

**AFD RETIREE NEWS**

News 1

**ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION**

December 1, 2014

#- 4-2014

President, Sam Trujillo,	5318 La Colonia NW, Albuquerque, NM,	87120	899-1500
Vice President, Bill Raupfer	19 Valley Trail, Edgewood, N.M.	87015	281-8478
Secretary Fred Casias	P.O. Box 608 Bernalillo, NM,	87004	269-0370
Treasurer, John Serino,	1504 Hermosa S. E. Albuquerque, NM	87108	266-1252
Historian, Herman R. Bishop	12501 Royal Crest Ct. NE, Albuquerque NM,	87111	294-7165

**ADVISORY BOARD**

Eugene Baldonado	344-6866	Noel Baca	836-2480
Vince Holcomb	897-2667	Joe Martinez	792-1867
Louis C. Trujillo	873-1544	Juan Sandoval	877-9650
Eddie Abieta	869-3082	Tommy Romero	855-9389
Fred Teupell	259-6521	Ralph Sedillo	821-7802
Ray Flores	898-8948	Pablo Garcia Jr. 363-2233	
		Eddie Torres 867-2631	
		Santos Abeyta	877-2026



**PUBLISHED BY  
THE AFD RETIREE'S  
ASSOCIATION**



**EDITOR, HERMAN R. BISHOP**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

- P-1, Commemoration 911
- P-1, Christmas Party
- P-2, Death Floyd Torres
- P-2, AFD Radio Code, 1974
- P-3, Sept. Monthly Meeting
- P-4, Lynn Reule Story
- P-6, AFD Stories
- P-8, A Fireman's Prayer
- P-9, Past, Letterbox
- P-10, October Monthly Meeting
- P-10- Chief Leonard Ortega
- P-11, Union News, From Past
- P-12- Old Wage Scales, AFD
- P-12, Fire Chief Study, 1973
- P-13, Christmas Wishes
- P-14, Minutes November Meeting
- P-15, Bett Clark, Fire/EMS Expo
- P-16, President's Message

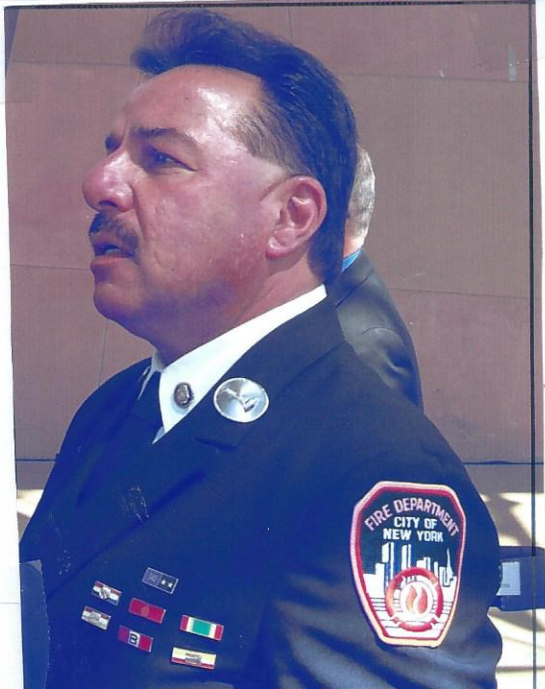
**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**THE RETIREE'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE HELD ON SAT. 12-20-2014, DOWNTOWN BERNALILLO, NEW MEXICO, 5:00 P.M. AT THE ROTARY PARK COMMUNITY CENTER. GO TO CALLE DON FRANCISCO, TURN WEST, 1/2 MILE. THERE IS NO CHARGE. BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR DONATIONS TO ROAD RUNNER FOOD BANK.**



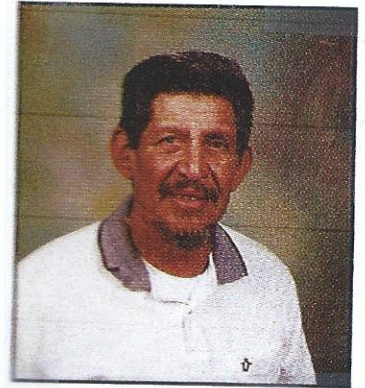
**COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES 911**

On September 11, 2014 Commemoration Ceremonies were held at Civic Plaza in Downtown Albuquerque. Master of Ceremonies was Fire Chief David Downey. Speakers were Governor Susana Martinez, Mayor Richard Berry, City Council President, Ken Sanchez, and Police Chief Gordon Eden. Also attending were County Officials, and Key Members of Kirtland Air Force Base. Colors were posted by the Albuquerque Fire and Police Honor Guard. The Honor Guard of the AFD Retiree's Association conducted the "Bell Ringing," Ceremony in honor of those who lost Their lives during the 911 Tragedy. Pictured above is Fire Chief David Downey With the AFD Retiree's Assoc. Honor Guard, And retired NYC Firefighter Joe Torrillo. Pictured on the left is Joe Torrillo, retired NYC firefighter, survivor of 911. Firefighter Torrillo was the keynote speaker at Thursday's ceremonies.





Floyd Torres Dies - On Saturday October 18, 2014 our brother firefighter and Fellow retiree Floyd Torres age 73, passed away. He was born in Albuquerque And was a United States Marine who served his country honorably in Viet Nam. After his military service he joined AFD in March, 1970. He served over 22 years In the department and retired as a driver during December, 1991. Floyd loved His job as a firefighter and was well liked by fellow firefighters and supervisors Alike. His fellow firefighters knew him as a loyal, brave, dedicated firefighter And a true friend. He enjoyed the qualities that bond firefighters together during Their careers, even into retirement. He was a member of the AFD Retiree's Association. His brother George Torres is also a retired AFD firefighter who Served over 24 years with the department. Both brothers were proud to have Served honorably as firefighters together. Our most sincere condolences go to the Entire Torres family. Funeral services will be held October 23, 2014 at the Prince of Peace Catholic Church, 12500 Carmel Ave. N.E. at 11:00 A.M. Internment will follow at 2:15 P.M. at the Santa Fe National Cemetery.



Floyd M. Torres

**ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
 RADIO CODE , JUNE, 1974  
 N.M. FIREFIGHTER NEWS  
 (REPRINT)**

Good fire communications are vital for operations. Fire Departments should adopt proper procedures for handling messages. All members should be familiar with the adopted procedures.

There are many different radio codes being used. I have noticed that fire departments are unable to use their codes with other departments, so there is much time wasted communicating. Under Major Emergency conditions, the messages become quite lengthy thus tying up the system. If there was a state fire service code adopted by all fire departments, it would greatly improve their ability to work in an efficient manner. Fire Fighters should realize that they are being monitored by the news media, and citizens with monitor radios. I believe the departments image is reflected by the way they communicate over the radio.

- 10- 2
- 10- 4
- 10- 5
- 10- 6
- 10- 7
- 10- 8
- 10- 9
- 10-10
- 10-20
- 10-24
- 10-27
- 10-30
- 10-31
- 10-33
- 10-34
- 10-43
- 10-43-1
- 10-44
- 10-45
- 10-53
- 10-55
- 10-95-1
- 10-95-2

loud and clear  
 message received  
 and acknowledged  
 in-service at-----  
 busy, not available  
 out of service  
 in-service by radio  
 repeat last message  
 first unit to arrive  
 location or address  
 need traffic control  
 arson investigator  
 return to quarters  
 call by phone  
 FIRE ALARM  
 need police officer  
 RESCUE CALL  
 suicide reported  
 minor accident  
 major accident  
 non-emergency call  
 request ambulance  
 -bomb search--  
 --bomb found--



**September Monthly Meeting-** The AFD Retiree's monthly meeting was held on September 10, 2014, at the firefighter's union hall, 4100 Edith NE. Vice President Bill Raupfer called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance. The opening prayer was led by Juan Sandoval and a moment of silence was held for our deceased members.

**Roll Call: Present -** Vice President Bill Raupfer, John Serino, and Herman Bishop. Sam Trujillo was out of town visiting New York City to participate in the Commemoration Ceremonies of 911.

**Guests: Cynthia Borrego** is running for the West Side board member's position on the Albuquerque Metropolitan Flood Control Authority. She stands for efficiency, financial accountability, safety and to keep the property taxes low. She is a friend of the firefighters and would appreciate our vote. **Stephanie Wagner** is the local Executive Director of the MDA Fill the Boot campaign this year and is working with firefighter **Jacob Tapia** to coordinate the drive with active duty firefighters and retired firefighters to assist in this year's fund raiser. This year's campaign will be held from September 18<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. To assist in the campaign this year contact Sam Trujillo @899-1500 or Bill Raupfer @281-8478.

Bill Raupfer welcomed two retirees who attended the monthly meeting for the first time, Rich Brown, and Tom Stark. Our members gave both Rich and Tom a **"BIG WELCOME!"**

On September 6, 2014 The Honor Guard was invited to conduct the "Fire Bell Ceremony," recently at the Sandoval County Fire Department near the Santa Ana Casino to support the Motorcycle Charity Run. A generous donation was given to the AFD Retiree's Association.

The Secretary's report was read for the August 12<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting by Herman Bishop due to the absence of Fred Casias who was out of town at the State Fire Academy in Socorro, NM teaching a fire science class. A motion to accept was made by Eddie Abieta and was seconded by Joe Martinez. The motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by John Serino. He sold quite a few T-Shirts, and Caps at the annual picnic. The good turn out at the picnic put us at about the break even point financially after all bills were paid. September 1<sup>st</sup>. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Mike Murphy and was seconded by Ray Flores. The motion carried.

Eddie Abieta and Ralph Sedillo conducted the drawing for the August meeting. Manuel Aragon won the firefighter T-Shirt, and Rich brown won a gift certificate to TLC Uniforms.

The Historian's report was given by Herman Bishop. Herman is working with Fred Casias to assist retirees in completing information for personnel record cards. This information will be used on the photo I. D. cards. Please contact Fred Casias or Herman Bishop if you have not filled out a card.

Ray Flores reported that the annual picnic/reunion was a success. Over 135 people attended and there was enough food for everyone. He gave a big thanks to the ladies who worked so hard to prepare the meal and to all the volunteers who so graciously assisted in the tables and chairs set up. Also a big thanks to all who assisted in the final clean-up and storing the chairs and tables away. **"A GREAT TIME WAS HAD BY ALL."**

Our sincere condolences to John Herrera and family. His wife passed away. Best wishes to Jerry Barboa and Robert Cisneros who have been on the sick roster. Best wishes to Greg Armenta's wife who is on the sick roster.

**The closing prayer was led by Juan Sandoval. The September meeting adjourned @ 8:38 PM.**



## The Lynn Reule Story

by Eddie Abeita

### *A Case I was Involved in was Known as the "Yucca Bandits"*

I started my career with Albuquerque Fire Department in 1990, my training instructors were Brian Levie and Eddie Abeita Lynn said. The fire academy was located on Kit Carson SW can you imagine how many firefighters that were trained there Lynn said? After our cadet class graduation we lost some to other fire departments which seemed strange.



Picture of Lynn Reule

Fire training was always interesting but I remember a particular time we were in session during the Christmas season. Our class thought let's bring a little Christmas cheer to class. On Christmas Eve a Santa cap and bells to ring were brought, The Christmas cheer was short lived, because PT ended up being 100's of squat thrusts to the bells until they had completely fallen off the strand. Then we got to enjoy walking the unstable ladder laid across the cold drainage ditch behind the academy in the snow. The class also felt maybe the academy would close early like other city offices maybe we would get to leave around 3:00PM? Well it did not happen we were in session until 5:00PM, now looking back this was another lesson on working Holidays in the field. At this time I believe all the firefighters from our cadet class are retired or employed with other fire departments Lynn said.

Lynn said my first assignment was at station 13. The Captain was Dave Torres and back then the officer made sure mentoring was in place to keep you focused on **your duties and responsibilities**. My first fire call was at San Pedro and Candelaria a candle shop that was fully involved. I remember my heart was pounding hard. I caught the hydrant and also went in with our crew with a hose line to knock down the fire. I guess you could call that an exciting rush, said Lynn? While assigned to station 13, I was promoted to Paramedic Driver in which I was there for approximately 3 years.

My cooking started when I was promoted to Paramedic Driver at Station-16. Lt. Rick Romeo and I cooked healthy, such as green chili chicken egg rolls, yummy. We had some memorable rescues in the Open Space; there weren't many written guidelines at that time. Sometimes we'd be out for a full day hiking and hauling cardiac and trauma patients out of the mountains. It made for a great workout. Tramway had very few stoplights back in the early 90's and many deadly and traumatic car wrecks occurred. Rick had performed a tracheotomy on a teen once, we didn't know if he'd survived.

A year later we responded to another Tramway wreck, and I asked the patient why he had a scar on his neck. He said a firefighter saved his life. It was the same kid! I pointed at Rick and I told him this is the firefighter who saved your life.



While at Rescue 16 Lynn said our rescue was selected to provide medical support if needed to President Clinton while he was in Albuquerque. Our assignment was, if needed to assist his surgeon with any needed drugs or equipment required. We were given a specific place in the motorcade and what our absolute duties was *if needed*, provide immediate transport to a pre determined hospital, the rescue officer was Lieutenant Rick Romero.

In 1996 I was assigned to the Arson Division, which was great. I was required to attend the Law Enforcement Academy in Santa Fe, and became a "Fire Cop". I worked on over 200 cases and had many arrest and convictions. One particular case involved what was known as the "Yucca Bandits" a group of three young men who were terrifying neighborhoods by setting yucca plants on fire. Then the thugs escalated to buildings under construction, moving on to occupied homes at night terrorizing sleeping victims. I was on call one night when a Good Samaritan followed them, called APD and I was able to make an arrest. Through the Judicial system all three were charged, convicted and served time in prison. After released, one went on to commit homicide and now resides in Santa Fe.

Being an arson investigator you could get dispatched to a fire scene at any time like 2 AM, which happened to me several times Lynn said. Its dark cold and you are all alone and the fire units returned to their station to get their unit back in service and you are alone. It was tuff to have dispatch return a unit to assist in providing lighting because they worked the fire and were tired. However Interest levels would build once I started showing the process of Fire Cause and Determination.

Lynn said one of my fondest memories was when I became the Public Information Officer which was great. I made sure that the news media received weekly positive information and stories about AFD. It was wonderful in fund raising activities to benefit children's charities like Bikes for Tikes and Shopping with the Kids I attended the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg MD for a one week Public Information course and immediately upon my return had to put my training to use. We had a massive Bosque fire which even CNN news came and covered. I was asked to give a report to CNN which made my previous training so rewarding.

After my term as PIO I went back to fire suppression and was assigned to station 14 we had a good crew and a lot of motor vehicle accidents running west on Interstate 40 up to and past To'hajiilee. These are calls with people needing help with the travel to these locations the distance was secondary! My old injuries would return periodically in which I was placed on light duty until I retired.

Now I enjoy retirement and even involved in television shows what are known as "Back Ground Artist". I have been a background doctor in Night Shift a medical drama. Lynn said, I also was in the background for, Breaking Bad, Better Call Sal and Longmire. I have a son who is an AFD firefighter with 15 years of service and also have two *beautiful* granddaughters ages 10 and 16 which I adore. And with no cell phone I just take life easy and do what I want to do and when I want to do it, even attend the retirees meeting Lynn said with a smile!



## NO MEDIA COVERAGE –

by Eddie Abeita

Retired firefighters can reminisce about their old fire careers and some emergencies they responded to. This was routine for firefighters however calls had various outcomes especially those involving people. During September's retirees meeting the membership was given a form to fill out pertaining to the following question. During your career, were you involved in an emergency situation while you were **off duty** or **now retired** where you had to immediately take action? The response was minimal however the stories that were told were astonishing. Some retirees shared some incidents but did not put it in writing sometimes these old memories we keep buried for various reasons. I refer to them as stored in our file 13 or pretend it's a senior moment. The following retirees shared their old memories. ....  
It's Our History

### **The Last Dance .....by Louie Trujillo**

While serving as Fire Chief in St. Petersburg FL my wife and I were invited to several functions, one in particular was a firefighter's 64th birthday party. It was well attended by family and friends said Louie. Shortly after midnight the band struck up the song "Happy Birthday" to FF Lew Phillips. He and his wife started the HB dance, when all of a sudden Lew dropped to his knees..... He became victim of a Heart Attack. Louie said I witnessed the heart attack of Lew and I immediately began CPR assisted by a nurse who also was at the party. We continued CPR until Fire Rescue arrived with the ambulance crew right behind them and they took over. However after all the efforts by all, Lew expired. **All firefighters gave their best trying to revive our brother but all in vain.**

Lew had previous heart problems which caused him to retire from the fire service. The local newspaper wrote the story and titled it; "The Last Dance". It's been years since that tragic event but you seem to get flash backs now and then *or as Eddie said stuck in our file 13.*

### **Luckily we were there, two young lives were saved! By Hilario Chavez**

Approximately 20 years ago Ray Sedillo, Uncle Frank and I went fishing to a small lake in northwest New Mexico. We had a small boat where we went out in the morning to fish which we did catch a few and returned back to camp to eat breakfast. After breakfast we decided to do some more fishing also on the lake was a young boy and girl who were on a plastic inflatable swimming pool using it as a raft. The young man began to horse around which caused the pool to flip over sending them both into the water. The boy was having trouble staying afloat while the young lady appeared to be a good swimmer. The young lady tried to help the struggling boy however he started to panic and pulled her down under the water and screams for help could be heard. We were paddling as fast as we could to reach them however with the wind blowing it made it difficult. When we did reach the victims I immediately threw a life vest to the boy, he grabbed it and held onto which kept him above water, we grabbed him and pulled him into the boat. The young lady was not visible during this time when all of a sudden she surfaced so we extended an oar for her to grab and she did as we pulled her to the boat. We immediately went back to shore where the two were going into shock which we started to treat for.

We were able to locate their parents which we told them they need medical treatment. They were taken to the closest hospital. On our way home we stopped at the hospital and visited with them, I told the young girl see now you "were given a second chance"! Still shaky she acknowledged yeah a second chance she said. *Luckily we were their.... because two young lives were saved!*



**There Was a Gas Smell but Still Figured CO? by Toby Pino**

One Sunday morning after working the night shift, I needed to stop at my cousin house to deliver some keys on the way home.

At his residence I knocked several times on the door with no response which seemed odd. I just knew something was wrong so I forced my way into the house and found the kids on the floor asleep? There was a smell of maybe gas but immediately thought no its carbon monoxide (although CO is odorless and colorless) it just seemed like bad air. I immediately started shaking and yelling at the kids to wake up and get out of the house. I had to carry some out to fresh air along with the adults; I called for fire and rescue response and requested additional ambulances. The victims were transported to the hospital where some had an extended hospital stay do to CO poisoning. Up to this day I hate to think, *"What would have happened if I did not show up"*!

**He did not Respond Apparently too Weak to Answer; by Henry Chavez**

In the early 1980's on a cold morning approximately 9 AM, Jimmy Baca and I placed my aluminum boat onto the water to troll for rainbow trout. It was mid week and I remember telling Jimmy that we were the only boat on the lake.

We came around the west arm of the lake and noticed a large object far off in the middle between the two shorelines. It looked like a large tree trunk and thought it was odd but nothing more. As we got closer it became clear to us that it was a capsized canoe and an older man was holding on for his life. We had no idea how long he had been the water.

We quickly sped over to the canoe and shouted out to him but he did not respond apparently to weak to answer. We knew that it would be hard to bring him into our boat because our boat was too small. Our plan which we told him was to hold onto him on the side of the boat and get to the closest shore. When we got to shore the man was shivering from hypothermia and slightly responsive. We started treating him and even used our own clothes to dry and warm him. Approximately 30 minutes later he started to respond to us, he asked if we could recover his canoe which we did. He then wanted to return to his campsite upon recovery of his canoe Jimmy and I noticed he had used two clamps and a piece of 2x4 to secure his motor to the canoe. This put all the weight on one side which caused it to lean far to the starboard side and roll over. We placed him into his canoe and towed him to find his camp. We reached his camp which he was extremely grateful for our help, he was tired but recovering. The whole incident lasted approximately 2-3hrs; *we still managed to get in a little fishing that day.....*

**Name the Baby "Johnnie Coors" by John Serino**

AFD responds to childbirth calls all the time. One shift with Rescue 7 we responded to a childbirth call at Central and Coors. I assisted (the mother done the work) with the childbirth of a baby boy in the back seat of a Volkswagen. After the birth the family was so grateful for our assistance the mother said with a big smile I think we will name him *"Johnny Coors"*!

**The Three Year Old Choking and in Distress by Eddie Abeita**

Periodically a local resident still "thanks me" for saving his daughters life over 30 years ago when she was approximately 3 years old.

Having dinner at a restaurant in Los Lunas NM there was commotion at another table. A three year old was choking on food and in distress the family was in panic mode. I went and grabbed the child who was limp and not doing well, I started to dislodge the object as taught in AFD'S first aid training (81 hour course). The food came out and the child started to breathe on her own. I waited with them until the ambulance arrived and provided some TLC. *Never saw her again just her dad.*



# A Fireman's Prayer

Brother, when you weep for me,  
remember that it was meant to be.  
Lay me down and when you leave,  
remember I'll be at your sleeve.  
In every dark and choking hall,  
I'll be there as you slowly crawl.



On every roof in driving snow,  
I'll hold your coat, and you will know.  
The house from which I now respond,  
is overstaffed with heroes gone.  
Men who answered one last bell,  
did the job and did it well.  
As firefighters we understand that,  
death's card dealt in our hand.  
A card we hope we never play,  
But one we hold there anyway.  
That card is something we ignore,  
As we crawl across a weakened floor.

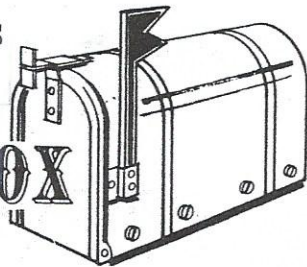


For we know that we're the only prayer,  
for anyone that might be there.  
So remember as you wipe your tears,  
the joy I knew throughout the years.  
As I did the job I loved to do,  
I pray that thought will see you through.





# LETTERBOX



Hon. Harry Kinney, Mayor  
City of Albuquerque  
400 Marquette Ave., NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RE: Rescue Squad  
Dear Harry:

Early Saturday morning I needed help quickly — my husband was unconscious. The Rescue Squad responded to my frantic call and took charge, including taking him and me to the hospital. Luckily, he is alright now. It was a frightening experience. I don't know what I would have done without their capable assistance.

Both Nick and I extend our deepest appreciation for the City's vital rescue service. To me, the men's performance was quick, efficient and comforting.

A neighborhood doctor also came to the house at the time and said Nick had the best emergency attention possible.

Sincerely,  
Gertrude Dazzo  
(Mrs. Nicholas E.)

Rescue Squad  
Albuquerque Fire Department  
Gentlemen,

It has been many months since my "rescue", and I meant to write to you then. Somehow I've managed to put off writing, but I guess this too is a testimony to your competence that I still remember!

I fell on ice in the parking lot at Winrock Shopping Center and fractured my leg at about 7:15 PM on Jan. 14, 1977. The squad was there within minutes, greatly relieving my mind and really impressing my two children! The men were gentle, reassuring and caring — thoroughly professional. They kept me quite comfortable till the ambulance arrived despite the nasty break suffered. I didn't catch anyone's names, but I do want to express my thanks if at all possible.

I'm still in a cast, but thank the Lord my leg is finally showing signs of mending.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sue Feeder

Mr. Clyde G. Sharrer  
Aviation Director  
Albuquerque International Airport  
P.O. Box 9022  
Albuquerque, NM 87119

Dear Clyde:

On July 20, 1977, while our Flight #36 was landing, one of our passengers became quite ill. Your office personnel called the Albuquerque Fire Department rescue squad and they were on the ramp in approximately 5 minutes.

On August 4, 1977, one of our employees was injured while unloading freight, again the rescue squad was there within 5 minutes.

Would you be so kind as to pass on our sincere thanks for an outstanding job and their fine efforts extended. This is a very good service to our company and the passenger involved.

Sincerely,

Harold Maxwell

Manager Transportation Services — ABQ

Mr. Harold Maxwell  
Manager Transportation Services — ABQ  
Frontier Airlines  
P.O. Box 9004  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87119

Dear Harold:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of August 8th. We endeavor to help the airlines as much as possible in handling emergency situations.

We are forwarding a copy of your letter to the rescue squad, so that they will be advised of your appreciation of their efforts.

Yours very truly,

Clyde G. Sharrer, A.A.E.  
Aviation Director

Dear Chief Martinez:

You will recall I called you and commended the fine men of your rescue squad on their most professional treatment and response time the day my dad passed away.

Now as Thanksgiving draws near, I would like to remember these gentlemen with a small token of our esteem and hope that it will help go toward some form of additional entertainment for your men and that it be given in the name of Oscar Love, Sr. to: Lt. Bill Busick, Ross Escarcida and Armando Rojas, and all their associates in your outstanding rescue squads.

My best regards to you all for a happy and safe holiday season.

Cordially,

Oscar Mahlon Love, Jr.



**October Meeting-** The October monthly meeting was called to order on October 8, 2014 by President Sam Trujillo @ 7:10 P.M. at the Firefighter's Union Hall, 4100 Edith N.E. After the Pledge of Allegiance led by President Sam Trujillo, a moment of silence was held in memory of our deceased members. Juan Sandoval led the opening prayer. After roll call a quorum was determined and the meeting continued.

Sam welcomed retirees Lynn Reule and Ray Ponce. He also recognized fellow retired firefighter Pat McCartney from Wisconsin who now lives in Albuquerque. Diego Arencon, President IAFF, Local 244, asked Sam to express special thanks to the AFD Retirees who assisted in the September, Muscular Dystrophy Drive. Unfortunately the defensive driving course offered by retiree Eppie Ortega had to be cancelled due to lack of participation.

Fred Casias gave the Secretary's report for the month of September. A motion was made to accept by Eddie Torres and was seconded by Joe Martinez. The motion passed. John Serino gave the Treasurer's report. Currently our treasury is solvent, however we have the expense of December's newsletter coming up and the Christmas Party will be held in December. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report by David Junick and was seconded by Juan Sandoval.

Historian Herman Bishop reported that the Commemoration ceremonies held at Civic Plaza remembering 911 on September 11<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. Congresswoman Michelle Grissom Lujan Visited Sam Trujillo when he was in the hospital. Herman is working with Fred Casias to develop Personnel record files for our retired members to accompany the official photos for the photo I.D. Cards. If you have not filled out the information card or had your photo taken, please see Fred and Herman.

Retiree John Herrera and family sent a nice letter of thanks to the retirees who offered condolences to their family on the loss of John's wife recently. Eileen O'Connell, Director of the Special Collections Library @ Edith and Central N.E. sent a nice letter of thanks to Herman and Fred Casias who made a special presentation, "AFD Fire Department History," to the Friends of the Library and the Albuquerque Historical Society during July.

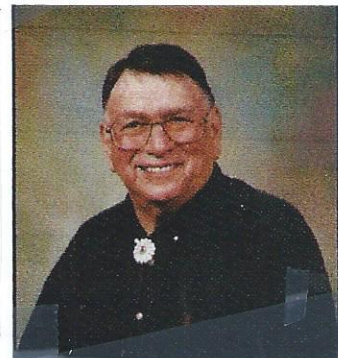
Special thanks goes to Eddie Torres and Ray Flores for Chairing the annual picnic in August. Vice President Bill Raupfer is recognized for the fine job he did conducting business for the retiree's association during Sam's visit to 911 Ceremonies in New York City and also for filling in during Sam's recent hospitalization. We are happy to report that Sam has recovered and we wish him well.

Sam Trujillo and Kerry Horton honored Bernalillo County retired firefighter Ernie Gutierrez at funeral ceremonies held in Chili, New Mexico recently by conducting the four-five's, "Bell Ringing Ceremony." They Received special thanks from the Bernalillo County Retired Firefighter's association who were most appreciative of their services. Best wishes to retirees Harry Martinez, and Bill Raupfer who were on the sick leave roster recently.

Winners of the October retiree's raffle were: Felix Garza, fruit package. Also Felix Garza and Pat McCarthy won polo shirts. The Closing prayer for the October monthly meeting was given by Sam Trujillo. The meeting adjourned @ 8:30 P.M.

**LEONARD C. ORTEGA, ALIVE & WELL**

Retired AFD Fire Chief Leonard C. Ortega called recently and sends his greetings And best wishes to all the AFD Retirees and people he worked with during his Tenure as Fire Chief. In the September 1<sup>st</sup> issue of "AFD Retiree News," we ran An article, "Photos of AFD Retiree's From The Past." After reading the newsletter He called and wanted us to know he is still around. Although he uses oxygen he is Somewhat restricted as to physical activity, otherwise, he is doing pretty well. Chief Ortega joined AFD in September, 1960 . Prior to joining AFD he served as a career Firefighter for nine years in Trinidad, Colorado . He served 25 years with AFD and Six of those years he was Fire Chief and he served under two Mayors, David Rusk, And Harry Kinney. It was nice to hear from him and we wish him the best as he enjoys his retirement years.



**Leonard C. Ortega**





# GOOD

AUGUST, 1967

# NEWS

**SPECIAL NOTE:**  
 IN 1967 THE F.F. UNION  
 WAS LOCAL 1455. THIS  
 LETTER DESCRIBES THE  
 THE BENEFITS WE WERE  
 NEGOTIATING FOR THEN.

This is a Special letter to inform everyone of the gains made at the meeting with the city manager, Mr. Robertson; personall director, Col. Schold; Fire Chief, S. Seligman; and Assistant District Chief, M. Dauber. The requests made by the Union were for; (a) The 3-3-3 working schedule; (b) the matter of splitting your vacations; (c) the trading of shifts; (d) the request of the city to set a policy on tardiness; (e) the matter testing for promotional purposes.

A. The new 3-3-3 working schedule will be worked out and go into effect the first of next year 1968. This was with much work the Unions part.

B. The Splitting of vacations will be worked out and go into effect next year. So that you can take your vacation at two different times. This will help out very much in the cases of emergency.

C. The trading of shifts was not approved at this time, but will be looked into by Col. Schold.

D. There will be a definite policy set on tartiness,. It is hoped that this will stop some of the past errors .

E. The test of the future will be gave by the personal dept. only This I hope will makefor a better and fairer test.

Much of the credit is due your Union Leaders for this success in achiving our goals. Without the aid of the body of this local these goals could not have been reached.

BUT WE HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO' UNIDED WE STAND  
 So lets shoot for 100% Membership., and further strive for all t that is fairt for the Firefighters,

Of great importance is the raise achieved this year, in whigh if it had not for the persistence of your Union we would not have had the sucessfull increase that we did . I feel that we are now well on the way to many of the good things in the life for the Firefighters.

Special mention is due O. Metcalf, L. Ortega, N. Baca, R. Murphy M. Salinas, T. Allred , A. Sandoval, And R. Allyn , for their work at thase City Manager Meetings.

COURTESY, HERMAN R. BISHOP, HISTORIAN  
 AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION (June 1, 2010)

Myron L. Davis  
 Business Agent  
 Local 1455  
 Albuquerque Firefighters



WAGES/PAY SCALES ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT

June 6, 1900 - The volunteer fire companies were abolished and reorganized under City management. Called the Albuquerque Fire Department, it consisted of two salaried men.

\$ 65/mo. first fireman

\$ 60/mo. second fireman

20 - volunteer call firemen were authorized and four lived at the fire station.

October 1, 1900 - Crew mentioned in Fire Department Ledger

B. Ruppe, Fire Chief

E. Southerland, Fireman

Ed Hale, Fireman

Tony Ortiz, Fireman

January 14, 1902 - Orders from Chief Ruppe that no man was to ask for more pay from anyone else but him, and that no man was to be antagonistic to the Police Department.

Late 1905 - The Fire Chief's position was made full time and was paid \$100/mo. There were 6 paid firemen and they were paid \$66/mo.

December 1906 - First wage increase for firefighters

Chief - from \$ 100/mo. to \$110/mo.

Captain from \$ 75/mo. to \$ 85/mo.

Lieut. from \$ 70/mo. to \$ 75/mo.

Private from \$ 66/mo. to \$ 70/mo.

September 1, 1917 - Firemen get new pay raise (How much ? )

August 15, 1919 - Firemen receive a 10% pay raise effective today  
(We do not know their salaries at this time ?)

January 10, 1920 - The City Manager's salary was raised to \$5,000 per year.  
A.R. Hebenstreit was the City Manager.

April 1, 1925 - Firemen receive a \$10.00 pay raise (Salaries unknown ?)

May 2, 1927 - Firemen receive six-days paid vacation per year.

STUDY BY FIRE CHIEF, 1973

Recent Fire Department records show the average age of Albuquerque fire-fighters by rank to be as follows:

46.2 years, Chief Officers

39.4 years, Company Officers

35.4 years, Drivers

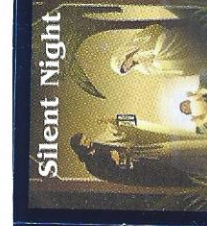
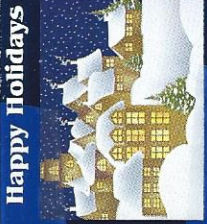
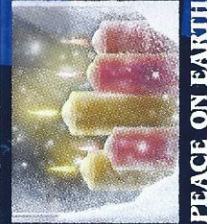
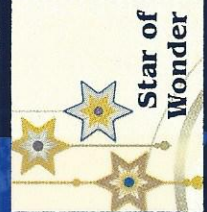
29.6 years, Firefighter 1/C

33.4 years, Fire Prevention Inspectors

38.4 years, Fire Alarm Operators

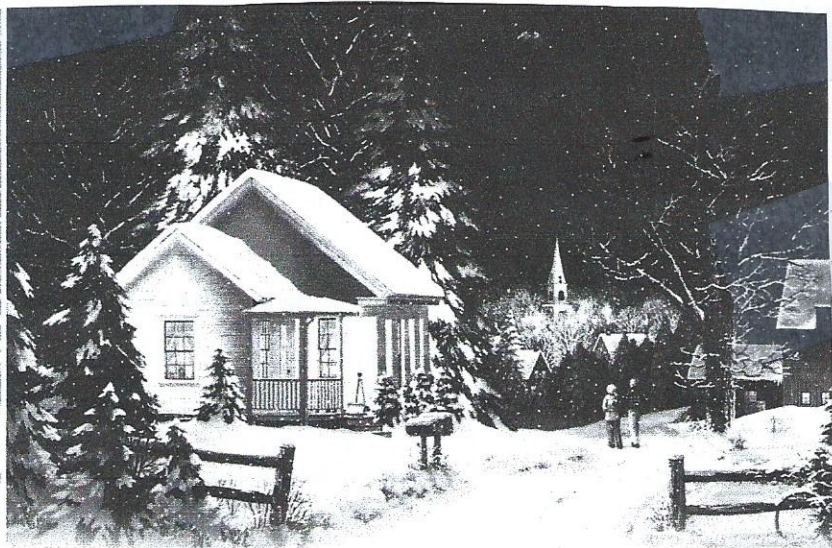
When our training program was just being developed in the late nineteen fifties and early sixties, it was rare to find a man on a crew with more than five years on the job. Today, it is rare to find a man on a crew with less than five years, on the job. Now we must do more than just train new recruits.

To keep our training program progressive and up to date will require considerably more budget plus an increased staff at the Fire Academy. We look forward to the day our training grounds can be increased in area and completely modernized. Also it is hopeful to see the construction of a new building to house the classroom and administrative offices for the members of the training staff. The personnel required to operate a modern Fire Academy should be increased considerably.

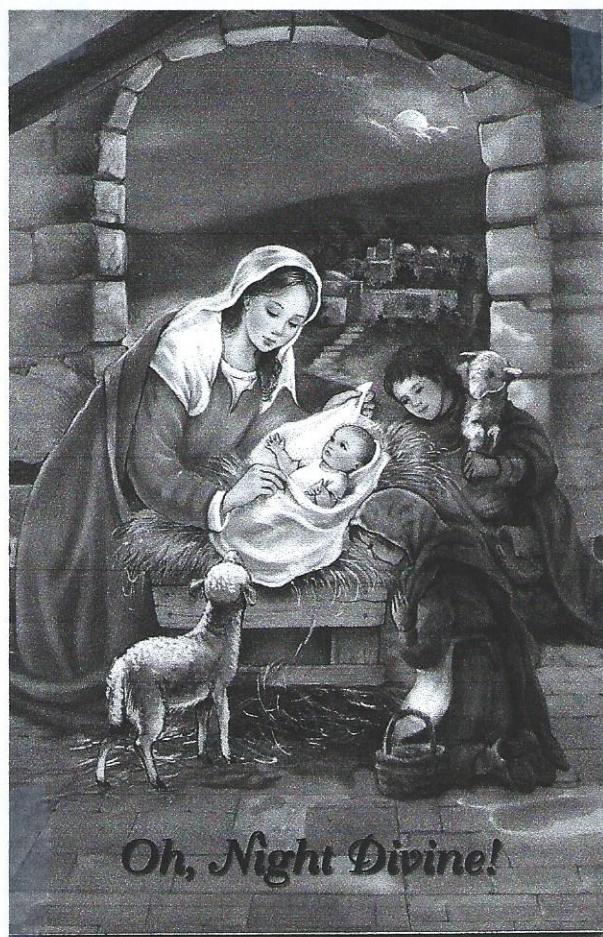




*Wishing you  
the blessings  
of peace,  
love and joy  
this Christmas!*



*The* MAGIC  
*of the season*  
NEVER ENDS,  
*and its greatest of gifts*  
ARE FAMILY AND FRIENDS



*Oh, Night Divine!*



November Meeting- The retiree monthly meeting was held on November 12, 2014 @ the Firefighter's Union Hall, Local 244, 4100 Edith N.E. President Sam Trujillo called the 171<sup>st</sup> meeting to order at 7:08 P.M. After the Pledge of Allegiance the opening prayer was led by Louis C. Trujillo. A moment of silence was observed in memory of our deceased members. After roll call a quorum was determined and the meeting continued.

Special guest speaker N.M. State Senator Mike Padilla who represents District # 14 addressed the retirees. He has served in the Senate for two years and is a friend of firefighters. Recently he got a bill passed in the N.M. State Legislature to award a \$50,000 grant to the Bernalillo County Fire Department to develop a disaster preparedness training center. His long term goal is to obtain a \$500,000 disaster training grant to be shared with fire departments State-wide. He strongly supports social work grants for the homeless, early childhood development programs, educational support for our youth, and is working to improve wildlife management, library's, and parks and recreation programs for our communities.

Sam Trujillo gave the President's report. The current AFD fire cadets will graduate on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The retirees have been invited to give a lecture to the Cadets on December 10<sup>th</sup>, "AFD History." Diego Arencon, President, IAFF Local 244 was recently elected as President of the N.M. Professional Firefighter's Association. "Congratulations Diego!" Sam Appointed Kerry Horton and Eddie Abieta to conduct the annual audit of our Treasury as required by our Constitution and By-Laws. Their report will be provided at the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Fred Casias read the minutes from the October monthly meeting. A motion to accept was made by Ed Abieta and was seconded by Joe Martinez. The motion carried. John Serino gave the Treasurer's report. He thanked fellow retirees who recently made donations. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read was made by Kerry Horton and seconded by Ralph Sedillo. The motion carried.

The Historian's report was given by Herman Bishop. He reminded retirees to complete the personnel information cards which will accompany our photo I.D. cards. He thanked Fred Casias for managing the photo I.D. project. Please see Herman and Fred to have your official retiree photo taken and to fill out the personnel information sheet.

Herman gave a report on Veteran's Day ceremonies held on November 11, 2014 at Veteran's Memorial park, Louisiana & Gibson S.E. All military veterans were honored by Governor Susana Martinez, Mayor Richard Berry and other Military and Government Officials. Special guest of the ceremonies was Hiroshi "Hershey" Miyamura, a native of Gallup, N.M. who earned the United States "Medal Of Honor," for heroic actions taken during the Korean War.

Bill Raupfer requested retiree's to come and assist in cleaning and polishing the funeral truck on November 14<sup>th</sup> 9:00 A.M. at Station # 2, Gibson & I-25 (2400 Alumni Dr. S.E.) Gifts at the November raffle was won by : Fred Casias, F.F. polo shirt, by TLC Uniforms, Toby Pino, set of screwdrivers, And Kerry Horton, Fire Commander Cheese Head Helmet.

Retiree Kenneth Sewell advised retired firefighters who are United States Military Veterans that they are eligible for a free Rail Runner pass. Go to The Rio Metro Regional Transit Office located at 8<sup>th</sup> Street & Copper N.W. Present your VA card or your DD-214 and fill out an application. The free pass is good for the Rail Runner Train and the City of Albuquerque buses.

Condolences go to the David Villanueva family who lost their daughter recently and to the Mike Drysdale family who lost a son recently. Best wishes go to retirees Harry Martinez and O.G. Duran who are on the sick roster. The closing prayer was led by Juan Sandoval. The November meeting adjourned @ 8:30 P.M.

#### ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Ray Flores and Eddie Torres invited all retirees and their families to attend the annual Christmas Party on December 20, 2014 @ 5:00 P.M. It will be held in downtown Bernalillo, at Rotary Park Community Center. Go to Calle Don Francisco, turn West, Go ½ mile. There is no charge to attend. Please bring non-perishible foods for the N.M. Roadrunner Food Bank.



## Local Girl Was This Year's Key Note Speaker for the

### 2014 Fire & EMS Expo

2014 Fire & EMS Expo was Held September 7-14, 2014  
The Theme This year was "Into the Darkness"

This Year's Key Note Speaker for the Fire & EMS Expo was

**BETT CLARK.**



By: Fred Casias

Bett gave an excellent speech that made every Firefighter who heard her speech, Proud with their Chosen Profession.

Here is a little Biography on Bett Clark:

Bett has an extensive association with the Fire Service and EMS. She became acquainted with the fire service as a young girl when her mother was a dispatcher and her father was a firefighter and Chief at Bernalillo County Fire District #6. She served as a volunteer from 1980 to 1985. As a volunteer she was a dispatcher, firefighter, paramedic and Lieutenant. She was selected as Bernalillo County Fire Prevention Queen in 1983. She was a System Status Manager and Paramedic with Albuquerque Ambulance for five years. She was hired into the Bernalillo County Fire Department in 1985 as a Firefighter/Paramedic and worked up through the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain, Fire Marshal, Interim Deputy Chief and Chief. Chief Clark led the department from July 2000 through February 2008. She was Department Administrator for Santa Fe County Fire Department for two years prior to beginning her own business.

Bett created Fenix Fire Services Consulting, LLC, in 2012 utilizing her education and experience. She has extensive knowledge in all aspects of the fire service to include volunteer and career membership; firefighting, both structural and wildland; Dispatch; EMS; Fire Prevention and Education; Leadership and Management; Finance and Budgeting; and Union Negotiations.

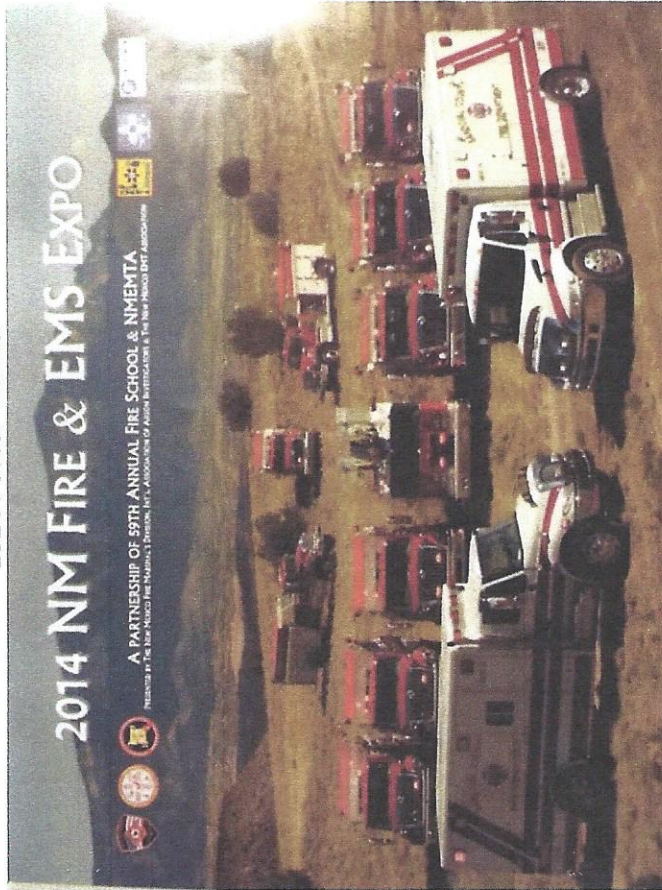
She is a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Women Chief Officers. She served as the President of the IAFC Southwestern Division in October 2005. She participates on several Boards and Committees including the Fire Rescue International Program Planning Committee, United Way of Central New Mexico, the NM Governor's Fire Service Task Force and East Mountain Inter-Agency Fire Protection Association.



**Fred Casias**

Special thanks to Fred Casias who submitted these two articles for the December issue of the Retiree Newsletter. Fred served 31 years with AFD and is a retired Captain. He is the Secretary for the AFD Retiree's Association and currently is preparing Photo I.D. cards for our retirees. He is a fire Service instructor at the N.M. State Fire Academy and CNM Community College. He was an active Participant at the 2014 Fire and EMS Expo. Recently he and historian Herman Bishop made a Presentation "AFD History," to Friends of the Library and the Albuquerque Historical Society.

## Sandoval County Fire Department 2014 Poster Winner



### Tools of the Trade

Is the Sandoval County Slogan for the Poster

New Mexico has over 369 active Fire Departments throughout the state.

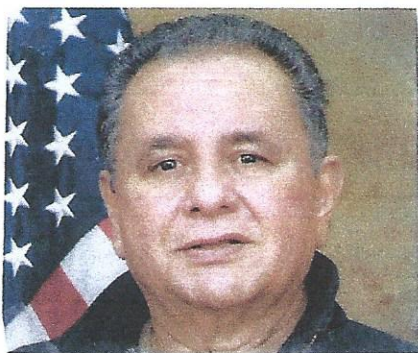
Your department could find itself gracing the event's official poster as well as other promotional materials. We are looking for a signature image that captures something truly iconic about the Land of Enchantment. With spectacular backdrops ranging from Carlsbad Caverns to Chaco Canyon, from Taos to Tucumcari and countless points in between, the photographic possibilities are nearly unlimited. Your submission should reflect your department, your personnel and a view which is readily identifiable as "New Mexico" scenery!

Winners will receive a free framed poster and four free registrations to the 2014 NM Fire & EMS Expo (a \$500 value). Non-winning entries will be held and considered for use in future promotional endeavors. So grab your crew, grab a rig, grab a camera and head out to that special spot – who knows, you might just wind up as the "poster child" for the hottest fire & EMS event New Mexico has ever seen.



ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT  
RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION  
5318 LA COLONIA N.W.  
ALBUQUERQUE NEW MEXICO 87120

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage  
PAID  
Albuquerque NM  
Permit No 1322



Sam Trujillo

---

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

By: Sam Trujillo

AS we approach the end of 2014, I think of how grateful I am to have worked as a Fire Fighter with the City of Albuquerque .... The blessings include a good pension, good healthcare but most important is that I had the honor and privilege to have worked with men and woman that will remain part of my life forever .... Yes, it does sadden me when I attend Retired Fire Fighter funerals, but it also gives me joy in seeing the bonds as Fire Fighters that grow even stronger as times go bye .... I want to thank all of our members for making our AFD Retiree's Association a success .... As the 2015 Legislative Session approaches, I remain committed to work on your behalf to protect our PERA ( COLA ) but I ask all of you to please lend support when needed .... I will be working closely with **IAFF Local 244** on PERA related issues .... **IAFF Local 244 President Diego Arencon** is committed to protect PERA ....

I also want to remind our members to stay involved and to continue in lending financial support to our association as our cost of this newsletter continues to increase each year .... Our association operates strictly on your donations .... Please lend support to your AFD retiree Association .... Please send donations to **AFD Retiree Association** c/o 1504 Hermosa SE, 87108 ....

I also want to remind you to keep me informed (899-1500 / 400-3644 or [samtruj@aol.com](mailto:samtruj@aol.com) ) on any address / telephone number changes. This includes e-mail address changes. Our e-mail network has grown extensively and this allows us to communicate with our members on a daily basis if needed ..... If you happen to run into another AFD Retiree, ask them if they get our newsletter and if they say no, please forward their name and phone number to me and I will include them to our AFD Retiree Master List .... Thank you for your support!