

# FRIENDS IN THE HILLS

## SEPTEMBER 2025 ACTIVITY BULLETIN

Website: [friendsinthehillsaz.org](http://friendsinthehillsaz.org)

Editor: Sally Gibbs

[sallygibbs@cox.net](mailto:sallygibbs@cox.net)

### **SEPTEMBER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

As you may have heard, the Fountain Hills Community Center has doubled the cost of renting their rooms, so we were forced to look elsewhere for a place to host our luncheons. I am excited to announce that our monthly luncheons will now be taking place at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. A beautiful venue with a beautiful view! The address is:

Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church  
Fellowship Hall  
13001 N. Fountain Hills Blvd.

For those of you who have never been, the hall is in the back of the building to the right of the sanctuary. There is signage to help you find it and some parking available in the back near the hall.

In addition to our new venue, we have a new caterer—Debbie Elder of Culinary Curator, LLC—and I think you'll be excited by the variety of fresh foods she will be providing. This month's menu is:

Chicken & Veggie Kabobs  
(For vegetarians—Veggie Kabobs)  
Greek Lemon Orzo Rice  
Creamy Cucumber Salad  
Pita Bread  
Apricot Almond Biscotti  
Iced Tea & Water

With these changes does come a slight increase in cost. The luncheons will now be \$30 but I think you'll find the increase well worth it!

Elections for next year's Board are just around the corner and we would love to find ladies interested in being a part of making future decisions for the club. Please reach out to me if you are interested and I can share the details.

See you at lunch!

Stephanie Harris



### **SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON PROGRAM**

Our speaker for September 10th is Dr. Christopher Condon, Owner of Ally Spine Center in Scottsdale. He will be addressing Revitalizing Health, Healing and Wellness Care, including improving one's posture at any age. Dr. Condon wrote a book in 2023 on "The Richest Man in the Hospital," which offers practical life lessons on how to live a fulfilling, healthy life. Don't miss this educational health information from which we can all benefit.

### **LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS INFORMATION**

Sue Manning Reservations Coordinator

sgmmanning@gmail.com 480-226-2187

The September luncheon will be held at the Fountain Hills Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$30. All luncheon reservations must be made and paid for NO LATER THAN the **FRIDAY BEFORE THE LUNCHEON.**

Reservations received after the **September 5** will NOT be accepted.

If you would like to bring a guest, please contact the Luncheon Reservations Chairperson, Sue Manning.

### **HOW TO PAY**

- Go to the website, [www.friendsinthehillsaz.org](http://www.friendsinthehillsaz.org) luncheon.
- Mail a check (made out to "Friends in the Hills Welcome Club" or "FITH" and mail to Friends in the Hills, ATTN: Luncheon, P.O. Box 17358, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269. The deadline to reserve and pay is September 5th. Cancellations must be made by 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 4th or your money cannot be refunded. We will NOT be doing any carry over to the next luncheon. On-line payments will be credited to your card and checks will be returned. **NOTE:** If you want to pay forward (with cash) for the October luncheon while attending the September luncheon, please have the **exact amount.**

**DEBBIE WOLLENBERG HAS GRACIOUSLY VOLUNTEERED TO DO OUR CENTERPIECES FOR OUR LUNCHEONS. SHE IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR ONE OTHER PERSON THAT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HELPING HER. PLEASE CONTACT DEBBIE AT 847-903-2178, OR CATCH HER AT THE LUNCHEON.**

### **SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT**

If you know of any ill member or death in the immediate family of a member of Friends, please inform President Stephanie Harris at [805-368-2940](tel:805-368-2940) or email her at [fithprez@gmail.com](mailto:fithprez@gmail.com), or Martha Craner at [480-837-2183](tel:480-837-2183) or email her at [marthab911@gmail.com](mailto:marthab911@gmail.com).

### **FITH WEBSITE**

**Vicki Johnson**

**316-644-4774**

**Webmaster address:**

**fithwebmaster@gmail.com**

Friends in the Hills Welcome Club has a YouTube Channel now with videos providing how to do things on the website. The link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/FriendsintheHillsAZ>

The current videos include the following:

1. Request Help from Webmaster
2. Change Password on Friends in the Hills Website
3. Renewing Dues
4. Getting the Bulletin

If you have any questions or need help getting something done on the website, please send me an email or give me a call.

### **MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Vicki Johnson

Phone: (316) 644-4774

Email: [fithmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fithmembership@gmail.com)

Potential new members can attend a Newcomer's Coffee (the next coffee will be in September). Dues for 2025 are \$15 through the end of October. Beginning in November dues are free, we ask that new members pay \$30 to renew their membership for 2026.

Ladies who are interested in joining our club will be emailed a link to make payment and join. Please email me at: [fithmembership@gmail.com](mailto:fithmembership@gmail.com) to request the link to join Friends in the Hills Welcome Club.

The on-line Membership Directory is always up to-date and the best source to find members.

### **NEWCOMER'S COFFEE**

Barbara Cardinal [brc39@aol.com](mailto:brc39@aol.com) 847-987-2211

Nancy Jones [jonesnphnx@aol.com](mailto:jonesnphnx@aol.com) 602-770-9829

Hello Ladies, we are pleased to invite you to our Friends in the Hills Newcomer's Coffee. Come and share a cup of coffee and a snack with us while we introduce you to all the activities FITH has to offer. You will also be able to join our club that morning if you wish. Also, if you have a friend or neighbor who might be interested, bring her along.

DATE: **Wednesday, September 25, 2025**

TIME: **10:00 AM**

PLACE: 13044 n. Northstar Dr., Fountain Hills

Please RSVP to Barbara Cardinal, [brc39@aol.com](mailto:brc39@aol.com) or

[847-987-2211](tel:847-987-2211)

We look forward to seeing you at the coffee.

### **BITS, BAUBLES & BEADS**

(formerly Beading Buddies)

Sharron Neyer [sharron2001@msn.com](mailto:sharron2001@msn.com) 562-833-9447

Jean Peterson [onejeanius@gmail.com](mailto:onejeanius@gmail.com) 916-710-0898

SEPTEMBER 9TH (TUESDAY)

Time: 1:00.

Cost: \$15.00. (all supplies included)

Address: 14814 E. Crested Crown

Welcome back everyone! Our first class will be September 9th (Tuesday) @ 1:00. We will be making sun catchers. You are welcome to choose your own figurine to use in your craft project (see picture and let me know in advance). Or if you prefer you are welcome to use a crystal which we can provide also.



### **BIRTHDAY BASH**

Valerie O'Keefe [valeriesellsaz@gmail.com](mailto:valeriesellsaz@gmail.com)  
[225-244-1769](tel:225-244-1769)

Vicki Johnson [docvj89@gmail.com](mailto:docvj89@gmail.com)

The **3rd Quarter Birthday Bash** (for ladies with birthdays in July, August and September) will be on **Friday, October 31, 2025**, from 1:00—3:00 PM. We know that is late, but we are allowing maximum time for the snowbirds to return. There is a lot going on in September on Fridays with Friends in the Hills, and there is a lot going on with our calendars in September and October. We will have a great party then. For your calendars, 4th Quarter Birthday Bash (for birthdays in October, November and December) will be Friday, December 19.

Sign up and pay on the Friends website under Members Login/Events List. The cost is \$5.50 to cover drinks, snacks, paper products, and birthday cake. Please bring a wrapped gift valued around \$10 for our fun white elephant gift exchange.

Attendance is limited to the first 25 ladies who sign up so be sure to register soon! This is a great way to meet new people in a smaller group setting. We can't wait to see you. (Location and gate code will be sent out to attendees before the event.)

### **BOOK CLUB**

(Desert Readers)

Helen Whatmough [hwhatmough@cox.net](mailto:hwhatmough@cox.net) 480-836-6834

**THE BOOK CLUB WILL NOT BE HAVING  
REGULAR MEETINGS AGAIN UNTIL OCTOBER.**

### **BUNCO**

SEPTEMBER 24TH, AT 12:30 PM

Sue Manning [sgmmanning@gmail.com](mailto:sgmmanning@gmail.com)

480-226-2187

### **AMERICAN LEGION**

16837 E. Parkview Avenue

You should bring \$5 for Bunco, \$5 for the American Legion, and \$3 in one dollar bills for LRC.

## **FITH BOARD FOR 2025**

**PRESIDENT:** STEPHANIE HARRIS  
**1ST VICE PRESIDENT:** SHERI MCCURDY  
**2ND VICE PRESIDENTS:** BARBARA CARDINAL  
VICKI JOHNSON  
**SECRETARY:** KARREN BOGLE  
**CO-TREASURERS:** DIANE MUNDO  
BEV TALL  
**MEMBERSHIP:** VICKI JOHNSON  
**INTERNET:** VICKI JOHNSON

### **DUPLICATE BRIDGE**

Martha Craner [marthab911@gmail.com](mailto:marthab911@gmail.com) 480-837-2183

**SEPTEMBER 8, AT 11:00 AM**

#### **PHIL'S FILLING STATION**

16852 E. Parkview Avenue

We meet at 11:00 AM for lunch and play at noon. Cost is \$1 per person. This is a friendly game where you can compare your score against the other people who played the same hands. Please contact Martha to make a reservation or to cancel.

### **PARTY BRIDGE—3RD MONDAY**

Sandy Clark [WClarkaz@cox.net](mailto:WClarkaz@cox.net) or 480-560-0883

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT 11:30 AM**

#### **QUE BUENO**

13207 N. La Montana Drive

We have room for 3 tables. We play bridge for 1/2 hour and then order lunch. The owner would like us to pay cash. Everyone is welcome, but you do need to sign up in advance. Contact Sandy Clark by Email: [WClarkaz@cox.net](mailto:WClarkaz@cox.net) or text: 480-560-0883

### **EUCHRE**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, AT 11:30 AM**

#### **PHIL'S**

**16852 E. Parkview Ave.**

Come for a snack/lunch at 11:30. Play noon til 2 PM-ish.

Please RSVP to Myra Smith [myra3mia@gmail.com](mailto:myra3mia@gmail.com)  
480-881-6198

If you don't play and want to learn, please contact Myra.

### **CIRCLE OF NEW FRIENDS, 4TH FRIDAY**

Eligibility: Members who joined 2022—2025

Ann Van Den Heuvel [annvan@gmx.com](mailto:annvan@gmx.com) 480-299-6951

Alveretta Petta [alveratta\\_petta@yahoo.com](mailto:alveratta_petta@yahoo.com) 480-510-0304

**Our first get together is Friday, September 26th, AT 11:30 AM.**

### **ARRIVEDERCI RESTAURANT**

12645 N. Saguaro Blvd., #1

Fountain Hills, AZ

Please RSVP to Ann Van Den Heuvel by 9/18 at:

[Annvan@gmx.com](mailto:Annvan@gmx.com).

### **CIRCLE OF LONG TIME FRIENDS**

Eligibility: Members who joined 2010-2014

**WE NEED NEW LEADERS FOR THE CIRCLE OF**

**LONG TIME FRIENDS.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, CONTACT**

**STEPHANIE HARRIS AT**  
**FITHPREZ@GMAIL.COM or 805-368-2940**

### **SINGLES SUPPER CLUB**

09/18/2025 AT 5:00 PM

#### **PIETRO'S FINE DINING**

9800 N. Summer Hill Drive

Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

I have made reservations for 16 people. Separate checks with tax and tip will be given to each person. Please send me your response before 09/10/2025, as I need to give the restaurant a final count at that time.

[Elainejellock@hotmail.com](mailto:Elainejellock@hotmail.com) or call or text  
570-430-1472

Looking forward to having a good time, with many more to come. Any suggestions are welcome.

Thanks and looking forward to meeting all of you.

Elaine Jellock



# FRIENDS IN THE HILLS TWEENER'S LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

## MENU

Balsamic Glazed Stone Fruit  
with Buffalo Mozzarella & Pine Nuts  
Creamy Chicken Salad in Boston Lettuce Cups  
Noble Bread topped with Zucchini Butter  
Strawberry Galette with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream  
Iced Tea or Lemonade

\$30 (includes tax/gratuity)

Must be paid in advance; Limited Attendance

Register: [www.debbiejelder.com/events/](http://www.debbiejelder.com/events/)

DEBBIE'S KITCHEN STUDIO, 16747 E. PARKVIEW  
AVENUE, SUITE 9, FOUNTAIN HILLS

# FRIENDS IN THE HILLS TWEENER'S LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2025

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

## MENU

Salad Greens, Green Apple, Apricot,  
Almonds with Scallion Vinaigrette  
Mushroom, Sun-dried Tomato, Spinach  
& French Cheese Quiche  
Grapes & Berries  
Pumpkin Bread with Butter  
Iced Tea or Lemonade

\$30 (includes tax/gratuity)

Must be paid in advance; Limited Attendance

Register: [www.debbiejelder.com/events/](http://www.debbiejelder.com/events/)

DEBBIE'S KITCHEN STUDIO  
16747 E. PARKVIEW AVENUE, SUITE 9  
FOUNTAIN HILLS 480 236 2118

Scan me



## **EVENING SIGNATURE SOCIALS**

### **(Formerly TGIF Evening Social)**

Some exciting changes are coming for our evening socials. This year, we will hold four signature events you don't want to miss! Note the dates are not on the 3rd Friday any longer in order to have specially themed parties.

In addition, this year we will be charging a little more per person for catering—no need to bring a dish! Beer and wine will continue to be part of the package.

Remember, these events are open to our members plus one guest—spouse, significant other, or a friend,

We are looking for a new committee volunteers to join in the fun of putting this together, particularly in the areas of decorating and photo booth creators! If you are interested, please contact Marilyn ASAP.

We are looking for one volunteer home to host the Kentucky Derby party (large TV's a plus). If you are interested, please let Marilyn know.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

Friday, October 31—Halloween

Friday, December 19—Holiday

Friday, February 13—Valentine's Day

Saturday, May 2—Kentucky Derby

Stay tuned for more updates in the October Bulletin!

Marilyn Hope 480-457-9277 [mtenhope@msn.com](mailto:mtenhope@msn.com)

Patricia Robinson 202-489-3615  
[patriciacarrollrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:patriciacarrollrobinson@gmail.com)

## **OUR HIKING GROUPS ARE ON HIATUS UNTIL THE WEATHER COOLS OFF**

### **HIKING GROUP—3RD WEDNESDAY**

Co-Chairs for Experienced Hike

Grete Carlson [gretecmom@gmail.com](mailto:gretecmom@gmail.com) 253-720-4061

Tricia Day-Ryan [pdayryan@gmail.com](mailto:pdayryan@gmail.com) 602-463-1728

Julie Sampson [juliesampson28@comcast.net](mailto:juliesampson28@comcast.net) 224-723-6808

Co-Chairs for Shorter Hike

Joann Martinson [jcm002@live.com](mailto:jcm002@live.com) 608-280-1912

Missy Putnam [missy.putnam@icloud.com](mailto:missy.putnam@icloud.com) 414-379-7700

Kathy Helms [khelms833@gmail.com](mailto:khelms833@gmail.com) 602-509-5879

### **EXPERIENCED HIKERS**

Co-Chairs for Experienced Hike

Grete Carlson [gretecmom@gmail.com](mailto:gretecmom@gmail.com) 253-720-4061

Tricia Day-Ryan [pdayryan@gmail.com](mailto:pdayryan@gmail.com) 602-463-1728

Julie Sampson [juliesampson28@comcast.net](mailto:juliesampson28@comcast.net) 224-723-6808

### **SHORTER HIKE**

Co-Chairs for the Shorter Hike

Joann Martinson [jcm002@live.com](mailto:jcm002@live.com) 608-280-1912

Missy Putnam [missy.putnam@icloud.com](mailto:missy.putnam@icloud.com) 414-379-7700

Kathy Helms [khelms833@gmail.com](mailto:khelms833@gmail.com) 602-509-5879

### **THE FOUNDERS– 1ST WEDNESDAY**

Rosemary Bonaguidi [rosmary.bonaguidi@cox.net](mailto:rosmary.bonaguidi@cox.net)  
480-209-8601

Heidi Pearson [heidipearsonaz@gmail.com](mailto:heidipearsonaz@gmail.com)  
480-816-1088

Wednesday, September 3, at 11:30 AM

#### **Euro Pizza Café**

Fountainside Plaza

Please email Heidi for a reservation!

### **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

#### **VICINOS LOCAL ITALIAN**

10999 N. Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd.

Scottsdale, AZ 85259

**September 22, 2025, 4:00– 6:00 PM**

**Martini Mondays, \$8 Martini's**

Please join us for an evening of social time. Enjoy meeting new women, having great conversation, beverages, and food. Make your reservation soon. Guests invited.

#### **When and Where:**

(Deadline is September 15th, Noon) **Limit 55—No Refunds-  
NO CASH**

**Cost \$12.00 per person for food, drinks on your own**

**(The price has gone up due to increasing costs)**

**How to sign up and pay with credit card and check below:**

[www.friendsinthehillsaz.org](http://www.friendsinthehillsaz.org)

**Login** (go to 3 bars on top)

go to **Events** page (scroll down)

Problems with sign up?

Contact Vicki Johnson (webmaster)

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

316-644-4774

OR

Send checks by **Monday, September 15th, NO CASH** to Friends in the Hills,  
P.O. Box 17358, Fountain Hills, AZ 85269 (include your E-mail address)

Susan Slapke and Sheri McCurdy, Chairs

And as always.....Mingle, Mingle, Mingle

### **MAH JONGG PLAY—EVERY THURSDAY**

(Beginner / Intermediate)

Gloria Hachikian [hshglo@gmail.com](mailto:hshglo@gmail.com) 847-420-0876

Sheila Hagan [snhagan55@gmail.com](mailto:snhagan55@gmail.com) 312-206-  
8730

#### **American Legion Post**

We ask players to arrive by 12:15 PM so we can begin play at 12:30 PM.

This group is oversubscribed at this time and shall remain closed until further notice.

We would love to encourage anyone interested in forming a second group of beginners/intermediates to please do so.

### **MAH JONGG PLAY—EVERY THURSDAY**

(Advanced)T

Kay Speake [speakekaz@yahoo.com](mailto:speakekaz@yahoo.com)  
480-684-4675

1:00—4:00 PM

#### **THE ADVANCED MAH JONGG GROUP**

**WILL BE ON HIATUS UNTIL WE CAN SECURE  
A NEW VENUE. GIVE KAY SPEAKE A CALL IF  
YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**

### **MONDAY MORNING COFFEE**

Sally Elam [sallyinarizona@gmail.com](mailto:sallyinarizona@gmail.com) 480-766-6323

Enjoy a morning our with "Friends" at Euro Café. Start your day with coffee, tea and/or a whole delicious breakfast. The only thing to bring is a "smile or two!" See you there.

NEW AND WONDERFUL LOCATION, 12625 N. SAGUARO BLVD  
101

RSVP if you can come to [sallyinarizona@gmail.com](mailto:sallyinarizona@gmail.com)

### **OUT TO LUNCH**

Myra Smith [myra3mia@gmail.com](mailto:myra3mia@gmail.com) 480-881-6198

Lets start the season with good food and great views (and before the golfers return) at

#### **We Ko Pa Golf Club**

Tuesday, September 16th at noon.

More details including carpooling, etc to follow

Limit 12 so reserve your spot ASAP!

Please RSVP by email to Myra Smith

[myra3mia@gmail.com](mailto:myra3mia@gmail.com) 480-881-6198

### **WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON TEA**

Take a mid-week mid-afternoon break with "friends" to have a drink together, chat, catch up, and even bring home a dinner item or two. September is all about new beginnings.

DATE: Wednesday, September 10th

TIME: 3:00 pm

PLACE: **Euro Café (new location)**

RSVP if you can come to Sally Elam if you can come [sallyinarizona@gmail.com](mailto:sallyinarizona@gmail.com).

### **PAPER CRAFTING—LAST TUESDAY**

Honi Hershey [honi\\_h2000@yahoo.com](mailto:honi_h2000@yahoo.com) 480-628-0680

September 30, at 2:00 PM

We are a small group with varying levels of experience from beginners to advanced who enjoy getting together each month to make greeting cards. We use stamps, ink, and paper to complete at least three projects each time. There is a \$10 per session fee that covers the project and supplies. Each session usually meets on the last Tuesday of the month at 2:00 PM. Space is sometimes limited. You may call or email Honi if you are interested in participating, to get more information, or to be placed on their email list.

### **POKER CLUB—1ST THURSDAY**

Kathleen Sauser [kschireb@cox.net](mailto:kschireb@cox.net) 480-836-1293

**THURSDAY, September 4, 2:00 TO 4:00 PM**

This group meets monthly at the home of Kathleen Sauser, 17345 E. Baca Drive. Please call Kathleen if you are interested in attending.

### **SIP & SWIRL WINE—2ND TUESDAY**

Linda Tornabene

Judy Crosby [judy.crosby@gmail.com](mailto:judy.crosby@gmail.com) 480-225-6927

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, 4:00—6:00 PM**

#### **Grapeables Fine Wines**

12645 Saguaro Boulevard

(Fountainside Plaza)

NOTE: Sign-up begins with the receipt of the newsletter. Attendance is still being limited to 30, so book ASAP to be on the list. If you do not contact **JUDY** and receive confirmation—you should not attend.

We know that plans change, but please let us know if you are not going to be able to make it once you've been signed up and/or confirmed. No-shows wanting to attend the next month will be put on the waitlist.

### **18 HOLES OR SCRAMBLE GOLF**

#### **EVERY MONDAY**

Cass Ritchey [fithgolf@gmail.com](mailto:fithgolf@gmail.com) 480-580-7992

Starfire Golf Club, Scottsdale

Every Monday, 7:50 AM

We will golf every Monday at 7:50 AM at Starfire Golf Club. The 18-hole was designed by Arnold Palmer and offers golfers a fun round! All levels are welcome, but you must be able to keep up with the pace of play.

Please use our golf email: [fithgolf@gmail.com](mailto:fithgolf@gmail.com) to be placed on our email list, or if you have any questions. Additional information can be found on our website.