



# White Elephant Trumpet

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

SECOND QUARTER 2025

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## Jack King Celebrated 30-years as White Elephant Volunteer On March 31

Jack King celebrated 30 years as a White Elephant volunteer on March 31 among the very people he recently described as his “favorite thing” about being a CFWE volunteer – his co-workers.

For the past five years Jack has worked in the Patio Department on Mondays and Thursdays merchandising and helping customers. Prior to that, he served on the truck crew for 25 years picking up donations and delivering purchased items to residents in the community.

Jack said probably his biggest challenge on the truck crew was getting a hospital bed through a bedroom window. “Once we got it in, we discovered it was too big for the bedroom and we had to drag it back out again,” he quipped.

Ninety-three years old, Jack has lived in Green Valley since 1993. He has a B.S. degree from San Jose State University and worked for the University of California for 30 years. He also spent four years in the United States Navy.

Jack’s dedication and service recently were reported in a full page article in the Green Valley News. “I have enjoyed the experiences, the friends, and the people I encounter,” he said. And he has no intention of stopping now!



Jack received congratulations from General Manager Chris Cota and a gift certificate to a local restaurant.



We all enjoyed a cake presented by Susie Smith!



*"Our volunteers are the heart of this great organization and I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart!"*

## Message from General Manager Chris Cota

2025's second quarter begins in April, which is also the month that honors the volunteers each year with National Volunteer Appreciation Week. This year our volunteers will be honored once again with our special pizza week, which is a huge thank you to all our volunteers for all the hard work and dedication that is put in, by them, to the White Elephant. April is the perfect time to let every wonderful member of this great organization know how appreciated you are and how important you are to the White Elephant team.

Around this time of the year in April, many of our winter volunteers start planning their trips back to their "other" homes. Since our winter volunteers will be leaving, this is the time of year that your MOD may need to call upon additional volunteers from our sub list, in order to keep the store up and running smoothly. If you are able to work another day, or if you'd like to be cross-trained as a cashier, bagger, furniture salesperson, or collectibles/jewelry sales person, sign up on the sub list to offer your assistance. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Spring and summer are here, and this is the time of the year that we like to get the word out to the community that we are in need of volunteers who are year round residents. We especially need volunteers who can help out in our donation drop off area, in our customer pick up department, and on our truck crew. These positions require volunteers to be able to help load, unload, and lift

heavy items. If you know someone who can help out in these departments, please let them know that we could really use their help. We have applications at each register and in the main office if anyone is interested in volunteering.

When the summer comes our Summer Student Work Program is another way that we keep the store fully staffed. In the past summers we have been lucky to have four great students join us here at the White Elephant, and I am happy to say that we are getting the same crew of students to come back for the third year in a row. These students will be assisting us during the months of June and July when many of our volunteers are away. . It's a great way for students to get some employment skills under their belts and have fun while doing it. They get lots of interaction with our great volunteers, get real work experience, and get paid for doing a job well done. It is a program that I personally look forward to every year, and we are excited to keep the program going.

Our volunteers are the heart of this great organization and I would like to thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart and let you all know that you are very much appreciated for all the fantastic work that you all do day in and day out all year round for the White Elephant. Thank you to everyone who continues to support this organization and I look forward to seeing what other great things the White Elephant can do in the future. Enjoy the spring and summer months before our temperatures rise and be safe wherever you may be at in life. I look forward to seeing everyone return safely after the summer months are over.



**Total Store Revenue in 1Q25 = \$587,858.09!**

# Scholarship Foundation Processing 2025 Applications

By Scholarship Foundation and CFWE Board of Directors President, Tom Cooke



This time of year our Scholarship Foundation is pretty busy. In the early part of March, we solicit scholarship applications from the Sahuarita School District's three high schools. This year we received 37 applications.

Those applications are pretty extensive, requiring applicants to supply transcripts, letters of reference, test scores, family financial information and a written essay. The applications are then reviewed in detail by Foundation members, and the 10 most promising applicants upon which there is a consensus are invited to sit for a personal interview.

From those interviews, five students are selected to be awarded scholarships. Alternates are also named in the event a selectee isn't able to attend. These scholarships are in the amount of \$5000 per year and are renewable for 4 years.

Our Scholarship Foundation is a separate entity from the White Elephant proper; however, the scholarships are funded annually by a grant from the latter. The long-term plan of the Foundation is to build up an endowment sufficient to award the scholarships without outside help. Our current endowment is a bit over \$2 million and is invested conservatively.

Those foundation members currently serving are Tom Cooke (President), Sue Woodward (Treasurer and pro tem Secretary), Judy Oestreich (Secretary), Bill Taylor, Jim Luhning and Cindy Jacobson.

Our scholarships are available both for university training as well as vocational. Last year in honor of the White Elephant's 60th anniversary, we awarded an extra academic and two vocational awards. This year that program won't be renewed, and the funds will instead be added to our endowment.

The plan is our endowment, once we reach our goal, will continue to provide scholarships in the name of our White Elephant organization in perpetuity. This will be our legacy to the future—made possible by the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. We can all take pride in this extraordinary achievement. So pat yourself on your back!



## White Elephant Shoppers in 1Q25!

Shoppers in January - 23,592  
Shoppers in February - 22,238  
Shoppers in March - 24,155  
Total Shoppers in 1Q25 - 69,985



## Scholarship Donation Containers 1Q25 Totals

Donations for January - \$ 760.50  
Donations for February - \$ 867.00  
Donations for March - \$1,420.50  
Total for 1Q25 - \$3,048.00





**April 20—26, 2025**

Since 1974, National Volunteer Appreciation Week has been an opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and to be a force that transforms the world.

Each year, communities all across America shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve. They recognize and thank volunteers who lend their time, talent and voices to make a difference. The Country Fair White Elephant will join them in showing appreciation for our nearly 500 volunteers and their incredible efforts in support of our own community!

## **“Trinket” Volunteer Guessing Game Winners!**



**Diane Anderson guessed 470**



**The exact number was 497.  
We had 106 entries. They  
each won a \$30 gift certificate  
to the White Elephant!**



**Barbara Thompson guessed 477**

## ***Pizza Parties Planned For National Volunteer Appreciation Week April 21—26***



Parties will be held every day that week at noon in the Break Room when the store closes as morning volunteers leave and afternoon volunteers arrive. 2 slices per person.

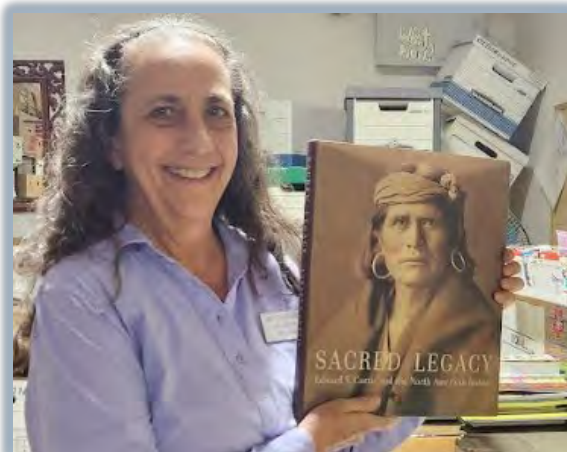


This year's Volunteer Appreciation Committee Chairperson is Diane Nanovich. She is joined by committee members Vicky Albrecht, Robin Cain, Rhonda Gilbert, Terri Anderko, Sandy Rockowitz and Maureen McCarthy.





*Thanks volunteers for all of your hard work!*





*Thanks Volunteers for all of your hard work!*





## ***Around The White Elephant ...***



***The Optimist Club Treated White Elephant Volunteers to a Free Lunch Saturday, March 1!***



***"Power Sorts" Will Continue On Wednesday Afternoons!***



**So Long Snowbirds! See Ya Soon!**

The CFWE Store Committee recently voted to allow non-year-round residents to volunteer at the Thrift Store during the fall and winter months in the afternoons processing donations!





## *More Than “Irish Eyes” Were Smiling This St. Patrick’s Day!*



## *No Shortage of “Eggs” As We Get Ready for Easter, April 20!*





## Contributions Committee Recently Visited 2024 Grant Recipients

### *Grace Lutheran Learning Center, Sahuarita*



### *Santa Cruz Cardinals—Rio Rico*





## Contributions Committee Recently Visited 2024 Grant Recipients

*United Community Health Center, Green Valley*



*Santa Cruz Valley School District, Rio Rico*



*Dominate Club  
Wrestling,  
Green Valley*





## Coming up ... Dates to Remember!



**National Volunteer Appreciation Week Pizza Parties - April 21-26**

**Memorial Day – White Elephant Closed - Monday - May 26**

**Fourth of July – White Elephant Closed - Friday - July 4**

**Annual Volunteer Appreciation Lunch, - Sunday - December 7**

The White Elephant *Trumpet* Newsletter is now accessible from our website's Home Page.

- Simply go to [www.gvwhiteelephant.com](http://www.gvwhiteelephant.com).
- Scroll down until you see the Trumpet Page 1 image.
- Click on it – and you will go right to the newsletter!

You no longer need to look for it under the “Volunteers” heading.

You no longer need to use a password!

Enjoy and tell your friends! It's a great way to introduce the White Elephant to the community and to recruit new volunteers!

Have a great summer!

### Check out Our Latest Country Fair White Elephant Newsletter!





## **WHITE ELEPHANT THRIFT SHOP**

601 N. La Canada

Green Valley, AZ 85614

520-625-4119

<https://gvwhiteelephant.com>

Country Fair White Elephant  
is a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Organization



## **Serving Southern Arizona Since 1964**

**Clothing, Furniture, Electronics, Home Décor and More!**

Store Hours – Monday through Saturday 9am – Noon

Donation Hours Tuesdays – Wednesdays – Thursdays and Saturdays 8am-Noon

Donation Drop Off Not Available During Rain Conditions

Customer Pickup Monday – Saturday 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Credit and Debit cards are not accepted. Cash or personal check with proper I.D. are accepted.



**Tips for future Trumpet issues? Send your ideas to [maureenmccarthyaz@gmail.com](mailto:maureenmccarthyaz@gmail.com)**