



Coronado Thunderbirds

April/May 2022
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Coronado Thunderbirds Newsletter – www.coronadothunderbirds.com

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BOARD MEMBERS

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- Bryan Stewart, Secretary
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- Ron McCall, Membership
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- Chris Korbin, Tours
-
- diana frederick, Newsletter

Meals 2 Go Price Change

By Hayden Alsvig, Mountain View Club Manager

Hello loyal Club members! The Mountain View Club will be changing the Meals 2 Go prices starting April 1, 2022.

To help any confusion, the reason behind this is due to the continuous rise in food prices as well as the new federal mandate that has set the minimum pay for all federal employees to \$15/hr.

The new prices are:

Meal for 4:

- Members \$23
- Non-Members \$25

Meal for 2:

- Members \$17
- Non-Members \$19

We want to thank you for your continued support and hope to see you all at the Club!

To Order: Call 505.846.5165, 505.846.1746, or email MVCcatering@us.af.mil. Phone orders will be taken Tuesday through Thursday, 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. Provide your name, phone number, size of order, and members can request the free meal for 2. Extras will not be available at time of pickup.



**PICK-UP
Between 3:30- 5:30 p.m.
outside of Mountain View
Club**

SNL Pension Plan Retirees Ad Hoc Pension Increase

By Jeffrey Philbin

My team and I have information to support a request for an Ad Hoc adjustment for SNL retiree participants in the Sandia National Laboratories’(SNL) Pension Plan. I, and other retirees, hope to make a presentation to the SNL Pension Plan Administrators about this request soon. The Ad Hoc pension increase request as was last done in 2002 when there was a 15% permanent increase in retiree pensions. We need the requested retiree information in helping us to illustrate that there are a lot of retirees concerned. There is no other involvement for retirees participating by providing the requested information. We plan to meet with the Pension Plan Group to try to convince them to agree to an Ad Hoc increase and to get the following information.

If you would like more information, contact Jeffrey Philbin, jsphilb@msn.com, 505.385.8830.

Getting Informed: The “WHEELS Museum,” Guest Speaker Leba Freed, President, April 12, 2022

By John Anthes



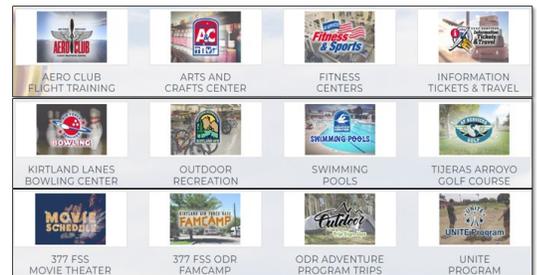
The WHEELS Museum, Inc., was founded nearly thirteen years ago for the express purpose of saving the former Santa Fe Railway Locomotive Shops in Albuquerque (then owned by the BNSF Railway) from either demolition or sale to a private industrial developer. Over this period of time and through intense efforts, The WHEELS Museum was successful in raising the funds to operate and ultimately supplement the purchase of the historic Locomotive Shops by the City of Albuquerque where \$6,185,000 was the total amount raised by WHEELS over 13 years. Leba Freed is a life-long ABQ resident, a graduate from UNM as a teacher, her family came here in the 1920’s. Leba ran the family business, the FREED Company for over 20 yrs. She is a member of several professional orgs: President of WHEELS Museum Board, Member of Legislative Railyards Advisory Board, Member of UNM Technology Council Board, and the Museum Counsel. She is married to a local physician and they have 4 children and 5 grandchildren. We are in discussions to evaluate a future Membership tour.

<https://www.visitalbuquerque.org/listing/wheels-museum/1038/>

KAFB Activities

By [Kirtland Forces Support](#)

Did you know there are multiple opportunities for recreational activities accessible via the DBIDs access? Click the link above to see the choices.



General Meetings

From Dave Melgaard
General Meetings are:

Date: Second Tuesday of the Month

Where: Mountain View Club.

When:
11:00 a.m. Social and Lunch
12:00 noon Business meeting

Program starts after Business Meeting

Coronado Thunderbirds Newsletter –New Look

By *diana frederick*

Welcome to the newly imagined newsletter. The goals were:

- To embrace the past with the original Thunderbird logo and to utilize a non-current Sandia logo, so as to avoid conflicts.
- To simplify the design and enlarge the font for better readability.
- Behind the scenes, to utilize a program that was accessible for the editor, required the least amount of time to create, and utilized the least amount of printable ink.

The hope is that this new imagining will be pleasing to read and if you have some concerns, please bring them to my attention. I look forward to being a member of this club and working with this group of people. Thank you.

The Legendary Automaton that Inspired the Academy-Award Winning Movie “HUGO,” May 10, 2022

By John Anthes



Invited by Philadelphia’s The Franklin Institute to restore a dormant 220-year-old poet-draughtsman clockwork figure, Santa Fe’s Andy Baron was able to identify and resolve its primary defects, and bring back nuances of movement that no living person had seen. Andy’s automaton odyssey began with an invitation from Brian Selznick, to help Brian understand the inner workings of the automaton. Brian had just begun to write “The Invention of Hugo Cabret,” the New York Times Bestseller that in turn became the acclaimed film. Andy studied several images that Brian provided, and distilled his observations into a brief description to aid the author. In response, Brian sent a draft of the nascent manuscript, and some of the sketches that would ultimately evolve into the book’s many illustrations. Andy was delighted to read the story and felt an immediate affinity for Hugo. Andy became a role model and consultant for the book, and Brian ultimately recommended him to The Franklin Institute, to accomplish in real life what Brian’s protagonist achieves in “HUGO;” the successful revivification of the automaton. Through photos of the automaton’s inner workings, and rare video clips, Andy will convey details of his rewarding experience, and explore some of the necessary steps needed to restore the automaton to full operation.

See the following links:

<https://www-stage64.scholastic.com/teachers/videos/teaching-content/meet-andrewbaron-mechanical-genius-behind-brian-selznicks-invention-hugo-cabret/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hv3obL9HqvY>

<https://www.maillardetautomaton.com>

<https://www.fi.edu/history-resources/automaton> (obtained image from this site)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maillardet%27s_automaton

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Andy Baron is Owner and Chief technician of Alpine Clock Repair, LLC. Top quality clock repair utilizing the 21st Century Professional Standards & Practices: <https://alpineclockrepair.com>. In other technical fields, Andy co-created the go-to website for enthusiasts of vintage Theremin musical instruments, and has appeared on public television to talk about this subject: <https://rcatheremin.com> From the PBS production “Majesty of Music and Math” (excerpt): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvQnpintY5k>. Andy also owns Popyrus Studio, Inc. Pop-Up Book Design - Senior paper engineer and mechanic. Andy’s presentation of a groundbreaking work at the Smithsonian, “Birth of a Corporate Pop-up Book,” and a demonstration of his “movable” book design, by Rube Goldberg’s granddaughter and President of Rube Goldberg Inc., can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dFUz-hwL9kw>. Video of the movable book cover starts at 9:14, though the entire presentation is well worth watching: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gb3orZVHleU>. Books featuring Andy’s paper designs have won top honors, including: The Movable Book Society’s Meggendorfer Prize, Print Magazine Certificate of Design Excellence, Smithsonian Magazine Notable Book for Children, Newsweek’s - Top Pick for Kids, Parenting. Magazine Best Book, An ALA (American Library Association) Notable Book, Swedish Gold Medal Design Awards and many others.

## Join the Coronado Thunderbirds

By Ron McCall

If you are 50 years or older and have retired from Sandia National Laboratories, Los Alamos National Labs, DOE/NNSA, other federal agencies, or the military, there are three steps to joining the Coronado Thunderbirds:

1. Become a member of the Mountain View Club (MVC). Click on this link: [Join the Mountain View Club](#)
2. Pay Coronado Thunderbird annual dues (January through December). The dues are currently \$15 per person requesting a DBIDS badge for KAFB access (if both family members want to have KAFB access, the dues are \$30). Checks for dues should be made out to "Coronado Thunderbirds." Contact Membership Chair, Ron McCall. Ron attends most monthly meetings, or you can contact him via email or cellphone so that he can give you information on how to submit your payment.
3. Obtain access to Kirtland Air Force Base. Ron McCall, Membership Chair, is the single point of contact for Base Passes.

Contact Ron via email [ronpammccall@msn.com](mailto:ronpammccall@msn.com). He will send you the necessary forms to join and inform you about the next steps. Please keep Ron updated with your current address, phone number, and email address. When you go to the Truman Visitor Control Center to pick up your badge, go Monday through Friday, 6:00am to 3:00pm. You will need your vehicle registration and proof of insurance.

## Golf par 3 Tournament

From The Blast



There will be a Golf par 3 Tournament on Saturday April 9, 2022, at 9:00

a.m. The entry fee will be \$20 not including the green fees and cart. All 18 holes will be between 80 and 220 yards. Individual play.

## "Purple Up!"

From The Blast

On April 15 you may notice a lot of people wearing purple. You may wonder why, well wonder no more...



### Travel Along the Rails with Ed Davis

*The Last Professional*

Come and listen to tales of this former train hopper/hobo who, in his twenties, traveled across the country on rails where he found the inspiration for this book. In the tradition of Kerouac, this book tells the story of two travelers linked by the yearning to wander and the quest for a simpler life.

The afternoon will include a talk and book signing by the author, a hobo-style lunch of hot dogs, chile, and custard catered by Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakhburgers and a screening of the 1928 silent black and white hobo film *Beggars of Life*

Dress in your best Hobo attire and you may win a prize!

Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1pm - 3pm  
\$20 Per Person, Limited Seating  
WHEELS Museum  
1100 2<sup>nd</sup> St SW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

For tickets call 505-243-6269 or email Leba Freed at [leba4@aol.com](mailto:leba4@aol.com) or Janet Coen at [jmariecoen@unm.edu](mailto:jmariecoen@unm.edu)  
PLEASE BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR A LOCAL FOOD BANK



## Travel Along the Rails with Ed Davis

By John Anthes

Meet Ed Davis, Author, of *The Last Professional*. Enjoy a catered lunch and watch the silent movie, *Beggars of Life*. Space is limited. Please RSVP to [leba4@aol.com](mailto:leba4@aol.com), [jmariecoen@unm.edu](mailto:jmariecoen@unm.edu), or call 505.243.6269 to make sure you have a reservation! All events include the opportunity to tour the museum.

The Wheels Museum, Inc. is a 501C3 non-profit community organization whose mission is to create a transportation museum at the downtown Albuquerque Steam Locomotive Repair Shops. We provide educational programs, tours, and presentations for the community in our 21,000 square foot historic building located at 2nd and Pacific SW (1100 2nd Street, SW). Tax deductible donations are gratefully accepted. Contact Leba at [leba4@aol.com](mailto:leba4@aol.com).