



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

**LAS CRUCES  
NEW MEXICO**

CHAPTER 0182

*National Active & Retired  
Federal Employees Association*

## ***REPORTER***

***August 2025***

***Volume 26, Issue 1***

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

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



**Judy Rosco, Chapter 182 President**

**Welcome back! I hope everyone had fun and a safe July 4<sup>th</sup>!**

Federal civil servants and retirees certainly “dodged the bullet” with the budget bill that President Trump signed into law on July 4, 2025, with NO cuts to federal benefits! NARFE members and our National Headquarters staff were remarkably busy this summer contacting their legislative representatives to urge them to vote down any cuts to current federal or retired employees. This was a big win for NARFE and AGAIN we saw no changes to our earned benefits.

The federal government is still planning to restructure civil service and that is an obstacle that new employees will have to face if they decide to work for the government. President Trump has extended the hiring freeze until October 15<sup>th</sup>. By that time, we will know how many federal employees have left government service and how the future will look like for employees hiring on.

There are many changes coming that are uncertain for the future of our country, but I truly believe America will continue to be the best country to live in, with the best economy, and the best security in the world.

I hope to see all of you at our next meeting on September 13<sup>th</sup> when we will have our Annual Legislative Breakfast Meeting.

**Please join us!**  
**NARFE Chapter 182 General Meeting**  
**Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 (8:30 a.m.)**  
**Las Cruces Village-Independent Living**  
**3011 Buena Vida (Creative Arts Room)**  
**\$18.00 – Cost for Breakfast**

**September 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting**  
**Legislative Program**  
  
**See Page 2 for more information on**  
**upcoming programs.**



Donna  
Harris

### Chapter Programs

Hello and welcome back everyone! We hope everyone had a happy and safe summer. As we start another year, I hope to have some exciting programs lined up. Here is what we have on the agenda so far.

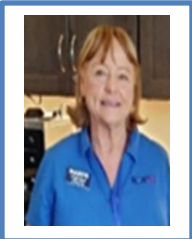
Sep 13 - Legislative Speakers

Oct 11 – Alzheimer’s Program

Nov 8 - Open Season for FEHB

### Programs

As a reminder, I will be stepping down as Program Coordinator after this year. If anyone is interested in being the Program Coordinator, please contact me.



### Alzheimer’s (Cindy Cook)



Hello All, It’s time to start preparing for the Walk To End Alzheimer’s. It will take place on October 4, 2025 at the Pat and Lou Sisbarro Community Park, 3205 Arrowhead Drive in Las Cruces.

Let’s all pitch in and raise some funds to help eradicate this horrific disease called “Alzheimer’s”! There are a number of ways to donate through our NARFE Team but you can try the below as I did...

Google Walk To End Alzheimer’s

Click on Find a Team

Our Team Name is: NARFE Las Cruces NM Chapter 0182

Team Captain is Cynthia Cook

Click on our team

From there you can just click on Donate OR if you plan to walk with us click on Join our Team and donate from there.

Please let me know if you have any questions and we hope to have you as a Team Member on our walk. We had a great time last year! Thanks, Cindy Cook ([Cindy77Lou@yahoo.com](mailto:Cindy77Lou@yahoo.com))



Dan  
Carroll  
VP for  
Membership

### Membership Report

Well, another hot summer. Early monsoon this year but rainfall still sketchy. Some heavy rain and flash flooding in Ruidoso in July. We have 182 members in our chapter as of July 7, 2025. Recent loss of longtime board member Chuck James in June. He was our chapter’s logistics man and auctioneer. Chuck will be missed! Quote of the month: “When it comes to getting things done, we need fewer architects and more bricklayers.” --Colleen G. Barrett

*JOIN US! Hope to see you at our September meeting!*



Della Apodaca

While I was gone!

Would you believe I am glad to be back in Las Cruces after visiting Beautiful British Columbia?

You have heard and read by now that NARFE was instrumental in rallying against the harmful provisions of the Reconciliation Bill. So, we must continue to support NARFE-PAC. Invest in protecting your earned benefits by supporting NARFE-PAC today! Here are some helpful online links to make a voluntary contribution\* to NARFE-PAC:

Click [this link to get started as a NARFE-PAC-sustainer](#).

Click [here to make an online contribution](#).

*\*To comply with federal law, we must use our best efforts to obtain, maintain and submit the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions to NARFE-PAC exceed \$200 each calendar year. NARFE-PAC is for the benefit of political candidates and activities on a national level. NARFE members have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal, and NARFE will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of a contribution or failure to make a voluntary contribution. The suggested amounts are only suggestions and not enforceable. Only members of NARFE may contribute to the PAC. Contributions from nonmembers will be returned. NARFE-PAC contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.*



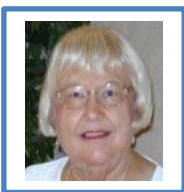
Service Officer (Jim Kielty)

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FIGURE FOR MAY 2025 EDGES UPWARD



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 January 2026, continued to edge upward in May 2025. The CPI-W figure for May 2025 was 314.839, compared with the April 2025 CPI-W figure of 314.243.

Each year's COLA is determined by comparing the change in the CPI-W from year to year, based on the average CPI-W for the third quarter months of July-September. The CPI-W figure for May 2025 was 314.839, 1.98 percent higher than the average CPI-W figure for the third quarter of 2024 (July-September) which was 308.729. In order for a COLA to be authorized in January 2026, the average CPI-W for the months of July-September 2025 must exceed the average CPI-W for the months of July-September 2024, which was which was 308.729. The CPI-W figure for June 2025 is expected to be released on July 15, 2025.



### Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)

August promises to be another month with lots of sunshine and hot weather. We like the sunshine, but the heat, not so much.



Continue to enjoy August with cool drinks, backyard barbecues, swimming, and escapes to the mountains to cool off.

A sympathy card was sent to Judy James, whose husband, Charles "Chuck" James passed away June 15, 2025. Chuck was a strong supporter of NARFE Chapter 182 and served on the Board as our Logistics/Electronics Chair. A celebration of life memorial service will be held at 10:00 am on Friday, August 15th at Calvary Baptist Church, 1800 S Locust St., Las Cruces. Chuck will be missed.

Are you ready to beat the heat by solving the August riddle? WHAT DID THE PIG SAY AT THE BEACH ON A HOT AUGUST DAY?

The answer to the Father's Day riddle: WHAT KIND OF MUSIC DO FATHERS SING IN THE SHOWER? (POP)

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).



### Member Communications (Carol Main)

I will remain the Chair of the Member Communications Committee when our meetings resume in September. I would like to thank our callers, Nancy Banks, Martha Beerman, and Craig Singleton for all their hard work and perseverance these past few years.

I am currently updating our caller lists for the upcoming meetings which start in September. Our chapter's contract with Las Cruces Village – Independent Living (formerly Good Samaritan) for meetings requires payment and numbers two weeks in advance. Since our meetings are on Saturdays, we notify them on the last business day to meet their deadline which is Friday, fifteen days before the meeting. The callers will be contacting our members approximately 18 to 19 days before our meetings. For example, expect calls on August 25-26 for our meeting on September 13. Email meeting notices from our chapter email, [lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com](mailto:lascrucschapter182@yahoo.com), will go out 22 days in advance to allow for response time. If you have been receiving phone calls about the meetings and have been unable to attend, please let me know if you would like to continue receiving telephonic invitations. If you have not been receiving calls and would like to be added to the call list, please call me at 575-382-7686. All chapter members with email in the NARFE National records receive meeting notices. Please let me know of any changes in your email address. My email is [csmain7@gmail.com](mailto:csmain7@gmail.com). Hope to see all of you at the September 13 meeting.



**Carol  
Main  
  
Records  
Officer**

**Welcome: April Banks**

**Welcome back: Patrick Romero**

**We would like to see you at the September 13 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members. Our chapter membership is 182 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.**



**In Memory**

**Charles "Chuck" James**

**Chuck passed away on June 15, 2025. He was a long-time NARFE member along with his wife of 50 years, Judy James. Chuck served as the Logistics/Electronics Chair on our Chapter 182 Executive Board. He did a lot to help our chapter, he had a great sense of humor, and he will be missed by many.**



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

**This is a reminder of what's available for you in the NARFE-FEEA programs.**

**Go to [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org) where you will find information on all of the following:**

**DISASTER RELIEF - FEEA offers disaster relief grants to eligible federal employees when national disasters strike.**

**EMERGENCY LOANS - FEEA offers federal employees and retirees confidential, no-interest loans in times of emergency.**

**FEDLIFEHACKS - FEEA provides extensive information and resources that will be helpful for Federal employees and retirees in their daily lives.**

**SCHOLARSHIPS - FEEA offers merit-based college scholarships.**



**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**

<b>President</b> rosco631@gmail.com	<b>Judy Rosco</b> 575-635-7127
<b>1st Vice Pres. (Legislation)</b> Jan838790@msn.com	<b>Janice Bridges</b> 575-635-9768
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres. (Membership)</b> cardan116@comcast.net	<b>Dan Carroll</b> 575- 932-9491
<b>Secretary</b> marlene.mayfield@gmail.com	<b>Marlene Mayfield</b> 575- 644-6851
<b>Treasurer</b> scsingleton575@gmail.com	<b>Craig Singleton</b> 575-373-0705
<b>Alzheimer's</b> cindy77lou@yahoo.com	<b>Cindy Cook</b> 575-640-0860
<b>NARFE-FEEA:</b> marsha.smith1948@gmail.com	<b>Marsha Smith</b> 575-644-5131
<b>NARFE-PAC</b> dmarieda@aol.com	<b>Della Apodaca</b> 704-351-2051
<b>Program Chair:</b> md.harris1@comcast.net	<b>Donna Harris</b> 575-382-9070
<b>Member Communications</b> csmain7@gmail.com	<b>Carol Main</b> 575-382-7686
<b>Service Officer:</b> jkielty70@yahoo.com	<b>Jim Kielty</b> 575-640-9585
<b>Sunshine:</b> marcele@skelton.net	<b>Marcele Skelton</b> 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://www.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

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 **Las Cruces Village** (Independent Living Center) (Creative Arts Room/First Floor), 3011 Buena Vida Circle, Las Cruces. Reservations are required and breakfast cost is **\$18**. 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).

Newsletter Editor: (Sarah McAdoo) [mcadoosr@aol.com](mailto:mcadoosr@aol.com)

**Public Relations: (Dave Fox) [foxydave1@aol.com](mailto:foxydave1@aol.com)**