

# The Atchison Riveter

May 2023

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

**Vote Wednesday, May 24**

LIBRADO "LALO" HERNANDEZ	LUCIA CASIAS
JUDY ANDREAS	IGNACIO RUIZ
LIAM CAFFREY	TARA AYRES
MARCIE ZELLNER	MIKE PARKER
MARTIN PAEZ	DANIEL LEONARD
RON KANE	MEGAN TIMBERLAKE
CONNIE HIBBARD	LINDA ARDAKANI
KEVIN CRONIN	SANDRA DUGAN
LUZ ALVAREZ MARTINEZ	MARGARITO CHACON
VICTORIA "VICKI" SAWICKI	CRISPIN CASIAS
MADELINE MARROW	

## CANDIDATES' NIGHT Weds., May 17, at 7 PM in the Hall



Come and hear the presentations by the candidates running for our Board of Directors. Each candidate will have 3 minutes to tell you why you should vote for them. Then, after a brief break, we'll open the floor for a Q & A session, so be sure to bring your important concerns to share. Participating in Candidates' Night is a great way to find out which candidates share your vision for the Village.

### **Volunteers Needed on Election Day, Weds., May 24**

**Election Day:** Polls will be open from 7:30 AM and 7:30 PM. Members are needed to issue ballots. If you can work a 2-hour shift, please contact Susan O'Sullivan at (510) 230-7710.

**Vote Counting:** Twelve members are needed to count the votes. Starting at 7:30 PM on Election Night we open the ballot boxes and count the votes. To sign up to help please contact Norma Larson at [norma.larson@yahoo.com](mailto:norma.larson@yahoo.com).

### **Nominating Committee contact info:**

Susan O'Sullivan: (510) 230-7710  
270 Collins St.  
Norma Larson: text to (510) 292-5746  
Deborah Dethier: (207) 412-8161  
Or [avmhc2023election@gmail.com](mailto:avmhc2023election@gmail.com)



*AVMHC 2023 Nominating Committee*

## President's Report

Remember that you can view almost any document studied by board members, members' letters, opinions emailed to the board, the most up-to-date public information from our attorney about the tax appeal, and detailed information about our finances on the President's Blog at <https://avmutualhomes.blogspot.com/>

Many of our members are keeping themselves informed. Last month the blog received 795 views.

As it gets close to election time, don't just accept what people say. Go to the source. Make sure to vote and attend the annual meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 8PM.

*Ron Kane*

**The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** is run by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to help low-income households pay for internet service and connected devices like a laptop or tablet. You are likely eligible if your household's income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Line, or if you or someone you live with currently receives a government benefit like SNAP, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Pell Grant, or Free and Reduced-Price Lunch.

If your household is eligible, you could receive: Up to a \$30/month discount on your internet service • Up to a \$75/month discount if your household is on qualifying Tribal lands • A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, tablet, or desktop computer (with a co-payment of more than \$10 but less than \$50) • A low-cost service plan that may be fully covered through the ACP (see [AffordableConnectivity.gov](https://AffordableConnectivity.gov) for

details; or call 1-877-384-2575). For application: [www.fcc.gov/acp](http://www.fcc.gov/acp).

Through a separate non-FCC initiative, additional no-cost plans may be available to ACP enrollees. To learn more please visit [GetInternet.gov](http://GetInternet.gov). Provision of a link to this initiative does not imply FCC endorsement of any.

*From City Manager's Report*

## Locked Out? Be Sure the Office has a Copy of Your Key



If you lock yourself out of your house during business hours, and **if you've given the office a copy of your key**, then

it will be loaned to you so that you can get back into your unit. If you are locked out of your house during non-business hours, call the president or vice-pres and they can get your key from the office to let you back into your unit. Contact:

Ron Kane, AV President

510.220.6434

Madeline Marrow, AV Vice-President

415.373.2100

Emergency Number Alicia Becerra

510.806.8945

The **iron gates** on West Bissell and West Chanslor Ave new padlocks. Ten members of Atchison Village living near the gates have keys to open the gates in an emergency. (The office has a list of these members; it's available upon request.)

If the Curry and Macdonald intersection is somehow blocked to traffic and a volunteer does not open the iron gates to allow you in and out of the Village, call the president or vice-pres to open the gates.

## LOVE YOUR BLOCK

Did you know that studies show a link between trash and crime rates? It's true: picking up trash in areas with garbage on the streets directly reduces crime in those neighborhoods.

Many members have been picking up trash for years, and for the last couple of years a small group of volunteers has been collecting trash once a week around Atchison Village. We bought a trash can on wheels, some grabbers and trash bags, and most weeks we fill one or two 55-gallon bags with trash.

Recently, the City of Richmond gave us an in-kind **Love Your Block** grant (\$1000), which will provide us with the supplies that we have been buying ourselves!

In addition to making the Village safer and more appealing, working together is a great way to get to know your neighbors and to get out into the fresh air for an hour or two. If you would like to be part of Love Your Block, send us an email or leave a message in the office. Let us know if you want to:

- Join our existing Monday 3PM trash pick-up event
- Pick up trash with us once a week, and if so, when works for you
- Pick up trash regularly, but less often than once a week
- Join a Village-wide event once or twice a year to collect trash around AV

The email is

[TaraAtchisonVillage@gmail.com](mailto:TaraAtchisonVillage@gmail.com).

Many thanks to Janis Hache for writing the grant application and the City for its support of this project.

*Tara Ayres and Barb Postel*

## Maintenance Heroes

Thanks to Rafael Vasquez and Ruben Juarez for doing the *real* dirty work in the final stages of this year's atmospheric storms that drenched the Bay Area in the last six weeks.



*Rafael Vasquez*

Thanks to their know-how, units in low-lying areas of Atchison Village were able to have 24 new sump-pumps installed in their flooded crawl-spaces and will mitigate flooding from future storms.



*Ruben Juarez and Rafael Vasquez*

## **Garden Club Free Mulch**

Members of the Gardening Club take advantage of free mulch. Please bring your own bags!



*Photo Connie Hibbard*

## **Worm Bin**

Kaytlyn shows Connie how to create a bin for happy red worms, a great addition to your garden soil.

At our April meeting, Kaytlyn O'Connor showed us how to assemble a worm bin with shredded paper, kitchen food scraps, and red worms. Worm compost is an excellent natural fertilizer and cheap!



Our next meeting will be Weds., May 17th at 1:30 at Carol Gould's yard (243 West Chanslor Ave.). Follow the path around the left side of her fourplex into the common area & look for signs. We will be discussing garden failures.

## **AV Social Club**

### **Happy Mother's + Father's Days!**

On Saturday, **May 13**, bring Mom out for an evening in the hall with family and neighbors. We will start with pizza and salad at 6:30 PM, then play board games. Want to learn how to play chess? Learn to move those little pawns, rooks, and knights!

We will also have a demonstration of Origami, the art of paper folding, by Anne McDonald. Please sign up in the office, so we will have enough pizza and supplies.

On Friday, **June 2**, at 6:30 P.M. Get your artistic groove on and make Father's Day cards or craft a gift for Dad. We'll provide the materials; you provide the talent.

I volunteer on The Red Oak Victory, and we will serve breakfast on both holidays. Check <https://redoakvictory.us>

Milly Frederick

## **Easter piñata**

This art workshop allowed kids and moms to use their creativity and have fun!



## Ruben's taco party



*Photo by Valeria Valera*

A warm farewell to Ruben, a man of many hats. Ruben started working for AVMHC on 2017. Wishing him a peaceful and joyful retirement. Maybe he can take up Golf as a fulltime retirement job!

## Nomination Night

In the spring there are two general membership meetings where member participation is necessary, as business cannot be conducted without a quorum (a minimum of 63 members).



The first one was Nomination Night. The second is Weds, May 24, 2023.

## Spring has sprung in AV!



## Happy trails, Daisy



We note the passing of **Daisy** Whittaker, Stanley's Chihuahua, who guarded his porch on Curry Street for many years.

**Pet Alert!** Warm weather and longer days mean our dogs and cats need lots of fresh water and shade. Please make sure they have both!

## Grasses Dangerous to Dogs and Children

Foxtail grasses are growing everywhere this time of year. They have a sharp point and work their way into a dog's eye, ear, skin or digestive tract. The place they go in can become infected or the sharp point can work its way farther inside the dog. This is painful and dangerous for the dog and expensive to have a veterinarian remove it.



Dog owners need to brush the dog, check the skin, ears etc. and keep the dog away from long grass as much as possible. Children also can get the points in their skin or inhale the seeds. Home owners please keep foxtail grass cut short or even better pull it out of your lawn. Thank you!

Jean Whittlesey

## Maintenance contact information

We are proud of our competent, hard-working maintenance staff, and are working to improve their communications with members who have called in work orders. Everyone who requests a work order should get an initial call-back from a maintenance employee, giving them an estimate to start the job.

After that, further information and appointments should continue to be made with that employee until the job is done. New work orders should be called into the office and cannot be originated by maintenance staff. If something goes wrong, or you wish to leave a compliment, you can contact the office.

We have provided all maintenance staff with a company phone (see their numbers, below).

Name	Phone #
Enrique Vazquez	510.880.8298
Chimino Casillas	510.613.5896
Rafael Vasquez	510.613.3126

## Atchison Village Board

To contact the Board send an email to [member.support@avmhc.org](mailto:member.support@avmhc.org) With the title "**Attention Board**"

## Atchison Village Office

510-234-9054

[member.support@avmhc.org](mailto:member.support@avmhc.org)

**Hours:** Monday to Friday  
10AM-4:30PM

**Staff:** Alicia Becerra and Valeria V.

**Work Order** requests may be sent by phone, voicemail, or email.

## Maintenance staff hours:

Monday to Friday 8AM – 5PM  
Closed for lunch hour 12- 1PM and some holidays.



**Reminder: AV is a non-smoking area, mandated by City of Richmond Code**

In an emergency, call **911**.  
Richmond Police Non-Emergency: **510-233-1214**  
Animal Control: **925-335-8300**  
Air quality complaints (BAAQMD): **800-334-6367**

For after office hours or weekend emergencies call Alicia Becerra at **510.806.8945**

*Mental Health Crisis Hotline: 888-678-7277*

*SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration): 988*

