

Los Amigos Del Sol

"LADS HAPPENINGS"

Fall 2026 Newsletter



WHAT'S INSIDE

- WHAT'S HAPPENING
- WHAT'S HAPPENED
- THINGS TO CELEBRATE
- FINANCIALS/LEADERSHIP

Quarterly Newsletter



January - April - July - October



Preparing for the Next Chapter

In my July President's Letter, I shared that my current term as President will be my last and that, following the March 2027 elections, L.A.D.S. will begin a new chapter under new leadership. Since sharing that decision, I have spent even more time thinking about what makes L.A.D.S. special and, more importantly, what will help keep it strong for many years to come.

One of the things I have learned during my 25 years with L.A.D.S. is that no one person makes this organization what it is. L.A.D.S. is successful because of the members who volunteer, attend events, serve on committees, come up with ideas, help with our fundraisers, welcome new members, and simply show up and participate. Every one of those contributions matters.

As we get closer to nominations and elections, I encourage everyone to think about what role they might play in the future of L.A.D.S.. Leadership doesn't necessarily mean becoming President or serving on the Executive Committee. It can mean chairing an event, helping with a fundraiser, volunteering for a project, serving on a committee, or taking responsibility for something you enjoy.

For those who may be considering an officer position, I would encourage you not to count yourself out. You don't have to know everything about the position before you step forward. There are people who can help, and there is plenty of institutional knowledge within L.A.D.S. to make the transition successful.

I also believe that one of the most important things we can do during this transition is to continue looking for ways to make L.A.D.S. stronger and easier for future leaders to manage. We have an opportunity to document what we do, share responsibilities, and make sure that knowledge doesn't leave the organization when one person leaves a position.

My goal during the remainder of my term is not simply to finish my time as President. It is to help prepare L.A.D.S. for what comes next. I have been incredibly fortunate to be part of L.A.D.S. for more than two decades and to have served as President for nine years. I am proud of what we have accomplished together, but I am even more excited to see what the next group of leaders will bring to the organization.

There is still plenty of fun ahead—and plenty of work to do. So, as we approach nominations and elections, I encourage you to ask yourself a simple question: "What can I do to help make the next chapter of L.A.D.S. successful?" Whether your answer is becoming an officer, volunteering at an event, joining a committee, bringing a new idea forward, or simply becoming more involved, every contribution helps.

The future of L.A.D.S. doesn't belong to one person. It belongs to all of us. And as always, let's continue being Together For The Fun Of It!

Warm regards,
Jeff Granberg
President, Los Amigos Del Sol



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, November 7th @ 1PM
General Meeting at OZ Bar

Saturday, November 21st @ 1PM @The Rock
Giving Thanks Luncheon & Blind Art Auction
Sign up sheet available on our website

Saturday, November 21st 6PM-8PM @Nutowne
AGRA Drag Show
Fundraiser benefiting L.A.D.S.

Saturday, December 5th @ 1PM
General Meeting at OZ Bar
Santa Gift Giveaway
Bake Sale

Saturday, December 18th 8PM @Bunkhouse
Jingle Bell Bear-e-oke

- Keep it fun.
- Keep it friendly.
- Keep it L.A.D.S.

EVERY SUNDAY: BINGO @ 1:00pm
Win CASH while supporting L.A.D.S. Charity Partners





UPCOMING EVENTS

Searching for local artists!

We are currently seeking local artists for our upcoming 6th Annual Giving Thanks Luncheon & Blind Art Auction held at The Rock on November 21st @ 1:00pm. This auction features artwork created and donated by local artists to support L.A.D.S. charities (HALO Animal Rescue & Aunt Rita's 'Experienced Escapades').

The Blind Art Auction offers a unique experience: all pieces remain wrapped during the bidding process. Before bidding begins, we will read the artist's bio and provide a brief description of the work. This format levels the playing field for both new and established artists, ensuring the focus remains on raising money for our charitable causes.

If you are an artist interested in donating a piece, or if you have any questions, please contact Corey at 623-313-8870 or via email at ladspbxaz@gmail.com.





Los Amigos Del Sol

Together for the Fun of it!

PAST EVENTS

July 24th - July 26th, 2026

Palm Springs Bus Trip



Palm Springs 2026 Review **

By Adam A., with a little help from Google Gemini

Spill the Tea: What Really Happened on the LADS Palm Springs Takeover!

Honey, grab your iced coffee and hold onto your swim trunks, because the "Los Amigos del Sol" (LADS) annual getaway shook things up this year! While Las Vegas usually gets all our love, the gang decided to change it up for a little mix in 2026 and chartered a bus straight to Palm Springs for an unforgettable weekend in the desert.

From July 24th to 26th, the squad rolled out of Phoenix right into a sizzling California heatwave. Was the bus air conditioning fighting for its life? Absolutely. Did that stop the party? Not for a single second.



PAST EVENTS

July 24th - July 26th, 2026
Palm Springs Bus Trip

A Massive Slay (and Thanks) to the Crew

Before we get into the scandalous details, a huge shoutout is in order! An event like this doesn't just happen on its own, and a giant thank you goes out to all of our incredible bus helpers and the mastermind team organizing behind the scenes. Special applause goes to Scott S. for stepping up with bus logistics and keeping us cool by bringing all the ice for the departure ride back home!

The onboard crew kept everyone hydrated and alive on the way out, too. Robert kept brains sharp with trivia, while Adam and Suzette played hero behind the bar, slingin' solid cocktails. Behind the scenes, Lisa and Jim proved they're the true MVP planners—they spent the entire day before the trip prepping, cutting limes, and chilling the beer so no one went thirsty.

Hotels, Heels, and... Fake Orgasms?

The gang posted up at Hotel Zoso, where the pool was suspiciously uncrowded (turns out 110-degree heat keeps the casuals away!). Those who braved the sun got quite a show, though: Katie reported catching a glimpse of some pool-side "scenery" (yes, titties were spotted).

Nightly Drag Bingo at the hotel was a smash hit. Laura proved to be an absolute shark, winning twice and walking away with a fresh pair of sunglasses. Jim also hit the bingo jackpot, but the real star of the weekend stage was Lisa.

During the infamous Drag Brunch at Oscar's, Lisa took entertainment to a whole new level by faking an orgasm completely sober in front of her own mother. Bystander Ross noted that he had the pleasure of sitting right next to it and admitted, "I almost believed it."

And Oscar's didn't stop delivering the comedy there—Chris S. ended up getting his entire head licked by a gorgeous drag queen during the show! Icon status for both of them: achieved.





PAST EVENTS

July 24th - July 26th, 2026
Palm Springs Bus Trip

Arenas Road Shenanigans & Small World Moments

When the sun went down, the LADS hit Arenas Road hard.

Hunters was the place to be! Several eagle-eyed travelers spotted none other than RuPaul's Drag Race legend Heidi N Closet, and Le got in some fun "puppy playtime."

Dick's took the award for Adam's favorite spot, thanks to having the coldest beer and the hardest-working AC in town. It was also where Mikey M. got a very upfront, personal view of the undercarriage!

The Street Bar delivered pure chill vibes, while others hit up Bearwear, Gay Mart, and H&M (Lawrence and friend hit Sephora so hard their credit cards are still recovering).

Mikey made friends with the local dancers, and Mike B spent half his net worth paying for exclusive door memberships.

Amidst all the party hopping, it turned out to be a small world after all: Lisa M. and Willy V. made the shocking discovery that they are both proud Southern Illinois University (SIU) alumni—graduating just 10-plus years apart!

And then... there was the midnight search party sector.

Word on the street is that Rob decided the sidewalk corner was a perfectly good place for a midnight nap. Husband Brandon had to launch a full search-and-rescue mission at 1:15 AM after a random stranger picked up Rob's phone to call for help. Meanwhile, Mark G. misplaced his phone entirely—luckily, Mark L. saved the morning by setting a clutch hotel wake-up call. The rescue mission worked so well that Mark was actually one of the very first people loaded up and ready on the bus!





PAST EVENTS

July 24th - July 26th, 2026
Palm Springs Bus Trip

Escaping the Heat & Feeding the Beast

Not everyone was purely daytime drinking and nighttime crashing:

Todd woke up with the sun to take the Aerial Tramway up the mountain to escape the heat (smart man!).

Charlie got a workout in before taking a classy bus tour of the city.

Cynthia S. and her husband went full carnivore at Roscoe's Brazilian Steakhouse and "ate all the meat they could."

Becky and Jay hit the bars early, while others tried their luck at the casino (though mum's the word on whether anyone actually won big).

And of course, no night was complete without standard late-night street-vendor hot dogs.





PAST EVENTS

July 24th - July 26th, 2026
Palm Springs Bus Trip

The Aftermath & The Heart of L.A.D.S.

By the time the bus rolled back toward Phoenix, the casualty list was minor, but memorable. Liz was nursing a mystery knee injury, Le was relieved he didn't have to babysit Suzette (though someone had to take their spouse to urgent care—get well soon!), and Adam summed up the collective mindset: "We drank lots of vodka, lots more vodka, then we walked around and it was really hot."

Despite the melting temperatures, the lost sleep, and the questionable street-nap choices, the consensus was clear: mixing up the routine for 2026 was a massive success. No one had to drive, new friends were made, old friends were cherished, and the LADS survived another epic weekend in the desert.

At the end of the day, that's really what L.A.D.S. is all about—a great group of guys and gals coming together, leaving the everyday noise behind, and hanging out purely for the fun, laughter, and camaraderie of it all.

Vegas will always be a classic, but Palm Springs proved that no matter where we roll, this crew knows how to make unforgettable memories together!

*** embellished for entertainment and informational purposes.*





PAST EVENTS

Friday, August 21st @ 7PM
Quarterly Poker Tournament at OZ Bar

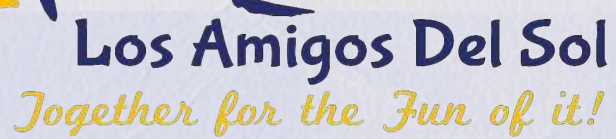


James and Jacob were victorious and chose to split the prize pot of \$150 at the end!

We raised \$267!

Thank you to our volunteers: Lisa M. & Brian M, and Ty T.





Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek





PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek



Spill the Tea, LADS! The Official 2026 Campout Recap 🌲 ✨

Grab your drink and settle in, besties, because we need to talk about what actually went down Friday, September 18 – Monday, September 21, 2026, at Upper Wolf Creek Campground just outside Prescott, Arizona. With 41 fabulous campers setting up camp in trailers of all shapes and sizes, cozy tents, and trucks, L.A.D.S. gathered in the high country under the iconic motto "Together for the Fun of it."

...And talk about word getting out! Eddie (a non-LADS member) spotted the campout information posted on the bathroom wall during Anvil's Leather Night, which immediately sparked a full-on midnight text fest with Lisa to get all the details. Talk about commitment to the party!

We left the sizzling triple-digit heat down below for crisp 50-degree mountain nights—so chilly that Le Long actually wore a sweater! But don't let the mountain air fool you; things heated up fast.



Los Amigos Del Sol
Together for the Fun of it!

PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

Lipstick, Lumberjacks, and Big Theme Winners!

This year's theme was Lipstick & Lumberjacks, and our panel of distinguished judges—Brian A, Le Long, and Roy—had their hands full sorting through the flannel, glitz, and glamour across all 41 campers.

- The Ultimate Theme Champion: Jimberly took home top honors with his daisy dukes, lipstick, and flannel!
- The Golden Entries: Suzette & Liz AND Brian & Paul all scored themselves a coveted free entry to the 2027 Campout! (Special shoutout to Liz, who rolled up as a topless, bearded lumberjack alongside her stunning flannel-wearing wife Suzette. Absolutely zero notes.)
- Honorable Mentions: Mark, Tom, Devin, Alley, Eddy, and Katie put up a fierce fight with a great setup for the campsite decorating match and walked away with \$2 scratchers.





PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

A Tale of Three Joeys, Traitors, and Sticky Situations

Can we take a moment to celebrate the fact that we had a whole TRILOGY of Joeys in camp this year?! To help keep the multiverse straight:

1. Joey #1: Hanging out and holding down the fort with the iconic Mark & Tom posse.
2. Joey #2: The undisputed King of Showtunes (and fabulous husband to Loren!).
3. Joey #3 (aka Jowee Bear): Our reigning Lord of the Flies!

Speaking of Jowee Bear... while peacefully braiding his arm hairs late at night in the bathroom, he backed straight into a hanging fly trap. The next morning was spent picking flies out of his mane. We hear he's recovering well, but the trauma is real!

Meanwhile, Mark hosted the viral "Traitors in the Timbers" game (and crushed the MC duties!), which featured an iconic straight face by Liz and Albert. The body count was high—Lisa and Adam were ruthlessly murdered early on. Suspicion fell on Le Long, but plot twist! The real devious mastermind was Liz, serving cold-blooded killer alongside Jimberly.

The moment of the game? When Nick was asked to identify who was being quiet and why they were obviously the Traitor. His bulletproof response? "He's just stoned." Iconic.





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Bears, Owls, and Broken Jacks

While we were all on high alert for wildlife, the only real bears spotted in the woods had been the ones that drive up from Phoenix! No bear spray needed, folks—and honestly, the air horn was completely out of noise by Friday night anyway.

During the day, friendly pollinators (bees) kept everyone company. At night, once the generators finally ran out of gas, the sweet, serene sounds of the forest took over, with soothing owls hooting softly from the trees.

And about that old saying—if "the camper is a rockin'..." it wasn't what you think! It was just someone stumbling around in the dark trying to find the bathroom in the middle of the night (or the jacks were broken again!).





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PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

Mimosas, Meat, and Bell Tolls

Let's talk food, booze, and game night, because all 41 LADS were thoroughly entertained and nourished:

- **The Gathering Bell:** Whenever that bell chimed, campers knew it was time to hustle over to the main circle for games and mixers. Jeff G did an incredible job MC'ing and hosting the crowds for games like Captain, Sailors, and Dice!
- **Morning Refuel:** Huge shoutout to Brian and Paul for running the Bloody Mary and Mimosa Bar on Saturday morning. Paired with fresh morning coffee poured by Grand Pooba Jeff and Brian A, campers were practically floating.
- **Master Chef:** Albert was the true VIP of Friday night, cooking up a phenomenal spread of seasoned chicken and ribs for the crowd. (Though we do have to mention Albert later fell face-first into the lumberjack wood pile—hope the chicken didn't take the blame!)
- **Sweet Treats:** Patrick and Leland were head over heels for the delicious, homemade handpies that Lisa created with love!
- **Campfire Safety:** Over at the fire, Jimberly was visibly sweating—not from the heat, but because Mikey was standing way too close to the flames. And let's be honest, Mikey is 98% alcohol by volume at any given moment. Total fire hazard!





PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

Pinatas, Horse Races, and Showtunes

- Cornhole Commissioners: Rob and Tony drove up for Saturday and absolutely loved supervising the epic cornhole tournament to make sure everyone stayed in line!
- Piñata Pandemonium: Naz was 100% all about the piñata life! Meanwhile, Le Long had the most erratic swing at the piñata (though he landed some solid hits!), and Grand Pooba Jeff G even took a crack at it. When Le wasn't rummaging through the piñata droppings, he was busy being a master at fire building and helping judge the theme sites.
- Derby Drama: Jimberly introduced the campers to high-stakes horse racing, and frankly, Churchill Downs needs to watch its back because this might \just be the 4th leg of the Triple Crown.
- Always on Time: Grand Pooba Jeff kept everyone right on schedule with his bell all weekend long. He was only off by three minutes just once, and we appreciated his dedication to keeping the fun moving!
- Showtune Sensation: Saturday night ended on the highest note possible thanks to Joey #2, who hosted an epic round of Showtunes!





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Honoring Our Past: Sunday Celebration of Life 🌿🕯️

In keeping with long-standing tradition, the LADS gathered on Sunday morning for a sweet and touching Celebration of Life to honor those who have gone before us. It was a quiet, beautiful moment of togetherness and remembrance that meant so much to everyone present, helping send off an unforgettable weekend in absolute style.

The Winners' Circle & Love Notes

Raffle tickets were flowing, and people walked away with everything from OZ bar drinks and lottery tickets to Bingos and future free campout vouchers! Special congrats to Jimberly for taking 3rd place in Cornhole while rocking those scandalous Daisy Dukes.

What the Campers Had to Say:

"I really enjoyed Showtunes on Saturday night. I also loved that the weekend was drama-free!" — Anonymous

"Meeting great people and playing awesome games!" — Eddie (*Anvil's Leather Night VIP!*)

"Weather and kindness." — Le Long

"Beautiful area, met a few people, enjoyed the games and music." — Dee





PAST EVENTS

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2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

A Huge L.A.D.S. Thank You!

This weekend couldn't have happened without our camp superheroes:

- Supplies & Midnight Info Extraordinaire: Lisa, Jim, Brian, & Jeff
- The Firewood Masters: Brian F, Le, Brian A, Jim, Paul, & Albert
- Master Chef: Albert (Friday Night BBQ)
- Bakery Queen: Lisa (Delicious Homemade Handpies & Midnight Camp Concierge)
- Morning Refuel Crew: Brian & Paul (Mimosas, Marys, & Snacks)
- Cornhole Supervisors: Rob & Tony

Until the next Upper Wolf Creek getaway, keep your flannel close, stay away from the bathroom sticky tape, and keep living *Together for the Fun of it!* 🪓🔥

(Thank you to our Guest Writer: Adam A.)





PAST EVENTS

Friday, Sept 18th - Monday, Sept. 21st, 2026
2026 Campout at Upper Wolf Creek

To view lots more photos from Campout, visit our website or scan the QR code below!

From the home page, click on More>Photos>2026 Campout Photos





Los Amigos Del Sol

Together for the Fun of it!

October Birthdays

- Evan B.
- Gene G.
- Tony B.

November Birthdays

- Patrick B.
- Rick R.
- Robert N.
- Joey C.

December Birthdays

- Beth S.
- Corey R.
- Lona L.





Welcome to our new members

- **Shannon R**
- **Joey C**
- **Ty T**
- **Lamar W**

W O O H O O !



Humanitarian Efforts outside of L.A.D.S

Adam A. volunteered at both St Mary's and Phoenix Theatre multiple times

Lisa M. and Jim O. volunteered on July 4th at a BBQ for a Senior Center.

Mark G. volunteered with Phoenix Theatre multiple times.

Tell us about the great work you are doing in the community, either at the next monthly meeting or let us know via email

2026 Executive Leadership Team

President: Jeff G.
602.301.1740
president.lads@gmail.com

Vice President: Lisa M.
480.828.7384
vicepresident.lads@gmail.com

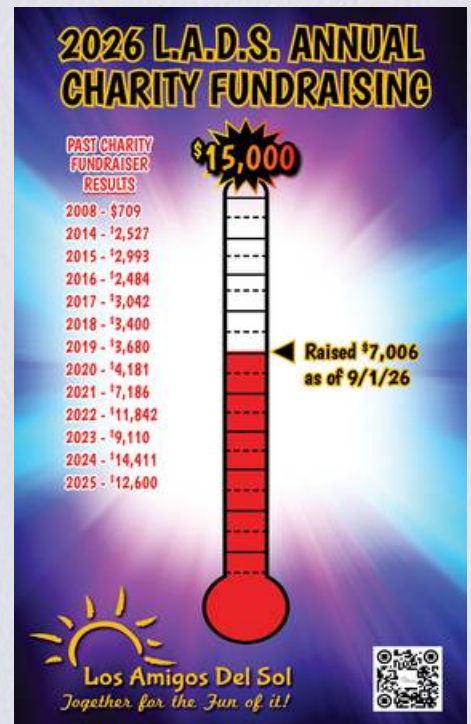
Secretary: Adam A.
602.769.6655
secretary.lads@gmail.com

Treasurer: Scott S.
602.290.4973
treasurer.lads@gmail.com

Public Relations and Historian: Mark L.
602.791.9137
publicrelations.LADS@gmail.com

STATE OF FINANCES
as of 9/1/2026

General Fund - \$2,109.24
Charities - \$7,006.86
Campout - \$1,148.55
Palm Springs - \$1,170.98
Derby - \$20.00
Total - \$11,455.63





FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

Did you know that you can link your Fry's Account to LADS?

The steps are simple!

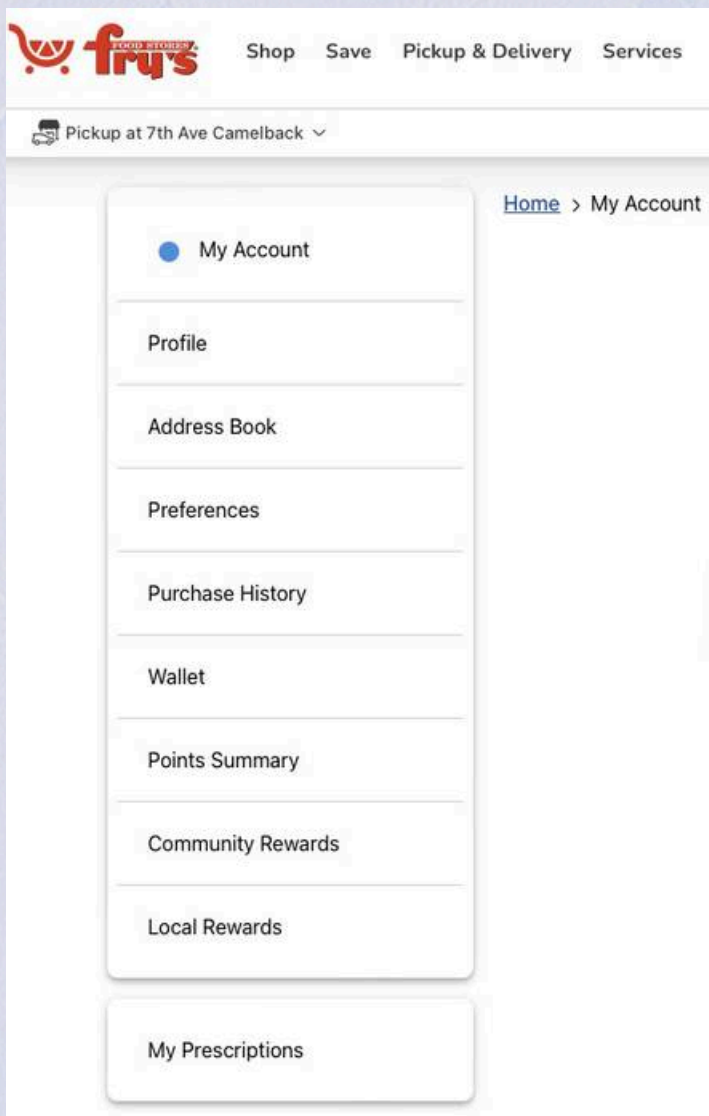
Step 1: Log into your Frys account (frysfood.com)

Step 2: In the upper right, select your Name then My Account

Step 3: On the left hand side, select Community Rewards

Step 4: Search for Los Amigos Del Sol or use DK155

Step 5: Select ENROLL



Organization Name
Los Amigos Del Sol
Organization Address
1801 E Camelback Rd Ste102 #1005 Phoenix, AZ 85016
Enroll

Doing this has no impact on your Fuel points!

