

ARCADIA CENTRAL

Newsletter of the Arcadia Camelback Neighborhood Association

February 2023



Doing Good in the 'Hood

Shemer Art Center

artwork showcased at Shemer during the New Horizons High School Student Art Exhibition? What better way to inspire and empower budding artists? To that end, Shemer also works to secure award donations. This year, over 76 awards were awarded to 46 outstanding high school artists.

NO DOUBT YOU'VE driven by Shemer Art Center countless times. But have you ever stopped and gone inside? To many Arcadia residents, the Shemer remains a mystery, while it quietly (but enthusiastically) supports and showcases Arizona artists—including Arcadia residents! The Shemer Art Center is a museum with rotating art exhibits and a giftshop of unique treasures. It offers classes, events and workshops suited for children and adults, for inexperienced and established artists. All of this inside a 104-year-old adobe house that, itself, is a neighborhood treasure.

Arcadia residents are incredibly fortunate to have one of Phoenix's "Points of Pride" right down the street. This small and unique art museum is a perpetual landmark—generations of Arcadia families have grown up going to Shemer for cultural events and classes.

During Covid, Shemer closed its doors for only 10 weeks (during which time, they pivoted and developed a virtual class platform which is still available today, serving students as far away as Ireland). By May 2020, people were growing eager to get back to activities, and Shemer responded by re-opening that June for in-person kids' summer camps filled primarily by Arcadia-area kids. Given the fear and confusion surrounding Covid, it was a difficult decision, but the kids' summer program success gave the staff confidence to gradually re-open for adult students in July, and to the general public in August.

Did you know that teenagers across the Valley annually have

In addition to offering classes, workshops, lectures, exhibitions and exciting social events (many of which are **free**), Shemer supports our community throughout the year, including ACMNA's spring and fall Camelback Road cleanups, and providing overflow parking to neighbors who may to rent the lot for personal events. Each fall, Shemer serves as the staging area for Arcadia High School's annual homecoming parade. It also coordinates with Veritas, Brophy and Arcadia High School's National Honor Societies so students can earn community service hours by volunteering at Shemer events.

FUN FACT: In 2016, a new annual event debuted: Shemer Honors, where an Arizona artist who has achieved great success and has given back to the local community is recognized, Kennedy Honors program style. Angela Tassoni, a 1985 Arcadia High School graduate, was the first to be showcased for her exquisite and internationally celebrated jewelry or "wearable art".

FUN FACT #2: The Shemer is actually owned by the City of Phoenix, but the daily operations and staffing have been handled by a non-profit 501(c)(3) since 2010.

It is a privilege to have such a gem in our neighborhood. Thank you, Shemer staff, for working tirelessly to keep our niche art center open, providing our community with rich cultural experiences and attractive indoor/ outdoor spaces for generations to come.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE who is doing good things for Arcadia?

Visit www.acmna.org/want-to-share to nominate them to appear in our newsletter.

ACMNA Board Nominees



Michael Phillips



Scott Zielinski

At our annual meeting on March 18th (see back page for details), the ACMNA membership will vote on our 2023 slate. The following board members are up for election: Michael Phillips, Scott Zielinski and Kim Pangalos (not pictured). Read their bios at acmna.org/who-we-are.

At this time, we have two open board positions. If you are interested in being a member of our board please email your bio and a short write-up of why you are interested in being a part of our board to <mailto:info@ACMNA.org>.

ARCADIA UNDERGROUND

Power Line Burial Update

The ACMNA Board has decided to table the Arcadia Underground project after learning that the cost to complete the work would come in around \$2.00 per square foot. That would mean a one-half acre property would pay \$50,000 for the underground conversion. The Board considered it doubtful property owners would approve the project with such a high per-home cost.

Neighbors who still wish to pursue powerline conversion may form smaller groups. The minimum viable size is about 12 homes.



Sunday, March 26, 2023 - 8:00 to 11:00
Hopi Elementary School 5110 E. Lafayette Blvd, Phoenix, 85018
[details at www.ACMNA.org/events](http://www.ACMNA.org/events)

Sponsored by:



Have a car you want to show?

Register online at <https://www.acmna.org/events/arcadia-auto-rama-2023>
Registration (donation) fee of \$20 advance, \$30 at gate; Acceptable show entries include: Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, and specialty vehicles such as Ice Cream Truck, Military Vehicle, Trailer, Lawn Mower, Tractor, Scooter. **Exhibitor staging begins at 7 AM.** Trophies Include: "Best in Show" (People's Choice) and "Best in Arcadia" (Judges Choice). The "Best in Arcadia" award includes front page *bragging rights* published in the May edition of the Arcadia Central newsletter.

ARCADIA

Camelback Mountain Neighborhood Association
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Newsletter

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ACMNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Association Board of Directors meet at 6pm on the first Thursday of the month (Except July and August) Prince of Peace, Choir Room (NW corner).

These meetings are open to the public and Arcadia residents are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted 5 days prior to meetings at: www.acmna.org/agendas

ACMNA website: www.acmna.org

Newsletter Archive: www.arcadiacentral.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/ACMNA

Sign up for our Email notices (sent only when important issues occur):

www.acmna.org/join-our-mailing-list

Street Smarts

Stay safe when operating e-scooters & e-bikes

You've no doubt seen an increase in Phat scooters in the neighborhood, but did you know the birth of PHAT has a connection to Arcadia? The one of the founders of PHAT, Kevin Johnson, was riding around the Arcadia neighborhood on an electric scooter from China that a friend of his had bought – and he was stopped 15 times in one mile to ask what he was riding. Sensing an opportunity, he started PHAT to import scooters from China. PHAT is located south of Sky Harbor airport and is working to bring more of the scooter production to North America.

While the advent of these scooters is wonderful in many ways, they also bring (as new technology often does) unanticipated challenge. For e-scooters of all makes and models, the main concern is the safety of riders who are navigating public streets.

Operating an e-scooter or electric bicycle does not require any type of license, registration, or insurance. These vehicles can be operated on roads and bike paths at a top speed of 20 mph. In contrast, vehicles that use a fueled engine as a source of propulsion – a Moped or engine-driven bicycle – do require the operator to hold a license, registration, and insurance, and can be operated on roads on at a top speed of 25 mph (Moped) or 20 mph (engine bicycle).

Complaints regarding e-scooters include failing to obey stop signs; disregard of when to yield to pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists. Riders have also been observed ignoring other traffic rules, riding on sidewalks, and merging from driveways into roadways without consideration for oncoming traffic. All of these issues represent dangers to e-scooter riders themselves and to others who cross their paths.



Photo courtesy of phatrides.com

In response to these concerns, Phoenix City Council in May 2022 issued new Phoenix City Codes (P.C.C's) The Phoenix ordinances are in [Article XVII \(“Motorized Electric Bicycles”\)](#) of the City Code. A good summary of Phoenix laws is available at [ValuePenguin](#). (Note: full links are printed below.) Those using or planning to use an electric bicycle or scooter are advised to read these before taking to the road. Each violation of the Phoenix City Code 36-500 laws holds a mandatory minimum of fine \$100 and will be recorded as a civil traffic infraction.

In an attempt to curb potential dangers, the City of Phoenix Police Department plans initially to educate riders of e-scooter and electric bikes, before beginning wide-spread use of citations. That said, the codes are on the books, and enforcement of penalties is at police discretion.

If you own and operate an e-scooter or e-bicycle, or if you allow your children to ride, please do so with the utmost caution and respect for your neighbors and other vehicles, people and animals you encounter on the road. Remember that rules exist to maintain safety for all of us within the community.

https://phoenix.municipal.codes/CC/36_ArtXVII
www.valuepenguin.com/arizona-moped-scooter-insurance-laws

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www.arcadiacentral.com

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Preserving our neighborhood starts with you.

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- ◆ ACMNA Board Nominees
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- ◆ AutoRama!
- ◆ Underground update

ACMNA Annual Meeting

Saturday, March 18

Meeting 8:30 – 10:00 AM

Prince of Peace Church (Gym) 3641 N. 56th St

Don't miss your chance to socialize with your neighbors and get up-to-date on important issues affecting Arcadia and surrounding areas. The 36th annual ACMNA annual meeting offers all this and more. This year's agenda includes:

- ◆ ACMNA State of The Neighborhood
- ◆ 56th Street Improvement Update
- ◆ Real Estate Update
- ◆ Short Term Rentals
- ◆ Driverless Vehicles Coming to Arcadia
- ◆ Police Update and News
- ◆ Meet Your New District 6 Councilman

Doors open at 8:00 AM

Coffee, tea, water, bagels, and donuts will be provided.

Upcoming Events

ACMNA Board Meetings

March 2, 6 PM

April 6, 6 PM

Prince of Peace Choir Room

www.acmna.org/agendas

ACMNA Annual Meeting

March 18, doors open at 8:00 AM

Meeting: 8:30—10:00 AM

Prince of Peace Gymnasium

AutoRama

March 26, 8—11:00 AM

Exhibitor staving begins at 7 AM

Hopi Elementary School

5110 E Lafayette Blvd

**Get out and meet
your neighbors!**