

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

March 2025

March is a month of transition as we move from Winter to Spring. I've noticed my heating bill going down so that's a good sign that warmer weather is here.

I hope all of you are keeping up with your vaccinations. I recently had a Covid shot. It usually sidelines me for a couple of days but I have had Covid twice and know I don't want to have it again. So, I believe I am now up to date on my vaccinations.

The sixty-day legislative session will end at noon on March 22. It will be interesting to see how the bills of interest to educators will fare.

At our March meeting we will be electing new officers for the 2025-2026 year. We are working to have a slate of candidates to present at our meeting.

As always we are looking to grow our membership. Please invite your fellow retired educators to attend and join our organization. There is strength in numbers so help us grow stronger.

I hope to see you all at No Worries on March 11 at 11:30.

Sincerely,

Jim Conyers,
SJAER President





Non-members: It's a bit late to pay membership dues now, because our year is Sept-May. However, come join us at our next meeting, just for fun. It's a "dutch-treat" lunch at No Worries Bar & Grill (Tuesdays are Mexican food discount days!). Check us out! Join next year!

SJAER BOARD

PRESIDENT

Jim Conyers

VICE PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

PAST PRESIDENT

Marilyn Montoya

TREASURER

Susan Kannard

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Kathy Martin

SECRETARY

Debbie Klein

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

2024-2025 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.

Signature of Retiree

Date: _____

Make checks payable to SJAER.

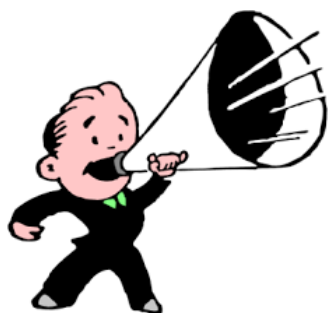
Mail to: SJAER Membership Chair, Phyllis Meier, 3305 N. Cochiti, Farmington, NM 87401 i

(Dues are Not tax deductible)

Sponsored by Phyllis Meier

Unit Sponsored by San Juan AER





PROGRAMS

January Program

Our presenter this month will be Megan Cullip. She will share with us her life's purpose: to alleviate suffering wherever she may find it. Meeting at 11:30, at No Worries Bar & Grill. Hope to see you there!

2024/2025 Membership Report

	AUTO	NMAER	SJAER
SEPTEMBER	9	2	11
OCTOBER	4	4	9
NOVEMBER	0	1	1
DECEMBER	1	1	2
JANUARY	0	1	2
FEBRUARY	0	1	1
MARCH	1	0	1
APRIL			
MAY			
TOTAL	15	10	27

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. The May meeting will be a picnic at a local park.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

SHAW, SHEILA	2-Mar
MENAPACE, SARAH	4-Mar
MCDONALD, CATHY	7-Mar
ROWELL, VERNA	9-Mar
CHAVEZ, ROBERT	10-Mar
ESTRADA, AIDA	11-Mar
CULPEPPER, CHUCK	31-Mar

THANK YOU Volunteers

Volunteer Reminder

"The measure of a life, after all, is not its duration but its donation." (Corrie ten Boom)

Thank you for DONATING your time and service to our community. You make a lasting difference in the lives of many.

Please continue to report your monthly hours by simply signing in at our monthly meeting, or by emailing Trish at: trishshsh@live.com



Treasurer's Report

Our treasurer reports a balance of \$2134.73 in our account and \$454.50 in our scholarship fund. Funds from monthly drawing go into the scholarship fund.

2024-2025 Month	Volunteer Hours
September	270
October	166
November	260
December	320
January	186
February	171
March	
April	
May	
Summer	
Total	1373

SJAER Executive Board Meeting 2-11-25

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

Board Members Working for You

Present: President/James Conyers, Secretary & YARN-Debbie Klein, Treasurer-Kathy Martin, Programs & SJRMC Rep-Karen Morrison, Membership-Phyllis Meier, Sunshine-Nancy Tyson

Absent: Webmaster/Legislative Rep.-Chuck Culpepper, Vice President/Scholarship-Marilyn Montoya, Assistant Treasurer-Sandy Allred

Meeting was called to order by James Conyers.

Agenda was approved.

Debbie mentioned she noticed in the minutes that we had discussed doing little bios in the YARN for each member but needed a process to follow through. Karen said she had developed a plan in her head to have members complete a short form and then we could put one or two in the YARN as the year progresses. Karen will prepare the form, but we may start next year. January meeting minutes approved.

Old Business – Budget – Discussion was had about the budget. It was clarified that this budget is for January through December 2025. There was discussion about the cost of the end of year picnic. It was decided that what was purchased last year was too expensive. We need to explore options and get a better count of the number of attendees so we don't purchase too much food. Karen suggested Spare Rib and will check on that. The amount for the picnic was left in the budget but hopefully, it won't be that expensive. It was moved and seconded to approve the budget. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business – Elections – Elections are in March. We discussed coming up with a slate of officers. Susan Kannard said she would continue as Treasurer for the coming year. Debbie said she would continue as secretary, but is willing to hold any office. A slate of officers will be put together by next month.

Unit member of the year – Discussion was held about selecting a Unit Member of the Year. Several members were mentioned, but have already been selected. Debbie mentioned that we might think of someone who may not do a lot for SJAER but works hard for another organization like Marilyn does with the All-Abilities Park. Karen suggested we all try to come up with a name to present next month.

End of Year Picnic – Debbie said she would reserve the park. It was decided to try and get Kiwanis #1 as our first choice and Civitan as our 2nd choice. Details on the food/catering, drinks, etc. will be determined later.

New Treasurer – Susan Kannard has accepted the position of treasurer. Debbie moved we appoint her as treasurer for the remainder of the 24-25 year. Motion was seconded and passed. There was discussion of who would be on the signature card for our bank account. It was moved and seconded that Sandy Allred will be removed and Susan Kannard would take her place. Kathy Martin will remain on the account. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer report:** Approved as printed in the YARN. \$2,554.23 in checking and \$412.00 in Scholarship Fund
- **Membership:** We have 26 paid members.
- **Sunshine:** Nancy reports she is smiling. She has lots of card for all occasions.
- **Programs:** February's presenters are Jack and Terri Fortner. March will be Megan Cullip and April will be Barry Digman. We are done for the rest of the year as May is the picnic.
- **YARN:** Debbie reports that she did an insert of Russel's report on the legislature which allows us to not have a Legislative person.
- **Website:** Chuck is not present, so no report
- **Hospital Representative:** Hospital reports are in the YARN. Karen reports the hospital needs magazines. They can be brought to the meeting for Karen to deliver or taken to the front desk of hospital
- **In Memoriam & Volunteer Hours:** Trish was not present so no report.

Meeting adjourned. **Next Board Meeting** – 10:45 am on Feb. 11, 2025 at No Worries, Sports Bar & Grill.



General Meeting 2-11-25

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

18 members and 5 presenters

Welcome/Opening – James Conyers, **Pledge** – Nancy Tyson, **Prayer** – Debbie Klein

Business:

- **Welcome members and guests.**
- **Business:**
 - Board appointed Susan Kannard as our new treasurer. Thank you, Susan, for volunteering.
 - Elections are in March. Be thinking of possible nominations and let us know.
 - Be thinking of a deserving member to be nominated for Unit Member of the year.

Presenter: Jack Fortner, San Juan County District Attorney, Terri Fortner, San Juan County Commissioner, Mike Stark, County Manager, Brittany Hill and Rebekah Treat, victims advocates.

- Jack reported the most underpaid were police, teachers, and prosecutors
- San Juan County is tougher on DWI and the 1st in the state to sentence violators for their crime
- Terri reported about the Crisis Triage Center at Totah Behavior Health Center operated by PMS
- She also mentioned the Mental Wellness Resource Center, renamed the Navigation Center that helps with housing and transportation
- Mike Stark reported on the State of the County.
 - #1 source of revenue is Gross Receipts Tax, not property tax. People from all over who use our service help with revenues. Trying to keep property taxes low.
 - #2 source of revenue is \$47 million dollars in grants, mostly from the state
- Where does money go? #1 Public Safety, #2 General Government, #3 Health and Welfare
 - CR 350 being repaved – busiest County Road in the county
 - Hospital is leased so San Juan County can get funding
 - Premier Agriculture Extension office
- Brittany and Rebekah told us about the advocacy program protecting crime victims' rights and getting their voices heard – Many victims don't want to work with them
- 6 advocates & 1 secretary – 350 cases/advocate and 3 attorneys

Community Announcements – Caliente's Broadway for Brunch Saturday, Feb. 15

- 50/50 drawing winner – Susan Kannard Door Prize Valentine Card – Marie Chavez

Next General Meeting – 11:30 am on March 11, 2025 at No Worries, Sports Bar and Grill.



In Memoriam March 2025



Terry Jon Greiman. 1938 -- 2/6/25. Bloomfield. Taught school for the BIA; avid trail runner earning nickname "Road Runner" from his students.

Jerrold Eugene Crockford. 10/3/39 – 2/7/25. Farmington. Among many other jobs with the BLM, taught at the Phoenix Land School for 22 years.

Larry Wayne Guffey. 3/6/47 – 2/16/25. Bloomfield. Teacher for 37 years in Texas and NM, including many at FHS where he was a beloved and highly respected debate teacher. SJAER member.

Frederick S Moore. 3/15/36 – 2/28/25. Farmington. Taught welding at San Juan College for 25 years. SJAER member.

Nancy Dunn. 12/29/32 – 3/1/25. Farmington. Master educator of first grade and kindergarten at Animas and McKinley elementary schools. SJAER member.

Mar. 11	Megan Cullip will share with us her life's purpose: to alleviate suffering wherever she may find it.	Apr. 8	Barry Digman, Farmington native and long time realtor, will share city of Farmington history with us.
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Speaker's Bio – Megan Cullip

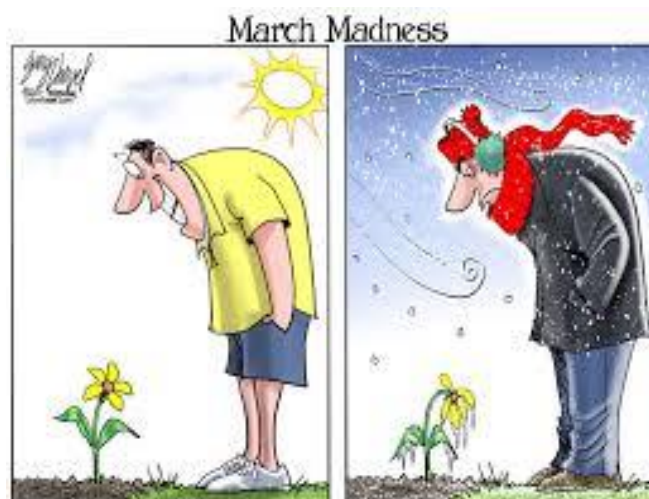
Megan Cullip deeply enjoys thinking and conversing about questions and is continually learning how to deeply enjoy life. She has chosen her life's purpose: to alleviate suffering wherever she may find it.

Megan has worked with people struggling with addiction, people imprisoned, people suffering from severe mental illness, unruly teenagers, people who are existentially wondering and spiritually seeking, people who are grieving, and hospice patients.

She attended the Honor's College at the University of Texas, San Antonio for a Bachelors in Interdisciplinary Studies with a specialization in Special Education. She also attended Princeton for a Master's in Divinity, Union College, KY for Chemical Addictions and Dependency Counseling, and Johns Hopkins University for a Masters in Public Health.

She believes life is to be approached with a sense of humor and that the greatest joy in life is found in the people we surround ourselves with, to love and be loved.

Megan spends her free time in the great outdoors. She is a musician and a radio personality on KSJE. She is also an Encore instructor at San Juan College. Recently, Megan became the Community Health and Social Services Director for San Juan County.



Tales of a Teacher - anecdotes by Susan Kannard

I remember one time when...

My daughter was teaching 6-7-8 graders Social Studies in Las Cruces, NM. One discussion revealed that her students wondered if there were any 'real Indians' left in America. She was appalled but rather than lecture the students, she and I collaborated on a mission to connect her students with "real Indians." My high school Native students became pen pals with her students and over the course of time real connections and understanding developed. My students shared about their lives, their clans, traditions, and culture. My daughter's students asked great questions and both classes enjoyed the correspondence. Enlightenment through connections and knowledge was a win/win for everyone.



Alice in Wonderland Fantasy Hair Show – Charity event to raise awareness for suicide prevention
benefitting San Juan County Family Crisis Center

EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
Mar.15	Saturday	6:00pm to 9:00pm	The Bonnie Dallas Senior Center is hosting a date night dance with live music.	Dallas Senior Center	\$3
Jan 15 - April 18	Every Wednesday	4:00pm	Untangled Threads - Bring your knitting, crochet, embroidery, cross stitch, or more & join to chat with others who also enjoy crafts.	Farmington Library	Free Bring your own crafts
Mar. 18	Tuesday	7:30 am departure	Guided Bisti Walk - Vans depart BDSC at 7:30am, and depart for return trip at 1:00pm. No van fee. Sack lunch available.	Bonnie Dallas Sr. Center	No Van Fee
Mar. 18 - Mar. 22	Tuesday – Saturday	10:00am – 4:00pm	Spring Break at Aztec Museum & Pioneer Village – Step back in time and experience life in the late 19th to mid-20th century	125 N. Main Aztec	Adults \$5 Students \$3 5 & under free
Mar.20/27 Mar.21/28 Mar.22/29 Mar.23/30	Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	7:30pm 7:30pm 2pm/7:30pm 2pm/7:30pm	Four Corners Musical Theatre Company presents “Legally Blond, The Musical”. Action-packed and exploding with memorable songs and dynamic dances	Farmington Civic Center	Adult \$28 Sr/Military \$24 Students \$16
Mar. 24 Mar. 25	Monday Tuesday	5:30pm 7:00pm	Caliente Children’s Choir Spring Concert Caliente Choir Spring Concert celebrating the Renaissance	Presbyterian Church on Dustin	Children’s Free Caliente \$15
Mar. 28 Mar. 29	Friday Saturday	10am – 6pm 8am – 6pm	Home & Garden Expo - explore home products & services for innovative ideas, garden goods, kitchen gadgetry, and decor	McGee Park	Free Entrance
Mar. 28 Mar. 29	Friday Saturday	Gates 5pm Racing 6pm	Thaw Brawl 2025 – first race of season - two action-packed days of high-octane excitement!	Aztec Speedway	Adults \$16 Srs/Stud. \$12 Children \$10
Mar. 29	Saturday	5:30pm-7:30pm	Alice in Wonderland Fantasy Hair Show – Charity event to raise awareness for suicide prevention-benefitting San Juan County Family Crisis Center	SJC Henderson Fine Arts Center	Adults \$6 Srs/Students \$5 Children \$4
April 4	Friday	10:00am-3:00pm	Downtown Friday Art Walk – Local artists, vendors, music and more	Downtown Farmington	Free
April 4	Friday	6:30pm & 7:30 pm	AstroFriday presentation on Micrometeorites by Mark Everson followed by Stargaze	SJC Planetarium	Free
April 5	Saturday	10:00am – 10:00pm	2025 Gourd Dance & Intertribal Powwow featuring Native Arts & Crafts Fair, food vendors, dancing, music and activities	SJC Health & Performance Center	Free
April 5	Saturday	10:00am – 2:00p,	Health & Safety Fair - a variety of vendors providing wonderful health and safety information.	Sycamore Park Center	Free
April 6	Sunday	3:00pm	San Juan Symphony presents Passion Meets Precision a program of Season 39 – Radiant Echoes	Henderson Fine Arts Center	Students \$10 Seniors \$23 Adults \$30
April 11	Friday	6:00pm – 8:30pm	Prime Rib Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity – Dinner & Dance – Tickets available now.	SunRay Park & Casino	\$50/person \$350/Table 8

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