



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

LAS CRUCES  
NEW MEXICO

CHAPTER 0182

*National Active & Retired  
Federal Employees Association*

**REPORTER**

*April 2026*

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*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



Welcome to our Chapter Newsletter, *THE REPORTER*. Each month our chapter produces a newsletter filled with, oddly enough, chapter news that is important to our members. Articles are submitted from our Board members to our Newsletter Editor, Sarah McAdoo, who has been on the job for fifteen years. Once the newsletter is edited for content and approved, it is emailed to all our members with email addresses and about twenty members who do not have email addresses, AND it is published on FEDHub so that other NARFE members can see what we are accomplishing. Members especially enjoy the pictures that are submitted for publication. We are immensely proud of our chapter newsletter and hope you enjoy it too.

You may remember in my last article, I submitted our SW Federation President's message about "doing one new thing for NARFE." I did something new. I posted a NARFE message on my Facebook page. I encouraged federal friends and retirees to look at NARFE and what the organization does to fight Congress to keep your EARNED benefits.

*Continued on Page 2...*

**NARFE Chapter 182 General Meeting**  
Saturday, April 11th, 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 25 March 2026)

**April 11th Program:**

Carol Main and Janice Bridges will conduct a presentation on the NARFE website. They will guide you through information on the site as well as accessing FEDHub. Of most importance will be how to contact your state representatives in Congress through the site. They will show you how to access a wealth of information on the site. Come to our meeting and get informed!

**Mark your calendars: May 9th meeting**  
Branigan Library (Quality of Life Las Cruces)

We are still looking for a Program Coordinator as I will be stepping down in May. Contact me at [md.harris1@comcast.net](mailto:md.harris1@comcast.net) or Judy Rosco at [rosco631@631@gmail.com](mailto:rosco631@631@gmail.com) if you are interested.



**Donna Harris**  
Program Coordinator



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

We are now being told that Social Security is an entitlement...that is not true. Those of us who worked forty quarters and paid into Social Security deserve our full Social Security benefit and we finally got the benefit last year when Congress repealed the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO).

NARFE is now paying members \$8 for every member they recruit, regardless of the time of year. We do not have to wait until a Membership Contest is held to recruit. Recruiting new members is a full-time effort that all members should be making. If you know of an organization or function that is being held in the Las Cruces community, let us know and we will try to plan to attend and let them know about NARFE. We need to keep trying to recruit new members at every opportunity we get.

Registration is now open for FEDcon26. The Early Bird Registration cost is \$225 through 22 May 2026. The Southwest Federation is offering \$900 to assist members who want to attend the conference. The funds will be on a first-come-first-serve basis for the first thirty-three members to request funds. We have already had eight members request funds to attend. FEDcon26 will be August 23-25, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. Registration details are in emails from NARFE Subject: Registration is Open for FEDcon26! which you should have received both on February 28 and March 1.

Our Chapter Executive Board still has these vacancies:

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 raffle, 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. Please contact me at 575-635-7127 or [rosco631@gmail.com](mailto:rosco631@gmail.com) for more information.



**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**



## LEGISLATION (Janice Bridges)



Please continue to contact your legislators and let them know what legislation that NARFE supports and please vote accordingly.

Remember you can go online to the NARFE website and go the Advocacy site and there are “scripts” there you can use to email or call to let them know which ones to support. Please let them know that the government shutdown affects all of us.

Here is what NARFE supports and where NARFE stands.

**H.R.1- The “One Big Beautiful Bill Act. This originally included provisions to cut Federal Active and Retiree benefits. Thanks to NARFE Advocacy these were eventually removed.**

**H.R.492/S.134- “Saving the Civil Service Act”. NARFE supports this bill. It will provide the establishment of Policy/Career of the excepted service to ensure merit-based hiring and firing of civil servants. NARFE filed a court action and a decision was to be made March 13th.**

**H.R. 491/S.624- Fair Cola Act. NARFE supports this bill. It will give full cost of living adjustments to FERS Annuities based on changes in consumer prices.**

**H.R.493/S.126- Federal Adjustment of Income rates. NARFE supports this bill. This will provide Federal Employees with a 3.3% across the board pay raise plus a 1% average increase to locality pay.**

**H.R.5249- NARFE supports this bill. It will require the President and Executive Branch to provide Congress with a Reorganization Impact Report before the President may enact major federal employee terminations.**

**H.R. 2250- This repeals the President’s executive orders to remove collective bargaining rights from about one million federal employees. It passed the House on December 11, 2025 and it is ready to be voted on in the Senate.**

**PLEASE subscribe to Newslines, stay active on FEDHub, read the NARFE magazine and continue to let your legislators know where we stand on these bills. We are now in our third government shutdown as of Feb 13th. This shutdown affects DHS which is about 13% of the government employees which includes the TSA, FEMA, Coast Guard, The Cyber Security and Infrastructure Agency along with other agencies. We are now in our 4th week of this partial shutdown. Please contact them and express that they need to fund these agencies.**

**NARFE is already seeking submissions for 2027-2028 Advocacy positions. While NARFE is still well underway with the current 119th Congress, NARFE is gearing up for the next one. NARFE’s advocacy positions outline our specific policy stances and guide NARFE’s leadership and staff in their decision making when determining whether to support an action taken by Congress or the administration. If you are interested in submitting a proposal for NARFE to support, please refer to the MARCH NARFE magazine or the NARFE Advocacy Website on how to do this and the guidelines. They are too long to put into this newsletter. Or you contact me and I will help you.**



## NARFE-PAC

Della Apodaca

Learn more about NARFE-PAC. Log into the [NARFE website](#) and find information under the [Advocacy tab / NARFE-PAC Member Homepage](#).

It provides information about voluntary contributions from NARFE members at the national, federation, state, and chapter levels. It shows distribution amounts the PAC has given to members of congress, to congressional committees and to other PACs. And finally, the information includes historical data going back to the year 2012.

Starting on Page 22 in the March [NARFE Magazine](#), the article talks about the PACs goals for this cycle, plus the “wins” NARFE has had in recent years. Most notable were efforts made to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision and also the Government Pension Offset which reduced social security benefits. The article also talks about the upcoming challenges including retirement security, health care options and the basic structure of the civil service.

Thank you for your support of NARFE-PAC.

*\*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.*

### March 13, 2026 General Meeting

32 members attended our March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Three of those members were celebrating their birthdays in March. Everyone enjoyed singing *Happy Birthday* to:

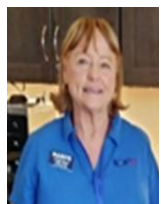
Donna Harris  
Jackie Pickering  
Sharon Reese





The speaker at our March 2026 general meeting was *Lorena Lozano, Director of Marketing-Visit Las Cruces*. She provided information on the tourism initiatives through *Visit Las Cruces*. She explained how their team advocates for visitors to experience the many things that Las Cruces has to offer – food, outdoor recreation, arts and culture, space industry, and other attractions and entertainment. She discussed how they promote Las Cruces NM as a year-round premier Southern New Mexico destination for travelers, businesses, and those looking to put down roots.

Photo: Chapter 182 Program Chair (Donna Harris), Speaker (Loreno Lozano, Director of Marketing – Visit Las Cruces), and Chapter 182 President (Judy Rosco)



Cindy  
Cook

24/7  
Helpline  
800-272-3900

#### Alzheimer's

NARFE is helping to make a difference in millions of people's lives with our donations to Alzheimer's research. There is exciting progress in research. Alzheimer's research in animals is showing progress in the recovery of some mental abilities that were lost. At our March meeting our ALZ raffle collected \$ 81.00 to be sent to Alzheimer's. Thank you to all who donate items and those who participate in our ALZ raffles.



alzheimer's association®

#### Chapter Programs

We always appreciate ideas for our programs. If you have any suggestions, please send them to:

Donna Harris at [md.harris1@comcast.net](mailto:md.harris1@comcast.net) or  
Judy Rosco at [rosco631@gmail.com](mailto:rosco631@gmail.com)



**Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)**

**April is a month of both sunshine and showers.**



The combination of sunny days and rainy days makes for a pleasant atmosphere. Of course, we always wish for more sunny days than rainy ones!

A Get-Well card was sent to Sharon Willoughby who recently had knee surgery. A Thinking of You card was sent to long-time chapter member and Past Chapter 182 President Emery Woodard and his wife Norma who now live in Maryland.

Have some fun by trying to solve this spring riddle: **WHAT SPRING FLOWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PEOPLE'S FACES?**

The answer to the St. Patrick's Day riddle: **WHY SHOULD YOU NEVER IRON A 4-LEAF CLOVER? (You don't want to press your luck!)**

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)



**Membership Report (Dan Carroll)**

Greetings all! We're now back on Daylight Savings Time. Wow! We now have 181 members in our Chapter 182. Full moon is April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Mary Ellen). Easter is April 5<sup>th</sup>. No federal holidays this month.

**VP for  
Membership  
and  
Service  
Officer**

Quote of the month: "The wisest owl hears all before he flies."—Golden Star Chinese Restaurant fortune cookie. Have a good month and see you at the movies!



Recruit a new NARFE member. There is a NARFE Membership Application in every NARFE Magazine or you can join online at [www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org).

Ask a co-worker or a retired friend to join NARFE and our Chapter 182.



**Carol Main**  
**Records**  
**Officer**

**Welcome  
Thomas Dwyer**

**We would like to see you at the April 11th meeting.  
Come meet your fellow chapter members.  
Our chapter membership is 181 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.**

### **Chapter Bylaws**

**(Carol Main, Bylaws Committee)**

**As Judy Rosco, Chapter President, presented at our March meeting, our Chapter 182 Bylaws and Standing Rules have been reviewed and updated. The changes include our newly merged federation, Southwest, and an increase in chapter dues from \$10 to \$12 per year. The dues increase is based on a suggestion from the National office to simplify the dues structure. The chapter members will be voting on them in May. You will receive a ballot in the May newsletter along with voting instructions. By the time you are reading this article, you will have received by email a copy of the draft Chapter Bylaws & Standing Rules from the Chapter email, [lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com](mailto:lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com). You should have also received a one-page explanation of the changes. If you do not have email and wish a hard copy, please call me, Carol Main, at 575-382-7686. Please leave a message and I will call you back.**



**Barbara Herrera (CH 182 member and Blue Cross/Blue Shield Representative) and Judy Rosco (CH 182 President) at the March Chapter 182 meeting. We appreciate Barbara providing us with insurance information handouts at our meetings.**



**We thank Marlene Mayfield, Chapter Secretary, for providing photos for our chapter newsletter.**



**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**

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**Members of Congress**

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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

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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**.

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