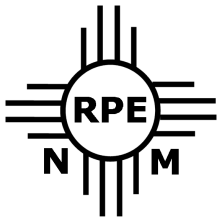


RPENM News



Board of Directors

Officers

Richard Baca
President

Sherry F Kearns
1st Vice-President

Josephine Raczkowski
2nd Vice-President

Isabel T Clendenin
Treasurer

LaRue Goodheart
Secretary

Board Members

Eley Bourguet
Betty Boxx
Wesley Brown
Carmen Chavez
Doug Crandall
Charles (Rick) F Mack
Charles Miller
Victor A Montoya
Loretta Naranjo-Lopez
Paul Torres

Executive Director

Ann Crandall

RPENM Office

505-280-8459

RPENewMexico@aol.com

BOARD SWORN IN, OFFICERS ELECTED

Richard Baca was re-elected as RPENM President at the 43rd annual RPENM meeting in Deming on May 5 and 6, 2005. Sherry Kearns was elected as 1st Vice President and Josephine Raczkowski was elected as 2nd Vice President. Secretary LaRue Goodheart and Treasurer Isabel Clendenin were also re-elected to their positions.

Rick Mack of Albuquerque and Charlie Miller of Raton were chosen by the RPENM Board to fill vacancies left by Doug Crandall and Oscar Jordan. Oscar, who was awarded a plaque for his outstanding contributions to RPENM, chose not to run for re-election. Doug

resigned his position as an elected Board member to replace Rick as RPENM's representative to the New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority Board. Doug remains on the Board in his newly appointed position.

Sherry, Rick, Charlie and Doug were sworn in along with Richard Baca, Isabel Clendenin, Eley Bourguet and Paul Torres. Loretta Naranjo-Lopez also attended her first RPENM annual meeting since being elected to the PERA Board last fall. As a PERA Board member, Loretta becomes an ex-officio member of the RPENM Board of Directors. ■

DOUG CRANDALL APPOINTED TO RHCA BOARD

Doug Crandall, former RPENM Executive Director and Board member, was appointed by the RPENM Board to represent RPENM on the New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority Board. Doug, who also served nearly ten years on the PERA Board in the 1990's, will replace Rick Mack.

Rick had served on the NMRHCA Board since October 2003, and was Chair of the Board when he stepped down. Rick's steadfast leadership and outstanding dedication to preserving the authority as

an independent agency were sorely needed and greatly appreciated during his brief tenure. Rick will remain active with the NMRHCA and was also appointed to the RPENM Board at the annual meeting in Deming. ■



Doug Crandall

DUES, DUES, DUES!

One last reminder that RPENM dues have increased to \$24 per year. Those RPENM members who have their dues deducted directly from their PERA pension will see the increase in their July 29 paycheck.

The reasons for the increase have been well documented and to date there have been very few dropouts as a result. ■

DEMING 2005 ANNUAL MEETING A SMASHING SUCCESS

From long time members to those attending for the first time, the comments were nothing but positive regarding the RPENM annual meeting in Deming on May 5 and 6, 2005. Approximately 55 attendees had a great time enjoying the hospitality of meeting coordinator Marlene Bourguet and her volunteers. Representatives from Las Cruces, Albuquerque, Raton, T or C, Hillsboro, Carlsbad, Santa Fe, Rio Rancho, San Antonio, Farmington, Gallup, Deming, El Paso and Elephant Butte were in attendance. In addition to the meeting itself, Deming's Chapter One provided a wonderful evening of food and conversation poolside at the Holiday Inn, as well as guided tours of the Deming museum and St. Claire Winery.

Long time board member and lobbyist extraordinaire Oscar Jordan was awarded a plaque for his outstanding service and dedication to the retirees of New Mexico. Oscar's tireless work to save and protect the independence of the NM Retiree Health Care Authority (NMRHCA) was recognized by the Board. Oscar spoke at the meeting and gave his account of the activities of the latest legislative session before he was presented with the plaque and a copy of a biography of Huey P. Long, one of Oscar's favorite politicians!

State Senator and former congressional candidate

John Arthur Smith was the featured speaker at the closing luncheon. Senator Smith spoke eloquently about the NM Retiree Health Care Authority and gave a history of the successful reinstatement of the authority's budget. A special thanks is offered to Senator Smith and all of the members of the NM State Legislature for their help in our efforts.

Milton Sanchez, Executive Director of the Retiree Health Care Authority, attended the meeting as well. Milton thanked all members of RPENM for assisting them in our lawsuit that resulted in the reinstatement of funding for RHCA, and presented a plaque to RPENM for our efforts. Thanks to all RPENM members who enthusiastically supported our efforts in our lawsuit to protect our health care!

Many board members and attendees commented on the professionalism, enthusiasm, positive attitude, and united goals that were demonstrated by those in attendance this year. Thanks to those of you that participated, and keep up the good work!

It was also suggested at the meeting the RPENM work with the NM Association of Educational Retirees (AER) to pursue a constitutional amendment to protect the independence of the NMRHCA. The process would be similar to the successful constitutional amendment that was passed to protect PERA and ERA. ■

TIME FOR A LOGO CHANGE

Several options for a new RPENM logo (as well as the option to keep the current logo) were voted on by those members who attended the annual

meeting. Visit the RPENM website at www.RPENM.org to cast your vote! The winning logo will be announced at the fall meeting in Albuquerque. ■

REMINDER TO ALL CHAPTER CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

Join RPENM!

As stipulated in prior memorandums and newsletters, it is now required that all chapter members also belong to RPENM at the state level. If you are a member of a chapter, but have not joined RPENM as a state member, please contact your chapter chair or Executive Director

Ann Crandall (280-8459) for a membership form! Our \$24 per year dues is a bargain considering that we are protecting your PERA retirement and health care! Remember, our strength is in our membership! ■

LETTER FROM CHAPTER 1, DEMING

THANKS! Chapter One and the Committee members wish to express their appreciation for the help toward a very successful 42nd Annual Meeting of RPENM. The board meeting as well as the membership meeting were very interesting and informative and created a lot of participation from the membership. Most everyone attended Thursday evening's visitation and social and I believe everyone enjoyed himself or herself.

I especially wish to thank the board members for their donation of door prizes. This helped to assure that almost everyone attending received a door prize. I believe it would be great to continue these donations for every annual meeting. In addition to the board, I wish to thank the following for their donations of raffle items, silent auction items, door prizes and gift bag items: Virginia Arteche, Ronald and Cherrill Grimes, Charlie and Rosalie Volz, Helen Sanderlin, Wal-Mart, Enchantment Floral, Sheer Artistry, Alicia Willis (Smart Styles Salon), Becky and Kathy (Wal-Mart Portrait Studio), Doug Crandall, Presbyterian, Express Scripts, Davis Vision, Wells Fargo Bank, Border Foods, Mimbres Museum, Mimbres

OSCAR JORDAN

William 'Oscar' Jordan has been a member of the RPENM Board of Directors for longer than he cares to remember. He tried to get off the board a few years back but was convinced to come back for an encore term. Luckily for RHCA, RPENM, AER, and all retirees in the state, Oscar was available to lead the fight for RHCA in the last two legislative sessions.

Oscar did get his wish and the May 5th Board of Directors meeting was Oscar's last as a Director. Our Board of Directors presented Oscar with a plaque and showered him with well deserved praise.

Our Executive Director likes to tell a story from the 2004 legislative session about Oscar's wife, Virginia, calling her one night, about 10:30 PM, asking if Ann knew where her husband was? Of course, Ann didn't know where Oscar was. Oscar did get home shortly thereafter. It ends up that, as usual, Oscar had been keeping an eye on the legislature and was expecting them to try to promote some legislation through in a late committee meeting and was just waiting them out. Typical Oscar.

Hospital, Pollard Insurance Agency, State Farm Insurance, NM Tourism Dept., NM Transportation Safety Department, 1ST NM Bank, St. Clair Winery, Illusion: for Today's Hair, Blue Cross Blue Shield. I hope I've listed them all but if I missed anyone, please accept my apology. Thanks also to all who helped with the cleanup. I can't thank you enough.

Raffle winners: James Robles, Jesus Alvarado, Eley Bourguet, Carmen Chavez, Michael Clendenin, Edith Gliniski, Arlyse Jackson and Cordie Smith.

Silent Auction winners: Charles 'Rick' Mack, Marlene Bourguet, Elaine Moore, and Shirley Sayre.

John Doran and Peggy Valdez, both from Albuquerque, won the free trip to the next Annual Membership Meeting.

See you next year.

Chapter One Committee: *Marlene Bourguet, Shirley Sayre, Helen Sanderlin, Ronald and Cherrill Grimes, Genette Bean, Arlyse Jackson, and MaryEllen Jankel*

Oscar has indicated that he will continue to work for retirees at future legislative sessions.

Thanks, again, Oscar. ■



**Oscar
Jordan**

© Loraine Raczkowski 2005

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income vs. Expenses

As reported at the 2003, 2004, and 2005 Annual Meetings, RPENM has been running at a deficit.

Our annual expenses average \$43,000 while our income since 2002 had been averaging \$28,000 due to a loss of approximately 1500 members in 1999 when the change in auto-deduct memberships changed from \$1 per month to \$12 once each year.

At that time, we had enough funds in checking to allow us to cover expenses for 2000 and 2001 without having to touch the funds we had invested in certificates of deposit. As of 2002, however, we have had to transfer an average of \$15,000 per year from the investments to the operating account to cover expenses. In addition, in 2004/2005, we had the additional expenses related to the RHCA lawsuit.

Without the increase in dues recently approved by the RPENM Board, we estimated we would deplete the investment fund by 2007 and been placed in a position where our expenses would exceed our income without additional funds available from another source. The dues increase should allow us to meet our expenses and do some membership recruiting without having to dip into the investment account.

Thanks to all of you who understand the need for the dues increase and choose to remain members thereby allowing RPENM to fulfill it's mandate of watching over our pension and healthcare funds and services.

Lawsuit

The good news is that the lawsuit is settled and the Governor has agreed to restore the funding for RHCA 2005 and 2006.

To date, we have paid out \$17,189.66 in attorney fees (\$14,330.66 from RPENM funds and \$2,859 from donations). Donations to the RPENM Legal Fund received to date are \$3,019 of which \$160 is available to help pay the final bill. We estimate the final bill should be approximately \$2,000 of which we must pay half per our agreement with the Retired Educator's Association who partnered with RPENM and RHCA in the lawsuit.

In addition to attorney fees, RPENM also contributed \$4,586.97 toward the original mass mailing sent to all persons enrolled in RHCA plans and \$1,000 toward a

half page ad that ran in the Albuquerque Journal and Journal North.

If you care to make a donation to the legal fund, please make your check out to "RPENM legal fund" and send it to Ann Crandall, RPENM Executive Director at the address shown on this newsletter.

2005 Annual Meeting in Deming, New Mexico

Congratulations are due to Marlene Bourguet and her committee for their prudent and effective use of the \$2,000 allotted to Chapter 1 for the expenses relevant to the annual meeting.

The arrangements were some of the best ever and enjoyed by all persons in attendance. Marlene and her committee did an excellent job for a terrific price. Of the funds provided, they spent \$1,384.25 and remitted \$615.75 to RPENM.

Thanks, Marlene, for providing RPENM with a complete and easy to understand final report. Special thanks go out to Marlene and committee from all RPENM Board members for both a job well done and for providing the final expense report within one week after the meeting. Great job. ■



**Isabel
Clendenin**
RPENM Treasurer

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER?

RPENM has a number of Chapters around the state and they are looking for you to join. Chapter Chairs receives several news updates about RHCA, PERA and RPENM and distribute this information to their membership throughout the year (between RPENM newsletters). The Chapters sponsor social activities and get together with other local organizations, like the teachers.

Below is a list of the individual Chapters meeting information. Please plan on attending one in your area.

It is suggested that you contact the Chapter Chair to make sure the meetings are when and where our database thinks they are.

Chapter 1: Deming

Meets: 2nd Monday, 10:30 AM, Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct
K-Bob Steak House
Chair: Tony Sayre, 546-3020

Chapter 2: Las Cruces

Meets: Branigan Library, Dresp Room
Chair: Carlos tellez, 233-4140

Chapter 3: Curry & Roosevelt Counties

Meets: 3rd Monday, 11:00 AM, Monthly except Dec
Baxter/Curren Hall, Clovis
Chair: Joe N Thomas, 762-5025

Chapter 4: Otero County

Meets: 2nd Tuesday every month, 1:00 PM
Alamogordo Senior Center
Chair: Louisa A Hastings, 437-5089

Chapter 5: Albuquerque/Bernalillo County

Meets: 2nd Friday, 11:30 Lunch, 12:30 Meeting except
July & August, Furrs Family Dining on Central
Chair: John Doran, 298-0111

Chapter 7: Chavez County

Meets: 4th Monday, 10:00 AM, except Jul/Aug/Dec
Roswell Adult Center
Chair: Dorothy Chandler, 623-5683

Chapter 8: Santa Fe

Meets: 2nd Tuesday, Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct, Unitarian Church
Chair: Ed Shinholser, 471-5941

Chapter 9, Las Vegas

Meets: 2nd Wed, 2:00 PM, Except Jun/Jul/Aug
Las Vegas Senior Center
Chair: Mary Herrera, 427-1141

Chapter 10: Eddy County

Meets: 3rd Tuesday, 2:00 PM
North Mesa Senior Center, Carlsbad
Chair: Sherry Kearns, 887-3837

Chapter 12: Taos

Meets: 3rd Tuesday, 12:00 Noon
El Taoseno Restaurant
Chair: Manuel Barela, 758-0366

Chapter 13: Lea County

Meets: 2nd Tuesday, 2:00 PM
Lea County Road Dept Bldg, Hobbs
Chair: Donna Bengé

Chapter 14: San Juan County

Meets: 3rd Monday, 12:30 PM
K-Bobs Steakhouse, Farmington
Chair: Margaret Balling, 336-3127

Chapter 15: Clayton

Meets: Every 5th Tuesday, 1:00 PM (Yes 5th!)
Courthouse Annex
Chair: Wanda Hughes, 374-2375

Chapter 16: Valencia County

REORGANIZING
Coordinate With:

Chapter 17: Sierra County

Meets: 2nd Tuesday, 2:00 PM
T or C Public Library
Chair: Paul Torres, 895-5247

Chapter 18: Raton

Meets: 3rd Monday of each month, 2:00 PM
Northeastern NM Education Bldg
Chair: Charles Miller, 445-5112

Chapter 19: Grant County

Meets: 2nd Tuesday, Every 3 Months
Senior Center, Silver City
Chair: Angelita Lara, 538-2661

Chapter 20: McKinley County

Meets: 3rd Tuesday, Jan/Apr/Jul/Sep, 10:00 AM
Southside Senior Center, Gallup
Chair: Manuel Gonzales, 863-4338

Chapter 21: Westside – Rio Rancho

Meets: 2nd Thursday, 10:00 AM, at JB's
Chair: Josephine Raczkowski, 892-9545



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OF NEW MEXICO

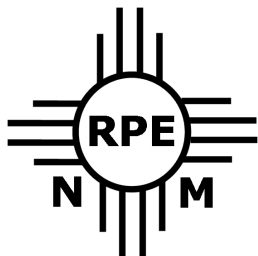
PO Box 20607
ALBUQUERQUE NM 87154-0607

Phone: 505-280-8459
E-mail: RPENewMexico@aol.com
WWW: www.rpenm.org/

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Albuquerque NM
Permit 798

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

THANKS FOR DELIVERING PROMPTLY



*Serving New Mexico's Retired
Public Employees Since 1963*

RPENM Membership Form

(Your membership is paid. Please pass this membership form on to friends or family who might want to join.)



First: Please fill out the Member Information box below.
Second: Select your payment option below and follow the instructions for that option.

MEMBER INFORMATION **PLEASE PRINT**

Name*: _____

Address*: _____

City*: _____ State*: _____ Zip*: _____

Telephone #: _____

* = Required Information

Payment Option #1: Enclose a check or money order for \$24, payable to RPENM to cover your first years dues. Return this form with your payment to the address below. You will be billed once a year thereafter.

-- OR --

Payment Option #2: Please deduct my \$24 dues payment from my July retirement distribution unless and until I notify PERA in writing to cancel this deduction.

_____ Date *

Members Signature*

* * * _ * * _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
Last 4 Digits of Your Social Security Number *

**Mail to: RPENM
PO Box 20607
Albuquerque NM 87154-0607**

Mail this completed form to the address at left.
*** Signature and SSN (Last 4) required for this option.**