



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

**LAS CRUCES  
NEW MEXICO**

CHAPTER 0182

National Active & Retired  
Federal Employees Association

**REPORTER**

**December 2025  
Volume 26, Issue 5**

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

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NARFE.LasCrucesChapter.182>



**Judy Rosco  
Chapter 182 President**

The Government Shutdown is finally over but not everything is back to normal. I have been writing weekly to Senators Heinrich and Lujan to find a solution to the shutdown. Do not stop contacting your Senators when you know that we need their help. Let's hope and pray that everything eventually gets back to where it should be to help everyone.

Open Season is November 10<sup>th</sup> – December 8<sup>th</sup>. Your board members will be reaching out to federal employees who are having health fairs in their workplaces over the next few weeks. We attend health fairs to recruit new members to NARFE. If you know of a federal employee, current or retired, who is interested in knowing how to keep their earned benefits, NARFE is the contact for them to stay in the "know." We must be active in our grassroots efforts with our legislators. Keep them abreast of what is going on with you and your legislative concerns. They do not know unless you tell them.

The SW Federation is going to approve \$900 for every member who attends the National Conference in 2026 but will be limited to 33 members. More information to follow in coming weeks.

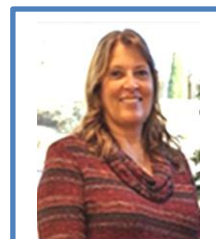
**NARFE Chapter 182 General Meeting  
Saturday, December 13th, 8:30 a.m.**

**Las Cruces Village-Independent Living  
3011 Buena Vida Circle (Creative Arts Room)  
Breakfast Buffet - \$18.00  
Reservations: Call Carol Main  
(575-382-7686 NLT November 28th)**



Come join us for our December Christmas meeting. We will have the piano stylings of Judy Chavarria while we sing Christmas songs.

In addition, we are having a White Elephant gift exchange. Bring a gift under \$25 to participate. Here's to another fun Chapter 182 Merry Christmas meeting!



**Programs  
Donna Harris**

**Chapter 182 President's Message**  
**Continued from Page 1**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD VACANCIES:**

**Service Officer.** (Not an elected officer but appointed.) Assist chapter members by providing information, answering questions and offering guidance in navigating issues relating to federal pay and benefits, (Service Officer Guide, FH-10, is available from National Headquarters), such as: a. Procedures governing delivery of annuity checks; b. Life insurance and health benefits; c. Survivor benefits; 7 NARFE Chapter and Federation Officers Manual d. Change-of-beneficiary procedures; e. Death benefits; f. State and federal income taxes; and g. Social Security requirements. Pop Quiz on Federal Benefits, Be Prepared for Life's Events, What Your Survivors Should Know, assist members to prepare documents associated with the above topics. Provide the F-100, Be Prepared for Life's Events (Figure 3), to assist members in managing their affairs. Keep up to date by reading benefits-related articles in NARFE Magazine.

**Member-at-Large (Two Vacancies).** This position allows the individual to learn about the inner workings of the Chapter Executive Board and how we do business; positions on the board they may want to fill; and duties as assigned (i.e., call table numbers at our monthly meetings, greeting members when they arrive; helping with the Alzheimer's raffles, etc.)

**Way & Means Chair** finds creative fundraising ideas to help chapter members attend NARFE National and Southwest Federation Conferences.

Please think about serving your NARFE Chapter and accept one of these board vacancies.



**November 8, 2025 General Meeting was attended by 49 Members and Guests**

**New Member & Guest: Dan and Beth Peters**

**Guests: Conce Goodwin and Chris, Dina Marrujo, Minda Marrujo, Michael Weichmann, Martha Nichols with Bob Nichols, Javier Rodriguez with Janice Bridges**

**Long-time member and guest we haven't seen in a while: Salvador & Guadalupe Fino**  
*(Carol Main, Member Communications)*

**Please mark your calendars:**

**December 13, 2025 – Christmas Meeting**

**January 10, 2026 – Program by La Pinon – Las Cruces Sexual Assault Recovery Services**  
*(Donna Harris, Programs)*



## NARFE-PAC

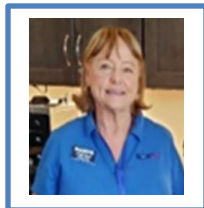
Della Apodaca

**National Results:** NARFE-PAC raised \$966,939 or 60% of the goal for the 2025-2026 cycle. PAC disbursements totaled \$465,500.

This total includes \$12,000 disbursements in New Mexico (NM). Sixty-two NARFE members attended 18 fundraising events. During the third quarter, NM PAC disbursements included \$2,500 to Senator Lujan and \$1,000 to Representative Stansbury.

**Las Cruces Chapter 182:** Twenty-seven members contributed \$3,195 to NARFE-PAC. Our chapter has met 52% of the \$6,117 goal for the cycle. We have seven sustainers, with a loss of one since the prior quarter. Our goal is nine for the cycle. I will also add, when comparing chapters across NM, our contribution total exceeded Albuquerque, with \$2,436, by \$759. As a NARFE member, please seriously consider supporting NARFE's ongoing advocacy mission by becoming a sustainer. Thank you for your support.

\*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.



## Alzheimer's

We collected \$91 at our November Alzheimer's raffle. Thank you to all our members who donate prizes and participate in our raffles. A special thank you to Corinne Okamura for filling in for me at the meeting.

Cindy  
Cook

Alzheimer's 24/7 Helpline:

800-272-3900





## **Election of Officers**

**John Reese (Nominating Chair)**

**It is time to prepare a slate of officers vying for elected positions in March.**

**It is time to prepare a slate of officers vying for elected positions in March. The positions are President, First Vice President (Legislation), Second Vice President (Membership), Secretary, and Treasurer. In short, here are the duties: 1. President shall be the senior officer and shall preside over all meetings of the Chapter and of the Executive Board. 2. First Vice President shall in the absence of the President, preside at all Chapter and Executive Board meetings and perform other duties as assigned by the President. Also serves as Chair of the Legislative Committee. 3. Second Vice President shall in the absence of the President and First Vice President, preside at all Chapter and Executive Board meetings and perform other duties as assigned by the President. Serve as Chair of the Membership Committee. 4. Secretary shall record and maintain minutes of Executive Board and Chapter meetings. 5. Treasurer shall keep a complete record of all monies received, disbursed, and complete checks for vouchers approved by the President. All elected positions will fulfill all duties as described in NARFE Chapter and Federation Officer Manual (F10).**

**I will be talking to members regarding their intent to run for a position as well as any member wishing to run for the positions. I have more detailed information regarding the duties that I will take to our December meeting, or you may call or text me at 575-649-0616.**

**I must present a roster of positions and members vying for each of the above positions at our January meeting.**

## **Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year From Your Chapter 182 Officers**



**Dan Carroll, VP for Membership  
Marlene Mayfield, Secretary  
Janice Bridges, VP for Legislation  
Judy Rosco, President  
Craig Singleton, Treasurer**

## Member Communications (Carol Main)



### Welcome New Members:

Saul Armendariz  
Daniel Peters  
Irmo Negrón

Nicole Daniels  
Amalia Slaughter

Welcome back:  
Brian Hartley

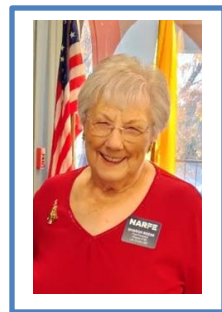


### New Prospective Members:

Terri Baca  
Jesse Briseno  
Matthew Church  
Santos Delgado  
Vivian Evans  
Michael Jimenez  
Jerry Morris  
Crystal Olayo  
Toney Price

We would like to see you at the December 13 meeting.  
Come meet your fellow chapter members.  
Our chapter membership is 187 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, ballots, or any notices we send out.



Sharon  
Reese

Region VII  
Vice  
President

We thank Sharon for her service to Chapter 182 and the Southwest Federation.

She also serves as the Region VII Vice President which keeps her very busy.

Thanks, Sharon, for everything you do for NARFE!



Judy Rosco (CH 182 President and Marlene Mayfield (CH 182 Secretary) recruited two new members at the USDA Health Fair at NMSU on Nov 12<sup>th</sup>.



### Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)



After celebrating Thanksgiving weekend, we will start a countdown to the Winter Solstice.

It will consist of 21 days, with each day having a little less sunshine. December 21 will be Winter Solstice 2025 -- the shortest day of the year. It will be a pleasant climb to more sunshine through Christmas and the New Year. Happy times indeed!

Sunshine prevailed in our Chapter during November, as there were no requests for cards.

Have some fun by trying to solve this Christmas riddle: WHAT DID THE GINGERBREAD MAN PUT ON TOP OF HIS BED?

The answer to the Thanksgiving riddle: WHAT KIND OF KEY DOESN'T OPEN ANYTHING?  
(A TURKEY)

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. Marcelle: 575-521-4954 or [marcele@skelton.net](mailto:marcele@skelton.net)



### Federal Employee Education & Assistance

Go to [www.feea.org](http://www.feea.org) where you will find information on all of the following:  
DISASTER RELIEF – EMERGENCY LOANS – FEDLIFEHACKS - SCHOLARSHIPS



### Membership Report

Hello everyone. Starting to get cool at night and in the mornings but not too bad. No frost yet! We now (as of November 12, 2025) have 187 members in our Chapter 182. Holidays this month include Pearl Harbor Day on December 7<sup>th</sup>; Christmas Eve on December 24<sup>th</sup>; Christmas Day on December 25<sup>th</sup> and New Year's Eve on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Full moon will be on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Dan  
Carroll  
  
VP for  
Membership  
and  
Chapter  
Historian

Quote of the month: "Bravery is the capacity to perform properly even when scared half to death."—Omar Bradley. It is great news that the federal employees are now going back to work and hopefully things will be getting back to normal. Have a good month and happy holidays to all.





### Chapter 182 November Insurance Program

We thank the Insurance Representatives who came to our November general meeting. They shared up-to-date information on their plans, handed out brochures and lots of items including pens, key chains, recipes, bags, and more! Their help was needed and appreciated.



**Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Rep Barbara Herrera**



**AETNA Rep from Chicago  
Leslie Priest**



**Presbyterian Rep  
Audrey Jaramillo**



**GEHA Rep  
Paul Rebarchik**



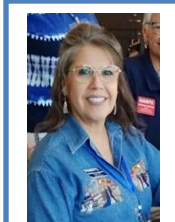
**United Rep  
Savannah Oliver**

(Photos by Marlene Mayfield)



**Chapter 182 Executive Board - We are happy to report that two of our Executive Board positions have been recently filled.**

John Reese has taken the position of Officer Nominating Chair and has already written a report in this newsletter (page 4). John is a long-time chapter member and has served in other positions.



Corinne Okamura has taken the position of Logistics (Room Control) and was on the job at the November general chapter meeting. She previously served as a Member at Large.

**We thank them for helping our chapter.**



**National Active and Retired  
Federal Employees Association  
Chapter 182  
PO Box 16424  
Las Cruces, NM 88004-6424**

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***You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!***

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**Chapter 182 Officers**

President	<b>Judy Rosco</b> rosco631@gmail.com 575-635-7127
1st Vice Pres. (Legislation)	<b>Janice Bridges</b> jan838790@msn.com 575-635-9768
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>Craig Singleton</b> scsingleton575@gmail.com 575-373-0705
Alzheimer's	<b>Cindy Cook</b> cindy77lou@yahoo.com 575-640-0860
NARFE-FEEA:	VACANT
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
Member Communications:	<b>Carol Main</b> csmain7@gmail.com 575-382-7686
Service Officer:	VACANT
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://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), 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: [lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com](mailto:lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com).

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