

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 2023

Welcome Spring,

I think we are all the beneficiaries of a really mean April Fool's joke. As I sit here writing this, on April 4th, it is windy and SNOWING. Having grown up in Farmington, I know there have been times we have had snow on Easter, but usually it was a fast moving storm, not one that just stayed for the entire month. My wild apricot tree is sitting there with its buds ready to flower, and then another cold snap comes along. We have lived in our house for 20+ years and have only gotten apricots 2 times.

I hope for those who celebrate Easter, that yours was wonderful. In our family, we have our big Easter family gathering on Palm Sunday. Our granddaughters and now great gran-kids come out for lunch. Afterward, the kids go outside to throw confetti eggs at each other. They laugh and run around the yard catching each other and smashing the eggs which rain down confetti on each other. How I wish you could hear the laughter and giggles as they "sneak" up on Grandad and pummel him with confetti. These are memories they are making of family time and will last their lifetimes. Family memories are what carry us from childhood to adulthood, and then into our golden years.

Remember, our next meeting is our last for the year and will be our picnic.

Marilyn





Send in your dues now, or ask a friend to join. Enjoy monthly programs, and support activities that enhance the lives of San Juan County retirees who receive a pension check from the ERB.

SJAER BOARD

PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

VICE PRESIDENT

Karen Morrison

PAST PRESIDENT

Karen Morrison

TREASURER

Kathy Martin

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Sandy Allred

SECRETARY

Connie Alley

MEMBERSHIP

Phyllis Meier

PROGRAMS

Karen Morrison

PUBLICITY: NEWSLETTER

Debbie Klein

PUBLICITY: WEBSITE

Chuck Culpepper

SUNSHINE

Nancy Tyson

SCHOLARSHIP

Jim Conyers

SJRM C REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Morrison

Jim Conyers



2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____

Social Security _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

County _____

Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

E-Mail Address _____

Birthday _____

Would you like to receive a reminder call before each meeting? NO YES

_____ I hereby authorize the Educational Retirement Board to deduct NMAER **state** dues from my retirement check in the amount of \$2.50 a month. I understand this authorization makes me a continuing member of the association and can be canceled only by a written notice from me.

_____ Already on **automatic state** dues.

_____ \$30.00 enclosed for annual **state** dues.

_____ \$10.00 enclosed for annual **local** dues.

_____ \$5.00 enclosed for **associate** dues.

Signature of Retiree

Date: _____

Make checks payable to SJAER.

Mail to: SJAER Membership Chair, Phyllis Meier, 3305 N. Cochiti, Farmington, NM 87401 (505)-320-7536

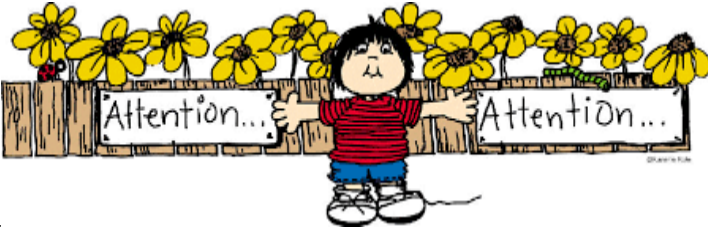
(Dues are Not tax deductible)

Sponsored by **Phyllis Meier**

Unit Sponsored by **San Juan AER**

April Program

Our program for Tuesday, April 11 will be Joan Monninger, Director, and/or Debbie Klein, board member and volunteer of the Aztec Museum. They will highlight new and returning events for the upcoming museum season. Meeting will be at No Worries Bar & Grill @ Farmington Airport.



New SJAER Project

There are a surprising number of high school students living on their own or even homeless. A pantry has been set up to provide food, toiletries, and other basic needs for these students. Members are asked to support this project by bringing items to our meetings which will be given to the counselors running the pantry. Nonperishable, easy fix, microwavable food items, hygiene items, feminine products, etc. are needed to support these students and keep them in school. Let's help them out!

SJAER Meetings

SJAER meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. The meetings will be at No Worries Bar and Grill located at Farmington Airport. A couple of \$8 or \$10 specials may be available or members can order off the menu when they arrive.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

SPEELMAN, BETTY	1-Apr
GALLEGOS, SHARON	9-Apr
SCRIVER, JOAN	17-Apr
GUNNINK, PEGGY J	29-Apr

Another New SJAER Project

Paul Pavlick with **Threads** is looking for donations and volunteers. **Threads** (the High School Panty partner) collects clothes, toiletries, and laundry soap for students living on their own or homeless. It is located in the old Farmington Administration Building at 20th and Dustin. Donations may be dropped off during operating hours: Mon 11:45-1:30 and Thurs 3:00-4:30. They also need volunteers.

Join or Renew Your Membership



2022/2023 Membership Report

	AUTO	NMAER	SJAER
SEPTEMBER	9	13	23
OCTOBER	9	2	11
NOVEMBER	0	2	2
DECEMBER	0	0	1
JANUARY	1	1	1
FEBRUARY	1	2	3
MARCH	0	1	2
APRIL	0	0	0
MAY			
TOTAL	20	21	43

See page 2 for 2022-2023 Membership form.



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SJAER Executive Board Meeting 3-14-23
10:45 am at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill

Board Members Present: President-Marilyn Montoya, Vice President/Programs-Karen Morrison, Secretary-Connie Alley, Treasurer-Kathy Martin, Asst., Membership-Phyllis Meier, Volunteer Hours/Memorandum-Trish Murphy, Sunshine-Nancy Tyson, Scholarship/SJRMC Rep.-James Conyer. **Absent:** Treasurer-Sandy Allred, YARN-Debbie Klein, and Webmaster/Legislative Rep.-Chuck Culpepper.

Meeting was called to order by Marilyn Montoya. Agendas were provided.

Committee Reports

- **February 14, 2023 minutes** - The amount of money in the scholarship funds were corrected.
- **Treasurer report:** was accepted
- **Membership:** We have 43 paid members.
- **Programs:** Arvin Trujillo, CEO of Four Corners Economic Development is our presenter today.
- **Scholarship:** San Juan College will email our scholarship information and application to their students who applied for student teaching in the Fall. The recipient will receive \$700 in September.
- **SJRH:** James will attend their next meeting in the end of April.
- **Sunshine:** Nancy received a donation of \$40 for purchasing stamps.
- **YARN:** Thank you to Debbie for getting the YARN ready before her vacation.
- **Legislation:**

Old Business

- **Outstanding Unit Member:** The honoree will need to submit a 350-word biography and photograph. We need to turn this information in by June 15th.
- **Presidents Conference in Albuquerque:** James will attend.
- **Silent Auction:** The beautiful framed photograph by Kerry Meier was present for previewing. It will be auctioned off at the May meeting. Get your silent bids entered.
- **FHS Student Pantry:** Food donations taken to the FHS councilor were so appreciated. We found out that PVHS also has a Student Pantry. The food will be split between FHS and PVHS.

New Business

- **Slate of Officers for 2023-2024:**
 - President & SJRH Rep. – James Conyers
 - Vice President – Marilyn Montoya
 - Secretary – Connie Alley
 - Treasurer – Kathy Martin
 - Assistant Treasurer – Sandy Allred
 - Membership – Phyllis Meier
 - Programs – Karen Morrison
 - YARN – Debbie Klein
 - **Scholarship – need someone**
 - Legislative & Social Committee – Chuck Culpepper
- **May Social** is going to be on May 9th. It can be held at the museum or at a park with a \$20.00 reservation fee. More details will be discussed at the April 11th meeting.

Community Announcements

- **The City of Farmington Docent program** is looking for volunteers to help at the museums, Nature Center, etc.
- **Paul Pavlick with Threads** is looking for volunteers. This is the clothing and hygiene portion partner to the High School Pantry programs. It is located in the old Farmington Administration Building.

Next Meeting – 10:45 am Tuesday April 11, 2023 at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill.

General Meeting 3-14-23

11:30 am at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill

20 members and 1 guest

General Meeting: Opening - Marilyn Montoya, Pledge – Kit and granddaughter, Prayer - Marilyn

Business:

- **Welcome**
- **Slate of Officers for 2023-2024:** approved
- **Our Outstanding Member** will be announced in May. Turn in your suggestions.
- **Membership:** Kit is moving to Oklahoma to be closer to her family.
- **FHS Student Pantry** sends many, many, many thanks for our donations. Food collected next month will be split between FHS and PVHS Student Pantries.
- **Threads** (the school panty partner) collects clothes, toiletries, and laundry soap. It is located in the Old Administration Building. Donations may be dropped off during operating hours. Operating hours are M 11:45-1:30 and TH 3:00-4:30. They are in need of volunteers.
- **Docents** (volunteers) are needed at the museums, Nature Center, etc.
- **Community Announcements**
 1. **Corn Hole** events take place in Suite A by Hobby Lobby. They need volunteers for their competition on May 25th. If you would like to play there is a \$25.00 registration fee. They have beginners and advanced categories. There is a \$300.00 prize.
 2. **Caliente** is having a concert at the 1st Presbyterian Church on March 28 at 6:30. \$15/ticket.
 3. **Bonnie Dallas Center** is holding the Senior Olympics on Friday, March 17. Contact them for more information.
- **Silent Auction:** The beautiful framed photograph by Kerry Meier was present for previewing. It will be auctioned off at the May meeting. Get your silent bids entered.
- **Scholarship Share the Bucket:** We raised \$40 for our Scholarship fund and the \$40 winner was Kit.

Guest Speaker: **Arvin Trujillo, CEO of Four Corners Economic Development Corporation**

- Arvin had an organized PowerPoint presentation looking at Farmington's future.
- The power plant is set to close in 2031.
- They are looking at business retention & expansion, targeted industries, workforce capacity, market data analysis, and community efforts.
- They meet every 2 weeks for breakfast, 7:30-9:00.
- You can get more information and sign up for their news letter at <https://www.4cornersed.com/>.

Next Meeting – 11:30 am April 11, 2023 at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill.

In Memoriam 2022-2023



Jesse Chapman. 5/14/40 - 3/2/23. Aztec. Taught at Koogler Junior High and tutored at SJC. Former SJAER member.

Robert (Bob) McCarty. 12/12/47 – 3/7/23. Farmington. Grad of FHS, taught and coached in Kansas, then moved back to be active in FHS Booster Club.

Robert Maxwell. 9/22/71 – 3/12/23. Bloomfield. Taught Fire Science at SJC.

Lois Fielder. 1/20/47 – 3/17/23. Bloomfield. Taught kindergarten and first grade in Bloomfield for 28 years. Former SJAER member.

Antoinette Dixon. 3/16/75 – 3/18/23. Kirtland. NMSU Trio Upward Bound Program in Las Cruces for 25 years.

James Lee. 10/21/33 – 3/18/23. Bloomfield. Taught in Lybrook & Denehotso, school psychologist in Ft. Defiance, school counselor in Dziłth Na O Dith Hle and Bloomfield. Former SJAER member.

Calvin Lynn Wood. 9/22/26 – 3/20/23. Aztec. Taught woodshop, drafting, PE and coached at Aztec High School for 36 years. Former SJAER member.

Mary Ann Thompson. 11/19/26 – 3/22/23. Farmington. Taught high school in Michigan, and was a librarian at Farmington's Sacred Heart School.



MEETING DATES 2022-2023 No Worries Bar & Grill Mark your calendars!	
October 11, 2022	Tammy Riser – Educator to Encore Coffee Shop Owner
November 8, 2022	Cathy McDonald - 30 years of school nurse supervising & training
December 13, 2022	Tom Swenk, Director of Human Resources City of Farmington Robyn Woodard & Amber Swenk - holiday music & sing along
January 10, 2023	Marilyn Taylor - professional artist and world traveler - will paint while speaking and offer finished painting for sale
February 14, 2023	Ron Price - Equipping People to Play Nice in Their Sandbox
March 14, 2023	Arvin Trujillo – CEO of Four Corners Economic Development Corporation
April 11, 2023	Joan Monninger/Debbie Klein Events at the Aztec Museum for 2023 season.
May 9, 2023 Location to be announced.	TBD

Treasurer's Report
 Account Balance \$2593.42
 Scholarship \$602.00
 Bring cash and donate to the
 scholarship fund.



Month 2021-2022	Volunteer Hours
September	472
October	520
November	586
December	250
January	297
February	334
March	348
April	
Summer, etc	
Total	2807

There are two ways to submit your hours. If you attend the monthly meetings, enter your hours in the designated space on the sign sheet at the meeting. You may also submit your hours by emailing: trishshsh@live.com at any time. Once you send in your hours, please don't duplicate them in your next report– a running total will be kept until August 31, 2023.

This project of our State organization is one of our signature projects, bringing attention to our legislature the value of retirees in New Mexico. That has helped the legislators know how important we are in contributing (for free!) to the well-being our fellow citizens. Let's keep up the good work this year. Thanks.

SJAER PROJECTS

If you know of community people, projects, or news that would make an interesting SJAER meeting program, please contact Karen Morrison (klm3@earthlink.net).

If you know of members who have been ill or have experienced the loss of a loved one, please contact Courtesy/Sunshine Chair Nancy Tyson (ntyson@dives-2-little.com). SJAER will send a card.

Take a copy of the YARN and use it to invite a friend to join SJAER.

Greeting Cards

Please take time out to send a cheerful greeting card to a resident at Namaste House, a local assisted living facility which we have “adopted” for the time being. You may address your card as follows: Namaste House, Resident 800 W. 30th Street. Farmington, NM. 87401

Final Legislative update from Russell Goff

TOTAL BILLS, MEMORIALS & RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED, INCLUDING DUMMY BILLS: 1294

TOTAL BILLS PASSED IN BOTH CHAMBERS: 387

TOTAL BILLS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR TO DATE: 26

Here are some key highlights of the session:

- > Tax package that includes rebates of \$500 per taxpayer.
- > Approval of Statewide Capital Outlay projects for near \$1.2 billion.
- > Raise max possible potential pension benefit for public employees.
- > Automatic voter registration when obtaining a Driver's license.
- > Restore felons' right to vote when they leave incarceration.
- > Legislation that makes it a crime to fail to store firearms out of children's reach.
- > Revise medical malpractice law to assist independent clinics.
- > Prohibit life sentences without the possibility of parole for juveniles.
- > Offer free lunch for all K-12 students.
- > Increase wages of teacher assistants from \$12,000 to \$25,000.
- > Raise required instructional time to 1140 hours.
- > Revise high school graduations requirements.
- > Make Election DAY a school holiday.
- > Provide teachers a 5% raise plus an additional 1% to offset health care costs.

BILLS WE FOLLOWED THAT PASSED BOTH CHAMBERS AND HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE GOVERNOR FOR HER SIGNATURE:

> SB 20, ERB CHANGES, Sponsored by Sen Gay Kernan. SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR.

> HB 189, EDUCATIONAL RETIREMENT CHANGES, sponsored by Rep Cathyrnn Brown. COMPANION BILL TO SB 20.

> HB 304, PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT NEEDS TRUST, sponsored by Rep Chasey, Rep Thompson, Rep Lujan, Rep Ortiz y Pino & Sen Stewart. SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR.

> HB 2 & 3, GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2023 sponsored by Rep Nathan Small and Rep Meredith Dixon. SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR.

> SB 16, CREATE HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY DEPARTMENT, sponsored by Sen Elizabeth Stefanics & Representative Elizabeth Thompson.

THE GOVERNOR HAS UNTIL FRIDAY, APRIL 7 AT NOON TO SIGN BILLS OR THEY ARE POCKET VOTED.

IN CLOSING, REMEMBER YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN NMAER IS A SMALL INVESTMENT TO PAY TO PROTECT YOUR RETIREMENT BENEFITS.

Thanks,
Russell Goff, NMAER

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EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
Ongoing through April 26	Every Wednesday	2:00pm	Untangled Threads - Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, cross stitch, or more and join to chat with others who also enjoy crafts.	Farmington Library	Free Bring your own crafts
Ongoing through May 25	Every Thursday	3:00pm	Drop in Tech Help – Get help with all things computer	Farmington Library	Free
Ongoing through April 28	Every Friday	6:30pm & 7:30pm	AstroFriday - enjoy the beauty and wonder of the night sky. Star gaze after program weather permitting	San Juan College Planetarium	Free
Ongoing through April. 26	Monday-Saturday	10:00am 5:00pm	Tyrannosaurs Meet the Family - The exhibition explores the 'most feared and revered' of all dinosaurs in new and different ways.	Farmington Museum	\$10
April 13	Thursday	5:00pm & 6:00pm	Global Festival: Food & Music followed by Farmington Cinematheque Series - Gratitude Revealed documentary	Henderson Fine Arts Center	Free
April 13	Thursday	6:00pm	Craft Night - Fluorescent Light Art – Last craft night for the season – Seating is limited	Farmington Library	Free
April 15 & April 16	Saturday & Sunday	8:00am-3:00pm	Spring Dumpster Weekend – Farmington residents only. Proof of residency required	Berg Park	Free
April 18	Tuesday	6:00pm	Author Talk: Dr. Andrew Gulliford - <i>Bears Ears Landscape of Refuge and Resistance</i> – synthesizes 11,000 years of the area's history	Farmington Library	Free
April. 20	Thursday	6:00pm	Trivia Night Theme: The Simpsons-Individual or Team. Show your knowledge & win a prize.	Farmington Library	Free
April 1 – June 17	First 3 Saturdays each month	8:00am-1:00pm	Locke Street Eats - Flea Market and/or entertainment most Saturdays of the month. Interested in vending, link to register is located at: https://farmingtonnm.org/events/locke-street-eats-flea-market	Food Truck Park at Locke Ave. & Main Farmington	Free Entry
. April 6 – April 28	Monday - Friday	10:00am - 5:00pm	SJC Spring Art Students' Exhibit – 2D & 3D art on exhibit and for sale.	Henderson's Art Gallery	Free
April 21 April 22 April 23	Friday Saturday Sunday	9am-8pm 8:30-8pm 8:30-noon	Land of Enchantment Indoor & Outdoor Car Show - brings old and new cars into one place. Also, live entertainment & concession stands.	McGee Park	Free
Apr 21-22 Apr 28-29 Apr 30	Friday Saturday Sunday	7:30pm 7:30pm 2:30pm	Theater Ensemble Arts present "August: Osage County" A vanished father, pill-popping mother & 3 sisters with shady little secrets.	Totah Theatre	Adults \$12 Seniors & Students \$10
April 22	Saturday	8:00am-2:00pm	Spring Craft Fair - support your local crafters, artisans, and small business owners!	Calvary Chapel	Free Entrance
April 23	Thursday	6:00pm	Reel Readers – Watch the movie "Warm Bodies" inspired by Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Bring brown bag dinner.	Farmington Library	Free
May 6	Saturday	2:00pm	Nina Otero-Warren-Step back in time to celebrate Otero-Warren's 70th birthday!	Aztec Museum	Free

Too many events to include on one page! Visit <https://farmingtonnm.org/events> for more fun things to do!