



National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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



*Chapter 182 President
Sharon Reese*

Hello Everyone! Summer is almost over and fall is just around the corner.

It seems forever since we have been able to meet and enjoy each other's company. I hope that all of you have kept safe and healthy!

The Board of Directors met on the 19th of August to catch up on happenings and try to plan for the fall. This is hard to do as we will not know until August 29th - 31st if our Governor will keep us locked down or if we will have some leeway in meeting and dining. As it stands today, we will not have a meeting in September. This may or may not change. If it does change, I will make sure everyone is notified by email or phone.

Our yard sale for September has moved to late October or November. Again, the Covid-19 virus will dictate this event. So, please hold on to your items a little longer.

During this pandemic we have closed Gallup and Alamogordo Chapters. We gained 19 members from Chapter 689 Alamogordo. Welcome to our new members!

Please vote in our NARFE elections for President, Secretary/Treasurer, and numerous By-law/Resolutions. Ballots must be received by August 31st. I hope to see you soon!



*Sunshine
Report*

*Marcele
Skelton*



September is known as the last month of summer. That means we should enjoy several more days of sunshine leading into fall. Fall has a lot going for it-- cooler weather, beautiful foliage and pumpkin spice flavored food and beverages.

A sympathy card was sent to the family of Mildred Hust, who passed away July 17. Mildred was a member since 1999 in the Alamogordo chapter. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Sharon Wooden, who passed away July 25. Sharon was a member of Chapter 182 and regularly attended our monthly meetings. A get well card was sent to chapter member Angie Carroll who was hospitalized recently. Her husband Dan is our 2nd Vice President (Membership).

With school starting, this month's riddle is appropriate: WHY DID THE TEACHER PUNISH THE STUDENT FOR SOMETHING HE DID NOT DO?

The answer to the August riddle: WHY DO BIRDS FLY SOUTH FOR THE WINTER? (Because it is too far to walk)

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.



Future Meetings/Programs

**Program Chair
Donna Harris**

Until more information is received on the future of meetings, programs have not been established. It's been hard to contact people and schedule programs due to the current state of affairs.

If we meet in the near future, we will have programs scheduled. As always, stay tuned for more information.



Records Officer

Carol Main

We do not have any new members to announce this month, but we still have a strong chapter membership of **262** members!

Since we won't 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 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.

Active & Retired Federal Employees
JOIN NARFE TODAY!

There is a NARFE Membership Application form in every *NARFE* Magazine or contact our Membership Chair, Dan Carroll at: cardan116@comcast.net



Service Officer

Jim Kielty

**JULY CONSUMER PRICE INDEX RISE
INCREASES HOPE FOR COST-OF-
LIVING ADJUSTMENT IN 2021**

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 2021, increased in July 2020 for the second straight month after several earlier declines. The CPI-W in June was 251.054 and the July figure was 252.636. The July figure of 252.636 is 0.97% higher than the CPI-W average for July – September 2019, which was 250.199.

To determine if there will be a COLA in 2021, the CPI-W figures for July – September 2020 will be averaged and compared with the July – September 2019 average CPI-W of 250.199, which is the reference point for determining if there will be a COLA in 2021. The July – September 2020 average must exceed the July – September 2019 average for a COLA to be authorized in 2021. The August 2020 CPI-W will be announced on September 11 and the September 2020 CPI-W will be announced on October 13.



FEEA

Federal Employee Education & Assistance

Please consider supporting the NARFE-FEEA program during this time of seclusion. Remember donations can be made directly online at: fearg.org/givenarferelief.

For more information call Roy Willoughby at 524-9395.



Judy Rosco (VP for Legislation)



Welcome back members. This year will be a new experience for all of us and I hope it won't be the "New Norm".

We will not be having our Legislative Breakfast this September due to the COVID 19 restrictions that the state has mandated to keep us all safe. I have written to our legislative members in Congress as well as requested Zoom/Skype meetings with them or their staff representatives to discuss co-sponsoring the following bills:

H.R.141/S.521 - the Social Security Fairness Act would fully repeal both the WEP and GPO.

HR3934/S 3401 - Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act 2019 would provide relief to current and future retirees. The bill does not fully repeal the WEP but it would be a significant improvement over the status quo for the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS)

H.R.4540 -The Public Servants Protection and Fairness Act would provide relief from WEP for current and future retirees.

H.R.1553 - Fair COLA for Seniors Act would require the CPI-E to determine a more accurate COLA for seniors and veterans.

H.R.1254 - The Equal COLA Act would correct the disparity for COLA between CSRS and FERS retirees, making them equal.

We need letters from you asking our Legislators to co-sponsor these bills. NARFE needs your help to get these bills passed. STAY SAFE.

Your Legislators can be reached at:

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

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

U.S. Congresswoman Xochitl Torres Small, (575) 520-5319 at <http://www.xochitl.torressmall@mail.house.gov>

THANK YOU, JEFFREY SMITH



We want to send out a BIG THANK YOU to our Webmaster, Jeffrey Smith. Jeff is an employee at White Sands Missile Range and has been a NARFE member for several years. He is an important member on our Executive Board. He set up our NARFE NM Webpage and keeps all the information on it updated for our members. We hope all of you are aware of our Webpage and have reviewed it. If not, check it out now – <http://www.narfe-nm.net> . He also makes sure all of our chapter and federation newsletters and important NARFE notices get posted and emailed to our members. We appreciate everything he does for our NARFE NM Federation and Las Cruces Chapter.



National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association
Chapter 182
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You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers	Members of Congress
<p>President <u>nmreeses@msn.com</u> 1st Vice Pres. (Legislation) <u>rosco631@gmail.com</u> 2nd Vice Pres. (Membership) <u>cardan116@comcast.net</u> Secretary/Public Relations <u>mayfield195@msn.com</u> Treasurer <u>Marsha.smith1948@gmail.com</u></p>	<p>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://www.tomudall.senate.gov U.S. Representative Xochitl Torres Small (D) (District 2) 240 S Water St, Las Cruces NM 88001 575-520-5319 http://www.xochitl.torressmall@mail.house.gov</p>
<p>Alzheimer's <u>cindy77lou@yahoo.com</u> NARFE-FEEA: <u>rswillowbee@comcast.net</u> NARFE-PAC: <u>memckay1@comcast.net</u> Program Chair: <u>md.harris1@comcast.net</u> Records Officer: <u>csmain7@gmail.com</u> Service Officer: <u>jkielty70@yahoo.com</u></p>	<p>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</p>