



Newsletter March 2025

Monthly source for news and information for MVWC members

President's Message

Happy March, Peeps!!

With Spring in full swing, it makes me happy to see flowers blooming and new plants growing. I hope you are taking full advantage of this beautiful weather. And speaking of growing, our club continues to add to our numbers monthly. We are now close to 300 members and as we are beginning to wind down the year, we would like to ask for your help with membership renewals for 2025/26. Many members wait until September (or later) to renew. We are asking for your help with this monumental task and request that you please **RENEW BY May 31st** (our fiscal year end). The reason is that renewals are extremely cumbersome for our Treasurer, Membership & Programs Chairs, and this gives our team time over the summer to get the databases updated. Some members leave for the summer and don't renew until October or November. By that time they have already been removed from the system and then they must be added back in to the database & group directories which is incredibly time consuming. **So PLEASE consider renewing NOW.** The benefit of early renewal is that you (1) take advantage of our current pricing of only \$35 for the year! We have opted not to raise membership fees; however, **after June 1st, renewals will go up to \$45** (new members still pay \$35). And (2), if we have received your renewal by May 9th (our year end meeting), your name may be drawn that night for either a free lunch at a future luncheon – or a refund of your membership fees (woo hoo)! Five lucky winners will be drawn that night (need not be present to win)! So please help us out and send in your \$35 membership renewal TODAY.

And be sure to mark your calendar for our May 9th evening celebration at Arrowhead Country Club! This will be a fun and festive event, and you won't want to miss it! Spouses and Guests are invited! And I look forward to seeing you all at our April luncheon where we'll have wonderful auction baskets on display! Thank you all so much for continuing to make our club thrive!

Warmly,
Koni Gould
President 2024-2025

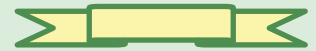


Board Meetings are held at 6 PM on the first Tuesday of the month.

Interested in attending?

Contact us at

moonvalley-womensclub@gmail.com



Moon Valley Women's Club Mission Statement

The purpose of MVWC shall be to promote closer community spirit and develop neighborhood bonds through social and service activities.

By being a Member of the Moon Valley Women's Club ("MVWC"), you agree to indemnify and hold harmless MVWC, its Members, Guests and any hosting venues against any and all liability or loss, and against any and all claims, damages, injuries, or any other loss sustained through you or your guest's voluntary participation in any MVWC Event or Activity.



Deadline for Newsletter Submission is the 8th of each month.

Send submissions to:
Kathy Scott
kaffscott59@gmail.com

April Luncheon & Auction

April 10th- 11:30 AM Social, 12:00 Lunch



AUNT CHILADA'S

Aunt Chilada's

7330 N. Dreamy Draw Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85020

RSVP with \$30 payment for member; \$34 for guests by April 3rd
through Zelle: MVWCpayment@gmail.com

or by check (by April 3rd.) to:
MVWC, 13236 N.7th St, Suite 4-307
Phoenix, AZ 85022

Bisbee Buffet includes Southwestern Caesar Salad, Grilled Chicken and Beef Chingalingas, Refried Beans and Rice, house-made flour and corn chips with salsa de Olivo and Sopapillas with Honey for dessert.

There will be no speaker, however, Recognition Awards will be given and the Basket Auction to benefit the MVWC Service Project will take place.

MVWC Service Project Board Opening

Our MVWC Service Project Board needs one (1) new Member-At-Large. Volunteers or suggestions from other MVWC members should be emailed to

Sandi Kogan, Chair MVWC SP Board.
stkphx@cox.net

Applications will be sent out and will be due back by April 10, 2025.



New Members

Michelle Audino

(sponsored by Patricia King)

Ruth Douglas

(sponsored by Kathy Moffitt)





Moon Valley Women's Club Recognition Program



We are excited to announce the opportunity to recognize the exceptional women who demonstrate outstanding leadership and a commitment to volunteerism within the MVWC. As members of this vibrant organization, you have the power to highlight those whose contribution have made a lasting impact.

We're sure you know someone who goes above and beyond to inspire others, lead with integrity and dedicate their time and talents to making a difference. Now is the time to shine a spotlight on their efforts.

Nominate a deserving woman for recognition ~ **Nominate by 3/20/2025:** Online to Moon Valley Women's Club website at <https://www.mvwomensclub.org/recognition-program>

LEADERSHIP - Someone who leads with vision, inspires others and makes a positive impact. ✨

VOLUNTEERISM - Someone who selflessly gives their time, energy and skills to support our initiatives and causes. ✨

By nominating an individual, you not only honor their hard work but also encourage others to follow in their footsteps. Please provide a brief description of how the nominee exemplifies leadership and/or volunteerism with examples of their contributions.

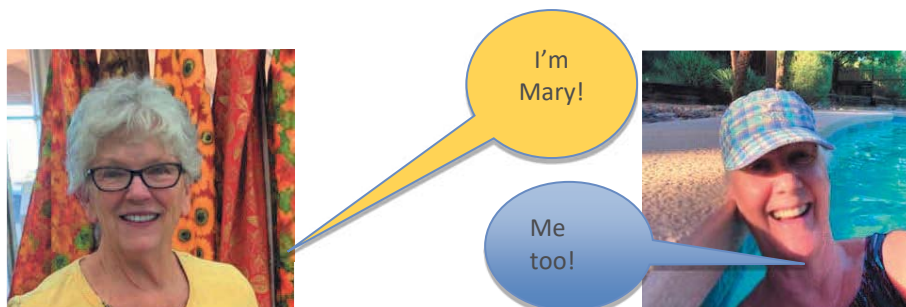
Let's come together to celebrate those who make the Moon Valley women's Club stronger!



bit.ly/2025Recognition-MVWC

Shoebox Project Update!

Plan on joining the Marys on March 19th



THE 2025 SHOEBOX PROJECT STILL NEEDS YOU!

Thank you very much to everyone who donated supplies. The Shoebox team has sorted your donations and we plan on filling 40 shoeboxes.

But we still need the following items:

- Travel toothpaste x10
- Small mouthwash x40
- Travel hand sanitizer x12
- Razors x20
- Travel lotion x40
- Propelling pencils x20
- Pens x40
- Notebooks x40
- Travel emery boards x40
- Chapstick x40



If you have these items at home and/or want to purchase them please let us know and deliver them to Mary Henigar's house (410 E Monte Cristo Ave) before March 19th. Alternatively, Zelle a small donation to mvwcserviceproject@gmail.com and remember to put 2025 Shoebox in the memo line.

Mary Henigar: call/text 602.363.0955, or email maryhenigar@cox.net
Mary Harris: call/text 623.216.4309, or email mjaharris@icloud.com

De Colores opened its doors in 1985 out of community-identified need for a domestic violence shelter that would provide an environment that was culturally and linguistically appropriate for monolingual Spanish speaking survivors and their children. The shelter, located in South Central Phoenix, provides an average of 500-600 clients a safe and secure environment where they can recover from the devastating effects of abuse as they acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to become self-sufficient and break the cycle of violence.

2025-2026 Election Information

The MVWC Ballot Officer Election

The Nominating Committee proposes the following officers for 2025-2026:



President: Koni Gould
Vice President: Morgan Bartlett
Secretary: Carol Wilson
Treasurer: Julie Moore



Respectfully submitted by your Nominating Committee:
Becky Colbert, Nancy Lynch and Nancy Palmquist

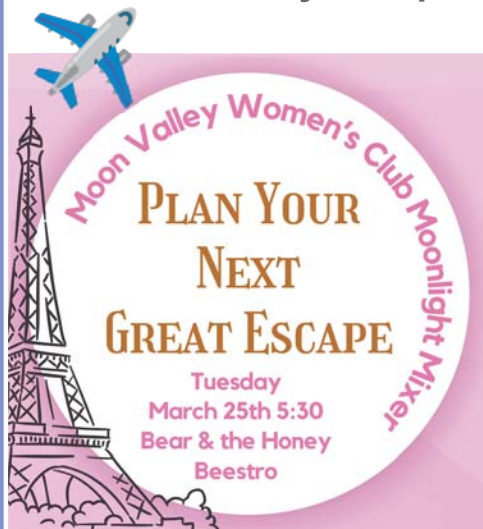
All members will have the opportunity to vote on the proposed Executive Board by means of an online ballot in this month's Echo newsletter.

Click here to vote now:

<https://bit.ly/2025MVWC-Election>

If you wish to cast your ballot on paper, please mail it to:
Moon Valley Women's Club- VOTE
13236 N 7th St,
Suite 4-307
Phoenix, AZ 85022

Ready to explore the best ways to travel near and far?



Join us for a **Moonlight Mixer** on **Tuesday, March 25th**, at **5:30 PM** at **Bear and the Honey**, hosted by **Ricki Pagano!**

This **Ladies-Only** event will dive into **Current Travel Trends: Planning Your Next Great Escape**, with speaker **Chelsea Guffy!** She'll cover everything from solo adventures, to couples, multigenerational trips, and girls getaways.



Cost: \$22 per person, which includes light bites, lemonade, and iced tea. **Adult beverages are available for purchase.**

Zelle: by 3/21 to MVWCpayment@gmail.com referencing "Moonlight Mixer"

Join us to mingle with friends, learn travel tips, and get inspired for your next adventure!

Member Spotlight: Meet Ricki Pagano



Ricki Pagano has only been a member of MVWC for the last 1.5 years but has jumped in with two feet! She is a member of the Hiking Group, Holiday Adoption Project, serves on the Service Project Board, and is the Event Hostess for our upcoming Moonlight Mixer! She appreciates MVWC as it has allowed her to expand her social network, while giving back to the community. Ricki is a retired Medical Social Worker who also volunteers her time at the Mayo Clinic. How inspiring! Unfortunately, she lost her loving husband, Ralph (it'll be 2 years in April), but she is thankful that they shared 35 wonderful years together. She also has two beautiful step kids (who live in AZ & NM) and is blessed with 2 grandchildren and 2 grand dogs. When not volunteering her time, she enjoys racketball, hiking, cooking, baking, travel, & photography. Be sure and say, "hi" to Ricki when you see her! Thank you for all you do, Ricki – we are so fortunate to have you!

It's hard to believe that an estimated 600 million pairs of shoes go into America's landfills every year! 100% of these shoes can be recycled and the majority of them can still be reused. That's why we have decided to start a sneaker drive fundraiser with **GotSneakers**. The sneakers that we collect through this program will help us raise much needed funds for the **MVWC Service Project** AND will help keep sneakers out of landfills. Talk about a Win-Win!



With your help, we can achieve great results! Can you collect 15-20 pairs of used, gently worn or new sneakers from your family, friends and neighbors? If not, just collect as many as you can! Every pair counts! The sneakers that we collect will help raise money to support our grants program AND reduce waste in the landfills.



Can we count on you? Collect as many pair of sneakers as you can and drop them off by May 1st at either Moon Valley Chiropractic or GenTech.

Activity Group Reports

MVWC Garden Group (Feb.)

Submitted by Nancy Lynch and Jackie Gentner

In February a small group met at Dig It Gardens to choose and then plant a lovely houseplant and pot. We enjoyed an assortment of treats and refreshments. The workshop also provided essential information to keep our plants happy and healthy. In addition our host, Alex, reviewed the best fertilizer and potting mix to use, an alternative to rocks in your pot, drip pans, sunlight and watering requirements. We had a lively Q&A discussion that focused on our personal struggles with our leafy friends. We finished our day with a delicious lunch at the Duck and Decanter.



Classy Cooks II

Submitted by Jackie Gentner

The Classy Cooks II group met on February 12th. The hosts for this event were Koni Gould and Maripat Flores; with the event being held at the home of Koni Gould. The theme for this event was Presidents Day. We each prepared food that the past or current Presidents or their wives made or planned for occasions at the White House or snacking on a routine basis. Our menu was diverse and contained items based on the Presidents and First Ladies: Jackie Kennedy's Dinner Pie, Jimmy Carter Peanuts, John Q. Adams green salad and fruit, Jackie Kennedy Deviled Eggs, George Bush Pork Rinds w/ Tabasco, Mamie Eisenhower Shrimp Cocktail with sauce and saltines, Clinton's Pickled Watermelon Rinds, Abraham Lincoln's Historic Lincoln Cheese Log and Clinton's Banana Cream Pudding and Ronald Reagan's Jelly Beans for dessert.



We had a wonderful time! Koni decorated her home in a patriotic theme and everyone wore red, white, and blue. It was really a special time and a special day.

More Activity Group Reports

Museum & Special Events Group (Feb.)

Submitted by Rosalie Welty

In February the Museum & Special Events group had a docent guided tour of the Arizona Heritage Center. We learned about the settlement years of Arizona, through the wars and post war times, and how Arizona was affected. The construction of the Roosevelt Dam & information about Camp Papago, the 2nd largest prisoner of war camp in the U.S. were among the many happenings discussed. In 1864 the AZ legislature created the AZ Historical Society which has been chronicling the state's history as it happens.

After our tour, we enjoyed a fine lunch at Christo's.



Moderate Hiking Group

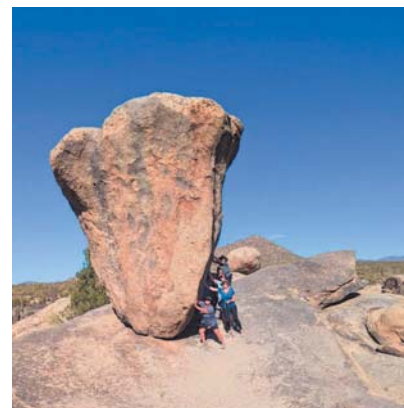
Submitted by Koni Gould

The Moderate hiking Group did a 5 mile Hike recently to Balanced Rock in the McDowell Mountains. It was warm, but breezy and the scenery was amazing!!!



We enjoyed brunch/lunch at the Pony Express Cafe after.

We may or may not have seen a Rattlesnake that lives near the balanced rock. ;) It slithered away peacefully.



Even More Activity Group Reports

Hong Kong Mahjongg Group

Submitted by Armida Herrera

The Hong Kong Mahjongg group meet 2/12/25, Wendy was an amazing host, Karen Zanzucchi was the big winner. We all had a fantastic time.



Gals, Guys and Games Group

Submitted by Debbie Kovesdy

The gals and guys in this group are uproariously fun! Every single month we come away with a night to remember. From teaching the guys to play mahjong to trying to defeat them in yard Olympics... it is always a blast! Last month we played dodgeball (yep we did that) and this month we played Apples to Apples. Very crazy scenarios after numerous Appletini's. We will have two openings for next year. Contact Debbie Kovesdy 602-571-1014 if interested.



Activity Group Reports continued

Moon Valley Women's Garden Group

Submitted by Nancy Lynch

Due to the rain the garden club didn't tour the Sunnyslope Rock Garden as scheduled. But we did meet and had a lovely lunch at Via Delosantos Mexican restaurant on Central. Some chose to go home and enjoy a laid back afternoon while others did a slow drive by to scope out the garden for the future.



Classy Cooks

Submitted by Kathy Anders

Classy Cooks held their Oscar luncheon on March 5th hosted by Reuters reporters Cheryl Waldo and Joan Davis. Celebrities representing current and past award winners walked the red carpet including: Joan Baez (A Complete Unknown), Elphaba (Wicked), Dustin Hoffman (The Graduate), Angela Bassett (Black Panther), Elizabeth Taylor (Cleopatra), Eva Gabor (Gigi), Barbara Stanwyck (Lifetime Achievement) and Audrey Hepburn (Breakfast at Tiffanys).

The elegant surroundings called attention to a golden theme that match the statues on the table. (These were real Emmys!) A French 75 cocktail and wine were served along with Cajun butter steak bites, caramelized onion and brie tartlets, queso and chorizo stuffed potato skins, butterfly dip, Texas

caviar, bruschetta, olive cheese balls, thyme pear and brie tarts, with thumbprint cookies and strawberry cheesecake bits for dessert. In sum, a marvelous time and meal was shared by all these stars.



Restaurant Review

Submitted by Maripat Kudray-Flores



The Restaurant Review group had a lovely meal at Firebirds Wood Fired Grill next to the ballpark in Peoria. The luncheon special of petite tenderloin in a wine sauce that came with mashed potatoes and mushrooms was fabulous. Several gals also ordered the crab cakes that came with chipotle sauce. We all agreed it was worth the drive. Walking in you smelled the firewood burning. The only thing the restaurant was marked down for was that it was pricy, but that's the price of steak.

Museum & Special Events (March)

Submitted by Rosalie Welty

In March, eighteen members of the Museum & Special Events group enjoyed a tour of the Spanish Colonial Wrigley Mansion, built by William Wrigley Jr. of chewing gum fame. It was the smallest of their five homes, built in 1931 and only used about 6 weeks of the year by the family. The 16,000 sq ft home was a 50th anniversary gift to Ada, William's wife. The tour was enjoyed by all as well as the yummy lunch which proceeded the tour at Keegan's.



Last of Activity Group Reports

Easy Hiking Group

Submitted by Julie Pek

The Easy Hiking Group took on the Bridle Path for the February outing. Starting at Bethany Home Road and Central Avenue they covered around 2.5 miles on a ten foot wide path. The group walked past the beautiful neighborhood, lined with canopy trees, large family homes, and well-manicured lawns. Phoenix developer William Murphy established the path in 1895 and lined it with ash and olive trees.

Widely used by residents, the path is a popular spot for walking, jogging and meeting up with neighbors. The MVWC Hiking Group walked their way to brunch at Little OHSO.



Moonlight Mixer– Karaoke

A huge thank you to Bob & Lynn Edwards for hosting our Karaoke, Kocktails, & Konversation Moonlight Mixer. It was such a fun group and absolutely hilarious! I'm so impressed by the amazing talent (great and small...and really, really small ;) in our group lol!!! Everyone had such a great time and it was a beautiful evening under the stars.



Attention Ladies!

The group leaders are asking some of their groups if they would like to participate in donating a basket for our upcoming April basket auction. We understand that MANY of you are in multiple groups! PLEASE DO NOT FEEL PRESSURED TO PARTICIPATE!! This is not mandatory at all and do not feel like you must donate anything!

The April luncheon is meant to be fun and a great way to raise money for our Service Project, while "shopping" and bidding on great items for gifts, etc. At no time, do we want any of our members to feel pressured to either donate or buy. It's all in fun for a great cause so we want to clarify the intent. Thank you so much for participating with us and for your understanding. We have many groups who are participating and we are grateful for the phenomenal turnout!



Member Highlights

Fun Facts of **Gwen Gardner** - Her grandfather was born in Shanghai, her grandmother was born in Portugal, her mother was born in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil and Gwen was born in Wiesbaden Germany. Gwen's mother and her family were living in Boone Germany during Hitler's reign. Because of this, her grandfather (Opa) applied for a job at Harvard as a Professor in Language (Opa spoke 7 languages fluently!) and got the job. They came over on the boat in March of 1937 and landed on Ellis Island on St. Patrick's Day! My mother, at the time, was 12 and neither she nor any of her 3 siblings spoke English! She thought America was absolutely crazy! She was dressed in green and dancing in the streets!



Kathy Moffitt and her husband Michael are heading to Guatemala in July with a group to deliver eyeglasses to folks who don't have access to eye exams or glasses. She will happily collect any old pairs you have lying around! She'll be collecting them through May 31st. Clear out those drawers and give your old glasses a whole new life! Contact Kathy Moffitt at (480) 452-5580



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH



March Birthdays

Linda Austin
Sharon Barnett
Morgan Bartlett
Krystyna Bethell
Susan Bryner
Anne Compton
Abbey Curry
Laurie Dietz
Cathryn Echeverria
Therese Hoffman
Linda Jensen
Grace Klees
Marilyn Koory
Debbie Kovesdy
Kathy Moffitt
Nancy Narofsky
Shalene Rogg
Jill Rosato
Terri Schoen
Jan Snesrud
Pepper Starobin
Dina Taylor
Cheryl Waldo



FUN FACTS ABOUT OUR MEMBERS



June Fontenot is married to a Cajun, so she really gets into Mardi Gras!

Debbie Erbstoesser was on TV in Miss California in 1979. All of the contestants got a pair of white pumps to compete in, She wore those same comfy white pumps in her wedding 5 years later!



Julie Moore was on the Gammage stage in college. She danced to Footloose!

*Ladies, I'm almost out of Fun Facts to report!
Help!!*



If you enjoy reading these **fun facts** and want this feature to continue in our newsletters, **I need help finding fun facts to report!**

If you hear something interesting or funny about a member, jot it down and email it to me (with the member's permission, of course!)

Kathy Scott kaffscott59@gmail.com



HOW TO PAY for MVWC Dues, Lunches Special Events

PAY BY ZELLE

On your online bank site search for Zelle. Set it to pay to: MVWCpayment@gmail.com
Remember to describe what your payment is for in the Memo box. (Event name or lunch choice)

PAY BY MAIL

Make your check payable to: **MVWC** and mail to:

MVWC
13236 N 7th St.
Suite 4-307
Phoenix, AZ. 85022



HOW TO PAY for MVWC Charity Events, Donations or Service Project

PAY BY ZELLE

On your online bank site search for Zelle. Set it to pay to: MVWCserviceproject@gmail.com
Remember to describe what your payment is for in the Memo box. (Event name or project)

PAY BY MAIL

Write your check to: **MVWC Service Project**
and mail to:

MVWC Service Project
13236 N 7th St.
Suite 4-307
Phoenix, AZ. 85022

Save the Date for our next Moonlight Mixer!

Tuesday, April 29th
Happy Hour at GenTech
including tech games
hosted by Debbie Kovesdy



Save the date for our End of The Year Celebration
Friday, May 9th in the evening
at
Arrowhead Country Club



Returning Members

Pay Your \$35 Membership dues for next year before they go up on June 1st!

Got Merch?

Don't forget to visit our merch shop, where a portion of every sale goes directly to our Service Project! Sweatshirts and long-sleeved t-shirts are now available!

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/moon-valley-womens-club/>



Interested in starting a new activity group? Contact us at moonvalleywomensclub@gmail.com

There is an excellent Activity Group Leader Handbook available on our Website, under "Member pages" to guide you.

**Good News! MVWC is on Facebook!
If you haven't yet, please join us!**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2801364973516934/>



President	Koni Gould
Vice President	Annette McClure
Treasurer	Julie Moore
Secretary	Carol Wilson
2024-2025 MVWC Executive Board	



General Board

Primary Programs & Venues	Gwen Gardner, Michele Baker, Kathy Hellan
Evening Programs & Venues	Kathy Moffitt
Membership	Mary Brierly
Newsletter Editor	Kathy Scott
Records	Pepper Starobin
Webmaster	Michele Workman

Newsletter Editor: Kathy Scott
Send your newsletter submissions to: kaffscott59@gmail.com

Sunshine Report



A **Sympathy** card was sent to **Lora Simonsgaard** for the loss of her mother.

Get Well cards were sent to **Debra Exner, Elaine Fleischmann, Jean Georgianni, Pam Spitler** and **Sue Wilk.**

Welcome e-cards were sent to **new members.**

If you or another member could use a Sunshine card, please email your request to moonvalley-womensclub@gmail.com and a card will be sent out. If you would prefer to NOT to be included in the Report in The Echo, please let us know!

Moon Valley Women's Club

13236 N. 7th St,
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Phoenix, AZ 85022

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE