



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

**LAS CRUCES
NEW MEXICO**

CHAPTER 0182

*National Active & Retired
Federal Employees Association*

REPORTER

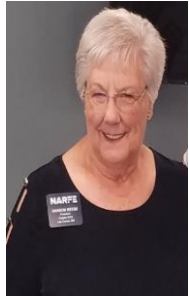
October 2022

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National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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

Sharon Reese, Newly Elected VP for Region VII



We are very happy to announce that Sharon Reese (Past President of the NM Federation and Las Cruces NM Chapter 182) has been elected as the new VP for Region VII. Region VII includes Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. We are proud of her for running for this position and we know that she will do everything she can to accomplish good things for our chapters, federations, and Region. She has always stated that working together can make a difference and that she will be our voice and work on issues important to our members. Good luck, Sharon, and thank you for accepting this important position.

Judy Rosco, Newly Elected Chapter 182 President



Sharon Reese, new VP for Region VII, gives Oath of Office to **Judy Rosco**, new President of Las Cruces Chapter 182, in accordance with Chapter 182 Bylaws dated 2 May 2018, Article V, Section 2. This appointment is valid until our next election in March 2024. (10 Sep 2022/Photo by Marlene Mayfield)

Chapter 182 is very happy to announce the appointment of Judy Rosco as the new Chapter President. Judy, a retiree of White Sands Missile Range, has been very active in our chapter and served as VP for Legislation for several years. We're sure her transition will be a smooth one and she will continue to be very involved in legislation issues. We're proud of the great work she has done and know she will be a great leader for our chapter. We thank her for accepting this position.



Judy Rosco, Chapter 182 President

As I take office as the Chapter President, I will continue to make Chapter 0182 the best chapter in New Mexico and indeed the best chapter in Region VII. I believe the high standards that previous Chapter Presidents have set can continue because we have the most supportive Executive Board and chapter members that I have ever worked with. We all believe in NARFE and have seen what NARFE can accomplish in keeping our earned and well-deserved benefits. We can all be proud that we have served, and are serving, our country as dedicated civil servants.



Programs (Donna Harris)

Saturday, October 8th, 8:30 a.m.

Good Samaritan Creative Arts Room/First Floor

Breakfast Buffet - \$13.00 Cash

Reservations – Call Carol Main (575-382-7686) NLT Sep 28th

***Speaker: Debbie Moore, President and CEO
of the Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce.***

Here is information on upcoming programs.

October 8 - Due to the many programs and the Alzheimer's walk on 8 Oct in celebration of Alzheimer's Awareness month, we were unable to obtain a speaker. We will have a speaker from the Chamber of Commerce.

November 12 - Open Season

December 10 - Games and Christmas carols. I provided a survey sheet to obtain feedback on the type of program our members would like. The games and carols won 15 to 11. We'll have a fun time.

January 14 - Alzheimer's speaker

February 11 - Dona Ana Arts Council

March 11 - Mesilla Valley Audubon Society

April 8 - Clifford Kinnear - Nutritionist at Natural Grocers (tentative)

I will continue to find topics that are interesting and fun for our members. I'm always open to suggestions. You can talk to me at meetings or send me an email at md.harris1@comcast.net.

We'll see you at our next meeting.



Service Officer (Jim Kielty)



**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR AUGUST 2022
AGAIN SHOWS SLIGHT DECLINE, BUT
INFLATION RATE REMAINS HIGH**

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 2023, showed a slight decline in August 2022 for the second straight month. However, the rate of inflation in the economy remained at a high level.

The CPI-W figure for August 2022 was 291.219. However, the August CPI-W figure of 291.219 was still 8.65 percent above the average CPI-W figure for the third quarter of 2021 (July-September 2021), which was 268.421. The 268.421 figure is the reference point which must be exceeded for a 2023 COLA to be authorized.

In October 2022 the CPI-W average figure for the months of July-September 2022 will be compared with the 268.421 average CPI-W for the months of July-September 2021. If the 2022 CPI-W average exceeds the 2021 CPI-W average, a COLA will go into effect in January 2023.

The September 2022 CPI-W will be announced on October 13, 2022. If current trends continue, it is quite possible that a COLA increase in January 2023 will significantly exceed the 2022 COLA, which was 5.9 percent for those under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and 4.9 percent for those under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS).



**FEHBP OPEN SEASON FOR THE 2023 BENEFITS
YEAR ON THE HORIZON**

The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) for the 2023 benefits year will begin on Monday, November 14 and conclude on Monday, December 12. NARFE members are reminded that the various health plan providers no longer automatically mail paper copies of plan brochures to those currently enrolled in these plans. To request a paper copy of your plan's brochure, you must follow any instructions your health insurance provider gives you. If you have any questions, call the customer service number on your health insurance ID card. In addition, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website will contain on-line versions of each plan's brochure when they are released as well as other valuable information related to the Open Season.

OPM has not yet announced the overall average increase for all FEHBP premiums or the 2023 premiums for each individual plan. This information should be available in early October. The October 2022 edition of the *NARFE* magazine will contain a preview of the Open Season. More detailed information also will be presented in the November and December 2022 editions of the *NARFE* magazine and the November and December 2022 editions of the Chapter 182 Reporter.



Chapter Alzheimer's Chair

Cindy Cook



2022 Walk to End Alzheimer's – Southwestern Region Walk -- October 8th – Young Park

Together participants will walk and raise funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. The walk is 2 miles long but a shorter route option is also available. (Parking is located in front of the park. Please do not park where the cones are.)

Registration: You can register on **October 7th** for Early Bird Check In from 4-6 pm at the Las Cruces Alzheimer's Association Office (141 Roadrunner, Suite 133 (around at the back doors) or at the beginning of the Walk on **October 8th** (8:30 – 9:30 am).

Promise Garden Ceremony begins at 9:30 am

- All participants should register prior to Walk Day at alz.org/walk.
- All children must be registered
- Strollers, wheelchairs and wagons are welcome.

Donations will be taken on Walk Day via mobile payment or cash/check drop box. Be sure to wear your purple and carry your Walk flags!

Questions: Call 575-647-3868.

“FREE SHRED” (*NON-BUSINESS RELATED DOCUMENTS)

**AMERICAN DOCUMENT SERVICES
300A N 17th Street, Las Cruces - Phone: 575-647-0060**

FREE SHRED WILL BE OFFERED ON FRIDAYS (9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON) WITH THE DONATION OF NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS FOR HUMAN OR PET CONSUMPTION "OR" A MONETARY DONATION.

**(FOR VETERANS, DISABLED VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS,
60 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER)**

***PER VISIT NOT TO EXCEED 100 POUNDS PER MONTH**





FEEA

Federal Employee Education & Assistance (FEEA)

Find online at: feea.org/hacks

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

For more information call

Roy Willoughby at 575-524-9395.



***Records Officer and
Telephone Committee Chair***

Carol Main



Welcome back: Espy Balizan

We would like to see you at the October 8 meeting.

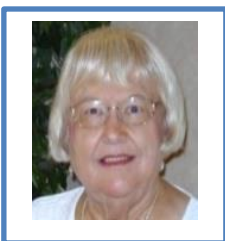
Our chapter is **212** members strong.

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.

PERKS OF BEING OVER 65

1. Your investment in health insurance is finally beginning to pay off.
2. Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.
3. Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either.
4. People call at 9 pm and ask, "Did I wake you?"
5. You get into heated arguments about pension plans.
6. You can eat dinner at 4 pm.
7. You can't remember where you got this list.





Sunshine Report

(Marcele Skelton)



Sunshine was mixed in with some welcome rain this past month. Although autumn officially began September 22nd, October is the month when fall gets into full swing. There are still many sunny days to enjoy the colorful leaves, garden harvest, chile roasting, pumpkin spice lattes and Jack-O-Lantern carving. Enjoy everything fall brings us!

A Thinking of You card was sent to **Mary Beth Reinhart** who has been in and out of the hospital. A Thinking of You card was sent to **Dorothy Rachele**, whose son, **Gary**, is in the hospital in critical condition. We are happy to report that **Mary Ellen McKay** has been released from rehab and moved into her home at Good Sam's.

Have some fun answering this Halloween riddle: **WHAT IS THE PROBLEM WITH TWIN WITCHES?**

The answer to the September riddle: **WHAT READS AND LIVES IN AN APPLE? (A book-worm.)** Congratulations to **Chuck James** who guessed the right answer.

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



Membership Report

Sorry about no article last month. I was out of town and missed deadline. After **FedCon22** in Phoenix, I went to San Diego CA for a few days. Fed Con was a lot of fun and I made some new friends from the Columbia, South Carolina chapter and hung out with Las Cruces contingent in attendance. San Diego is a fun place but traffic is challenging. Good news that Mary Ellen McKay is moving back to her apartment at Good Sam's.

**Dan
Carroll**

**VP for
Membership
and
Chapter
Historian**

We now have **212** members as of September 18, 2022. Holidays this month include Columbus Day on October 10th and Halloween on October 31st. Full moon (Mary Ellen) is on October 9th. Quote of the month: ***"Make sure to laugh every day...It's good for your health."*** – Fortune cookie from China Star Restaurant on El Paseo, one of my haunts. Have good month and see you at the movies!



**Chapter 182 Legislative Meeting
September 2022**

**Newly elected Chapter 182 President
Judy Rosco and Rene Romo, Field
Representative for Senator Lujan**



CHAPTER 182 YARD SALE SPRING 2023

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO START SAVING YOUR THINGS FOR OUR CHAPTER YARD SALE TO BE HELD IN THE SPRING! THE WILLOUGHBY'S HAVE AGREED TO HAVE OUR CHAPTER YARD SALE ONCE AGAIN AT THEIR HOME IN MESILLA SOMETIME IN THE SPRING. WE JUST WANTED TO LET EVERYONE KNOW EARLY SO YOU CAN START PUTTING THOSE THINGS YOU NO LONGER WANT OR NEED IN BOXES AND HOLD ON TO THEM FOR US. WE'LL TAKE ANYTHING YOU HAVE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CLOTHING. MANY OF YOU WILL REMEMBER OUR CHAPTER YARD SALE IN THE SPRING OF 2021. IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS SO WE WANT TO DO IT AGAIN! WE'LL LET YOU KNOW ALL THE INFORMATION WITH DATES ETC. AS WE GET CLOSER TO MARCH OF NEXT YEAR! THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CHAPTER!



**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	Judy Rosco 575-635-7127 rosco631@gmail.com
1st Vice Pres. (Legislation) (Vacant)	
2 nd Vice Pres. (Membership)	Dan Carroll 575- 932-9491 cardan116@comcast.net
Secretary/Public Relations	Marlene Mayfield 575- 644-6851 marlene.mayfield@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sharon Willoughby 575-524-9395 swillowbee@comcast.net

Alzheimer's	Cindy Cook 575-640-0860 cindy77lou@yahoo.com
NARFE-FEEA:	Roy Willoughby 575-524-9395 rswillowbee@comcast.net
Program Chair:	Donna Harris 575-382-9070 md.harris1@comcast.net
Records Officer:	Carol Main 575-382-7686 csmain7@gmail.com
Service Officer:	Jim Kielty 575-523-6044 jkielty70@yahoo.com
Sunshine:	Marcele Skelton 575-521-4954 marcele@skelton.net

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 Ben Ray Lujan (D)
201 N Church St Suite 201B
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575-526-5475 - <http://www.lujan.senate.gov>

U.S. Representative Yvette Herrell (R) (District 2)
4440 Sonoma Ranch Blvd, Suite B
Las Cruces, NM 88011
575-973-4689 - <http://www.herrell.house.gov>

NARFE Monthly Meetings

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. The meeting is held from 0830-1100 at the Good Samaritan Village (Creative Arts Room/First Floor), Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces. Reservations are required and breakfast cost is \$13. All members, those who 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 (575-382-7686)** or email: lascrucescchapter182@yahoo.com.
Editor: mcadoosr@aol.com