



Annual Reports 2025

GVD 2025 Annual President's Report

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as president this past year. It was a most successful year due to the fine efforts of the very talented and dedicated board members and all the volunteers who stepped up this past year. The attached reports will attest to that.

“Lord willing and the creek don’t rise,” I look forward to serving my second year as president in 2026.

Respectfully,

Sandie Stone, President

GVD 2026 Goals

Voter Outreach:

- Petition Palooza, February 28, 2pm to 5pm in room 203.
- Get Out the Vote with canvassing, house parties, and voter registrations.
- Participate in the Co-ordinated Campaign.
- Postcard writing events.
- Support our Democratic Candidates!

Membership:

We are looking forward to a surge in membership for the year 2026 as the mid-term election becomes critical. A number over 600 would be excellent!

Fundraising Committee:

- Ask HQ staff to promote volunteerism as people are signing up for events.
- Send out blasts for event needs.
- Get new committee members.
- Take advantage of the Mid-Term Elections for fundraising.
- Have another Chili Cookoff!
- Additional fundraisers – trivia afternoons, Oktoberfest, trip to State Capitol. New ideas welcome.

Headquarters:

The goal for next year is to continue keeping the office running smoothly, perhaps going to a 6 hour/day schedule when things get busier as the election nears.

Program Committee:

Continue to offer interesting speakers and to invite as many candidates as possible.

Fundraising Committee Annual Report

VP Fundraising: Tatiana and Tom Hladky

Events during the year:

Date	Event	Location	Funds Raised
01/25/25	Winery Tour	Sonoita	\$ -8.23
03/15/25	Blue Wave Dinner/Auction	Quail Creek	\$3850.00
04/11/25	Trip to Capitol	Phoenix	\$ 0.00
05/04/25	Chili Cook Off	CPAC	\$1984.00
06/11/25	Trivia Afternoon	Room 203	\$ 90.00
10/19/25	Oktoberfest	CPAC	\$1891.00
11/09/25	Trivia Afternoon	Room 203	\$ 190.20
12/07/25	Annual Dinner	CPAC	Unknown as of now
12/12/25	Poinsettia Sale at Continental Center Holiday Event	GV Dem HQ	Unknown as of now
Year Round	Change for Change	Room 203	\$ 624.53
		Total	\$8621.50

Other fundraising efforts:

We purchased 288 GV Democrat logo wine glasses at \$3.00 each as well as 144 Pilsner glasses at \$4.47 for Oktoberfest. These glasses will sell throughout the year to raise a bit of cash.

Things to do differently:

Wine Tour. Unfortunately, we had a loss of \$8.23. We sent a survey out and people remarked how cold it was during January, but they liked the food the committee prepared. This should have been a great fundraiser if held in April or October. GVR's winery tours always sell out. Time of year is important. The trip to the Capitol. This event was successful, except for the number of participants.

Signs and T-Shirts:

The Fundraising Committee is not actively participating in purchase of yard signs and t-shirts. These items are money-makers!

Thank you to our creative and committed Fundraising Committee members:

Sandie Stone, Mark and Sandy Eckstein, Jennifer Stowell, Naneki Elliott, Kate Goldsworthy, and Frank Medina.

Voter Outreach Committee

VP Outreach: Arlynn Ostlund

Thank you to committee members: Sandie S., George M., Debra M., Pam I., Ellen C., Judy H. Kathy C., Laura C., Cliff M., Tish S., Susan R., and Arlynn O.

Meetings: We are a working committee; we meet on the 4th Monday of every month at 3pm at HQ. Please join us!

2025 Goals:

1. Committee to bring in 50 new members for GVD's by encouraging membership at rallies and other events. Partially met.
2. Co-sponsor rally's, with LD19. Met.
3. Maintain other voter outreach activities, such as house parties, sidewalk sale days, petition signing etc. Met.
4. Develop and maintain a "Things We Can Do List". Partially met.
- 5.

Committee Activities:

- Providing support for each other during this stressful time, by sharing glimmers of hope and camaraderie in our work.
- Committee did group training for voter registration and phone banking with SOS.
- Actively worked on gathering signatures for various petitions.
- Participated in Sidewalk Sale Days. We continue to implement fun themes to attract folks.
- Held 7 Postcard Parties. Sent out over 5000 postcards!
- Assisted with first and third Saturday Rallies, including set-up, take down, food collection and "orange-vest" monitoring.
- Hosted a booth at Fiesta Sahuarita.
- Will participate in the Plaza Christmas Celebration, hosting a wine and cheese on 12/7.

Many thanks again to our awesome voter outreach committee! It has been a privilege and honor to chair this committee for the past 8 years.

Membership Committee

VP Membership: Nelda and Tom Lobb

Membership Committee consists of Chairs: Tom and Nelda Lobb, Ray Omdahl, Nelda & Tom Lobb

Our year ended September 30, 2025 with a total of 470 paid members. We do not accept renewals during the month of October; but beginning November we accept renewals and new members for the year 2026.

Our tasks include regularly updating the membership list and providing a printed copy for headquarters, updating Publicity Committee with information to be added to Constant Contact, and maintaining a presence at every Saturday forum.

Headquarters

VP Headquarters: Judy Knappe

- Our We Care program collected donations for several local charities including the Sahuarita Food Bank, the Arivaca Early Learning Center, the Imago Dei School, SAMU Migrant Welcome Center in Nogales, Sr. Jose's Women's Center, the Refugee Settlement Center, Genesis House, Youth on Their Own, and the Sopori School.
- We have kept our hardworking and dedicated volunteer staff busy this year. We went to a five-day schedule in May, after only being open 4 days/week for a while due to a staff shortage. We closed in July when things were quite slow, except on Wednesdays, to give everyone a bit of a summer break, and will close for two weeks in December for the Holidays.

We started a casual social gathering at Brindis on Saturday afternoons, originally twice a month, later only once per month when the summer heat became discouraging. We have had as many as 30 attendees and everyone seems to enjoy being able to sit around chatting/venting with like-minded people in a very laid-back setting.

Publicity Committee

VP Publicity: Henne Queisser

The Publicity Committee is charged with communicating GVD-relevant events and programs via the newsletter, website, and social media. The committee is also responsible for publicizing meetings, speakers, and special events on other platforms including the *Green Valley News*, NextDoor, and various media outlets.

A special thank you to those who assisted with publicity this year:

- **Kathleen McCullough** for posting our program announcements to the calendar of *Green Valley News*
- **Wendy Pendleton** for adding contacts to our mailing list data base
- **Nancy Anacker, Judy Knape, and Nina Campfield** for proofreading our newsletters
- **George McGaughey and Judy Knape** for managing Facebook
- **Bill Bates** for posting to NextDoor and Blue Sky

This year was a busy one for publicity. Here are some numbers:

Our mailing list now contains almost 1800 contacts, up from 1100 last year. We created 116 separate publications, including monthly newsletters, mid-month updates, eBlasts, and Calls for Action. For the year, over 160,000 emails were sent out. The open rate for our mailings averaged 59%, which is well above the industry average of 23%.

In 2025, there were 8158 visits to our website by 4211 different individuals. The highest traffic month was April with 1328 visits by 742 individuals.

Our Facebook site currently has 518 followers. In the past 90 days, we had over 86,000 views, many coming in a huge spike after the No Kings rally on October 18th. Our fairly new BlueSky account has 70 followers and over 100 posts.

Program Committee

Chair: Sandie Stone

Thanks to a great committee, made up of Nancy Anaker, Henne Queisser, George McGaughey, Paul McCreary, and Sandie Stone, we had an exceptional year of great speakers.

January 25	James Ertel - AI How it Works (55 in attendance)
February 8	David Dunford – Trumps Mideast Policies (54 in attendance)
February 22	Margo Cowan - Keep Tucson Together (60 in attendance)
March 8	Randy Peterson, Imago DEI Middle School (29 in attendance)
March 22	Sheriff David Hathaway -- Friendly Relations at the Border (54 in attendance)
April 12*	Shelley Hartman and others - Save Our Schools (75 in attendance)
April 26	Greg Taylor - Future of Pima Community College (29 in attendance)
May 10	Kim Khoury Update on AZDP (45 in attendance)
May 24	Michael Brescis - Whiskey is for Drinking Water is for Fighting (Over 52 in attendance)
June 14	Senator Gabaldon and Representative Stephanie Stahl-Hamilton (39 in attendance)
June 28	Matt Mandel - Trumps Tariffs Here Today Gone Tomorrow (62 in attendance)
July 26	Brittany Smith – Youth on Their Own (38 in attendance)
August 9	Mo Goldman – Immigration Update Is There any Hope (83 in attendance)
August 23 attendance)	Kris Roush - Did You Break Your Stress Ball Again? (61 in attendance)
Sept 13*	University of AZ - Young Democrats (100 in attendance)
Sept 27	Meet candidates Brian Matlock and Nick Mansour. (30 in attendance)
October 11	Dr Ruiz - Candidate for Superintendent of Schools (35 in attendance)

Program Committee (continued):

- October 25 Michael Bryan – BBBill and its Impact on AZ (73 in attendance)
- October 26* Roundtable Discussion Dan Shearer, Kendall Blust, Bohdan Zachary, Paul Ingram, Moderator Larry Bodine, Is Freedom of the Press in Jeopardy? (150 in attendance)
- November 8 Bill Bates – AI and Crypto What Can Go Wrong? (33 in attendance)
- November 22 Dr. Michael Butts – Candidate for Superintendent of Schools (23 in attendance)

* Joint meetings with DCQC

Discussion Group

Member at Large, Brenda Allee-Bates

The Wednesday discussion group was well attended all year.

Attendance ranged from 20 to 45 attendees. We were surprised that attendance during the summer months averaged 25.

The group encouraged the members to utilize the 5 calls app. Each week we highlighted a topic for calls. Posters for headquarters front window were created to reinforce that topic. Examples of the tag lines are:

- Save Our Schools
- We Are Not at War – immigration/deportation.
- Stop the Chaos – tariffs!
- Big Bullshit Bill
- Stop Medicaid Cuts – focus nationally for Democrats in May
- Ciscomani votes to cut Medicaid and SNAP
- Juan, They Stood Up to a Bully – Can You Grow a Spine?
- You Can't Blame Democrats for a Government Shutdown when you control ALL 3 branches of Government!
- Release the Epstein Files – Silence is Compliance.

Many of the posters and tag lines were specific to Representative Ciscomani and his votes against his voter's best interest. The discussion group attendees were highly active in the club's monthly rallies as well as the national No Kings days.

Policy Liaison

Member at Large, Bill Bates

The most overused word in the English language for the year 2025 has to be “unprecedented”. As in “unprecedented” assaults on our Constitution, our Rule of Law, our personal freedoms guaranteed within that Constitution. Trump and his Project 2025 team of Oligarchs wasted no time in flooding the zone. From the phony “Department of Government Efficiency” led by top donor Elon Musk and his band of tech nerds purging government agencies of career employees, defunding the Department of Education, and eliminating the U.S.A.I.D. (estimated to cost 600,000 lives) to the so called Big Beautiful Bill rewarding wealthy MAGA donors with debt fueled tax cuts while depriving millions of affordable health care and basic nutrition assistance. April brought “Liberation Day” imposing tariffs across the globe, even on islands inhabited mostly by penguins, all the while lying to the public about who pays the tariff taxes. The campaign of revenge and retribution began immediately with pardons issued to convicted J6 criminals while directing the DOJ to open purely political investigations of opponents. The number of unqualified, incompetent boot licking loyalists appointed to key cabinet positions was “unprecedented.” As were the number of lies told by a shameless Secretary of Gaslighting. Among Trump, his family, his associates and his cabinet; the staggering levels of corruption right out in the open was “unprecedented.” The crimes being committed by Trump’s \$200 billion Mass Deportation Program and secret police force of ICE agents is “unprecedented.” The use of our military as a domestic police force in “blue” cities is “unprecedented”-- as well as illegal.

Closer to home Governor Hobbs vetoed 21 bills passed by the purely partisan Republican led state legislature dealing with everything from elections, immigration, public health and crypto friendly legislation that could have posed unnecessary risks to both the Treasury and State Retirement System. Locally and statewide, citizens are pushing back on big tech data centers which will pose tremendous strain on energy and water resources. But the 2020 election deniers haven’t given up.

Policy, Bill Bates, Member at Large (continued):

They are preparing to repackage their voting restrictions in a way to bypass the Governor's veto and put it on the ballot as a referendum to change the state Constitution.

Yet we end the year 2025 with hope. Polling shows the public is awakening to the incompetence, the corruption, the lawlessness, the endless gaslighting. The public protests are growing. The first cracks are noticeable in the MAGA base. Trump's disastrous economic policies are affecting everyone, from farm to city and everything in between. The Epstein scandal isn't going away no matter the attempted gaslighting.

The lower courts are holding the line and providing something of a firewall to the most egregious violations. Elections held in 2025 also give us good reason to hope that 2026 can be the year America comes to it's senses.

If 2025 is to be characterized as "unprecedented," then 2026 needs to be the year of "vigilance." Those vested in this undemocratic movement don't intend to give up power willingly. Each of us needs to stay alert, stay informed and be a part of defending our democracy and restoring sanity to America and to our place in the world.

Rally Team

Coordinator: George McGaughey

The rally team consists of eight members who do all the scheduling and set ups. Our protest rallies started in February. Since March, we've held rallies twice a month on the first and third Saturdays. There have been an average of more than 100 protesters at each of these events.

Our largest rallies to date have been the "No Kings" protests. At our "No Kings Day" June 14th rally, held jointly with We the People are Indivisible of Sahuarita, we had approximately 1,000 in attendance. At the next "No Kings Day," on October 18th, there were more than 2,000

Rally Team, George McGaughey (continued):

in attendance, with Indivisible holding a separate rally near Fry's in Sahuarita.

Rally themes have included Take Back the Flag, Arizona Schools, National Parks, and more. A banner with our new slogan, "Wise Up to Rise Up," is displayed at the rallies.

We have hosted several sign parties and many of the creative and colorful signs have been featured in the *Green Valley News*.

T-shirt and rally sign sales have netted several thousand dollars for GVD.

We are planning a January 6th event in 2026 and will have another "No Kings Day" scheduled for March 2026.