



National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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



*Chapter 182 President & NM Federation President
(Sharon Reese)*



Spring is finally here! Spring brings not only flowers blooming but also a new start to finally being able to share experiences with family and friends. The Covid vaccine is finally here to help protect all of us from this deadly virus.

It has been a while since I have had some positive news, but finally here it is! We have a date for our YARD SALE, May 15th. We have been waiting patiently to announce a date, but we wanted to make sure everyone would be protected and comfortable with this effort. I know that many of you had plenty of time on your hands and cleaned out closets and garages. Now is your chance to rid yourself of these items and help your Chapter to make some money. The Willoughby's have graciously offered their residence as our place to hold the yard sale. Items may be taken to their residence from May 12th through the 14th. Please price your items before taking them to 3142 McDowell. Since we have not been able to hold any regular meetings, we have not had the opportunity to talk with members to volunteer their time by having a pick-up available for large items, members to mark all items, set up tables with merchandise, and be available to assist shoppers. We are in need of volunteers. Please email Sharon Willoughby (swillowbee@comcast.net) or Sharon Reese (sreese346@gmail.com) or call Sharon Willoughby (524-9395) or Sharon Reese (649-6035) to offer your assistance. More information will be available in our May Newsletter. During the sale face masks will be required to protect us and our shoppers.

We still are unable to hold monthly meetings, but we are planning to start in again in September. As a result of our survey, we will continue to hold monthly breakfast meetings on the second Saturday of the month from September through May. A venue has not been selected and it will probably be August before one is finalized. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Just a friendly reminder -- if you have not sent in your Federation ballot that we mailed to you, please do so before April 15th.

The New Mexico Conference is still in the mill. Hopefully we can meet in Taos in September. More information will be provided when the Taos Chapter finalizes the venue and hotel information. This will be an afternoon and morning function.

Board meetings are to resume on April 7th, at 9 a.m. at 1625 Thunderbird, the Reese residence.

I wish each and every one a *Happy Easter* and hope that you are able to share the time with your family.



Service Officer (Jim Kielty)

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR
FEBRUARY 2021 SHOWS INCREASE**



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 2022, was 256.843 in February 2021. This figure reflected a monthly increase of 0.61 percent over the January 2021 figure, which was 255.296. The February 2021 CPI-W is 1.35 percent above the average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2020, which was 253.412. The 253.412 third quarter average for 2020 will be compared with the third quarter average CPI for 2021 to determine if a COLA will be authorized in 2022.

IRS EXTENDS TAX FILING DEADLINE FROM APRIL 15 TO MAY 17

For those NARFE members who have not yet completed their income tax returns for the 2020 tax year, good news came from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) during the week of March 15 when it was announced that the traditional tax filing deadline was being extended from April 15 to May 17. The extension was urged by many members of Congress, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and other tax preparers. This extension will afford the IRS more time to deal with a backlog of tax returns, and finish issuing stimulus checks related to the pandemic.



*Sunshine Report
(Marcele Skelton)*



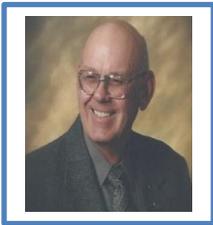
HAPPY EASTER

Sunshine has been in abundance this past month. We hope it continues through April. Three kinds of sunshine prevailed. First, the weather included many sunny days to take the sting out of the March winds. Second, the Coronavirus issues are decreasing in Dona Ana County and in New Mexico. Many are receiving their vaccine shots. Third, we did not receive any reports of members who were ill, had passed away, or just needed some sunshine.

Have some fun by answering this riddle that connects March and April:
WHY ARE ST. PATRICK'S DAY AND APRIL 15th ALIKE?

The answer to the March riddle: **WHAT IS THE BEST MONTH FOR A PARADE?** (March)
Congratulations to **Jo Ann Sherman** who was the first to correctly guess the answer.

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



Federal Employee Education & Assistance

(Roy Willoughby)



FEEA’S FEDLIFEHACKS PROGRAM

Find online at: feea.org/hacks

Here you will find information and resources for all ages and stages of life.

Financial Wellness – Meeting your financial goals and getting help.

Family – Handling life events.

Health & Wellness – Taking care of your body and mind.

Education & Professional Growth – Advancing skills & knowledge.

Personal Philanthropy & Volunteerism – Serving causes.

Free Time & Fun – Making life more interesting.

For more information call Roy at 575-524-9395.



*VP for Membership
& Historian
(Dan Carroll)*

Another busy month coming up! Haven’t gotten my Covid–19 shots (or shot) yet but NM DOH assures me that I am registered to get one soon. We now have 248 members in the Las Cruces Chapter 182. Major League Baseball starts up for full 162 game schedule on April 1st. Easter is April 4th. Week of April 5th the Las Cruces Public Schools are supposed to start up on full schedule. A lot of kids are dying to get back. I would be too if I was in their shoes. Next full moon (Mary Ellen) is April 26th. Many of us are looking forward to the Chapter Yard Sale which will be held on May 15th. It was always a fun event for me and one of our best customers (Angie). Quote of the month is: “A friend is someone who gives you total freedom to be yourself.” – Jim Morrison. I’m not sure if it’s that Jim Morrison, the late lead singer for the Doors. Have a good month and keep washing those hands!



*Chapter 182
YARD SALE*

*(Sharon
Willoughby)*



It is a happening for Chapter 182. The much heralded “Yard Sale” is on. We have scheduled May 15th for our coming out function. If you are like me I have a spare bedroom chocked full of good stuff. We do not accept clothing but anything else goes. Please hang on a little longer as we are almost there. So mark your calendar for **May 15**. All details will follow in the May Newsletter. OH! I almost forgot to tell you, the same breakfast will be available for all of the workers.

*Roy
&
Sharon*





VP for Legislation

(Judy Rosco)



Happy Easter to all! I sincerely hope you are well and if you have had a chance to get your COVID vaccination, congratulations. I had my first shot March 16th and will be getting my second sometime the middle of April.

UPDATE: H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act, was introduced by Rep Rodney Davis on January 4th. The bill repeals provisions that reduce Social Security benefits for individuals who receive other benefits, such as a pension from a state or local government. The bill, if passed, would eliminate the GPO (Government Pension Offset) and the WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision). The bill has gained 47 more co-sponsors since my last report and currently has 111 co-sponsors but needs 179 more to be brought before the House of Representatives for a vote. The bill is currently in the House Ways and Means Committee. We still don't have any NM Representatives co-sponsoring this bill.

Please contact Rep Yvette Herrell and urge her to co-sponsor H.R. 82.

I want to thank all of our members who have contacted their Legislators on the following issues:

- Centennial Resolution Advocacy Campaign
- Support the USPS Fairness Act
- Fair Act 2021
- Equal COLA Act 2021
- H.R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act

Some of the above issues have been introduced into the 117th Congress, while others have not and were advocated by members in the 116th Congress and will most likely be introduced into the 117th Congress soon. As new bill numbers are introduced, I will pass information along to members.

The updated contact information on our congressional legislators follows:

U.S. Senator Martin Heinrich
201 North Church St., Ste. 305
Las Cruces, N.M. 88001
(575) 523-6561
<http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator Ben Ray Lujan
201 North Church St., Ste 201B
Las Cruces, NM 88001
(575) 526-5475
<http://www.lujan.senate.gov>

Congresswoman Yvette Herrell
4440 Sonoma Ranch Blvd, Ste B
Las Cruces NM 88011
Phone: (575) 973-4689
<http://herrell.house.gov>



Chapter Program Chair

(Donna Harris)

We have no chapter meetings scheduled at this time.

If you have an idea for a future program, please let me know by sending an email to: md.harris1@comcast.net.

We're all looking forward to our Chapter Yard Sale to be held at the Willoughby's on May 15th. Please help by donating items or just stopping by to see all the great things we will have for sale!



NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED
Spring is not cancelled.
Sunshine is not cancelled.
Chapter Yard Sale is not cancelled.

Did you ever notice that when you put the 2 words "The" and "IRS" together it spells "Theirs?"



Thanks, Sharon W.



Carol Main

Records Officer

Welcome New Member:
Rodney Sauter

Our chapter membership is **248** members strong!

Since we won't be having meetings until the COVID-19 pandemic is resolved, please keep track of your volunteer hours starting in March 2020. 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.





National Active and Retired
Federal Employees Association
Chapter 182
PO Box 16424
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You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

Chapter 182 Officers	Members of Congress
<p>President sreese346@gmail.com</p> <p>1st Vice Pres. (Legislation) rosco631@gmail.com</p> <p>2nd Vice Pres. (Membership) cardan116@comcast.net</p> <p>Secretary/Public Relations mayfield195@msn.com</p> <p>Treasurer Marsha.smith1948@gmail.com</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</p> <p>U.S. Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D) 201 N Church St Suite 201B Las Cruces, NM 88001 575-526-5475 - http://twww.lujan.senate.gov</p> <p>U.S. Representative Yvette Herrell (R) (District 2) 4440 Sonoma Ranch Blvd, Suite B Las Cruces NM 88011 575-973-4689 - http://herrell.house.gov</p>
<p>Alzheimer's cindy77lou@yahoo.com</p> <p>NARFE-FEEA: rswillowbee@comcast.net</p> <p>NARFE-PAC:</p>	<p>NARFE Monthly Meetings</p> <p>The Las Cruces Chapter of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association normally holds a breakfast meeting on the 2nd Saturday of each month except in June, July, and August. Due to COVID-19, all meetings are "on hold".</p>
<p>Program Chair: md.harris1@comcast.net</p> <p>Records Officer: csmain7@gmail.com</p> <p>Service Officer: jkielty70@yahoo.com</p>	