

Bellasera Neighborhood News

August 2003

PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

You may remember in 2001 the Board established a policy for conducting *Town Hall Meetings*. This type of meeting is designed to bring certain issues of concern or suggestions for improvements to the attention of the full community, to permit open public discussion of these issues, and to refer some issues to the Board for action, if that's the community's will.

The first of these meetings was conducted in November 2001. It was a lively discussion of many issues including the gate guard system, heating of the swimming pool, adding median lighting, making improvements to the areas along Lone Mountain Road, and the possibility of creating a children's play area. Many of the items discussed were either implemented or given further study and later considered by the Board for action.

Another Town Hall Meeting will be held in November. It will be the same format, with topics still to be identified. Due to the overflow crowd (about 125) at the clubhouse for the first Town Hall Meeting, we will be looking for a larger site nearby.

The newly created Long Range Planning Committee is scheduled to present an overview of its activity, its preliminary thoughts on where Bellasera is headed and what types of projects might be considered. The meeting will also include discussion of a few pre-selected topics of general concern.

This is where you come in. The Board, the Community Manager, and the committees are interested in iden-

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RABBIT REDUX

Rabbit Fences are ok ...If they conform to the Design Guidelines.

Help us out! The Board of Directors is responsible for enforcing the CC&Rs and the Design Guidelines (DG). Although the Board has adopted a "fair and reasonable" approach to enforcement, the Board cannot ignore its fiduciary duties. In this regard **the Association**

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MANAGER'S MEMO:

MONSOON SEASON

Let's not forget about the winds and rains that visit us each year. Last year Bellasera experienced a healthy dose from Mother Nature. The monsoon storms can take us all by surprise and can down homeowner trees and cacti, plus leave trails of erosion. If you are a seasonal resident and currently away from your home,

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MEETING NOTICES

Board of Directors Regular Meeting

The next regular meeting will be **Monday, Aug. 25 at 6:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.**

Budget and Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance committee will have its next scheduled meeting in September.

Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds committee's August meeting date will be posted on the clubhouse bulletin board.

Modifications Committee

The Modifications committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 20 at 5:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.** Modification applications are due no later than the Monday before the meeting.

Long Term Planning Committee

The Long Term Planning Committee meeting schedule will be posted on the bulletin board.

Activities Committee

The Activities committee will meet **Wednesday, August 6 at 10 a.m. at the clubhouse.**

Communications Committee

The Communications committee's August meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, August 21 at 6 p.m. at the clubhouse.**

SOCIAL SCENE

RESIDENTS' LUNCHEON: Thursday, Aug. 21 at noon at Squash Blossom in the Hyatt Regency Gainey Ranch, 7500 Doubletree Ranch Road, Scottsdale. Sign up no later than July 10. If you can't come after signing up, or if you don't want to carpool, please contact Jean Grutta at 488-5523 as soon as possible. We will meet at the clubhouse at 11:30 to carpool.

POT LUCK DINNER: There will be no pot luck dinner in August.

EVENING BRIDGE GROUP: Wednesday, August 13 and 27 at 6 p.m. in the clubhouse. Join us for an evening of social bridge, normally on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Call Flo Kostel at 488-0061, or Kathy Littlefield at 951-2549, or Bonnie Jones at 595-6103 for information.

POKER NIGHT: Every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse. If interested in playing, give your name to Community Manager Janyth Martin. Contact Paul Broad at 595-2955 or Marv Lefkowitz at 595-7738 for more information.

BOOK DISCUSSION: Will resume in September. The book that will be discussed at the next meeting is: John Adams, by David McCullough. Contact Marge Segal at 575-1776 if more information is needed.

GOLF: Formal group play will resume in October.

HIKES: Scheduled hikes will resume in the fall.

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WE ALL SCREAM FOR ICE CREAM

A favorite summer event — an **Ice Cream Social** — has been arranged for **Sunday, Aug. 10 at 7 p.m.** at the clubhouse by the Activities committee.

The fee will be \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

Sign up by Thursday, Aug. 7 and pay Janyth Martin at sign-up. Checks should be made out to Bellasera Community Association.

For additional information, contact Anne Chernis at 488-5033.

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HEALTH & FITNESS

YOGA CLASS: Yoga classes are conducted on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. A great way to increase your strength, flexibility and attitude. Please contact our instructor, Valerie Neumann at 575-7880 if you have any questions.

STRENGTH TRAINING: Class continues to meet **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m.** with back-up instruction. It isn't known when instructor Cory Schidler will return from military duty, but the group is meeting and would like to have new participants. This is a full body workout with stretching; you choose the intensity. Please be there 10 minutes before the class begins.

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GRILLIN' UP A STORM

Mark down **Sunday, Sept. 17** on your calendars — the date of the giant Bellasera Barbecue.

The Activities committee is developing plans for this event now, and is putting out a call for Hamburger Chefs. If you are interested, contact Caryn Briedis at 488-5033.

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COOL YOUR TOOTSIES AT FOSSIL SPRINGS

A mid-summer **hike** to **Fossil Springs** on **Saturday, Aug. 9**, may be a way to beat the heat.

This moderately strenuous 5-mile round-trip hike near the town of Strawberry on the Mogollon Rim will lead to a beautiful natural spring.

Hikers will leave from the clubhouse at 7 a.m. for the drive to the trailhead.

Sign up in advance at the clubhouse. For additional information, contact Vivian Kurtz at 575-1391.

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GOOD NEIGHBORS...

PICK UP AFTER THEIR DOGS.

WIN A GOOD NEIGHBOR LABEL

AUGUST 2003

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Strength 7 a.m.	2 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
3	4 Strength 7 a.m. City Bulk & Brush Collec- tion Week	5 Poker 7 p.m.	6 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m. Activities Cttee 10 a.m.	7	8 Strength 7 a.m.	9 Yoga 8:30 a.m. Hike 7 a.m.
10 Ice Cream Social 7 p.m.	11 Strength 7 a.m.	12 Poker 7 p.m.	13 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m. Bridge 6 p.m.	14	15 Strength 7 a.m.	16 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
17	18 Strength 7 a.m.	19 Poker 7 p.m.	20 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m. Modifications Cttee 5:30 p.m.	21 Resident's Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Communica- tions Cttee 6 p.m.	22 Strength 7 a.m.	23 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
24	25 Strength 7 a.m. Directors Meeting 6:30 p.m.	26 Poker 7 p.m.	27 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m. Bridge 6 p.m.	28	29	30 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
31						

AUGUST IN THE GARDEN

By Pauline Marx

MESQUITE TREES are prone to blowing over during the strong winds of our monsoon season. This is caused by improper watering which causes the roots to develop close to the trunk.

If there is a large canopy of lush foliage the tree can become top-heavy and can blow over due to the combination of strong winds and saturated soil.

The key to preventing a weak root system is to widen the tree's watering perimeters. This is especially true of mesquite trees. Place the irrigation lines under the drip line of the tree (the outer edge of the foliage) to attract the roots away from the trunk. If the tree sits in a retention basin and rain provides adequate water, emitters should be turned off.

To keep the tree in good proportion, trim the branches if they become too long or develop too much in one direction.

Limbs can be prevented from breaking. They should be thinned with a long-handled lopper or with a pole pruner. Remove crooked or curved limbs up to about one-third of the interior foliage and also remove cross branches. Balance the tree's weight as you thin. A tree leaning in one direction leans to the heavy side, so as you remove weight and density on that side, the tree will straighten.

Plant 'Em Now

August is a great time to plant DESERT-ADAPTED PLANTS because they thrive in the heat.

The growing season for desert vegetation is during the warm months. Their dormant period is when the weather cools down. Mesquite, acacia, palo verde, and sage will do well when planted now — as long as they receive supplemental water. Be sure that the plants that you buy are Arizona-grown. Plants grown in a climate-controlled greenhouse do not adapt as well as those grown outside right here in Arizona. They will have the same climatic conditions as your yard and have a much better chance of acclimating to their new surroundings.

Fertilize Citrus Trees

Apply a complete citrus fertilizer this month, following the label directions. Thoroughly soak the soil before you apply the fertilizer and water immediately afterward.

This late summer feeding is particularly essential for navel oranges and tangerines.

Recycle

Now is the time to recycle all the dried and dying remnants of your vegetable and flower gardens. Chop or break these dried brown materials into small pieces and

layer them to compost with fresh green grass, coffee grounds, or manure. **If you do not have grass clippings available, you can use any green leaves from plants or vegetables in your kitchen.**

The general proportion for making compost is two-thirds brown and one-third green. Moisten each layer as you go. Once these material are composted, they will provide an incredible boost to the soil fertility of next season's garden.

Add to Your Cactus Collection

PRICKLY PEAR CACTI are especially easy to propagate by cuttings, which are best done at the cactus' time of growth — spring through late summer. **The tricky part is how to handle the pads**, which in some species can look totally free of glochids (the tiny, barely visible thorns that cause great itching and sensitivity when embedded in the skin). Don't believe your eyes, they are there waiting to hurt you. Wear leather gloves and **use tongs or strips of folded newspaper** to handle pads. If you collect glochids in your skin, scrape them away with a credit card.

In order to start new prickly pear cacti, remove a pad or cluster of pads at the joint where it is attached to the plant with a clean cut. Then let the pad rest for a few days in the shade of a patio or under a tree while the cut calluses over. This self-healing process prevents the entry of bacteria which might cause death or disease to your new plant. The plant from which you took the cutting will heal in the same manner at the same time.

The callus is a dry, brown skin which forms over the area separated from the main plant. The length of time to make the callus varies according to the size of the callus. **When the cut has callused, plant the pad in well-draining sandy soil by burying the bottom third in the ground.** Let the soil continue the drying and healing process for a couple of days before watering the pad, then water weekly for about a month if we don't get rain. Taper the watering down to one a month through the winter. Continue monthly waterings through the first summer.

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(Questions about these or other plants? Call me at **575-0404** or e-mail me at **PlantPerson@Prodigy.net**)

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(President's Note — continued from page 1)

tifying those topics most worthy of discussion. **If you have a suggested topic, please submit it in writing to any one of the above.** It will be considered and, if selected, will be further researched and presented at the meeting.

There will also be a general discussion period in which other issues brought up from members in attendance will be discussed.

The procedure in the meeting will be as follows:

Issues are discussed until the Chair declares that consensus is apparent or that further discussion will not be useful. Each issue is disposed of as follows:

- a. **If consensus is apparent** - A Board member agreeing to place the issue before the Board for action at the next Board meeting.
- b. **If there is no consensus but some support exists** – The Board taking action to refer the issue to an existing Committee for study/action.
- c. **If there is no consensus but significant support exists and no suitable Committee exists** – A Board member agreeing to place the issue before the Board at the next Board meeting for submittal to an Ad Hoc Committee created for this issue.
- d. **If very little or no support** - Dropping the issue or postponing it to the next town hall meeting.

— **Dick Chenault**

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WHAT'S SNAKIN'?

It's "snake time" once again, and there have been plenty of sightings in Bellasera already.

If one becomes an unwanted visitor to your property, you can call:

**J & R Reptile Rescue/Relocation
(480) 585-0148**

Jeff or Rachel Almond will respond to remove it and relocate it.

Rural Metro will respond if there is a snake inside your home; otherwise they refer calls to J & R.

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(Manager's Memo — continued from page 1)

please be warned that these monsoons seem to target those shallow rooted and top heavy mesquite trees. Have your neighbor or house inspector keep an eye on your landscaping while you're away and report any problems to you immediately. You'll have a better chance of saving your mesquite tree if it's re-staked within a day or two of being blown down.

**LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
AND THOSE UTILITY BOXES**

THANKS BELLASERA RESIDENTS. A brief statement, but a well deserved accolade to almost everyone. One of my responsibilities is to ensure that each Owner is maintaining their landscaping and let me report that it's really looking good out there.

On a separate note, owners with the large green utility boxes on your lot — please remember to keep vegetation cut back in order to allow access (generally emergencies only) to the box. If you have made improvements close to the box or allow your vegetation to grow and cover the box, it is subject to being damaged by APS should they need to perform work in that box. The utility company is not required to repair any damage that may be caused to your landscaping or other improvements. Do your part to keep them as clear as possible and accessible.

Also, if you have a fire hydrant on your property, please make sure it is fully visible from the street — for your safety and the safety of the community.

— **Janyth Martin**

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ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE HELP SOUGHT

The Activities committee is looking for additional members.

If you are interested in joining the committee, contact **Caryn Briedis** at 488-5033 or Community Manager **Janyth Martin**. A brief "application" should be completed.

The committee can also use volunteers to help at its events if you are not able to commit to committee membership. Contact Caryn to volunteer.

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ARTS AND CRAFTS EVENT PLANNED

A **Bellasera Creative Arts Cooperative** is being formed for a **show and sale** at the clubhouse on **Saturday, Nov. 1** — the first of what is planned as a twice-per-year event.

Bellasera resident **Janet Biondo** is the driving force behind this creative co-op, which will be restricted to artists and craftspeople in our community. Space in the show will be limited to the first 20 professionals or skilled amateurs interested in showing and selling their works to other residents and guests.

Janet, who creates stained glass windows and jewelry, explained that there will be a small fee for joining the show because the group must rent the clubhouse and post a security deposit.

“We have a lot of very talented people in the community who create all sorts of art,” she said. “Here’s a way for them to exhibit their work and for the residents to buy original items.”

For more information, or to reserve a place in the exhibition, contact Janet at 488-0259.

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(Rabbit Redux - Continued from page 1)

asks your help in enforcing the existing guidelines for “rabbit” fencing throughout the community.

The Problem. Many “rabbit” fence installations are fine, but some do not conform to the prescribed guidelines. **The Board requests that all homeowners evaluate their fencing (if they have it). If it does not conform, the Board asks that you voluntarily take the appropriate action to correct any problems.**

Guidelines. The original design guidelines, created by Del Webb and given to us as new homeowners, did not allow any alterations, changes, or additions to walls on the boundaries of our properties. Because many homeowners were suffering heavy losses of valuable plants due to rabbits, the Modifications Committee adopted new guidelines in late 2001 to permit “rabbit” fencing under certain conditions. These guidelines are found on a new (amended) page 21 of the design guidelines.

The guidelines allow rabbit fencing if:

- *the fencing is installed on the INSIDE of the view fence,*
- *the fence material is not more than 24” above the knee (block) of the wall.*
- *the material is not opaque.*
- *the material conforms to color guidelines in the design guidelines document..*
- *the material is not too shiny — in conformity with Scottsdale’s Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance.*

Approval. The design guidelines also state that any installation of “rabbit” fencing, as with other modifications, **requires application to and approval by the Modifications Committee prior to installation.** Most installations have complied with this requirement, and, if installed as approved by the MC, are ok.

If your rabbit fencing was installed without prior approval from the committee, please notify Community Manager **Janyth Martin**. The Association will arrange to inspect the fencing and, if it conforms, the committee will issue a letter of approval.

The Community Manager has samples of conforming fencing material. Material such as a 24-inch-high dark green vinyl-covered chicken wire comes in 25 foot sections and is available at stores such as Ace Hardware.

The Board and the Community Manager thank you in advance for your help in this endeavor to keep Bellasera looking great.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have meeting dates or articles for publication, please turn them in to the Association office no later than the 13th of the month.

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The newsletter editor is **Bart Sotnick**. He is available at **575-7040** or by e-mail at:

editor@azbellasera.org

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Neither the Bellasera Community Association nor its Board of Directors provides any warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, timeliness, completeness, merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, of any information contained in this newsletter in any form or manner whatsoever.

CHECK THOSE TIMERS

Recent power outages in Bellasera serve as a reminder to check all items that may be affected.

In addition to the usual blinking VCR and kitchen appliance clocks, you may want to check the timer that controls the drip irrigation. Although many timers are battery powered and thus not affected, some models may revert to a default setting completely different than previously programmed. Just remember to check it or have your landscape maintenance service personnel take a look.

And don't forget to check on timers on lamps and those that are often part of water softener systems.

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YOUR COMMUNITY

Board of Directors:

Dick Chenault — President
Dennis Lamb — Vice President
Al Ricciardi — Secretary
Robert Tack — Treasurer
Jane Hillerson — Director

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Current Committee Chairpeople:

Activities: Caryn Briedis
Budget: Paul Broad

Buildings & Grounds: Paul Anetsberger
Communications: Keith Christian
Long Term Planning: Gary Stettner
Modifications: Jim Gleason

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Community Manager:

Janyth Martin
(480) 488-0400
manager@azbellasera.org

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Questions regarding your Homeowner's Association Account? Contact Capital Consultants Management Corporation (CCMC) — **(480) 921-7500**

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Security/Front Gate: (480) 488-3663

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Internet Web Site:
www.azbellasera.org

HELP BELLASERA CONSERVE MONEY

If you're reading this newsletter on a copy delivered by mail, it means you either have elected to continue getting a mailed copy or you've not been given the choice of computer delivery.

Many of our residents have opted for electronic delivery, saving our association printing and postage costs, while at the same time reducing their postal mailbox clutter.

If you are willing to receive the monthly newsletter by computer only, send an e-mail to Keith Christian at klc@cts.com, indicating your choice.

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NEWS FOR "EVENTS & MILESTONES" SOUGHT

Bellasera Neighborhood News is calling for material for its column — brief notices of births, marriages and other events that touch the lives of residents.

Information for the column should be forwarded to the newsletter editor or the Community Manager.

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SCOTTSDALE LISTS BRUSH AND BULK REMOVAL DATE

Scottsdale will pick up **brush and bulk items** in the Bellasera area **during the week beginning Monday, August 4.**

Brush and bulk items to be picked up should be at curbside by 5 a.m. at the start of the week. It will be removed during the week.

The city's Solid Waste Management department urged homeowners to help by separating the brush or "green" items from the bulk items. The brush material can be diverted from landfills and converted into mulch, ground cover or soil blend.

For more information, contact Solid Waste Management at **(480) 312-5600.**

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Bellasera Community Association
7350 E. Ponte Bella Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85262
Janyth Martin
Community Manager
(480) 488-0400
(480) 488-2103 Fax
Security: (480) 488-3663

NEW BELLASERA PHONE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE

The new Bellasera Community Directory, developed by the Communications committee, is now available.

The new edition has an alphabetical listing of residents, with lot number, address, phone number and e-mail address. There's also a street address listing, with the occupants' names and number, and a section with out-of-town mailing addresses.

The introduction includes information about our community organizations, and frequently called local phone numbers. All this in a 5.5 by 8.5 inch, spiral-bound booklet.

Local residents can pick up their copy from Community Manager **Janyth Martin** in the clubhouse. Homeowners who are away for the summer will find a copy waiting for them when they return. For those who prefer not to wait, please let Janyth know and she'll mail it to you upon request.

To minimize printing cost, **only one copy per address is available**. Periodic updates to the directory may appear in the monthly Bellasera Neighborhood News.