



White Elephant Trumpet

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1

FIRST QUARTER 2026

CFWE Awarded \$1,762,500 To Grant Recipients in 2025!

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The CFWE Contributions Committee reviewed over 140 applications for financial grants from schools and non-profits along the I-19 corridor mainly from Sahuarita to Nogales and awarded \$1,762,500 at its distribution ceremony on December 11.

Grant categories were Public Schools, Private/Other Schools, Youth Organizations, National Disease, Adult/Child Assistance, Community Arts Support, Area and Nature Study, Fire Districts and Scholarships.

Judy Barkley and Joan Fisher, who have been co-chairs of the Contributions Committee for over two decades, passed the baton to committee member Maureen McCarthy, who will take over as chair in 2026. Other committee members included DiAnn Bresina, Cene Backus, Fred St. Jean and Larry Pisacka (who this year retires from the Board and Contributions Committee.)

(see pages 6 and 7 for more Distribution Day photos)



“Please remember that all of your efforts made it possible for the White Elephant to distribute \$1.6 million to community organizations this past year. That is definitely something to be proud of!”

Message from Chris Cota, General Manager

Greetings to everyone and congratulations on another great year in 2025 here at the White Elephant. The revenue generated in 2025 definitely shows how hard you all work and all your dedication to make sure that the White Elephant can continue to give back to the community!

2026 at the White Elephant has really started off with a bang. The first day of being back open, we had 1,308 customers come thru the doors, and a day’s total of over \$10,000. All of this is accomplished during only three shopping hours per day. After 62 years, that the humble White Elephant still holds weight in this community and has really grown into its name.

The White Elephant is fortunate that so many community organizations appreciate the work that is done here. Two of our local organizations have taken it upon themselves to express their thanks to our volunteers for all that you do.

This year, Sahuarita Schools will once again present the White Elephant Appreciation Show on Tuesday, February 17. A light reception will begin at 5:15 pm in the District Cafeteria followed by the variety show of current student productions and talents at 6:00 pm in the District Auditorium. The reception is for White Elephant Volunteers only and you are all welcome to bring guests. Please sign up at the volunteer sign-in counter and let us know how many will be attending in your party. We would love to have a great showing of White Elephant Volunteers attending this very special event. While the 5:15pm. reception is for volunteers and their guests only, the 6:00 pm variety show program is open to the public.

Another group that has been honoring our volunteers each year with a free lunch is the Optimist Club. This hard working group comes out on a Saturday each year, sets up their cookers and presents lunch to our volunteers in appreciation for the hard work that you do. I hope to see all of our volunteers enjoying the free lunch from the Optimist Club on Saturday, March 7th starting around 10:00 am. They will set up just north of the stairs leading to the store entrance and will serve a free sausage sandwich, hot dog, or hamburger and a soda to all volunteers. You may pick up your ticket for the free lunch from Susie in our main office starting February 23. Food and sodas will also be available that day for purchase by non-volunteers and the public. This is the Optimist’s way of saying thank you to our volunteers for all of your efforts throughout the year.

Again, a very special thank you is extended to all of our fabulous volunteers for everything you do for the Elephant. Please remember that all of your efforts made it possible for the White Elephant to distribute \$1.6 million to community organizations this past year. That is definitely something to be proud of!

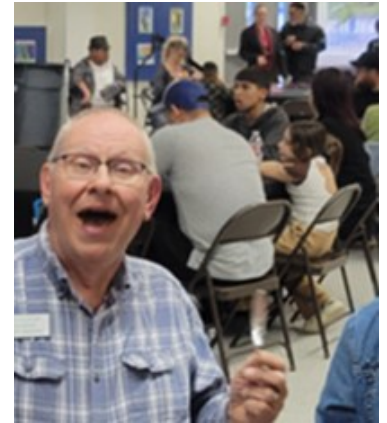


Total 2025 White Elephant Year-end Sales —

\$2,223,189!

Sahuarita School District to Honor CFWE Volunteers Once More in 2026

This year, the Sahuarita Schools will once again be hosting the White Elephant Appreciation Show on Tuesday, February 17. A light reception will be held for the volunteers at 5:15 pm in the District Cafeteria followed by the variety show of outstanding student productions and talents in the District Auditorium at 6 pm. The reception is only for White Elephant Volunteers and their guests. You all are welcome to bring as many guests as you would like. Please sign up at the volunteer sign-in counter and let us know how many will be attending in your party. We would love to see an amazing turnout of White Elephant Volunteers attending this very special event. Even though the CFWE reception is only for volunteers and their guests, the variety show is open to the public.



CFWE volunteer Randy Anderson

Optimist Club Serving-up Free Lunch For CFWE Volunteers Again This Year



This fantastic organization will be setting up their trailer and cookers to provide a very delicious lunch to our volunteers in appreciation for all the hard work that you all do. We hope to see all of our volunteers enjoying this lunch on Saturday, March 7, starting around 10 a.m. They will be just north of the stairs leading to the store entrance to provide sausage sandwiches, hot dogs, or hamburgers and a soda to all volunteers. Tickets for the lunch will be available from Susie in our main office starting on Monday, February 23. Food and sodas will also be available that day for general public purchase .

White Elephant Thrift Store

Attendance Update:

Total 2025 Attendance 242,066!

Once again, the CFWE would like to send a very special thank you to all of our fantastic volunteers for everything that you do for the White Elephant. Remember all of your efforts throughout the 2025 year made it possible for the White Elephant to distribute over \$1.7 million to community organizations this past year. That is definitely something to be proud of, and we are very excited to see where the future takes us here at the White Elephant.

WHITE ELEPHANT TRUMPET





Message from Jim Luhring, 2026 CFWE Board President

“I look forward to working along side you all to tackle another twelve month period of hard work and dedication to our mission.”

I want to wish you all a happy, safe and healthy new year !

On December 11th your Board of Directors, on your behalf, distributed over \$1,700,000 in Grants to groups that support our local communities. These grants were all made possible because of the hard work and dedication of our volunteers, store employees and Board committees. As a store volunteer, it was especially rewarding for me to see those grants being distributed to such worthy organizations.

Now, as we begin our next year of store operations, I look forward to working along side you all to tackle another twelve month period of hard work and dedication to our mission. Knowing that one day in December, 2026, we will be back at the Grants distribution venue, making yet another significant contribution to our surrounding communities.

E. Turner Goodman (circa 1915) was quoted as saying “He who serves his fellows is, of all his fellows, greatest.” The phrase emphasizes that true leadership and greatness are found in service to others rather than in personal gain or power. This organization epitomizes that notion. And I am proud to be a very small part of it.

2026 Country Fair White Elephant Board of Directors

2026 Executive Committee

- Jim Luhring, President
- Fred St. Jean, Vice President
- Cene Backus, Secretary
- Judy Barkley, Treasurer
- Sue Woodward, Ass’t Treasurer

Other Board Members

- Joan Fischer
- Sandy Rockowitz
- Cindy Jacobson
- Terri Anderko

Board members that are Committee Chairs

- Audit – Robin Cain
- Contributions – Maureen McCarthy
- Human Resources – Tom Cooke
- Insurance/Risk Management – DiAnn Bresina
- Nominating – Sue Woodward
- Public Relations – DeAnna Walker
- Volunteer Appreciation – Diane Nanovich





“Both Judy Barkley and Joan Fischer will remain on the committee, so I feel really confident they will assist me in making the transition.”

Maureen McCarthy Re-elected to the CFWE Board of Directors and Takes Over as Contributions Committee Chair

White Elephant Volunteer Maureen McCarthy was re-elected to the Board of Directors at its November Annual Meeting and beginning in 2026, she will be chair of the Contributions Committee. After over two decades of managing the organization’s grant fulfillment program, Directors Judy Barkley and Joan Fisher passed the baton on to Maureen at the Grant Distribution Ceremony in December.

“It is such an honor take on this challenge,” Maureen said. “Both Judy and Joan will remain on the committee, so I feel really confident they will assist me in making the transition.”

Maureen became a CFWE volunteer in 2019 as the second vice president of the Board and co-chair of the White Elephant parade. “Then, we all know what happened in early 2020,” Maureen explained. “Due to the pandemic and new protocols required by Pima County, it no longer was feasible to host the parade that year, and ultimately, ever again.”

That’s when she became an in-store volunteer and has worked as a cashier, bagger, collectables clerk, greeter, basket sanitizer and other fill-in jobs “as needed.” Additionally, Maureen has served on the Board Volunteer Appreciation and Contributions Committees, is editor of “*The Trumpet*,” and currently serves as the CFWE Historian.

“All of these positions go “hand-in-hand” with each other and fit with my past professional experience,” she explained. “I have a BA degree in Journalism and Advertising.”

Maureen moved to Green Valley in early 2005 and has been very involved with the community. Along with volunteering at a number of local organizations, Maureen was a Recreation Supervisor at Green Valley Recreation (GVR) for over a decade and managed the Volunteer Program and other special recreational events.

“I guess you could say I’m *all in*! Moving to Green Valley was one of the best decisions of my life,” she said. “We all know there is no place like this place anywhere else. Like they say, “If you are bored in Green Valley – it’s your own darn fault!”

CFWE Distributed \$1,762,500 In 2025!



Grant checks were distributed to over 140 Southern Arizona schools and non-profits.



Beautiful blanket with GV logos presented.



Boys and Girls Club of Santa Cruz County shared their appreciation.



Sahuarita GV 49ers donated a jersey!



Sun Sounds of AZ brought "goodies!"

Lots Of Smiles and “Thanks” in 2025!



Arizona Rangers Madera Company won “Best Application of the Year.”



“Ben’s Bell” gave us a “bell” to thank us for their grant.

*Thank you
White Elephant
Volunteers!*



Nogales DARE Program presented CFWE with a plaque and a “cuddly” to say “thanks!”



CFWE was well represented at the ceremony by Board, Committee Members and Staff .

White Elephant 2025 Contributions

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

<i>Continental School District</i>	\$14,000
Continental School PTC,	\$ 4,000
Continental School District ED Fund	\$ 3,000
Nogales School District	\$16,000
Nogales High School	\$23,000
Pierson VOC High School	\$12,000
Desert Shadows Middle School	\$14,000
Wade Carpenter Middle School	\$12,000
Coronado Elementary School	\$22,000
Mary Welty Elementary School	\$13,000
Challenger Elementary School	\$17,000
Lincoln Elementary School	\$17,000
RM Bracker Elementary School	\$13,000
AJ Mitchell Elementary School	\$14,000

Santa Cruz Valley School District

Rio Rico High School	\$17,000
Calabasas Middle School	\$18,000
Coatimundi Middle School	\$15,000
Mountain View Elementary School	\$16,000
San Cayetano Elementary School	\$13,000

Sahuarita School District

Wrightson Ridge Elementary	\$19,000
Sahuarita Education Foundation	\$17,000
Sahuarita High School	\$20,000
Walden Grove High School	\$19,000
Sahuarita Intermediate School	\$17,000
Sahuarita Middle School	\$17,000
Anza Trail School	\$24,000
Sahuarita Primary School	\$22,000
Sopori Elementary School	\$17,000
Copper View Elementary School	\$14,000
SUSD Early Childhood Center	\$ 3,000
LINK Program	\$12,000
Sahuarita Digital Pathway Academy	\$ 4,000

Total Public Schools \$476,000

PRIVATE/OTHER SCHOOLS

Great Expectations Academy	\$ 2,000
Montessori de Santa Cruz	\$ 4,000
Los Niños de Valle Pre School	\$ 8,000
St. Andrews Pre School	\$ 8,000
Wings on Words	\$ 5,000
Shepards Fold Pre School and Daycare	\$ 8,000
Grace Lutheran Learning Center	\$ 6,000
Santa Cruz Valley Back to School Blitz	\$ 10,000

Total Private/Other Schools \$51,000

Total Schools \$527,000

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Ballet Continental	\$20,000
Boys & Girls Club - Santa Cruz	\$29,000
Copper Hills Little League	\$10,000
Funhouse Movement Theatre	\$ 3,000
Sahuarita Music Boosters	\$ 8,000
Wright Flight	\$ 21,000
Girl Scouts of S. Arizona	\$ 4,000
LPGA/USGA Girls Golf of Green Valley	\$ 4,000
Sahuarita Stingrays Swim Team	\$ 4,000
Santa Cruz Cardinals	\$ 7,000
Rich River Athletic Club	\$ 3,000
Wisdom Sports & Scholars	\$12,000
Red Wolves Music Boosters	\$ 7,000
Sahuarita-GV 49ers Football and Cheer	\$ 7,000
Sahuarita Community 4H	\$ 7,000

Total Youth Organizations \$146,000

NATIONAL DISEASE

American Cancer Association	\$ 4,000
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Total National Disease \$ 4,000

FIRE DISTRICTS

AFD Auxiliary	\$19,000
Helmet Peak Vol. Fire Dept.	\$41,000
Santa Rita Fire Corps Volunteers	\$24,000

Total Fire Districts \$ 84 ,000



White Elephant 2025 Contributions

ADULT/CHILD ASSISTANCE

Amado Community Food Bank	\$47,000
Angel Heart Pajama Project	\$ 5,000
Arivaca Action Center	\$ 3,000
Arivaca Community Center - Facilities	\$ 3,000
Arivaca Community Center - Park and Rec.	\$ 4,000
Arivaca Helping Hearts	\$ 7,000
Arivaca Human Resources	\$22,000
Arizona Rangers Madera Company	\$10,000
Bag It	\$ 7,000
Ben's Bell	\$ 6,000
Beyond Borders	\$ 2,000
Borderlands Foodbank	\$60,000
Candlelighters Childhood Cancer	\$13,000
Crossroads Nogales Mission	\$35,000
Friends of Arivaca Schoolhouse	\$ 1,000
Green Valley CERT Council	\$ 1,000
GV Community Food Bank	\$50,000
GVC Foundation (GDDT)	\$10,000
GVR Foundation	\$ 5,000
Hands of a Friend	\$13,000
La Posada Life—Adult	\$20,000
La Posada Life—Behavior	\$ 8,000
La Posada Life-Community Center	\$17,000
Military Officers of America	\$ 2,000
Military Orders of WWS	\$ 3,000
Nogales Community Food Bank	\$50,000
Nogales Police DARE Program	\$ 5,000
Parkinson's Support Group	\$16,000
Pima Council on Aging	\$ 7,000
Pimeria Alta Historical Society	\$ 2,000
Rebuilding Together	\$18,000
Rio Rico Historical Society	\$11,000
Sahuarita Food Bank	\$75,300
Sahuarita Police Department	\$ 4,000
Salvation Army	\$42,000
Santa Cruz Sheriff DARE	\$11,000
Santa Cruz Search and Rescue	\$10,000
Santa Cruz Training Center	\$10,000
Santa Cruz Valley Historical Society	\$ 5,000
SAV Green Valley	\$37,000
St. Andrew's Clinic	\$22,000
Sun Sounds of Arizona	\$ 8,000
Teen Challenge	\$ 4,000
Tucson Children's Museum	\$ 6,000
United Community Health Care	\$31,000
United Way of Santa Cruz (Diaper Bank)	\$ 6,000
Valley Assistance Services	\$36,000
Youth on Their Own	\$ 4,000

Total Adult/Child Assistance \$774,300

COMMUNITY ARTS SUPPORT

Green Valley Concert Band	\$ 5,000
Green Valley Stage Band	\$ 2,000
Tubac Center for the Arts	\$10,000
Community Performance & Arts Center	\$10,000
Green Valley Community Chorus	\$ 4,000
Big Band Sounds of Green Valley	\$ 1,400

Total Community Arts \$32,400

AREA AND NATURE STUDY

Friends of the Presidio	\$ 3,500
Tubac Nature Center	\$ 2,000
Santa Cruz Humane Society	\$12,000
Friends of Madera Canyon	\$ 3,000
Tubac Historical Society	\$ 3,000
Paws Patrol	\$ 800
Equine Voices	\$ 8,000

Total Area and Nature Study \$32,300

**Community Grants
\$1,600,000!**

**White Elephant
Scholarship Foundation
\$162,500!**

**Total Grants in 2025
\$1,762,500!**

PAGE 10 **The White Elephant Thrift Store Celebrated "Peace On Earth" at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Lunch in December!**

More Appreciation Lunch photos on pages 3 and 14.



The White Elephant Thrift Store Celebrated "Peace" at the Annual Volunteer Appreciation Lunch in December!

More Appreciation Lunch photos on pages 2 and 16.



2025 Volunteers Honored for 20 Years of Service!



Bill Durant



Terri Anderko



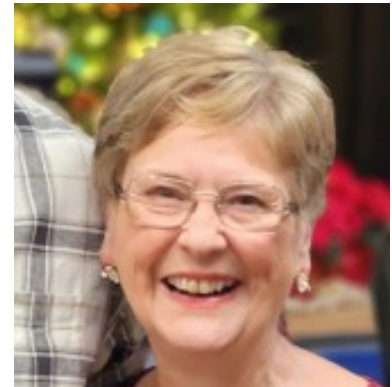
Landy Bense



DiAnn Bresina



Dottie Fletcher



Terry Giovanelli



Patty Green



Lorraine Harscg



Bobbie Stowers



**Not pictured: Rosie Sauve
and Clayton Messelt**

**Thank You
Volunteers for
20 incredible
years!**

A big thanks goes out to the GVR Ceramics Club for furnishing our ceramic white elephant awards!

Around the Country Fair White Elephant

4Q25 Guessing Game Winners are Julia Smith and Delaine Tyner!

Both will receive a \$30 gift certificate to the White Elephant Thrift Store
Number of doll shoes in the container: 126



Julia Smith



Delaine Tyner



It was announced at the November Board of Directors meeting that Donn Cuson will be taking over CFWE eBay sales and fulfillment. Donn has extensive experience pricing items for the White Elephant Collectables Department.



Cash register scholarship donations for 2025 were **\$8,426!**

White Elephant Volunteers dressed-up for "Pajama Day" at the White Elephant on Christmas Eve 2025. The store closed at noon that day and re-opened on Monday, January 5. Store shoppers proved how much they missed us. A whopping 1,307 showed up during that very busy 3-hour period!

Happy New Year and thank you volunteers for all you do!



Pictures from Volunteer Lunch 2025 Continued



2025 Was A Great Year at the CFWE!

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