

The Atchison Riveter

July 2023

Panic vs Pragmatism

Some good news about AV's plumbing and electrical replacement costs for the last few months. The ad hoc committee's work and our decision to do major plumbing and electrical jobs cooperatively, rather than using an outside contractor, has reduced the monthly cost of major plumbing and electrical replacements by 1/3 to 1/2.

That reduction, and the fee increase last term, appear to translate into a slight budget surplus each month, rather than a deficit. We are also completing 2 to 4 plumbing and electrical replacement jobs each month, which means we can replace all plumbing within 10 years at the present rate.

[Last year at this time, I worried about insolvency because we were spending money from our reserves so quickly, and we were having trouble getting accurate financial information. I am cautiously optimistic that both these problems are being addressed and my worry is being replaced by the desire to get our house in order before this board term ends.]

Even though we are showing a slight surplus each month, we're using the money dedicated to funding our reserves for our plumbing and electrical replacements. This ignores the fact that we are going to need to replace roofs, repair dry rot, and paint our buildings.

This year, I hope we can have a clear accounting of our finances and create a long-term plan to fund reserves for major future repair and replacement costs directly and incrementally. I know members want the board to be frugal, but it appears many members care just as much about our long-term financial security. I hope we can work together to have both.

Ron Kane AV Board President

Audit Committee: Liam Caffrey, David Korman, and Vicki Sawicki.

Jay Ottobre, AV's new bookkeeper,



Jay joined the staff in late May. He's already deep into our finances, organizing and positioning our funds so all the corporation's money is FDIC insured. He is also reconciling our various accounts.

"Finances are central to nonprofit organizations: they inform every decision we make," said Jay. "I plan to simplify and clarify the profit/loss statements so all members understand what's going on."

Jay graduated UC Berkeley and started working in business start-ups, eventually training with a CPA. He's lived in Oakland for more than 30 years.

Currently working four days a week, Jay hopes to take on some project management tasks once he's more familiar with how the Village works. "I wanted this position because it's a real community here. I felt at home right away."

Elizabeth Whipple

***Saturday, July 22,
from 11 AM to 1 PM:**

AV Community Trash Pickup Day II!

Meet us in the courtyard of the AV Hall to get your supplies, and then we'll spread out across the Village to pick up trash. Free t-shirts and giveaways!



Questions?

TaraAtchisonVillage@gmail.com

LOVE YOUR BLOCK: Green Committee Takes to the Streets



up trash around the Village.

Our Love Your Block grant from the City of Richmond has provided rolling garbage cans, trash bags, and grabbers for picking

Join us Every Monday at 3 PM at the



turnaround at Bissell and Garrard, inside the sound wall. We'll move out from there to pick up trash wherever it is needed most.

Questions?

TaraAtchisonVillage@gmail.com.

Tara Ayres and Barb Postel



Litter Fighters from June 10.

(L to R) Kevin Jones, Jon Gordon, Tara Ayres, Barbara Postel

Photo Janis Hashe

Free Summer Meals for Kids and Teens



*Photo David Korman
Latasha Crocket, food worker and
Armando Sanchez, driver*

The large yellow truck parked outside the Hall each weekday morning from 9:30-10:30 AM will provide free meals for kids while school is out, through Aug 4. If your kids would like a meal, the truck folks are friendly and eager to help.

The West Contra Costa Unified School District Food Service Program truck gives out **free**, healthy meals for children and teens up to 18 years of age. No sign-ups or paperwork are required. If your kids would like a meal, the truck folks are friendly and eager to help. Tell your friends and neighbors!



Garden Club

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, **July 19**, at 1:30 PM in the common area behind Connie Hibbard's courtyard (31 West Bissell). Go toward back of courtyard and through gate on the left; look for signs. Members can bring seeds and containers; we will also supply them for fall and winter planting. Plants will be given away on Saturday, **August 12**, at the Social Club yard sale and Garden Club bake sale.



The June 21 Garden Club meeting had a perfect summer Solstice day and beautiful setting. The Green Committee Hydrology Report was mentioned to explain possible soil problems that can be found here, especially for trees.



Thanks to all for sharing with a newbie (me) and to Robert Martinez for hosting the club. People just settling into AV would benefit greatly from such a group.

Caption/photo Anne McDonald.

The Atchison Riveter

EVAPORATION 101! Please water your garden early or later when the sun is **not** overhead. Otherwise, all that water evaporates in the heat before it can soak into the earth.

AV Social Club

Let's get together in the hall on Saturday, **July 8**, at 5:30 PM for a **summer potluck dinner**. Bring a dish to share—we will provide veggie dogs and sausage and drinks. We encourage new members to join us.

Collect all your usable items for the **annual yard sale** on Saturday, **Aug 12**, 9 AM to 2:30 PM in the hall's courtyard. Rent a table for \$5 each or have it at your residence. Signup sheets will be in the office by end of July.

Upcoming events Women's Circle (see article); a Sunday evening of dessert and music of the Americas (Sunday, Sept 17); a Rosie the Riveter revisit; Halloween dance; and a holiday observance & multicultural potluck dinner on Dec 9.

Women's Circle meets Monday, July 10, 7-9 PM

Post-pandemic women's group is meeting this summer in the Hall to share our memories from those early times of COVID lockdown 2020. Come sit, listen, reflect, and meet new neighbors. Women's circles have long been held across cultures worldwide. Set down your devices, come see and listen to one another. This group welcomes anyone who identifies as a woman. This event is sponsored by the Social Club. Email questions to: womenscircle.june23@gmail.com



Keep Dogs In! Every year many outdoor dogs get frightened by the holiday fireworks and loud rockets and bombs and end up lost. Please bring your pets in and keep them safe at home.



Fireworks? Fearful noises have begun. Just ask my pup, who will not venture out if he hears the pops, bangs, and bombs. Please consider your neighbors and their pets' peace and quiet. Find another way to celebrate your independence and defy peer pressure to blow up something. Call 833-885-2021.

ENGLISH

YOUTH
ARTIST
XCHANGE
PROGRAM



SHAPING IDENTITY YOUTH CERAMICS WORKSHOP



Join artist Colleen Garland in an exploration of ceramic artwork and techniques. Students will engage in discussion of pieces made by a variety of ceramic artists who identify as women. They will also receive a hands-on introduction to the practice of wheel throwing.

Schedule: Wednesdays, 2pm-4pm, June 28 - August 9, 2023
Location: Richmond Art Center, 2540 Barrett Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804
Eligibility: For youth ages 13-17 in Richmond
Cost: Free
Questions? education@richmondartcenter.org

MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION:
RICHMONDARTCENTER.ORG/SHAPINGIDENTITY



Tuesday, **Aug 1**, is **National Night Out** in Richmond. John Monks has organized our event, in the Hall at 5 PM, with lots of pizza, drinks, and local officials. Show up!

The Office will be **CLOSED** for the 4th of July 2023

The Riveter team invites all Village residents to contribute. Here's how:
Send in a photo of your garden, nature, pets, AV event, etc.

Write about an AV neighbor or friend, an announcement of an upcoming (open) meeting, or a piece on AV history—whatever would interest other members.

No need to be a professional writer or photographer. We can understand anything you write. Send your material to ewhipple.wordfixer@gmail.com or 510.932.6832 **by the 21th of the month**. Word is best but email or phone is fine.

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

Atchison Village Board

To contact the Board send an email to member.support@avmhc.org
With the title "**Attention Board**"

Atchison Village Office

510-234-9054

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.

Mental Health Crisis Hotline: 888-678-7277

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



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

Riveter Rules / July 2023

The Atchison Village *Riveter* is published monthly by a member committee with board oversight. Its purpose is to satisfy Motion I-26 (1969) to provide Village information to members. To fulfill that motion, the newsletter committee will edit articles for accuracy, clarity, and length.

Per the board, we do not print opinion pieces, classifieds involving money, or fictional writing. Please limit your article to 200 or less. Translations in language other than English are for your convenience only. In the event of a legal dispute, the English version will prevail. You may submit articles to the office or email them to riveter@avmhc.org by the 20th of the month. Photos are welcome.