

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

September 2023

It is my pleasure to welcome you to a new year with SJAER. Students are back in school and school personnel are working. That means it is time for us to resume our monthly meetings.

At our Board of Directors meeting in August, our program committee reported about the possible programs for the coming year. It sounds like we have some great programs in the plans. Stay tuned for updates.

We ended the past year with 44 members. I hope we can increase our membership during the coming year. Each one of us can play a part in that. The more members we have, the more able we are to advocate for issues of importance to retirees.

We are a voluntary association and we depend on help from our members to keep our association moving ahead. I hope each of you will think of ways you can help us as we move forward.

Our first meeting is 11:30am on September 12, 2023 at No Worries Grill. I hope you see you then.

Yours Truly,
Jim Conyers, SJAER President





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

Jim Conyers

VICE PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

PAST PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

TREASURER

Kathy Martin

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Sandy Allred

SECRETARY

Connie Alley

MEMBERSHIP

Phyllis Meier

PROGRAMS

Karen Morrison

Marilyn Montoya

PUBLICITY: NEWSLETTER

Debbie Klein

PUBLICITY: WEBSITE

Chuck Culpepper

SUNSHINE

Nancy Tyson

SCHOLARSHIP

Mar

SJRM C REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Morrison

Jim Conyers



2023-2024 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

September Program

Our program for Tuesday, Sept. 12 will be Paul Pavlick with **Threads** a program that SJAER has begun supporting. He will tell us about the program, it's needs and how we can help! Don't miss it!



"I must be in the autumn of my life.
I feel like a pile of wet leaves."

SJAER Meetings

SJAER meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. All meetings except for May, 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. The May meeting will be a picnic at a local park.



Volunteer Report

Our members are so kind, generous and care giving. Last year 4,848 hours were donated in our community by SJAER members. This surpassed the previous year. Congratulations to all of you wonderful people!

The numbers were submitted to the State in time for the State Convention September 21-23. Our Unit, along with our top 5 volunteers, will be honored at the Convention and in the NMAER newsletter. Our members who submitted the most hours are: Debbie Klein, Marilyn Montoya, Kathleen Murphy, Karen Morrison and Kathy Martin.

Now: Let's start the new year off right by continuing to submit our hours. It's easy to do. Simply record it on the sign-up sheet when you attend meetings, or email:

trishshsh@live.com

Many activities qualify for "volunteer hours," including community organizations, church, helping out a neighbor who would otherwise have to pay for the service, or going "above and beyond" family care (home-schooling, disability services, etc.).

Thanks, all! Have a great year!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

STEFFAN, SHARON H	9/4
DUNNAHOO, CINDY	9/8
HAMILTON, DELORES	9/11
MISZKIEL, COLLEEN M	9/13
MARTIN, KATHLEEN	9/17
COLLINS, JALENE	9/21
COLLINS, JERRY	9/27

San Juan Association of Educational Retirees



Join or renew your
membership TODAY!

See page 2 for 2023-2024 Membership form.

Community Announcement: The Little Free Library located in Jaycee Park on the corner of Zuni and Mesa Verde Avenue was vandalized. It has since been repaired, but book donations are needed to restock it. Simply drop by and put your donations of children's and/or adult books in the little library.

SJAER Executive Board Meeting 8-8-23

11:00 am at Porters Restaurant

Board Members Present: President-Jim Conyers, Vice President-Marilyn Montoya, Secretary-Connie Alley, Treasurer-Kathy Martin, Assistant Treasurer-Sandy Allred, Programs-Karen Morrison, Membership-Phyllis Meier, Webmaster/Legislative Rep.-Chuck Culpepper, YARN-Debbie Klein, Volunteer Hours/In Memoriam-Trish Murphy, Scholarship-Jim Conyers and Marilyn Montoya, SJRMC Rep.-Jim Conyers and Karen Morison

Absent: Sunshine-Nancy Tyson

Meeting was called to order by Jim Conyers. Agendas were provided.

New Business

- **NMAER Convention** – It is the 80th convention. They need a photo of our group. Karen may have one that was taken last year that we can send them. The convention will be held in Albuquerque on September 21-23, 2023. We are allowed 4 voting delegates. The \$35.00 registration and Hotel fees for 2 nights will be paid by SJAER. Meals will be on their own. James Conyer and Debbie Klein volunteered to attend. Phyllis Meier will send out a request for two more people.

Old Business

- **Web Site:** Chuck Culpepper will update the SJAER web site.
- **Student Pantry:** We approved to continue donating food to the Student Pantry. Kathy Martin will ask councilors what they need at Farmington High School and Piedra Vista High School.

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer report:** was accepted
- **Membership:** We had 44 paid members last year. The membership form will be printed in the YARN again this year.
- **Programs:** Paul Palvlik from FHS Threads, Karen Morrison's Caliente tour in Germany, etc. There will be some interesting programs again this year.
- **Treasurer:** The Treasurer's Report will continue to be printed in the YARN.
- **SJRH:** Jason Rounds is the new CEO of San Juan Regional Medical Center/Hospital. The hospital is looking to purchase the instrumentations needed for their Bariatric section.
- **Volunteer Hours:** Trish Murphy will be sending our volunteer hours and the names of our top 5 volunteers in to the state.
- **Scholarship:** Jim Conyers is working on creating an electronic version of our application.

Next Board Meeting – 10:45 am on September 12, 2023 at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill.

General Meeting – 11:30 am on September 12, 2023 at No Worries Sports Bar and Grill.

Remembering Two Special Members

Our SJAER family has suffered a great loss. Two of our long-time members, Caroline McDonald and Emma Weaver, have passed away this summer. Both of these outstanding ladies attended our meetings until just recently, even in their declining health.

Caroline McDonald had been an elementary school teacher with the Bloomfield schools and was active in the community. She served on the Executive Board of SJAER for many years. Her sweet smile and lovely personality will be greatly missed

Emma Weaver was the librarian at Tibbetts Middle School for many years. She was so respected that when the new library was built, it was named after her. It was an honor to have her a member of our organization.



In Memoriam 2023-2024

Benny Jaramillo. 2/12/46 – 4/28/23. Farmington. School crossing guard.
Richard Roybal. 10/7/48 – 5/1/23. Farmington. Transportation coordinator at Navajo Prep for 5 years.
Marla Sue Sipes. 1951 or 52 – 5/1/23. Bloomfield. Taught medically fragile children in Shiprock for 20 years; teacher in Albuquerque. SJAER member.
Juanita “Jane” Arellano. 6/25/46 – 5/2/23. Farmington. Worked at Child Care Castle preschool for 34 years.
Linda Reeves. 6/8/48 – 5/4/23. Farmington. Taught biology, botany and art at SJC, Dine College, 3 community colleges in Phoenix area, as well as Univ. of MN.
Ruth Nation. 1939 – 5/5/23. Farmington. District manager of several school lunch rooms.
Floyd Henderson. 7/7/28 – 5/15/23. Bloomfield. Activities bus driver for Bloomfield schools for 12 years; taught ROTC in Nevada
Melody Ann Ivie. 1/27/50 – 5/15/23. Farmington. Owner and teacher at Ivie League Preschool.
Mary Gwendolyn “Gwen” Schofield. 6/20/25 – 5/15/23. Farmington. Taught in MT, WY, UT, GA, KS, HI, and ID; Volunteer teacher in Farmington.
Shirley Voita. 2/3/44 – 5/15/23. Farmington. School nurse at Sacred Heart, Kirtland, and Ojo Amarillo. SJAER member.
Joyce Willamine Duran. 5/6/40 – 5/17/23. Ignacio. Taught grades K-5 for 39 years.
Kathleen Walling. 7/29/38 – 5/25/23. Farmington. Taught art at SJC. SJAER member.
Dr. Van Hayes Howard. 12/9/27 – 6/15/23. Farmington. High school principal.
Gerald Farm. 1935 – 6/17/23. Farmington. Taught art at a college in Colorado; Served on the school board of FMS and SJC.
Charles Bader. 1944 – 6/20/23. Albuquerque. Graduate of FHS; Music educator in Albuquerque.
Caroline McDonald. 3/23/30 – 6/25/23. Bloomfield. Elementary school teacher in Bloomfield; Long-time board member of SJAER and mother of current SJAER member Marie Chavez.
Robert Ferrier. 9/8/37 – 7/3/23. Farmington. School teacher of special needs children; coach.
Maxine Goff. 6/13/28 – 7/18/23. Farmington. Taught typing and accounting at Navajo Prep.
Dixie Oviatt. 4/9/37 – 7/20/23. Farmington. Taught 5th and 6th grades at Nanahnezad in Fruitland for 20 years.
Valerie “Vicky” Ramakka. 1/2/49 – 7/22/23. Farmington. Served in numerous educational and administrative positions at SJC. SJAER member.
Sherry Kay Butler. 10/5/41 – 8/2/23. Farmington. Taught real estate classes at SJC for 25 years.
Paula McFarland. 1/13/54 – 8/2/23. Farmington. Teacher, sub, and educational assistant in Shiprock for 5 years.
Gerald Richardson. 6/5/36 – 8/3/23. Aztec. Teacher and coach. SJAER member.
Bobby Jean Keeney. 9/17/28 – 8/6/23. Farmington. Taught 1st grade at McCormick, Northeast, and Bluffview for 35 years. SJAER member.
Arthur Eugene Jones. 6/2/33 – 8/15/23. Bloomfield. Worked at SJC. SJAER member.
Marlon Malloy. 1/28/43 – 8/15/23. Bloomfield. Taught and coached in Bloomfield. SJAER member.
Sister Marie Montgomery. 1923 – 8/18/23. Farmington. Taught at Sacred Heart School and Sacred Heart Academy in Waterflow between 1956-94. Also taught in Gallup, San Fidel, KY and MO.
Emma Weaver. 12/25/31 – 8/25/23. Farmington. Librarian at Tibbetts Junior High School for 28 years. The Tibbetts library was named after her. SJAER member.
Emmett Raymond Harrison. 4/14/39 – 8/28/23. Hogback. Boys’ dorm attendant at BIA boarding school in Nenahnezad.

Emma’s Memorial Service

Date: Friday, September 15, 2023

Time: 3:00 pm

Place: Hills Church (This is the Pinon Hills Community Church at 5101 N Dustin, off Pinon Hills Boulevard.

SAN JUAN REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER CORPORATION REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by chairman Sam Gonzales.

Dr. Philip Ernest and Meghan Ritz, PA discussed the Metabolic and Bariatric Institute. This is dealing with surgery to address being overweight and obese. In the US 63.2% of Americans are overweight or obese. 70% of New Mexicans and 81.5% of San Juan County residents are overweight or obese. This is a new program that has only been operating about 3 months. There may be issues with insurance coverage which have to be resolved. They use the Da Vinci Robotic Platform. This can reduce hypertension, Diabetes, Sleep Apnea, and GERD.

The hospital has received a grant to develop primary care physicians in our community.

San Juan Health Partners Gastroenterology has moved to 630 West Maple Street.

SJRMC has been honored for Heart Attack Care. The Mission Lifeline program helps reduce barriers to treatment from when 911 is called to EMS transport, treatment and discharge.

Jason Aikele, a nurse in the Cardiac Cath Lab and Jeny Okmura, ICU nurse, have received the DAISY awards. Recipients of the Suzanne Smith Nursing Excellence Awards are as follows: Victoria Atencio—emergency Department, Miranda Herrera, Connie Grijalva, Emergency Department, and Sonja Crum—Childbirth Unit.

The Hospital has course offerings. They include Childbirth Education Weekend Intensive Course, Labor and Pain Management and Gearing Up for New Parents.

The Hospital continues to maintain a strong financial status. New Medical Staff include the following; Janet Gorhan—Certified Nurse Practitioner, Zachary Haynes – Physician Assistant, J. Angela Miller – Doctor of Osteopathy, Benedette Ogindo – Certified Nurse Practitioner, Christopher Rectmeier – Certified Nurse Anesthesia, Drew Swasey MD – Anesthesiology

The Auxiliary recruited 30 volunteers in 2023. Seventeen are teen volunteers and 13 are adults. There are a total of 49 active volunteers.

As of June 30, the Cathy Lincoln Cancer Fund had helped 64 women. The Riley Men's Health fund had helped 92 men.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM



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

Threads

Threads (the High School Pantry 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.

Pantry

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.

Little Free Libraries

Donate books at Little Free Libraries located in Jaycee Park on the corner of Zuni and Mesa Verde Avenue and Mossman Gladden Park 1100 block of N. Buena Vista Ave. In Aztec, libraries are located at 107 N. Mesa Verde and between City Hall and the Splashpad. Books can be delivered at any of the libraries.

2023 – 2024 Meeting Dates and Programs
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Sept. 12	Paul Pavlick from Threads - a program to support homeless students	Dec. 12	Debbie Klein – Traveling in Germany and Switzerland with Caliente Choir
Oct. 10	Virginia Nickels – Hiking Mt. Everest in Nepal.	Jan. 9	TBA
Nov. 14	TBA	Feb. 13	Attorney Nicki Unsicker, Wills, Powers of Attorney, and Estate Planning.

EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
Ongoing	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	Every Thursday	3:00pm	Drop in Tech Help – Get help with all things computer	Farmington Library	Free
Sept. 14	Thursday	6:00pm	Iconic America – Lori Miller presents history of the Statue of Liberty. Hour long documentary loops all day,	Farmington Library	Free Entry

Sept. 15 Sept. 16	Friday Saturday	9:00am- 5:00pm	Farmington Public Library Foundation Book Sale Every item \$1 - Biggest Book Sale Ever!	Library South Parking Lot	Free Entry
Sept. 16	Saturday	10:00pm - 4:00pm	Smithsonian's Free Museum Day at Aztec Museum & Pioneer Village – Sing-a-long Concert at 2:00 - Jane Voss/Hoyle Osborne	Aztec Museum	Free Entry
Sept. 16	Saturday	11:00am- 5:00pm	Renaissance Festival at Locke Street Eats – Food, Drink & Entertainment – Wear costumes	Locke Ave. & Main	Free Entry
Sept. 21	Thursday	6:00pm	Iconic America – Jimmy Miller presents a history of the “Don’t Tread On Me” Flag. Hour long documentary loops all day,	Farmington Library	Free
Sept. 22	Friday	4:00pm- 7:00pm	Boys & Girls Club BBQ Fundraiser – Dine in, take out, or drive through.	Boys and Girls Club	\$10/plate
Sept. 22 Sept. 23 Sept. 24	Friday Saturday Sunday	2 – 6pm 2 – 6pm 2 – 4pm	Tour the Douglas C-47A, Flying Legend “Old Number 30” and/or book a ride at https://www.azcaf.org/tour/	4 Corners Airport	Tours \$5/per \$10/family Ride \$195
Sept. 23 Sept. 24	Saturday Sunday	11 – 7pm 12 – 6pm	Harvest Wine Festival – Wines of the San Juan. Music, art, food, & great grape stomp	Wines of the San Juan	Adults \$20 Under 18-Free
Sept. 23	Saturday	8:00am- 2:00pm	Native Women Rising Autumn Splendor Outdoor Market – Art, jewelry, pottery, etc.	Locke Street Eats	Free Entry
Sept. 23	Saturday	7:30pm	Movie in the Park at Aztec Ruins – The Mayors of Shiprock Documentary	Aztec Ruins	Free
Sept. 26	Tuesday	6:00pm	Cody Walton, Archaeologist presents the pre-history of the Farmington area, focusing on the animals that used to live here.	Farmington Library	Free
Sept. 29 Sept. 30 Oct. 1	Friday Saturday Sunday	Times vary per event	Four Corners Balloon Rally – Locations & Times https://farmingtonnm.org/events/four-corners-balloon-rally	Museum, Lake, SJC, Rickets Park	Balloon Events Free Concert \$20+
Sept. 29	Friday	9:00- 10:30am	Focus on Farmington Coffee - A coffee to help connect new people and highlight activities and events in our community.	Aztec Museum	Free
Sept. 30	Saturday	10:00am- 6:00pm	Total Drums of Fall – POW-WOW, Gourd Dance, Tiny Tots Competition, vendors, food and a children's play area, an amazing day!	Lion's Wilderness Park	Free
Sept. 30	Saturday	6:30pm- 9:30pm	PATH fundraiser “A Mad Hatter Chocolate Affair”- dancing, food, libations, prizes and lot's-a-Chocolate!	Artifacts 302 Main	\$135 for 2 tickets
Sept. 30	Saturday	8:00pm	Jefferson Starship Concert – 70s/80s music	Rickets Park	\$20/\$30
Oct. 5	Thursday	6:00pm	Iconic America – Jimmy Miller presents history of Stone Mountain – Confederate Mount Rushmore. Hour documentary loops all day.	Farmington Library	Free
Oct. 5 Oct. 6 Oct. 7	Thursday Friday Saturday	Times vary per event	Southwest Apple and Chili Fest – Maker's Market, Art Walk, Chili Cook-off, Beer Garden, music! https://farmingtonnm.org/events	Downtown Farmington	Free Entry Chili Tasting \$20
Oct. 7 Oct. 8	Saturday Sunday	9:00am- 5:00pm	Aztec Highland Games & Celtic Music Festival https://farmingtonnm.org/events	Aztec Riverside Park	\$20 for the weekend

Visit <https://farmingtonnm.org/events> and aztecnm.com for more fun things to do!