

Amargosa Valley Newsletter

"All the news that's fit to print (maybe)"

Published monthly by Town of Amargosa Valley, Nevada

September, 2008

THE LIBRARIAN'S BLURB

By: Erin Booth

Hello and a great, big howdy-do, to one and all!

The 2008 Summer Reading Program has been, in this Librarian's opinion, a HUGE success! We've had a steady number of children reading throughout the summer. I would like to award my "core" group of readers, the Granados children Ashley, Claudia, Alejandro and Jose, who have been here mostly every day for the "Reading Circle" with special mention given to The Weibel Children, David, Meghan and Jason, Jimmy Quirk, Heaven Hughes and her friend Tristan, Arthur and Brianna Harvey for attending when they could, especially for the fun puppet workshop. Kids, you're all "naturals" when it comes to performance! Let's talk further about putting on a grand puppet theatre show sometime in the near future!

Many of you have kept on reading throughout the summer so if you have, please contact me (either parents or offspring) and let me know so that I may include you in the festivities. Book reports are always welcome, so if you would like to report on something, I have plenty of copies!

I would like to publicly thank Christina Nalen, Visitor Services Manager of the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge for her wonderful programs that included some really cool crafts as well as neat information on bugs for our 2008 SRP kids. We hope you will come back next year for more fun, Christina! We have information on the Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge here in the library, so please feel free to peruse our collection of pamphlets, newsletters and maps and enjoy another wonderful part of our beautiful area.

The second item that I would like to bring to your attention is that we offer Computer and Internet classes, given here totally free at our Library from 6pm-7pm on Monday evenings, some Wednesdays and Fridays, too. This is a very informal class, mostly briefs you on the joys of the internet, helps you to create an email account if

you'd like, shows you how to use a computer (some tips and tricks) and anything else you would like to know about that I can possibly help you on. Please call us at 372-5340 if you would like to attend.

Third item of importance: Library Hours Change. We shall, for the moment, be open as follows:

Mondays and Fridays: 10:00 A.M. till 4:00 P.M.
Tuesdays to Thursdays: 10:00 A.M. till 7:00 P.M.
Saturdays: 10:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M.

Beginning September 15, 2008, the library hours will be as follows:

Mondays and Thursdays: 9:00 A.M. till 6:00 P.M.
Tues, Wed, & Fridays: 8:00 A.M. till 4:00 P.M.
Saturdays 8:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M.

Thank you, once again, to my marvelous staff – Osvaldo Granados and Pat Booth-Durgin. They both go "above and beyond" for your library all the time!

Lastly, I would like to extend a special, heartfelt thanks to Jean Weese who has been our volunteer for the summer. Jean, we really appreciate your time and effort and we hope you will come back when we need your expertise!

Cheers to all! Erin ☺

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS . . .

It was suggested that all of the community organizations publish a list of items that each needed, so that some community "Santa" could donate toward things that were wanted. In the October newsletter we will publish the lists that the various organizations have put together. If you wish to make a donation, make the check out to the organization you choose and write the name of the item you wish to help purchase on the memo line. Checks may be dropped off at the Town Office, Library or Senior Center for any organization.

FROM THIS CORNER OF THE WORLD

By: Jan Cameron

School has started. The temperature is down. And the busy season is fast approaching. This year is rough for a lot of people. The costs of everything important are up (fuel, food, power, etc.). Revenues are down. Governments are cutting programs, which is not necessarily a bad thing, though the people who depend upon them are hurt by their absence.

Those of you who read your newsletter from cover to cover (and if you haven't, why haven't you??), know that the Senior Center is having financial problems, just like the rest of us. There are certain fixed costs that exist regardless of the number of meals served (power, salaries for the cook and manager, etc.) and variable costs (food, containers and fuel to deliver home-bounds, etc.). The more people we serve, the less the cost per meal, which is important to those who provide grant funds to help run the centers. Our Site Manager has been very good at encouraging people to come. Our cook is very good at making delicious meals. Most of us can afford the \$2 voluntary donation for the full meal, but some can't. And, even if everyone was able to make that contribution, because our fixed and variable costs are spread across a limited number of people, the cost per meal far exceeds the sum of that donation, the grant funds and the Nye County matching funds.

Robert retired at the end of June, so we are now on a limited income. Still we have decided to Adopt a Senior, or part of one. We are committing to donate \$20 per month to the Senior Project Council to help pay for the costs of continuing to feed seniors at the center and at home (home-bounds). I would be willing to bet that, even as tough as times are now, a lot of you will be willing to match us. If you wish to join the Adopt a Senior program, please make your tax-deductible check or money order out to AV Senior Project Council and drop it off at the Center any weekday afternoon or mail it to Amargosa Senior Center, HCR 69, Box 428, AV, NV 89020. **Please** put "Adopt a Senior" on the memo line. Cash contributions are also welcome. And, if you can't make a commitment to a regular payment, give what you can when you can. In behalf of the seniors who need you now and in the future, **Thank You**. And have an invigorating September.

"Ladies Tea"

A Tea Comes to Amargosa Saturday, October 4th

Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, October 4th, 1:30 at the Community Center / Gym.

The Joyfulears Women's Ministry would like to invite you to their 3rd annual Tea. Our theme this year is "From the Heart of a woman". Each of our ladies chose the theme for their own table. As you enter our garden setting you can visit the sea, or if you have a song in your heart, we have a table for you too. There will be a table set for royalty and colors of faith. You will see roses and lace and lots of hand crafted items. These are just a few of the ideas from the hearts of our women. They have poured hours of love into making your afternoon a delight.

While you enjoy our traditional tea, you may visit as you listen to our speakers; watch a short skit and a fashion show, where you will find the latest in fall trends!

You may come casual or dress up, what ever is in your heart! There will be treats for you to take home as well as memories from this peaceful afternoon. We hope you will join us.

Any lady that wishes to come is invited to this fun event (bring a friend!)

The cost is \$15 per person. For planning purposes, please try to send your money with your name, address and phone number in by September 5th to: Joyfulears, HCR 69, Box 495R, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020

For questions please contact Sherry Donegan, 372-1617 or Colette Johnson, cell 702-419-8988.

Sponsored by Joyfulears Women's Ministry, Church of Amargosa.

***PLEASE REMEMBER TO DRIVE
SAFELY!
THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR HAS
BEGUN AND THE KIDS ARE NOT
ONLY AT THE SCHOOL YARD
BUT ALSO AT BUS STOPS AND IN
THE PARK AREA***

GROWING TREES IN AMARGOSA VALLEY

By: Tona Renegar

We have lived here for five years this coming October and have hit and missed with many different kinds of trees and shrubs that do well here. The following is a list of trees that have done well and the feeding and watering schedule I use. We just planted Austrees this past spring and they are doing very well. You can look them up on the internet at www.austree.com or you can call them at 1-800-783-3335 to order a catalog from them. These trees are very fast growing and are supposed to last 50 years. (long enough for me). I am very impressed so far. We planted six Kiowa Giants and will order three more for the front of the house next spring. We bought the package that included the fertilizer and tree stakes. You can only order in the spring and they arrive bare root.

Aside from the trees above we have planted:

Raywood Ash – These trees are doing very well. They are drought tolerant and the leaves turn red prior to losing their leaves in the fall.

Modesto Ash – Also do very well here in Amargosa.

Palo Verde – These trees are fantastic and have grown very fast. Be sure to buy the hybrid Palo Verde without the thorns. The regular Palo Verde will die in the cold of the winter.

Rio Grande Ash – These trees are doing well but growing slowly.

Mesquite – Wonderful desert trees. Growing moderately.

Arizona Ash – Once they take off they do well. Mine have taken about four years to start growing.

Flowering Plum – These are beautiful color accent trees. They are very slow growing and you can eat the plums from them in the summer even though they are really small.

Canary Island Date Palms – Fairly fast growing fat beautiful palm trees.

Shrubs that have done well:

Mexican Bird of Paradise – you must get the yellow Mexican type – the red ones don't do well in the cold.

Vitex Bushes – these come in white or purple. They grow fast and are very hardy. They actually

grow to be small trees of about 15 feet high so they need some room.

To care for the trees and shrubs, we have a drip system that waters every other day and, once a week, two days in a row. I feed all the trees and shrubs $\frac{1}{4}$ cup of 9-9-9 or 10-10-10 fertilizer once a month during the growing season for the younger plants; $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ cup for the larger trees and plants. Also, I use Roundup around the trees to kill grass if it starts in the tree wells. Do not put Roundup on sprouts from the tree. If your trees turn yellow, get Kerex Iron from Star Nursery and sprinkle around the trees. This works immediately. It's expensive but worth it. This type of iron releases the minerals in the soil and lets your trees grow. I also started putting rotted horse manure around my trees this year and they seem to love it. You can use steer manure or any kind of mulch. We also stake the trees and put wire around them to protect them from cats and rabbits.

If I had it to do over and I knew what I know now I would plant the Austrees, Raywood Ash, Modesto Ash, Palo Verde, Flowering Plum, Palm, and Mesquite trees.

For bushes I would plant Vitex, Mexican Bird of Paradise and I love the evergreen fountain grasses.

I would also buy all my plants from Star Nursery as they have quality plants. The trees and shrubs that I bought from them have surpassed the plants bought at other nurseries.

I got some trees from a nursery in Pahrump that came complete with grubs in the soil.

I had to use the Bayer grub killer on those trees and still find grubs in some of those tree wells.

Lucky for us they now have a nursery in Pahrump.

BE AN RSVP

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is looking for retired seniors (60 or over) who would be willing and able to help other seniors by driving them to the Senior Center, shopping, doctor appointments, or other errands. RSVP reimburses for mileage at the rate of thirty cents (\$.30) per mile up to \$20 per month. The expense reports are submitted monthly and paid quarterly (every three months). If you would be interested in belonging to RSVP, please pick up a form at the Senior Center or Library. If you would like for some to drive you to places you need to go, please call the Senior Center at 372-5413 to get a form. Forms are also available at the Library.

YES, YOU HAVE A LIFELINE

You've seen them on TV, and now you, or the person you care about, can have one too. The necklace alert systems are now available in Amargosa Valley. The one-time installation cost is approximately \$50. The Monthly fee is between \$30-35. (Both costs might be significantly less for individuals on Medicaid.) If the wearer falls, hears an intruder, or needs help in any way, a push on the necklace alerts the receiver. The receiver, which is attached to the individual's phone line, alerts a human monitor who asks what help is needed. Depending upon the need, the monitor then calls a listed family member or neighbor, the Sheriff's Department, the Fire Department or all three. If you are interested, for yourself or someone you know, please contact the Senior Center at 372-5413 for more information.

ELECTION

Nominations for the Town Advisory Board vacancies (three) will be held in September and October, the election will be held in November.

COMMUNITY MEETINGS

09-07-08 EMTS AMBULANCE HALL 9 A.M.
09-07-08 AMERICAN LEGION VFW 7 P.M.
09-09-08 A.V.F.D. FIRE HALL #1 7 P.M.
09-09-08 LIBRARY BOARD AVL 6:30 P.M.
09-09-08 MEMORIAL SUPPORT CC 6:30 P.M.
09-10-08 AREA PLAN CC 6:P.M.
09-11-08 PLANNING COMMITTEE CC 6 P.M.
09-16-08 LADIES AUXILLARY VFW 6 P.M.
09-16-08 V.F.W. @ V.F.W. POST 7 P.M.
09-24-08 V.E.A. AMBASSADORS CC 5:00 P.M.
09-25-08 TOWN BOARD C.C. 7: P.M.
09-07 & 21 **OPEN GYM CC NOON TO 3:00**
09/24 thru 28th PAHRUMP FALL FESTIVAL

***WATCH FOR OCTOBER 2008 NEWS,
THERE'S LOTS GOING ON!!!!***



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE SENIOR CENTER

We will be meeting with Aptus Architecture September 8th 2008 at 5:30 P.M. for the Feasibility Study at the Senior Center. We encourage the public of Amargosa to attend.

AMARGOSA SENIOR CENTER

By: Tammy Been

Thank you to all that have been coming in to eat and supporting the senior center and the seniors of Amargosa Valley. Our head count is up a little and we hope to continue to up the head count even more, so won't you come and give us a try. The food is wonderful and the company is just as good.

Every time you come in to eat, you get a ticket, for the drawing box and a chance to win the door prize. The winning ticket will be drawn every 2nd Monday of each month at 4:30 P.M, You need to be present to win.

I am sorry the highlighted squares for the meals from a diabetic cookbook did not turn out in August. We have fixed that and the meals from a diabetic cookbook will be underlined from now on.

We have ice for sale, 8lb bags for \$1.00.

The Senior Centers thrift shop is open every Wednesday from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M..

We are still taking aluminum cans and copper for recycling.

1. Every Wednesday from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M., the Thrift Store will be open . Different stuff each week. "Arts & Crafts" is from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. And while you are here don't forget to grab some ice.
2. Every Weekday from 1:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M., **ICE-TO-GO is \$1 a bag** (8 lbs).
3. We are also **Going Green**, and to start our recycling efforts, bring us your **"crushed" aluminum cans or copper** (and of course pick up some ICE).
4. We are saving **BOX TOPS** for our school, you can drop them off when you come to get ICE and save yourself a trip to the school, look for them on various items at your grocery stores.