

I hope that all members are staying safe and healthy, and avoiding this crazy virus. I will be so happy when we are able to return to a somewhat normal lifestyle. I deeply miss not being able to meet with members and share experiences.

It seems like a long time since our New Mexico Federation/Region VII Conference was held last April. It was a productive, successful conference.

We have had several changes within NARFE with more on the way.

Two of the changes is the new AMS system and the new Branding which includes new logos for every Federation and Chapter.

The AMS System is still not up and running the way we were promised. Headquarters continues to work on the issues, but we still do not know when it will be fully implemented. I urge chapter officers to watch for webinars which provide the latest information.

The Branding has been completed by Headquarters. Information was provided to all chapters for your use. Headquarters also notified chapters that our banners will no longer be utilized at functions. As part of the rebranding effort the general store contract was changed to include items with the new logos, etc. The store now has table covers to replace our banners. The Federation purchased one and I am extremely disappointed in the quality and the size of the table cover. Also, I was concerned about the badges that they have available. I would strongly suggest that if your chapter wants new ones that you go locally. I was able to save \$2.00 per badge plus the shipping fee (\$8.95) for a badge.

Our chapters are dwindling.

I finalized the closure of Chapter 1402, Socorro, on 24 April 2019. All members transferred to our New Mexico National Division.

I am in the process of closing 2 other chapters, Gallup Chapter 1380, and Alamogordo 698. Both will have closure dates in June 2020.

I attended/or reviewed the following webinars:

Divorce, Remarriage and Federal Benefits (April 11, 2019)

Understanding CSRS Offset (May 23, 2019)

Special Category Feds: Retirement Rules and Exceptions (June 13, 2019)

Your Best Retirement Date Revealed (July 11, 2019)

3 webinars on the AMS system that was for Federation Presidents/officers

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, I was on my way to Scottsdale, AZ to attend the NEB/Federation Presidents Meeting. The main issues discussed were the AMS System, Rebranding, Referendum Voting, Establish Federation Presidents' Advisory Committee (FPAC), Revise Federation and Chapter Bylaws (templates provided), and the Headquarters Building. Please see my report 2019 Federation Presidents Meeting Notes July 7-10, 2019 Scottsdale, Arizona.

During the past year I visited Chapter 698, Alamogordo and Truth or Consequences Chapter 1341.

Our Treasurer, Lee Tomlin, suffered a severe stroke on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. His recovery is extremely slow, as he goes between physical therapy hospital and assisted living. He has asked that no one visit him. Cards may be sent to his residence, 9804 Lorelei Lane NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111-1248.

The Federation was in dire need of a Treasurer to complete Lee's term of office (approximately April 2021). I contacted each Chapter President and Treasurer seeking a candidate. There were no voluntary candidates. The Executive Board, via email, appointed Marlene Mayfield to complete the term of office.

On January 11<sup>th</sup> I sent the dues assessment letters to all chapters for Marlene. While doing this I found discrepancies in our Federation Bylaws approved May 1, 2018. This must be addressed as soon as possible. All chapters have paid their appropriate amount (thank you).

Our Annual Meetings that were to be held in Las Cruces and Taos in April had to be cancelled due to the covid-19. I wanted to make sure that all our members received information as required by our Bylaws.

FEDCon20 August 30 – September 1<sup>st</sup> at the Westin Kierland Resort & Spa, Scottsdale, Arizona. Hotel rate is \$115.00 per night plus taxes. registration opened on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The resort fee is waived, you will have complimentary self-parking with valet parking at \$29.00 per night. Register on-line at NAFE.org. Headquarters is still planning to hold the conference. I have not been told when a final decision will be made.

On February 13/14<sup>th</sup>, the Federation Board met and then went to the Roundhouse. We had a table for NARFE at senior's day. We had several prospective members

that stopped and gathered information. Hopefully, Santa Fe and Albuquerque gains members. This is a function we will continue in the future.

This week I was notified that I have been selected to be on the Federation Presidents Advisory Board. There are 8 Federation Presidents out of 53 on the board. Our first order of business is establishing a name for our group. We advise the National President on issues with possible solutions within the federations. I look forward to representing all of New Mexico members!

As of May 13, 2020 New Mexico, has 9 Chapters with 883 members, and our National Members in NM is 908 for a total of 1791 members.

Sharon