



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

LAS CRUCES  
NEW MEXICO

CHAPTER 0182

National Active & Retired  
Federal Employees Association

## REPORTER

May 2023

Volume 23, Issue 9

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

**REMINDER!** (NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JUNE-JULY-AUGUST)



*Chapter 182 President*

*Judy Rosco*

Our Yard Sale was a big hit! People started bringing items over on Tuesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. We gathered at the Willoughby's on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday to price items and get them moved into the garage for easier transport to tables early Saturday morning. We started at 6:00 am Saturday morning moving items out to the tables. We had a lot of participation from the community. I would like to thank Matt and Donna Harris, Jim Kielty, Craig Singleton, Steven Cole, Dick Okay, and Steve Rosco for picking up items for delivery to the Willoughby's and to everyone for their donations. I want to thank all the members and some non-members for helping us to make this event successful. We have listed everyone on page 2. We couldn't have done it without you!

Many of our board members will be traveling to Santa Fe next week to attend the New Mexico Federation Conference, 28-29 April. Safe travel to all and enjoy your Federation Conference!

*Continued on Page 2...*

*Chapter 182 Meeting  
Saturday, May 13, 8:30 am*

*Speaker:*

*Jim Eckles*

*Retired Public*

*Affairs Specialist*

*White Sands Missile Range*



Jim was a Public Affairs Specialist at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) from 1977 to 2007 and was inducted into the White Sands Missile Range Hall of Fame in 2013. He has written many books about White Sands Missile Range, Trinity Site and Victorio Peak. Two of his popular books are: **“Trinity: The History of an Atomic Bomb National Historic Landmark”** and **“Pocketful of Rockets: History and Stories Behind White Sands Missile Range”**.

As the Range Historian, Jim focused on range history prior to 1940. This interest led him to coordinate visits for former ranchers to their home. He also coordinated tours on the Range. He coordinated trips to Trinity Site where the first atomic bomb was detonated. He has spoken to groups in places as far away as Albuquerque, Belen, Roswell, and Carlsbad as well as those communities surrounding White Sands Missile Range. Come listen to Jim discuss historical information about White Sands Missile Range, Trinity, and Victorio Peak.

*Program Chair: Donna Harris*

## Chapter 182 President's Message

Judy Rosco

*Continued from Page 1*

### **On the Legislative front.**

On April 6, 2023, Congressman Gabriel Vasquez co-sponsored H.R.82, Social Fairness Act. I sent a Thank You message to Congressman Vasquez for co-sponsoring this bill. I also asked him to vote YES, if the bill comes to the floor for a vote. There are now 229 co-sponsors on this bill, and we only need sixty-one more to automatically bring this bill to a vote on the floor.

There are many challenging issues facing America. Please pray for guidance for our President and Congress. God Bless America and have a wonderful summer.

### **NARFE April 2023 Yard Sale Participants (We couldn't have done it without your help!)**

**Thank you!**

Sharon & Roy Willoughby  
Carol & Bob Main  
Craig Singleton  
Judy & Steve Rosco  
Sharon Reese  
Marilyn Koukol

Cindy Cook  
Martha Beerman  
Donna & Matt Harris  
Jim Kielty  
Dan Carroll  
Don Jansen

Diana Massengale  
Nancy Banks  
Jackie Pickering  
Harry Palmer  
Marsha Smith  
Kathy Treat

Non-members who helped greatly with sale item collection: Steven Cole, Dick Okray,  
and Art Appraiser: Will Willoughby



*Photos by:  
Roy Willoughby and  
Judy Rosco*



*Service Officer (Jim Kielty)*

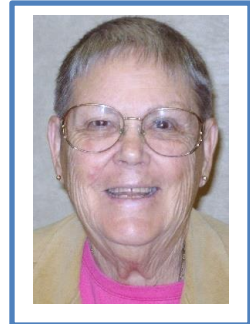
**RATE OF INCREASE OF CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SLOWS IN APRIL 2023 BUT INFLATION STILL AFFECTING ECONOMY**



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 2024, increased by 0.33 percent in March 2023. This was a smaller monthly percentage increase than the January and February CPI-W figures but reflected a moderate but continuing inflation rate in the economy. The CPI-W figure for March 2023 was 296.021, a 0.33 percent increase over the February 2023 CPI-W figure of 295.057.

The 296.021 March 2023 figure is 1.4 percent higher than the average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2022 (July-September), which was 291.901. At the end of September 2023, the 291.901 average CPI-W for the third quarter of 2022 will be compared with the third quarter average CPI-W for 2023 to determine if a COLA will be authorized in January 2024. The 2023 CPI-W third quarter average must exceed the 2022 third quarter average in order for a COLA to go into effect.

The CPI-W for April 2023 will be released on May 10.



**In Memory - Jane "Nadine" Boor**

Nadine Boor passed away at the age of 95 on April 1, 2023. She had not been able to attend NARFE meetings for a few years due to her health but in the past she was very active as a member of the Chapter's Executive Board. She became a NARFE member in August 1991 and served as our Chapter's Treasurer and Records Officer for several years. She attended many Chapter, Federation, Region, and NARFE Headquarters events along with her husband Russ Boor. Russ passed away in June 2017. Nadine took great pride in recruiting new members to our Las Cruces Chapter. She will be missed by many.



If you have a suggestion for one of our NARFE meeting programs, please send an email to our Program Chair at [md.harris1@comcast.net](mailto:md.harris1@comcast.net). All suggestions are welcome!

We look forward to seeing everyone at our May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Shroud Exhibit and Museum in Alamogordo

*Ms. Cris Foster, NARFE Chapter 182 member, submitted the following article regarding the Shroud Exhibit and Museum in Alamogordo and highly recommends it as a place for chapter members to visit.*

A day trip to Alamogordo can be filled with a visit to the zoo, Space Museum, etc. but a very unique museum will make your trip exceptional. A visit to the Shroud Exhibit and Museum in Alamogordo is a fascinating look at one of the most interesting religious artifacts ever found. The museum features interactive exhibits that allow for an in-depth look at the Shroud of Turin and the research surrounding it.

The museum is a non-profit operated entirely on donations. It is located at 923 New York Avenue, Alamogordo, NM, and is open Mon-Tues & Thur-Sat 1-5 PM; Sunday 2-4 PM. The museum has been open since 2009 and is staffed by volunteers. Group discussions and tours can be arranged with the staff if desired.

Shroud of Turin, also called Holy Shroud, is the length of linen that for centuries is purported to be the burial garment of Jesus Christ. It has been preserved since 1578 in the royal chapel of the cathedral of San Giovanni Battista in Turin, Italy. There are photographs in the museum from a 1977 conference held in Albuquerque, which led directly to the 1978 Shroud of Turin Research Project to study the shroud in more detail. This was the world's largest scientific expedition ever launched to study a single artifact. It had the most scientists studying the shroud in one place at any given time in history and included scientists from Los Alamos National Lab, Sandia National Lab, White Sands Missile Range among many worldwide researchers. Visitors to the museum will come away having learned something about this important part of religious history and its connection to New Mexico history.



### *April 2023 General Meeting*

**Donna Harris**, Chapter Program Chair, presented **Chris Garcia**, the speaker at our April 2023 meeting with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Chris discussed essential tips on how to protect your devices from hacking and other scams and shared information on proper ways to set up your phones and computers.



Welcome: New Prospective Member: *Mildred Toon*

We would like to see you at the May 13 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members. Our chapter membership is **202** 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](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.

*Records  
Report*

*Carol Main*



*Sunshine Report*

We wanted to let you know that our terrific Sunshine Reporter, Marcele Skelton, has had some medical issues and is recovering at a medical facility here in Las Cruces.

We just saw her at our April 8<sup>th</sup> general meeting where we helped her celebrate her birthday! Our chapter sent a Get Well card to her and hopefully she will be returning home very soon. We know she would want us to remind you of upcoming Mother's Day (May 14<sup>th</sup>) and Father's Day (June 18<sup>th</sup>)!

Sympathy cards were sent to the families of the following members. Nadine Boor passed away on April 1<sup>st</sup>, Diana Massengale's husband, Tom Massengale, passed away on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and William J. "Bill" Kafka, passed away on April 8<sup>th</sup>.



*Membership Report*

Spring is here! Had a few windy days with blowing dust in April. Hope May is better! We now have **202** members in our chapter. We had a big chapter yard sale on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks to those of you who donated things to sell. Big thank you to the Willoughby's for letting us use their beautiful house for the sale. Full moon (Mary Ellen) is on May 5<sup>th</sup> (Cinco de Mayo). Mother's Day is May 14<sup>th</sup>. Memorial Day is May 29<sup>th</sup>. Quote of the month - "Resisting temptation is the true measure of character." -- fortune cookie from Golden Star Chinese Restaurant on El Paseo in Las Cruces. One of my haunts!

*Dan Carroll*

*VP for  
Membership  
and  
Chapter  
Historian*



**Senior Document  
Shredding Day at  
American Documents  
300A N 17th St  
Las Cruces  
Fridays 9:00 – 12:00  
(And please donate  
some non-perishable  
food items while you  
are there.)  
(Roy Willoughby)**



**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	<b>Judy Rosco</b>
rosco631@gmail.com	575-635-7127
1st Vice Pres. (Legislation) (Vacant)	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. (Membership)	<b>Dan Carroll</b>
cardan116@comcast.net	575- 932-9491
Secretary	<b>Marlene Mayfield</b>
marlene.mayfield@gmail.com	575- 644-6851
Treasurer	<b>Sharon Willoughby</b>
swillowbee@comcast.net	575-524-9395
Alzheimer's	<b>Cindy Cook</b>
cindy77lou@yahoo.com	575-640-0860
NARFE-FEEA:	<b>Roy Willoughby</b>
rswillowbee@comcast.net	575-524-9395
NARFE-PAC	<b>Della Apodaca</b>
dmarieda@aol.com	704-351-2051
Program Chair:	<b>Donna Harris</b>
md.harris1@comcast.net	575-382-9070
Records Officer:	<b>Carol Main</b>
csmain7@gmail.com	575-382-7686
Service Officer:	<b>Jim Kielty</b>
jkielty70@yahoo.com	575-523-6044
Sunshine:	<b>Marcele Skelton</b>
marcele@skelton.net	575-521-4954

**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://twww.lujan.senate.gov>

**U.S. Representative Gabriel Vasquez (D) (District 2)**

Las Cruces District Office, 115 W Griggs Ave, Las  
Cruces NM 88011 - <http://www.vasquez.house.gov>  
DC Address and Phone: 202-225-2365  
1517 Longworth House Office Bldg Wash DC 20515

**NARFE Monthly Meetings**

The NARFE Las Cruces Chapter holds a breakfast meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: [lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com](mailto:lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com).

Public Relations: (Dave Fox) [foxydave1@aol.com](mailto:foxydave1@aol.com)  
Newsletter Editor: (Sarah McAdoo) [mcadoosr@aol.com](mailto:mcadoosr@aol.com)