

AFD RETIREE NEWS

News 1

ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION
2- 2010

June 1, 2010

President, Sam Trujillo,	5318 La Colonia NW, Albuquerque, NM,	87120	899-1500
Vice President, Eddie Torres,	554 Calle Del Bosque, Bernalillo, NM	87004	867-2631
Secretary Louis C. Trujillo	2301 Malpaiz Rd. SW, Albuquerque, NM,	87105	873-1544
Treasurer, John Serino,	1504 Hermosa S. E. Albuquerque, NM	87108	266-1252
Historian, Herman R. Bishop	12501 Royal Crest Ct. NE, Albuquerque NM,	87111	294-7165



PUBLISHED BY
THE AFD RETIREE'S
ASSOCIATION

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TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION FOR THE AFD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION AND UNVEILING OF THE F.F. MEMORIAL PLAQUE

On Saturday June 12, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. AFD retirees, families and friends are cordially invited to attend our 10 th anniversary celebration. The ceremonies will be held at the Fire Administration/Fire Academy complex at 11500 Sunset Gardens S.W. (Go to Central Avenue & 114 Street, go South ¼ mile, follow signs).

At the ceremonies we will unveil the Memorial Plaque which is prominently displayed in the main entrance of the Fire Administration Complex. This is a special day honoring our retirees as well as our deceased firefighters. You and your families are invited to join us in this special celebration. Refreshments will be served at the end of the ceremonies.



EDITOR
HERMAN R. BISHOP

For further information please contact any of our Officers or members of the Advisory Board listed on this page.



AFD HONOR GUARD

ANNUAL PICNIC
THE AFD RETIREE'S
ANNUAL PICNIC WILL
BE HELD ON AUGUST 14 TH
IN BERNALILLO, N. M. AT
ROTARY PARK FROM
11.00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Admission Fee - \$5.00 Adults

PHOTO BY
TETER BACA

**HAVANA, CUBA- FIRST ANNUAL SENIOR SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT, TEAM USA
AND CUBA SOFTBALL FEDERATION (2-15-2010 TO 2-25-2010)**

(By: Marrella Sandoval and John Serino)

Travel to Havana, Cuba At the Miami airport we saw Cubans with huge bundles. We found out they were taking supplies to their families in Havana: canned goods, clothing, etc. Cubans were waiting in the rain outside the airport for their relatives from Miami. They were standing in the rain. When we were leaving Havana, it was very hard to see people hugging and crying. One girl was hugging her grandma, and they were both sobbing, probably thinking that they might never see each other again.

Accommodations: Our hotel was in Old Havana. It reminded me of hotels in Juarez. Our room had a balcony, a living room upstairs, a narrow circular staircase (a la Loretto) to go upstairs to the bedroom. (John got all our heavy luggage upstairs – Firefighter training?) There were TV sets both upstairs and downstairs. We could get four Cuban stations, CNN, ESPN and CNBC.

Drinks and Food: I found the mojitos very strong. Many places would give you the mix and place the bottle of rum on the table so that you could mix your own. Beer and wine were available at most places. Of course, we were eating at the best hotels and restaurants. Basically, the fish, chicken and pork were recommended. I found the pork tough and dry. Beans and rice were also a constant. Vegetables were really fresh and good, tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage (no lettuce). Bananas were wonderful – smaller than ours. (One restaurant still had their menus in Spanish and Russian!)

American Softball players: Our players were 57 – 80 (yes, 80). The majority of the players were from Florida, Texas, and California. They were mainly professionals: attorneys, CPA's, etc. There were two teachers and one firefighter (from Houston, Texas.) There were two American teams of 10 players each..

Cuban Softball players: The Cuban players were 31 – mid 50's. One team was their semi professional team. Needless to say they beat us! However, they were really respectful and really admired our guys (and couldn't believe they were playing guys the ages of their fathers and/or grandfathers. (The average age in Cuba is 55. Forty year olds are considered seniors. They were in desperate need of equipment. They had no uniforms. The Americans were very, very generous. (We were so proud of US!) They were given hats, shirts, balls, bats. One Californian got a donation of tee shirts from the Dodgers. We all noticed one player whose shoes were totally broken in half and held together with masking tape. At the end of the game, John called him over and gave him a pair of shoes. They fit him perfectly! We were all crying as he threw his shoes away and ran down the beach "breaking them in". (It truly is Better to Give than to receive.)

Havana: There are beautiful buildings, but most buildings are in disrepair. Some buildings have fallen down. There is mold (black) on many. The big mansions have been taken over by the government or by squatters. Many families live in the mansions. You see laundry hanging in front yards on clothes lines.

Transportation is one of the biggest problems as there is not enough public transportation. The city buses are crowded, crowded, and they break down. People (girls especially) hitch rides, we were told over and over again, they are not prostitutes. In the countryside people hold up money to buses to go into Havana. You still see horses pulling carriages and carts. The old American cars (that our guys loved identifying by make and year) basically belong to the government (taxis) and to the tourism department. The newer cars are rentals. The American cars have Russian engines. We had a modern, air-conditioned bus that came from China.

People

The people are poor, but gracious, grateful, and not greedy. (Many of the players wanted to have John and me over for dinner!) The older players (50's) that we talked to have sad stories, they cried, we cried: "I haven't seen my brother/twin in 20 years." Some of the people that we gave small gifts to returned to our hotel the next night, in the rain, to bring us gifts. (We only wished that we could have had more "stuff" to give.) The general impression we got that people thought we are all people and it is the politicians and governments that make the decisions that affect us. (We are all hopeful that things will change in the near future.) Medical and dental care are free, but we saw

many people with bad teeth, or missing teeth. They receive \$27 National pesos a month, but they have to work. They make more money on tips, so many people dress up in costume so that tourists will take their pictures and ask for \$1 Cuban Peso. When they talked to us, we could understand them, but when they talked to each other, we couldn't even make out one word. (They drop the letter "s" and speak very, very rapidly.) Che Guevara is a big hero, as is Jose Marti. Education is free. If you go to college, you serve 1 year in the military, 2 years in the military if you do not go. No one says much about Fidel. No one knows exactly where he lives, he is not seen.

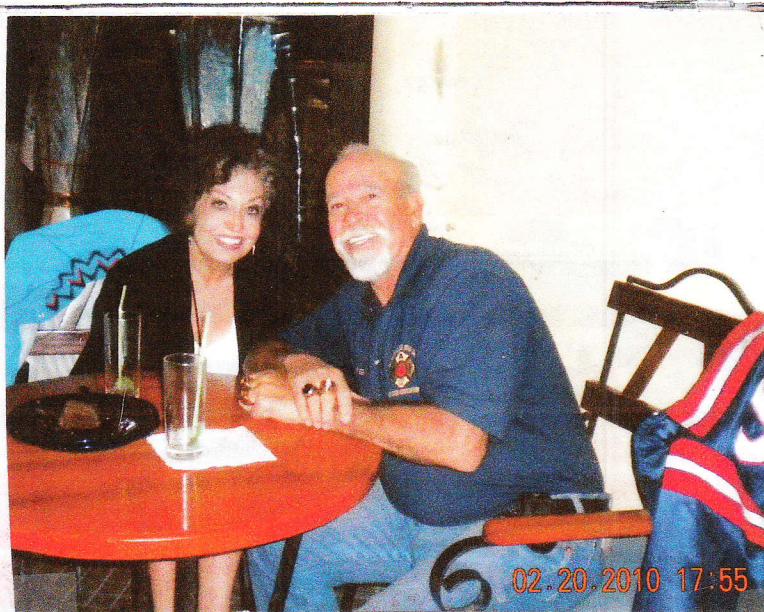
The men loved John and treated him like a rock star because of his baseball championship rings. In a restaurant, they gave him a menu to sign. Baseball is really popular there. Little kids in the parks play baseball instead of soccer. Kids do not beg for money, but do ask for "sabon", which I learned was jabon, or soap in French.

There is very little machinery. Work is done by hand. The street sweeper was sweeping the street with a broom made of palm leaves and used a piece of cardboard for the dust pan. We were expecting the weather to be in the 80's, but it was very rainy and cold. One man asked me why I was so cold when man asked me why I was so cold when I came from the US (he was in a tee shirt.) I told him I was not used to humidity.

Sight seeing: Cathedral Square has a big Catholic Cathedral, Mass is held only on Christmas. (There was a beautiful chandelier given by Mexico in the shape of a Mexican dress! There was a Virgen de Guadalupe and la Conquistadora.) Revolution square had planes and weapons used during the Bay of Pigs invasion. Columbus Cemetery Family plots sculptured out of Carrara marble. There was a memorial in the memory of firefighters who went into a house to put out a fire, but the owner of the house didn't tell them that there was dynamite in the house, so all were killed. Callejon de Hammel. All art in this alley has been painted by Hammel, who has been commissioned to do murals throughout the world. He is in his studio, and you are able to meet him and visit his small studio. Hemmingway's House and possessions (including his preserved wild animals, books, and old typewriter) have been preserved. On our way to Pinar del Rio and Vinales Valley, and the tobacco farm we saw palm trees with a big pooch in the middle. It is called the "beer belly" palm or "la palma barrigona". The pooch is filled with water. Freeways were basically empty – only other tourist busses or people waiting for a bus.



**John Serino and Softball Team USA
Havana, Cuba – (February, 2010)**



**Marcella Sandoval and John Serino
Havana Cuba Café (February, 2010)**

**Havana, Cuba- Restored 1955 Chevrolet
One of the Nicer ones, Uses a 4-cylinder Russian engine**



Photos By: John Serino

02.16.2010 12:10

**Cuban Woman Shopping, They Dress Up For
Pictures and Tourists Give them \$1.00 Cuban**



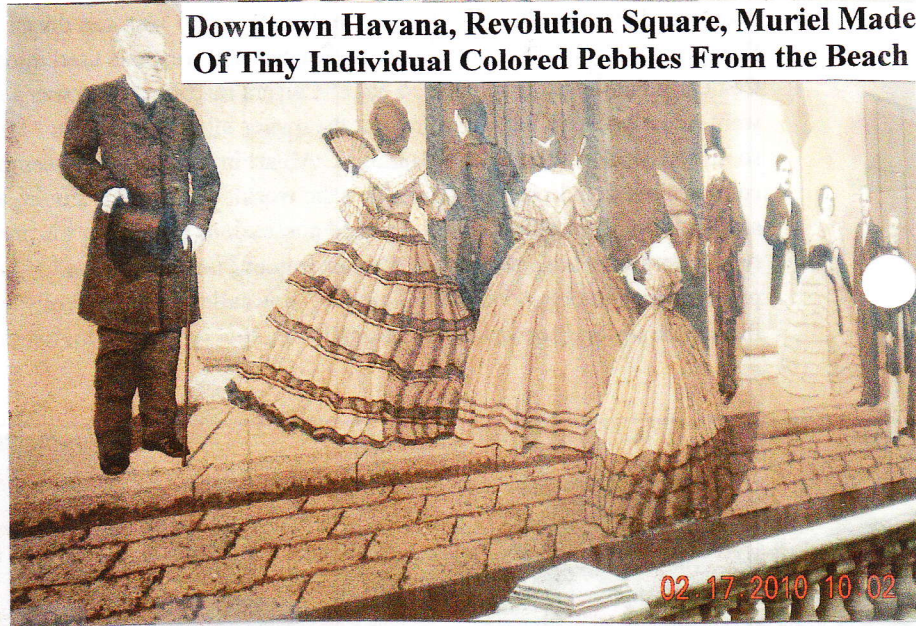
02.17.2010 09:45

**Cuban Farmer Peparing Ground For
Planting Tobacco Plants (February, 2010)**



02.20.2010 09:02

**Downtown Havana, Revolution Square, Muriel Made
Of Tiny Individual Colored Pebbles From the Beach**



02.17.2010 10:02



HAVANA, CUBA, 1951 CHEVROLET CONVERTIBLE

02.16.2010 13:04

PHOTOS BY: JOHN SERINO



HAVANA CUBA, 1947 FORD, 2-DOOR SEDAN

02.17.2010

March Monthly Meeting - The 115 th monthly meeting was called to order by President Sam Trujillo on March 10, 2010 at 7:15 P.M. He led the Pledge of Allegiance and Santos Abeyta led the opening prayer. We remembered the victims of the Haiti and Chile earthquake. A moment of silence was held for our deceased members.

Roll Call - Present, Sam Trujillo President, Eddie Torres, Vice President, Louis Trujillo, Secretary, John Serino, Treasurer, and Herman R. Bishop, Historian. Advisory Board - Santos Abeyta, Tom Romero, Bill Raupfer, Joe Martinez, Vince Holcomb, Juan Sandoval, Eugene Baldonado, Ray Flores, Ralph Sedillo and Fred Teupell.

Guests- Darrell Blair and his Fiancee Christine. Darrell's Grandfather Dan Blair was an AFD firefighter during the 1920's and 1930's. During the early 1940's he joined the Kirtland Air Force Base fire department when it was first formed. Retiree Randall Wahlert attended the March meeting. It was good to see Randy again.

Retired firefighter Frank Romero Jr. "Champ," attended his first retiree meeting. President Sam Trujillo gave Frank a big welcome and invited him to come again. Frank is remembered for the many years he spent as the Sergeant At Arms at our monthly union meetings and his background as a boxer.

Ralph Sedillo recognized Bill Raupfer for the work he has done in organizing the retirees to operate and maintain the Funeral Truck. Ralph presented Bill with a miniature Funeral Truck designed after the real truck. President Sam Trujillo presented Joe Salas with an official AFD Retiree Jacket with our logo on it. He recognized Joe for the work he has done at our monthly meetings above and beyond the call of duty in setting up the meeting room, making coffee and cleaning up after our meetings.

Louis Trujillo Secretary, gave the minutes of the February, 2010 monthly meeting. Marx Deer made a motion to accept and the motion was seconded by T.V. Jaramillo. The motion carried.

Treasurer John Serino gave the monthly financial report. Currently our association is in the black due to the good response of donations by our members to support the Memorial Plaque. John thanked everyone who has assisted in this project particularly those who have made donations in memory of our deceased members. Ray Flores made a motion to accept the report and the motion was seconded by Eugene Baldonado. The motion carried.

Historian Herman Bishop displayed photos which have been restored, enlarged and framed ready for mounting in the new Fire Museum. Pablo Garcia, Sam Trujillo, and Herman are designing a title board with the AFD logo and the Retiree logo to mount on the retiree honor roll already on display in the Fire Museum.

Herman reminded everyone to mark their calendars for June 12, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. and to attend the celebration of our tenth anniversary of the retiree's association. The event will be held at the Fire Administration/Fire Academy Complex at 11500 Sunset Gardens S.W. Also we will unveil the Memorial Plaque honoring our retired firefighters as well as our deceased members. (Go to Central and 114 th Street S. W. Go South and follow the signs).

John Serino gave an interesting and informative presentation about the trip he and Marcella took to Havana, Cuba during February, 2010. He was part of the first Senior Softball Tournament, Team USA and the Cuba Softball Federation. The Cuban people were most hospitable and gracious and did every thing possible to welcome the Americans to their country. Their ball players were superior to the Team USA. John reported that they played five games and lost all of them.

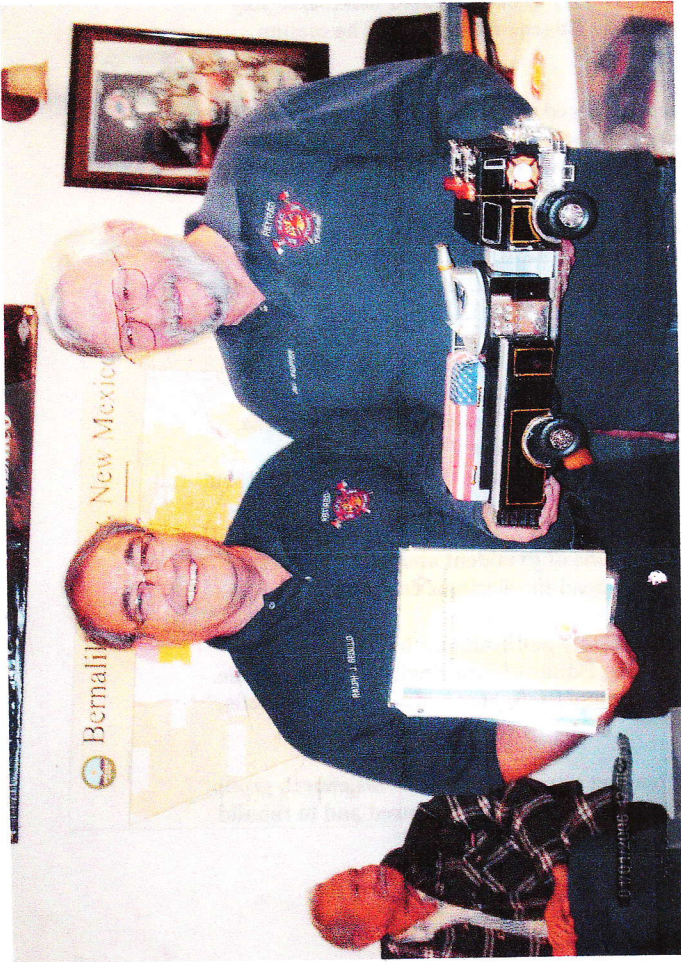
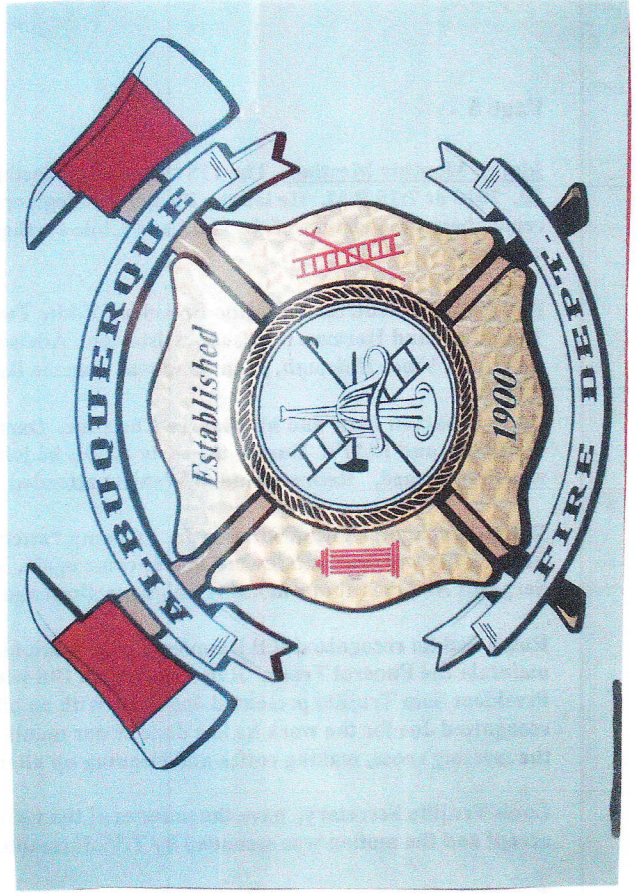
Sam Trujillo announced that officer elections are coming up for the positions of President and Secretary. The terms are for two years. Sam appointed Eddie Torres and Ray Flores to head the elections committee.

Retiree Ray Padilla who now lives in Denver, Colorado talked to Sam recently and sends his best regards to every one. Herman Bishop talked to retiree Bobby Halton, now managing Editor of Fire Engineering Magazine. He lives in Collinsville, Oklahoma. He has fond memories as an Albuquerque firefighter and sends a big "Hello," to everyone.

The closing prayer was given by Chaplain Mark Chavez. Mark is planning a trip to Haiti with his church group in the near future to assist the Hatian people in their recovery efforts to help the sick and injured and to rebuild their country. The March 2010 monthly meeting was adjourned at 9:05 P.M.



Miniature Funeral Truck Built By Ralph Sedillo (3-10-10)



Ralph Sedillo Presents Service Award And Miniature Fire Truck To Bill Raupfer (3-10-10)



Joe Salas Receives Service Jacket From President Sam Trujillo For Service Above and Beyond The Call Of Duty (3-10-10)

**JOE STONE ACCEPTED AS A MEMBER OF
THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE PHOTOGRAPHERS**

AFD Fire Photographer Joe Stone was recently accepted as an official member of the International Fire Photographers. Organization. Originally meeting in 1964 at the Chicago Fire Academy, the organization was officially formed one year later. Today it consists of department, civilian and photojournal photographers worldwide who specialize in fire photography and their efforts to chronicle the sights and scenes of fire and emergency services, around the globe. To Joe we give our sincere congratulations on his well deserved membership to this prestigious organization.

Joe said, "I am honored to be accepted as a member into this elite organization. Hopefully I can represent the Albuquerque Fire Department well through my photography."



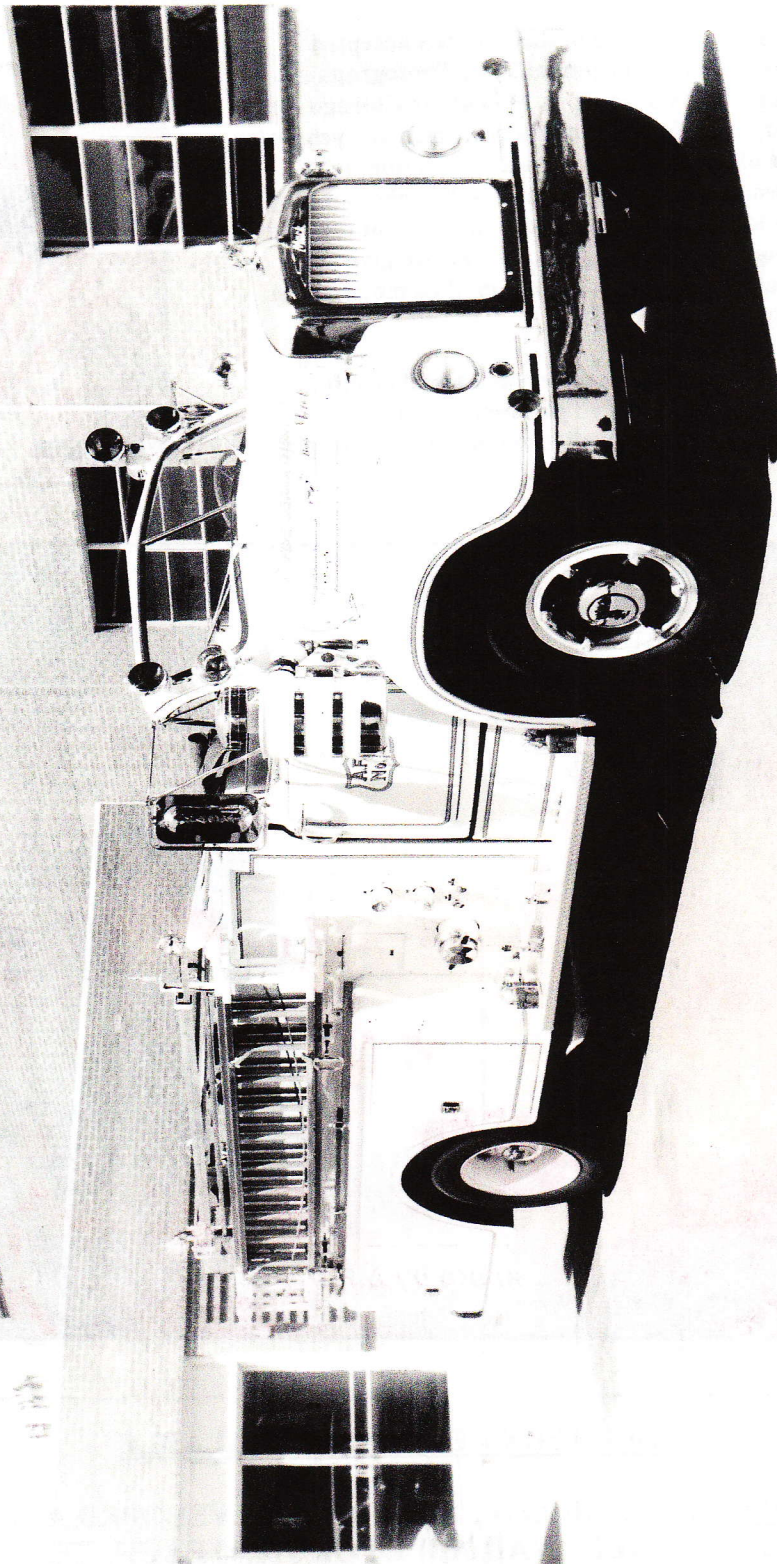
Joe Stone, AFD Photographer



Photo by A.F.D. Photographer Joseph C. Stone

2010 AFD CALENDARS AVAILABLE

SPECIAL NOTE: THE 2010 AFD CALENDARS DEVELOPED AND PRODUCED BY JOE STONE ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR \$10.00 EACH. TO RECEIVE YOUR COPY, CONTACT JOE OR JOHN SERINO. NOT ONLY ARE THESE CALENDARS USEFUL FOR TODAY, THEY ARE COLLECTORS ITEMS.



ENGINE 1-A (CIRCA, 1967)

THIS VINTAGE 1966 DIESEL DRIVEN MACK 1000 GPM PUMPER, WILL BE FEATURED ON THE AFD RETIREE MEMORIAL PLAQUE WHICH WILL BE UNVEILED ON JUNE 12, 2010, 10:00 AM AT THE FIRE ACADEMY

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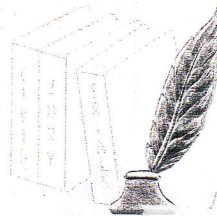
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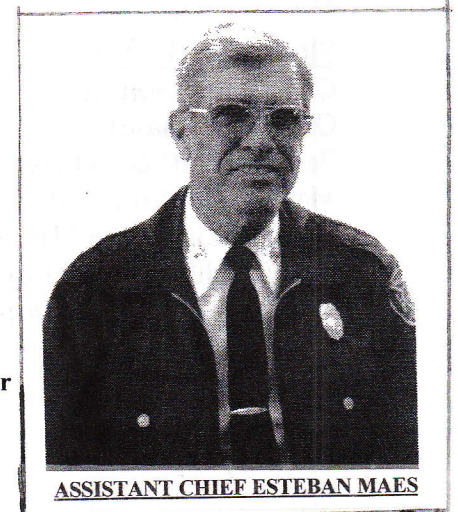
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John Serino, @ 266-1252, or Sam Trujillo, @ 899-1500

ESTEBAN H. MAES PASSES AWAY

On April 13, 2010 retired Assistant Chief Esteban H. Maes "Steve" passed away at age 82. He was a United States Navy Veteran and worked for the railroad prior to his career with the Albuquerque Fire Department. He joined the Fire Department during October, 1959. Steve had served 26 years in the fire service when he retired in December, 1985. He began his career by serving as a rookie at the old fire station # 3 located at Bryn Mawr and Central Avenue N. E. He quickly climbed the promotional ladder and served in all ranks from Firefighter through District Chief. After his appointment to Assistant Chief he served several years as shift commander on Platoon "C." Steve was soft spoken, easy going and had a quick smile. He liked those firefighters he worked with and was respected by his fellow officers and firefighters.



ASSISTANT CHIEF ESTEBAN MAES

April Monthly Meeting - On April 14, 2010 the retiree's monthly meeting was held at the Firefighter's Union Hall, 4100 Edith N. E. President Sam Trujillo opened the meeting at 7:15 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegence. Deacon Santos Abeyta led the opening prayer and a moment of silence was held for our deceased members. After roll call it was determined that a quorum was present and the meeting continued.

President's Report - Sam Reported the Union Officials have requested the assistance of our retirees to "Fill The Boot," campaignn for Muscular Dystrophy on July 16 th and 17 th. Please contact Sam to sign up for this important community fund raiser.

Retiree Phil Candelaria attended his first retiree's meeting in April. Welcome aboard Phil ! His father , fellow retiree, Tom Candelaria (deceased) was a long time Albuquerque Firefighter. There were no guests and no guest speakers at the April meeting.

Louis Trujillo read the March, 2010 minutes and a motion to accept was made by Marx Deer and seconded by Juan Sandoval. The motion carried. John Serino gave the treasurer's report. A motion to accept was made by Eppie Ortega and was seconded by Dave Clark. The motion carried.

Historian Herman Bishop had a photo display of three AFD baseball teams dating from the 1940's and 1950's. Also on display was a 1953 group photo of the entire Albuquerque Fire Department. There were 87 personnel including the Fire Chief . This photo has been restored, framed and matted ready for display in the new Fire Museum.

Bill Raupfer reported that the Funeral Truck modifications are complete and that the truck is now back in service. Bill also has organized a group of retirees to maintain the truck and to assist on funeral details for our deceased members. A big "THANKS" to Bill for his dedication and hard work on this important project.

Elections - Eddie Torres and Ray Flores, election committee members report that In June, 2010 an election will be held for the positions of President and Secretary (2-year terms) Sam Trujillo has agreed to run again. Unfortunately Louis Trujillo will be stepping down as Secretary. Fred Casias has agreed to run for Secretary. At the July, 2010 monthly meeting the Officers will be sworn in for two year terms.

Members gave Louis Trujillo a hearty round of applause and expressed their sincere appreciation for his many loyal and dedicated years of service as our Secretary.

Louis Trujillo reported that Bernalillo County Firefighters have inquired about joining our retiree association. They will be advised that they can become associate members with us or we will assist them in forming their own retiree association.

The closing prayer was led by Chaplin Mark Chavez and the April, 2010 meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT BASEBALL TEAM (Circa, Mid-1940's)

(SEE PAGE 13)

FRONT ROW, L-R

Chief Art Westerfeld
Gasso(First Base)
Paul Cooper(Second Base)
Maurice Cordova(Right Field)
Carl Macaluso(Third Base)
Arthur Seligman (Bat Boy)
George Tafoya(Short Stop)
Matt Ortiz(Catcher)
Miller

SECOND ROW, L-R

Babe Parenti (Coach)
Simon Seligman (Team Captain)
Red Johnson
W.L. Devine
Frogge
Unknown
J.C. "Slim" Davidson(Center Field)
Ramon Olguin(Left Field)



J.C. "Slim" Davidson, age 94, (3-24-2010) Retired District Chief, Joined AFD in 1941, and Retired in 1975

"Slim" Davidson Interview (3-24-2010)
By Herman R. Bishop

At the time "Slim" Davidson was interviewed about the FireDepartment Baseball team from the Mid-1940's he was 94 years old. His mind was keen, and he had good eyesight. He readily identified the people in this picture and remembered the positions of most of the players.

Fireman Babe Parenti was the Coach and was the brother of UNM Coach Parenti. In the late 1940's Babe Parenti and George Tafoya were giving a demonstration, sliding down the drill tower on a rope from the 7th floor. The rope broke seriously injuring both men. Parenti and Tafoya Both took disabilities and left the Fire Department. Parenti never returned. Tafoya took a job as a firefighter at Kirtland Air Base. Several years later he returned as a firefighter with Albuquerque and was eventually promoted to Assistant chief. Tafoya was the nephew of the late United States Senator, Dennis Chavez

Simon Seligman was the team Captain (Later Fire Chief) and the Bat Boy was his son, Arthur Seligman. "Red" Johnson was a good Ball player and was the brother of Policeman Fred Johnson, who later became the Deputy Chief of Police. "Red" quit the Fire Department after a few years. "Slim" does not recall what ever Became of him.

The team's strongest rival was the Albuquerque Police Department. Some years the Police won and some years the Firemen won. They Played at the old 'Tingley Field "Albuquerque Dukes" Baseball Stadium , Located At 10 th Street and Stover S.W.

"REMINDER !"

ON JUNE 12, @ 10:00 A.M. (Saturday) RETIREE'S AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE UNVEILING OF THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE AND THE 10 TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION. CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD AT THE NEW FIRE ADMINISTRATION/ ACADEMY COMPLEX, 11500 SUNSET GARDENS S.W. DIRECTIONS - GO TO WEST CENTRAL AVENUE AND 114 TH STREET S.W., TURN SOUTH AND FOLLOW THE SIGNS.

PHOTO DONATED BY WILL JACKSON
AND THE CARL MACALUSO FAMILY

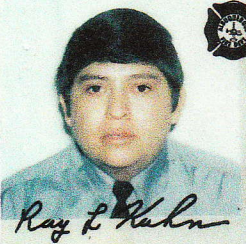


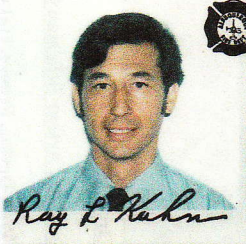
ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT BASEBALL TEAM (Circa, Mid-1940's)


FRONT ROW, L-R- Chief Art Westerfeld, Gasso, Paul Cooper, Maurice Cordova, Carl Macaluso, Arthur Seligman (Bat Boy),
George Tafava, Matt Ortiz, Miller

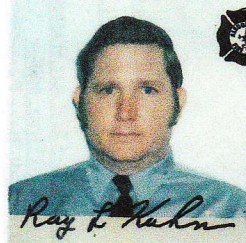
SECOND ROW, L-R- Babe Parenti (Coach), Simon Seligman (Team Captain), Red Johnson, W.L. Devine, Frogge, Unknown,
J.C. "Slim" Davidson, Ramon Olguin

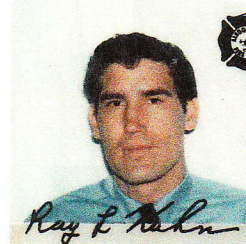
PHOTO GALLERY
AFD RETIREES

	ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	15484 MAN NUMBER		
	NAME EDWARD A. ABEITA		
	04/22/51 DOB	M SEX	BROWN HAIR
BROWN EYES	5'9" HEIGHT	190 WEIGHT	
SIGNATURE OF CHIEF <i>Ray L. Kuhn</i>		SIGNATURE <i>Edward A. Abeita</i>	
SWORN MEMBER			

	ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	3661 MAN NUMBER		
	NAME SANTOS G. ABEITA		
	11/19/38 DOB	M SEX	BROWN HAIR
BROWN EYES	5'11 1/2" HEIGHT	155 WEIGHT	
SIGNATURE OF CHIEF <i>Ray L. Kuhn</i>		SIGNATURE <i>Santos G. Abeita</i>	
SWORN MEMBER			

	ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	3383 MAN NUMBER		
	NAME ROYCE D. ALLYN		
	11/24/34 DOB	M SEX	BROWN HAIR
BROWN EYES	6'1" HEIGHT	190 WEIGHT	
SIGNATURE OF CHIEF <i>Ray L. Kuhn</i>		SIGNATURE <i>Royce D. Allyn</i>	
SWORN MEMBER			

	ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	3979 MAN NUMBER		
	NAME KENNETH ALVIS		
	05/18/36 DOB	M SEX	BROWN HAIR
BLUE EYES	5'11" HEIGHT	240 WEIGHT	
SIGNATURE OF CHIEF <i>Ray L. Kuhn</i>		SIGNATURE <i>Kenneth W. Alvis</i>	
SWORN MEMBER			

	ALBUQUERQUE FIRE DEPARTMENT		
	7378 MAN NUMBER		
	NAME TONY ANAYA		
	05/15/45 DOB	M SEX	BROWN HAIR
BROWN EYES	6'3" HEIGHT	190 WEIGHT	
SIGNATURE OF CHIEF <i>Ray L. Kuhn</i>		SIGNATURE <i>Tony Anaya</i>	
SWORN MEMBER			

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May 12, 2010, Monthly Meeting

On Wednesday the 117 th monthly meeting of the AFD Retiree's Association was held at the firefighter's Union Hall at 4100 Edith N. E. President Sam Trujillo called the meeting to order, and after the Pledge of Allegiance and the opening prayer by Tom Romero a moment of silence was held for our deceased members.

Bill Raupfer brought a guest Gary Birkman and guest speakers were as follows. Emily Kane President of the N.M. Professional F.F. invited us to attend the Comedy show Friday at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Ahren Griego and Amanda Bassett made a talk on the annual F.F. boot drive for Muscular Dystrophy. Retirees will assist on Saturday May 22, 2010.

Brian Colon, candidate for Lt. Governor addressed the retirees and asked for their support. AFD F.F. Union local 244 has endorsed Mr. Colon.

Secretary's report- Noel Baca made a motion to dispense with the report due to our heavy agenda. Motion seconded by H. Quintana. Motion carried.

John Serino gave the Treasurer's report and a motion to accept was made by E. Baldonado the motion to accept was made by Dave Clark. The motion carried.

Herman Bishop conducted the election for President and Secretary. A motion to elect Sam Trujillo, President by acclamation was made by Ralph Sedillo and seconded by Fred Casias. Motion carried. A motion to elect Fred Casias Secretary by acclamation was made by Marx Deer and was seconded by Noel Baca. Motion carried. Both will be sworn in for 2 year terms at the July meeting.

Secretary Louis Trujillo who is stepping down from the Secretary's job after serving 9 years was honored at the May meeting. Sam Trujillo presented him with a F.F. axe and thanked him for his service.

"Slim" Davidson was honored on his 95 th birthday and fellow retirees gave him a birthday cake and sang "Happy Birthday." "Slim" is our oldest living retiree and served over 40 years with the department and retired in 1975 as An Assistant Chief. "Congratulations Slim." Many thanks to Merry Flores for making a wonderful cake for "Slim."

Ray Flores and Eddie Torres announced that the annual retiree's picnic/reunion will be held on August 14, 2010 at the Town of Bernalillo, Rotary Park. Admission is \$5.00. For directions see map on page 16.

Trujillo led the closing prayer. Adjourned: 9:40 P.M.

AFD RETIREE'S ANNUAL PICNIC, AUGUST 14, 2010

Dear Fellow Retiree's

As I sit down to write this I realize that Christmas is just 235 days away! So now it's time to start thinking about the Christmas Party, but wait!!!! Before we get caught up in the hustle and bustle of the Holidays, how about having a PICNIC first!?

Yes, it is that time again. This years Reunion Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 14, 2010 at Rotary Park in Bernalillo. For those of you that have not attended in the past, put it on your calendars and think about joining us this year. Those of you that have been at previous picnics know how much you and your families have enjoyed the food, fun, door prizes and reminiscing with your fellow retired firefighters.

A fun time! At a GREAT price! What a better way to spend a lazy summer day! Tickets will be on sale @ the June, July and August meetings or may be purchased on the day of the Picnic. Tickets are \$5 for adults and donations will be accepted.

The fun starts at 10:00 AM until? If you have questions, please call Ray Flores @ 898-8948 or Eddie Torres @ 867-2631

We look forward to seeing you and your families there.

Ray Flores
Eddie Torres, Jr

Admission Fee - \$5.00, Adults

LOUIS C. TRUJILLO GIVEN SOUTH VALLEY OUTSTANDING CITIZEN AWARD

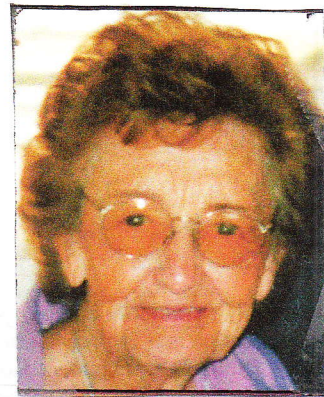
(May 2, 2010)

Louis Trujillo AFD Retiree was given the Outstanding Citizen Award on Sunday May 2, 2010 at the South Valley Pride Day Ceremonies. He is past President of the Los Padillas Neighborhood Association. Sharing the Award with Louie is his wife Bea.



CONNIE SANCHEZ, DIES (Former Fire Chief's Secretary)

On May 12, 2010 Former Fire Chief's Secretary Connie Sanchez died at age 93. She joined the Fire Department in 1959 and retired with over 20 years service in 1979. Connie loved her firemen friends. To the older firefighters she was a sister and to the younger firefighters she was like a mother. She knew the Fire Department Operations better than most Captains and Assistant Chiefs. She was always ready to help the firefighters along in their careers and was our special friend. Our sincere condolences to the entire Sanchez family. Below is a story of her fire career.



CONNIE SANCHEZ' FIRE DEPARTMENT STORY

In 1959 I became unemployed. I had been with the medical profession ten years. The Doctor I was working for retired because of medical reasons. Also another doctor, the surgeon went to Ecuador as a missionary doctor.

I applied at the city and had three job offers, the Police Department, Water Department and Fire Department. I chose the Fire Department because I had already met Fire Chief Westerfeld. The Chief had a secretary who was pregnant. She was leaving that month so I was hired as the Chief's Secretary. I was happy that I chose the Fire Department. I spent twenty years working there. I was really happy working with the firemen.

I'll never forget the "Payless Drug Store" fire. I was listening to the radio early one morning and I heard word that the fire was raging at the "Payless Drug Store." I immediately went to the office early. On the way I stopped at the bakery for doughnuts and when I arrived at the fire station I started the coffee. I'll never forget when the firemen came in the station with icicles hanging on their helmets. They were so cold they didn't expect to have hot coffee.

At that time I thought to myself, people don't appreciate the fireman. If they could only see what I saw today. The firemen were so cold, freezing weather, icicles on their helmets, and so little pay.

Also I remember how generous the firemen were all the time. I believe they got tired of me always collecting money to help someone. One incident was when we helped a woman from Germany. I visited a friend in the hospital and on the other bed I heard this woman crying. She told me her story. She was a World War II bride, married to a USA soldier who divorced her. He left her with three children and she was dying of cancer. No relatives here.

Her mother lived in Germany and knew nothing about her daughter dying. She didn't want to tell her mother because she lived in a shack here. I was so worried about her and went to talk to Chief Seligman to see if we could get a place for her to stay. Chief Kuhn called the housing department and we found a place for her. The next thing we needed was furniture, so what did I do? Of course I went to talk to the firemen. Rudy Buckner was the Assistant Chief that helped me collect money from the fireman to help that poor woman. We also got furniture from City Hall. We furnished the house with that furniture. We then needed money to get the mother over here from Germany. Working through my church we collected enough money for the fare to Albuquerque.

The article about Inga was published in the local newspaper. By this time the children's father came into the picture. He wanted to take the children away so we had to get a lawyer. It was a great day when the mother came all the way from Germany to see her daughter. She was so appreciative for what the firemen had done to help her daughter.

Christmas came and then again the firemen collected toys for them and we had a wonderful Christmas. One day I checked on Inga and found her crying. She told me she didn't want to die in America. She wanted to go home.

I went to Chief Seligman again and told him the situation. We didn't have the money to send her home but some of the firemen suggested that we sell the furniture. We did and got enough money for the fare back to Germany. Inga was afraid her ex-husband would find out about her leaving, so

we were very careful and sent her and the three children at mid-night to Germany. The family was so appreciative, they thanked the firemen for helping and they were ever so grateful.

I remember the time when Chief Bowdich complained about a boil on his cheek. I kept telling him to go check with a doctor. He did and after seeing the doctor the boil didn't get any better. I told him to check again. It seems that the first test came negative. The findings were a mistake though. The second biopsy was positive, it was malignant cancer. Because of lost medical records the first time they had gone somewhere else. The doctors in Albuquerque would not treat him.

Then he went to the Mayo Clinic where they performed surgery and determined that his condition was terminal. He suffered so much and we lost a wonderful fireman.

During my twenty years working at the Fire Department there were so many happy and sad days as well. Rudy Buckner, Assistant Fire Chief, also passed away. This too was a great loss. He was always so willing to help me raise money and to assist others in need.

The Fire Chiefs I worked for are as follows: Chief Art Westerfeld, Chief Simon Seligman, Fire Chief Ray Kuhn, and Fire Chief Arthur Martinez.

The day the firemen went on strike is a day I will never forget. The firemen kept tapping on my office window. I told Chief Kuhn, "I can't work, I'm going home." He said, "Go on, but you are on your own." Chief Seligman said, "Vete" (Go). Chief Seligman spoke Spanish a lot. I picked up my purse and told the other Secretary's, "I'm going home." They followed me out. The firemen said, "don't worry, we'll take care of you." We made the paper that day, "Chief's Secretary Walks Out."

We didn't stay out too long because of the strike. By the next week we were all back to work, including the firemen.

As I said in the beginning, I spent twenty years of happiness at the Fire Department and I still love my firemen. The people of Albuquerque should appreciate the firemen. They are always there when you need them.

How can I forget Chief Bishop? He was always the person with the books, always studying. Later it paid off. He became Fire Chief in Hickory, North Carolina in 1990. I was very proud of him. He is so willing to help with the Retired Firefighters Association.



CONNIE SANCHEZ, RETIRED AFD SECRETARY (8-23-2003)

03/26/2009 2nd Alarm Commercial Structure Fire, All American Heating Supply, (2 Motor Homes Stored Inside) Building Fully Involved At Time of Dispatch, 301 Eubank SE.
Photo by A.F.D. Photographer Joseph C. Stone





RETIREE PICNIC (8-23-2003)



L-R RUDY SANCHEZ, RALPH SEDILLO, "SLIM" DAVIDSON, TOM ROMERO. JOE MARQUEZ CELEBRATION OF "SLIM'S 95 TH BIRTHDAY" (5-12-2010)



L-R LOUIS TRUJILLO, CONNIE SANCHEZ, RAY KUHN, ADOLPH LUCERO (8-23-2003)



SAM TRUJILLO PRESENTS LOUIS TRUJILLO "THE AX," HONORING LOUIS FOR 9 YEARS SERVICE AS SECRETARY OF THE RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION (5-12-2010)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Sam Trujillo

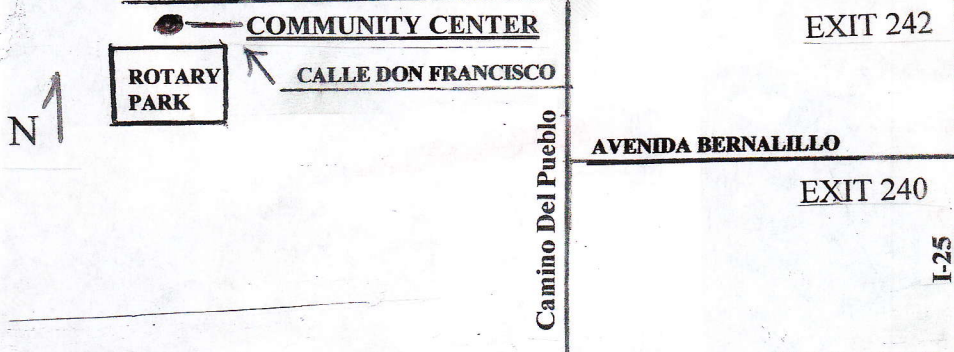


As we start our second decade (as a retiree's association), I want to thank all Of you for making our association a success. Members that attend our meetings, Participate in our annual picnic and Christmas party, attend and participate in The "Last Alarm" services of our deceased brothers, and volunteer in making Our phone calling tree system work have made our association succeed These Same members are always ready to lend support and assist as needed. I want to Thank each member for their participation.

As I've said in the past, Fire Fighters are unique in that we bond together for life. We become a second family that continues to support each other. On June 12, 2010, we will celebrate the 110 th anniversary of the Albuquerque Fire Department. I want to personally invite all retirees and their families to the June 12 th ceremony That will honor the former members of the Albuquerque Fire Department. It will Be a reunion of sort in that we will be joined by families of deceased firefighters that Were a big part of the history of the Albuquerque Fire Department.

For additional information please call me at 899-1500

HIGHWAY 550 TO CUBA



ANNUAL PICNIC
THE AFD RETIREE'S
ANNUAL PICNIC WILL
BE HELD ON AUGUST 14 TH
IN BERNALILLO, N. M. AT
ROTARY PARK FROM
11.00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

Admission Fee - \$5.00 Adults