



FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS

**LAS CRUCES
NEW MEXICO**

CHAPTER 0182

*National Active & Retired
Federal Employees Association*

REPORTER

**September 2026
Volume 27, Issue 2**

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**



Many of our members will attend the upcoming NARFE National Conference, FEDcon26, in Indianapolis and will share their experiences at our September meeting and in our October newsletter.

The Southwest Federation published their first newsletter in April and I hope everyone got a chance to read it. Only the first edition was mailed to all members without email addresses on file. The second, which just came out August 13, will only be available electronically. If you have email in your NARFE profile, you should have received it from "President, NARFE Southwest Federation". All editions have been and will continue to be posted in the Southwest Community in FEDHub. You will also receive them by email. If you have an article you would like to submit, send it to the newsletter editor, Ms. Marian Thornton, at mdtcat@gmail.com.

NARFE will hold their national elections for officers this year. Most of the information was published in the NARFE Magazine but some candidates are able to email their qualifications to you. Read their resumes and decide who is best to lead our organization into the future and then VOTE when you are asked to cast your vote for your candidate. *Continued on Page 2...*

**Chapter Legislative Breakfast Meeting
Saturday, September 12, 8:30 a.m.
Las Cruces Village-Independent Living
3011 Buena Vida (Creative Arts Room)
Cost of Breakfast: \$21.00
Reservations: Call Carol Main
(575-382-7686) NLT Aug 26th**



Janice Bridges

**VP for
Legislation**

September is Legislative Month.

We have invited Representative Gabe Vasquez and his election opponent, Greg Cunningham, to speak at our September meeting and explain their positions on these bills. We have also invited Senator Martin Henrich.

Don't miss this important meeting!

Bring your questions that you would like to have answers to!

See my latest Legislative update report on page 4.

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

Be on the lookout scams. The bad guys are out to get our hard-earned money. I was scammed and I thought I knew what to "BEWARE OF". This year, New Mexicans, above 70+ years of age, were scammed out of \$9,173,522. And the saddest thing of all is there is little to no chance of recovering your money.

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 182 and accept one of these board vacancies. I will keep submitting chapter vacancies in my article until they are filled. Please contact me at (575) 635-7127 or rosco631@gmail.com for more information.

I am looking forward to seeing you at our Legislative Breakfast on September 12th.



Welcome New Prospective Member:

Susan Botts

We would like to see you at the September 12 meeting. Come meet your fellow chapter members. Our chapter membership is 171 members strong!

**Carol
Main**

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.

**Records
Officer**

We don't want you to miss any copies of the NARFE magazine, our chapter newsletter, ballots or any notices we send out.

Recruit a new NARFE member. There is a NARFE Membership Application in every NARFE Magazine, or you can join online at www.NARFE.org.

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



NARFE-PAC

Della Apodaca

NARFE-PAC is making good progress.

After attending FEDcon26, I decided to extend my time out East. I will eventually make my way to a beach in SC. Therefore, I will not be attending our September breakfast meeting as I mentioned last month. Following is my report for month ending June 30, 2026.

Thirty-four Las Cruces chapter members contributed \$5,576 to NARFE-PAC, 91% of our goal. The 34 contributors represent 20% of our chapter membership. The mean contribution is \$164. We have 9 sustainers. We have met our sustainer goal of nine for the cycle. At the national level, the PAC raised 99% and disbursed 78% of its goals, respectively. If you have not made a contribution to NARFE-PAC this cycle, please consider making one now. *

*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.



Membership Report (Dave Fox)

I encourage all our members to assist in generating ideas for our current National and local chapter membership drive efforts.

I ask that you dig into your memories and see if you can find a relative or friend, somewhere, that may qualify to join NARFE. One of our trusty chapter members did exactly that and successfully signed up 2 new members last month from her extended family.

So, I need your help to find new members right now. I would like you to give me the name and phone number of a prospect for membership and I will do the rest. I will have a short talk with them and give a proper response to their questions in order that they may clearly see the benefits of membership and perhaps join us, as you did!

Please let me know your ideas and remember, "One can't always, sometimes tell what is least expected most." I said that.

Just call or text me at 704-301-3484 or email me at foxydave1@aol.com. Thank you!



**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

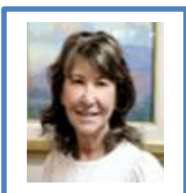
Put in our Team exactly like this: NARFE Las Cruces NM Chapter 0182

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 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.



VP for 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.

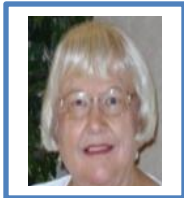
Below are the MAIN LEGISLATION ACTS that NARFE is supporting and actively pushing for right now.

H.R.492/S.134- "Saving the Civil Service Act". NARFE supports this bill. It prohibits 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.

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.





Sunshine Report (Marcele Skelton)

Lots of sunshine, hot days, and high temperatures have continued through August. That's why we look forward to September.



There should still be plenty of sunshine, but the temperatures will be lower, and the nights a bit chilly.

A Get-Well card was sent to Dorothy Rachele, who had surgery in early August.

Have some fun by trying to solve this September riddle: **ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER, WHAT DID THE TEACHER SAY WERE HER THREE FAVORITE WORDS?**

The answer to the August riddle: **HOW DO TREES GET INTO THE INTERNET?** (They log in.)

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)



Dan Carroll

Service
Officer

Economists expect Headline CPI to rise 0.2% for the month of July with annual rate easing to 3.4%. Looks like we'll get a modest COLA for 2027. Monsoon has been "so so" this year.

A few good thundershowers but it could be better. Full moon is on September 26th! Wow! Labor Day is September 7th.

Quote of the month: "The young man knows the rules, but the old man knows the exceptions." – Oliver Wendell Holmes, Sr. Have a good month. See you at the movies! Dan



NAR
FEDERAL BENEFITS EXPERTS
**SOUTHWEST
FEDERATION**



Oct 10, 2026 Chapter Meeting

Mark Mickelsen, our SW Federation President, will make his annual visit to Chapter 182. We look forward to his visit!

Mark your calendar now!



**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

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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

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: lascruceschapter182@yahoo.com.
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