

NMPRA Newsletter

General News

It's that time again!! Another newsletter and, more importantly, the election process for new PRA members. Don't be shy! PRA is a great way to get involved with the social area of your work place. Dennis Walsh is the guy to contact if you're interested in being on PRA.

Due to unfortunate circumstances Liz Cryer has resigned from PRA and Michael Torres has been nominated by the board members to fill the rest of her term.

Fall Staff Picnic

Well as most of you know the fall picnic went off extremely well. It was held at Clark Field on September 24th. Although we didn't keep track of how many people showed up, there was definitely a good crowd! Water guns were a big hit (with folks big and small!) and we had a great game of volleyball. PRA wants to thank everyone who showed up. The price tag came to almost \$1200. We especially want to thank the volunteers who helped with the set up and clean up of the picnic; they include Steve Harrington, Tak Tsutsumi, Joe Lucero, Calvin Cryer, Dennis Walsh, Thomas Juerges, Sebastina Stark, Rafael Hiriart, Don Ellis, Larry Gacanich, Jaime Montero, Fabian Gomez, Ezekiel Gomez, Kira Hale and Michael Torres.

Christmas parties!

Well Christmas is definitely closer now and we have some more details concerning the upcoming Christmas parties.

The adult Christmas party is going to be held at the Holiday Inn Express conference center again. We have reserved the band Silver Bullet, from T or C, for the event. The date chosen for the party is December 10th, 2005.

The PRA board has chosen Chartwells to cater the event. After reviewing the results of the survey PRA conducted earlier in the year regarding what employees wanted for their Christmas dinner, the PRA board voted to have an Italian Buffet. Since there is not going to be an open bar this year (this was already

mentioned at the all-hands meeting) we have reduced the ticket prices to only \$3 per person! It's still only available to the NRAO employee and one guest, so the price for 2 will be only \$6!! For each \$3 ticket purchased, a complementary alcoholic drink ticket will be provided (to those over 21). All other alcoholic drinks will be available for purchase from the bartender. There will also be a designated driver available free of charge.

The children's Christmas party is going to take place on December 3rd, 2005. It is going to be held at the AOC Auditorium from 1 to 3 pm. There will be lots of games, crafts and prizes for the kids. Santa will be appearing around 2pm to listen to wish lists and take pictures with the kids. As always, volunteers welcome!

Treasury Report

Things seem to be back on track for PRA taxes thanks to the hard work of Liz Cryer, Andy Hale and Juan Cordova. The New Mexico Taxation people and the IRS are again happy with our tax status. Here is the high level breakdown of PRA's financial status for the 2005 fiscal year: we spent \$2492.58 in taxes and accountant fees, we spent \$8363.58 on snacks and maintenance for vending machines at the VLA site, \$1161.46 was spent on birthday celebrations and we made \$6966.58 in snack and event ticket sales.

Webpage

You can find the PRA webpage here:
<http://www.aoc.nrao.edu/AOC/PRA/>

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