

# Bellasera Neighborhood News

April 2004

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

### VOLUNTEER FOR A COMMITTEE

As I've said here before, volunteer committees are the lifeblood of our community. They offer a way not only for accomplishment of work that is beyond the capacity of the Board (e.g., preparation of a detailed budget) but also serve as a means to keep the Association members tied to what is happening here.

As it did last year, the election of new Directors this month will require that the Board formally reappoint all our committee members. This can be with the same or with some new people. New committee appointments will probably occur in late April. Current committee appointments continue in effect until the new ones are made.

**We are asking all current members to contact their chairperson or Janyth to confirm their continuing interest in a committee. We also ask any other interested members to come forward at this time.**

Serving on a committee can give you a sense of accomplishment and help to keep Bellasera a great place to live. Committees and their principle areas of focus are:

**Activities** - advise and assist the Board of Directors with regard to community-wide activities.

- Initiate, plan, and conduct social functions and other Association-wide activities, attempting to provide a wide spectrum of activities to involve as many members as possible.

**Budget & Finance** - advise and assist the Board of Directors with regard to budgeting and financial matters.

- Make recommendations to the Board of Directors on budgeting and financial policy and investment of Association funds.
- Review monthly and annual financial reports.
- Prepare the annual budget for review and approval by the Board of Directors.

**Building & Grounds** - advise and assist the Board of Directors with regard to buildings and grounds.

- Maintain familiarity with the general physical condition of the Common Areas, including the Community Center, entry areas, streets, side-

*(Continued on page 5)*

## MANAGER'S MEMO:

### We're Here for You

From time to time homeowners may see something of concern or need to register a complaint that requires assistance from management. There's a simple procedure for this. At the front counter under the management bulletin board at the entrance to the clubhouse is the Suggestions notebook containing forms to be submitted.

When filling out the form, please provide as much detail as possible with respect to your concern, including

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## MEETING NOTICES

### Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Next regular meeting will be **Monday, April 26** at **6:30 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Budget and Finance Committee

The Budget and Finance committee will meet **Tuesday, April 20** at **4 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds committee meeting will be **Monday, April 12** at **3 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Modifications Committee

The Modifications committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 21** at **5:30 p.m.** at the clubhouse. Modification applications are due no later than the Monday before the meeting.

### Long Range Planning Committee

The Long Range Planning Committee will meet **Wednesday, April 7** at **3 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Activities Committee

The Activities committee will meet **Wednesday, April 7** at **10 a.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Communications Committee

The Communications committee will meet **Wednesday, April 21** at **4 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

## SOCIAL SCENE

**RESIDENTS' LUNCHEON:** Thursday, April 15, at Barcelona, 15440 Greenway-Hayden Loop, Scottsdale. The luncheon will be at 12 noon. Sign up before April 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. The group will meet at the clubhouse at 11:30 a.m. to carpool.

**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:** Wednesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the clubhouse. The book to be discussed is The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka. Contact Marge Segal at 575-1776 if more information is needed.

**GOLF:** Tuesday, April 6 at Dove Valley; Tuesdays April 13 and 20 at The 500 Club; and Monday, April 26 at Tatum Ranch. Contact Ellen Bornstein at 575-9848 for tee times, cost and other information.

**HIKE:** Wednesday, April 7, Saguaro Lake, and Thursday, April 22, West Fork of Oak Creek, S. dona. For both hikes, the group will leave from the clubhouse at 8:30 a.m. Sign up at the clubhouse. For additional information, contact Vivian Kurtz at 575-1391 or Sid Charnock at 595-8746.

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## SUNDAY BRUNCH WITH FRIENDS

A pot-luck brunch, one of the community's most popular activities, has been arranged for Sunday, April 18 in the clubhouse.

The event, set up by the Activities committee, will begin at 11 a.m. Bring your favorite breakfast dish (to serve about six to eight people) and serving utensils. Coffee, orange juice, tomato juice and soft drinks will be provided. Anne Chernis (488-6565) will host the event.

Sign up before Thursday, April 15

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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:** The class meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a.m. The group 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. Cory Schidler is the instructor.

**POWERBALL PILATES:** This new, energetic class is held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8 a.m. Instructor Carol Enderle offers a dynamic and challenging workout for all levels of exercisers. Contact Carol at 201-2385 if you have any questions.

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## LONG RANGE PLANNING ADDS TWO

Dave Johnson and Sharon Luse were named to the Long Range Planning Committee by the Board of Directors in February.

Their appointments followed the Board's action in February to increase the size of the committee to nine.

The Board, at its March meeting, approved the withdrawal of Melissa Price's resignation from the committee. She will remain on the committee temporarily.

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## SECOND CREATIVE HANDS ART SHOW ROLLS OUT APRIL 24

A group of 16 Bellasera artists and artisans will be showing and selling their work at the second Creative Hands art show and sale on Saturday, April 24 in the clubhouse.

"There will be 16 of your talented neighbors offering their creative work for sale," explained Janet Biondo. She organized the event that was first staged last year.

"Come to pick up that special item or just to browse and lend your support."

Contact Janet at 488-0259 for more information.

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# APRIL 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>City Bulk &amp; Brush Collection Week</b>				1 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  <b>Meet the Candidates</b> 7 p.m.	2 Strength 7 a.m.	3 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
4	5 Strength 7 a.m.	6 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  Golf  Poker 7 p.m.	7 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m.  <b>Hike</b> 8:30 a.m.  <b>Activities Cttee</b> 10 a.m.  <b>Long Range Planning Cttee</b> 3 p.m.	8 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  <b>ANNUAL MEETING</b> 7 p.m.	9 Strength 7 a.m.	10 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
11	12 Strength 7 a.m.  <b>Buildings &amp; Grounds Cttee</b> 3 p.m.	13 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  Golf  Poker 7 p.m.	14 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m.	15 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  <b>Residents' Lunch</b> 11:30 a.m.	16 Strength 7 a.m.	17 Yoga 8:30 a.m.
18 <b>Pot Luck Brunch</b> 11 a.m.	19 Strength 7 a.m.	20 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  Golf  Poker 7 p.m.  <b>Budget Cttee</b> 4 p.m.	21 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m.  Book Club 7 p.m. <b>Communications Cttee</b> 4 p.m.  <b>Modifications Cttee</b> 5:30 p.m.	22 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  <b>Hike</b> 8:30 a.m.	23 Strength 7 a.m.	24 Yoga 8:30 a.m.  <b>Creative Hands Art Show</b> 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
25	26 Strength 7 a.m.  Golf  <b>Directors Meeting</b> 6:30 p.m.	27 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.  Poker 7 p.m.	28 Strength 7 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m.	29 Powerball Pilates 8 a.m.	30 Strength 7 a.m.	

## APRIL IN THE GARDEN

By Pauline Marx

Now is the time to cut back those plants that have looked so awful since that bad frost this last winter. Most can be cut back about half the length of the branch. When you cut back branches, those that are still alive will be slightly green and firm; dead branches are gray and snap off when cut.

Those of us who garden in the valley often hear that our soil contains caliche. Caliche is a deposit of calcium carbonate (lime) that lies at or below the soil surface. Caliche looks like — and can be as impenetrable as — concrete. Roots cannot penetrate the hard layer of caliche and water cannot drain through it.

If the layer is thin, you can probably break through it with a shovel before planting.

To improve the soil, dig up the area to depth of 18 inches and thoroughly mix in organic matter. An underground drainage system may be necessary if you have your heart set on planting in a caliche area in your yard. A landscape architect can design such a system for you. It is a job for a professional.

### A Good Month to Plant

April is one of the most desirable months for planting everything from annuals, vegetables and herbs to low-water-use desert plants, citrus and tropicals.

If you have severe soil conditions, evidenced by rock hard ground, low productivity and chlorotic or yellow looking plants, it's a good idea to start with a soil test. Local garden centers can do them for you, but call first. This test will give you data and recommendations as to the amounts of amendments needed for optimal production. Usually soil preparation involves the adjustment of the pH level through acidification; increasing organic levels through mulching; and increasing major and minor nutrient levels through fertilization.

As the weather warms up the insect population increases. Aphids love to feast on our leafy vegetables such as spinach and annuals such as snapdragons. Neem-oil-based insecticides are the best of the organic insecticides. The best defense against aphids is a strong stream of water applied every day until they don't come back anymore.

### Herbs

Basil, thyme, oregano, fennel, dill, parsley and mint are only a few of the herbs that can be planted at this time. 'Siam Queen', an anise-flavored basil, and 'Dani Lemon' are great gourmet basil varieties.

Monitor plants as the weather warms up and increase watering as needed.

Water slowly, deeply and infrequently to the canopy of the tree (the drip line).

Let wildflowers in your yard to go to seed. They will self-sow and come up again next year, or collect the seed in another area of your yard and sow it in your landscape in October.

Fertilize citrus in April with one-third of the tree's annual nitrogen requirement. Follow package directions and water thoroughly before and after applying to prevent fertilizer burn. Newly planted citrus trees generally need no fertilizer for the first year.

### Keep 'em Separate

Do not put your succulents and cacti on the same line of an automated watering system as trees, shrubs, perennials or lawns. The long interval between watering so beneficial for succulents is detrimental to non-succulents while the amount and frequency of watering for herbaceous and woody plants is lethal for most succulents.

If you want to put succulents on an automatic watering system, dedicate one station entirely to these plants. In my garden most cacti and succulents are not on the watering system and thrive well on the water Mother Nature provides unless I see that they are stressed. If I see that, I get out the garden house and soak the area.

### Ocotillo — Dead or Alive?

It is often difficult to tell if an ocotillo is alive or not when there are no leaves. Here are a couple of ways to know: 1.) Take the end of the cane and pull it gently toward the ground. If it bends, it is still alive. If it snaps it is dead. 2.) Look carefully at the stem around the thorn. Surrounding the thorn is a diamond-shaped area that often has tan or whitish bark that peels away. Beneath that bark the stem should be green or yellow-green. If it is dark gray, the cane is dead.

Always prune dead canes as far back as you can to prevent unsightly stumps and spindly branching regrowth.

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(Questions about 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)*

walks, landscape medians, fences, and cul-de-sacs.

- Review (annually) Requests for Proposal for buildings and grounds related contract services, such as landscape maintenance, clubhouse maintenance, pool service, etc.

**Communications** - advise and assist the Board of Directors with regard to community communications matters.

- Plan and conduct an effective communications program to improve communication among members, committees, community management, and the Board of Directors.
- Be responsible for publishing a monthly newsletter for the Association.
- Be responsible for establishing and maintaining a web site for the Association.
- Be responsible for formulating policy for use and control of bulletin boards in the clubhouse.

**Long-Range Planning** - advise and assist the Board of Directors with regard to mid- and long-range planning matters.

- Review all Bellasera Common Areas with the intent of determining any need for future changes, improvements, or enhancements which would improve the quality of life for residents or help maintain or increase property values in Bellasera.
- Develop a written Long Range Plan covering a 20 year period.

**Modifications** – has exclusive jurisdiction over modifications, additions and alterations made on or to existing structures in Bellasera.

**This committee performs a critical service for the community.**

- Review and approve all applications for modifications, etc. for compliance with Design Guidelines.
- Responsible for making changes to the Guidelines when necessary.

— **Dick Chenault**

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*(Manager's Memo — continued from page 1)*

your name and telephone number. This allows me to reach you if I have additional questions or need clarification.

Though we receive few calls or written complaints, having homeowners put their concern in writing is the best way for the Community Manager to follow through and follow-up on the situation.

Please try to avoid leaving a message on voice mail when it comes to a complaint. Alternative ways of reaching the office at Bellasera is by sending me a facsimile at **(480) 488-2103** or, if you have access to the internet, you may send an e-mail to **JMartin@ccmnet.com**. I'll respond as quickly as possible. Finally, if you feel hesitant about submitting your concern because we ask for your name, please don't be. All concerns/complaints remain confidential with the Community Manager. For the benefit of Bellasera, we do appreciate hearing from you.

— **Janyth Martin**

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**Water Aerobics Needs Participants to Schedule Classes—Proposed dates are Tuesdays & Thursdays.**

Interested participants need to stop by the clubhouse and sign up for water aerobics. Classes need to have a minimum of five participants and are planned for Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. **Carole Enderle** awaits hearing from us to set her opening class.

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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.

## REPORT ON COMMENTS FROM JANUARY 2004 SURVEY

In addition to the tabulation of the survey results published in last month's newsletter, the survey forms received with written comments (numbering 73) have all been reviewed by the Board. The items with multiple comments were:

1. Eleven said dues are high enough (or too high) and do not favor additional expenditures.
2. A few of the comments expressed a preference for removing a shift of guards (5), for keeping all shifts (9), or for putting in a play area (5).
3. Other comments (5) suggested removing mistletoe from all common areas within Bellasera.
4. Two of 73 expressed appreciation for the work of the Board and committees.

The rest of the comments were one-of-a-kind, but are still worthy of noting. All original survey forms, including the 130 without comments, are available in the Community Manager's office for review. Commentary in brackets is by Dick Chenault.

### LIST OF COMMENTS

1. Supply two surveys per house.
2. Some people disagree with items left off.
3. Turn off pool waterfalls to save utilities.
4. Repair chaises. [This is done periodically.— D.C.]
5. Get rid of saguaros in medians.
6. Main gate is left open for one hour at 8:30 p.m. [This is during the clubhouse security check. The time varies and the duration is normally more like 20 minutes, however.— D.C.]
7. Should be a wall around the community – otherwise we're like a "castle without a moat." [Not permitted under City stipulations for Bellasera development.— D.C.]
8. Too much noise from Lone Mountain road – should be a wall. [See above.—D.C.]
9. Solar panels in desert may be vulnerable to vandals.
10. Extend median at main gate to prevent U-turns.
11. Install shuffle board court.
12. Don't heat pool.
13. Median lights OK if electricity available.
14. Replace pool furniture.
15. Solar heating should be allowed for homes. [It is permitted.—D.C.]
16. Don't allow gas powered scooters.

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## AZ ART ALLIANCE EXHIBITORS

Bellasera residents **Richard J. Secor**, a watercolorist, and **Melissa A. Goodwin**, a photographer, have been selected by the Arizona Art Alliance for a solo exhibit. The exhibit will feature their latest works and will be on display from April 5 to May 17 in the **Daily News Sun** lobby in Surprise, AZ.

They are a husband and wife artistic team. Former residents of East Boothbay, Maine, they owned the School Street Gallery.

Their current works consist of both Southwest and coastal Maine, as well as selected lighthouses from both the East and West coasts.

Additionally, Secor and Goodwin will be exhibiting with many other artists at Centennial Hall, 263 N. Center Street, Mesa, AZ. on April 2-4.

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### **WANTED: NEWSLETTER EDITOR BACKUP**

**If you have a journalism, editing or publishing background — or even just a strong desire to help put together our community's newsletter, let us hear about it.**

**You can contact Community Manager Janyth Martin or the Communications committee. Keith Christian is the committee chairman.**

### **SCOTTSDALE LISTS BRUSH AND BULK REMOVAL DATE**

Scottsdale will pick up **brush and bulk items** in the Bellasera area **during the week beginning Monday, Mar. 29.**

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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## HIKE — OR SHOP

Bellasera's hikers are headed north to Sedona on Thursday, April 22 for their second scheduled hike of the month. But it's an **opportunity for non-hikers** to join the group for **a few hours of shopping in Sedona** while the hikers continue to the **West Fork of Oak Creak** for a **3-1/2 mile easy walk** along the stream.

The group will leave from the clubhouse at 8:30 a.m. Depending on the number of people signing up, arrangements will be made to have one or more vehicles for the non-hikers to use in Sedona while the hikers continue to the trailhead. The group will meet up again for a lunch in Sedona.

The first hike of the month, on Wednesday, April 7, will be on one of the trails at Saguaro Lake.

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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:** Jean Grutta (temp.)  
**Budget:**  
**Buildings & Grounds:** Paul Anetsberger  
**Communications:** Keith Christian  
**Long Term Planning:** Melissa Price  
**Modifications:** Jim Gleason

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#### Community Manager:

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

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**

## PRELIMINARY BUDGET CLEARED

A preliminary budget for Bellasera's 2004-05 fiscal year was agreed upon by the Board of Directors at a special meeting Thursday, March 25. Dues sufficient to cover the preliminary budget would be \$142 per month – matching current dues.

A detailed explanation of the budget is planned during the community's Annual Meeting, which will take place Thursday, April 8 and the Legend Trail meeting room.

The Board of Directors will finalize the budget at the April 26 regular meeting.

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## ADVERTISING SOUGHT FOR BELLASERA PHONE DIRECTORY

Bellasera residents with commercial enterprises may be able to purchase space in the next edition of the Bellasera Community Directory, to be issued in July.

The Communications committee, which is in charge of producing the directory, is considering the modest use of advertising to offset the cost of production. The first edition of the spiral-bound book was issued last July.

Those interested in advertising in the book are asked to contact **Jane Hillerson**, who will act as advertising manager for the project, at **595-7812**.

Details for advertising will be discussed at the committee's next meeting on April 21.

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## DIRECTORY UPDATES DUE

Has your e-mail address changed? Or your phone number? Want to drop your formal name for the name you use with friends? **Here's your chance to fix your listing** in the new issue of the Bellasera Community Directory, scheduled for July.

Send changes — **in writing** — to Community Manager **Janyth Martin** or Communications committee chairman **Keith Christian**. Changes are accepted by e-mail (**klc@cts.com** for **Keith** or **manager@azbellasera.org** for **Janyth**) or dropped off at Janyth's office in the clubhouse. And expect confirmation phone calls from committee members as the printing time approaches, in an effort to avoid errors.

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Bellavera Community Association  
7350 E. Ponte Bella Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

**Janyth Martin**

Community Manager

(480) 488-0400

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