



News
Actions
Reports
Facts
Efforts

NARFE

National Active & Retired Federal Employees Association

Protecting the Future for Retired and Current Federal Employees

New Mexico Federation

Voices

February 2013 Issue

National Web Site www.narfe.org

NM Federation www.narfe-nm.net



in this issue

- ✓ President's Message
- ✓ Convention Agenda
- ✓ Federation Raffle
- ✓ Resolutions Process
- ✓ New Officers/Chapter News
- ✓ Membership Message
- ✓ Legislative Corner
- ✓ Federal E-filing
- ✓ Per Capita Assessment
- ✓ Statewide Ad Campaign
- ✓ "GEMS" for You

CALL to CONVENTION
APRIL 26-27
Rio Rancho
Hotel & Convention Center



?? NEVER ATTENDED A FEDERATION CONVENTION ??

Do we have a deal for you! If you have never attended a New Mexico statewide convention, 2013 is the year to break your pattern. Not only will you enjoy the company of your fellow NARFE members and participate in making decisions for the year ahead, but you can also attend at a special price...

Your **registration fee is \$35.00** instead of the regular price of \$40.00!

Register to come to Rio Rancho and see how much fun you can have for minimal expense!



... message from **President Janice Baker**

A Convention Unlike Any Other...

The 2013 NM Federation Convention in Rio Rancho, April 26-27, will be an “experiment” that you will want to be a part of!

The Federation Executive Board’s beginning point for planning was the resolution adopted at the 2012 convention asking us to find ways to hold a more affordable convention. Last fall we surveyed the membership to find out what elements our members wanted in a convention. Surprise! The majority wanted the usual elaborate convention, but at a greatly reduced price...Alas! Not possible!

The membership’s directive to us was to pursue a more affordable convention, and we believe we’ve done so. This year general registration is \$40 per person with a special price of \$35.00 for first-time attendees. The banquet cost is \$35.00 per person and the hotel room rate is \$59 per night, plus tax. The location is in the midst of a high concentration of NARFE members who can commute from home each day.

The 2013 convention will be more participatory than usual. Although attendees will receive all needed information, more time will be spent in general discussion than on officer reports. Friday afternoon we will have a 1-hour session on the state of New Mexico Chapters and Federation and our strategies for future action---at the Chapter, Federation, and individual member levels.

NARFE exists to advocate on behalf of Federal employees and retirees. The political and technological environment in which we must do so is changing rapidly. At National Headquarters our officers are trying new approaches that could enhance our advocacy. But success requires a coordinated effort by Headquarters, Federations, Chapters, and individual members. In New Mexico NARFE has a huge opportunity to increase its membership and thereby its political clout. We have 27,320 active Federal employees and 27,660 Federal retirees. Our convention discussions will focus on what we can (and must) do in New Mexico to make NARFE advocacy more effective nationally.

The last hour of the convention on Saturday will be a general discussion to evaluate the 2013 convention “experiment” and exchange ideas for our 2014 convention. Please plan to attend and share with us your invaluable opinions and expertise!

The complete Call to Convention Packet is on the Federation's website www.narfe-nm.net Check it out!

CONVENTION FINANCES

No Program Book = No Chapter Booster Ads

Federation urges Chapters to use BOOSTER ADS SAVINGS to

HELP MEMBERS ATTEND!

CONVENTION AGENDA IN BRIEF

April 26, Friday

- 10-12 noon Registration and vendor exhibits
Convention committee meetings as needed
Note: no lunch is provided
- 12 noon Convention Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance
Welcome to Congressional delegation or staff; their presentations
Skype presentation from & discussion with NARFE Headquarters
Short break
Federation officer reports: 3-minute summaries with discussion
Discussion of state of the Federation and options for the future
Memorial Service
- 5:00 p.m. Recess until April 27 at 8 a.m.
- 5:30 p.m. Social hour; no-host bar
- 6:30 p.m. Banquet (tickets required), entertainment, raffle drawings, award presentations, and installation of any new officers

April 27, Saturday

- 8:00 a.m. Convention reconvenes
Resolutions
Statewide chapter report: 3-minute summary
District Vice Presidents reports: 3-minute summary; discussion
District Caucuses selection of 4 Nominating Committee members
Short break
Report from District Caucuses
Statewide election of 5th Nominating Committee member
Evaluation of 2013 convention; suggestions for 2014
- 12 noon Convention adjourns sine die (***no lunch is provided***)

NOTE: Last day to register with no late fee 31 March 2013



FEDERATION RAFFLE

To ensure that all convention expenses are covered and to have some fun, the Federation Executive Board will hold a raffle. **We ask each Chapter to donate at least one item for the raffle table. The item should have a value of \$25 or more.** For many Chapters a gift card will be an easy option. Please bring your donations to the convention during Registration (10 a.m. to 12 noon) on Friday, April 26, or send them in advance to

Lee Tomlin, 9804 Lorelei Lane NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111

RESOLUTIONS PROCESS for 2013 CONVENTION

By Roy Willoughby, Resolutions Committee Chair, PO Box 2426, Mesilla Park, NM 88047

Proposed Convention Resolutions and Proposed Bylaw/Standing Rule Amendments must be presented in accordance with the NARFE Federation Bylaws, dated 11 May 2007 using forms F-3A (12-09) Proposed Convention Resolution and F-3C (12-09) Proposed Bylaw/Standing Rule Amendment.

Before the convention, as stated in the Bylaws: "All resolutions are to be approved by the originating chapter or the Federation Executive Board before submission to the Resolutions Committee and to be delivered no less than seventy-five (75) days prior to the convention. The Resolutions committee forwards copies of resolutions to the chapters not less than forty five (45) days before the convention. Consideration of any resolution which does not meet the above time requirements shall be considered only after a two-thirds vote of the convention without debate."

Under this provision chapter-approved resolutions would need to be delivered to the Resolutions Committee no later than 11 February 2013. But, since the time available for this process is now unfortunately short, both approved and unapproved resolutions will be accepted when submitted as follows:

19 April 2013 to the Resolutions Committee

26 April 2013 to the Convention Registration desk; 130 copies; no later than 10:00 AM

Copies of chapter-approved resolutions received by 11 February 2013 will be forwarded by the Resolutions Committee to the chapters by 4 March 2013. Those submitted directly to the convention will be distributed to the delegates for review, and considered on the convention floor only after a two thirds vote of the convention attendants, without debate.

At the convention, Resolutions will be placed on the first day agenda. All resolutions properly received as described above will be presented to the convention. If you have questions call me at 575.524.9395 or email rswillowbee@comcast.net.

NEW OFFICERS/CHAPTER NEWS

By Meriam McMullen

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tom Anderson as the new President of Chapter 1462 in Tucumcari. Tom replaces Wayne Huffman.

A warm welcome also to Emery Woodard, new President of Chapter 182 in Las Cruces, and Judy Rosco who is their new Secretary. Emery has been doing a good job; participating in the health fairs. Emery started in September and already has all his Chairpersons in place, except the Ways and Means committee. I think is exceptional! He is begging for a Chair for the Ways and Means Committee so that they can make some money for their chapter. Are there any volunteers? Judy was installed as Secretary in January and is also doing a great job!

Gary Montoya, the new President for Sierra County Chapter 1341, is doing a marvelous job. He participated in the health fairs and has initiated a newsletter for their chapter.

In addition, with the help of our New Mexico Federation webmaster, Jeffrey Smith, and myself Gary is now posting his Chapter newsletter online...see it at www.narfe-nm.net...Way to go Gary!





MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE “ONE-ON-ONE”

By Mary Ellen McKay

Membership and leadership are the ongoing challenges for NARFE in every Chapter in New Mexico. And I suspect that holds true around the Country. The NM Federation Executive Board has taken positive steps to attract members by purchasing a billboard on I-25 between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. This location was chosen for its high traffic volume and the concentration of population in that area of our state.

During the months that the billboard was displayed I obtained the names of new members in the surrounding Chapters. I have sent a letter to those new members asking if they saw the billboard, where they obtained an application for membership, and why they joined. I will continue this survey for the length of time that the billboard is renewed and the results will be published in future issues of “Voices”.

As anyone who knows me will attest I still believe our best efforts at recruiting and retaining members are one-on-one contact and follow-up.

I want to share two things Las Cruces Chapter 182 is doing in membership. At the January 2013 general membership meeting a current NARFE Magazine was placed on each place setting on every table. The members were asked to take the magazine with them and leave it at any place where people must wait for service and magazines are displayed. That is a shot in the dark, but we have to keep trying. The second thing being done is at Chapter Board of Director’s meetings the names of members who have been sent second notices or dropped are read. The Board members are asked if they know any of these people to contact them personally and ask them to reconsider their membership. That has had some positive results in the last month or so.

Remember, dues withholding helps keep members, your spouse should be a member, Life Membership is a sure bet and most of the time it takes 3 “asks” to get a positive result...*Good luck and keep trying!*



LEGISLATIVE CORNER

By Sharon Reese

How do you stay current on actions in Congress? Do you rely on your magazine? Do you rely only on information provided at your Chapter monthly meetings? What information do you rely on between or outside of Chapter meetings? **Federal employees and retirees are BIG budget TARGETS!**

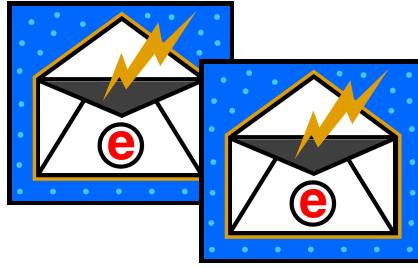
The NARFE magazine provides good information but it has a long lapse time due to writing articles, printing and mailing; it cannot provide UP-TO-THE-MINUTE communications that are vital when it comes to knowing about and reacting to the actions being considered by your Congressional representatives during Senate and House roll calls and voting.

Federal employees and retirees remain on the chopping block! If you are interested in your future and quality of life -- YOU NEED TO BE ACTIVE – communicate with your Congressional representatives -- especially when you are notified of an issue through your Chapter, Federation or National legislative informants!

How do you get these notifications? The NARFE Global Electronic Messaging System (**GEMS**) is used by NARFE Headquarters, regional vice presidents and federation presidents to distribute crucial and timely information, including Legislative Hotlines, Action Alerts, health and benefits updates, press releases, newsletters and other NARFE-related information. Don’t be left out! Sign up today! LOGIN at www.narfe.org and add your email address to your user profile information.

FILING THE IRS e-POSTCARD

By Lee Tomlin



Who has to do it? Every Chapter of NARFE.

When does it have to be done? By the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of the Chapter's Fiscal Year.

What information is needed to file the report? Chapter-specific data below:

1. **Before you begin** you need an email address to receive a receipt for the filing
2. Employer identification number (EIN) also known as Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)).
3. Tax year for which you are filing
4. Legal name and mailing address
5. Any other names the organization uses
6. Name and address of a principal officer (Treasurer contact info is preferred)
7. Web site address if the organization has one
8. Confirmation that the organization's **annual gross receipts are normally \$25,000 or less** (\$50,000 for tax years ending on or after December 31, 2010)
9. If applicable, a statement that the organization has terminated or is terminating (going out of business)

Where is the Chapter EIN? If you don't have one contact the National Treasurer's Office at 703.838.7700.

Where do I file the e-Postcard? LOGIN to www.epostcard.form990.org where you will be guided through the registration and filing process.

Where can I get more information? LOGIN to www.irs.gov/eo and click on the link labeled Annual Electronic Filing Requirements for Small Exempt Organizations – Form 990-N (e-Postcard).

How can I get an e-mail address? There are hundreds of free commercial email providers; the two most common are Google and MSN. Google addresses use ...@gmail.com and MSN addresses use ...@hotmail.com. Once you have an email address, you can LOGON to the IRS e-postcard web site from any computer, including those in public libraries.

What to do when all else fails? Call Lee Tomlin at 505.797-9711. I am a registered "Preparer" and can file the e-Postcard for you if you provide me the necessary information.

RESULTS OF THE 2012 PER CAPITA ASSESSMENT

By Lee Tomlin

The per capita assessments for 2012 are complete and tallied. All twenty one chapters responded and paid their appropriate amounts. The member count as of December 31, 2012 was 2,282 resulting in a per capita assessment of \$3,993.50. The per capita assessment for 2011 was approximately \$4,509.75 or a member count of 2,577. This means that **NARFE membership in New Mexico decreased by 295 members during 2012!**

STATEWIDE AD CAMPAIGN

By Janice Baker

So no one can say **“What Is NARFE?”**

New Mexico has 27,320 active Federal workers and 27,660 Federal retirees. In other words, we have 54,980 potential NARFE members! They need our advocacy and information, and we need their membership to increase our clout with policy makers. So let's get together!

Potential members cannot join us if they don't know we exist. Therefore the Federation Executive Board embarked on a statewide advertising campaign to raise public awareness of NARFE in New Mexico. Where applicable, we will request matching funds from Headquarters.

First we rented a billboard along I-25 just north of Bernalillo; the current 14-week rental ends February 17, 2013.

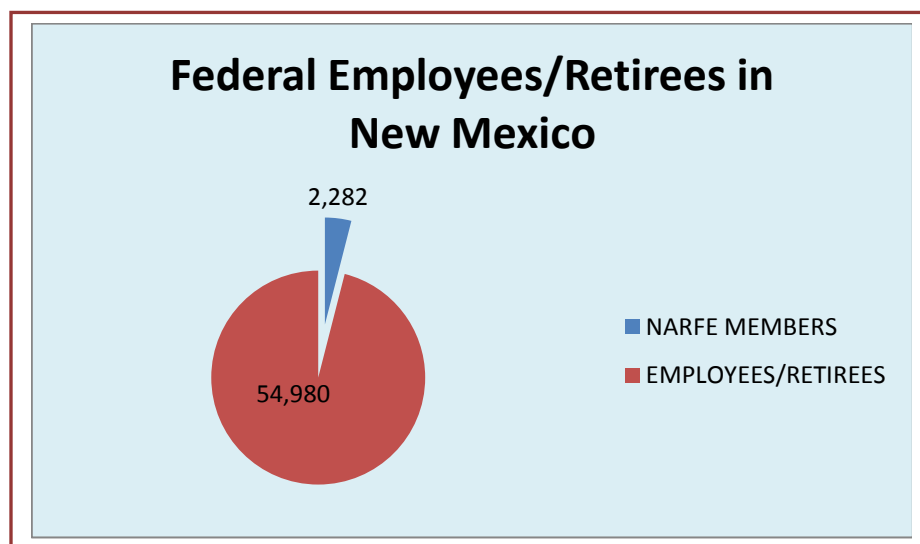
Second we placed ads in three publications that are available free to the public for three months or more: Santa Fe Reporter's *Winter Guide*, *Rail Runner Xpress* magazine, and *Santa Fe Manual* (to be issued May 2013; will be used for one year; press run of 35,000 plus an online version with direct link to Headquarters' website).

Third we asked Chapters to identify billboards and publications in their areas that would be great places for Federation ads.

Fourth we sent flyers with Headquarters approved color ads to every Chapter, asking that members photocopy the ads and post them on public bulletin boards around town.

Fifth we asked Chapters with enough cash in their treasury to consider placing Chapter ads in local publications -- especially those that will be used for several weeks or more.

In 2013 let's make sure that every one of those 54,980 potential NARFE members in New Mexico has the opportunity to see a NARFE AD and get to know us!



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 (Santa Rosa) 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



GEMS

Sign up for ALERTS

Speak out to AFFECT LEGISLATION

PROTECT your

EARNED FEDERAL BENEFITS !!

**Login using your last name & member number
(found on your magazine mailing label)**

<https://www.narfe.org/signin/>

New Mexico Federation of Chapters

Voices Newsletter

Published Quarterly

(Spring, Summer, Fall, & Winter)

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Webpage: www.narfe-nm.net

Webmaster: Jeffrey Smith postmaster@narfe-nm.net

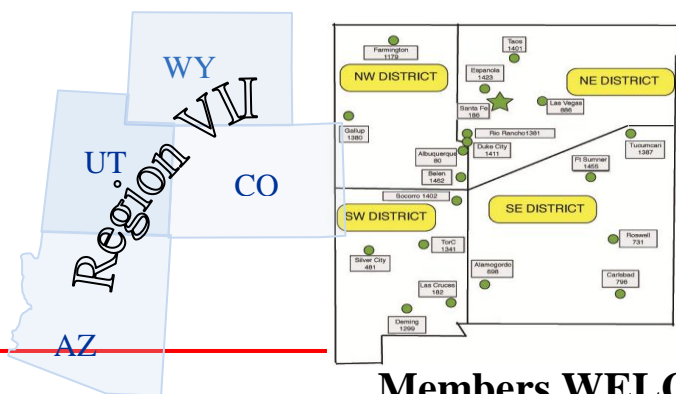
Please send correspondence (except newsletter articles) to:

New Mexico Federation of Chapters

Attention: Janice Baker

2082 Placita De Vida

Santa Fe NM 87505-5489



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 will be on Monday, March 25, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the site of the April 2013 Convention: Inn at Rio Rancho Hotel and Conference Center, 1465 Rio Rancho Blvd (also highway 528), Rio Rancho, NM. We will eat lunch during the meeting.

NM Federation of Chapters – Officers

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505-891-1108 leonegarcia@aol.com

Complete Officer Directory

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Members of Congress

US Senator Martin Heinrich www.heinrich.senate.gov

B40D Dirksen SOB Washington DC 20510 202-224-5521

US Senator Tom Udall www.tomudall.senate.gov

110 Hart SOB Washington DC 20510 202-224-6621

US Rep Michelle Lujan Grisham NM-1st

www.lujangrisham.house.gov

214 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515 202-225-6316

US Rep Steve Pearce NM-2nd

www.pearce.house.gov

2432 Rayburn HOB, Washington, DC 20515 202-225-2365

US Rep Ben R. Luján NM-3rd

www.lujan.house.gov

502 Cannon HOB, Washington, DC 20515 202-225-6190

Chapter RAFFLE DONATIONS needed

FEDERATION CONVENTION

APRIL 26-27 2013

Rio Rancho Hotel & Convention Center

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