



Your All Retirees Newsletter

November



2020

Hello friends,

It's beginning to look like Fall/Autumn and the trees have accepted their message from the winds, both blowing and gusting, and are giving up their leaves. This often seems depressing but in truth it is merely a new "beginning."

I often use reading as a "distraction" or opportunity to learn and think "differently." Brené Brown is a good example of positivity. I also enjoy reading Nadia Bolz-Weber who calls herself the Sarcastic Lutheran. She lives in Denver and ministers to a congregation there. Her sermons are most always meaningful but not in the usual way. More like an extended prayer. I'm sharing some of her words here as a "lesson" to think about. Not promoting any religion or church or political line...just as a "prompt" for thinking. Shared in the spirit of this month of "Thanks Giving."

"Our Father who art in heaven... Our Father who art in everything. Our Father who art in orphanages and neonatal units, and jail cells and luxury high-rises, who art in law offices and adult book stores, and in rooms alone with suicidal people. Our Father who art in the halls of Congress and the halls of tenements.

Hallowed be thy name. Holy is your name. Ever since the beginning we have attributed our own sin and ego and wishful thinking and greed and malice and racism and ambition and manipulations of others to you and to your name – and yet your name remains holy. We print "In God we trust" on the US dollar and then worship that dollar and the power that dollar brings us, and yet still, your name remains holy.

Thy kingdom come... God, right now we beg you to bring more than just a small measure of heaven to earth because, if you haven't noticed, we are in the middle of a global pandemic and millions are sick and dying, not to mention, the Earth is on fire. It's a mess down here Lord, so we need your Kingdom to speed the hell up. We need wise leaders, and just systems and an extra dose of compassion for all of us.

Give us today our daily bread. Give us today our daily bread, our daily naan, our daily tortillas, our daily rice. Lord, give us real bread, even when we keep reaching for those literal and metaphorical Krispy Kremes. Give us the gift of enough-ness. May our response to perceived scarcity always be increased generosity for we are your children and from you we receive everything. Give us today our desire for the neighbor to be fed. Give us today a desire for a good that is held in common.

And forgive us our sins. As we forgive those who sin against us. Forgive us when we hate what you love. Forgive us when we would rather anesthetize ourselves than feel anything. Forgive us for how much we resent in others the same things we hate in ourselves. Forgive us for the terrible things we think about our own bodies, bodies you have made in your image. Forgive us for thinking we know the hearts of our enemies.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Deliver us from the inclination that we too do not have evil in our hearts. Deliver us from religious and national exceptionalism. Deliver us from addiction and depression. Deliver us from self-loathing. Deliver us from self-righteousness. Deliver us from high fructose corn syrup. Deliver us from a complete lack of imagination about where you are in our lives and how you might already be showing up. Deliver us from complacency. Deliver us from complicity."

Thanksgiving is at the end of this month. I realize that many of us will need to change our plans for celebrating this holiday. In face of disappointment, we must remember that we as a nation and a community have so much to be thankful for. I encourage each of you to focus on the positive things in your life rather than on your disappointments caused by our current situation. I wish you and yours a Happy Thanksgiving!

Karen Morrison
SJAER President



SJAER Board Members

Office	2019-20 (Outgoing)	2020-21 (Incoming)
President	Marilyn Montoya	Karen Morrison
President-Elect	Nancy Tyson	Jackie Golombowski
Past President		Marilyn Montoya
Secretary	Marie Chavez	Connie Alley
Treasurer	Laura Busch	Kathy Martin
Assistant Treasurer	Doris Felkner	Sandy Allred
Programs	Marilyn Montoya & Karen Morrison	Marilyn Montoya & Karen Morrison
Membership	Phyllis Meier & Karen Ransom	Phyllis Meier
Legislative Liaison	Rod Conover	Chuck Culpepper
Publicity & Newsletter (YARN)	Trish Murphy	Trish Murphy
Courtesy/Sunshine	Caroline McDonald	Nancy Tyson
Scholarship	Joan Lewis	Joan Lewis
Social	Rod & Marlee Conover	Rod & Marlee Conover
SJRMCM Representative	Karen Morrison	Karen Morrison
Webmaster		Chuck Culpepper

SJAER

SAN JUAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL RETIREES

Here is the 2nd in the series of our Board member biographies. See the September/October issue of the YARN for the 1st in the series, and see the next-to-be published December YARN for the 3rd in the series.

Marilyn Montoya, Outgoing President and Ongoing Program Chair:

I grew up in Farmington, attended Farmington schools and graduated from FHS in 1969. After graduation I attended Eastern NMU and earned my BS. I moved to Houston, Texas and started my teaching career and attended Sam Houston University, earning my MS in educational administration.

I returned to Farmington, met and married my husband, Pat. In 1986 we moved to Dallas for Pat to attend dental school. While there, I was employed by the Tejas Girl Scout Council. In 1990 we returned to Farmington, I returned to education and worked in the CCSD and FMS districts until I retired in 2007.

Today, I am what you call a professional volunteer. I volunteer with the Farmington Evening Lions Club, the San Juan County Historical Society, the Farmington Museum Foundation, San Juan Retired Educators, and the Tibbetts All Ability Park.

We have 2 granddaughters, 4 great-grand kids and several gran-dogs.

Jackie Golombowski, President-Elect:

Hi, I'm Jackie Golombowski. I was born in Ohio, and grew up in Mississippi. I lived in Arizona, Germany, back to Arizona and on to New Mexico.

I taught special education in Chandler, Arizona for 5 years. I also taught in Mississippi for 1 year, and then 27 years at McCormick Elementary in Farmington.

My husband George and I have 5 children (all FHS grads) and 12 grandchildren. They live in Anchorage, Portland, Denver, Charlotte, and Farmington.

We usually travel to visit them in the summer in our RV; however not this year . Hopefully we can go in the spring.

I've been reading quite a bit. I love mystery novels. I've cooked a lot and I'm very well rested.

Connie Alley, Incoming Secretary:

Connie Alley lives in Farmington with her husband Mike Alley. They have 4 boys and 8 grandchildren. Connie taught school for 41 years. She started teaching remedial reading at Valley Elementary in Shiprock and ended her career teaching second grade at Ruth N. Bond Elementary in Kirtland. During those years she served and led the usual committees.

Then she also took the opportunity to teach Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, was a Den Leader, Cub Scout Camp Director, was the Round Table Leader, and a Boy Scout committee member.

Since her retirement, she has volunteered with Kid's Sight, helped with her granddaughter's class at Pinon Hills Academy, and attends her sorority activities. Her hobbies have taken her to classes for painting, crafts, and card making. She enjoys movies, reading, traveling, going out to eat, and most of all her grandchildren.

(Biographies continue on next page.)

Rod Conover, Outgoing Legislative Liaison and Ongoing Social Committee Co-Chair:

You are asking a speech teacher and minister to send you a BRIEF intro of myself? I will try:

I was born 7-9-37 and raised in Everett, PA. Went into the Air Force 1-57. Honorably discharged 1-63. Joined the Coast Guard Service 9-63. Honorably discharged 9-66.

Went to Midwest Christian College in Oklahoma City from 8-64 until 6-69. Received a Bachelor of Sacred Literature with a minor in Ancient History and a BS in Christian Education with a minor in Psychology. Went to Eastern New Mexico University from 8-72 until 5-75 receiving a Master's in Education with a dual major in Counseling and Guidance and Psychology.

Preached in Englewood, Kansas; Marlow, Oklahoma; Clovis, New Mexico; Florence, Colorado: taught 1 year at Tse Bit A'l Junior High from 8-80 until 5-81; Heights Junior High from 8-81 until 5-94; Mesa View Junior from 6-94 until 6-2000. I was the counselor from 1994 until retirement in 6-2000. I joined SJAER in the fall of 2000.

Kathy Martin, Incoming Treasurer:

I have lived in Farmington since the 1950's. I attended McCormick and Bluffview schools.

I was an Educational Assistant at Ladera Del Norte for 30 years, the majority being in Kindergarten.

I love to do Huck Weaving and being with my granddaughters.



You know you are retired from the school district if:

1. You eat all fruits except apples.
2. You still hear the sound of the bell.
3. You avoid cafeteria style restaurants.
4. Every day is like a summer break.



Retiree's Lament:

"There's never enough time to do
all the nothing you want."

(Bill Watterson)

Financial Report for September 2020
Laura Busch, Substitute Treasurer

DATE	Ck #	EXPLANATION	PURPOSE	EXPENSES	DEPOSIT	BALANCE
		Beginning balance				\$3073.23
10/07/20	3246	Chuck Culpepper	Web site	246.15		2827.08
10/13/20	3247	NMAER	Dues	150.00		2677.08
10/13/20		Deposit	Dues		210.00	2887.08
10/13/30		Deposit	Scholarship		26.00	2913.08
10/19/20	3248	Trish Murphy	Printing	12.00		2901.08
10/30/20	3249	Phyllis Meier	Stamps & printing	129.98		2771.10
10/30/20	3251	NMAER	Dues	510.00		2261.10
10/30/20		Deposit	Dues		850.00	3111.10
		TOTALS		\$1048.13	\$1086.00	
		Cash \$70.00				\$3181.23

SJAER collects voluntary donations from the membership for a Scholarship Fund. This money is awarded each year to a deserving SJC student who is a prospective teacher. You may donate your money during a SJAER meeting, or by writing a check to Phyllis Meier, 3305 N. Cochiti, Farmington, NM. 87401. So far this year \$26.00 has been collected. Thank you!



2020-2021 Membership Report

Month	Auto	NMAER	SJAER
Oct	13	22	40
Nov			
Dec			
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
Apr			
May			
TOTAL	13	22	40



In Remembrance, 2020-2021



Lila Mae Archuletta	4/2/2020	Donita Woolfolk	8/6/2020
Ronald Maas	5/12/2020	James Williams	8/15/2020
Cheryl Maness	5/27/2020	Leroy Ransom	10/12/2020
Millard I. Glass	7/11/2020	Daniel Atencio	10/17/2020
Louis Rodriguez	8/2/2020		

SJAER Executive Board Meeting - 10/13/20 at 10:45 am

Welcome/Call to Order - by Karen Morrison at Civitan Park.

Attendance

☒ President:	Karen Morrison	☒ Assistant Treasurer:	Sandy Allred
SJRC Rep.:	Karen Morrison	☒ Membership:	Phyllis Meier
☒ Vice-President:	Jackie Golombowski	☒ Programs:	Marilyn Montoya
☒ Secretary:	Connie Alley	Sunshine:	Marilyn Montoya
Constitution/Bylaws:	Connie Alley	☒ Sunshine:	Nancy Tyson
☒ Treasurer: (sub.)	Laura Busch	☒ Newsletter/Yarn:	Trish Murphy

Old Business

1. **Secretary Report** - The 9-23-20 minutes were accepted by Laura and seconded by Marilyn.
2. **Open positions – Thank you for stepping up** - Substitute Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer Position - Laura Busch will remain on the board as substitute treasurer. Sandy Allred accepted the position of assistant treasurer. Nancy Tyson volunteered on Sunshine. Connie Alley will be chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws committee.
3. **Legislative Liaison** - We haven't heard the outcome of the purposed 40% salary increase for the financial advisor.
4. **Web Site** - Chuck has secured a SJAER web site for 3yr.s/\$246.15. <http://sjaer.org> He will maintain the site for us.
5. **YARN** - The printing fee will remain at 5 cents per printed page.

New Business

1. **President**
Connie Alley, Karen Morrison, and Rebecca Atencio-Hunter volunteered to be on the Constitution Committee. An announcement will be made at the General Meeting for the following open positions: Telephone Chairman, Insurance Chairman, and Pre-Retirement. Nancy Tyson will help with the Sunshine duties. Erin McGinley, from FMS, would like a group picture of the SJAER board as a project resource for her class.
2. **Secretary** (Report is submitted to Karen/Pres. and Trish/YARN by the following Monday.)
3. **Web Site** <http://sjaer.org>
Suggestion: We might want to look into having someone, maybe a student from FMS or the college, video our program speakers. Then it could be posted on our web site. It would be a great place continue programs for our members if the COVID safety regulations prohibit our gatherings to 10 people. The board and speaker were a total of 10 this month.
4. **Treasurer** (Report is submitted to Trish for the YARN by the end of each month.)
The 2020-2021 budget was published in the Sept. YARN and is on <http://sjaer.org>. Chuck was reimbursed the web site fee of \$246.15. Civitan Park reservation was \$20.
5. **Membership**
Phyllis will notify the state of members who have passed away. She will keep track of any volunteer hours and send them to the state. This includes hours making masks for others, shopping or driving for others, etc. during these trying times. She has received seven checks for dues. The board approved the purchase of stamps to send letters to the 68 members without e-mail addresses.
6. **Location**
Marilyn checked with the Presbyterian Church. They can't allow groups in according to the COVID mandates. So, churches are out. There is an option to meet in a 45-capacity room at the animal shelter. (For those with allergies, animals are not allowed in this area.) Another

suggestion was at PMS on Broadway. Karen will have to check on these options. Look for location updates in your e-mail or on the website <http://sjaer.org>.

7. Program

We have Jamie Church from the Farmington Chamber of Commerce today. Last month's program suggestions were Project Graduation, The Jazz Society, All Ability Play Park progress. New program idea was Grub-Hub or other delivery services could explain what they do, which businesses are connected with them, and how to make it happen. Karen will ask Sherrie Berringer at SJC and/or Erin McGinley at FMS if one or two of their students could video our program speaker, maybe for credit in their classes. Trish will look into zoom possibilities.

8. Yarn

The yarn was sent to various local media personnel. Sherrie Berringer at SJC. She has agreed to mention SJAER in each exit interview with college retirees. Eugene Schmidt, FMS superintendent, appreciated receiving the YARN. He shared it with Chris Pash in personnel, welcomes future issues, and wishes us well. Jamie Church, Farmington Chamber of Congress, appreciated getting a copy of the YARN.

9. Sunshine

Cards were sent to Kathy Martin, who is home from surgery and Caroline McDonald, who fell and is now at Welbrook. Nancy Tyson will help the Sunshine committee.

10. Scholarship

Saja Foreman has graduated and is teaching kindergarten at Northeast Elementary in Farmington. Suggestion: We should have a picture with a short description of her journey. It could go on the web site <http://sjaer.org>. It might encourage our members to donate to the scholarship fund and other readers to help spread the news of our program.

11. General Meeting

Trish has graciously offered to bring the American flag and hand sanitizer to all our general meetings. Thank you, Karen, for bringing water and donating this month's door prize. (Later at the General meeting, Debbie Klein has offered to bring door prizes for the rest of this year. Thank you.)

12. Other

Echo food bank donations will be discussed sometime in the future.

13. Next Executive Board Meeting

Our next meeting will be at 10:45 am on November 10th. Look for an e-mail or on the web site <http://sjaer.org> for the location.

SJAER General Meeting - 10/13/20 at 11:30 am

Attendance: 21

Welcome/Call to Order - by Karen Morrison at Civitan Park, where we could spread out.

Pledge – Trish Murphy lent us her flag. It has flown over the Capitol in Washington, DC.

Sandy Allred held the flag and Jackie Golombowski led the pledge.

Announcements –

Karen announced the new arrival of our website, <http://sjaer.org>.

She let everyone know that the telephone, insurance, and pre-retirement positions are still open.

She shared the positive response from Dr. Schmidt, FMS, and Sherrie Berringer at San Juan College.

They were happy to receive a copy of the YARN and the opportunity to share it.

Donations to the Scholarship Program may be sent with your dues to Phyllis Meier at 3305 N. Cochiti, Farmington, NM 87401 or donated at the general meetings. Cards were sent to Kathy Martin, who is home from surgery and Caroline McDonald, who fell and is now at Welbrook.

Program – Today’s program was presented by Jamie Church. She gave a positive outlook on what was happening in the area. **The Chamber of Congress offices** have moved to the Quality of Business Center at San Juan College. She encouraged us to look at **the bond issue** <http://www.bondc4nm.com/>. Then she stressed the need for us to **buy from local businesses** instead of on-line or elsewhere, especially during the pandemic. Many of our local businesses are struggling right now. She encouraged us to use their curbside pick-up service or Food Hub deliveries. Our support will help keep local businesses alive. The **“Chile Passport”** is still on! To spread it out the Chile event will last two weeks. People can wear their masks and go to five or more of the ten different locations anytime between Oct.14-Oct.24. Ask to taste their “Chamber Chile”. Chile passports can be printed out at www.gofarmington.com. Vote for your favorite chile at www.gofarmington.com or turn in your vote in at any participating restaurant. The **Professional Women’s Summit** will be a zoom event in November. It has a \$75 registration fee and is open to anyone.

Drawing - Debbie Klein won a set of three tea towels donated by Karen Morrison. Congratulations. Debbie Klein has offered to bring door prizes for the rest of this year. Thank you. Maybe next time you will win.

Next General Meeting will be at 11:30 am on November 10th. Bring someone with you next time. Check your e-mail and the web site <http://sjaer.org> for the location. Stay safe.



NAME	BIRTHDAY
Joan Lewis	Nov 03
Karen Morrison	Nov 06
Dana Park	Nov 08
Ruth Sona	Nov 13
Sharon Farm	Nov 17
Karen Ricketts	Nov 19
Phyllis Meier	Nov 22
Janel Ryan	Nov 24
Vicki Holmsten	Nov 27

*Have a great month ahead! Enjoy!
Be healthy and safe.*