



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

**LAS CRUCES
NEW MEXICO**

CHAPTER 0182

*National Active & Retired
Federal Employees Association*

REPORTER

August 2026

Volume 27, Issue 1

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

National Web Site: www.narfe.org

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



Judy Rosco, Chapter 182 President

Welcome Back! Wow! The heat has been really bad this summer and we still have the rest of August to contend with.

It is not too late to register for FEDcon26. However, it is too late to get the Early Bird discount. The Southwest Federation is still 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. FEDcon26 will be August 23-25, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. Please contact me at rosco631@gmail.com or Mark Mickelsen at mmickelsen@aol.com.

I will be attending a ZOOM board meeting of the Southwest Federation on July 29th. One of the main things on our agenda is advertising for NARFE membership. More to follow...

Beginning September 12, 2026, our buffet breakfast will increase to \$21. This includes your breakfast, drink, fruit, gratuities and the cost of the room. We continue to have our meetings at the Las Cruces Independent Living Center because it is the best bargain we can find for our members. We are only allowed to have breakfast and our meetings here because we have members who reside here. A big thank you to those members who reside at this facility.

Continued on Page 2...

Please join us at our meetings!

**NARFE Chapter 182 General Meetings
Las Cruces Village-Independent Living
3011 Buena Vida (Creative Arts Room)
Second Saturday of the Month
Time: 8:30 a.m.
\$21.00 – Cost for Breakfast**

September 12 – Legislative Meeting

**October 10 - Mark Mickelsen, our
Southwest Federation President, will
be at our October meeting for his an-
nual visit.**

**More information will be in our Sep-
tember newsletter.**

Chapter 182 President's Message (Continued from Page 1)

Our Chapter Executive Board still has these current 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 drawing, 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 for more information.

Please join us at our next meeting. Our Legislative Breakfast meeting will be on September 12, 2026, at the Las Cruces Village (Independent Living Center) of Las Cruces, 3011 Buena Vida Circle, in the Creative Arts room, at 8:30 am.



Chapter 182 Calling Committee (Carol Main)

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, for our meeting in September, expect calls on August 24-25 for our meeting on September 12, 2026. Email meeting notices from our chapter email, lascruceschapter182@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, Carol Main, 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. Hope to see all of you at the September 12 meeting.

**NARFE National Election
(Carol Main)
(Chapter Member Communications)**

NARFE National Election starts in August. All NARFE members in good standing as of June 30, 2026 will have the opportunity to vote August 26, 2026 through September 30, 2026 for the two National Officers, President and Secretary/Treasurer, the Regional Vice President in each region, and the proposed by-law changes. If NARFE National has your email, you will vote electronically. For those of you without email, you can request a paper ballot. The form for requesting a paper ballot was in the June/July NARFE magazine on page 61. By-laws Committee report, voting procedures and the ballot request form will be in the August magazine. Further information: <https://www.narfe.org/2026-narfe-national-election/>.



Carol Main (Records Officer)

Welcome New Members: Rosemary Chanenczuk
 Roberto Gomez
 Nancy Shelley



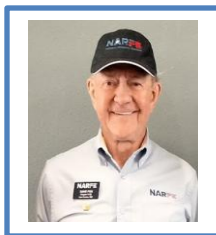
**New Prospective
Members:**

Julie Barton
Megan Jimenez
Cynthia Kusk
Susan Medina
Steve Quinones
Marty Rennert
Teresa Reyes
Margarita Telles
Daniel Vaughan

We would like to see you at the September 12 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members.

Our chapter membership is 174 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, ballots or any notices we send out.



Dave Fox

Membership Report

Yes, you are right. I am not Dan Carroll. I have taken over membership as Dan has served out his term per the chapter by-laws. I will try to follow in his exceptional footsteps. As of now, we have 174-chapter members (as of July 17, 2026). Just a reminder, renew your membership before it expires. I look forward to seeing everyone, especially new members, at the September breakfast meeting. Talk to you then.

**VP/
Membership**

My Quote: Some people talk and other people do. So, let's see it now.

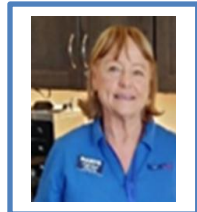


Della Apodaca (Mid-terms at the National Level)

As we get closer to mid-term elections, we need to ensure NARFE-PAC is well-funded to persuade legislators to support NARFE's legislative goals.

NARFE is fighting against climbing health care premiums, unequal cost-of-living adjustments, and adverse civil service protections. If you have not made a contribution* this cycle, please consider making one now. Thirty-four chapter members have made at least one contribution during this 2025-2026 cycle. We also have nine sustainers who contribute on a monthly basis. At our September breakfast meeting, I will have contribution forms and envelopes. A form is also available in the latest *NARFE Magazine*. 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.*



Alzheimer's (Cindy Cook)

Walk To End Alzheimer's

Pat and Lou Sisbarro Park, 3205 Arrowhead Dr. (NMSU Campus)

Saturday Oct 24, 2026, check in 9 a.m.

To sign up to donate or just become a walk participant under our NARFE Team, these are the instructions:

Google ALZ Walk Las Cruces NM 2026 (make sure you are on the correct date).

Click on: Look for a Team

Put in our Team exactly like this: NARFE Las Cruces NM Chapter 0182

Team Captain is Cynthia Cook. (Make sure you're on the right one).

You can sign up to donate or just sign up to be a member on the team.

If you are unable to do it online, you can give me the cash or a check and I'll sign in for you.



Thank You for supporting the mission for a CURE for Alzheimer's! If you have any questions, call Cindy at 575-640-0860.



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 to 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 a 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 prohibit the establishment of Policy/Career of the excepted service to ensure merit-based hiring and firing of civil servants.

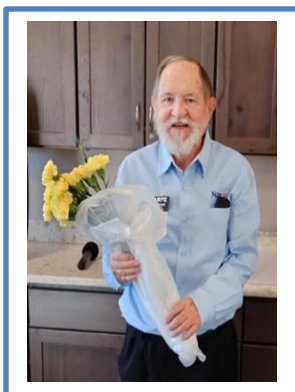
H.R. 491/S.624- Fair Cola Act. NARFE supports this bill. It will give full cost-of-living adjustments to FERS Annuities based on changes in consumer prices.

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’s now 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.



John Reese – May 9, 2026

NARFE Meeting

Once again John made all the ladies happy by giving them a pretty carnation for Mother’s Day!
Thanks, John! You made everyone smile!



Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)



This summer we have had lots of sunshine and high temperatures.

To survive the heat, some of you dived into the swimming pool, or stayed inside your air-conditioned home. Others escaped to the higher elevation in the mountains. Several took off on vacation travels. I hope all of you enjoyed your summer as it ends in August.

Two of our NARFE chapter families lost loved ones this summer. A sympathy card was sent to the family of Roy Willoughby, whose wife Sharon passed away June 18. Sharon held several offices on the chapter and state level. She had been a NARFE member since 1998.

A sympathy card was sent to the Judy Rosco family after her husband Steve passed away July 2. Judy is our current Chapter President. Steve was also a chapter member and was very supportive of NARFE activities.

A Thinking of You card was sent to Nancy Banks, whose daughter has some health issues.

Have some fun by trying to solve this riddle: HOW DO TREES GET INTO THE INTERNET?

The answer to the May riddle: WHAT KIND OF FLOWERS ARE BEST FOR MOTHER'S DAY? (Mums)

Please let me know if you hear of a member who is ill, has passed away, or just needs a little sunshine in their life.

Marcele: 575-521-4954 or marcele@skelton.net



Service Officer (Dan Carroll)

Summer is in full swing and monsoon starting up. Full moon is August 28th.
Quote of the month: "We can't all be heroes because somebody has to sit on the curb and clap as they go by." – Will Rogers

Fuel prices up due to war with Iran that keeps flaring up! I was in line at Lowe's Grocery on Missouri the other day when I recognized the lady in back of me while checking out as one of the attendants from the Las Cruces Village where we have our monthly meetings. I told her I was from Narfee and she rolled her eyes. Then she got a good look at me and said, "oh, you're from Narf."

The annual inflation rate in the U.S. rose to 4.2% in May 2026, making its highest level since April 2023, from 3.8% in April 2026, and in-line with market expectations. CPI was up 0.5% (May), slightly less than 0.6% in April. Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Have a great month! See you at the movies!



**In Memory – Sharon Willoughby
Passed Away June 18, 2026**

Sharon joined NARFE in 1998 and was the wife of long-time member and former Chapter President Roy Willoughby. Sharon helped our chapter and the Federation for years in many ways. Most of you attended our chapter yard sales which were held at the Willoughby's home. Sharon served as elected Treasurer, appointed Auditor for over a decade, and appointed Budget Officer for Las Cruces Chapter 0182. She also served as New Mexico Federation Southwest District VP, New Mexico Federation Auditor, and New Mexico Federation Secretary. Her latest position from which she just resigned in February 2026 was Southwest Federation Treasurer. She was very active in our Chapter and Federation and will be missed by many.



**In Memory – George Steven "Steve" Rosco
Passed Away July 2, 2026**

Steve retired from White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) in January 2010 with 36 years of service which included 4 years in the US Army. He began his civilian career at Sacramento Army Depot and moved to WSMR in 1994. He and Judy (our Chapter 182 President) just celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary in February. Steve was supportive of our chapter and will be missed.



NARFE Chapter 182 May 9, 2026, General Meeting. Judy Rosco (Chapter President), Guest Speaker, Ceci Vasconcellos (Public Art Coordinator, Quality of Life Department), and Donna Harris (Program Chair).

Ceci gave a presentation highlighting the many public art works that have been installed by the City.



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



You Need NARFE and NARFE Needs You!

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Program Chair: **Vacant**

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Sunshine: marcele@skelton.net	Marcele Skelton 575-521-4954
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575-523-6561 - <http://www.heinrich.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D)
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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 2nd 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 **\$21**. 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.

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