

CHERRY CHAPTERS



SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 70 YEARS TABLE OF CONTENTS

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Remember that the Cherry Chapters is always available every month to be viewed online at our website: www.myleonavalley.org.

Join us all on our social media!
 The website for the Leona Valley Improvement Association is: www.myleonavalley.org.
 The Facebook page can be found at: LVIA
 Our Instagram account is: LeonaValley.LVIA

4-H Racketteers website is: <https://sites.google.com/view/leonavalley4h/home>.
 Facebook page is at: Leona Valley Racketteers.

Leona Valley Town Council website: www.leonavalleytc.org
 Email - lvtc@leonavalleytc.org

53rd Annual Leona Valley Cherry Parade Highlights!



Grand Marshals Chris & Terry Benjamin started the Parade and Smokey ended it!



The LVIA Community Newsletter—Cherry Chapters—is a monthly publication by the Leona Valley Improvement Association for and about the people of Leona Valley. Contents are covered under copyright laws. Material may be quoted with source cited; other use requires the editor’s or LVIA Board’s approval. The newsletter is published at the first of each month.

DEADLINE: ALL ARTICLES, INFORMATION AND SPONSORS COPY MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE 24TH OF THE MONTH BEFORE THE MONTH IN WHICH IT IS TO BE USED. PLEASE INCLUDE CONTACT INFORMATION.

At Your Service...

Editor.....Peggy Fuller 270-0771

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 Cherry Parade.....Peggy Fuller 270-0771

LVIA MEETINGS

Leona Valley Improvement Association meetings are held in the Community Building at 8367 Elizabeth Lake Road.

General Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month starting at 7:30 p.m. The public is welcome and invited to participate.

CHERRY CHAPTERS SPONSORSHIP RATES

Business Card	\$25 per month \$200 per year (12 issues)
1/4 Page	\$40 per month \$320 per year*
1/2 Page	\$60 per month \$480 per year*
Full Page	\$100 per month \$800 per year*
Inserted Flyers	\$110 per flyer/per issue (* 12 Issues)
Call Peggy Fuller at 805-382-9914 for details	

Our sponsors help underwrite the costs involved in producing this newsletter. All sponsorship spaces must be prepaid by the 1st of each month. Checks should be made payable to the Leona Valley Improvement Association (LVIA).

The information you wish to include as a Cherry Chapters sponsor should be mailed to the Leona Valley Newsletter, P.O. Box 783, Leona Valley, CA 93551 or left in the Leona Valley Improvement Association (LVIA) box in Rancher's Market, located at the intersection of Elizabeth Lake Road and 90th Street West.

From the LVIA Board...

Another Cherry Parade has been added to the books. Our residents have been enjoying them now for 53 years! But this is the first year with no cherries on the trees - very disappointing. The annual Parade was first started as a promotion for our U-pick cherry orchards, but now has taken on a life of it's own. It's a great time to spend with long-time and new friends, and stay in touch with people you haven't seen in a while. Check out the highlights throughout this newsletter.

We were thankful for the 4-H Racketteers carrying the Parade banner, and our Gymkhana Queen, Nora Downing, carrying the flag for our color guard. Grand Marshals Chris and Terry Benjamin led off in their son's Mustang, followed by the usual crowd from Lazy T Ranch. Then lots of Community Queens with a scattering of horses, cars, and floats from our local businesses and groups. It was obvious that everyone had worked hard and put a lot of effort into expressing our theme of Stars & Stripes & Cherry Delights. Very creative! Our t-shirts with the theme are still available for sale in the Post Office in Rancher's Market. There are just a few left and the price is only \$20, so get yours now!

The Festival portion was bigger than ever, with over 25 vendors offering a wide range of products and services. They went all out this year and reported good sales. LVIA also had good sales for our food and traditional deep fried cherry burritos, but this event is no longer the great fundraiser that it used to be. Costs have increased substantially for things like insurance, port-a-potties, sound systems, shuttle van, awards, and more. We may have to increase the entry fees next year just to break even. But everyone has a good time and enjoys our friendly community spirit!

As always, the success of our Parade and Festival depends on volunteers and we are always grateful for all the people who chip in with even a little bit of their time. Thanks to all of you! We can't do it without you! See everyone next year.

Leona Valley Town Council

The Leona Valley Town Council was well attended in June. There was a presentation by L.A. County Regional Planning regarding a proposed update to the SEA (Significant Ecological Areas) and HMA (Hillside Management Areas) ordinances. The updates are required by new state laws designed to assure equitable access to open space and reduce the impact of human activities on natural habitats. The updates include the expansion of the SEA boundaries and the elimination of the prior exclusion for single family residences.

Presentations have been made to most of the rural Town Councils and feedback has been primarily negative. Residents are concerned that their private property is being taken by the government without compensation. Some property improvements would require biological review, with substantial fees, in addition to higher permit fees. The new updates would not require permits for annual weed abatement or the removal of non-native trees.

Many Councils, including the Association of Rural Town Councils (which represents all residents), are submitting comments to Regional Planning to summarize the opposition and concerns of Antelope Valley residents. We expect to hear back from the County in future months regarding their incorporation of the comments and suggestions into the proposed update. At some point, the ordinances will be presented in draft form, with another comment period available prior to any hearing.

West Antelope Valley Historical Society

The next meeting of WAVHS will be on Monday, July 6, at 5pm at the Community Building. Our speaker will be David Earle, our past President, filling us in on Antelope Valley's Wild, Wild West Days.



The Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes
Women's Club

Ladies, New to Our Community?

Want to meet new friends? Not sure how
to get involved in your community?

Find out what we are all about!

**The Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Woman's Club
Welcomes You!**

Every Monday 10 am - 2 pm

Join us for sewing, friendship and a potluck

1st Monday of each month at 1:30 pm
Regular meeting

All at the Lakes Community Center
17520 Elizabeth Lake Road
Lake Hughes

Find us on:

[Facebook.com/Hughes-ElizabethLksWomansClub](https://www.facebook.com/Hughes-ElizabethLksWomansClub)

Welcome to the "Kindness Corner"

Hello neighbors!

I am publishing these coupons of kindness
each month for you to share with family, friends,
and neighbors around town. I would love to see
you share a photo of your experience.

Post your kindness nomination on the Leona Valley
Improvement Association Face-book page or send what
you did to my email at kathy.owen919@gmail.com or
my phone 661-733-2295. The Board will pick a winner each
month. I am sponsoring a \$25 gift card to a local restaurant
for the presenter! All ages are welcome!..... by Kathy Owen

Kindness is the most tender and powerful way of
leaving a memory inside people's hearts.

-Dodinsky

To: _____

From: _____

Good for one Act of Kindness

(Please pick something from your heart to pass on)

2026 LEONA VALLEY COMMUNITY QUEENS IN PARADE

The Leona Valley Community Queens created a great float for the Cherry Parade
and won 2nd place! After the Parade, they ran the Pie Eating Contest and presented
ribbons for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the Parade.



SUPPORT LVIA WITH YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The Leona Valley Improvement Association (LVIA) was formed in 1949 for the promotion and betterment of Leona Valley residents. It is incorporated in the State of California as a non-profit organization. It has overseen many community activities and been a voice for the community for over 70 years. LVIA owns and maintains the four-acre community center at 8367 Elizabeth Lake Road. This includes the Community Building and the Lee Rackett Horse Arena. LVIA publishes the Cherry Chapters monthly newsletter for and about the people in Leona Valley. It is mailed to each household (600 in Leona Valley) and is paid for from funds raised by LVIA and sponsors of the newsletter. LVIA depends solely on membership dues, fundraisers and VOLUNTEERS for its support and operations.

The Building is used on a regular basis by many local groups for meetings, classes and events. These include Leona Valley Racketteers 4-H Club, Back Country Horsemen, Leona Valley Town Council, West Antelope Valley Historical Society, and others. It is in this Building and on the surrounding grounds that the Community Queens and Gymkhana Queens are chosen, that community governmental concerns are addressed, weddings, birthdays and memorials are held and the community enjoys social get-togethers and other events. Thousands of residents have devoted their time and energy to LVIA over many decades and, despite a few bumps along the way, kept our organization strong.

Members receive discounts on most LVIA fundraising events throughout the year. LVIA provides free recycling services to all residents with multiple Waste Management bins located on the Community Building property. LVIA sponsors monthly Gymkhanas for the benefit of young and old alike who enjoy competing on their horses. LVIA also sponsors both the Community and Gymkhana Queens programs. Join today!

Leona Valley Improvement Association Membership Form

• New Member • Renewal • Associate (Non-Leona Valley Resident) Membership Level: • Family—\$40 • Individual—\$25 • Senior/Senior Couple—\$20

I/We would like to make an additional donation of \$ _____ to support our community activities

Please make your tax-deductible check out to: LVIA and mail to P O Box 783, Leona Valley, CA 93551 or put in the LVIA Box at Rancher's Market

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner: _____ Date: _____

Children: _____

Address: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____ Occupation: _____

May we include you in our Annual Roster? Yes No If yes, please check: Address Phone E-mail

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	EVENT SUPPORTER	COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS	ACTIVITIES
___ LVIA Board Position ___ Membership Committee ___ Newsletter ___ Telephone?E-Mail Tree ___ Building/Grounds ___ Maintenance Crews ___ LVIA Boosters ___ Community Queens ___ Committee ___ Gymkhana Queens ___ Committee ___ Horse Arena Committee	___ 4-H Spaghetti Dinner ___ Valentine's Day Event ___ St. Patrick's Day Event ___ Membership Breakfast ___ 4-H Easter Egg Hunt ___ 4-H Memorial Day Event ___ Community Queens Pageant ___ Sertoma Events ___ Cherry Parade & Festival ___ Gymkhana Queens Pageant ___ Halloween Contest & Caravan ___ Holiday Home Tour & more	___ Town Council ___ Sertoma ___ 4-H Club ___ Fire Safe Council ___ Backcountry Horsemen ___ Leona Heritage Park and Pioneer Building ___ West Antelope Valley Historic Society	___ Horse Related ___ Youth Related ___ Social Events ___ Other _____ _____ _____

AC DAVE CELEBRATES 20 YEARS!

For two decades, AC Dave Heating & Air has been more than just an HVAC company; we have been neighbors serving neighbors throughout the Lakes and Valleys.

What started as one man's dream commitment to honest workmanship, fair pricing, and treating every customer like family, and with the help and dedication from the unseen backbone of the business - MY FAMILY - we are thankful that AC Dave Heating & Air has grown into a trusted local business built almost entirely on referrals, repeat customers, and community relationships.

We Have Gone Through A Lot

Through scorching summer heat waves, frozen winter mornings, fires, power outages, changing technologies, virus outbreaks, family illnesses and losses, and evolving industry standards, one thing has remained constant: our commitment to you, our local families and friends.

Family-Owned and Operated

As a family-owned and operated company, AC Dave Heating & Air understands that heating and air conditioning isn't just about equipment. It's about making sure grandparents stay warm on cold nights, families stay cool during triple-digit temperatures, and homeowners have someone they can trust when comfort matters most.

We Have Served Thousands of You

Over the past 20 years, we've had the privilege of serving thousands of customers throughout Lake Hughes, Elizabeth Lake, Green Valley, Leona Valley, and surrounding communities. Many of our customers have become lifelong friends, and some of the families we helped years ago now call us when their grown children purchase their first homes.

The HVAC Industry Has Changed

Over two decades, the HVAC industry has changed dramatically, but our values have not. We still believe in showing up when we say we will, explaining repairs honestly, recommending only what the customer truly needs, and standing behind our work. Those simple principles have helped us earn the trust of our community as we continue to serve generation after generation.

Heartfelt Gratitude

As we celebrate 20 years in business, we do so with heartfelt gratitude. Every service call, installation, maintenance visit, recommendation, and referral has helped make this milestone possible. So, from our family to yours, thank you for allowing AC Dave Heating & Air to be part of your homes, your lives, and your community. Here's to the next chapter of keeping our Lakes & Valleys comfortable.

Thank you for 20 incredible years of support, friendship and trust! Happy 4th of July! If you need us, call us: 661-270-1961. www.acdaveheatingandair.com



Leona Valley Racketteers Continue On!

As our 4-H year comes to an end, the Racketteers have elected new officers at our June meeting. This will be my last article as Reporter. I have enjoyed writing to the community about our awesome 4-H club this year! Thank you for reading!

This was my second year doing the Swine project, and my favorite part was showing my pig, Dash, at the Poppy Festival! I've learned so much and I had a lot of fun.

I hope to meet new people who are interested in joining our 4-H club at our Open House on Monday, August 17th at 6:30pm! We do more than just show livestock - we also have projects that include; sewing, food preservation, gardening, arts and crafts, and more! Have a wonderful summer! Racketteers Reporter- Avery Mullen

The Racketteers proudly represented Leona Valley in the 53rd annual Cherry Parade by carrying the banner to start the event. They marched the entire length of the parade route, letting everyone along the way know that the fun was about to start! Thanks from the Parade Committee for your volunteer service!



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Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Women's Club



Happy Anniversary to the USA ...

Fifty years ago, I was fortunate enough to cross this wonderful country on the Bicentennial Wagon Train. This was to celebrate 200 years of our great home. To all of my friends and local citizens, I wish you all a very happy anniversary!

I took a bit of liberty with the opening of this article. And now would like to let you all know that we have a really special quilt we are offering a chance to win with a drawing on October 1st. The quilt is something that any nature or animal lover will want to cuddle up with. There will be pictures on our Facebook page and on the local sites. You will also see it at 49r Days and other event places. Tickets are \$5.00 each.

We recently attended the California Federation of Women's Clubs in Ontario, California. And we are proud to announce that we once again won an award for Membership. And many of our other district clubs won awards as well as the Sierra-Cahuenga District of which we are a part. In addition, our club is happy about our member, and past club president, Jeanette Lundberg, who will, for the next two years, be the President of Sierra-Cahuenga District. Our little club is really shining and is becoming well known statewide.

With the end of the school year, we have been asked once again to donate a gift card to a worthy graduating student. One of our members is also a member of the Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Union School Board. That board member is Terri Moss, and she will be presenting the gift card to that special student. This is so special to all of us, and we look forward to many years of giving this to our local community.

Our ladies were in rare form on our float in the Cherry Festival Parade in Leona Valley. The weather was perfect and we received first place. You can look for us at 49r Days as we will be in that parade as well. Give us a wave now.

As summer is approaching, we are planning some outings to just take a break and spend some time together having fun. We have planned to go once again to the Santa Monica Pier for a day and then to Ojai for a day of olive oil tasting and some shopping. Before the year is over, we will be adding some more trips.

Of course, we still will be doing sewing and other projects just to keep ourselves busy and productive. Thank you all for continued support. In addition, stop by on a Monday and see all the projects that we are involved in. Perhaps there is something that will interest you.

Information on our club is available on our Facebook page at Hughes-Elizabeth Lakes Woman's Club or call our President Judy Miller at 661-609-4822.



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Joe	Mrs. T.	Jay
Deceased	Deceased	435-9837 (Not yet)

Lakes & Valleys Art Guild

Our next art show starts June 27 and is our Juried Show. Almost 90 artworks were submitted by local artists and then judged by a well known Los Angeles artist, who chose 40 to qualify for awards. Our show will feature the pieces he chose and prizes will be presented at our Show opening on July 11, from 4 to 7pm. Come and enjoy food, drinks, and live music. You can meet the artists and vote for your People’s Choice award. We also have raffles for great prizes.

We had a great time building our float for the Cherry Parade. Our theme focused on the recycling we do to raise funds for scholarships and awards for local artists. We made a large whiskey bottle, beer can and wine bottle and labeled them to follow the Stars, Stripes and Cherry Delights theme of the parade. We dressed up as drunken cherries that had been blown off the tree. We were thrilled to receive the Best of Parade ribbon!

There will be another Acrylic Paint Pour class on Sunday, July 19, from 11am to 1pm. Tami will be teaching how to create abstract designs. The cost is \$45 and includes all instruction and materials. Everyone has fun learning new techniques!

We have a yearlong series of Kid’s Craft days. Crafts are geared toward upcoming holidays and the Father’s Day one had a great turnout. We have also added a Creator’s Workshop for artists and crafters who want to share their work time with other like-minded people, on the first and third Fridays of each month, from 2 to 4pm.

Check our website at www.lakesandvalleysartgallery.org for all of our upcoming classes and events. And be sure to follow us on Facebook.



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2026 CHERRY PARADE WINNERS

Best of Parade - Lakes & Valley Art Guild

Queens

- 1st place - Lancaster Queens
- 2nd place - Leona Valley Queens
- 3rd place - AV Queens

Equestrians

- 1st place - Tania Williams
- 2nd place - Chara Ranch

Non-profits

- 1st place - Lakes & Valley Art Guild
- 2nd place - Hughes/Elizabeth Lakes Woman's Club
- 3rd place - Tree People

Businesses

- 1st place - Shadow Brew
- 2nd place - Dog House

Cars/Trucks before 1960

- 1st place - Bill Rostilli
- 2nd place - Bob Reader
- 3rd place - Kirk Day

Cars/Trucks

- 1st place - Naked Burros
- 2nd place - Lazy T
- 3rd place - General Lee

Non-car

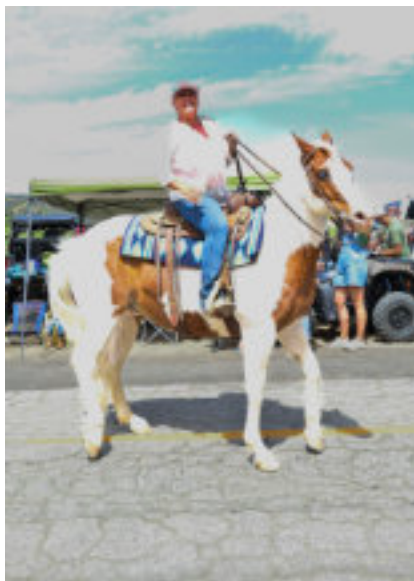
- 1st place - Tommy Wickerd

Clubs

- 1st place - AV Bookmobile



Lancaster Queens above & Chara Ranch below



Tania Williams, left
Shadow Brew, center
Lazy T Ranch, right



More Cherry Parade Highlights!





Cherry Chapters

LVIA

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Palmdale, CA

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Leona Valley, CA 93551

COVER PAGE

LVIA COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER • CHERRY CHAPTERS

JULY 2026

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

For Future Planning!

July 6 - Monday - WAVHS meeting, 5 pm
July 11 - Saturday - LVAG Art Show Opening, 4pm, Art Gallery
July 13 - Monday - LV Town Council meeting, 7 pm
July 16 - Thursday - LVIA General meeting, 7:30 pm
July 20 - Monday - 4-H General meeting, 6:30 pm

August 3 - Monday - WAVHS meeting, 5 pm
August 10 - Monday - LV Town Council meeting, 7 pm
August 17 - Monday - 4-H General meeting, 6:30 pm
August 20 - Thursday - LVIA General meeting, 7:30 pm
August 22 - Saturday - LVAG Art Show Opening, 4pm, Art Gallery

September 5 - Saturday - Community Garage Sale

September 7 - Monday - WAVHS meeting, 5 pm
September 12 - Saturday - Gymkhana, 8am
September 14 - Monday - LV Town Council meeting, 7 pm
September 17 - Thursday - LVIA General meeting, 7:30 pm
September 21 - Monday - 4-H General meeting, 6:30 pm
September 26 - Saturday - Gymkhana, 8am

June 27 - Gymkhana

No Gymkhanas in July or August - too hot!

September 5 - Garage Sale

October 17 - Oktoberfest

Use this Zelle QR code to pay for your membership or any LVIA events.

