

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 2024

It is difficult to believe that we only have one more meeting after this one before our summer break. My grandmother told me that time goes faster when you get older and that seems to be true.

We survived this year's legislative session without any major issues for educational retirees. However, our state association is still evaluating some of the bills that were passed. Our association continues to thrive but we need to look for opportunities to grow our numbers. Each year a new group of retirees gives us another source of new members to share what we have to offer. If you know someone retiring from public education in San Juan County, please reach out to them and encourage them to come aboard.

I had the opportunity to attend the NMAER combination Board and Unit President's meeting in Albuquerque in March. The state organization continues to emphasize supporting legislation that benefits educational retirees as well as encouraging membership growth.

We will be having our election of officers at the April meeting as well as beginning to choose our Unit Member of the Year. Please be thinking about who you feel is the member who deserves this honor and who has contributed the most to the success of our organization.

Our May meeting is going to be at Kiwanis Park on May 8, 2024. Traditionally, the association has supplied the entre (Chicken) and members bring a side dish for others to enjoy. It is a time to enjoy each other's company and some great food.

See you on the 9th .

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

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

Marilyn Montoya

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** (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)

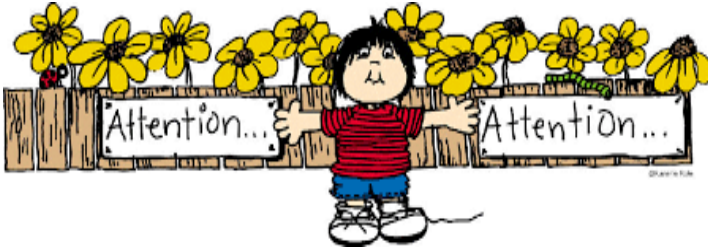
Sponsored by Phyllis Meier

Unit Sponsored by San Juan AER

Wuzzle Answer: sit up or sitrup

April Program

Our program for April 9 will be Joan Hamblen-Monninger who will be sharing the exciting programs and events at the Aztec Museum & Pioneer Village during their 60th Anniversary year.



2022/2023 Membership Report

	AUTO	NMAER	SJAER
SEPTEMBER	10	4	16
OCTOBER	6	4	10
NOVEMBER	0	2	3
DECEMBER	0	0	0
JANUARY	0	0	0
FEBRUARY	2	0	2
MARCH	1	0	1
APRIL			
MAY			
TOTAL	19	10	32

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.



April Birthdays!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

SCRIVER, JOAN *	17-Apr
GUNNINK, PEGGY J*	29-Apr

April

IS MY BIRTHDAY MONTH
~yes the whole month~

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"This Venn diagram tells us nothing, but it's so cute!"

New Message about Volunteering

Do you know that you can still submit all your volunteer hours that you've worked this year, ever since September 2023 to now? (Just be sure not to duplicate any already recorded.). We report these to NMAER, who sends them to the State legislature. When the hours are converted to money, it shows millions of dollars that we generous retirees contribute to our State. It's amazing! For questions, or to submit your hours, simply email:

trishshsh@live.com

Thanks, SJAER, for making our communities a far better place by volunteering your valuable time and skills.

2023-2024 Month	Volunteer Hours
September	315
October	191
November	431
December	298
January	276
February	761
March	230
April	
May	
Summer	
Total	2502



In Memoriam April 2024



Alma Adeline Bruce. 5/15/28 – 3/14/24. La Plata. Taught in a 1- room schoolhouse in La Plata; was a substitute teacher in Farmington; taught 20 years at Sacred Heart School; was once the Grand Marshall of the San Juan County Fair parade (having been very active in 4-H).

Priscilla “Jo Jo” Sharski Helms. 3/10/69 – 3/18/24. Aztec. Substitute teacher and bus driver for Aztec Schools.

Janice J. Russell. 11/8/?? – 3/23/24. Farmington. Lengthy career as a librarian and cultural educator.

2023 – 2024 Meeting Dates and Programs

April 9	Aztec Museum’s 60 th Anniversary Celebration – Joan Hamblin Monninger, Executive Director
May 14	Picnic – Kiwanis Park Pavilion – SJAER will provide fried chicken and drinks, members are asked to bring side dishes and/or desserts.

Our presenter will give out schedule post cards. Here’s an extra copy for all members.

Aztec Museum & Pioneer Village 2024 Spring & Summer Events

Sun 4/28 @ 3pm - 60th Anniversary Opening Reception: "What We Keep: Material Culture in Historic Preservation" Exhibit Unveiling, Historical Presentation & Museum Association Annual Meeting.

Tues 4/30 - Season Opening Day! Hours: Tues - Sat; 10am - 4pm Admission \$5 adults; \$3 students; 5 and under, free. Museum Association members enjoy free admission all season!

Sat 5/11 - Historic Downtown Aztec walking tour; \$10 Tours @ 9am & 11am Call to reserve a spot!

Fri 5/17 @ 7pm - Music at the Museum: Lone Piñon, a nationally renowned New Mexican string band, "orquesta tipica," whose music celebrates the integrity & diversity of their cultural roots. FREE!

Sat 5/18 - Survivor Voices: Stories of Navajo descendants of the Long Walk. Historical presentation with StoryCorps Oral History Recordings seeking volunteers to tell their stories. 505-334-9829 FREE!

Fri 5/24 Family Movie Night in Pioneer Village after dusk. FREE!

Fri 6/7 - One Room School House Experience: all-day immersive program in our Koogler school house. Lunch & souvenir lunch pail included. \$20 per student; limit 10 students.

Fri 6/14 @ 6pm "60 Years of the Aztec Museum & Pioneer Village" presentation by Dr. Jimmy Miller, followed by a FREE concert.

Fri 6/14 @ 7pm - Music at the Museum: The Village Band; playing ragtime & vintage band music. FREE!

Fri 6/21 One Room School House Experience - See Fri 6/7 above.

Fri 6/28 - Family Movie Night in Pioneer Village after dusk. FREE!

Thurs 7/11 - One Room School House Experience - See Fri 6/7 above.

Fri 7/12 @ 7pm Music at the Museum: Jeff Solon Swing'n Big Band playing swing & jazz music. FREE!

Fri 7/26 Family Movie Night in Pioneer Village after dusk. FREE!

Fri 8/9 @ 7pm Music at the Museum: The Badly Bent playing bluegrass music. FREE!

For more information on events, call 505-334-9829

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 March balance of \$2678.80 in our checking account. The scholarship fund balance is currently \$300.00.

Wuzzle Answer on Page 2

Wuzzle – A Word Puzzle

Find a common word or phrase by the word and its position in the box.

R
I
T
S

SJAER Executive Board Meeting 3-12-24

10:45 am at No Worries, Sports Bar & Grill

Board Members Working for You

Present: President/SJRMC-Jim Conyers, Treasurer-Kathy Martin, Assistant Treasurer-Sandy Allred, Secretary-Connie Alley, Membership-Phyllis Meier, Programs/SJRMC Rep -Karen Morrison, YARN-Debbie Klein, Sunshine-Nancy Tyson, Volunteer Hours/Memorial-Trish Murphy

Absent: Vice President/Scholarship-Marilyn Montoya and Webmaster/Legislative Rep.-Chuck Culpepper

Meeting was called to order by Jim Conyers.

Today's agenda is approved.

Previous meetings minutes are approved.

New Business:

- It is time to vote for our Unit member of the Year. We will vote at the April meeting.
- Marilyn has a recipient for our Spring Scholarship. We have \$300.00 in the fund and will transfer \$200 into it from the general funds. We will continue to have the 50/50 bucket and donations. These collections will be used to replace the \$200 in the general funds. Anything above that will go toward our Fall Scholarship.

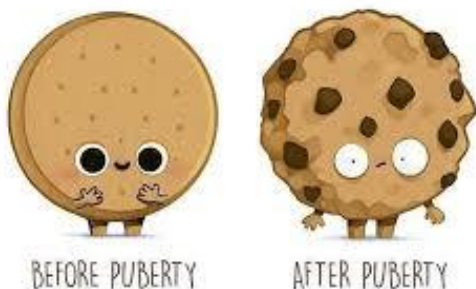
Old Business:

- Officers for next year: Marilyn may have someone for the secretarial position. We are still needing someone to be our Legislative Rep. It entails reporting the NMAER legislative updates to our unit.
- Our treasurer's audit has been successfully completed.
- IRS Non-Profit 5103 – We don't have enough income to require filing.
- Picnic in May: The first pavilion at Kiwanis Park has been reserved for May 14, 10:00-2:00. Marilyn and Debbie let us know the food plan at our next meeting. One suggestion is for SJAER provide the meat and members bring the sides.

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer report:** Approved as printed in the YARN
- **Membership:** We have 29 paid members.
- **Sunshine:** Pray for members who are sick or in need of support.
- **Programs:** Jan Brashear is our presenter today. She will share experiences from time in Kenya with "Shadows of His Wings". Next month will be Joan Monninger from the Pioneer Village in Aztec.
- **Legislation/Website:** Chuck will update our list of legislators on the website. Debbie posted a copy of the NMAER – Final Legislative Update in the YARN for us.
- **YARN:** All reports were sent in early this month. Thank you.
- **SJRMC Rep.:** Their next meeting is in April.
- **In Memoriam/Volunteer:** Trish sent names in 3 times this year.
- **Scholarship:** See notes in new business above. We have seven Share the Bucket tickets for \$5.00
- **Door Prizes:** We have four door prizes today.

Next Board Meeting – 10:45 am on April 9, 2024 at No Worries, Sports Bar and Grill.



General Meeting 3-12-24

11:30 am at No Worries, Sports Bar and Grill

14 members and 1 guest

Welcome/Opening – Jim Conyers, **US Pledge** – Sandy Allred, **NM Pledge** – Kathy Martin, **Prayer** – Debbie Klein

Business:

➤ **Welcome members and guests.**

➤ **Business:**

- Next month we will vote for our Outstanding Member of the Year.
- We have a Spring Scholarship recipient.
- Our Spring picnic will be held at Kiwanis Park on May 14. More details to come next month.
- We need a Legislative representative for next year. It entails reporting the NMAER legislative updates to Debbie for the Yarn. Election of officers was tabled until April.

➤ **Continued Projects:**

- We have four SJAER Projects: Greeting Cards, Threads, Pantry, and Little Free Libraries. Details are listed on page 5 of the March 2024 YARN.

Guest Speaker: **Jan Brashear, Shadows of His Wings International**

- Shadows of His Wings International Academy is located in Awasi, Kenya. It is a high poverty and crisis area with no water. They have put in a water well at the school (the cost was \$40,000). They have three languages Swahili/Africa's native language, Luo/Tribal language, and English.
- The school is free for children in the community. They have 250 students. Jan shared a slide show of the children and school structure. Breakfast is always porridge. Lunch is always rice and beans. A classroom costs \$10,000 to build. Top instructors make \$300.00 per month.
- Jan has made 27 trips to Kenya. The trips are typically one to two weeks long. Her longest stay was three weeks. She knows the names of all the children. They call her Danny/Grandma. The adults call her Momma Jan. They always present her with a program representing something they have learned. She will be going again in July.
- In addition to the school, they have developed the Nyando Tailored in Love Training Center. The center is focused on teaching adults a tailoring profession. They learn how to sew using a treadle sewing machine, learn how to manage money, and run a business.
- For more information see <https://www.sohw-international.com/>.

Prize Winners:

- Share the Bucket raised \$25 for our Scholarship Fund and Connie Alley won \$25.
- Door prizes: Jim Conyers – Shamrock plant with a St. Patrick's Day mylar balloon, Sarah Menapace – M&Ms, Connie Alley – St. Patrick's Day riddle with candy, and Dana Park – St. Patrick's Day bag and gnome charm.

Next General Meeting – 11:30 am on April 9, 2024 at No Worries, Sports Bar and Grill.



EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
April 9	Tuesday	6:00pm	Award-winning broadcaster, journalist, and author, Pat LaMarche, has authored eight books about poverty and human struggles,	Farmington Library	Free
April 9	Tuesday	6:00pm	Alysa Landry discusses her book, Thomas H .Begay -The Navajo Code Talkers.	Farmington Civic Center	Free
April 12 April 13	Friday Saturday	10am/6pm 8am-6pm	Home Expo, featuring the best Home & Garden pro's in the 4 Corners	McGee Park Convention Center	TBD For a charity
April 12	Friday	7:30pm & 8:30pm	San Juan College Planetarium AstroFriday "Living Worlds" Star Gaze afterwards.	SJC Planetarium	Free
April 13 April 14	Saturday Sunday	8:00am to 3:00pm	Spring Dumpster Weekend - Farmington only - proof of residency is required.	Berg Park	Free
April 13	Saturday	8:00am to 2:00pm	Bloomfield Dumpster Day – Parks and Recreation Dept.	S. Bloomfield Blvd & Broadway	Free
Beginning Jan. 13	2 nd and 4 th Friday	6:00 to 9:00pm	Date night dance with live music. Doors open at 5:00pm.	Bonnie Dallas Sr. Center	\$3.00
Beginning Jan. 15	Every other Monday	10:00am	Tai Chi for All Abilities – with teacher Gram Davis – No fees or registration.	Sycamore Park Community Center	Free
April 13	Saturday	4:00pm	Children of Metropolis by Scrap Arts Music features over 88 self-made sculptural instruments & whimsical full-length movie.	Henderson Performance Hall	Students \$10 Gen.Adm \$25 Sr/Encore \$23
April 13	Saturday	9:00am to 4:00pm	Mesa View Middle School Craft Fair 70+ vendors for your shopping pleasure!	Mesa View Middle School	Free Admission
April 13	Saturday	Noon to 8:00pm	Farmington Jazz Festival - Workshop @ Noon, Music starts @ 3:00pm	Inspired Moments & Orchard Park	Free
April 13	Saturday	7:30pm	Dancing with Your Farmington Stars - Local stars perform with professionals.	Farmington Civic Center	\$14 - \$18
May 2	Thursday	6:00pm	Anti-Fraud Education – Farmington Police Dept. learn how to spot scams in the area and how to report them.	Farmington Library	Free
May 3	Friday	6:00pm	Concert by Sean Gaskell, who plays the Kora, a 21-stringed West African Harp..	Farmington Library	Free
April 20	Saturday	4:00pm	The Mysto Really Big Magic Show - Family friendly show full of fun, laughter and five big stage illusions.	SJC Connie Gotsch Theatre	\$7.50 - \$15 Family Group Rate Available
April 21	Sunday	3:00pm	San Juan Symphony - Enjoy an afternoon performance titled "Enigmatic".	Henderson Performance Hall	Students \$10 Gen Adm \$30 Sr. Military \$23
April 26	Friday	8:00am to 2:00pm	Arbor Day Tree Give-Away - Pick up your free tree seedling while supplies last.	SJC Cultural Center - Lot F	Free
April 27	Saturday	8:00am to 4:00pm	Bisti Badlands Tour – explore a surreal landscape of otherworldly rock formations and ancient fossils.	Meet at SJC Outdoor Equipment Rental Center	SJC Students Free \$20 public
April 27	Saturday	7:30pm	Hank and My Honky Tonk Heroes- Jason Petty, & his band, is bringing the insightful story of Hank Williams Sr. to life	Farmington Civic Center	\$14 - \$28

Visit <https://farmingtonnm.org/events> for more!