding during that period. Title 13, Section 221 of the U.S. Code states that persons who fail or refuse to respond to the census questionnaire can be fined up to one hundred dollars.

There are three options for responding to the 2020 Census questionnaire: (a) online at [www.my2020census.gov](http://www.my2020census.gov); (b) telephonically by calling 1-844-330-2020; or (c) filling out a paper questionnaire sent to you by the U.S. Census Bureau. The 2020 Census is the first time that people are encouraged to answer the census questions online. By now most people should have received in the mail an invitation to respond to the 2020 Census. The invitation contains an alpha-numeric Census ID for your use in completing the questionnaire. Although you may also respond by telephone by calling 1-844-330-2020, the experience of your Service Officer is the recorded message you listen to will instruct you to call back at a later time or to expect an unusually long wait before a staffer will be available to assist you.

Beginning on April 15 and continuing into May, those who have not yet responded to the questionnaire either online or telephonically will be mailed a paper questionnaire for completion. Under the original Census Bureau timeline, Census Bureau employees were to begin visiting the residences of those who still had not responded beginning in May 2020. In order to practice social distancing necessitated by the coronavirus pandemic, these home visits may be delayed for up to ninety days.





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

A special edition of our newsletter will be published in June to provide information from the Bylaws/Resolution Committee. Then look for our regular August edition which will bring you up to date on our chapter's next meeting venue and program information.

*You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!*

#### Chapter 182 Officers

|  |  |
|--|--|
| President  | <b>Sharon Reese</b><br>575-649-6035      |
| <a href="mailto:nmreeses@msn.com">nmreeses@msn.com</a>                     |  |
| 1st Vice Pres. (Legislation)   | <b>Judy Rosco</b><br>575-635-7127        |
| <a href="mailto:rosco631@gmail.com">rosco631@gmail.com</a>                 |  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. (Membership)                                    | <b>Dan Carroll</b><br>575- 932-9491      |
| <a href="mailto:cardan116@comcast.net">cardan116@comcast.net</a>           |  |
| Secretary/Public Relations   | <b>Marlene Mayfield</b><br>575- 644-6851 |
| <a href="mailto:mayfield195@msn.com">mayfield195@msn.com</a>               |  |
| Treasurer  | <b>Marsha Smith</b><br>575-644-5131      |
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| Alzheimer's  | <b>Cindy Cook</b><br>575-640-0860        |
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| NARFE-FEEA:  | <b>Roy Willoughby</b><br>575-524-9395    |
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| NARFE-PAC:   | <b>Mary Ellen McKay</b><br>575-527-4750  |
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| Program Chair:   | <b>Donna Harris</b><br>575-382-9070      |
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| Records Officer:   | <b>Carol Main</b><br>575-382-7686        |
| <a href="mailto:csmain7@gmail.com">csmain7@gmail.com</a>                   |  |
| Service Officer:   | <b>Jim Kielty</b><br>575-523-6044        |
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#### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com).  
**Newsletter Editor (Sarah McAdoo): mcadoos@aol.com**