



Sun City West Community Fund, Inc. — Neighborhood Good Samaritan

By Cherie Lee

The Sun City West Community Fund, Inc. is a temporary assistance program to provide Good Samaritan services of financial assistance for personal needs and grants to local service agencies. These needs typically exceed \$100,000 per year. The group's annual fund-raiser is in the fall, but they accept donations all year. Donations are fully tax deductible because SCW Community Fund is a 501c3 organization.

A request for personal financial assistance is confidential and can be made by calling their Hotline 546-1122. Applicants meet with the fund's Personal Needs Committee.

The fund also assists agencies who have their own fund drives, but might need help in funding some of their services. If SCW Community Fund, Inc. gives to an agency, the money never offsets operating costs or cost overruns.

Their motto, "Charity Begins at Home" allows the volunteers to alleviate the emergency needs of your neighbors and friends who reside in Sun City West.

Board members serve three-year terms and generally spend

three to four hours per month on the community fund activities. During the busy months from September to April, some officers and Committee Chairmen may devote as many as 15-25 hours per month to the fund.

Asked what their most memorable moment was, some board members replied:

President Nancy Cherry said, "It is extremely rewarding to be a member of the Community Fund Board of Directors. That reward comes from the thanks we get from our residents for the temporary financial support the Fund has provided. Further reward comes from the SCW supporting organizations that are providing a service to our community and I am proud to be a part of it."

Vice President Don Block said, "It is important to me because it provides a service to the community that I live in and love. We have many nationwide organizations that help people, but this allows me to help those in need locally, and directly impacts the quality of life of those that may otherwise be forgotten."

DJ Horton said, "To help persons who are in desperate need

with their bills and need comfort. Prescriptions are very expensive and there may not be any insurance to assist them." A memorable moment for Horton was, "In the hottest time of the summer, a party was to have their electricity cut off the next day after our interview. The service company was contacted to put a hold on the order as our check would be in the mail the next day."

Martha Garth said, "I was very touched by our ability to pay a dental bill for a woman who lived frugally on her very limited budget. She was paying her bills, but large unexpected bills would put her behind with no way to catch up."

SCW Community Fund, Inc. would like to become better known in the community and not be confused with other organizations, for example, United Way, PORA, and Sun City West Foundation. Also, to be effective in helping needy residents, they need help in getting to know about low income households that are having difficulty in paying unexpected bills related to health and general welfare. Contact them at 546-1122. ☺

Community Fund elects new Board members

By Marie Scotti

The Sun City West Community Fund held its annual meeting on Feb. 20 and elected five new Board members for a three-year term starting March 1. The five individuals are: Ralph Colrud, Harry Gifford, Ray Kirwan, Carl McCurdy and Jack Parkinson.

These Board members will replace the following outgoing members of the Board: Betty Bone, Betty Brixius, D.J. Horton and Tom Watkins.

The following Board members whose first term was up were elected to a second term of three years: Fred Berkenkamp and Nancy Cherry. The size of the

Board was increased from 16 to 17 members.

The Nominating Committee was Don Block, Betty Bone, D.J. Horton and Tom Tibbitts.

Colrud, was born and raised in central Wisconsin. He served with the Navy Hospital Corps. He graduated from Luther College with a BA in economics. He joined his father in operating an agricultural supply business. His civic interests include service on local school boards and city council several times. As a Lion he held many positions with his local club including being president.

He also served on the board of Portage County United Way. He has also served as council president several times of the Rosholt Church and has volun-

teered for the visually handicapped and weekly Lutheran thrift shop.

Gifford spent 35 years with GTE in California. He has always been very active in civic organizations. He has been the recipient of many awards and honors including the Outstanding Man of the Year from Lancaster, Calif., an Outstanding Service award from Cerebral Palsy and the Northwest Valley Volunteer of the Month for March 2000. He also has had a Boy Scout Camp named in his honor.

Some of his volunteer activities since he moved to Sun City West have included Posse member and Defensive Driving Training Officer, operating the Kids Cafe at the Westside Food Bank, an usher at the Sundome for seven years. Harry has volunteered for Habitat for Humanities and has been an active member of the SCW Kiwanis Club.

Kirwan served six years in the Air Force. He returned to college and received a bachelor's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He is retired from Bethlehem Steel Corporation. He was also employed by ITT, Martin Marietta, Mitre Corporation, and Fuller Company.

Having moved to Sun City West from Eastern Pennsylvania in March, 1997, Ray began volunteering in PORA's Consumer Services program and later served as its coordinator. He is a member of Faith Bible Church in Glendale where he enjoys the interaction with younger people.

McCurdy was born in Jackson Center, Penn. He has been a resident of Sun City West since 1991. He attended Grove City College and served in the Army Air Force from July 1943 to October 1945. Carl attended the University of Pittsburgh and has a BS in Math.

His career included being an engineer and sales manager for Alloy Manufacturing Company, a co-founder of Ionics Inc. He

was VP and general manager of Ionics, also executive VP and Board member of Ionics and retired in October of 1991.

Carl's volunteer positions include being treasurer of the SCW Republican Club for two years, Military Order of the World Wars, Judge Advocate for three years and present, SCW Foundation Board and the Phoenix Chapter Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

Parkinson retired in 1989. He served as control manager, General Motors Acceptance Corporation. His responsibilities included coverage of the State of Minnesota and a portion of Wisconsin.

He attended Arizona State University, worked a short time for Standard Oil Co. of CA and was drafted in 1950. He served in the United States Army in Korea for two years as a platoon leader in an infantry company.

Jack is a member of the SCW Woodworking Club, Toy-Ki Silvercraft, Lapidary Club and SCW Rotary Club. He is past president of Echo Mesa Men's Golf Association, and current member-at-large SCW Golf Council. He is active in the SCW United Methodist Church.



SCW Community Fund new Board members are (l. to r.) Carl McCurdy, Jack Parkinson, Ray Kirwan and Ralph Colrud. Not in photo is Harry Gifford.

SCW

COMMUNITY FUND

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DAILY NEWS-SUN

MONDAY, OCT. 13, 2003

SCW launches fund-raising campaign

STAFF REPORT

The Sun City West Community Fund has launched its annual campaign to raise money for special services performed by community organizations and for emergency assistance to needy individuals.

About 17,000 mailings will be sent to homes in Sun City West to solicit donations for their continued support of local services in 2004. Among the organizations the fund has awarded grants to are the Alzheimer's Association, Sun Health Research Institute, Interfaith Services, Sun Cities Area Transit, Sun Sounds of Arizona, Sun City West Fire District, Volunteers for Hospice and the Handi-Capables Club.

The fund's administrators give money to specific activities within an organization that address the needs of the community. Each year, the resulting benefits are evaluated and decisions are made about continuing to fund the particular activity compared to an alternate proposal.

For example, this year the fund gave the Sun City West Fire District a first-time grant of \$16,000 to assist with the upgrade of two 12-lead heart

monitors will provide detailed cardiac information to EMS personnel in diagnosing and treating heart attack or acute myocardial infarction victims.

The fund also provides assistance to Sun City West residents who are experiencing a temporary, critical financial need. Requests for personal financial assistance are confidential and can be made by calling 546-1122. Temporary assistance provided to residents has included payment of prescription drug, medical, dental and hearing-aid bills.

The fund has provided nearly \$100,000 in personal needs awards and designated grants.

"I know of no better method of giving to your community than this type of charitable support," stated Nancy Cherry, Community Fund Campaign chairperson. "We are confident that the response to this campaign will be positive, and carry us to a level of funding necessary to meet the requirements of these special services for our aging community."

The Sun City West Community Fund is a non-profit volunteer organization, and all donations are tax-deductible.

May 16, 2001

PORA bingo benefits SC West Community Fund

The Sun City West Community Fund recently recognized bingo run by the Property Owners and Residents Association for its contributions to the fund.

In presenting a check for \$1,600 to the fund, Wes Warren, director and PORA bingo operations manager, said, "The Sun City West Community Fund does great work with those residents in special financial need. We in PORA bingo are pleased to be able to help make that aid possible."

The Community Fund is a volunteer organization with the primary objective of providing financial assistance to those Sun City West residents who are experiencing temporary financial hardship. Additionally, available funds are used to provide grants to organizations in which Sun City West residents participate.

"We welcome the continued strong support of PORA bingo," said Nancy Cherry, Community Fund board secretary, said in presenting a plaque of appreciation to Mr. Warren.

Over the past year, the fund provided financial assistance to a number of needy individuals and with the excess funds donated \$80,000 to other organizations that provide support to residents of Sun City West.

"Caring and sharing with less fortunate residents is one key in



Submitted photo

From left, Leonard DeLayo and Nancy Cherry of the Sun City West Community Fund accept a check for \$1,600 from Property Owners and Residents Association bingo from Wes Warren, director and PORA Bingo operations manager and present Mr. Warren a plaque recognizing the contribution PORA bingo has given.

keeping our community such a special place," said Leonard DeLayo, board member for the Community Fund.

A hotline is available to call for residents who need financial assistance because unexpected problems have created a temporary bind. Residents who have a temporary need or know of other residents who do are encouraged to call the hotline

at 546-1122. All calls and information given are kept strictly confidential.

The Sun City West Community Fund is not affiliated with the United Way, The Sun City Community Fund, The Sun City West Foundation, PORA or any other charitable organizations. It has been serving the community since 1982.

THE WESTER Thursday, July 13, 2000

Connections Club donates to SCW Community Fund

By Marie Scotti

The Sun City West Community Fund was the recent recipient of a \$500 donation from the SCW Connections Club.

The SCW Community Fund expressed its thanks to the Connections Club with the presentation of a "Thank You" plaque. Outgoing Pres. Betty Brixius said, "Initially our club didn't realize that the Community Fund was independently financed strictly through donations within the community. We recognized the wonderful work that the Community Fund does in supporting the residents of our community and since our Club, Connections, is a SCW friendship club, what better way to show our friendship than to help those in need in our community."

The SCW Community Fund is not affiliated with the United Way, The Sun City Community Fund, The Sun City West Foundation or PORA. It has been serving the community since 1982. Since then, the Fund has dispersed over \$1,000,000 to residents and local charities. The Fund has no paid staff or office expense.

The primary objective of the SCW Community Fund is to provide free financial assistance to SCW residents facing temporary financial difficulties. For some of our residents this may be a time of crisis and the Community Fund must be there to help.

If you know of someone needing help, call or have them call the SCW Community Fund Hot Line at 546-1122. All calls and information given are kept strictly confidential.



D.J. Horton and Bill Lowe of the SCW Community Fund Campaign Committee present Betty Brixius (center), SCW Connection Club outgoing president with a plaque in appreciation for the Club's contribution to the Fund.
Photo, Don Block

February 4, 2000

SCW fund begins campaign

The Arizona Republic

The Sun City West Community Fund, a volunteer organization that provides financial aid to needy residents, is beginning its annual fund-raising campaign.

A goal of \$100,000 has been set. Al Moeser, chairman of the campaign committee, said that the amount is high but that he's confident it can be reached.

The fund is not affiliated with the United Way or any other organization and is dedicated solely to residents of the community.

Last year, about \$80,000 was donated to organizations that provide support to residents.

"As the residents of our community continue to age, we are finding more and more people living on fixed incomes that require financial help to get over unplanned-for emergencies," said John Coon, president of the community fund. "Many of these people have no one to turn to. Our biggest hurdle is to get them to contact our organization."

Any resident in need of help, or someone who knows of a needy individual, can call (623) 546-1122.

THE WESTER Thursday, October 7, 1999

SCW Community Fund receives \$2000

By Marie Scotti

The Desert Palms Presbyterian Church in Sun City West donated \$2,000 to the Sun City West Community Fund, that assists

Sun City West residents in emergency situations beyond their

control with necessary monies, assist various agencies who directly serve the citizens of Sun City West and aids organizations outside our boundaries in which residents are involved.

The SCW Community Fund is not affiliated with the United

Way, The Sun City Community Fund, The Sun City West Foundation or PORA. The SCW Community Fund has been serving the community since 1982.

For more information call 623-546-1122.



John Stockton, (l.) of the Desert Palms Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons, presents a check for \$2000 to John Coon, president SCW Community Fund.

SCW

Thursday, Sept. 16, 1999 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

SCW Community Fund seeks recipients for aid

By BRUCE ELLISON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The Sun City West Community Fund has received, and now it wants to give.

The fund is seeking emergency financial aid applications — probably from residents who don't even know the organization exists. The fund is a volunteer organization whose primary purpose is to provide financial assistance to those Sun City West residents who are or might be experiencing temporary financial hardship.

And because it does that quietly, not enough people

know that's what the fund is for, said Don Block, the fund's publicity chairman.

In many cases, people who need help don't feel comfortable asking for it, he said. So Block is trying to get out the word to those who might need aid, or know someone who does.

"If unexpected financial problems have created a temporary financial bind," he said, "and financial assistance would help, call the fund hotline at 546-1122."

Calls and application requests are kept confidential, he said.

Providing that help is what

FYI:

If you or someone you know qualifies for financial assistance from the Sun City West Community Fund, call 546-1122.

the fund is for, he said. "Our focus, our goal, is to help people."

An annual fund campaign each fall generally brings in about \$85,000 from a single mailing, Block said.

Money not used for individual aid often goes to local

charities that provide help to residents.

At the September board meeting, for instance, fund directors approved a grant of \$22,000 to Sun Cities Area Transit, the agency that provides dial-a-ride service in the area.

Many older residents who can no longer drive depend on SCAT to get around, officials said.

"Sun City West residents make up about 17 percent of SCAT's ridership," said Betty Bone, chairwoman of the Community Fund grants committee. That's more than 11,000 trips taken last year by

residents, she said.

Since passenger charges of \$2.50 a trip don't come close to covering the actual costs, the Community Fund's grant will help cover fares for Sun City West residents with financial need and provide signs on a new van, Bone said.

The Sun City West Community Fund is an independent organization, not affiliated with the Sun City Community Fund, the United Way campaign, the Sun City West Foundation or the Property Owners and Residents Association. Its operations are overseen by a 10-member board.

Luncheon honors outgoing board members

By Marie Scott

The Sun City Community Fund held a festive luncheon for Outgoing Board Members at the Museum last week.

Outgoing members of the Board are: John Bergh, Morris Beldon, Keith Hook, Coral Nordstrom and Lee Paul. Prospective new members for the Board were also invited to this event.

Frances Thompson, vice president of the Fund, served as mistress of ceremonies and did a

portrayal of a Bag Lady.

The election of new Board members was held on Monday at the annual meeting of the Fund. New members are elected to replace the outgoing members whose terms have expired or who can no longer serve on the board. To qualify as a member of the Board, one must be a resident of Sun City West and a member of the Fund.

The SCW Community Fund is a local non-profit organization operated by volunteer SCW re-

sidents and business and professional persons and has its primary objective the provision of financial assistance to those SCW residents who are experiencing temporary financial hardships.



SCW Community Fund Outgoing Board members are (from l.) John Bergh, Coral Nordstrom, Morris Beldon and Keith Hook. Lee Paul was absent. Photo, Marie Scott

First grant

Sun City West fund gives \$5,000 check to Interfaith Services

By CONNIE STEELE
Daily News-Sun staff

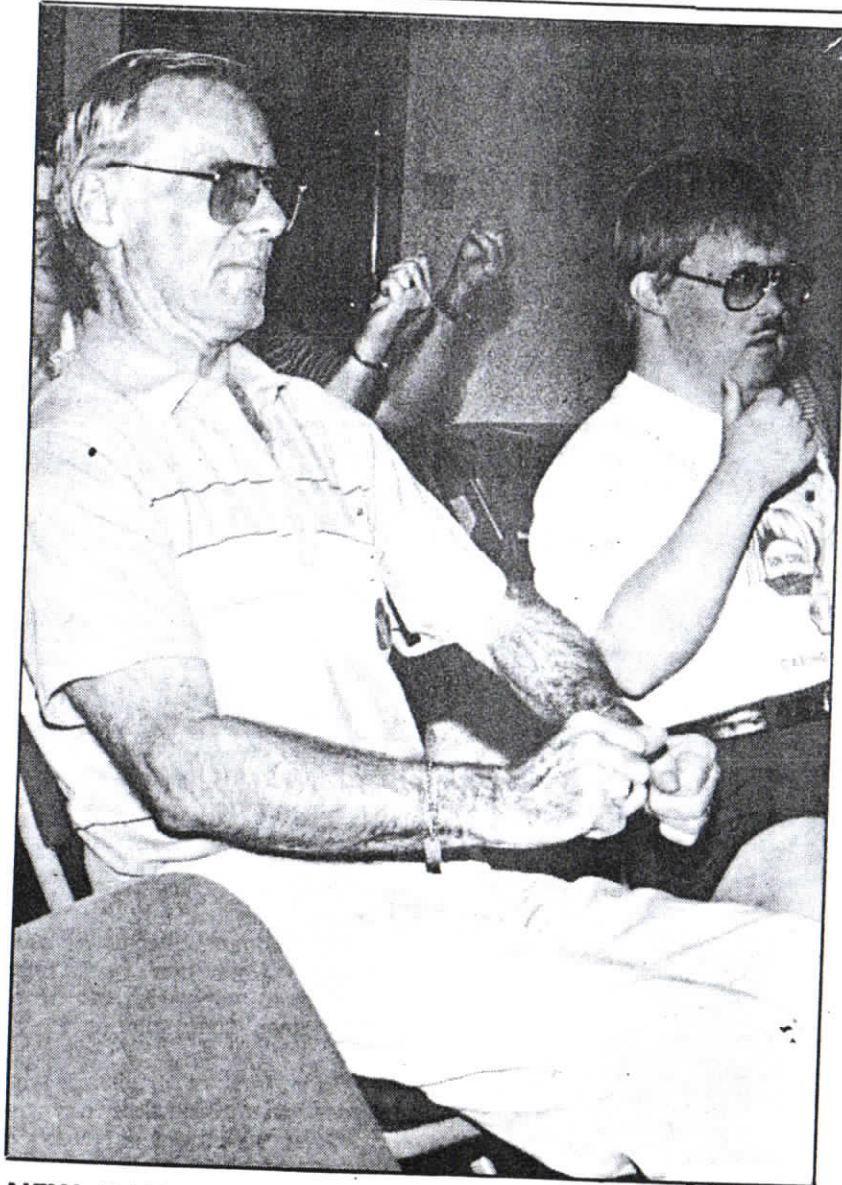
SUN CITY WEST — The Sun City West Community Fund has opened its new fiscal year with a \$5,000 grant to the Sun Cities Area Interfaith Services.

"The \$5,000 will go for the cost of running the adult day centers," said Bob Pangburn, executive director of Interfaith Services.

The Community Fund check arrived Monday at Interfaith offices, 17635 N. El Mirage Road, Surprise.

Although the money will be distributed among the four day centers sponsored by Interfaith Services, the focus will be on the adult day center housed temporarily in the Community Services Center, 14456 R.H. Johnson Blvd., Pangburn said.

Last year, Interfaith Services received \$10,000 in two grants from the fund. This year's grant request arrived during the last days of the fiscal year that ends Sept. 30. But its actual receipt fell in the new 1989-90 fiscal year.



NEW DAY — Bill Kehr, Sun City West, participates in exercises at the Interfaith adult day center program held Wednesdays in the Sun City West Community Services Center. The program will also be offered Mondays.

Last year's Community Fund disbursements total \$48,500. Criterion for awarding money is service to Sun City West, although some Community Fund money goes to agencies outside the walls of Sun City West, Evelyn Meeks said. Meeks is vice president of the community fund.

The Community Fund has set a goal of \$100,000 for this year's fund-raising drive. Its annual request for contributions was mailed around Sept. 25, Meeks said.

The drive so far has brought in double what it did at this time last year, said Elizabeth Toale, treasurer.

"It's coming along pretty well; so far \$23,000, double where we were last year," Toale said. "But to go to \$100,000, that's a long ways to go."

Toale said that last year the drive got off to a slow start, but that the average donation came to \$38.

This year's slogan, "We Need Each Other," represents the focus of the fund, said Bob Sutherland in a statement. He asked that everyone give a contribution in the spirit of neighborliness.

Unlike any other community agency, the fund can make personal loans to individuals during crises. One person, cited by Meeks, received help at a time when it was needed and later bequeathed the fund the full amount plus a generous bonus.

The day center uses a large meeting room in the Community Services Center until it can move into its own facility.

Plans are to construct a fourth and final addition to the Sun City West building.