

Valle Verde
Rotary
Green Valley



CACTUS CHRONICLES

Birthdays

Martha Viera
Parsons
November
29th
Richard
Buckman
December 7th
Guadalupe
Bishop
December
12th

Wedding Anniversaries

John James
Knutsen
December
16th

Years of Service

James Taylor
12-01-2021
3 Years
Holly Faris
12-01-2022
2 Years
Janice
Farrington
11-30-2023
1 Year

Meeting Notes November 21 2024

By Richard Deaver

Greeter: Lupita Bishop

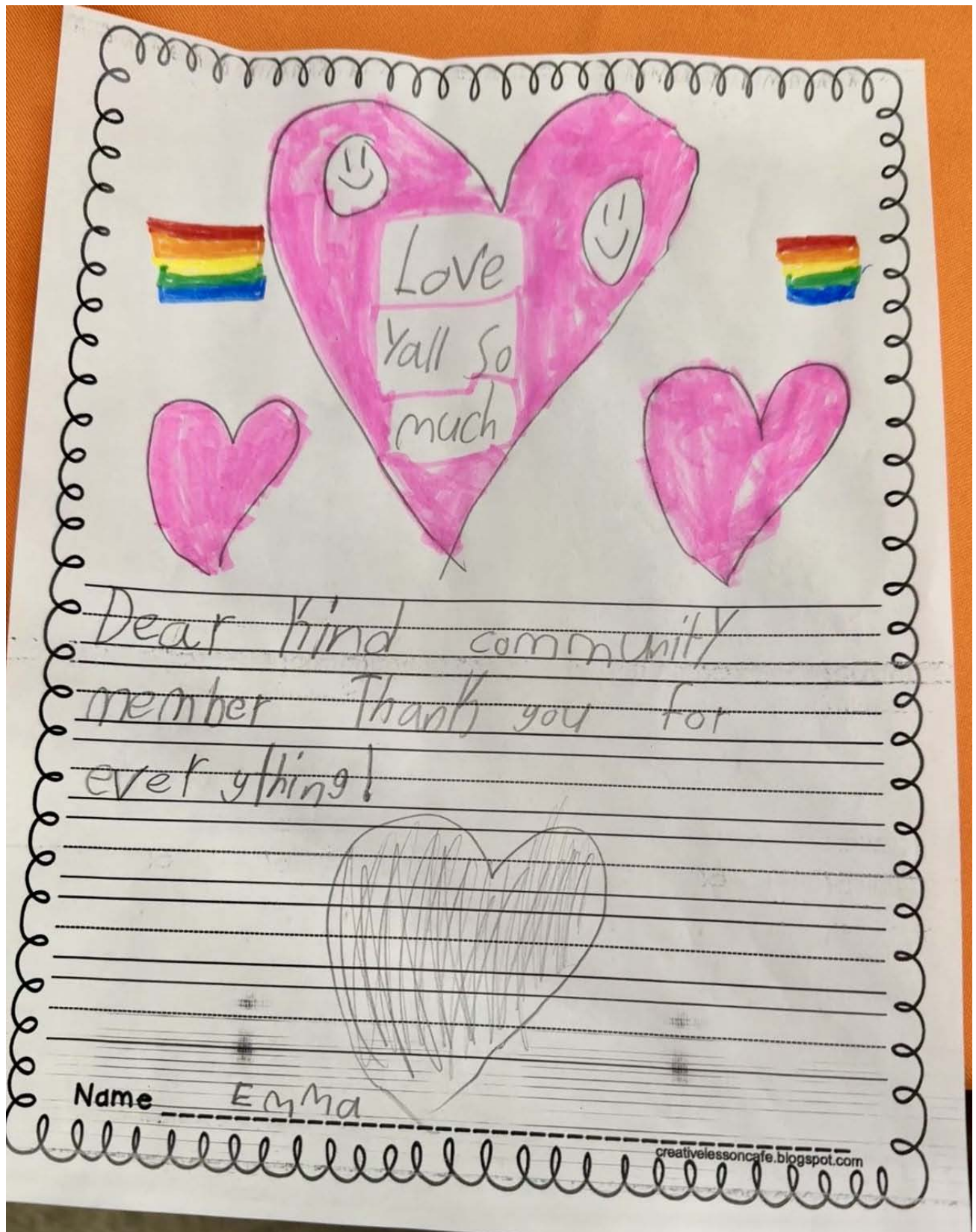
Reflection: Jim Taylor shared his Scottish Grandmother's story and the poem "Rise & Shine Jimmy"

Attendance: In Person 38 active Rotarians; on ZOOM Gary, Sue, Nicole, and Carol

Guests: Dave Lichtsinn, John Eckhart, Nina & Archie Campfield, Reed Olson & Roger Fisher from RISE, and Pam Pine from Green Valley Rotary

50/50 Raffle - 44 cards remain - \$1009 - Bill Grantham's ticket pulled and he pulled out the 5 of clubs.

President Michele reminded us who we are as Rotarians - We help People!
She also shared some of the notes the Birthday Books students made for us!



Rise Scholastic Achievement, Inc., Reed Olson gave an update of Casa Nueva Para Ninos orphanage in Nogales, Sonora, which is supported by the New Life Church of God, the largest Hispanic church in Tucson. The children are abused and abandoned on the streets of Nogales. Rise gives financial assistance to students for high school and college. Our club supports two students who are now in college. Tuition support is \$550/yr for a student. Reed is also setting up a visit to the orphanage on Dec. 7. He was presented a check for \$1100 for our continued tuition support.



L-R: Jim Rusk, Reed Olson, Roger Fisher

Program Speaker: Dave Gamrath - Tucson MicroShelter Coalition

Dave reviewed the tiny home village concept that he works with in Seattle to provide shelter for the homeless. He also has been working to establish a similar program in Tucson and feels progress is being made.

Pima County is experiencing a homeless crisis. The number of homeless people has increased 60% since 2018 and unsheltered homeless has increased over 300%. There are more than 2100 homeless in Pima County.

The largest group seems to be senior women. The increased numbers seem to be related to the lack of affordable housing. Providing Micro Shelter villages appears to be a cost-effective way to decrease homelessness. The villages are set up with Micro shelters and a central service area that includes kitchen, baths and laundry. Each village has an onsite social worker. The cost averages about \$6000/yr/person. The average stay is about four months and about 90% transition to permanent housing.



Several projects are slowly advancing in Tucson. The first Micro Shelter village might be ready to start next year with help from U of Architecture, who are helping with the design of shelters and zoning plan.

Dave's long-term vision of what could be achieved to reach "0" homeless in Tucson would be to have a shelter village in each ward of Tucson that could have about 330 shelters total. With that number the 2100 homeless could achieve housing within two years.

Next Week: NO MEETING! Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, December 5: Kino Border Initiative, Joanna Williams

Greeter: Maureen Raso

Reflection: Maureen Raso

SPECIAL NOTE: There are still spaces available for the next Micro-Credit tour to Hermosillo, planned for Fri-Sun, December 13-15. All expenses are paid for this two-night educational trip to learn more about how the Rotary-supported micro-credit program works. For more information, contact Kathy Dean 520-437-8431 or kmdean713@gmail.com

CORRECTION: Jim Taylor and Ron Bryant represented the DAV Disabled Veterans of America grant for Christmas stockings for veterans. Last week's Cactus Chronicle referenced the American Legion.

YOU'RE INVITED to the Green Valley Rotary Club's Holiday Dinner Party...Saturday, December 14 at Grill On The Green. \$40 for Prime rib OR Salmon... And FUNNY gift exchange...! Make your reservation to Yesenia Porras yporras@ascu.org. Please include the number of people and entrée choice. Please make your reservations no later than December 6th.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Nov 26 - Red Cross Blood Drive -- Continental Plaza – this Tuesday!

Dec 10 -Tasty Tuesday at Tiny's

Dec 11, March 12 - Cross Border/Nogales Tours with BCA
Dec 13-15 - Micro-Credit trip to Hermosillo (see above)
Dec 19 - White Elephant Gift Exchange Meeting
Dec 26 - NO MEETING

Valle Verde Rotary Club Information

"We are People of Purpose, People of Influence and People of Action"

Valle Verde Rotary Club meets:
Thursdays, 6:45 AM
La Posada Rec Center
[Click Here for map](#)

ZOOM Information [Click Here To Join Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 968 0975 7847
Passcode: 832338