

AFD RETIREE NEWS

December 1, 2015

#- 4-2015

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, Kerry Horton	5605 Sweetwater Rd. NW	87120	934-2969
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
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Ray Flores	898-8948	Eddie Torres	867-2631
		Ralph Sedillo	821-7802
		Santos Abeyta	877-2026

AFDRA RETIREE'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

AFDRA Retiree's Christmas Dinner will be held Thursday, December 17, 2015, at the Loyal Order of Moose Lodge 2121 Edith NE Albuquerque. A social hour will be held at 6:00 PM, dinner will follow at 7:00 PM. The menu entrée will be choice of chicken breast or chicken (beef) fried steak. Food entrée selection will be made at the time of ticket purchase.

Tickets are \$10.00 per person and will go on sale Wednesday November 11, 2015 at the retiree's Monthly meeting. Ticket sales will end December 9 th, at the conclusion of the retiree meeting. Out of town retirees can contact Eddie Abeita @ (505) 869-3082 or 250-7895 to purchase tickets by phone. Additional tickets WILL NOT be available at the Christmas Dinner.

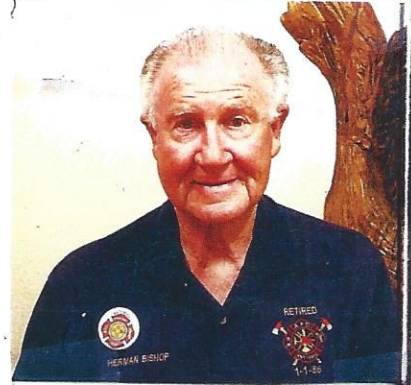


“MAN OF THE YEAR,” AWARD

RETIREE EDDIE ABEITA WAS AWARDED “MAN OF THE YEAR,” 2015, AT THE ANNUAL AFD RETIREE PICNIC/REUNION ON AUGUST 22, 2015. HE WAS RECOGNIZED FOR BEING AN ACTIVE AND FAITHFUL MEMBER OF THE RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION DURING THE PAST FEW YEARS. HE HAS CO-CHAIRLED THE MONTHLY DOOR PRIZE RAFFLES, AUTHORED NUMEROUS ARTICLES FOR THE RETIREE'S NEWSLETTER, “STORIES, AFD RETIREES.” HE SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE 2015 ANNUAL PICNIC. EDDIE IS A TALENTED, FAITHFUL, AND DEDICATED MEMBER WHO WILLINGLY SERVES ON OUR KEY PROJECTS AND FUNCTIONS.



PUBLISHED BY
THE AFD RETIREE'S
ASSOCIATION



HERMAN R. BISHOP
EDITOR

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XMAS PARTY
AFD RETIREES
12-17-2015
6:00 PM
MOOSE LODGE
2121 EDITH NE

September Monthly Meeting - The 181st monthly meeting of the AFD Retiree's Association was called to order on September 9, 2015 @ 7:08 PM by Vice President Bill Raupfer. The meeting was held at the Firefighter's Union Hall, Local 244, @ 4100 Edith Blvd. NE. Bill led members in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Juan Sandoval led the opening prayer. After a moment of silence in memory of our deceased members roll call was given. Sam Trujillo and Kerry Horton was on vacation and Fred Casias was out of town teaching a fire tech class at the New Mexico State Fire Academy in Socorro, N.M.

Our guests were firefighter Jacob Tapia and Stephanie Wagner, coordinators of this year's Muscular Dystrophy Drive in Albuquerque. They asked our members to volunteer their time for the annual fund drive which will be conducted from September 17th to the 22nd. Please call Jacob @ 227-1340 to sign up and assist active duty firefighters throughout the City in this worthwhile project.

The Secretary's report was read for the August monthly meeting by Herman Bishop who filled in for Fred Casias. A motion to accept was made by Ralph Sedillo and was seconded by Michael Murphy. The motion carried. The Treasurer's report was given by John Serino who was filling in for Kerry Horton. He reported that the annual picnic was successful and that we met expenses and came out a few dollars ahead. John was successful in selling most of our inventory of T-Shirts, and hats which helped fund the picnic food and supplies. The T-Shirts John ordered for the 2015 picnic did not arrive in time for the picnic. John will have them available at our upcoming meetings. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Ed Abeita and was seconded by Juan Sandoval. The motion carried. The Christmas Party discussion will be held at the October 14th meeting.

The Historian's report was given by Herman Bishop. The September quarterly news letter was mailed to 635 AFD retirees and friends of the retirees. We still receive lots of positive comments about the newsletters, especially from the wife's of our retirees. Recently Herman was contacted by Mr. Davida Detar from San Jose, California who inquired about his Great Grandfather, Lieutenant Carpio Martinez who served with AFD from 1918 to the early 1940's. In his research Herman found a considerable amount of information about Mr. Martinez during his career with AFD. Information from the old hand written station logs and photos dating back to 1918 was forwarded to Mr. Detar. He and his family were most appreciative to learn about their Grandfather's firefighting career.

Retiree Jeff Elks is organizing a firefighter (active duty and retired firefighters) motorcycle corps/honor guard platoon to participate in retiree funerals, motorcycle run fund raisers, 911 memorials and other fire department sponsored events. If you have a motor cycle and would like to join this elite corps please contact Jeff Elks @ elksj@aol.com or, 352-9000, or Bill Raupfer 269-7210. Jeff needs your telephone number, mailing address, and e-mail address. He is compiling a call roster, and an e-mail contact list so he can coordinate upcoming events which will include the AFD Retiree/active duty firefighters Motor Cycle Honor Guard. Jeff recognized David Cruz of French Mortuary who faithfully sponsors and coordinates the recent firefighter motor cycle runs and events. David is a good friend and supporter of the firefighters.

AFD Retiree's Picnic, August 22, 2015 - Eddie Abieta, Chairman and Kerry Horton, co-Chairman of the Picnic committee gave a complete written report about the success of the 2015 retiree picnic. Committee Members: Ray Flores, Steve Marquez, Victor Marquez, and Marvin Gouch. He recognized the support personnel: Marvin Gouch, Louie Trujillo, Fred Casias, Sam Trujillo, John Serino, Ralph Sedillo, Herman Bishop, M.R. Sanchez, Jim Summers, Donnie Sanchez, and Diego Arencon. Also recognized were the food preparation/servers: Merry Flores, Roberta Abeita, Rozena Sanchez, Marcella Sandoval, Theresa Sanchez, Carmen Bishop, Yvonne Flores, Theresa Barboa, Miguel Tittmann, Louie Trujillo Jr. Jacob Abeita, Marvin Gouch, and Joseph Trujillo.

Picnic Donors: John Gallegos, Smith's, Lucas Connor, Fire House Subs, Rio Grande Credit Union; Also the families of: Herman & Carmen Bishop, Juan Sandoval, Eddie & Roberta Abieta, Ralph & Lucy Sedillo, Victor Sanchez, John Serino & Marcella Sandoval, Ray & Merry Flores, Louie & Bea Trujillo, Carmen Watley. Ed Abeita, (Propane) Door Prizes - Frank & Dorothy Maestas, Greg Vallejos and TLC Uniforms. The picnic was attended by 175 people including retiree's families, guests and friends.

Retirees and families are invited to attend the 911 Memorial at Civic Plaza, on September 11, 2015, @ 10:30 AM. The AFD Retiree's Association Honor Guard will perform the "Four, Fives," Bell Ringing Ceremony.

The closing prayer was led by Deacon Santos Abeita, and the September meeting adjourned @ 8:40 P.M.



VETERAN APPRECIATION, 2015

(By Ahren Griego, Captain AFD, Sta.# 21)

November 11, 2015

Members of Fire Station 21, "B" shift, invited Vietnam Army veteran and retired Firefighter Charles "Chuck" Valdez to breakfast to show their appreciation to Veterans. In attendance with Chuck was his son FF Ray Fuentes a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran.

"Chuck" joined AFD March 22, 1976 and after serving 22 years with the fire department retired on October 20, 1998.

Pictured from left to right: FF Thien Nguyen, Driver Paul Garcia, Driver Chris Serino, Lt. Ron Archuleta, (US Army Veteran), Retired FF "Chuck" Valdez, (US Army Veteran), Captain Ahren Griego, Lt. Chad Jones, FF Emmanuel Lucero, kneeling Dr. Chris Cruz, FF Daniel Apodaca (US Army Veteran).

FROM THE PAST, 18 YEARS AGO

Bernie Martinez recalls one of his most interesting and rewarding emergency calls while serving as a fire dispatcher in the alarm room over 18 years ago. When He answered the dispatch phone a small Child's voice was on the line saying she Needed help and that her mother was Passed out. Suzannah was only five Years old but she knew what to do to Get help. Bernie told her to stay on The line and to determine if her mommy Was still breathing. After determining That her mother was still breathing she Kept talking to Bernie and opened the Door for the firemen when they arrived. The mother age 30, was pregnant with Her fourth child and had just fainted. When the firemen arrived at 8400



BERNIE MARTINEZ & SUZANNAH WOOD (2-20-1997)

Commanche NE they revived Mrs. Wood

And she was OK. Suzannah said, "my mom and dad taught me how to call 911. Mommy was asleep and would not wake up." Her parents taught their children how to call 911 after another serious fire at the apartment complex where they had lived before. Bernie commended her for her actions and told her "you did the right thing by calling, that was real smart of you." The firemen gave Susannah a teddy bear, a fire chief's helmet, and a certificate naming her an "Official Fire Safety Friend." Bernie Martinez joined AFD in 1992 and retired as a Lieutenant in late 2013. He spent over 21 years with the department and is now an active member of the AFD Retiree's Association. Bernie has many fond memories of his fire service and said, "I really enjoyed my fire department years and it was a good career. Now I enjoy visiting with my fellow retired firefighters at the monthly meetings."



L-R, Herman Bishop, Frank Maestas, Bill Raupfer.

Frank Maestas presents Bill Raupfer a Special F.F. Hat recognizing that he is a cancer survivor and thanked him for serving as Vice President of the AFD Retiree's Association During the past few years. (Retiree Picnic, August 22, 2015).

2015



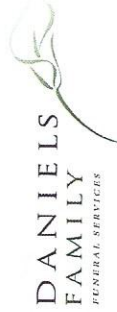
**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY**

10:30AM

- Master of Ceremonies: AFD Deputy Chief Gilbert Santistevan
- Presentation of Colors: Albuquerque Fire & Police Color Guard
- National Anthem: On Q
- Pledge of Allegiance: Girl Scouts of America Troop #10483
- Invocation: AFD Chaplain Patrick McKinney
- Speakers: Governor Susana Martinez
Albuquerque CAO Robert Perry
Albuquerque Police Chief Gorden Eden
- Key Note Speaker: Retired USMC Major Dan Pantaleo
- Benediction: APD Chaplain Altron Adams
- Last Alarm Presentation: AFD Retiree's Association
- Closing Remarks: AFD DC Gil Santistevan & Daniels Family
Funeral Services Director Joan Stasi



**THANK YOU TO THE
FOLLOWING
SPONSORS:**



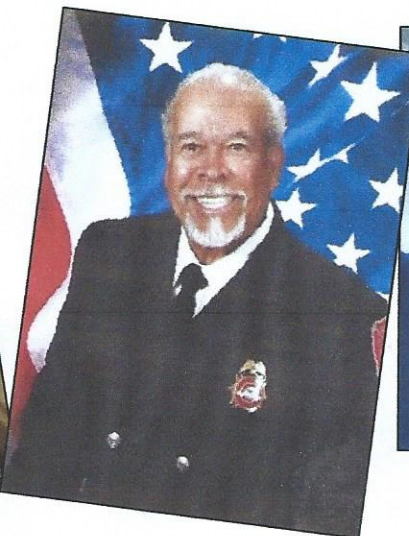
SEPTEMBER CARDINAL SPOTLIGHT

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John Serino and Marcela Sandoval

You need to wake up early to keep up with this couple! A retired firefighter, John is a Knight of Columbus and a steadfast Usher. A retired teacher and dancer, Marcela is a dedicated Eucharistic Minister and Lector and a go-to volunteer for our Volunteer table. And that's just what they do for St. Charles! Both John and Marcela are very civic minded, volunteering for the betterment of the Albuquerque community. John is an active member of the Albuquerque Retired Firefighters Association, helping officers' families and preserving the history of our local fire department. Marcela is president of the Hispanic Women's Council, spearheading events which spotlight Hispanic culture and the achievements of Hispanic women. Thank you, John and Marcela, for sharing your zest for life and for setting a beautiful example through your love of God, family, community and one another!

Article By: Vivian Maheau
St. Charles Church (9-5-2015)

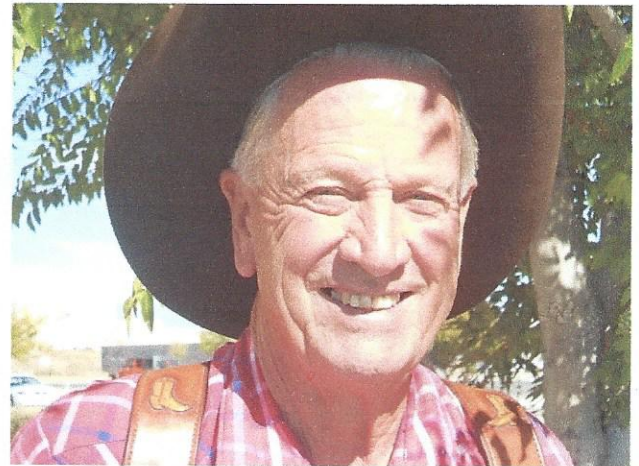


The Earl Gleason Story

by Eddie Abeita

When we arrived there were rock throwing protesters, we also heard gun shots!

Earl Gleason started his 25 year career January 26, 1960 retired July 01, 1985. Asking Earl how he became interested in the fire department? Earl said well.....I was working at Safeway but did not care for the work so I quit. When I told my mother she had the mother worried look but said look at the big advertisement in the newspaper. The Albuquerque Fire Department is hiring so I went down and applied on Friday with Chief Westerfield who told me to start work on Monday. Back in the early days the majority of firefighters were Spanish so being part Spanish myself I felt the working knowledge of the language would be beneficial. My heritage included being a Tome Land Grant Heir.



It's been over 55 years when I went through training so kind of hard to remember the staff Earl said. However I think it was one Training officer that was Ray Kuhn and fellow cadets were, Owen Metcalf and Billy Chennault in the eight (8) week training program.

My first assignment out of training was ladder one at station one which was an aerial ladder it required 2 drivers Earl said. Station one was a 2 story building that had fire poles from the 2nd floor bunkroom to the first floor. In the event of an alarm if you were upstairs it was mandatory to use the fire poles to slide down to the apparatus floor and to your truck. In the spring time the favorite place for school groups to visit was station one so they could watch us slide down the poles. Recently while watching TV at home there was a scene of firefighters sliding down a pole out loud I said "boy I wish I could slide down a pole one more time"! My wife looked at me with the expression of your losing it. Maybe because I am 78 years old she may have a point Earl said laughing.

When I was promoted to driver I was assigned back to ladder one (aerial) and later drove Ladder Four. The guys driving the front would *tease me* and say "today I am going to drive faster and faster to make you wreck" hah-hah! As tillerman I learned the position real well and did a good job. At that particular time Kenneth Alvis and I mastered backing the aerials back into the older stations. While assigned driver at Engine 7 my officer was Lieutenant Robert Murphy and that was great he was a good cook. A driver on the opposite shift asked to change platoon, so he could participate in softball with other firefighters on platoon "B" so I traded. My new officer was Lieutenant Eugene (Baldy) Baldonado. Baldy cooked the best green chile stew I ever ate. One day at home my wife made me some green chile stew and she asked "how is it"? I said it's good but it's not like Baldy's! She responded with, next time you want chile stew, ask Baldy to make it for you! It was a while before she made it again.

Earl said in deep thought I remember one evening driving to work at engine 7, a car went into an irrigation canal at Coors and Arenal Rd. HH Chavez was on his way to engine 14 also stopped. A woman was unconscious and trapped inside the car. The car was rapidly filling up with water and you could see the water rising toward the women's head. HH said we need to get her out fast so we both went in the water the windshield had popped out so we grabbed her and drug her out through the front of the car. Bystanders were trying to make a human chain on the ditch bank but did not work, so HH just grabbed her and held her under his arm and carried her out....I remember HH looking down at both our soaking wet shoes and clothes and just started laughing.....of course we were both young then. We received

an award for saving her and an article was in the newspaper about us. The lady sent us some tickets to see a play at the Barn Dinner Theater Cedar Crest as a thank you, the play and food were great so my wife and I planned on going back to the theater a few weeks later but we learned the place burned down.

Other events I remember Earl said was the Albuquerque Riots, Lieutenant Horace (Hippo) Vigil was our officer at that particular time. We were dispatched to a furniture store fire that was fire bombed, *when we arrived there were rock throwing protesters, we also heard gun shots* the District Chief pulled us back about 2 blocks from the fire because it was dangerous. That was hard for all firefighters not being able to fight the fire just watch the building burn.

I asked Earl about any hobbies or past time events he enjoys. Earl said, I learned to play the guitar at a young age and started singing in the "French Boy Choir". As a teenager I became friends with Glen Campbell he is less than a year younger than me so we had a lot of fun at that age. He was singing with local celebrity his uncle Dick Bills who had a radio and television show K Circle B. We became good friends so I was able to sing with him on the radio. Glen tried to teach me to play the guitar the way he played, he would tease me and tell me," Earl the guitar has 6 strings and you have to play them all. And of course Glen made it big being one of the top recording artist and entertainers in the world. The last time I saw Glenn he asked me to find out about the guys in the band from the old days so I did. I feel sad when I hear about his poor health being so bad now. He is such a great guy.

Chief Simon Seligman liked his chief's car to be part of the NM State Fair parade it was a convertible. One year Chief Seligman asked me to ride in the parade I sat on top of the back seat near the trunk strumming and singing old cowboy tunes driving down the parade route, now that was great said Earl,

I have performed at different local restaurants, but my favorite one is Luna Mansion in Los Lunas Earl said. My grandfathers association with it in the early 1900's what makes it special. Solomon Luna owned the mansion and pushed for New Mexico's statehood so all business was conducted there. My grandfather was a census taker so while on the road he campaigned for Solomon who was also seeking office. They were the best of friends, that's where the emotional ties come in playing at the now famous restaurant.

In my singing career I received many awards, but a very special one was being inducted into the National Traditional Country Music Hall of Fame along with Country superstar Bill Anderson. I have been asked to return and receive a Lifetime Achievement award. I have won the Western Music Association National Yodeling Championship three times. I have also written songs and recorded albums onto CD are where several have won awards. The National Western Music DJ's have ranked me in the top 20 of the list of 100 most requested performers I also have website it's www.earlgleason.com Earl said.

I've always had livestock including goats and firefighters would call me and say, "bah- bah". It's just part of the brotherhood.

My wife Darla and I retired in 1985 she had many years with the telephone company. We live on a 30 acre farm near Belen and take road trips in our motor home which normally involves my music and of course we visit family and friends. We had 6 boys between us and lost one at the age of 16. Our sons did well in life with their various careers. We have been blessed with 10 grandkids and 10 great grandkids. The grandkids have also did well with their careers in, project management, computer design engineering, (2) medical technicians, (2) wild land firefighters (2) registered nurses and one who graduated from the United States Naval Academy and currently serves as a Naval Officer. We are so proud of all our kids we call ourselves the "Brady Bunch".

I am proud to have been a member of the Albuquerque Fire Department and now the AFD Retiree Association I lead a very busy life working on the farm, so it's been hard attending the retirees meetings

The Firefighter's Harley

Ralph Sedillo said; after 911 and visiting New York City in there recovering efforts you can't help but wanting an association with our brother and sister firefighters in the Big Apple. This is when I heard about Harley Davidson's endeavor to pay tribute to police and fire by design of 2,000 special motorcycles. After 911 as a tribute, Harley-Davidson built for police & firefighters a special edition Harley Davidson Electrica Glide motorcycles for off duty use. These were made available to only active duty law enforcement or active duty firefighters but did include retired. These special models feature a specific design and detailing that allows riders to display their civic pride, even when not in uniform.



The first sales were to be held by raffle sponsored at Local Harley Davidson dealers Ralph said. I was able to get my ticket for the drawing which cost was \$100.00. I guess lady luck was on my side when I got the call that I won the motorcycle, it was a great day to win such a beautiful bike. These motorcycles can now be purchased from other owners or at the Harley dealer for around 35K fully loaded. Back in 2002 a tribute Motorcycle could be bought for 20K so they have got expensive.....*by Eddie Abeita*

The Biggest Run or Ride is Our Retiree Funeral Escort

Jeff Elks started biking at an early age, when his brother was not around he would take his bike for rides that was at the age of 13. His first bike he owned was a Kawasaki later he purchased a Suzuki motorcycle which was a step up however things all changed when he bought a Harley Davidson. It takes you to a different level of biking. My bike is a Harley Ultra Limited Classic one of Harley's redesigned bikes. My wife and I have traveled with other bikers all over the United States and even drove to Canada, my wife is a good partner never complains where ever we go even if the weather gets bad said Jeff.

When I purchased my first Harley I joined the "Harley Owners Group" or Hog for short Jeff said. Later a group called Old Coots on Scoots" which for our age could be more fitting, *However* you asked about my favorite bike run/ride is? The biggest run or ride is our retiree funeral escort. I've participated in; two firefighter's funerals the first funerals there were approximately 25 bikers including the Blue Knights (retired APD Bikers). The second funeral five retiree bikers were in the escort, maybe next time there will be more of us retiree bikers.

I am attempting to rally retirees to participate for other funerals I know it can be hard to make funerals at certain times it's happened to me! I am hoping to mirror Sam's electronic funeral announcement and send to other retiree biker information to provide them with meeting location(s) and times. We still need the phone tree to contact retiree bikers who do not have internet access.

Other retiree bikers and I have discussed the possibility of having some uniformity and identification. Thoughts were to wear our fire helmet with Maltese Cross on black shirts....however the biggest thing is mainly being there to honor our brother/sister firefighter. I am open to hear suggestions from others they can reach me by phone @ 352-9000 or internet retiredcaptain149@gmail.com *by Eddie Abeita*

THE ANNUAL AFD RETIREE'S CHRISTMAS PARTY WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015, 7:00 PM, AT THE MOOSE LODGE 2121 EDITH NE. SOCIAL HOUR: 6-7 PM, DINNER 7 PM. COST, \$10.00 PER PERSON. PURCHASE TICKETS AT THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER MEETINGS. OUT OF TOWN RETIREEES CAN PURCHASE TICKETS BY TELEPHONE. CALL: EDDIE ABEITA, 860-3082, KERRY HORTON, 934-2969, JOHN SERINO, 710-6030

2015 AFD Retirees Picnic Report

The annual AFDRA Picnic was held at Rotary Park Bernalillo NM August 22, 2015. The picnic committee was composed of, Ray Flores, Steve Marquez, Marvin Gouch, Victor Marquez, Kerry Horton and Eddie Abeita.

Support personal, Louie Trujillo, Fred Casias, Sam Trujillo, John Serino, Ralph Sedillo, Herman Bishop, M.R. Sanchez, Jim Summers, Donnie Sanchez and Diego Arencon.

Attendance

Retirees (includes 2014 retirees)	56
Adults 15 yrs and older	92
Children Under age 15	<u>27</u>
Total in attendance	175

Residual Food

Hamburger Patties 5 unopened boxes..... sold to first in line with cash
 Beef Franks, 2 unopened packages.....sold to first in line with cash
 Donated Franks, Buns, lettuce..... donated to Good Sheppard ABQ. (08/24/15)
 Hot dog and hamburger bunsdonated to Rio Rancho FD support group
 Processed fruits and vegetables..... offered to attendees.
 Chips, cookies, soft drinks, bottled water.....secured for AFDRA meetings.

Picnic Donations

John Gallegos Smiths Mgr., Chips, Bar-S franks, buns, bottled water, soft drinks
 Fire House Subs..... Pickles
 Bishop Family, Watermelons
 Juan Sandoval Family, Pinto Beans
 Roberta Abeita Green Chile Stew
 Ralph Sedillo Family, Yellow-hots and Jalapenos Peppers
 Victor Sanchez Family, Green Chile
 John Serino Family, Red Chile
 Merry Flores Brownies
 Louie Trujillo Family, Green Chile
 Carmen Watley, Squash Casserole

Food Prep and Servers;

Merry Flores, Roberta Abeita, Rozena Sanchez, Marcella Serino, Theresa Sanchez, Carmen Bishop, Yvonne Flores, Theresa Barboa, Migal Pitman, Louie Trujillo Jr., Jacob Abeita and Joseph Trujillo.

PRIZE Donations

Frank Maestas, Greg Vallejos, TLC Uniforms

Cost of Picnic: Expenditures \$1,129.00.....Incoming Revenue \$1,817.00 = Profit \$688.00

Signed

Eddie Abeita, Chairperson and Kerry Horton, Co Chairperson

CARLOS TRUJILLO DIES, AGE 71

We regret to report the death of our fellow retiree and brother Carlos Trujillo who passed away on October 14, 2015 after a battle with bone cancer. Carlos joined AFD on February 28, 1968 and was a member of the 17th cadet class. After spending 22 years with the department he retired on December 27, 1990.

He had a productive and interesting career in the fire service. After promotion to Fire Inspector in 1973 he spent seven years in the Fire Prevention Bureau. In 1973 Carlos graduated from the University of Albuquerque with an "Associates Degree of Fire Science." He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1980 and was assigned to fire suppression. In 1982 he was promoted to Captain and served in the firefighting division until his retirement on December 27, 1990.

He was a U.S. Marine and was a Vietnam War Veteran. After his retirement from AFD he began a second career at Sandia Corporation as a Fire Safety and Security Specialist serving with Fire Mark, a contractor with Sandia Labs. At his passing he was surrounded by his loving family, and fire fighter chaplains, Mark Chavez and Pat Mc McKinney. He is survived by his wife Marie and two children, Eric and Cindy. We will miss our brother Carlos and our sincere condolences are offered to the Trujillo family.



CARLOS TRUJILLO

October Monthly Meeting - The 182nd monthly meeting was called to order @ 7:10 PM on October 14, 2015 at the firefighter's union hall, local 244, 4100 Edith NE by President Sam Trujillo. The opening prayer was led by deacon Santos Abeyta. After the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call a moment of silence was held for our deceased members. Guests were Tom Romero's grandsons, Evan and Gabriel Romero. Sam gave a special note of thanks to Diego Arencon, President of the firefighter's union, Local 244 for all his hard work and efforts to place deceased AFD firefighter Donald Hershberger's name on the National Fallen Firefighter's memorial held in Colorado Springs, Colorado on September 19, 2015.

Fred Casias read the minutes of the September, 2015 monthly meeting. A motion to accept was made by Ray Flores, and was seconded by Noel Baca. The motion carried. The Treasurer's report was given by Kerry Horton. He thanked all members who pledged donations for construction of a canopy for the storage trailer to hold picnic tables, chairs, BBQ Grill, etc. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Mike Murphy and a second was made by John Serino. The motion carried.

Historian Herman Bishop gave a summary about the three AFD firefighters who died in the line of duty and their names now on the National Fallen Firefighter's Memorial in Colorado Springs, Colorado. They are: Charles Oliver, Died on December 17, 1980 at Station # 4 after a second alarm fire. Donald Hershberger died on March 10, 1981 during the night while attending the National Fire Academy in Emmittsburg, Maryland. Atalano Fernandez died on September 2, 1982 at the scene of a car fire while serving on Engine # 17.

President Sam Trujillo appointed Ed Abieta to chair the annual Christmas party this year. Plans for the Christmas party will be discussed at the November 11, monthly meeting.

Our best wishes go to Victor Escarcida who was in the hospital for kidney problems this month. He is recovering and is in a re-habilitation center now. Best wishes to Toby Pino who will have hip surgery later this month. Sam reported that retiree Carlos Trujillo is in stage 4 of bone cancer. Unfortunately his death was reported during Wednesday night's meeting by Chaplains Mark Chavez, and Pat McKinney who had just returned from the family home.

The items raffled on Wednesday night was won by Pat McKinney, E.V. Marquez, and Noel Baca. Our congratulations to the lucky winners.

The closing prayer was led by Chaplain Mark Chavez. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

New Mexico Firefighter Training Academy Instructor of the Year Chris Padilla Has Ties to AFD Retirees

First let me start how Instructors get nominated for an award.

Instructors get nominated by their peers. Being **nominated** shows that he has earned their, **Respect and Confidants**.

Chris worked for the City of Socorro for 20 years. He started with Socorro Fire Department in 1994 and retired a Captain in 2014. He has been an adjunct Instructor at **The New Mexico Firefighter Training Academy (NMFTA)** since 2005.

He is a Hands- on Instructor who likes Teaching Structural Firefighting Tactics, along with Open Burns, like Flammable Liquids Emergencies and LPG (Gas) Emergencies. Chris takes his job very serious, he makes sure the Students/Cadets are safe, and makes sure that they take all safety precautions which include their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). He also emphasizes that the Students/Cadets understand their own Limits and Capabilities so they don't put them self or other in danger.

Chris is well versed with all aspects of the Academy, Rules and Regulations, Controls and Safety Precautions of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas, and the Flammable Liquid Pads.

He does not assume, or take anything for granted; He teaches this to the Cadets/Students to make sure they know that this is a luxury that we cannot have on this job. If you do, (assume or take thing for granted) it is a recipe for disaster. He makes sure the Students/Cadets do not get complacent and emphasizes safety at all times.

He is knowledgeable in all aspect of Fire Fighting, and is well versed with trends that are in in the fire service. Trends that have worked, and trends that have failed. He is knowledgeable with NFPA standards and best practices that are used, and have been used.

Chris is an excellent role model, and a true Firefighter in every sense of the word.

Chris is the son of Edward and Gloria Padilla. Edward is Donald Padilla's (AFD Retiree's) brother. Donald joined the Albuquerque Fire Department in 1966, and retired in 1986. I worked with Donald toward the end of his career, back in 1984 when I got promoted to Lieutenant. It was a pleasure working with Donald and is a Pleasure working with Chris, both are top notch individuals, and firefighters. I am proud to know them, and call them both friends.



Chris Padilla Top ^
Donald Padilla Bottom v

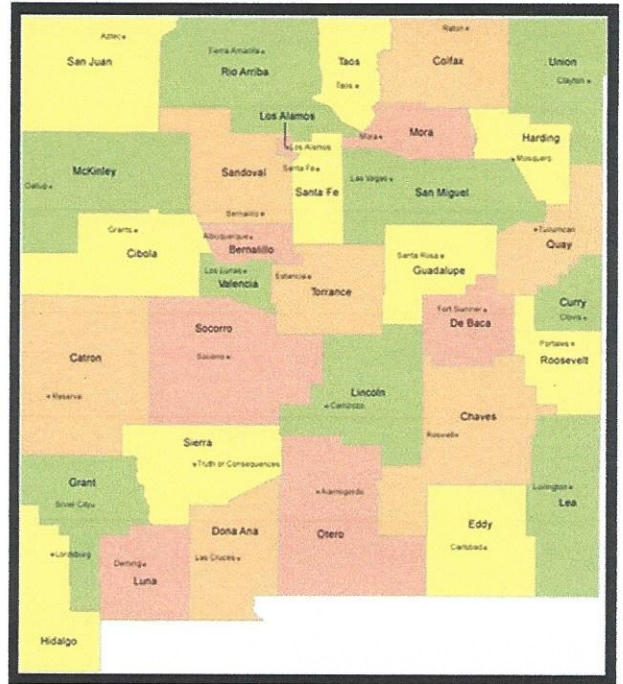


Donald Padilla & Epi Castillo

New Mexico Fire Departments Make History

State Fire Marshall John Standefer in his speech, during the **Opening Ceremony of the 2015 Fire and EMS EXPO** Congratulated the Fire Departments in New Mexico, that lowered their Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating.

The Insurance Service Office (ISO) provides an evaluation and analysis of fire departments across the United States. In each of those communities, ISO analyzes the relevant data using a Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS). The rating is the Fire Departments ability to provide Public Fire Protection to their Respective Community. ISO then assign a Public Protection Classification rating from 1 to 10. This rating also assists Insurance Providers to provide an accurate quote for Home and Business Fire Insurance.



The ISO rating, is a measurement of the ability of that Fire Department to provide Fire Protection to their Community.

New Mexico Fire Departments Made History !

In a combined effort and guidance from the New Mexico Fire Marshal's Office in lowering the ISO ratings in New Mexico. This year there were over 82 Fire Departments recognized state wide, which lowered their ISO rating. These Departments worked hard though the years with their community (City, Counties, and Departments) leaders to achieve this goal.

Locally there were three (3) Fire Departments that lowered their ISO Rating. **The Village of Corrales** received an **ISO Class 4 rating**. The **City Of Rio Rancho** received an **ISO Class 2 rating**. The **City of Albuquerque** received a **Class 1 rating**.

Albuquerque and Las Cruces made history by being the first Communities in New Mexico to receive an ISO Class 1 Rating.

(There are only 97 Communities Nationwide that hold a Class 1 Rating)

Congratulations to the State Fire Marshal's Office and all of the 368 Fire Departments in New Mexico for their ongoing efforts in making our communities safer for our Citizens.

By Fred Casias



Chief David Downey with Deputy Chief Gil Santistevan

MARTIN J. RICHARDS DEAD AT AGE 63

By: Herman R. Bishop , October 23, 2015

We are sad to report the death of our friend and fellow retired firefighter , Martin J. Richards. "Marty," age 63 passed away on Tuesday October 20, 2015 after a short term illness. Marty Joined AFD on June 24, 1974 and was a member of the 26th fire cadet class. After serving 20 Years with the department he retired on June 27, 1994. He worked at station # 1 for many years And was promoted to driver during 1984. He was the driver on Engine 1-B at Station #1. He Was a good firefighter who loved his job and was well respected by fellow firefighters and Supervisors alike. He was easy going and a really nice person. On January 1987 he was promoted To Lieutenant and served as an engine officer where he supervised a fire crew in the firefighting Division. Retired Captain Eddie Abeita remembers working with Marty and Lieutenant Horacio "Hippo" Vigil. "Hippo was the fire house cook and taught Marty to make tortillas. Later Marty Became an expert tortilla maker" Working with "Hippo" he learned to pour and finish concrete. He was also a good metal worker and was known for the many wrought iron doors, and windows He crafted. Marty never liked to shine his shoes, he said it was bad luck. One night the guys took His shoes and dipped them in liquid floor wax. They were really shiny for a while. After that The wax began to crack and peel. Marty took it in stride and just laughed about the mis-deeds of His fire house buddies. Eddie said, " when it came to fire house duties Marty was always ready to take the lead and always took his responsibilities seriously. On behalf of the retired firefighters we offer our most sincere condolences to the entire Marty Richards family.



November Monthly Meeting - The monthly meeting of the AFD Retiree's Association was held on November 11, 2015, 7:10 PM at the AFD Firefighters Union Hall, Local 244, 4100 Edith NE. President Sam Trujillo opened the meeting by leading members in the Pledge of Allegiance. The opening prayer was lead by Chaplain Pat McKinney. After a moment of silence in memory of our deceased members roll call was conducted.

Sam recognized AFD retirees Matt Painter, Frank Metzner, Bill Reed, and Phil Candelaria. They were given a hearty welcome by our members. Guests were Linda Stover and Anna Propoff.

Linda Stover was our guest speaker. She is running for Bernalillo County Clerk and is the widow of former police chief Bob Stover. She worked 34 years for NM Rural Development Corporation. She plans to make the voting process more user friendly, to increase voter turnout, and increase voter registration. She and her family are avid supporters of firefighters and she is asking voter support from the firefighters.

The President's report was given by Sam. The current fire cadet class is scheduled to graduate in December and the retirees have been invited to speak to the group. Sam thanked Michael Murphy for assisting families of our deceased members in funeral planning. Sam noted that with the recent passing of retirees Carlos Trujillo and Marty Richards, we have lost 114 of our retired brothers during the past 15 years.

Fred Casias read the minutes from the October monthly meeting. A motion to accept was made by Kenny Sewell and was seconded by Noel Baca The motion carried. Kerry Horton gave the Treasurer's report and announced that tickets for the annual Christmas Party are on sale. See Eddie Abeita for details. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Ray Flores and was seconded by Eddie Abeita. The motion carried.

Historian Herman Bishop gave the historian's report. He remembered that today is Veteran's day and stated that he is proud to have served un the U.S. Army for 3 years. He recognized our retirees who served in the military and thanked them for their service. He thanked Eddie Abeita, Fred Casias and Sam Trujillo for the articles they each wrote for the upcoming AFD retiree's newsletter in December. An article by Fred Casias recognized Chief David Downey for leading the department in achieving a Class One fire insurance rating. AFD is one of only 97 fire departments in the entire United States to achieve that honor.

Eddie Abeita announced plans for the annual Christmas Party. It will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2015 @ 7:00 PM at the Moose Lodge, 2121 Edith NE. Tickets are \$10.00 per person and must be purchased in advance by December 9th (December meeting). Call Eddie @ 250-7895 or 869-3082 for tickets.

Sam recognized our retirees who are on the sick roster. They are, Toby Pino, Victor Escarcida and Rudy Sanchez.. We extend our best wishes and prayers to them as they go through the recovery process. Winners of Wednesday's raffle were: E.V. Marquez and Skip Navarrette.

The closing prayer was led by Juan Sandoval and the meeting adjourned @ 8:45 PM



**Albuquerque Fire Department
Retiree's Association**

Checklist for AFD Retirees

Have you discussed the following with your Family ???

- 1... Any Life Insurance Policies that you have, and where those policies are located.
- 2... Your paid up Life Insurance Policy with the City Of Albuquerque. This Insurance should be about ½ of Your Final Annual Salary. If you don't have a copy of your paperwork, (which you should of received at the time of your Retirement), check with the City's Insurance & Retirement Section(Personnel / Human Resources Department).The City of Albuquerque Insurance Department phone # is 768-3700.
- 3... Do you have a Last Will & Testament, if so where you do keep it ?
- 4... Do you have a Safety Deposit Box, if you do, does your family know about it?
- 5... Are you a Member of the New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority ? If you are, you are automatically covered with a \$6,000.00 Basic Life Insurance, Accidental Death & Dismemberment Policy. The NM Retiree Health Care Authority # is 1-800-233-2576.
- 6... Have you discussed your funeral preference, as to which Mortuary you want your family to use?
- 7... Do you want AFD involved with your services (Fire Fighter Funeral) ?
- 8... Have you checked with Social Security to see which benefits you are entitled to? The Social Security # is 1-800-772-1213.
- 9... Do you have any other Retirement Plans? (401 K- IRA- CD's). If you do, does your family know about them ?
- 10... If you are a Veteran, you are entitled to certain Death Benefits. Have you made your **DD-214** available to your family? The VA Phone # is 1-800-827-1000.

After The Fact

- 11... Request at least a Dozen (12) original Death Certificates.
- 12... To contact : PERA: 1-800-342-3422. Local Albuquerque Office: 2500 Louisiana Blvd NE, Suite# 420 Albuquerque, NM, (1-505-883-4503).

Herman Bishop

From: SAMTRUJ@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 10:36 AM
To: lctrujillo1@hotmail.com
Subject: IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial - 2015

2015 Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, CO Addition of our brother Fire Fighter " **Donald L. Hershberger** " who passed away while in training at the Emmitsburg MD Fire Training Academy on 3/7/1981 We now have the three (3) **AFD Fire Fighters** on the Memorial Wall This includes **Charles T. Oliver, Atilano Fernandez** and **Donald Hershberger** **A special thanks** to **IAFF Local 244** and it's staff for making this possible I was honored in accepting this IAFF Fallen Fire Fighter Flag on behalf of the Donald Hershberger family



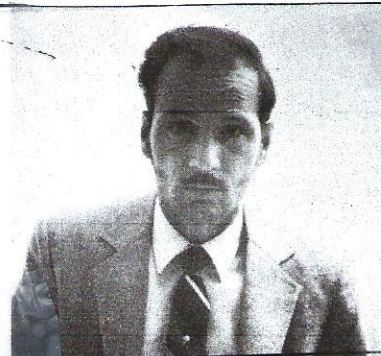
2015 FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL
Photo, L-R - Diego Arencon, Sam Trujillo Justin Cheney, and Donovan Jacks.

The Memorial Cermony held in Colorado Springs, Colorado drew over 5,000 Firefighters and their families. The bag pipe band was comprised with over 300 bag pipers. AFD Retirees Sam Trujillo And John Serino attended.
(September 19, 2015)

THREE ALBUQUERQUE FIREFIGHTERS PLACED ON THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL WALL IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO (9-19-2015)



CHARLES OLIVER
Died on 12-17-1980 while on Duty at Station # 4 after a Second alarm fire



DONALD HERSHBERGER
Died on 3-10-1981 during the Night while attending the National Fire academy at Emmitsburg, Maryland



ATALANO FERNANDEZ
Died on duty (9-2-1982) at the Scene of a car fire while serving On Engine # 17

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

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Sam Trujillo

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By: Sam Trujillo

As always, I want to thank our Retiree's for their financial support I remind you that without your support our AFD Retiree newsletter could not continue to be printed and mailed My message to you and your families this quarter is to remind you to please discuss the issue of **Funeral Preparation** (last wishes) ... I know that this subject matter is something that no one wants to discuss, however **it needs to be discussed** In the past fifteen years, I have been involved and have helped our AFD Retiree family with 114 deaths and in most cases the families have not discussed the deceased "Last Wishes " which makes it harder for the family in making funeral / final arrangements Please let your family know what your wishes are and let them know if you want the traditional AFD Retiree Fire Fighter Funeral ... I encourage you to sit down and discuss your financial benefits such as the paid up " LIFE INSURANCE " that was part of your retirement package Please let your family know where to locate important papers and if you are a US Veteran, please make sure the family has access to a copy of your **DD-214** discharge document I stand ready to help you and your family so if you have any questions, I ask that you contact me and I will answer your questions or at least provide you with guidance to get your concerns answered Please review the **AFD Retiree Check List** and discuss with your family ... It has not been easy in dealing with the loss of my Fire Fighter Family but it has been my Honor in serving the families of the **114 AFD Retiree's** that have passed on since 6/9/2000 when we started/ formed The AFD Retiree Association

I also want to remind you to keep me informed (899-1500 / 400-3644 or 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 I thank you for your support