

Your All Retirees Newsletter



A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

April 2025

I am writing this message on April 1, 2025. I remember when I was a student in school and also when I worked in schools, everyone was always doing April Fool's jokes. "Your shoe is untied" is one I remember. Now, I am not around anyone that plays these jokes on me and I miss it.

We continue to receive analysis of what happened at the Legislature. It doesn't appear to be as productive as we had hoped. I hope to have more to report on that later.

We are approaching the end of our regular year. We will have our picnic at Kiwanis Park at our May 13 meeting. That's always a fun time.

This is also the end of my term as the unit President. It has been my pleasure to serve the past two years. But, it is important to have new people in leadership positions. The more people we have involved in our organization, the stronger it is. Therefore, I encourage each of you to look at ways to be involved in our group to make it stronger. See you at No Worries on April 8.

Jim Conyers,
SJAER President



Happy
Easter!



Non-members: You are invited to our picnic lunch in May (see inside this newsletter for details). It will be our last meeting before our three month summer break. Check us out in May, and then plan to join our group when our membership drive starts in September.

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 Barry Digman. He will share a unique history of the San Juan Park area of Farmington where he grew up and now lives. 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.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

SCRIVER, JOAN	April 17
GOMEZ, DOROTHY	April 24



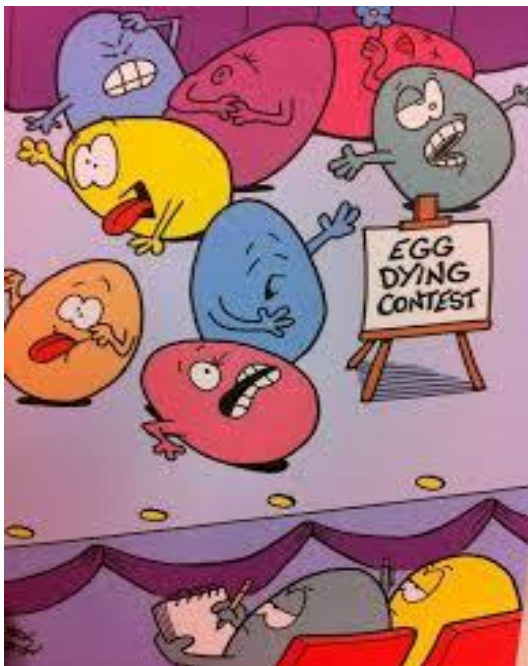
Volunteer Reminder

“Just like God and angels, volunteers don’t get paid – even though theirs is some of the most important work around.”

(paraphrased from Terri Guillemets)

Thank you for your work, volunteers! You are the shining light of our organization.

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 \$2099.73 in our account and \$495.50 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	285
April	
May	
Summer	
Total	1658

SJAER Executive Board Meeting 3-11-25

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

Board Members Working for You

Present: President/James Conyers, Vice President/Scholarship-Marilyn Montoya, Secretary & YARN-Debbie Klein, Treasurer-Kathy Martin, Assistant Treasurer-Sandy Allred, Treasurer in training-Susan Kannard, Programs & SJRMC Rep-Karen Morrison, Membership-Phyllis Meier, Sunshine-Nancy Tyson,

Absent: Webmaster-Chuck Culpepper

Meeting was called to order by James Conyers. Agenda was approved. Minutes were approved.

Old Business – Elections – Jim shared with the board those members who had expressed interest in serving as an officer. He said Marilyn had offered to be president again and Debbie said she would be willing to be president if we could find a secretary. Marilyn suggested Debbie find someone to train to take over the YARN and then serve as president next year. Debbie was not ready to give up the YARN and said what slowed her down now was having to write the minutes to include in the YARN. Debbie also announced that she had spoken with Diane Cook and she agreed to be secretary. Karen wanted to check the bylaws to see if the Vice President was supposed to move into the President's position. After some discussion the board decided to go with a slate of officers to be presented to the membership for approval. The slate is as follows: Debbie Klein – president, Marilyn Montoya – vice president, Diane Cook – Secretary, and Susan Kannard – Treasurer. Marilyn M. moved to accept the slate of officers, Kathy M. seconded, motion carried.

End of Year Picnic – The picnic is in May. Debbie reserved Kiwanis Park #1 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The fee was \$20. She will bring the receipt for reimbursement next meeting. Karen checked on the food and said Spare Rib could do \$8 bag lunch and Albertson's chicken was 50 pieces for \$59. She suggested we find out today and check next month with members to get a count of attendance to the picnic and order our food on basis of that number. It was decided to do chicken and decide next month the details for sides, desserts, & drinks, etc.

Unit member of the year – Jim reported that he hasn't heard from NMAER about Unit Member of the Year but knows they will be contacting us soon. He asked for nominees. Phyllis passed around a list of members. Most of the board has received that honor except Karen Morrison. Marilyn nominated Karen. All approved.

New Business – Not having any new business, Jim asked if anyone had something to bring to the board. Phyllis announced that anyone who had paid their dues would be entered into a drawing for free lunch next fall.

Recruiting new Members – Debbie mentioned that at previous meetings there had been discussion about visiting the schools to invite retirees to the May picnic. If we are going to do that, we need to get a plan together. Marilyn will email a contact she has in Farmington Schools to see if a retirement dinner was being planned for the retirees. She also mentioned that a few years ago she attended a specific school retirement celebration. Perhaps if we could attend each school retirement party, we could invite the new retirees to the picnic. Marilyn will follow up with her contact and email Jim to try and make a plan of action.

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer report:** Approved as printed in the YARN. \$2099.73 in checking and \$495.50 in Scholarship Fund, It looks like we will meet our goal of \$500 in the scholarship fund.
- **Membership:** We have 26 paid members.
- **Sunshine:** Nancy reports she has stamps and cards. All she needs is addresses to send them to. Since we no longer send cards for birthdays, she got rid of them. She thanked Trish for cards she had donated.
- **Programs:** Karen reports that we have Megan Cullip and April will be Barry Digman. We will start working on next year and will welcome ideas.
- **YARN:** Debbie reports that Susan had provided anecdotes for the YARN and thought others might enjoy providing stories of their teaching days. Trish suggested that Debbie could request it in the YARN for members to email them to her. Debbie apologized for not bringing the legislative report to insert.
- **Website:** Chuck is not present, so no report
- **Hospital Representative:** Jim thought the hospital reports might be too long for the YARN, but Debbie still wants to include them.
- **In Memoriam & Volunteer Hours:** Trish reported that she submitted our deceased members to the state so they will probably be listed in their next newsletter.

Meeting adjourned. **Next Board Meeting** – 10:45 am on April 8, 2025 at No Worries, Sports Bar & Grill

General Meeting 4-11-25

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

16 members and 1 presenter

Welcome/Opening – James Conyers, **Pledge** – Sandy Allred, Kathy Martin **Prayer** – Debbie Klein

Business: Welcome members and guests.

➤ **Business:**

- Jim presented the slate of officers for next year. Debbie Klein, president: Marilyn Montoya, vice president; Diane Cook, Secretary; Susan Kannard, Treasurer. The remaining board members have agreed to stay in their positions. Jim asked for nominations from the floor. Seeing none, Marilyn moved we accept the slate of officers. Kathy M. seconded. Motion carried. Congratulations to the new officers.
- Picnic in May at Kiwanis Park. Next month we will provide more details
- Karen had cards completed in preparation for doing a Member Spotlight in the YARN.
- Karen Morrison was elected Unit Member of the year. Congratulations!
- We are nearing the \$500 goal for the scholarship fund. Please buy raffle tickets!
- Debbie announced Caliente Concert, Lions Club Gun and Knife Show, and Aztec Museum is open Spring Break.
- Marilyn spoke to membership about the legislative session and inquired if all were getting the reports. Debbie will send latest report to Phyllis to be sent out to members.

Presenter: Megan Cullip

- Moved to Farmington to serve as the minister at the Presbyterian Church for a couple of years
- During that time there were 24 deaths and she found she enjoyed comforting and helping with the grieving process and was pretty good at it.
- Started working at Basin Hospice and now works for San Juan County as the Community Health and Social Services Director. Likes the broad title as she gets to do a lot of different things.
- Right out of Divinity School, she worked as a chaplain at the 1st Psychiatric Hospital in U.S.
- Watching YouTube videos one night she learned of an asylum in Juarez, Mexico.
 - Was struck by how the impoverished village cared for each other
 - She contacted the guy with the asylum that night and was invited the next day to come.
 - She visited for 4 days and learned the system that was evident in the village
 - Each member of the community took care of different jobs based on their abilities.
 - All members contributed to maintain the community caring for each other.
- U.S. has the medical model and they had a more communal model
 - We are all going to learn how to live here together and how to take care of each other.
 - U.S. is such a litigious society and we get in trouble for doing things that should be done
 - In Juarez, they did what was necessary to promote healing.
 - Here, we get caught up in so much regulation that it prevents giving purpose to people
- She was able to use some of what she learned and apply them when she returned.
- The next year I took a group of young adults to Juarez to do building/repair work
- Formed a group called Vision in Action which is still active
- Communities flourish only in so much as they take care of the most vulnerable members
- Citizens in crisis don't know what to do and where to go to get help,
- San Juan County has developed a mental wellness resource center, The Navigation Center.
 - Helps with housing, transportation, mental health, substance abuse, parenting, etc.

Community Announcements – Caliente Concert Tuesday, Mar. 25 Gun Show Fri. & Sat. Aztec

- 50/50 drawing winner – Marilyn Montoya Drawing for Lunch – Trish Murphy

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



In Memoriam April 2025



Doral Dean “Doty” Sullivan. 3/4/33 – 3/26/25. Bloomfield. Well-respected nurse for Bloomfield schools; drove school bus on Sullivan Rd – sweetest lady you’ll ever meet; worked at Central Elementary and Rio Vista schools. SJAER member.

Lillian Pauline Roberts. 7/15/34 – 3/9/25. Farmington. Teacher’s aide for FMS from 1991-96; continued taking tickets at FMS sports events until 2000. SJAER member.

Margaret I Nyce. 11/17/41 – 3/4/25. Aztec. Taught first grade at Central Primary; gifted teacher who never gave up on her students.

Joy Sue Giovengo Wells. 11/27/33 – 3/23/25. Farmington. Educator at Tibbetts, Heights and Rocinate for 13 years.

Programs

Apr. 8	Barry Digman, Farmington native and long time realtor, will share city of Farmington history with us.	May	End of Year Picnic at Kiwanis Park Pavilion #1. Join us for a fun gathering before the summer break.
--------	---	-----	--

Member Spotlights



Board Member - She was born January 7 in London, but she is not British! She is a long tall Texan who knows the words to the New Mexico State Pledge and holds the Stars and Stripes at our meetings when we stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance. This retired educator received a degree from Commercial Business College in Odessa, TX, but found her vocation and career as a Librarian at Heights Junior High/Middle School and Piedra Vista High School. She loves to spend time sewing and creating ceramics and pottery, but also enjoys travel and lists England and Scotland dream vacations.

Say “Howdy” and “Hello” the next time you see our SJAER Assistant Treasurer (for 1 more month) Sandy Allred.



Member - Another Texan made her way to the Four Corners. Born on May Day (May 1), she got her BS degree at Eastern New Mexico University. Employed at Kirtland Central High School, she taught English, Communication Skills and Drama...although she is not a drama queen! She loves to travel, especially to Tennessee and Virginia, and currently lives in the shadow of the new Farmington LDS Temple on College Blvd. In her spare time she loves scrapbooking, making cards and doing genealogy.

Say “Hello!” To Laura Busch.

Speaker's Bio – Barry Digman

Briefly. My parents moved to Farmington in 1953-1954. I grew up in the San Juan Park neighborhood where I still live with my wife Becki Dunham. We raised our 4 children here. I attended McKinley, Tibbetts JUNIOR HIGH, FHS, San Juan College, TVI, and graduated from UNM. I work as a Realtor with Keller Williams. My wife and I enjoy buying and rehabbing homes in our neighborhood. She does all the design work and supervises the contractors. I post the progress on social media.



Tales of a Teacher - anecdotes by Susan Kannard

I remember one time when...

My third graders lined up for PE right after the morning bell rang. Josh, the line leader, looked across the room at me and asked, "Miss Susan, are you wearing lipstick?" Since I knew I'd picked a deep red lipstick that morning to match my red wool dress, I replied brightly, "Yes, I am Josh." He breathed a sigh of relief and said, "Oh, I'm glad because if you weren't wearing any lipstick I was going to have to tell you that your lips are bleeding real bad."

Help Debbie create the YARN!

Do you have a touching, amusing, unforgettable story of your teaching days? Want to share them with us? Just deliver your anecdote to Debbie and she will put it in the YARN for all of us to enjoy! You can write it and give it to her at a meeting, you can email it to her at aztecnana@gmail.com, or you can call her up and tell her your story at 505-330-4631. I'm sure each one of you have at least one story you can share.



EVENTS

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Cost
Through Dec. 31	Ongoing	Wed-Sat 10:00-4:00	Visions of Shiprock - forty pieces of artwork featuring Shiprock Peak	Navajo Art Museum	Free
Through Dec. 31	Ongoing	Wed-Sat 10:00-4:00	Diné weavings of a variety of styles from the Bob and Mary Culpepper Collection.	Navajo Art Museum	Free
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

April 11	Friday	6:00 pm – 8:30pm	Prime Rib for Habitat for Humanity - Dance & dine melt-in-your-mouth Prime Rib dinner	SunRay Casino	\$50 or \$350 for table of eight
April 12	Saturday	8:30am – 4:00pm	Mesa View Middle School Spring Craft Fair & Pancake Breakfast - find unique, handmade gifts	4451 Wildflower Dr.	Entrance \$1 Breakfast \$4
April 12 April 13	Saturday Sunday	8:00am-3:00pm	Spring Dumpster Weekend - accept yard trimmings, household non-hazardous trash, and yard waste	Berg Park	Free
April 12	Saturday	12:00pm – 2:00pm	The Native Table: A Culinary Journey - a hands-on cooking class to dive into Native American cuisine!	Farmington Museum	\$10
April 12	Saturday	6:00pm – 9:00pm	Enjoy a date night dance with live music Doors open at 5:00pm	Bonnie Dallas Sr. Center	\$3
April 14- April 18 April 19	Monday- Friday Saturday	7:00pm 2:00pm	The Passion Play of the Four Corners is back to bring the story of Jesus Christ to life through stunning performances	McGee Park Convention Center	Frere
April 18 – May 25	Friday - Sunday	12:00pm – 5:00pm	Live horse racing - special activities and themes are featured weekly-Post time 1:15	SunRay Park	Free
April 19	Saturday	1:00pm – 7:00pm	<u>EQUUS Mustang Matinee</u> - features talks, art showings, book sales and signings about Mustangs – including 11 film shorts	Total Theatre	\$28 VIP/Movies \$15 Movies only
April 25	Friday	Depart 6am Return TBD	The Bonnie Dallas Senior Center Adventures - Antelope Canyon Tour - Sack lunch available.	Bonnie Dallas Center to Paige, AZ	Van Fee \$10 Park Fee \$8 Tour Fee \$85
4/25 & 5/2 4/26 & 5/3 5/4	Friday Saturday Sunday	7:30pm 7:30pm 2:30pm	Theatre Ensemble Arts presents Resident Alien! Prepare for an extraterrestrial encounter with laughter!	Total Theatre	\$12 -\$14
April 25 April 26	Friday- Saturday	10am-5pm 11am-4pm	J.A. Jewelers & Co Estate Jewelry Show - Vintage & Estate Jewelry Trunk Show	2909 E 20th	Free Entry
Apr. 26	Saturday	7:00pm	Ronstadt Revue, featuring Gesenia - enjoy reliving the legacy of the legendary Linda Ronstadt	Henderson Fine Arts Center	Public \$25 Srs/Military. \$20 Students \$10
April 26	Saturday	1:30pm-3:30pm	Aztec's Six Old Soreheads Reception, Reunion & Program - history and nostalgia surrounding the Old Soreheads	Aztec Museum	Free
Apr 29	Tuesday	6:00 pm	Senior Fraud Awareness - learn about common types of scams targeting older adults and tips on how to safeguard personal information.	Farmington Library	Free
May 1	Thursday	10:00am-3:00pm	Kiwanis Forks & Corks with Friends - food, drinks, live music, wine tasting, gift card pulls/prizes etc Benefits Clothes for Kids.	Triple J Ranch	\$35
May 3	Saturday	9:00am – 3:00pm	Spring Craft Fair - unique gifts from local crafters and artisans – Cookie/Coffee Bar, Navajo Tacos & Frybread – 50+ vendors	Calvary Chapel	Free
May 9	Friday	7:00pm	"Music at the Museum" - Enjoy Lone Piñon, a New Mexican string band, celebrating their region's cultural roots.with music.	Aztec Museum	Free
May 10	Saturday	5:00pm – 9:00pm	Music for Masada - food, fun, friends and great local musicians supporting a local cause."Empowering Women in Recovery."	Farmington Civic Center	\$35

