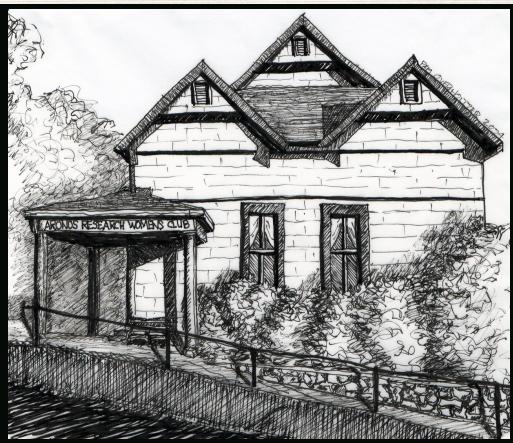


December

ARONOS GOLD

A monthly newsletter of The Aronos Research Club, Inc.
Proud members of GFWC & CFWC

2025



Aronos Research Club, Founded 1915
37 Elkin St., Sonora CA 95370
Phone: (209) 770-1144
Email: aronosresearchclub@yahoo.com
And, visit us on facebook [f](#)



Do you know of an organization or individuals who are looking to rent a space for an event? How about the Aronos Clubhouse for your events or special occasions? Price is very affordable, chairs and tables on-site, and plenty of room for dancing? ... exercising? ... club meetings? ... large family parties? Call Shelly Stewart for more information ... 209-770-1144

Upcoming Events

December 2nd - Tuesday 11:00 am - Board Meeting
December 3rd - Wednesday 8:00 am - "Honoring Veterans Tree" Tree setup in Courthouse Square
December 9th - 1:00 pm - Jazz @ 8 Concert at Aronos Clubhouse - Soup and rolls
December 14th - Voting on Christmas Tree DEADLINE!
December 19th - 12:45 pm - Pop Hudson Sing in Court yard Square
December 31st - 8:00 pm - New Year's Eve Dance
January 6th - 10:30 am - Board Meeting

Gentle Movement, Balance and Relaxation with Annie - Mondays and Wednesdays 9-10 am

Come meet our new club member, Annie, and enjoy gentle stretching in a calm environment with her relaxed teaching style. Chair exercises available in a nice warm, friendly environment. Come meet new friends at the Aronos! No cost - sponsored by the Aronos Club Health and Wellness Committee



Crafting at the Aronos with Tuolumne County Arts!

Christmas Town Sonora celebration began the afternoon before Thanksgiving with crafting at the Aronos Clubhouse, refreshments and then walking to the Red Church to enjoy the celebration; music and singing and the annual lighting ceremony. This was our 3rd year partnering with Tuolumne County Arts and the Chamber of Commerce to provide this fun event for children of all ages to exhibit their artistic skills making cards, jewelry, ornaments and gifts. TCA staff and volunteers assisted the makers and provided all the materials. Door prizes were donated by local merchants and a fun afternoon with yummy refreshments was had by all!

Our Christmas Tree Honoring Military Veterans for Christmas Town Sonora in Courthouse Square

"Honoring our Veterans" is the concept for our Christmas Town Sonora event tree in this year's competition - be sure to visit in the courtyard square to see it - and all the trees - to really get into the Christmas spirit! You can read our Christmas story about the idea behind the concept and how we approached this project on page 3. Of course you will want to vote for our beautiful and very special tree after seeing it in downtown Sonora - over 500 lights sparkling and twinkling around each individually handmade ornament - one for every veteran being honored.

To VOTE: <http://christmastownsonora.org> Select "Best Tree" & you'll see our tree is 2nd on the list - select it and please, leave a comment!

The Aronos Research Club, Inc., is a proud member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) and the California Federation of Women's Clubs (CFWC). We are in Area "B" in the San Joaquin Valley District. Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month September through May at 11:00 A.M.



Aronos Research Club

Officers, Directors, Chairs

President • Shelly Stewart
1st Vice President • Cathie Petithomme
2nd Vice President • Sue Endter
Recording Secretary • Donna Elias
Treasurer • Cathie Petithomme
Auditor • Laurie Livingston
Parliamentarian • Joyce Axtell-Drush
Directors • Jim DeGlopper, Anne Leonard & Pam Overholtzer
Scholarships and ACTS Program • Diane Dotson
Dance Fundraisers • Jim DeGlopper & Sue Endter
Clubhouse Decor • Chris Halley
Newsletter Designer/Editor • Pam Overholtzer
Telephone and Cheer • Mary Jayne Moffatt & Diane Dotson
Community Outreach • Dennis Wiebe
House Committee Chairs • Shelly Stewart & Dennis Wiebe
Arts & Culture Chair • Laurie Livingston
Communications Chair • Michelle Dean
Health & Wellness Chair • Jeri Cates & Shelly Stewart
Scholarship Chair • Diane Dotson
Grants & Sponsorships Chairs • Joyce Axtell-Drush & Chris Halley
Environment Chairs • Pam Overholtzer & Donna Elias
Civic Engagement & Outreach Chair • Dennis Wiebe
Domestic & Sexual Violence & Awareness • Cathie Petithomme
VietNam Study Chair • Ann Leonard
Contra Barn Dance Chairs • Sue Endter & Jim deGlopper



BUNCO Night a Success!

Bunco Night in honor of Dianne Aventi was a great success. Over \$1000.00 was collected which will be used for our Teacher Support Program (ACTS) We will be awarding \$100 stipends to local elementary teacher to help them with the costs of supplies for their classrooms. Thank you to Elena, Chair of the Event, and all of the donors and sponsors who made this event such a success.



Aronos Research Club
Scan the QR Code to make a donation



We accept tax deductible donations which help fund building projects, scholarships and our Aronos Club Teacher Support Program.
Federal Tax ID 94-6090599 (501c3) State Tax ID 1681830



Recycle for the Environment and Cash for Aronos!

We now have a blue recycle container at the back door of the Clubhouse. We are able to get money for cans and plastic bottles and we will recycle monthly.

Holiday Food Giving

This year our Club is collecting money to donate to the ATCAA Food Bank. These funds will help our local families in need. The Sonora Area Foundation generously offered to double the donations we collect. Thus far we collected \$578.00 and a check was written and hand delivered to the SAF who will donate \$1,156.00! The Foundation will continue this offer and we will continue to help our local families struggling to buy food. Please send your donation to the Aronos Club OR go to our website at [aronosresearchclub.com] look for the flyer that says HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE and on the right side is the DONATE button - that will take you to the site where you can donate directly. We do not pay for this site; it is free to us as a nonprofit, so all your money goes directly to the Food Bank, which is then doubled thanks to the Sonora Area Foundation grant! Definitely a win/win for everyone. Thank you for your donations!

Historic Registry - Update

Our Application was accepted and the State is requesting more information on our founding members and their importance to our community in the early 1900's. Pat Perry and Cynthia Doyle have been researching the original 11 members and providing us with the data we need to resubmit that portion of our application. We are encouraged that the Office of Historic Registry has offered this advice and we will move forward with their requests. Pam and Shelly will work on the other recommendations such as more pictures, mapping, gps data and descriptions. Stay tuned ... hope to get resubmitted in February.

Welcome to New Friends!

Steve Suess, ayreAnna Ross, Claire Mills, Barbara Strother, Melissa and Philip Holcomb, Ed Brown, Colleen Silva, Karen Ethier, Annie Moore and Jeri Cates.

December

ARONOS CHRISTMAS GOLD 2025

A special edition of the The Aronos Research Club, Inc.,
Proud members of GFWC & CFWC



Tree-moving crew!

This year, the Aronos Research Club Christmas Tree is dedicated to honoring our local U.S. Military members and the families who stand beside them.

Since 1915, the Aronos Research Club has selected a special topic to study - often a country or a meaningful moment in history. This year, our focus is on Vietnam. For many of us, the word Vietnam brings with it powerful memories of loved ones, neighbors, and friends whose sacrifices shaped our community. As we reflect on that history it feels especially important this Christmas season to honor all who have served ... and all who continue to serve ... to protect the freedoms we cherish.

Every handmade ornament on this tree is a tribute to one of our local heroes. As you pause to admire them, we hope you'll also take a moment to offer a silent prayer, a heartfelt thought, or even a simple "thank you" for their courage, their service, and the time they have given - time often spent far from home, especially during the holidays.

May this tree stand as a symbol of our gratitude, our remembrance, and our deep appreciation for all who protect our nation - at Christmas and always.

The ribbon colors on the ornaments represent each branch of our Armed forces as seen on the bottom of the sign next to the tree itself. Each service member's name and years of service are located on the back of each ornament. These ornaments will be given to their families in January to cherish for many Christmases to come.

We accept tax deductible donations which help fund building projects, scholarships and our Aronos Club Teacher Support Program.
Federal Tax ID 94-6090599 (501c3) State Tax ID 1681830



Tree newly moved to park!

Tree at night sparkling all lit up!



VOTING to support, our tree:

Go to <http://christmastownsonora.org> Scroll through the top commands and select "Best Tree." As you scroll through the list of fifty participants, you'll see the Aronos Club Tree is second on the list. Select the tree to vote for it and please, leave a comment below as to why you chose it. Be sure to visit Christmas Town Sonora in the courtyard square to see all the trees and really get into the Christmas spirit.

After deciding on the theme for this year's tree, we began collecting discarded cans, scrubbed them up clean and shiny, and then painted them all. We knew the cans would withstand any rain and weather to come along while protecting the photographs of all our military heroes. We then spread the word by contacting all our members, local veterans groups, and every event and person we knew until we collected over 90 local military members and their families who wished to honor their veterans.

We began receiving their pictures in every possible form and style you can imagine; some print and some digital formats, as Pam Overholtzer began digitizing and printing them on waterproof vinyl (so they would survive outdoors) and inserted into each ornament. Volunteers then hand-decorated each ornament using pinecones we gathered, evergreen foliage, berries and a little bling: *each ornament is completely unique*. Ribbons were attached to indicate the veteran's branch of service and then hung snugly on the tree to withstand any weather. The topper is unique with all the military flags flying atop a mirrored globe while over 500 red, white and blue lights shine at night.

