

AFD RETIREE NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION

March 1, 2022

1-2022

President, Kerry Horton	5605 Sweetwater Rd. N.W. Albuquerque	87120	934-2969
Vice President, Pablo Garcia Jr.	3014 10 th Street N.W.	87107	363-2233
Secretary, Fred Casias	P.O. Box 608 Bernalillo, N.M.	87004	269-0370
Treasurer, Mike Fox	3508 32 nd Circle S.E. Rio Rancho, N.M.	87124	385-7292
Historian, Herman R. Bishop	12501 Royal Crest Ct. N.E. Albuquerque	87111	294-7165
Sam Trujillo (President Emeritus)	5318 La Colonia Dr. NW Albuquerque	87120	899-1500

ADVISORY BOARD

Eddie Abeita	250-7895	Morris Guterrez	881-7833	John Serino	266-1252
Santos Abeyta	620-0670	Vince Holcomb	897-2667	Fred Teupell	259-6521
Noel Baca	836-2480	Joe Martinez	792-1867	Louis C. Trujillo	604-7732
Eugene Baldonado	344-6866	Bill Raupfer	269-7210	Tommy Romero	855-9389
Mike Murphy	264-1153	Jose Salaz	898-8373	O.G. Lucero	362-1228



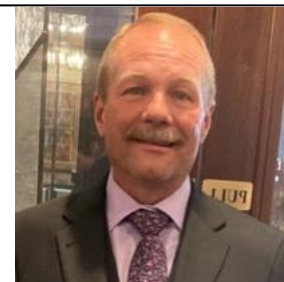
HERMAN R. BISHOP. EDITOR

CONTENTS

- P-1 Chief Gene Gallegos
- P-2 Minutes, December 2021
 - Death James Stevens
- P-3 AFD/AFR Fire Chiefs
- P-4 Civil Defense Director
- P-9 Ed Abeita Stories
- P-13 Minutes, January, 2022
 - Death Gene Padilla
 - Death Jose Luna
- P-14 Retirement Reflections
 - By: Herman Bishop
- P-15 Minutes, February 2022
- P-16 President's Message
 - By: Kerry Horton



GENE GALLEGOS APPOINTED TO ALBUQUERQUE FIRE RESCUE CHIEF – On November 20, 2021 Mayor Tim Keller appointed Gene Gallegos to Chief of Albuquerque Fire Rescue. After the retirement of Chief Paul Dow six months ago Chief Gallegos has served on an interim basis. He is a 21-year veteran of the department. He joined AFD in August, 2000. He has served as a driver, Lieutenant, Captain, Commander and Deputy Chief. He has an associates degree in Emergency Management and a Bachelor's Degree in Fire Administration from Columbia Southern University. We extend our congratulations and best wishes.



Mike Fox, Assistant Editor



Minutes, December 2021- On December 8, 2021 the 256 th meeting of the AFD Retiree's Association was held at the firefighter's Union Hall, Local 244, 4100 Edith NE. President Kerry Horton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Morris Gutierrez led the opening prayer. A moment of silence was observed in memory of our deceased members. Retired firefighter James Stevens, age 72, passed away on November 28, 2021. Kerry welcomed fellow retiree Richard Lovato who attended his first retiree meeting. Our new web page is up and running, check it out, www.afdretirees.com.

Secretary Fred Casias read the minutes of the November, 2021 monthly meeting. A motion to accept was made by Louis Trujillo and was seconded by Bill Raupfer. Motion passed. The Treasurer's report was given by Mike Fox. The annual report due in May, 2021 was delayed due to changes in the tax law based on issues surrounding the Covid virus. As always, our financial books are open for review by all members. A motion to accept was made by Sam Trujillo and was seconded by Robbie Sanchez. The Motion passed.

Historian's report – Herman gave the historian's report. Our newsletter is digital now and can be found on our webpage, www.afdretirees.com. As we are no longer mailing the newsletter to retirees at their homes, we will continue printing about 100 copies each quarter. We will have copies available at the monthly meetings. For the retirees who do not have access to a computer, please let us know and we will mail a copy to you. If you have an e-mail that is not registered with us contact Kerry Horton or Mike Fox and they will place your e-mail in our files. We will accept an e-mail for you from a friend or relative. Contact any of our officers if you need assistance.

Our Christmas dinner was held on December 16, 2021 at the Moose Lodge, 2121 Edith NE and it was well attended. A big thanks to the dinner committee for all their hard work in making this event a huge success.

Museum Report – The display cabinets are installed at the fire museum, and they look great. A big round of applause goes to Master Cabinet Maker Mike Fox for his hard work and woodworking skills. If you would like to donate an item that was used in AFD and would like to donate it from your collection we would love to display it. Contact any of our officers if you have items to donate. We can also provide loan receipts to you if you would like items returned in the future.

Kerry has retiree certification plaques for Willie Telles, Jeff Pounders, and Richard S. Sanchez that he would like to give them. If any of you have contact information for these retirees, please contact Kerry.

We will be appointing a records review committee in January. The purpose of the committee is to review and digitize all the wonderful historical records that our brother Herman Bishop has put together over the years. We cannot express enough how important the documents are to our history. We want to make sure that they are preserved for future generations to enjoy. If this sounds like something that you are good at and want to assist, please reach out to us by the next meeting. **Reminder** – If you have photos, documents, news articles or any AFD item suitable for our historical records or to display in the fire museum please contact any of our officers. The monthly raffle was won by: Bill Raupfer, Kenneth Goodyear, Morris Guterrez, and Bernie Martinez. Morris Guterrez led the closing prayer. **The meeting adjourned @ 9:00 PM.**

James Stevens Dies – We are sad to learn of the death retiree James "Snowman," Stevens, age 72, who passed away on Sunday November 28, 2021. He joined AFD on July 7, 1975. After spending 29 years of honorable and faithful service to the fire department, He retired on December 30, 2004. He was a military veteran who had served in Vietnam. His fellow retirees remember him working at Station # 4. He was promoted to driver on August 6, 1986. He was a good firefighter and loved His job as a driver. He also trained the new firefighters in pump operations and safe driving skills. As the year ends, we honor the 10 AFD retired firefighters who passed away in 2021. Ruben Collado, Tobias Pino Jr. Pete Tartaglia, Joe Candelaria, Joe Serna, David Villianueva, Diego Garcia, Gregory Armenta, Douglas Sieben, and James Stevens.



CHIEFS, ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT (1882-2021) [11-20-21] (By Herman R. Bishop)

- February 24, 1882 - Ch. William Sanguinette: Feb. 24, 1882 the Albuquerque Morning Journal newspaper reported that the Albuquerque Volunteer hook and ladder company was headed by Ch. William Sanguinette.
- July 13, 1882 - William Sanguinette was re-elected to Chief (1)
- March 1886 - William Sanguinette was re-elected to Fire Marshal by the three fire companies
 - Albuquerque Hook and Ladder Company, Scott Moore and A.A. Grant Hose Companies (2)
- October 1, 1900 - Charles Bernard Ruppe Fire Chief (logged in the official F.D. ledger, this date) (3)
- April 1902 - Mr. Hubbs named Chief after Chief Ruppe resigned resulting from personnel problems (4)
- March 1903 - Mr. Nash took over as Fire Chief from Mr. Hubbs. (5)
- March 20, 1904 - Mr. A.C. Burtless succeeded Mr. Nash as Ch. Ch. Burtless served (3-20-1904 to 5-18-1910 (6)
- April 18, 1910 - Jacob Klein appointed to Ch. He succeeded A.C. Burtless. Klein served until 12-16-15 (7)
- December 16, 1915 - A.C. Burtless to Ch. Jacob Klein was removed by the Mayor and City Council (8)
- April 17, 1916 - J.W. Burnette to Chief when A.C. Burtless was removed by the Mayor and City Council. (9)
- March 1917 - Fred M. Russell appointed to Fire Chief and replaced J.W. Burnette (10)
- April 17, 1917 - F. M. Russell resigns after the City Adm. fired firemen. They tried to organize a Union. (11)
- April 17, 1917 - William Collister was appointed to Fire after Chief Fred Russell resigns (12)
- April 29, 1922 - William Collister was shown on the daily ledger as Fire Chief. (13)
- 1922 to 1924 - It is not clear when Ch. Russell was re-appointed Ch. The 1925 annual report is signed by Fred Russell. On 5-24-24, Pumper #1 and the Chief's car collided, then hit a street car while responding to a false alarm. Ch. Russell and Fireman Simon Seligman, were both seriously injured but both recovered. (14)
- August 21, 1931 - Fire Chief Russell passed away after serving several years as Fire Chief. (15)
- August 28, 1931 - W.A. "Art" Westerfeld appointed to Fire Chief after the death of Ch. Fred M. Russell. (16)
- February 20, 1962 - W.A. Westerfeld, dies after a long illness. He served 31 years as Ch. and 43 yrs. w/ AFD.
- Note: On the day Chief Westerfeld died Astronaut John H. Glen made a three-hour space orbit and became the first American in space orbit. (17)
- February, 1962 - Simon Seligman appointed Fire Chief after the death of Chief Westerfeld. (18)
- September 9, 1968 - Ray L. Kuhn appointed Chief after Chief Seligman retires.(19)
- NOTE: Chief Seligman was the first Fire Chief to retire from the Albuquerque Fire Department (20)
- July 1974 - Arthur B. Martinez appointed to Fire Chief upon the retirement of Chief Ray Kuhn (21)
- March 10, 1980 - Leonard C. Ortega appointed to Chief after the retirement of Arthur B. Martinez. (22)
- December 17, 1985 - Gerald Grimm Appointed Chief after the retirement of Leonard C. Ortega (23)
- April 1990 - Tom Montoya former Asst. Ch. Denver, appt.. Chief after the retirement of G. Grimm.(24)
- December 1993 - Greg Chavez appointed to Fire Chief after the resignation of Chief Tom Montoya(25)
- December 1995 - Carlos Dominguez appointed Fire Chief after Chief Greg Chavez retires (26)
- December 1997 - Morris L. Huling appointed to Fire Chief after Carlos Dominguez retires (27)
- December 2001 - Robert E. Ortega becomes Chief after the retirement of Chief Morris L. Huling (28)
- December 2009 - James Breen becomes Ch. after the retirement of Ch. Robert Ortega who served 8 yrs. (29)
- January 1, 2014 - David Downey appointed Fire Chief upon retirement of James Breen on 12-31-2013 (30)
- January, 2018 - Paul Dow, Appointed Fire Chief upon retirement of David Downey on 8-23-2017, (31)
- April, 2021 - Chief Paul Dow Retires, Gene Gallegos appointed Interim Chief (32)
- November 20, 2021 Gene Gallegos appointed to Fire Chief by Mayor Tim Keller (33)

Sources

- (1) Albuquerque Morning Journal, July 13, 1882, P-2
- (2) Albuquerque Morning Journal, March 12, 1886
- Note: Sources (3) through (16) From the AFD daily ledgers. (14) Alb. Tribune, P, D-4, (9-1-1968)
- (17) Albuquerque Journal, February, 1962
- (18) Personal records, February 25, 1962
- (19) Albuquerque Tribune, September 9, 1968, P, A-2
- (20) Personal records, September 9, 1968
- (21) Albuquerque Journal, July 17, 1974, P, F-4
- (22) Albuquerque Tribune, March 10, 1980, P, A-1
- (23) Albuquerque Journal, December 17, 1985 P, A-1
- (24) Personal records, April 23, 1990
- (25) Personal records, December 21, 1993
- (26) Albuquerque Journal, December 8, 1995 P, E-1
- (27) Personal records, December 18, 1997
- (28) Albuquerque Journal, November 16, 2001, P, A-1
- (29) Albuquerque Journal, November 25, 2009, P,B-1
- (30) Albuquerque Journal, December 25, 2013 P, C2
- (31) Albuquerque Journal, January 23, 2018 P, A-8
- (32) Mayor Tim Keller, Press Release, April 14, 2021, Albuquerque Journal ((4-23,21) P-A-7
- (33) Mayor Tim Keller, Press Release, November 20, 2021 Albuquerque Journal (11-20-21) P-A-6

Annual Fund Drive

**This month kicks off our Annual Fund Drive. Send Donations To: AFD Retiree's Association, C/O Mike Fox,
3508 32nd. Circle S.E. Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124 Thank You!**

The Civil Defense Director (by Herman Bishop) December 1st 2007

(Note: in the December 2007 issue of the AFDR newsletter we published a story about the early civil defense organization in Albuquerque, which later became the office of emergency preparedness. This is a follow-up story we take a lighthearted look at the organization during my assignment there as a fire captain from 1969 to 1972.)

At the end of fiscal year 1969 in an economy move the city of Albuquerque reorganized the local civil Defense Department. It had been a separate department headed by Mr Roth and then headed by Colonel McCracken who held the title of department head. Until 1969 this department had the same status as the other 17 city departments. Under the reorganization, this department became a division and was retitled the office of emergency preparedness. The position of civil defense director was abolished and Colonel McCracken retired. Mr. Dunham who was formerly the training officer in the old organization was appointed coordinator at a somewhat lower salary than the civil defense director had received. Several other positions such as planning officer, training officer, operations officer and radiological defense officer were also abolished as a result of the reorganization.

Because the organization was small and several of the abolished positions had been left vacant due to earlier resignations by personnel, the only person who lost a job was the formal civil defense director. Colonel McCracken was eligible for retirement and did so immediately. The remaining personnel assumed positions in the new organization. At this time a fire captain and a police Lieutenant were added to the organization.

On paper the city manager assumed the title of civil defense director and Mr. Dunham was named the coordinator and his division functioned as part of the city manager staff. Mr. Dunham actually ran the Civil Defense Organization.

CIVIL DEFENSE DIRECTOR - Richard Wilson, City Manager

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATOR - George Dunham. He was a retired US Air Force master Sergeant, 50 years old he was 5 foot 2 inches tall with a strong domineering type personality. Also, he was a pushy aggressive individual who was rather obnoxious. Once placed in charge of something no one else was allowed to forget his position, not even the city manager himself. He was probably the most disliked person around City Hall. In three years, he had hired four different secretaries, all of whom transferred to other city departments because of personality conflicts with Mr. Dunham. His one virtue was that he was an expert in civil defense organization and operational planning.

DEPUTY COORDINATOR - Henry McLocklin, full Colonel U S army retired sixty years old. He was the extreme opposite of Mr Dunham. Henry was pleasant, slow moving and a relaxed calm individual. He was knowledgeable in civil defense organization, operations, and was well versed in government finances. Mr. McLocklin seemed like a regular guy and gave little appearance of a retired military officer. He did not use the title of Colonel at work and never tried to push anyone around or remind them of his former military rank. However, he did use the title of Colonel socially with his friends and associates went off duty.

FALLOUT SHELTER CONTROL OFFICER - Mrs. Breshears approximately 50 years old and former secretary to the previous civil defense director. She was good natured, quiet, hardworking, punctual and had been a city employee for many years. Sometimes she displayed considerable stress and was frequently upset by the rudeness and harsh attitude toward her by Mr. Dunham.

CLERK TYPIST - Walter Pierson age 50, disabled World War II veteran. Previously he had been a factory supervisor, musician, and had held a number of other clerical jobs. He was a quiet, reserved, timid, and easygoing individual. Pierson was often harassed by Mr.

Dunham who was delighted when he had upset Pearson. Unlike the secretaries he never fought back, cried, or even resigned. He just tolerated Mr. Dunham. During his coffee breaks he often expressed his dislike for Mr. Dunham. Once he told me that as a younger man, he had blown a career with a good company shortly after a promotion to supervisor. It seemed he lost his temper and punched the boss in the nose which led to his immediate dismissal. This caused complications in finding another good job. Pierson promised himself never to lose control of his temper with another boss.

POLICE RADEF OFFICER (Radiological Defense Officer) - Lieutenant Barnett 37 years old, a 12-year veteran police officer. He was knowledgeable in police departmental operations, hardworking, well-liked by everyone and a pleasant individual. Like me he was on special assignment from his department. His job was to develop a recruit and organize a reserve police force of citizen volunteers.

FIRE RADEF OFFICER (Radiological Defense Officer) - Captain Herman Bishop, 9-year veteran of the fire department 30 years old on special assignment from the fire department.

At this point a discussion of my selection for the job may well be in order. In August 1969 I had held the position of captain for one year. Because of the new position in the Civil Defense organization, I was interviewed for the job by the Fire Chief Ray Kuhn. The assignment was to be for two years. It would be a lateral assignment with a new title and different responsibilities, but at the same pay. Realizing that I was not eligible for promotion to district chief for another two years, I was ready to accept a new challenge and new experiences. The new title was fire and RADEF officer.

The position Was created because the federal government had made available 50% of the salary for the position on a matching funds basis. My job would be to establish an auxiliary fire force of citizen volunteers in the city of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County. As prescribed in the national civil defense guidelines, I was to recruit and train a cadre of volunteer firefighters to augment the active-duty firefighters. These volunteers were intended to be activated during natural disasters, major emergencies or nuclear attack by a foreign power. (The Russians) The job responsibilities included writing emergency operational plans for fire department actions during natural disasters or nuclear attack and to train all active-duty firefighters in radiological defense procedures.

During the 1960's. The bomb fallout shelters and the nuclear attack threat was the major emphasis of the national civil defense organizations. By the early 70's, it was realized that the bomb threat was not so imminent. The problem closer to home was natural disasters such as those caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, wildfires, fire conflagrations and riots. It was more logical and easier for civil defense organizations to sell citizens and community leaders on emergency preparedness for natural disasters rather than preparing for the big bomb.

The National Civil Defense program then switched emphasis on preparation for natural disasters, which was more realistic to cities and communities throughout the country. Planning for the nuclear threat and attack by a foreign power was placed in a secondary roll, but were still included in the nation's national preparedness program.

After being selected for the job, I was to report to the Office of Emergency Preparedness the first week in September 1969. A week previous to my assignment, Fire Chief Ray Kuhn arranged for me to spend the afternoon with Mr. Dunham, the OEP coordinator and have him explain the civil defense operation to me and to discuss my new job.

As I sat in the fire chief's office awaiting Mr. Dunham's arrival, I became somewhat skeptical. Chief Kuhn communicated that he wished me well in my new assignment and hoped I would get along with Mr. Dunham as no one else could stand the little rascal.

Shortly thereafter, Mr. Dunham arrived to meet me and to give me a tour of the Office of Emergency Preparedness. This 5-foot 2-inch giant had a very recognizable upper New England accent and seemed quite friendly as I was introduced to him. He certainly was a flashy dresser. He wore a brown cowboy hat, dark brown trousers, bright blue plaid sports jacket, a purple shirt, a red and white polka dot necktie and black engineer boots.

We walked up to the parking lot. For the first time, I observed the impressive, official, Office of Emergency Preparedness civil defense car. He pointed out a faded blue, dirty, 1959 Renault 4 door sedan. Mounted on the roof were the latest police cruiser emergency lights. Those huge emergency flashers were worth at least two \$250. A considerable amount of money. In 1969. The car was probably worth one hundred and twenty-five dollars at the time. On each of the front doors were large, three feet in diameter civil defense decals, colored red, white, and blue. These were the official national civil defense emblems used nationwide. On the car windows there were at least ten other civil defense decals of smaller sizes.

As the mighty 38 horsepower engine sputtered and roared into life we drove down central avenue headed to civil defense headquarters located in the basement of the old police building at 2nd St and Tijeras NW. I am sure we were quite impressive in that official Albuquerque Office of Emergency Preparedness Civil Defense car. Mr Dunham in his bright plaid sport coat and cowboy hat and me and my official fire department uniform and my 6-foot one inch frame cramped into the front seat of the 1959 Renault. My knees came to the top of the dashboard of the car and my hat raked the roof. The car itself appeared to be a disaster, badly in need of some sort of emergency pre plan to operate it.

The first week in September 1969 I reported to my new assignment. Occasionally I was taken to lunch in the official car. Soon I began to form some ideas on how to best set up the new program for which I was responsible. Everyone in the organization was most helpful and explained thoroughly the concept of the civil defense organization at the national, state and local level.

The Fire Chief had instructed me that I worked directly for him and that I was a liaison from the fire department to the local civil defense organization. He instructed me to give him periodic status reports concerning my progress and actions.

By the middle of the second week, I began to reflect back on Chief Kuhn's comments about Mr Dunham some few weeks earlier. By now I had become rather familiar with the staff as well as many other people around City Hall. Practically everyone's comments were similar to those made by the Fire Chief earlier. "Well, if you can stand Dunham, you've got it made."

It seems that Mr Dunham had become involved in several power struggles with employees of other city departments around civil defense policy, training, and writing emergency operational plans. From all accounts he was not very polite or tactful in dealing with others. This was particularly true of those whom he felt of lower status than himself in the city's hierarchy. A common complaint was that he left little room for input from personnel and other departments as to their actions during emergencies or in writing operational plans. The consensus was that Mr Dunham made it clear that he was running the show and insisted in being in full command of the entire operation.

Mr Dunham would write a plan, print out several copies and distribute them to the various departments without the input or consent of the department representatives concerned. Also, he insisted on chairing all meetings that he was involved with. Not only did he antagonize city employees, but he upset volunteer citizens of the community on which civil defense depends on so greatly for the various disaster planning programs.

Only when a department head or deputy department head or someone with more authority than Mr Dunham Entered the act did he relinquish and become more rational and cooperative. Then he would listen to the ideas and input from personnel of that department.

About two years after I went to work there several changes took place within the organization. The job of fallout shelter coordinator was abolished. Fortunately for Mrs. Breshears the city had a policy of allowing employees to transfer into other departments to a job for which they were qualified. She was accepted for a job in the building department as secretary.

During this period, several secretaries came and went mainly because they could not work for Mr Dunham. Lieutenant Barnett was absorbed back into the Police Department. Of course, this made Lieutenant Barnett happy. A plans coordinator position was created and Mr Pearson the clerk typist was promoted into that position. Henry McLocklin, the retired U S Army Colonel, was not bothered much by Mr Dunham. Because of his calm demeanor, and slow-moving nature he did not become excited easily. For Mr Dunham a retired US Air Force Master Sergeant it was most amazing to watch him attack Mr McLocklin. One was reminded of a small dog barking loudly at a huge Saint Bernard, it was of no use whatsoever for Mr Dunham to attempt controlling Mr McLocklin.

Once Mr Dunham was hospitalized for a few weeks. Naturally he attempted to run the office from his bedside by telephone and daily visits from members of his staff. Daily he would send cassette tape recordings by the secretary with instructions to Mr McLocklin about how the business of the office was to be conducted. McLocklin refused to listen to the tapes even at the assistance of the secretary he ignored the tapes upon Mr Dunham's return to work McLocklin presented the tapes to him all unplayed.

Perhaps the highlight during my assignment there was the day Mr Dunham almost lost control of himself with the Fire Chief in a telephone conversation. When I was first assigned to my new job, I badly needed some books and training materials for the new program for which I was about to embark. When I approached Mr Dunham for assistance he was somewhat sarcastic and commented that I worked for the Fire Chief. He insisted that I approach him and request the money from him. I could hardly wait to ask the chief for the money because I was reasonably certain what his answer would be.

When I discussed the situation with Chief Kuhn his answer was as I suspected it would be. He felt that because civil defense was sponsoring the program which I headed that any money spent should come from the office of emergency preparedness budget, not the fire department budget. Immediately he attempted to call Mr Dunham to discuss the matter but Mr Dunham was not available at the time.

Upon returning to my office, I found Mr. Dunham in, and we discussed my recent conversation with the Fire Chief. He said I'll just call the chief and get this matter straightened up at once. He dialed the telephone "hello let me speak to the Fire Chief" pause "hello chief about this training material captain Bishop wants to buy" "where the hell do you think I'm gonna get the money?" "Civil defense is broke pal I can't help the captain so don't expect me to carry the whole damn fire department on my budget!" pause Mr Dunham's face turned red and he suddenly becomes quiet then "yes Sir" "yes Sir I see yes Sir" pause "I'll check Sir" "well I think I can find the money in another fund" pause "yes Sir I've got other connections I've got connections I'll get the money for captain Bishop" pause "yes Sir goodbye Sir." By now I could hardly contain my laughter. I suppose he saw some humor in his conversation with the Fire Chief because he began to laugh with me. "Whew" he added "I almost blew it I forgot who I was talking to. The chief has a terrible temper. He chewed me out but good". "You know the chief is a well-respected man at City Hall and he might have the city manager fire me". "Oh well we will find the money you need Captain." We both began to chuckle, in a week or so I had the money soon I was able to obtain the needed training materials and my program was off to a good start and running smoothly.

During the three years I spent as the fire department liaison to the Office of Emergency Preparedness a lot was accomplished. During this assignment I developed a training program for volunteer firefighters, recruited, trained and organized an auxiliary fire

brigade known as the Albuquerque Fire Reserve Association (nicknamed "Bishop Raiders".) Their numbers reached over 30 people by 1971. A textbook called "FIRE" was developed and used for the training program. The volunteer firefighters were given 130 hours of firefighter training at the Albuquerque fire Academy.

Once certified those volunteers were given ride along assignments with the district chiefs at each district headquarters. They received hands-on experience in Fire and Rescue operations allowing them to work side-by-side with the paid fire force on a regular basis. During those years they worked all major fires which included the Winrock apartment fire, the Montgomery apartment fire and many many fires on the river Bosque as well as many other fires throughout the city.

Working with the active-duty firefighters, the volunteer firefighters built a fire exhibit hall on the State Fairgrounds. The exhibit hall opened at the New Mexico State fair during September 1972 and was awarded the Western State Fairs Association "Blue Ribbon Award" that year.

By the late 1970s the 50% federal matching funds to support the local civil defense organizations were no longer available. Volunteer interest had waned and the local Auxiliary Fire Reserve Association disbanded.

Overall, I spent three years at the office of emergency preparedness. It was a great learning experience which broadened my resume greatly. Along the way I met some really nice and interesting people.

In August 1972 I returned to the Albuquerque Fire Department to my former position as a captain in the firefighting division and was assigned to engine 1B, station 1 downtown. Later I was promoted to district chief and served four years in that position. Also, I was appointed to Fire Marshall where I spent six years. Finally, my last assignment was shift commander of C platoon in the firefighting division as an assistant chief. Overall, I proudly serve 25 years with the Albuquerque Fire Department.

After I left the Albuquerque Fire Department, I was appointed to the position of Fire Chief in the city of Hickory NC. I served seven years in the Hickory Fire Department. I had a wonderful second career there. Overall, I spent 32 years in the fire service in two different fire departments. My assignment with the Albuquerque office of emergency preparedness was an invaluable experience which I was to draw upon many many times during my tenure as Fire Chief.

Currently I am serving as historian with the Albuquerque Fire Department Retiree's Association, and I'm the editor of the quarterly newsletter. The AFD retiree's association was formed in June 2000 with the assistance of then Fire Chief Morris Huling and the following officers; president Sam Trujillo, vice president Eddie Torres, secretary Bob Murphy, treasurer Ralph Sedillo, and historian Herman Bishop. Advisory Board; V. Holcomb, R. Cisneros, B. Raupher, J. Herrera, P. Cano, F Sierra, C. Alderete, V. Sanchez, J. Martinez and N. Baca.

Annual Fund Drive

This month kicks off our Annual Fund Drive. Send Donations To: AFD Retiree's Association, C/O Mike Fox, 3508 32nd. Circle S.E. Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124 Thank You!

“One Man’s Junk is Another Man’s Treasure”

Fire Museum Inventory

by Eddie Abeita

The Albuquerque Fire Department Retiree Association (AFDRA) has been working aggressively in developing and building the fire museum. Items found in display range from firefighters’ identification cards, pictures of graduating fire cadet classes, fire equipment and actual fire apparatus used in the 1920’s.

Our retirees/volunteers working to preserve the history of our fire service are always in the hunt for any item that was used or associated with AFD.

Sam Trujillo was contacted by one of our deceased retiree’s family members who said we found items that may be of interest to you. The items were Tot Finder stickers and a copy of AFD rules and regulation published in 1956 designed in size like a paperback book so a firefighters could carry in their pocket.

Our talented curators have designed and built glass cases, stands and racks to display all memorabilia. AFDRA president Kerry Horton is always announcing at retirees’ meetings and other events the need for vintage item donations. The words are, “donate to the cause”. Some retirees have donated items that may have become a tripping hazard, dust collector or conversation piece, now just ready to donate. Some items received were a foam hopper, gated wye, nozzles, pictures and turnout gear.

The feeling of the association is, we know many years ago firefighters may have taken or found fire equipment and wanted to save and preserve them so they were stored at their home, now knowing a fire museum exist they can have them properly displayed.

In general discussion about donations, some retirees or heirs of a deceased firefighter might be skeptical of giving away something that maybe a cherished item. However, we hope the old saying of “One man’s junk is another man’s treasure” kicks in, so donate your fire junk!

AFDRA president Kerry Horton has said many times, if you want to donate an item with the understanding you still can keep as your property, we have a plan. An **Heir Agreement** is available, this agreement; at any given time, the item can be returned to the owner or heir listed on the agreement.

Albuquerque Fire Rescue has been generous with providing a place for a museum in preserving our fire heritage. The AFDRA and AFR welcomes visitors to the fire museum located at 11,500 Sunset Gardens SW which is AFR Administration. The museum is open during normal business hours and welcomed to all, park and enter from the west entrance.

A visit to the museum would be an amazing experience for all to see Albuquerque’s fire history. All visitors will relate to the fire displays in different ways. This project has been funded mainly by private donations from retiree’s, their families, and our loyal supporters.

“One Man’s Junk is Another Man’s Treasure”

Fire Museum Inventory

by Eddie Abeita

TOT Finder Stickers

The stickers were from the early 70’s spearheaded by the fire service, unions and supported by the insurance industry. The intent was for a sticker to be placed on the window of any child room. In the event of fire in the home, firefighters would make the Tot finder decal window a target area for immediate search and rescue.

Some fire departments elected not participate in the Tot stating it gives a false sense of security. Their feeling was a time waiting for fighters to arrive when their immediate more important some felt.

Albuquerque Fire Department along with the vast majority concluded after several studies, that young children had the from smoke. Some children would hide under their beds, bathtubs. With that conclusion the Tot Finder stickers were firefighters to search and make the sticker location



Finder program child could spend evacuation was

of departments tendency to hide closets or even a good means for paramount.

Rules and Regulations from 1956

Article 1 Chief of the Department

The Chief of the Fire Department shall be in full and complete command of the entire Department. Including the members therefor, the mechanical equipment, engine houses, real estate, alarm system and Department subdivisions.

Article XI General Rules Section 29

No women shall be allowed to loiter around or about any fire station. No idle conversation or in indiscreet conduct with women in or about quarters will be tolerated. No idle conversation or indiscreet conduct with women in or about quarters will be tolerated. No officer or member will be allowed to sit in automobile parked around or about any fire station while on duty.

RULES AND REGULATIONS
For the Government of the
FIRE DEPARTMENT
Of the City of
Albuquerque, New Mexico

“Change of Venue was Imminent”

2021 Christmas Dinner

By Eddie Abeita

After a disappointing cancelation of our 2020 Christmas dinner do to the COVID pandemic, our 2021 Albuquerque Fire Department Retirees Association (AFDRA) Christmas Dinner was a huge success.

At the beginning of the association in 2000 a list of ideas was soon developed by retirees to guide the association towards its goal. One of the ideas by the getting older retirees was to rejuvenate our fire comradery. During the early retiree meetings were discussions and memories of Christmas and New Year’s Eve parties that were held back in the old days at the Fireman’s Club. However, the first paramount objective was finding a place to have the retirees’ monthly meetings.

So, with Fire Chief Morris Huling recognizing the association as AFDRA why not ask him for help with use of a fire facility to host the AFDRA monthly meetings. Sam Trujillo said heck at the worst he could say is no. However, Morris offered the fire academy located at Sunset Gardens SW with use of the auditorium for monthly meetings. The thought was automatic Sam said, we have use of a nice big room what about having a Christmas Party here? So, the planning was in high gear let’s get the party going said Sam. Well, it did happen, the first few Christmas parties were of a potluck type dinner which was great.

The popularity of the Christmas party was getting larger in attendance, so other alternatives were discussed. Eddie Torres was able to get permission from the Town of Bernalillo for use of their community center. So, the Christmas party was moved to Bernalillo with the association providing partial funding along with donations of food from the retiree’s families. To enhance the Christmas parties, Santa Clause (AKA Leroy Barboa) made an appearance with gifts for the young which were retirees’ grandchildren.

The Christmas parties worked out well however recruitment of new help was limited but the initial volunteers kept it going. Just like other things the retirees were getting older and spending time in the kitchen and clean up with little time to enjoy the Christmas party. So, change of venue was imminent, President Sam Trujillo said, “Hey Eddie Abeita, we need you to re plan the Christmas party”. So, a change of venue happened by a Christmas Committee.

The focus was to have a sit down non potluck dinner. The Christmas Committee was organized, and the committee brainstormed different ideas, with Louie Trujillo’s most solidified statement, was to call this a “*Christmas Dinner*”. **Some background** about the initial planning by the Christmas Committee. Restaurants, Casinos, Fraternal Orders and Kirtland Air Force Base were contacted about them providing services for our dinner. Discussions started about which entity would be the most suitable to host our Christmas Dinner. The Moose Lodge was selected because of certain factors. Which was, cost, dinner menu both chicken and beef served and location which is centralized for most retirees’ travel.

2021 Christmas Dinner

By Eddie Abeita

However, the decisive items were satisfaction by previous organizations that had dinners at the Moose. With the important thing(s), no binding contract and no deposit required.

Roberta Abeita, Linda Holcomb, Theresa Barboa, Merry Flores, Debbie Barnum and Nancy Diehl constructed center pieces for all the tables. The center pieces were given away as door prizes. The ladies also directed the decorating of the hall. The ladies also encouraged the committee to increase the number of door prizes and to include all in attendance eligible for the drawings. In prior years, cash door prize giveaways were only for the retirees who purchased dinner tickets, making them the only ones eligible for the drawings.

The dinner started with a social hour which has become an important part. Retirees wearing a protective mask were still easy to identify (some still have the same old facial look). There were a lot of hand shaking, fist bumping, hugging, chit chat, reminiscing and just visiting with one another. Snacks were enormous chips and salsa, peanuts, Merry Flores's queso and Roberta Abeita's sopa (bread pudding) to just name a few. Nonalcoholic drinks were provided and of course the Moose had cocktail service available. Mike Fox coordinated ticket sales, payments and provided gratuity to the young volunteer food servers. Fred Casias developed and printed tickets, John Barnum handled telephone reservations, Vince Holcomb was communication liaison with Moose and Leroy Barboa coordinated restoration.

Moose charged the association \$14.00 per each ticket sold. The association sold tickets to its retirees at a reduced cost of \$10.00 as a token of our brotherhood and "Thank You" for supporting the AFDRA. Vince Holcomb gave the Moose a final ticket count of 125 for dinner meals to be prepared. Approximate number of attendees in attendance were 115. Sam Trujillo extended invites to John Serino, Phil Candelaria, Paul Gonzales, and Irene Serna RGPU. Irene was given a plaque in recognition of her support to the AFDRA. Kerry Horton extended the invite to our brothers of Local 244. The local provides its own Christmas Party for their Union members which includes, Albuquerque Fire Rescue and Bernalillo County Fire Department. Committee Chair Eddie Abeita also provided written invitation to the retiree's perpetual supporters, Rio Grande Credit Union and TLC Inc. Mike Athens, President CEO RGPU attended and donated Lobo basketball tickets with parking passes that were given as door prizes. Lucy Sedillo RGPU board member was also in attendance and recognized for her continued support.

Some retirees were not able to attend the Christmas Dinner however gave some insight for not attending. Such as, we were looking forward to attend however we "may" have been in contact with someone positive with COVID, so we were in quarantine for 5 days. Another said it was cold out and not feeling well and we never want to take a chance of close contact, so for everyone's safety (not COVID sick) we stayed home. And another, living out of state travel in cold weather is tuff. And another said I had hip replacement now my knee is bothering so not a good time to party. And the final, one of my previous installed body parts 20 years ago had to be replaced and reinstalled, however will be there next Christmas Dinner.

Minutes January 1, 2022- The 257 th monthly meeting of the AFD Retiree's Association was called to order on January 12, 2022 at 7:05 PM at the firefighter's union hall, local 244, 4100 Edith NE. President Kerry Horton called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Louis Trujillo led the opening prayer and a moment of silence was observed in memory of our deceased members. A special prayer was said in memory of the ten retirees we lost during 2021. Roll Call – President Kerry Horton, Vice President, Pablo Garcia Jr, Treasurer, Mike Fox, Historian, Herman R. Bishop, and President Emeritus, Sam Trujillo. Secretary, Fred Casias was absent. Retiree Willie Telles was recognized for attending after a few months absence. Best wishes were given to retiree Santos Abeyta who is in the hospital with a back injury. Our prayers are requested for retiree David Alarid who is gravely ill.

President Kerry Horton said 36 AFD firefighters retired during 2021. He is having difficulty obtaining current addresses and telephone numbers of these people. If you know a firefighter who retired during 2021 please contact Kerry with updated information. Kerry reported that our new website is going well but he has not received as much feedback as he had expected. He is requesting feedback from members, thoughts, and suggestions for improvements. A records review committee was appointed to review and digitize all the wonderful historical records that Herman Bishop has preserved over the years. Contact Kerry if you would like to serve on the committee. The NM State Legislature meets on January 28, 2022 for the 30 days short session. Currently we do not know of any bills that will affect retired firefighters. Retiree O.G. Lucero has been a very active and supportive member of our association and now heads the "Honor Guard." Kerry appointed him to serve as a member of our advisory board. "Congratulations, to O.G. !"

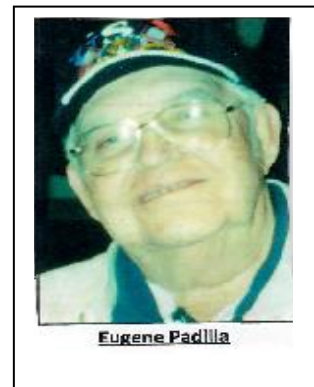
Due to the absence of our Secretary Fred Casias a motion to suspend the January report was made by Eddie Abeita and was seconded by O.G. Lucero. The motion passed. Treasurer Mike Fox gave the January report. After a review of the December expenses including the costs of the Christmas party all funds were accounted for and the association finances are in good shape. As always our financial books are open for review by all retired members. A motion to accept the financial report was made by Louis Trujillo and was seconded by Ralph Sedillo. The motion passed.

Herman Bishop gave the Historian's report. Retiree Brandon Maus a member of the 42 nd fire cadet class who now lives in Navajo Lake New Mexico sent Herman a graduation program from his class and a Cadet Class photo. We were happy to hear from Brandon and to know he is doing well. The information he sent will be placed in the retiree's association archives. Herman reminds all retirees to look in your drawers and personal records for photos, news stories and information which may be of interest for our museum and historical archives.

Kerry was contacted by Charlie Alderete who found seven AFD Ledgers/Logs, of fire and rescue calls from the 1950's and 1960's. Also he found five ledgers listing AFD members and their payroll logs from the 1920's and 1930's. Information from these ledgers will be placed in our fire museum's permanent display cabinets. Example: From the May 15, 1925 payroll log there were 21 firemen, and two fire stations. Monthly Salaries: Chief \$210, Asst. Chief - \$150, Capt.- \$140, Lieutenant- \$131, Driver- \$120, Fireman- \$110. 1925 population, 25,000, AFD Annual Budget- \$36, 389. A big thanks goes to Charlie for preserving this important part of AFD's history. Wednesday's raffle was won by: Willie Telles, Louis Trujillo, and Steve Marquez. The closing prayer was led by Louis Trujillo. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

.

Eugene Padilla, dies – We regret to announce the death of our friend and fellow Retired firefighter Captain Eugene "Gene," Padilla, age 89, who passed away on February 6, 2022. Gene joined AFD on March 3, 1954 and after serving 27 years of faithful and dedicated service he retired on January 1, 1981. There was no fire academy when he joined, mostly on the job training. Prior to paramedics the department formed the rescue squad in 1957. Gene was one of the first rescue personnel assigned to Rescue One. At that time, they responded to the same type incidents that the Paramedics do today. They treated victims of drowning, heart attacks, car wrecks, choking children, dog bites, etc. Gene was promoted to driver during May, 1956 and to Lieutenant in January, 1960. He headed the floating crew that filled in on the days off for personnel on Engine 5, Engine 11, Engine 3, and Ladder 3. His crew was Raymo Chavez, Billy Chenault and Owen Metcalf. He was a good role model for young firefighters joining the department and liked to train the New people in pumper and ladder operations. During November 1970 he was Promoted to Captain and served in that capacity until he retired. Gene was a long time member of the AFD Retiree's association for over 20 years. On behalf of our retired members, we extend our most sincere condolences to the Padilla family.



Jose Luna Dies- Sadly we report the death of retired Captain Jose Luna, age 79, who passed away on Friday February 12, 2022. He was born in Puerto De Luna, New Mexico on December 22, 1942. He joined AFD on August 18, 1967 and was a member of the 16 th cadet class. There were 18 cadets in their class and training was conducted at the old drill tower at 1610 Kit Carson SW adjacent to the zoo. After serving 20 years of faithful and dedicated service to the department he retired on May 31, 1987. His older brother Mariano Luna served with the department too and passed away in 2001. His daughter Missy is the widow of AFD firefighter Manuel Aguilar who passed away on March 20, 2000. Our sincere condolences to the Luna family.

RETIREMENT REFLECTIONS
BY HERMAN R. BISHOP
(October 30, 2021)

During my generation my parents were both strong personalities and ensured my two brothers and I followed the rules. They were kind and wonderful parents but they were the boss and we were required to be honest, fair, kind to others, complete our chores, and to be responsible citizens. After high school I wanted to be on my own, leave parental control and most of all to be my own boss. I joined the U.S. Army and soon I got one of life's eye openers. My parents' rules of life were easy compared to the Army rules. After the Army I joined the Albuquerque Fire Department. Here again civilian life was not easy as I had imagined. The fire department was a para-military organization, uniforms, dress code, haircuts required, personal grooming, and all fire equipment and fire items had a specific place and order. Officers were strict disciplinarians, commanded respect and insisted that orders be followed. They required firefighters to be team players. I soon realized no matter what profession one pursued there were organizational rules, policies, protocol and codes of conduct to be followed. This was true if one worked in retail, gas or electric company, sales, food industry or any other civilian job. Overall, I realized that one would always have a boss, and be bound by organizational rules and policies. However, I always dreamed of earning my retirement, no bosses and not to be bound by organizational rules. I had a good career in the Albuquerque Fire Department. I was successful in serving in all ranks through Assistant Chief. Although I always played by the rules, I always dreamed of being my own boss and to be free.

After serving 25 years of service, I earned my full retirement. Now I was free. I could be my own boss, sleep late, skip haircuts, let my hair grow long, grow a beard and not be bound by organizational rules and responsibilities. I soon learned that long scruffy hair was hot and uncomfortable. As my beard grew it itched, got into my food, and in general looked crappy. Soon I gave up on long hair and beards. The first year my wife and I took some really great vacations. We traveled to Hawaii, took a ship cruise to Mexico, vacationed in Switzerland, France and Germany. We made several trips to Las Vegas. My wife was still working full time as a registered nurse. After all the vacations my attention turned to home repairs. The house was painted both inside and out. The crumbling block wall was repaired and a new concrete double driveway was installed. All broken windows, screen doors, and window screens were replaced. A new air conditioner was installed and the yard front and back was re-landscaped. I took over household management, grocery shopping, and bill paying. At first, I really enjoyed being my own boss and not having to answer to any authority or follow organizational rules.

About one year after enjoying my retirement, freedom, and being my own boss, I came to an unexpected realization. Life after the Army and the Fire Department was not care free, trouble free, happy go lucky, or without problems. Being my own boss had great responsibilities. I had to manage daily affairs on my own. The house still had to be maintained. There were roof leaks, necessary car repairs, barking dogs in the neighborhood, annoying telemarketing calls, electric bills, gas bills, husband/wife disagreements and children needing financial help. After almost 40 years I finally came to realize that leaving the Army and the Fire Department did not make for a wonderful life and that being my own boss was not utopia. Life still had ups and downs and responsibilities. After all these years I came to accept life as it is, make the most of it, be positive and count my blessings and the gift of good health. After a while I began my wood working hobby, making novelty items, music boxes, a miniature merry go round, an Australian boomerang, carved animals, miniature liquor cabinet and other fun projects. I liked making things that only took a few days. Fine cabinet making was not for me. Measurements had to be exact, and cabinet making was too precise and time consuming.

In 1989 my wife retired. As we were free to move, I took the Fire Chief's job in Hickory, North Carolina, during 1990, a mid-sized City in the middle of the state. I was fortunate to serve seven years in a great second career. In 1997 I retired for the second time and moved back to Albuquerque. In the year 2000 my Albuquerque firefighter friends and I formed the AFD Retired Firefighter's Association. I have served over 20 years as their Historian and currently I am the editor of the quarterly newsletter which I have produced for over 20 years. I feel blessed to have served my career in two great fire departments. I am happy retired and am enjoying serving the retiree's assoc. You might say I have achieved my life's goal, "now I am my own boss."

Minutes February 1, 2022- The 258 th monthly meeting of the AFD Retiree’s Association was held on February 9, 2022 at the firefighter’s Union Hall, Local 244, at 4100 Edith NE. President Kerry Horton called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Morris Gutierrez led members in the opening prayer. **Roll Call** – President Kerry Horton, Vice President, Pablo Garcia Jr. Secretary, Fred Casias, Treasurer, Mike Fox, Historian, Herman Bishop, and President Emeritus, Sam Trujillo. President Kerry Horton recognized members, John Serino, and Hilario Chavez after a short absence.

President Kerry Horton reported that House Bill 110 sponsored by the retired New Mexico State Employees, “AFSME,” regarding selection and appointments to the PERA board did not gain much support and will not likely be passed. We just learned that our Mental Health Assistance program for retiree’s is still alive and well, however, we likely will be required to pay a small co-payment fee. During 2021 32 AFR members retired. Kerry has contacted them to update telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and mailing addresses.

Also, Kerry just received the updated brass tags for the new retirees which will be displayed in the fire museum. Currently our brass tag display of retirees’ numbers over 1,050 people. In early February Fire Chief Gene Gallegos met with Kerry Horton, Mike Fox, and Herman Bishop to review recent additions to the fire museum. Chief Gallegos is really supportive of the AFD Retiree’s Association and has been most helpful in assisting us to update and maintain the fire museum. A “BIG THANKS!” is extended to Chief Gallegos for his support.

Fred Casias gave the Secretary’s report for the month of January, 2022. A motion to accept was made by Louis Trujillo and was seconded by John Serino. The motion passed. Mike Fox gave the Treasurer’s report. March kicks of our annual fund drive. Make checks to, AFD Retiree’s Association, C/O Mike Fox, 3508 32nd Circle S.E. Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124. A motion to accept the report was made by Jose Salas and was seconded by Eddie Abeita.

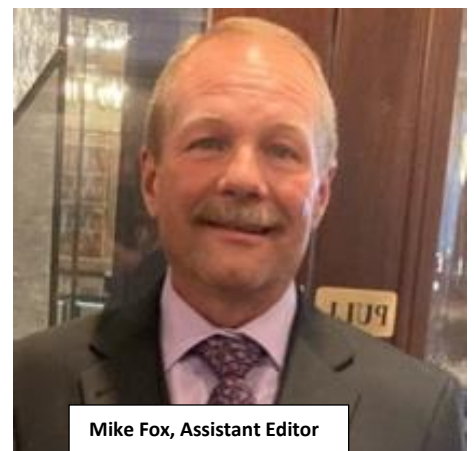
The Historian’s report was given by Herman Bishop. On February 1, 2022 Kerry Horton, Mike Fox, Fred Casias, Pablo Garcia Jr. Eddie Abeita, and Herman visited the Police Museum at Police Headquarters, 400 Roma NE. Their museum is impressive and retired members are invited to visit, however as they are open only 2 days a week and appointment is necessary.

Call Kerry for information to schedule your visit. Herman shared fond memories of retired Captain Gene Padilla who passed away on February 6, 2022. Herman worked with Gene at the old fire station three after his cadet graduation. Gene was a fine officer and role model.

Members on the sick roster: Joe Martinez, Eugene Baldanado, David Alarid, Santos Abeyta, and Eddie Abeita. These people would welcome a phone call from their firefighter friends. Wednesday’s raffle was won by: Mike Murphy, Fred Casias, and Edward Chavez. Morris Guterrez led the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

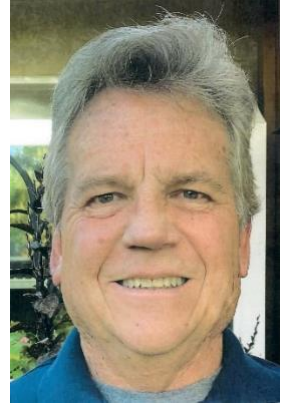
MIKE FOX APPOINTED TO ASSISTANT EDITOR

On November 1st 2021 President Kerry Horton appointed Mike Fox to Assistant Editor of AFDRA’s quarterly newsletter. When we created the new website for our association, (afdretirees.com) we needed Mike’s computer skills. “Congratulations Mike!”





ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT
 RETIREES ASSOCIATION 5818 LA COLONIA
 NW ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87120



President's Message

By Kerry Horton

Well, a new year is upon us, and with that brings endless possibilities. It's possible one of us will hit the lottery, it's possible we'll wake up without aches and pains, it's possible that this damn pandemic will end. OK, not everything is possible, but we can start the new year off with wishful thinking.

As I write this, the New Mexico 2022 legislative session is in full swing, and not much is happening. It would be nice if they would stop taxing Social Security, but that's failing. One Senator was quoted as saying that the State does not tax Social Security earnings under \$24,000, and that retirees making more than that don't need a tax break. I can't believe that we vote these people in. Fortunately, there is not any PERA legislation that we need to be concerned about. House Bill 110 wants to change the way our PERA Board members are chosen, switching from being an elected seat to an appointed seat. This being a short session, concentrating on primarily fiscal issues, HB 110 will die in committee. We will keep watching for any legislation that will affect our pension system in a negative way, whether it be this year or the coming years.

Just a reminder, we will receive one more PERA lump sum in July 2022, and then in July 2023, start on the new COLA system. The benefits to our fund have been huge, and I'm optimistic that our sacrifices now will benefit us greatly in the years to come.



RIO GRANDE
 - CREDIT UNION -

Annual Fund Drive

This month kicks off our Annual Fund Drive. Send Donations To: AFD Retiree's Association, C/O Mike Fox, 3508 32nd. Circle S.E. Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124 Thank You!