

Annual Report – NM Federation VP - Membership

In the last year I attended two all employee meetings at the local BLM office, in hope of recruiting some current employees. Sadly, I was only successful with one through these meetings. As a volunteer in my old office, I am constantly “hounding” and was actually successful with two more! I also take the magazines to that office each month and have five copies taken to the Carlsbad office by an employee going there each week. .

In September 2019 I sent a “heads up” letter to all chapters, making them aware of the upcoming health fair season and that I would be sending the schedules of these fairs showing the dates and locations of those in their areas. As soon as the schedules were available I sent these to all chapters and offered to help them with obtaining brochures or other needed information to assist in recruiting new members during any fairs they attended. I also reminded each chapter of the recruitment contest ongoing through the end of December 2019 and the prizes available to the winners.

In January 2020 I sent a request to all chapters following up on these fairs and asked all to let me know of any that they attended and whether or not they were successful in recruiting. I admitted that I was not able to recruit any during the fair I attended and hoped that some had had better luck than I. As I did not receive a response from any chapter, I assumed there was no success. I subsequently learned that the Las Cruces Chapter attended 16 events (congratulations to them) and recruited one new member.

With the closing of three chapters in this last year, it is even more important that the active chapters take every opportunity to recruit whenever possible. Health fairs are the most available opportunities to reach more individuals at one time, but sometimes the chance to explain what we are and what we do for active and retired federal employees just happens, when we least expect it.

It is so important to increase our membership, whether in a local chapter or nationally. Hopefully we will do so in 2020! I encourage you to recruit, recruit, recruit and I will do the same!

It’s sad that we had to cancel our meeting this year, but most important is everyone’s health. Stay safe, and hopefully we will all see each other again soon,.

Respectfully,

Elizabeth (Betty) Hicks, NM Federation VP for Membership