

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 2023

Last month I was talking about the “frost on the pumpkin.” This month is the “ice on the windshield.” That doesn’t sound as poetic. Winter is here although maybe not officially with both its benefits and challenges.

With the coming New Year is a new legislative session. This year will be a 30 day session which begins January 16, 2024. Our state association will be working to make sure our retirement health care will be protected and enhanced. I am hoping we can work with the Adopt a Legislator program to influence beneficial legislation. While legislators listen to the lobbyist our state association employ, it is important that they hear from their local constituents who are their voters. I will be looking for ways to participate in this program.

Our local association remains active but we need to continue new members for both the state and local association. Be sure to ask your fellow retirees to join our group. There is strength in numbers.

Well, Christmas will soon be here. As a kid, it seemed Christmas was always a long way off. Now, it’s like “It’s Christmas again?” What a difference 70+ years makes.

I am hoping you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year!

Jim Conyers,
President SJAER





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

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Marilyn Montoya

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PUBLICITY: WEBSITE

Chuck Culpepper

SUNSHINE

Nancy Tyson

SCHOLARSHIP

Marilyn Montoya

SJRCM 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** (non retiree) dues.

Signature of Retiree

Date: _____

Make checks payable to SJAER.

Mail to: SJAER Membership Chair, Phyllis Meier, 3305 N. Cochiti, Farmington, NM 87401 i

(Dues are Not tax deductible)

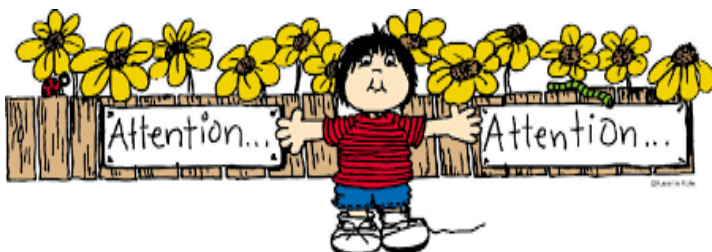
Sponsored by Phyllis Meier

Unit Sponsored by San Juan AER



December Program

Christmas time is here and what better way to get in the spirit of the season than by singing Christmas carols. Robyn Woodard, Carnegie Hall pianist and Caliente Choir accompanist, will be leading us in a holiday sing-a-long while you work on solving holiday trivia puzzles provided by Debbie.



2022/2023 Membership Report

	AUTO	NMAER	SJAER
SEPTEMBER	10	4	16
OCTOBER	6	4	10
NOVEMBER	0	2	3
DECEMBER			
JANUARY			
FEBRUARY			
MARCH			
APRIL			
MAY			
TOTAL	16	10	29

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.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Schmidt, Victoria P	12/3
Kittell, Wilda Janet	12/6
Gonzales, Mona G	12/12
Overlin, Zelith M	12/20
Cooper, Frances	12/21
Dye, Diann	12/21
Johnston, Joyce K.	12/23
Lasley, Teresa G	12/24
Fisher, Suzanne M	12/26
Dunn, Nancy E	12/29



Volunteer Report

Don't forget to submit your 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, for volunteering! Trish

San Juan Association of Educational Retirees



Join or renew your membership
TODAY!

See page 2 for 2023-2024 Membership form.

2023-2024 Month	Volunteer Hours
September	315
October	191
November	431
December	
January	
February	
March	
April	
May	
Summer	
Total	937



In Memoriam December 2023



Laura C DeVere. 12/1/36 – 11/7/23. Farmington. Manager of the Miller Jr High School cafeteria in the 9-R School District in Colorado.

Raymond Malcolm Barnes. 3/21/32 – 11/8/23. Bloomfield. Taught school in Texas for 4 years; employed by NMSU as an AG specialist for the Navajo Nation for 15 years. SJAER member.

Elizabeth Mary Boyd. 8/23/63 – 11/10/23. Farmington. School bus driver for 25 years.

Robert Walter Cassady. 11/21/38 – 11/10/23. Bloomfield. School Board member for multiple years.

Lester Downey. 11/11/30 – 11/22/23. Farmington. Drove a school bus in rural NM for 6 years, at the ages of 13-19, until NM passed a law that it was illegal to drive a bus until age 21!!

Ellyn “Lynn” Louise Scott. 1/22/38 – 11/30/23. Farmington. Taught for many years in California and Colorado; Administrative Assistant at University of Colorado for 25 years.

Cecilia Archibeque. 9/8/36 – 12/1/23. Bloomfield. School cook at Mesa Alta Junior High.

Priscilla A Johnson. 6/14/49 – 12/2/23. Shiprock. Bilingual teacher in Shiprock elementary schools for over 30 years. SJAER member.

Initially Initially Listed below are the initial letters of the first lines of some well known carols – what are they?

1 H T H A S - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 2 O L T O B
 3 O I R D C
 4 A I A M
 5 I C U A M C
 6 S N
 7 J T T W
 8 O C A Y F
 9 A W G M O O
 10 A F T R O G
 11 I T B M
 12 W S W T F B N

Scholarship Awarded

From time to time the San Juan Association of Educational Retirees will offer financial assistance in the form of a monetary scholarship to help students meet financial needs during the time they are enrolled in student teaching/field experience.

The recipient of our fall scholarship is Meghan Schmitt-Jones. She is currently working toward her special education certification at Animas Elementary under the supervising teach Ms. Jackie Reddy. Ms. Reddy commented that Ms. Schmitt-Jones "is the first person to volunteer to help out anywhere in the school. She has taken it upon herself to stand in the main hall and greet each and every student walking in the door by name."

Congratulations Meghan and good luck in your teaching career!

2023 – 2024 Meeting Dates and Programs

Jan. 9	Debbie Klein/Karen Morrison – Traveling in Germany and Switzerland with Caliente Choir	March 12	TBA
Feb. 13	TBA	April 9	Aztec Museum’s 60 th Anniversary – Joan Hamblin Monninger, Executive Director

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.

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, etc. 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 and in Karen Morrison’s front yard at 805 E. 25th Street. In Aztec, libraries are located at 107 N. Mesa Verde and between City Hall and the Splashpad. Take a Book or Leave a Book – that’s the LFL motto!



PANTRY

Don't forget to bring donations for our student support programs.

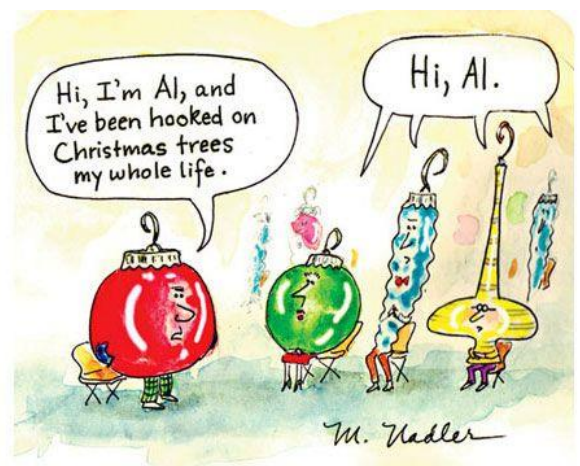
See descriptions above for items needed.



THREADS



Treasurer's Report
Kathy Martin reports a balance of \$2660.84 in our checking account. A scholarship check for \$500 was awarded so our scholarship fund balance is currently \$422.00.



EVENTS

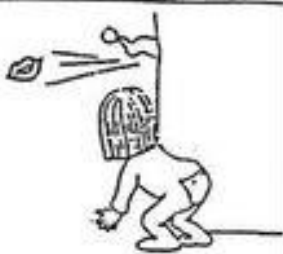
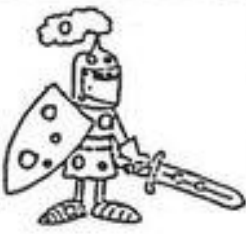
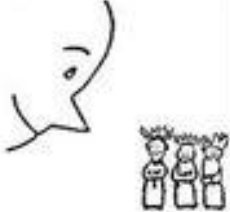
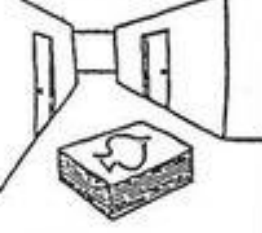
Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
Dec. 13 Jan. 3	Every Wednesday	4:00pm	Untangled Threads - Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, cross stitch, or more and join to chat with others who enjoy crafts.	Farmington Library	Free Bring your own crafts
Ongoing	Every Thursday	3:00pm	Drop in Tech Help – Get help with all things computer	Farmington Library	Free
Dec. 13 Dec. 20 Dec. 27	Wednesday	12:00pm 1:00pm	Brown Bag Birding - watch wildlife as you eat overlooking the wetlands.	Riverside Nature Center	Free
Dec. 14	Thursday	6:00pm to 9:00pm	Sexual Assault Services-Martinis & Mistletoe Christmas Mingle! Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar - music by the Zia Chicks!	Courtyard by Marriott	\$25
Dec. 15	Friday	11:30 to 1:00pm	Christmas Lunch - be a part of this very special holiday event! Please plan to arrive early for this meal. Need volunteers, too!	Bonnie Dallas Senior Center	Free - Donations accepted
Dec. 15	Friday	7:00pm	Best Brass of Showcase & Piedra Vista Chamber Choir – Enjoy Christmas music and raise funds for First Tee- Four Corners	First Presbyterian Church	\$10
Dec. 15	Friday	7:00pm	San Juan College African Drumming Concert- enjoy the musical flow and power of a large African Drumming Ensemble!	Connie Gotsch Theatre	Adults \$8 Sr/Students \$6
Dec. 15 Dec. 16	Friday Saturday	7:00pm 1:00pm	The Nutcracker presented by Mann Dance Academy	Henderson Fine Arts	Adults \$15 Children \$12
Dec. 16	Saturday	8:30am	Audubon Christmas Bird Count - Join birders in Farmington, for this fun day of trail walks and bird watching! Info call 505-325-5811	Various Locations	Free
Dec. 16	Saturday	4:30pm	Mann Dance Academy Christmas Spectacular featuring hip hop, jazz, tap, lyrical and children's combination classes	Henderson Fine Arts	Adults \$15 Children \$12
Dec. 16	Saturday	2:00pm	Best Brass of Christmas - Herald the Christmas season with a selection of festive Christmas favorites.	Connie Gotsch Theatre	\$6 - \$11
Dec. 17 Dec. 18	Sunday Monday	2:00pm 7:30pm	Artrageous Holiday Show - a blend of creativity, entertainment, and holiday cheer	Farmington Civic Center	\$24 - \$28
Dec. 21	Thursday	11:00am to 1:00pm	Winter Solstice - Performance by Cynthia Sylvester and Secret Seven Acoustic Duo 11:15a to 12:00p	Library Rotunda	Free
Jan. 2 through April 27	Tues. Thursday Saturday	5:30-6:30 5:15-6:15 10 - 11:00	Zumba Gold - a dance-fitness class for all ages - and those just starting their fitness journey. Come join the fun!	Farmington Rec Center	??
Jan. 2 – April 30	Every Tuesday	6:00 to 7:30pm	Community Line Dance Classes – learn to line dance and have fun! Info 505-566-2480	Sycamore Center	Free
Dec. 5 through ?	Every Friday	10:00 to 11:00am	Support Group & Exercise Class for people with mobility deficits. Info 505-566-2480	Sycamore Center	Free
Jan. 5 – April 26	Every Friday	1:00 to 3:00pm	Art is for Everyone! Be creative, have fun! Art shows last Friday of the month.	Sycamore Center	Free

Lots going on right now! Way too many events to list! Visit <https://farmingtonnm.org/events> for more!

Christmas Carol Riddles! This is a old Christmas Rebus Game someone sent me years ago. See if you can match the pictures to Christmas Carols. It's fun to print extras and work in groups

From: Sandy at www.craftysecrets.com

Home of the Heartwarming Vintage Collection & Clear Art Stamps!

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GUESS THE
Christmas Carol

1. The apartment of 2 psychiatrists
2. The lad is a diminutive percussionist
3. Decorate the entryways
4. Sir Lancelot with laryngitis
5. A B C D E F G H I J K M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
6. Wanted in December: top forward incisors
7. The smog-less bewitching hour arrived.
8. Exuberation to this orb.
9. 288 Yuletide hours.
10. Do you perceive the same longitudinal pressure which stimulates my auditory sense organs.
11. Stepping on the pad cover.
12. Far back in a hay bin.
13. Leave and do an elevated broadcast
14. Listen, the winged heavenly messengers are proclaiming tunefully.
15. Frozen precipitation commence
16. We are Kong, Lear and Not Cole
17. Oh, member of the round table with missing areas
18. Boulder of the tinkling metal spheres
19. Vehicular homicide was committed on Dad's mom by a precipitous darling
20. Cup-shaped instruments fashioned of a whitish metallic element
21. Our fervent hope is that you thoroughly enjoy your yuletide season
22. May the Deity bestow an absence of fatigue to mild male humans.
23. Assemble everyone who believes.
24. Obese personification fabricated of compressed mounds of minute crystals.
25. I spied my maternal parent osculating a red-coated, unshaven teamster.

Have a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!