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# NARFE

## National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

*Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees*

## New Mexico Federation

# Voices

Summer 2012 Issue

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

NM Federation [www.narfe-nm.net](http://www.narfe-nm.net)



### President's Message

*Janice Baker*

Newly elected Federation President Janice Baker shares her vision for New Mexico members...

*Page 3...*

**TIRED OF YOUR  
\$\$\$ earned benefits \$\$\$  
being treated as  
?? POLITICAL FODDER ??**



**NARFE membership = YOUR VOTE for  
FEDERAL EMPLOYEES & RETIREES  
JOIN or RENEW NOW!!**

**[www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)**

### 2012 Convention Highlights

Our 50<sup>th</sup> New Mexico Federation Convention convened April 19-21 in Santa Fe. Registration began as normal on Thursday and continued through Friday morning. The convention was called to order Friday morning and began with an invitation from Santa Fe Mayor David Coss.

We were fortunate to have as our guests NARFE National President, Joseph Beaudoin and Region VII Vice-President, Betty Lucero-Turner. Both gave an update on issues facing us in Washington DC, one of which, of course, is membership loss. For whatever reason--our numbers continue to decline. To survive we must reverse this trend

We were also honored by NM District 3 US Representative, Ben Ray Luján (D). To my knowledge he is the only Congressman to address our convention. His talk was very focused on our issues and he graciously stayed afterward to answer questions.

***Mr. Luján has a 100% NARFE voting record!***

Our agenda culminated with the election of Federation officers for the next two year term – meet them in the photo on page 2.

To the Santa Fe Chapter for hosting the 2012 convention -- and to those who attended and continuously give of their time for the benefit of NARFE, ***I give you my personal thanks!***

I sincerely hope to see all of you again at our next convention. Have a healthy and happy summer!

*Leon E Garcia, PhD*  
Past NM Federation President

# NM Federation Officers 2012 - 2014



*Left to right-Front: Meriam McMullen, Secretary; Janice Baker, President; Barbara Cosentino, SE District VP, Madeline Jennings, NW District VP. Back: Roy Willoughby, SW District VP; Sharon Reese, VP Legislation; Rick DeMello, Treasurer; Mary Ellen McKay, Executive VP Membership; Leon Garcia, past President (not pictured Raymundo Garcia, NE District VP)*



**NEW SE District VP -** Barbara Cosentino retired from Federal Civil Service as a Physicist, Operations Research Analyst and Program Manager with the US Air Force. She worked in Test & Evaluation of Navigation & Control systems with proficiency in mathematics and computers. She was also Chapter President of the International Electrical and Electronics Engineers. She currently serves on the Sacramento Mountain Village Board on behalf of retirees in Ruidoso NM and writes and edits the Village newsletter. Barbara lives in Ruidoso with her husband, Dennis Cosentino, who is also retired after 35 years in Federal Civil Service as an Electronic Engineer/Physicist. They are both members of Alamogordo Chapter 698.

## MEMBERS WELCOME

Federation Executive Board meetings are open to all NARFE members who want to observe the actions of the Board. The President may ask observers to comment on business items under discussion or to state their own concerns. The next Board meeting is Thursday, September 20, in Socorro from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Bodega Burgers, 606 North California Street (the main street off I-25). The agenda will include many topics mentioned in this issue of Voices.



... message from **President Janice Baker**  
**Strengthening NM Chapters Priority #1**

Many New Mexico chapters, regardless of size, are struggling. At the first full-length meeting of the new Federation Executive Board May 8, Board members affirmed their commitment to invest time, ideas, enthusiasm, and money to strengthen our chapters. The adopted budget demonstrates that the well-being of our chapters is priority #1! We decided that providing information & giving pep talks to chapters is insufficient -- and agreed to invest the Board's resources to jump-start the revitalization of chapters that want our assistance -- adopting a **"Go all Out"** approach during our term. Details will be clarified as we work with test chapters, but here is the general plan:

**First**, District VPs will identify chapters willing to be "test chapters" in 2012-2013, from which the Board will select a few. A designated Board member will lead in profiling the chapter and its surroundings - where members actually reside, what federal offices/agencies are in the area, and what local media are available. The Board member and Chapter President will discuss the process and set up an initial meeting where the chapter usually meets.

**Second**, the Board member makes a 2-3 day trip to the chapter location to meet with the Chapter President and members to explain the **"Go all Out"** approach and ask chapter members about what best fits their needs. Together they design a special event, to be sponsored by the Federation, focused on regaining lapsed members & retaining those who are up for renewal, but that will also appeal to non-member Federal workers and the general public. Part of the goal is to publicize the existence of a NARFE chapter in the area. In each location where a chapter member resides, the Board member, accompanied by a local chapter member will attempt to arrange a personal visit at each Federal office and media outlet. In addition to making a personal contact they will gather information as to how to provide NARFE information to Federal employees and use local media. The Board member meets again with the chapter to discuss the pre-event activities that the chapter will do.

**Third**, although chapters participate in the planning and local arrangements for the special event, the Board member takes overall responsibility for organizing and advertising the event (designing ads and flyers, placing ads in local media, etc.).

**Fourth**, the Board member arrives on site a day or two before the special event to help ensure all is in order. If time permits the Board member visits with Federal offices previously contacted to offer additional NARFE literature and to remind people about the event. During the event the Board member, District VP, and Chapter President serve as event cohosts, with chapter members given as much visibility as possible. A designated member gives a short talk about NARFE and why it is important to individuals and the community. The majority of time is spent on whatever the special event was advertised to be--a general interest speaker, a film, coffee & snacks with a local celebrity---the possibilities depend on the local chapter planners. Immediately following the special event, the Board member meets with chapter members to discuss their observations and to prepare their follow-up plan.

**Fifth**, the District VP remains in contact with the chapter to ensure follow-up. Three months and 6 months after the special event the District VP provides an update to the Federation Executive Board, and the Board discusses whether the chapter could benefit from, and wants, additional assistance. The Board also evaluates the **"go all out"** process and makes adjustments as needed for the next test chapter.

**We are excited about "Go all Out" and hope that Chapters will find it helpful---and fun!**

## Important Role for e-Chapters

When NARFE Headquarters established the National e-Chapter 2363, traditional chapters were concerned that it would drain members from them. But that has not happened. The e-chapter has 3546 members. Only 185 of them transferred from traditional chapters. More than 40% of the e-chapter members are active Federal employees, whereas the NARFE national average is only 8% active employees. Obviously the e-chapter appeals to those active and retired employees who are not eager to join traditional chapters.

In New Mexico, too, traditional chapters were concerned that the Chaparral e-Chapter 2341 would take away their members. To clarify the relationship between traditional chapters and Chapter 2341 in NM, the Federation Executive Board adopted the following policy at its May 8 meeting: Traditional chapters should make every effort to retain their current members, especially if members have not renewed after receiving the second notice from Headquarters. But if a member does not renew despite chapter efforts---or a chapter does not make an effort to keep the member---and Headquarters subsequently drops the member for non-renewal of dues (information that appears on the monthly M-112 report), the Board urges e-Chapter 2341 to contact the dropped member immediately and offer him/her the option of joining the e-chapter. *“The Board sees e-Chapter 2341 not as a threat to traditional chapters, but as another way to retain NARFE members in New Mexico”.*



**8% of NARFE members are Active Employees**

**40% of NARFE e-Chapter is Active Employees**

## Referendum on Chapter Assessments

All Chapter Presidents, Federation Past Presidents, and current Federation Executive Board members should have received referendum packets as directed by the membership at the 2012 Federation Convention in Santa Fe. The purpose of the referendum is to vote on a resolution proposed by Las Cruces Chapter 182 to amend the Federation Bylaws as follows:

Federation annual per capita assessment of chapter membership lowered from  
**\$1.75 to \$1.00 per member**  
and late assessment penalty lowered from  
**\$1.85 to \$1.10 per member**

The referendum packet contains the full text of the resolution, financial data to inform chapter debates, instructions on voting, and a ballot. If adopted, the amendment would take effect immediately. All chapters are urged to discuss this important issue at a forthcoming meeting and return their marked ballots.

**Deadline for return of marked ballots is October 15, 2012**



## Major Restructure Federation Budget 2012

*Rick DeMello, Treasurer*

At the direction of Federation President Janice Baker, and with her considerable assistance, the Federation Executive Board has approved an annual Federation Budget that, for the first time, provides a sharp focus on the primary mission areas of the Federation. A copy of the approved budget is on this page. Previous Federation Budgets have provided specific budget line items for each Federation Committee and Officer and were focused on who spent the money. This year's budget has just three primary line items (with 18 specific spending targets) that focus on Federation support for Chapters and Districts, National Headquarters and Region VII, and Federation Sustainment.

Notionally, these three mission areas, respectively, are projected to consume 43%, 17% and 40% of the annual budget. However, without historical data to provide a validity check on this year's budget projections, the allocations need to be assessed and adjusted throughout the coming year. We also need to refine the definitions of the various line items, and establish a consistent set of guidelines for assigning specific expenses to specific line items. The result will be a budget that is much more transparent and useful in determining where our 'real' focus lies as a Federation, as determined by where we actually expend our resources.

When comparing total expenses reflected in the FY 2011 Treasurer's Report to the projected FY2012 expenses, you will notice an increase of over \$6,250. These additional resources reflect the President's intention to spend a great deal more time, effort and energy working with the District VP in support of individual chapters. As the District VPs identify the chapters experiencing the greatest difficulties, the President, and perhaps other Federation officers, will conduct site visits lasting 2-3 days, organizing recruitment and/or renewal events in a concerted effort to revitalize not only the chapter but the local Federal community as well.

Not only has the Federation restructured its budget but it has reinvigorated its Chapter support program – forging a new day for New Mexico NARFE!

CATEGORY	FY 2012 REQUEST	FY 2012 APPROVED
<b>INCOME</b>		
• Int Income NT	\$275	\$275
10% Monies	\$8,450	\$8,450
Per Capita	\$4,450	\$4,450
<b>Total Inflows</b>	<b>\$13,175</b>	<b>\$13,175</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Chap/Dist Support	\$9,963	\$7,875
Admin	\$982	\$400
Awards	\$400	\$400
Miscellaneous	\$1,700	\$1,000
Travel	\$6,881	\$6,075
Lodging	\$1,985	\$1,900
Mileage	\$4,896	\$4,000
Other	\$0	\$175
Workshop	\$0	\$0
Reg VII & National Support	\$3,160	\$3,100
Admin	\$245	\$100
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$2,915	\$3,000
Legislative Conference	\$800	\$800
National Convention	\$2,115	\$2,200
<i>National President's Mtg</i>	\$0	\$0
<i>Region VII Conference</i>	\$0	\$0
Federation Sustainment	\$8,747	\$7,200
Admin	\$1,227	\$500
Miscellaneous	\$0	\$200
Travel	\$7,520	\$6,500
Lodging	\$2,795	\$2,500
Mileage	\$3,740	\$3,000
Other	\$985	\$1,000
<b>Total Outflows</b>	<b>\$21,870</b>	<b>\$18,175</b>
<b>NET INFLOWS/OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>(\$8,695)</b>	<b>(\$5,000)</b>

FISCAL YEAR 2011 REPORT				
Beginning Balance - May 2011				\$12,009.54
Income	Interest	\$294.30		
	10% Monies	\$8,471.97		
	Per Capita Assessment	\$4,510.10		
	Region VII Conference	\$1.47	\$13,277.84	
Expense	Travel: Mileage	\$4,983.09		
	Travel: Lodging	\$3,866.80		
	Travel: Registration Fees	\$1,825.00		
	Travel: Other	\$200.00		
	Office: Printing	\$142.99		
	Office: Postal	\$173.70		
	Office: Other	\$219.42		
	Miscellaneous	\$187.56		
	Awards	\$300.00	\$11,898.56	\$1,379.28
Current Balance - April 2012				\$13,388.82

## **Banquet or Box Lunch ... what does “convention” mean to you?**

In response to a resolution from Roswell Chapter 731 adopted at the 2012 Federation Convention in Santa Fe, the Federation Executive Board is looking at ways to lower the cost of conventions. We already know that it would be easy to hold a low-cost convention---as long as the membership revises its expectations. In the coming months all chapters will be asked to discuss what they must have, would like to have, and do not want at a convention. The Board plans to make the 2013 convention a test case, based on chapters' reported expectations.

Federation VP **Sharon Reese** is leading the Board's study.

### **“Carving the Future – Honoring the Past”**

*NARFE President Joseph Beaudoin & President Leon Garcia  
serve up New Mexico Statehood Centennial and NARFE 60<sup>th</sup>  
birthday cake at the Federation convention in Santa Fe.*



**THANK YOU...Santa Fe Chapter 186 for hosting the  
2012 NM Federation Convention!**

## NARFE

### New Mexico Federation of Chapters

#### ***Northwest District***

Albuquerque Chapter 80  
Belen Chapter 1462  
McKinley County (Gallup) Chapter 1380  
San Juan Valley (Farmington) Chapter 1179

#### ***Northeast District***

Duke City (Albuquerque) Chapter 1411  
Española Valley Chapter 1423  
Las Vegas Chapter 886  
Rio Rancho Chapter 1381  
Santa Fe Chapter 186  
Taos Chapter 1401

#### ***Southwest District***

Grant County (Silver City) Chapter 481  
Las Cruces Chapter 182  
Luna County (Deming) Chapter 1299  
Sierra County (TorC) Chapter 1341  
Socorro Chapter 1402

#### ***Southeast District***

Alamogordo Chapter 698  
Carlsbad Chapter 796  
Pecos River (Ft. Sumner) Chapter 1455  
Roswell Chapter 731  
Tucumcari Chapter 1387

#### ***Statewide Chapter***

Chaparral Chapter 2341



### Snail mail or Email... keep in touch!

In order to provide you with timely information and to keep Federation mailing costs under control, we ask---actually, we beg---every member to give us an email address for Federation communications. You may give the information to your chapter president or send it directly to the Federation President at

[JaniceNARFE@msn.com](mailto:JaniceNARFE@msn.com)

### Can you HELP??

The Federation needs current contact information for two Past Presidents: Kirby Kline (Silver City chapter) and Joe Urban (Clovis chapter, now closed).

### Federal in NM



**2,716**  
**NARFE Members**  
**27,660**  
**Federal Retirees**  
**27,320**  
**Federal Employees**

**RECRUITMENT POTENTIAL IS HUGE!**

## New Mexico Federation of Chapters

### Voices Newsletter

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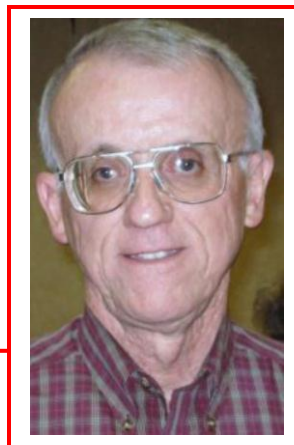
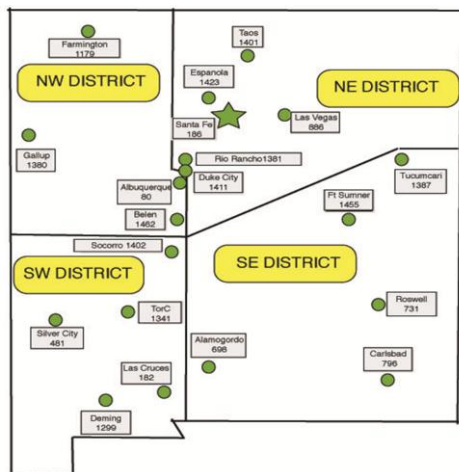
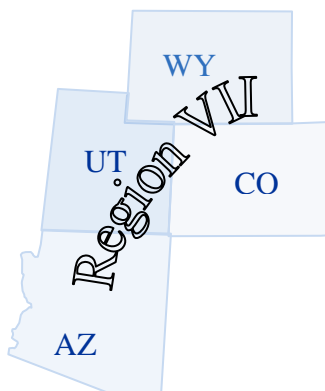
Please send correspondence (except newsletter articles) to:

**New Mexico Federation of Chapters**

**Attention: Janice Baker**

**2082 Placita De Vida**

**Santa Fe NM 87505-5489**



## CONGRATULATIONS JAMES KIELTY! NM FEDERATION 2012 SERVICE OFFICER AWARD WINNER

James Kielty received special recognition at the NM Federation Convention in Santa Fe on April 20, 2012 for the dedication, effort and spirit that he brings to his role as the NARFE Service Officer, Las Cruces Chapter 182. James gives unselfishly of his time to assist and educate members, contributing greatly to both the recruitment of new members and to the retention of existing members!

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#### Sharon Reese, *Vice President Legislation*

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#### Meriam McMullen, *Secretary*

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#### Madeline Jennings, *NW District Vice President*

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#### Ray Garcia, *NE District Vice President*

575-776-9612 [raygrc33@gmail.com](mailto:raygrc33@gmail.com)

#### Roy Willoughby, *SW District Vice President*

575-524-9395 [rswillowbee@comcast.net](mailto:rswillowbee@comcast.net)

#### Barbara Cosentino, *SE District Vice President*

575-491-8187 [cdenbar@gmail.com](mailto:cdenbar@gmail.com)

#### Leon Garcia, *Past President*

505-891-1108 [arubolino@aol.com](mailto:arubolino@aol.com)

Complete NM Officer Directory  
<http://www.narfe-nm.com>

### Members of Congress

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**U.S. Senator Tom Udall** 202-224-6621  
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**U.S. Representative Ben R. Luján NM-3<sup>rd</sup>** 202-225-6190  
330 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515 Fax: 225-1528

### New Mexico Supports NARFE 32<sup>nd</sup> National Convention

August 26-30, 2012  
Reno-Sparks, Nevada  
Registration Deadline August 2, 2012

### Committees

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