

Your All Retirees Newsletter



2020

Dear Santa,

Hi. It's me, Karen, in Farmington, New Mexico. Remember that list of stuff I sent you for my 2020 Christmas? Well, you can just wad that paper up and give it a toss. I'm eager to get through the last few weeks of this pandemic mess. You probably can't travel this year anyway, so let's just leave things as they are for now...

Boy this year of masks and isolation has really changed the cheery feelings of Christmas time. Makes me think about the past and how I may have taken the holiday for granted. Not anymore!

I've been thinking of traditions and the joys of the season. Sometimes nostalgia is a lovely gift.

Remember trimming the tree, and hanging your stocking on the mantle, bookcase, television stand, or doorframe? I do. At my house, it was just my mom and me, but Christmas morning was a huge deal, and after opening our few gifts, the stockings were remembered and would reveal "the usual." Always an orange, some mixed nuts in the shell, a piece or two of ribbon candy, new toothbrush, toothpaste, a washcloth and there at the bottom in the toe was the dreaded, yet fun to receive, piece of coal! Living in Southern California didn't lend itself to coal-burning stoves and heaters, but my mom found a piece for me every year...or was it the same piece year after year? Hmmm...

Buying, setting up and trimming the tree was so exciting. We had a box of red ornaments to hang on the branches, along with a string of lights and tinsel...remember tinsel? I'd faithfully place one strand at a time on each branch, for about the first 2 or 3 minutes, then impatience got the best of me and I'd just drop clumps of the silvery strings around the tree and voila, done. The string of lights was always sparkly, but when one light burned out, the entire string would go dark. Then my job was to take the replacement bulb, often boring white, and one by one remove a bulb and screw in the replacement. This would go on until the "dead" bulb was replaced and the string of lights would shine on again.

These memories are fun to share and maybe that could make our holiday more cheerful. How about spending some time this month sharing your favorite Christmas memories with your family and friends? A new "tradition" could be a good thing and might make your spirit bright.



SJAER BOARD

PRESIDENT

Karen Morrison

PRESIDENT ELECT

Jackie Golumbowski

PAST PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

TREASURER

Kathy Martin

ASSISTANT

TREASURER

Sandy Allred

SECRETARY

Connie Alley

MEMBERSHIP

Phyllis Meier

PROGRAM

Marilyn Montoya

Karen Morrison

PUBLICITY:

NEWSLETTER

Trish Murphy

PUBLICITY:

WEBSITE

Chuck Culpepper

SUNSHINE

Nancy Tyson

SCHOLARSHIP

Joan Lewis

SOCIAL

Rod Conover

Marlee Conover

SJRM

REPRESENTATIVE

Karen Morrison

SJAER Meetings

SJAER meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am.

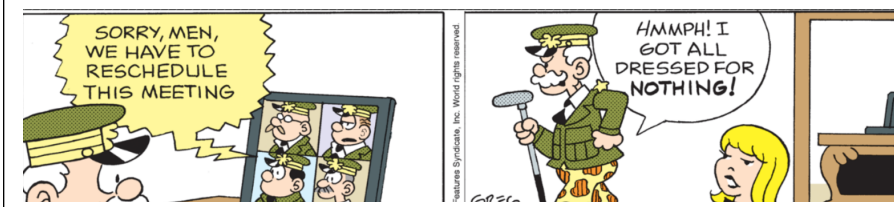
This month, December 8, 2020, it will be a Zoom meeting. Here is the link to it. Join the meeting by clicking here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87265990121?pwd=QXd1RWNVdUhGRndCLy9DaHZVSXZlZz09>

If you are uncertain how to navigate Zoom, an informative slideshow can be accessed on the SJAER website: <http://SJAER.org>

Each month, for time being, check your email or the website for the latest details concerning SJAER meetings. They may be Zoom only, in-person only, or both Zoom and in-person.

The last meeting, November 10, 2020, was both in-person and Zoom. Unlike the cartoon below, it was a total success, thanks to our Zoom “host extraordinaire,” Chuck Culpepper.



“To-do” Checklist for Members



1. Send a holiday card to Namaste House resident. See page 10 of this newsletter for details.
2. Send your volunteer hours to Trish (trishshsh@live.com). See page 10 of this newsletter for details.
3. Pay your SJAER annual dues if you haven't yet. Get the payment form on page 12 of the Sept/Oct YARN, sent to you by email and also found at <http://SJAER.org>
4. Read the Constitution/Bylaws in this YARN, so you can be prepared to vote for approval or discussion at Jan. meeting.
5. Donate to our scholarship fund (see page 6 of this YARN).
6. Have a **Merry Christmas** and **Happy New Year!**



SJAER

SAN JUAN ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL RETIREES

Here is the 3rd (and final) 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 November issue for the 2nd in the series.

Hello, I am Nancy Tyson. I had the pleasure of becoming VP of this great Retired Teachers Association approximately a year ago. I started my teaching career after graduating from Fort Lewis College in 1970. I began my teaching adventure at Atrisco Elementary in Albuquerque's South Valley that September. I taught at Atrisco until December of 1972. I decided to leave my teaching position to be a stay at home mom. We remained in Albuquerque until my husband took a new job in Lewisville, Kentucky in 1978. We lived in Kentucky for a short time before he was transferred to Dallas, Texas, where we lived until 1985. My husband and I decided it was time to make the move back to New Mexico with our four children (all boys...go figure). We ultimately decided to make our permanent home in Farmington, NM.

So, after a 15-year break from teaching I decided it was time to go back. I landed a teaching position at McCormick Elementary teaching the second grade. I had the pleasure of having three of my children attend McCormick with me throughout my time there...now that was an experience! Teaching was so very different from what I was used to so many years before. There was a rather large adjustment that was made, not only for my family, but for me as well. New teaching methods, new content, larger student numbers, and a whole new philosophy of teaching from what I had been used to was, well, a bit overwhelming to say the least. My sons helped me adjust, and the McCormick staff became like family. I stayed at McCormick for 22 years. I decided to take an early retirement to spend time with my Husband (Bill), who had been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease. Teaching was most certainly a great way to share life with work and family! After my retirement, and throughout my teaching career, I had the opportunity to see my former students grow into amazing adults, and do great things. I wouldn't trade that for anything in the world. As I tell my friends and family, I never made it past Second Grade!

Christmas Cookie Facts

1. If you eat a Christmas cookie fresh out of the oven, it has no calories because everyone knows that the first cookie is the test cookie and thus calorie free.
2. If a friend comes over while you are making cookies and needs to sample, you must sample with your friend. Because your friend's first cookie is calorie free (see Fact #1), yours is also.
3. Any calories consumed during the frosting of the Christmas cookies will be used up because it takes many calories to lick excess frosting from the knife without cutting your tongue.
4. Cookies colored red or green have very few calories. Red ones have 3, and green ones have 5 – one for each letter. Hint: make more red cookies.
5. Cookies eaten while watching "Miracle on 34th Street" have no calories because they are part of the entertainment package and not part of one's personal fuel intake.
6. Any cookie consumed from someone else's plate have no calories because the calories rightfully belong to the other person.
7. Any cookies consumed while feeling stressed have no calories because cookies used for medicinal purposes never have calories. It's a fact!



SJAER Executive Board Meeting 11-10-20 Minutes

Members present: Karen Morrison, Laura Busch, Chuck Culpepper, Phyllis Meier, Marilyn Montoya, Nancy Tyson, and Joan Lewis. **Members present by zoom:** Jackie Golombowski, Sandy Allred, and Trish Murphy.

Meeting was called to order at 10:34am at Artifacts.

- **The minutes** written in the YARN were read and approved. M/S/P Laura/Phyllis
- **Legislative Report:** Chuck will be monitoring the legislative action, but does not think there will be any action on the salary issue until the full legislative body meets in January.
- **Telephone Committee:** Karen thanked Jackie for calling the list gathered that do not have internet connections. Jackie reported that she got 3 disconnects and 1 wrong number. She will call them again next month. Jackie will e-mail her notes to Phyllis to update the master list.
- **We will keep the phone committee** for those without e-mails.
- **Zoom meetings:** The December meeting will be a zoom. Currently Chuck uses his personal account with unlimited minutes for our zoom meetings, but his account expires in the spring, so if we are still having to restrict our meetings due to COVID, we will need to revisit the possible need to purchase a zoom account. This decision was tabled until spring.
- **Meeting Locations:** At this time, we will continue to meet at Artifacts and by Zoom.
- **Secretary Report:** The secretary report was printed in the YARN. Karen shared that Connie will post the changes and updated recommendations to the Constitution and Bylaws made by the Constitution Committee. It is hoped that these changes can start at the new year.
- **Treasurer report:** The treasurer report was listed in the YARN. No changes or corrections were given.
- **Web Site:** Chuck will continue to manage the web site. It was suggested we post the web site page on face book regularly to remind members to check it.
- **Membership:** Phyllis reported dues are still coming in but very slowly. She passed around the membership letters she had returned and asked if anyone at the meeting knew anything about how to contact those members.
- **Programs:** Marilyn reported she has been slow about setting up programs, since the regulations about gatherings change almost weekly. She will contact the program ideas she has and will see if they would be willing to either record their program or do a live zoom program in the future.
- Phyllis volunteered to bring their projector and screen to meetings so the zoom can be seen by all in physical attendance.
- **YARN:** Trish did another outstanding job for the YARN.
- **Sunshine:** The board approved a project to write cards to residents at Namaste House Assisted Living. Names are not provided, only gender and room number. The address for Namaste House will be listed in the YARN and on the web site. (NH- 800 W 30th, Farmington, NM 87401)
- **Scholarship:** The scholarship recipient is currently teaching in the Farmington district.
- **Social:** No report.
- **SJAER Logo:** The committee has looked at different designs for a new SJAER logo. There are a couple that are being fine-tuned for us to pursue. It will be used for the YARN, website, etc.

Next Executive meeting will be at 10:30 on Dec. 8th. The zoom code will be e-mailed and will be posted on the web site.



SJAER General Meeting 11-10-2020 Minutes

Meeting called to order by President Karen Morrison at Artifacts, and all were welcomed and thanked for coming.

- Phyllis Meier held the flag and led the pledge by zoom.
- There were 12 members in attendance and 5 attended by zoom. We were all happy to see Kathy Martin. Get Well wishes for continued progress.
- Everyone there was asked to introduce themselves and tell where they taught or worked.
- Debbie Klein gave a short presentation on a fund-raising project the Aztec Kiwanis club is doing. It is called "Kiwanis Yard Kards". The club will put up a large card in front yards for special occasions: i.e.: Happy Birthday, Thank you, etc. She handed out a sheet that listed the pricing. If you are interested, you can contact Debbie at (505) 330-4631.
- Marilyn Taylor then gave tours to groups of 5 around the studio.



Name	Birthday
Victoria Schmidt	Dec 03
Wilda Janet Kittell	Dec 06
Mona G. Gonzales	Dec 12
Jodi Dragony	Dec 18
Zelith M. Overlin	Dec 20
Frances Cooper	Dec 21
Diann Dye	Dec 21
Joyce K. Johnson	Dec 23
Teresa G. Lasley	Dec 24
Emma Weaver	Dec 25
Suzanne M. Fisher	Dec 26
Nancy E. Dunn	Dec 29

Legislative Report

Submitted by Chuck Culpepper

The 2021 Legislative Session will be sixty days long and will run from Noon January 19, 2021 until Noon March 20, 2021. The Governor will have until April 8 to sign or veto bills. All bills unsigned after April 8 will automatically be pocket vetoed. Legislation may be pre-filed starting January 4 and ending January 15. As bills are pre-filed, we will get a better idea of what the possible impacts will be on education and educational retirees.



Financial Report for November 2020
Laura Busch, Substitute Treasurer

DATE	CK#	EXPLANATION	PURPOSE	EXPENSES	DEPOSIT	BALANCE
		Beginning balance				\$3111.10
11/10/20	3252	Karen Morrison		36.43		3074.67
11/10/20		Deposit	dues		10.00	3084.67
11/10/20		Deposit	dues		260.00	3344.67
11/20/30	3253	NMAER	dues	180.00		3164.67
11/12/20	3254	Trish Murphy	printing	10.00		3154.67
11/25/20	3254	Mattie Kannard	logo	50.00		3104.67
		TOTALS		\$276.43	\$270.00	
		Cash \$70.00				\$3174.67

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	2	6	8
Dec	6	1	7
Jan			
Feb			
Mar			
Apr			
May			
TOTAL	21	29	55



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	Christine Ann Carter	11/2/2020

SJAER Constitution and Bylaws REVIEW

SJAER is governed by its Constitution and Bylaws. According to the Bylaws, they should be reviewed periodically for possible changes. Any proposed changes are to be brought before the membership by way of the YARN newsletter. After doing so, the membership meets to discuss and vote on the changes. According to the Constitution and Bylaws, the voting is done at the meeting following the presentation in the YARN.

The Constitution Committee met this Fall, presenting some proposed changes. The proposed new Constitution and Bylaws are printed, in full, below. Where changes were proposed, the old version (or explanation) is set in parenthesis, italics and underlined next to it, so you can see the “proposed and (old)” versions side-by-side, to compare items for discussion and voting. Please read these, and be prepared to discuss and vote on them at the next meeting: January 2021. Thank you!

San Juan Association of Educational Retirees CONSTITUTION January 2021

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the San Juan Association of Educational Retirees, in order that the Association may serve as the voice for educational retirees and work for the benefit of retired members to preserve and improve their economic and health care benefits, monitor legislation regarding retirement issues, (“provide training designed to ensure participation on pension boards” was deleted) develop social activities and programs (“programs” replaces the word “seminars”) consistent with retirees’ interests, work for the advancement of education and the improvement of instructional opportunities for all, support educational issues for the benefit of active and retired members, function as a representative body to speak with authority for the members, establish cooperation with the educational community including its affiliates, do hereby adopt this Constitution.

ARTICLE I. NAME, GOALS, AND OBJECTIVES, GOVERNANCE, AND AFFILIATION

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the San Juan Association of Educational Retirees; hereafter referred to as SJAER or “the Association”.

Section 2. Goals and Objectives. The goals of SJAER shall be as stated in the Preamble. The Association shall have all power necessary and proper to take action for the attainment of these goals. Nothing in this constitution or in the Bylaws shall be construed to prevent the Association from pursuing objectives which are consistent with the stated goals of the Association.

Section 3. Governance. The SJAER shall be governed by this Constitution, the Bylaws, (“the Standing Rules” was deleted) and such other actions as its membership or Executive Committee may take consistent therewith.

Section 4. Affiliation. The SJAER shall be an affiliate of the New Mexico Association of Educational Retirees and the National Retired Teachers Association, a division of AARP.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to any person who was/is employed in a school, college, university, educational institution or agency upon payment of the SJAER annual dues. Each member shall have equal rights and privileges within the organization, including but not limited to the right to vote and to hold elective/appointive positions. The non-educator spouse of a member may become a member upon payment of the SJAER annual dues, but will not be eligible to hold an elective office.

ARTICLE III. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Section 1. Executive Officers. The Executive Officers shall consist of President, (“President-Elect” was deleted) Immediate Past President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer.

Section 2. Standing Committees. The Standing Committees shall consist of Program, Membership, Legislative, Publicity, Telephone, Courtesy, Social, and Scholarship. (Insurance, Pre-Retirement, and Newsletter Committees were deleted. Note: the YARN newsletter is proposed to be part of the Publicity Committee.)

Section 3. Election of Officers. The elected officers of the Association shall serve for terms of one year and may be re-elected.

ARTICLE IV. RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Constitution shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of this Association. (Here is the complete old version: “The rules contained in the ‘The New Robert’s Rules of Order Current Edition’ shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the rules of order or the By-Laws of the Association.”)

ARTICLE V. AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended by a majority of the members voting at a meeting, provided such proposed amendment(s) have been presented to the membership in printed form in the YARN at the preceding monthly meeting.

San Juan Association of Educational Retirees BYLAWS January 2021

ARTICLE 1 – MEMBERSHIP DUES

- 1.1 The SJAER annual dues rate can be changed by recommendation of the Executive Committee, with the approval of the membership.
- 1.2 Annual membership dues may be paid by cash or by personal check.

ARTICLE II – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin January 1 of each year and end December 31 of each year.

ARTICLE III – TERMS OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Terms of elected officers shall begin and end in May, after officers are installed. (Replaces: “Terms of elected officers shall begin on July 1 and end June 30 of each calendar year.”)

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

4.1 Powers and Duties of the President.

The President shall represent the Association as its official voice to the members and to the public. In addition, the President shall be responsible for: developing and overseeing the budget, presiding over regular and special meetings, developing the agenda for regular and special meetings, appointing committee members, regular and ad hoc, with the approval of the Executive Committee, serving ex officio on all committees, leading and assisting in the promotion of the Association, performing other duties as agreed upon with the Executive Committee.

(In Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution, it is proposed to delete the Office of President Elect. The old version stated its powers and duties were: “The President Elect shall perform such duties as directed by the President and the Executive Committee.”)

4.2 Powers and Duties of the Immediate Past President

The Immediate Past President shall perform duties for the Association on request of the President and the Executive Committee.

4.3 Powers and Duties of the Vice President

The Vice Past (Editor Note: I think the word “Past” here is a typo and should be deleted.) President shall perform duties as directed by the President and the Executive Committee.

4.4 Powers and Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall have the primary duty of keeping the minutes and records of the meetings of the Executive Committee and regular meetings. Additional duties shall be those agreed upon with the President and the Executive Committee.

4.5 Powers and Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer shall provide a detailed report of budget receipts and expenditures to the Executive Committee and the membership. The Treasurer shall present the books for audit at the end of the fiscal period. An Audit Committee shall be appointed by the President at the January meeting. The committee shall make its report at the April meeting. The Treasurer shall perform other duties as assigned.

4.6 Powers and Duties of the Assistant Treasurer

The Assistant Treasurer shall assist the Treasurer in all duties as specified above. The Assistant Treasurer shall perform other duties as assigned.

4.7 Executive Committee Quorum

A quorum shall be a majority of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V – STANDING COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

Standing committees shall be established to meet program goals for the Association and to ensure participation and representation from the membership at large.

5.1 Duties of the Program Committee

The Program Committee shall secure program presenters for each monthly meeting.

5.2 Duties of the Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall be responsible for the renewal and recruitment of members. The Pre-Retirement representative shall prepare and deliver information about SJAER to educational institutions in our area. (The last

sentence here is an addition; it was not in the old version. It was added here because in the old Constitution, Article III, Section 2, the Pre-Retirement Committee is being proposed to be deleted so its duties are being incorporated into the Membership Committee here.)

5.3 Duties of the Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee shall be responsible for lobbying legislators and informing members of pending bills at the state level that may affect our retirement, health care, or be of interest for the well-being of our members.

(Replaces this old version: "The Legislative Committee shall be responsible for developing and recommending the legislative agenda, for informing members of pending bills, and for lobbying legislators.")

5.4 Duties of the Publicity Committee

The Publicity Committee shall make reports provided by the Executive Board and Standing Committees available to the members. THE YARN representative will prepare the newsletter, send it to the website representative, and distribute it at monthly meetings. The Website representative will post THE YARN and other information that supports our association on the SJAER website. (Replaces this old version: "The Publicity Committee shall be responsible for notification of meetings through the local media.")

5.5 Duties of the Telephone Committee

The Telephone Committee shall be responsible for calling members who do not have an e-mail address or who indicated to be called on their registration form. They will relay meeting reminders and important issues of concern.

(Replaces this old version: "The Telephone Committee shall be responsible for calling membership for meeting reminders and important issues of concern to the membership.")

5.6 Duties of the Courtesy Committee

The Courtesy/Sunshine Committee shall send cards to members who are ill or bereaved. The Courtesy/ "In Memoriam" shall submit names of members who have passed to the Yarn and the state. (Replaces this old version: "The Courtesy Committee shall send cards to members who are ill or bereaved."). (Editor Note: Re-word 2nd sentence for grammar? The Courtesy/In Memoriam Committee shall submit names of deceased members to the YARN and to the State.)

5.7 Duties of the Social Committee

The Social Committee shall be responsible of social functions at general membership meetings and other social activities.

5.8 Duties of the Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee shall promote and oversee the SJAER Scholarship Fund. (Deleted: "at San Juan College") (Note: In the old version of the Constitution, Article III, Section 2, it listed the Newsletter Committee, the Insurance Committee, and the Pre-Retirement Committee, all of which the recent ad hoc Constitution Review Committee proposes to delete. Duties of these committees as stated in the old version of the Constitution are as follows: "The Newsletter Committee shall prepare and distribute THE YARN at the monthly meetings. The Committee shall also prepare and distribute the Yearbook." "The Insurance Committee shall monitor and report current information and changes relative the Retiree Health Care Authority." "The Pre-Retirement Committee shall prepare and deliver pre-retirement information.")

ARTICLE VI – ELECTION

6.1 The President shall select a nominating committee by the January meeting which shall present a slate of officers to the membership at the regular meeting in March. Nominations from the floor shall be accepted if the nominee has agreed to serve.

6.2 Voting shall be by a show of hands at the March meeting.

6.3 Officers shall be installed and take office in May.

6.4 Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the President and with the approval of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII – FISCAL ACCOUNTABILITY

7.1 An annual audit shall be conducted by an appointed committee after the close of the fiscal year.

7.2 No expenditure shall be made by an association officer unless it is within the scope of the budget or has been approved by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote, ("by a majority vote" replaces the old version: "by a majority of the members voting at a meeting") provided such proposed amendment(s) have been presented to the membership in printed form in THE YARN at the preceding meeting. The Bylaws shall be reviewed every five years.

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the membership shall be held September through May on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at a place designated by the president. (The End)



Namaste House Assisted Living

The SJAER Executive Board has designated Namaste House as a special “community service” project for our organization. All members are encouraged to send a greeting card to a resident every once in a while. You may send one card at a time, or send multiple cards in a big envelope, to save postage. Cards can be sent at any time, but holiday times are most appreciated. (Hint: after Christmas, there’s Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Easter, etc.). If your card is particularly suited for a man, address it to Namaste House Male Resident; or a woman: Namaste House Female Resident. Otherwise, just address it to:

Namaste House, Resident
800 W. 30th Street
Farmington, NM. 87401

Currently, there are 5 men and 8 women there. Because of privacy concerns, we are not given their names, but the staff will distribute the cards appropriately. Many of these wonderful people live lonely lives, especially during this pandemic, so your cheerful greetings will be a blessing to them. SJAER will take these residents under our wings as a special community service project.

By the way, any hours that you spend on this can be counted as “volunteer hours” to be reported to SJAER, which in turns reports to the State. See “**Volunteer Hours**” on this page.

Volunteer Hours

Part of the mission statement of the NMAER (as stated on their website) is to “encourage volunteer opportunities in the community.” We follow in their footsteps and keep track of all the volunteer hours of our members. We cannot do this without your ongoing participation. So, ANYTHING that you do in the community whether it’s educational, political, service-oriented, church-related or other, keep track of your hours. If you provide any kind of care-giving, track those hours separately, and then report all your hours to Trish Murphy at:

trishshsh@live.com

We report our hours to the State NMAER, who give out awards (general awards and separate awards for care-giving) at the annual convention in September. Additionally, a “check” is presented to the Governor every year, representing educational retirees’ voluntary contributions to our communities.

For ideas about organizations in which you can be become involved, see page 1 of the November **2019** YARN, easily accessed at:

<http://SJAER.org>

Also, google San Juan College Volunteer Center and Farmington NM City Volunteer for suggestions and contacts of places looking for volunteers.

Even during the pandemic, people are finding ways to volunteer. Be creative. Don’t be shy about reporting – every hour counts. YOU count, and YOU make a difference!



CORPORATION REPORT, OCTOBER 2020

Submitted by Karen Morrison, SJAER Representative

A recent \$42.5 million municipal bond refunding/refinancing for the hospital has led to a savings of \$1.5 million in interest expense for the community.

This new initiative has allowed the hospital to purchase a new fixed wing aircraft for AirCare aeromedical services. Monies also allowed for the purchase of 154 new, state-of-the-art patient beds for the medical, surgical nephrology, critical care unit and the childbirth center. These new beds increase patient safety and comfort, allow for easier mobility, include state-of-the-art mattresses to prevent skin break down and convenient in-bed scales to help expedite work for the nursing staff.

A Platinum Award was presented to SJRMC from the U.S. Department of Health, for its efforts to increase organ, eye and tissue donor registrations in New Mexico's Donor Registry.

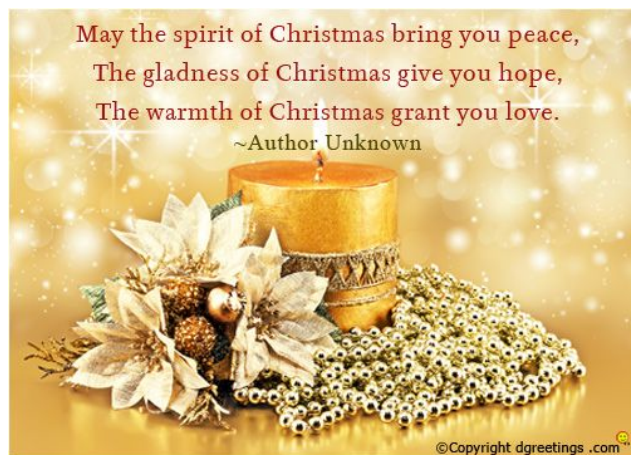
Another award was presented by the NM Hospital Association for improving the Nursing Workflow process allowing an increase in caregiver time at the bedside and improving patient safety and quality of care, as well as staff satisfaction.

SJRMC has exceeded 500 COVID19 discharges. Each patient discharged is celebrated as well as honoring and recognizing the caregivers who provide these lifesaving services.

COVID19 continues to have a significant, negative impact on the hospital. Through the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2021, SJRMC received approximately \$7.6 million in CARES Act provider relief funding to offset both direct expenses and lost revenues attributable to the pandemic. The Emergency Department was hit the hardest in lost income, but the general finance picture in total looks steady. Whether or not pre-pandemic capital income levels will return remains to be seen.

Eleven new physicians have joined the hospital staff: 5 Hospitalists, 2 Pediatricians, a Cardiologist, Nurse Midwife, Physician Assistant, and a Nurse Anesthetist. We welcome them all.

(Editor note: This report was sent shortly after their last meeting, and after our last meeting, some time ago, so some of the statistics may not be up-to-date in this ever-changing world. Continued quarterly reports will be forthcoming. Much information about SJRMC is on their website: <https://www.sanjuanregional.com>.)





Dec. 8 – 7:00-9:00 pm -- San Juan College virtual choir concert “How Can I Keep from Singing.” This can be viewed via streaming at:

www.sanjuancollege.edu/student-showcase

www.facebook.com/SanJuanCollege and

www.facebook.com/ksje90.9

Dec. 11 – 7:00-9:00 pm – San Juan College Orchestra “Music Department Student Showcase.” This virtual concert can be view via streaming at the same 3 websites posted above.

Dec. 11th – Supposedly, Chevel Shepherd, local country music celebrity, has a new Christmas album that goes on sale Dec. 11th. Her website has a “Store” tab where you can order merchandise. That album isn’t listed there yet.

Dec. 19 – 7:00 pm – Bar D Wranglers Christmas at Home, online event. See their Facebook page.

Dec. 21 – Sunset -- Rare astronomical event: Jupiter and Saturn will align for the first time since 1623! This planetary conjunction should be bright in the southwestern sky, just after sunset, for only a couple of hours. The famous astronomer Johannes Kepler theorized this remarkable alignment may also have been the “Bethlehem Star” because it converged also roughly around the time period of 7 BC.

Dec. 23 – 6:00-8:00 pm -- Live Nativity drive-by at Four Corners Home for Children, 2103 West Main. Free, but donations of canned food items gladly appreciated. Call 505-325-0255 or 888-325-0255 to confirm.

Dec. 24, 25, 27 – 7:00 pm – “A Christmas Carol” presented by KSJE and Theater Arts Ensemble. See their Facebook page.

Dec. 24 – Jan. 1 – 5:00-8:00 pm -- Online Event: Nutcracker presented by Hudson Valley Philharmonic ad New Baltz Ballet Theater.

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BardavonPresents/videos>

Check the websites of museums, libraries, cities and colleges for constantly changing events and schedules.



Who We Are: We are a dynamic group of retirees who have worked in many different capacities of San Juan County schools. We promote the quality of life of our members by helping to protect our State pensions and health care benefits, and also providing social activities and programming.