

Southern AZ Combined Club



Spring 2023 —Newsletter

Legacy West

LUNCHEONS—2023!

May 10th, 2023—Hungry Fox

Sept 13th—TBA ♦ Oct 11th—TBA

Nov 8th—TBA ♦ Dec 13th—TBA

Keep an eye on your e-mail for more details!



Membership Become a Pioneer

Pioneers has added a new membership category called Friends and Family. Under this you can sign up anyone that volunteers with us or is interested in joining our service organization. We have people that come to a lot of our functions but didn't have the opportunity to become a member, including kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors. Some high school kids need to have volunteer experience on their scholarship applications to show community involvement. What a good way to keep track of their hours for something like this!

[Click Here to Join The Pioneers](#)

A Friends and Family member may even want to serve on a board, and they can do that by paying dues of \$22 a year. Otherwise, **there are no dues collected**. So, sign someone up today! Get them involved in the work we all love! Sign up online or print & fill out this [form](#) & send it to Barbara Palmer via email to bpalmer@legacywestpioneers.org, via Fax (520) 531-0349, or mail it to her at 241 E Belcourte Place, Oro Valley, AZ 85737. We have added a simple tutorial that might help to fill out and email your completed form!

2023-2024 Southern AZ Combined Club Officers:

President:	Mo Ryan	(520) 870-0777 marleneseverson@msn.com
Senior VP:	Jan Pitts	(520) 403-1299 sassiejan@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Cathy Greer	(520) 780-9071 cgreer2434@aol.com
Secretary:	Louise Rebholz	(520) 297-9151 louiserebholz@msn.com

NOTICE: If you have any address, email or phone number updates, please contact Jan Pitts at sassiejan@gmail.com or (520) 741-8034

SACC Extends our deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who have passed away

Bill Kaugtenburger (- 02/15/2023)

Norman Oliver (1939—02/01/2023)

Marco Antonio Ayon (1949—01/19/2023)

Please visit the [In Memory Page](#)

*"A picture is worth a thousand words,
but the memories are priceless"*

Please notify our Fellowship Chair Bonnie Stahlbush of any illness or passing of Pioneers or their family members. Bonnie can be reached by email at:

bjstahlbush@comcast.net

You can text or call her at: (520) 390-4795

Please keep an eye out on our Website, Facebook and email notifications for upcoming announcements and events.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

<https://aztelecompioneers.org/southern-az-club/>



Find us on:
facebook®



**SUPPORT
OUR
VETERANS**

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome Pioneers to Spring 2023!

I am pleased to announce that our SACC Pioneers have been awarded the following Grants from the 2023 Pioneers Don MacKenzie Charitable Foundation Fund. These grants will go directly to help fund the following projects:

*Hug-A-Bears
Readers For Life
Local School Supply Drive
Mobile Meals Stocking Project
Emerge Luggage & Personal Hygiene Project
Arizona School Deaf Blind Beeping Egg Hunt*

We have the ability to apply for grants each year for our various projects. This money comes from the Don MacKenzie investment fund. The amount Legacy West chapters receive depends on the group membership count.

A big place to [sign people up](#) is the new Family and Friends category where we can enroll any volunteer whether they are company employees or retired members or friends or family members-anyone who is interested in participating with us. We have a lot of volunteers helping us that haven't worked for the Bell system, and they are all potential [Pioneer members](#).

2023 is a 1/3 of the way over and if the amount of pages in our newsletter is any indication, your SACC Pioneers have been just as busy as the bees are this colorful season thanks to all the flowers we see in bloom all over the desert Southwest. The first few months of my presidency have been a swift learning curve and a joyous adventure. From the Hug-A-Bears touching the lives of children, to honoring our Veterans, to helping the underserved in our community, your fellow SACC Pioneers are ensuring our mission of effecting immediate tangible change in our local communities.

I look forward to seeing everyone soon at our [May luncheon](#) before we take a much needed summer break. We have many projects and fellowship opportunities on the horizon. You can keep up to date with everything going on by visiting our [upcoming events](#) webpage. I hope everyone gets plenty of rest before the fall season begins!

Have a great summer!

*Mo Ryan marleneseverson@msn.com
President, So AZ Combined Club*

[Click here to see our upcoming events and luncheons!](#)



SACC PROJECTS



Life Enrichment

Hug-A-Bears a Gift That Lasts Forever

Teddy bears are synonymous with childhood. For many kids, they are soft, cuddly friends to play and sleep with – or simply shower with hugs and kisses. But to other children who have suffered a traumatic event or injury, a teddy bear can be a lifeline of emotional support.

We would like to introduce you to Harrison and his new best friend! In February of this year, we received a beautiful message from the family of Harrison about how he and his new best friend met.

“Just a note to say “thank you”. My son had a heart transplant in November 2021 so he’s no stranger to medical care. Tonight was his first ambulance ride and he was gifted one of your handmade teddy bears to hold during the ride. He’s now snuggled up and sleeping with it in his hospital bed. – Beth (Mom)”

Our Chapter president, Barbara Palmer, reached out to inquire about how little Harrison was doing and to find out more about this touching story. We heard back from Harrison’s mom Beth with an update:

“Thankfully he is doing well. He received a heart transplant a year ago and overall has managed to stay healthy. He was hospitalized for something that most kids could overcome easily but he needed some medical care because of his compromised immune system. We are from Phoenix, Arizona. He got the bear from an ambulance drive on our ride from Tucson (where we had been visiting) back to our Home hospital in Phoenix. We were discharged yesterday and we double checked to make sure his new friend made it home with us. I love to volunteer and am also fulfilled by it but it’s even better when you can actually hear about a person you’ve touched. Thank you again, Beth & Harrison”

Just about every chapter across the country dedicates resources to crafting teddy bears for children who are facing some sort of trauma, such as a medical emergency, domestic violence, house fire or hospitalization. After the Hug-A-Bears are sewn and stuffed to strict standards, Pioneers then distribute the bears to emergency responders, women’s shelters, and hospitals to have on hand when needed. Finally, these fluffy bears are welcomed into the arms of young children to help provide calm and comfort during an emotional storm. Over the years, many emergency responders have shared how, by simply snuggling with the bears, scared kids are better able to communicate with them in critical situations. In many cases, the bears remain a source of emotional support long after the traumatic event has passed. In Southern Arizona, we have been lovingly making Hug-A-Bears for over 35 years. On average, we are able to make and distribute over 150 bears each month thanks to the many dedicated volunteers who cut, sew and stuff these beautiful and cherished friends.

Harrison’s mom Beth put it beautifully, volunteering is even better when you actually hear about the person you’ve touched.

If you would like to volunteer, or need additional information, please visit our [Upcoming Events](#) page for more information.



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SACC PROJECTS CON'T



Military

Habitat Tucson's Veterans Build

On Saturday April 1st, nine SACC Pioneers (some who are Veterans, or have family members currently serving) arrived for the morning to work on a Habitat Tucson Veteran's home being built. We were involved in the framing portion of the home. Thanks to Cathy Greer, Doug Harvey, Bernie Ramirez, Louie Rodriquez, Larry Mingo, Tyrone Carter, Pete Jaxel, Jim Bray and Tom Capajuano for spending their morning on this project. There will be another 12 homes built for Veterans later this year and we are hopeful we will be able to join in. If you are interested in joining this project, please contact Cathy Greer at (520) 780-9071.



Boulder Crest Arizona



Military

SACC was proud to provide a contribution to Boulder Crest Arizona, a non-profit located in Sonoita, AZ. We were able to purchase 2 twin bed frames, new bedding for the main house, and blankets for 3 other rooms. Also purchased were new coffee decanters for coffee bar. The items were delivered (the twin beds alone weighed 400 pounds each) by Amazon.



Military

Arizona Fischer House

SACC was able to provide the Arizona Fisher House some of the most needed items on their wish list, from kitchen supplies to coffee bar items and snacks. Gogi and Tom Gasper along with Cathy Greer delivered these items



Marshall Home for Men



Military

In January 2023, SACC Pioneers dropped off 72 pairs of socks for the veterans at Marshall Home For men in Tucson, AZ. The average age of their residents is 65, and a large number of them are veterans and heroes who served our country in WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the Gulf War. Many of these brave men have been awarded with the highest military honors, including Silver Stars, Bronze Stars, Navy Crosses and Purple Hearts.



Life Enrichment

Talking Books—Amphi HS



Patti Pace from SACC Pioneers and Talking books were at the Amphi High School Resource fair. Spreading the joy of reading to all. SACC Pioneers and Talking Books have been community partners for over 35 years. For more information about this project, please contact Patti Pace at (520) 241-6849

SACC PROJECTS CON'T

Readers 4 Life—Drachman



On Monday, April 10, approximately 125 books were delivered to Drachman Montessori Elementary and Librarian Josie Hoeffner. She will organize distributing the books to the 1st through 3rd graders. Rocky had to stay in his den, as it was already too hot for raccoons. He sent bookmarks with his picture to encourage lifelong reading to the kids. For more information, please contact Patti Pace at (520) 241-6849 or email at pacepea@aol.com



Marana Clothing Bank



In January, the SACC made a donation to the Marana Clothing bank located within the Marana Unified School Districts Family Resource Center. We donated shoes, backpacks, lunch boxes and a box full of gently used clothes and jackets! What a wonderful community resource. For more information, please contact Anna Patton at (520) 444-1874.



Emergence! Winter Donation—2023

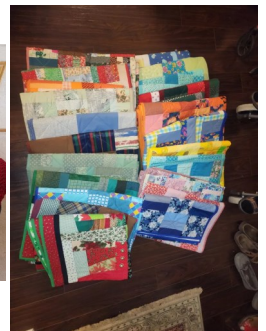
Thanks to the many donations and the 2023 Pioneer Don MacKenzie Charitable Funds Grant, we were able to drop off a few donation to the Emergence Center Against Domestic Abuse including 120+ tote bags, 4 make-up bags, 16 new toys, 14 pieces of new clothing, 8 pairs of shoes, and 100 personal packets of lotion.



Lab Robes – 2023 Starting the Year off Strong

SACC is starting 2023 off to a great start. Several members have been making beautiful lab robes and we received a wonderful donation of 21 hand made quilted lab robes in a rainbow of colors. If you would like to donate yarn or your time to this community project, please reach out to Barbara Palmer at (520) 403-4668 or via email at bpalmer@legacywestpioneers.org.

A huge thank you to Renee Mercer and Pam Wolfe for their beautiful work on these handmade crocheted lab robes!



SACC PROJECTS CON'T



Life Enrichment

Beeping Egg Hunt—ASDB 2023

This was a great year for SACC Pioneers and the Arizona School for the Deaf and Blind. On a blustery spring day, SACC Pioneer volunteers gathered at Reid Park to assemble Easter baskets for the kids. The school allows us to store them at the school until we meet for the hunt. On the day of the hunt, April 6, 2023, The SACC volunteers distributed the eggs and waited until the children are close to turn them on. They make a high pitch sound that can lead the blind children to the egg. Once the egg is retrieved; we exchange it for a basket full of candy and other small trinkets. No hunt is complete without the visit from the Easter Bunny. Our Bunny handed out candy and posed with the children for pictures. We did the classes individually and it's more enjoyable getting to watch each class separately. There were over 125 baskets prepared for all the preschool and elementary age children who attend the school. For more information, please call Sherry Daughtry at (520) 296-2304 or email her at sddaugh@cox.com



Beeping Egg Hunt Basket Assembly—2023



Life Enrichment

So AZ Combined Club assembled 130 Easter baskets this week at Reid Park. The baskets will go to ASDB – Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind during our annual beeping egg hunt on April 6th, 2023. Our project leader Sherry Daughtry was joined by our club president Mo Ryan, Senior VP Jan Pitts, and Pioneers including Larry Mingo, Patti Pace, Louise Rebholz, Ann Ray, Kay Rose and Donna Dominguez.



Southern AZ Combined Club



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Legacy West

SACC UPCOMING PROJECTS / VOLUNTEERING

SACC LUNCHEON—MAY 10TH, 2023 11a-1p

It's Spring in Arizona and it is time for fellowship, food, fun, and the 50/50!

Wednesday, May 10th, 2023. Come join us at 11am—1pm at **The Hungry Fox banquet room** located at 4637 E Broadway Blvd. There is plenty of parking in the front and back of the restaurant. Please RSVP to reserve your seat.

We will be ordering direct from the breakfast or lunch menus and each member will be responsible for their own bill and gratuity. Please pay the restaurant directly (in cash only please). If you have any questions, please call, text or email Cathy Greer directly at (520) 780-9071 or via email at cgreer2434@aol.com.

Please click on the [Fox](#) for more info and to reserve your spot!



WE WANT YOU!



Military

Your SACC Pioneers are in search of a new board member to fill our Military Chair position. We would

love to have a Veteran or Veteran's spouse fill this position. For more info, please contact our Club President, Mo Ryan at (520) 870-0777 or via email at marlenesteverson@msn.com

POP TABS

Collect pull tabs from soda and cat food cans to donate to the Ronald McDonald House.

Feel free to bring these to any event or hand them off to a board member and they will make sure they get to Georgienne Vance for delivery. Please feel free to contact (520) 323-0254 for more details.



Hug-A-Bears—We're Back! New Day

Good news, finally our group is able to meet once a month again. We are meeting on the 3rd Thursday of the month at Northminster Presbyterian Church at the corner of Ft. Lowell & Tucson Blvd. Our location is the small building in the back of the church accessible from the back parking lot. Many of us continue to do work from home also. We are always looking for someone who machine sews. The bears are assembled ready to sew. Another at home part is stuffing the bears. If you would like to help us; please contact me. These

bears are in demand from the first responders and other agencies. They used them as a tool to gain the child's trust. Our club has been making these bears for 37 years and they're still very much in demand. (520) 296-2304 or email at sddaugh@cox.net



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Legacy West

SACC UPCOMING PROJECTS / VOLUNTEERING CON'T

2023 SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The new school year is almost here! We will be buying school supplies again this year to donate directly to public schools in the Tucson and surrounding areas. Listed are some of the school supplies that we are in need of. We would like to collect all items by Aug 1st!

SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

Hi-lighters	Erasers	Kleenex boxes
Rulers	Staplers	3-ring binders
Scissors	Crayons	Sharpies (black)
Dry erase markers	Markers	Lined paper – wide ruled
Hand sanitizer	New Backpacks	Pencils (No.2 & Colored)
Spiral notebooks & composition books (wide ruled)		Copy Paper (White & Colored)



Education

If you would like to drop them off or arrange for a pick-up, please contact Anna Patton by phone (520) 444-1874 or email at annaaylaamber@gmail.com or Ayla Patton (520) 240-6546 or email at ayla.patton34@gmail.com.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

As a part of our military outreach, we have been partnering with the American Legion here in town by collecting empty pill bottles. You can bring these to any event or pass them along to any of our board members and they will ensure their delivery to Tom Bivens. Feel free to contact Tom at (575) 802-3135 for more details.



Military



Life Enrichment

LAP ROBES—WE NEED YARN!

SACC is low on our yarn supply. How about donating those unused balls, skeins, and even partial skeins to us for our Lap Robe project? We are also making lap robes out of fleece, which are cut and tied to together.

We would be happy to dispatch one of our many elves to come pick up your donation. Feel free to contact Barbara Palmer at (520) 403-4668 or email her at bpalmer@legacywestpioneers.org.



Thank you to everyone for your help!

Volunteers Are Always Needed Make a Pledge to Join an Event or Sign-Up a New Member



SACC Pioneers has a long and valued tradition of helping out in our local community. Members and Volunteers are the life blood of any organization and SACC is no different. For 2023, we would like to encourage our membership to volunteer at one of our ongoing projects, or even create a new one. The benefit to our community is a value that cannot be expressed in words alone. If you are unable to help, that's ok, consider signing up a new member to become a Pioneer. We are welcoming anyone and everyone who has a passion for volunteerism. For more information, please feel free to contact any [SACC Board Member](#) or email us at AZ66Media@gmail.com

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Legacy West

SACC FUNDRAISING EVENTS

The Jim Click Millions for Tucson Raffle 2023 is here!

Tickets are \$25 each. ALL of the money (100%) collected for these Click raffle tickets stays with SACC Pioneers to support our local community projects and partners. We are encouraging all our members and their friends and family to support this fundraiser. You can buy your tickets, support Pioneering in the community, and feel good knowing your chances to win are better than the LOTTO!

Tickets on sale at our luncheons or for more locations or details, please contact Priscilla Lujan at: (520) 298-5400 or via e-mail at palujan@q.com.

2023

WIN ONE OF THREE GREAT PRIZES!

2ND PRIZE
TWO ROUND-TRIP,
FIRST-CLASS AIRLINE
TICKETS TO ANYWHERE IN
THE WORLD*

3RD PRIZE
\$5,000 CASH!

GRAND PRIZE
NEW 2023
FORD BRONCO RAPTOR
*Image for illustration purposes only

TICKET PRICE
\$25

THE JIM CLICK
MILLIONS
FOR TUCSON
RAFFLE

The Jim Click Automotive Team is representing a NFW 2023 Ford

Affinity Partnership Benefits Hello Loyal Pioneers!

Good news! There are some discounts and special offers recently opened up to all, and using these discounts benefits our Pioneers organization! Below is a link to a list of the companies who support our Pioneering mission by paying royalties to Pioneers when people use their services. Clicking on their link lets them know a Pioneer promoted them. Please save this site and share with all your friends and relatives! This is an easy way to help our organization and help your friends, too. There is no obligation when you click on a company's link, and comparing prices is strongly encouraged! Help keep Pioneering healthy and strong for the next 100 years!

We are at 110 years and counting, so pass this info along. [Click Here](#)

Our Impact Areas



Education



Life Enrichment



Health & Human
Services



Environment



Military



*A sincere thank you to all our members and volunteers.
Your support helps keep the spirit of Pioneers alive and
helps us to support the community we call home.
Use this button to support Chapter 66 Pioneering*

