

MASTER

AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER, SPECIAL EDITION
APRIL 22, 2011

WE ARE SENDING THIS SPECIAL EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER TO KICK OFF OUR FUND RAISER. AS YOU KNOW WE RUN ENTIRELY ON DONATIONS FROM OUR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS. TO RUN AN ORGANIZATION OF OVER 600 MEMBERS, NECESSARY OPERATING EXPENSES ARE INCURRED. OF COURSE THE BIGGEST EXPENSES ARE THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER, ANNUAL PICNIC, AND CHRISTMAS PARTY.

IF YOU ENJOY THE NEWSLETTER, BELIEVE IN THE RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION AND SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION, WE ARE ASKING THAT YOU SEND US A DONATION. ANY AMOUNT YOU ARE WILLING TO GIVE TO SUPPORT THE ASSOCIATION WILL BE MOST APPRECIATED. (\$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200).

THE OFFICERS AND ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS WORK DILIGENTLY AND FREELY DONATE THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF OUR ASSOCIATION. PLEASE HELP US BY SENDING YOUR DONATION.

MAJOR PROJECTS:

- PROCLAMATION HONORS AND ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF DECEASED MEMBERS.
- QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS TO ALL MEMBERS, FIRE STATIONS AND FRIENDS.
- ANNUAL PICNIC/REUNION
- ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
- DONATIONS & ASSISTANCE TO RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE
- FOOD DONATIONS TO ROADRUNNER FOOD BANK
- TOY DONATIONS TO UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN AT CHRISTMAS
- GET WELL CARDS, VISITS TO THE SICK, CONDOLENCE CARDS TO FAMILIES
- PURCHASES OF OFFICIAL PATCHES, LOGOS, HATS, ETC. FOR OUR ASSOCIATION
- MAINTAIN PHOTOS, HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS, & FIRE DEPARTMENT HISTORY
- AWARDS, PLAQUES, HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS TO FRIENDS OF OUR RETIREES WHO HAVE GIVEN TIME, MATERIALS & ASSISTANCE TO THE ASSOCIATION.
- PRESTIGE STATE OF N.M. LICENSE PLATES FOR RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS
- DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN ROSTER AND MAILING ADDRESSES OF RETIRED F.F.
- CREATION AND COMPILATION OF BOOKLET, "RETIREE MEMOIRS/STORIES"

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS TO: "AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION."
MAIL TO: JOHN SERINO, TREASURER 1504 HERMOSA S. E. ALBUQUERQUE, N. M. 87108

DEAR JOHN,

YES I WANT TO SUPPORT THE AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION AND WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER. ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND MY DONATION FOR THE AMOUNT OF: \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25, \$50, \$75, \$75, \$100, \$200.

NAME: _____

SPECIAL NOTE: YOUR DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

LET US KNOW ABOUT ADDRESS CHANGES AND NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS.
THE POST OFFICE REQUIRES THAT MAIL SENT TO THE WRONG ADDRESS
IS RETURNED TO US AND WE ARE CHARGED \$.44 CENTS EACH

Non-Profit Org.
U S Postage
PAID
Permit No 400
Albuquerque NM

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

Return Service Requested



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

By : Sam Trujillo

This is a special edition newsletter asking for your support in our annual fundraiser and to give you an update of the recent 2011 New Mexico legislative session. There were several bills that were introduced that affected the Fire Service, Fire Fighters and Retired Fire Fighters. Two Senate bills had to do with our current retirement system and our annual built in Cost of Living (COLA). One of these bills was Senate Bill - 204 (SB-204) which was introduced by Senator Arthur Smith. The bill was intended to get rid of our current 3% COLA that PERA provides and replace it with a three / fourth percent (3/4%) of one percent (1%) of the national consumer price index (CPI). Basically we would have lost our annual COLA. The CPI is used in giving Social Security recipients their cost of living and as we know, Social Security has not given any annual cost of living for a couple of years. Annual CPI is usually less than 1 %.

Members from our association assisted the **IAFF LOCAL 244** President in lobbying both State Senators and State Representatives in an effort to defeat any legislation that would hurt retiree's. We spent countless hours in Santa Fe making every effort in defeating SB-204. I credit **IAFF Local 244** President Diego Arencon in suppressing SB-204 within the Senate Finance Committee until the Legislative Session ended. Senate Bill - 204 died without being voted on. Rest assured that we will see this type of legislation reappear in future Legislative sessions. We owe **IAFF Local 244** our appreciation for looking after Fire Fighter Retiree's.

I would like to thank our members that attended our March meeting and filled in the letters to both Senators and Representatives asking for their support in defeating SB-204. I hand delivered these letters to Santa Fe. These letters also reminded the legislators that Retired Fire Fighters rely on the current 3% COLA to keep up with Health Care rate increases. A special thank you to our association officers and other AFD Retired Fire Fighters that accompanied me to Santa Fe. Please continue in supporting your association. We will continue in looking out for our vested PERA interest but we need your support in our endeavors.

A brief reminder that our monthly meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month @ 1900
Please try to attend.