

# Bellasera Neighborhood News

July 2004

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

*Once again* I'm asking all Bellasera residents to consider (or reconsider) volunteering for one of the committees that provide such valuable service to our community. I know you've read this before, but *we need you!*

These standing (continuing) committees have vacancies right now – Activities (1), Modifications (1 or 2), and Long Range Planning (2).

- The Activities committee plans, coordinates, and carries out social activities for members.
- The Modifications committee exercises architectural control over the exterior of houses to keep the community looking good.
- The Long Range Planning committee advises and assists the Board of Directors with regard to mid- and long-range planning matters, by reviewing 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.

In addition, the Board has established an *ad hoc* committee to review and make recommendations regarding the Bellasera Replacement Reserves fund. Most committee members for this will come from the existing Budget & Finance, Building & Grounds, and Long Range Planning committees, plus two from the community at large.

The Board is also planning to establish a by-laws committee soon to review our CC&Rs and By-laws to identify any areas that may need modification.

*If you think you can help on any of these committees, please contact the Community Manager at the clubhouse and file an application form.*

*Thanks for your participation.*

— Dick Chenault

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## BELLASERA TO GET NEW COMMUNITY MANAGER

Bellasera will be assigned a new Community Manager by the community's contracted management company, CCMC. The management company notified Board President **Dick Chenault** on June 23 that **Janyth Martin** is being replaced.

CCMC said it wanted to be sure the community gets the level of service that the community needs, Chenault

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## MEETING NOTICES

### Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Next regular meeting will be determined; a tentative date may be **Tuesday, July 13 at 6:30 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Budget and Finance Committee

The next Budget and Finance committee meeting will be **Tuesday, September 7** at the clubhouse.

### Building and Grounds Committee

The Building and Grounds committee meeting will be **Monday, July 19 at 3 p.m.** at the clubhouse.

### Modifications Committee

The Modifications committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 14 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 meeting date has not yet been set.

### Activities Committee

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

### Communications Committee

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

## SOCIAL SCENE

**RESIDENTS' LUNCHEON:** Thursday, July 15, at **Tonto Bar & Grill, 5736 E. Ranco Manana Blvd.**, 2.3 miles north of Carefree highway on the west side of Cave Creek Road, **Cave Creek..** The luncheon will be at **12 noon**. *Sign up before Monday, July 12.* If you can't come after signing up or if you don't want to car-pool, please contact **Sheila Lavin** at **473-0348** as soon as possible. The group will **meet at the clubhouse at 11:30 a.m. to carpool.**

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL:** Thursday, July 25, at **6:30 p.m.** at the Clubhouse. Adults will be charged \$4, children under 12 will be charged \$2. Brownies and cookies will be supplied by the Activities committee. *Sign up by Monday, July 19.* For additional information, contact **Jean Grutta** at **488-5523.**

**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:** There will be no meeting in June, July or August. The book for the **September 15 meeting** will be Madam Secretary: A Memoir by **Madeline Albright**. For further information, contact **Maureen Simpson** at **575-7693** or **maureensimpson@cox.net.**

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## NEW YEARS EVE SURVEY

Would you be interested in a community-wide New Year's Eve party this year?

Would you be willing to help with the event preparations?

The Activities committee would greatly appreciate your feedback to help it in its planning. Please contact **Sheila Lavin** at **473-0348** or by e-mail at **mel-sheila@aol.com**, or **Shari Rotherham** at **209-1873** or by e-mail at **eprother@aol.com** with your comments.

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## HEALTH & FITNESS

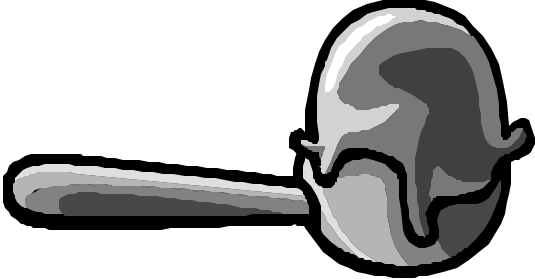
**YOGA CLASS:** Instructor Valerie Neumann has stopped Yoga classes for the duration of the summer. Look for classes to resume in the fall.

**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.

**GROUP CIRCUIT TRAINING:** This class, combining aerobics with strength training, meets **Mondays, Wednesdays** and **Fridays** at **7 a.m.** with Cory Schidler. Cost is \$7-\$9 per class depending on sessions purchased. Please remember to be there 10 minutes before the class begins.

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### ICE CREAM SOCIAL



**Sunday, July 25 — 6:30 p.m.**  
**Adults \$4      Children under 12 \$2**  
**Sign up by July 19**

## MOVE THAT SNAKE!

A new snake removal group has taken over for J.R. Reptile Rescue, which has gone out of business.

The new group, called **Heyoka**, has been assisting Bellasera residents with wandering snakes. The organization is owned by **Paul Tootalian**, a Terravita resident. He can be reached at **(480) 595-1999** — his home number, or **(480) 650-1450** — his cell phone; or **Brandon Zanith** at **(480) 229-5405**, his cell phone number.

There is no charge for the removal service but donations are gratefully accepted.

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# JuLY 2004

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday  | Friday                        | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------|----------|
|   |  |   |   | 1<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.  | 2<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.  | 3        |
| City Bulk &<br>Brush Collec-<br>tion Week       |  |   |   |   |                               |          |
| 4<br><b>INDEPEND-<br/>ENCE DAY</b>              | 5<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.   | 6<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.<br><br>Poker 7 p.m.  | 7<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.<br><b>Activities Cttee<br/>10 a.m.</b>               | 8<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.  | 9<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.  | 10       |
| 11  | 12<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.  | 13<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.<br><br>Poker 7 p.m.<br><b>Directors<br/>Meeting<br/>6:30 p.m.</b> | 14<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.<br><br><b>Modifications<br/>Cttee<br/>5:30 p.m.</b> | 15<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.<br><br><b>Residents'<br/>Lunch<br/>11:30 a.m.</b> | 16<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m. | 17       |
| 18  | 19<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.<br><br><b>Buildings &amp;<br/>Grounds Cttee<br/>3 p.m.</b> | 20<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.<br><br>Poker 7 p.m.   | 21<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.<br><br><b>Communica-<br/>tions Cttee<br/>4 p.m.</b> | 22<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.   | 23<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m. | 24       |
| 25<br><b>Ice Cream<br/>Social<br/>6:30 p.m.</b> | 26<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.  | 27<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.<br><br>Poker 7 p.m.   | 28<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m.   | 29<br>Powerball<br>Pilates 8 a.m.   | 30<br>Group Circuit<br>7 a.m. | 31       |

## JULY IN THE GARDEN

By Pauline Marx

How can we tell just what animal is digging holes in our gardens and the desert around us?

Many animals, especially small mammals but also insects and birds, burrow under trees, on rocky slopes, in flower pots and even out in the open. You may never see them digging but the evidence is hard to miss. The size of the hole, its location and the presence of trails, mounds of dirt, and remnants of food are clues to the inhabitant.

### Ground Squirrels

Harris antelope squirrels dig holes two inches in diameter, usually in sheltered spots near the base of a cactus or rocks. They are bushy-tailed with a white stripe on their side and are seen scampering about during the day. They are active throughout the year and may cool off in the burrow in the summer between foraging expeditions.

Another squirrel which may be the culprit is the round-tailed ground squirrel. They live out in the open like prairie dogs. They dig fan-shaped mounds of dirt which may lead to extensive tunnel networks and nest chambers three feet deep. They are active mainly in the morning and late afternoon. They both hibernate and spend the summer in their burrows.

### Mice

Mice make tiny one-inch diameter holes. These include:

Cactus mice, which nest in woodpiles and rocky places.

Bailey's pocket mouse, found in flat open places with creosote and sparse grasses and on slopes at the bases of desert mountains where palo verde and ocotillo grow. They feed on seeds of various cacti, grasses and other plants and are active all year. They are unique in that they can eat jojoba nuts, which are toxic to other mice.

House mice make smaller holes of less than one inch and are usually found in and around houses and buildings. Bumblebees use mouse holes for their colonies.

Rock squirrels make four-inch holes and nest in banks, rocky outcroppings, and possibly tree roots.

Besides these small mammals, a number of insects make holes.

### Insects

Solitary digger bees dig tiny holes and make small mud chimneys — to prevent a parasitic fly from planting an egg in the hole so the fly larvae can feed on the bee larvae.

The tarantula, the largest spider in the United States,

makes a 1- to 1 1/2-inch hole leading to a 12-inch tunnel. The adult may live there for years and wait near the opening at night to catch its dinner. The males travel to look for mates; the females typically stay at home.

You may see a quarter-sized hole at the base of your palo verde. That's the exit hole for the palo verde root borer. The female lays eggs at the base of the tree and the larvae burrow down to feed on the roots. After several years of feasting, five-inch grubs pupate and emerge as three-inch shiny black beetles, to mate and start the process all over again. The adult beetle emerges during the summer months and only live for about a month to six weeks. They are commonly seen flying about on rainy season nights but are poor fliers and often crash into things. They can defend themselves with a powerful bite.

### Monsoon Time

July and August are considered the "wet summer" months here in the desert. Soon drenching monsoon rains will occur from storms that bring much-needed moisture to the desert.

"Monsoon" is an Arabic word meaning "a change in the wind direction." The wind patterns here change from blowing from the northwest to blowing from the southeast and bring with them moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. These rains occur when water is most needed by plants, animals and people.

In some native cultures the new year begins with the monsoon season when the life-giving rains sprout seeds of crops, cactus, palo verde and mesquite and renew life from the parched "dry summer."

Wet summer brings its own natural activities such as the eerie nighttime bleating of toads at the pond as they emerge from moist mud seeking a mate.

These facts about the monsoon season were discussed in a recent issue of *Sonoran Quarterly*, a publication for members of the Desert Botanical Garden.

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

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## BOOK DONATIONS SOUGHT

Bellasera resident **Joan Jewett** is seeking donations of all types of books to add to a library that is being established at **Body Positive**, a Phoenix-based organization for those diagnosed as HIV-positive or with AIDS.

Joan is a volunteer for the organization, which will be dedicating the library in her late son's name. He passed away a decade ago.

The library will offer books to those who use the resource and research facility in downtown Phoenix, many of whom are of limited means.

She asked that residents contact her at **488-1458** to offer books — hard or soft cover — for the library. She will arrange to pick up the books.

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### YOUR COMMUNITY

#### Board of Directors:

**Dick Chenault** — President  
**Jim Gleason** — Vice President  
**Al Ricciardi** — Secretary  
**Paul Agranoff** — Treasurer  
 Vacancy — Director  
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#### Current Committee Chairpeople:

**Activities:** Jean Grutta  
**Budget:** Carlton Rooks  
**Buildings & Grounds:** Paul Anetsberger  
**Communications:** Keith Christian  
**Long Term Planning:** To be named  
**Modifications:** To be named

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#### Community Manager:

(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

(New Community Manager — continued from page 1)

related at the beginning of a special Board of Directors meeting called to interview candidates for an open spot on the board.

The management company will have a temporary manager on site until a new permanent manager is assigned, Chenault explained after the meeting. It is anticipated that the transition will be seamless to the community.

At the June 23 special meeting, the current board members interviewed **Bruce Martin** and **Hal Schultz**, two of the three candidates to fill the vacancy on the board created by the resignation of **Bob Tack**. A third candidate, **Paul Hilf**, was unable to attend the session.

The board had hoped to name a new member for the one remaining year of Tack's term at a regular board meeting on June 28, but scheduling conflicts forced the postponement of the June 28 regular meeting, Chenault told the audience of four attending the special session. No new date for the regular meeting had been set by the newsletter's deadline although it appeared that Tuesday, July 13, was a possible date for the next regular meeting.

According to the community's by-laws, board members will appoint a homeowner to fill the vacancy for the remaining portion of the term. In this case, the appointee will serve until the next annual meeting in April 2005.

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### LOISELLE THANKED FOR WEB CREATION

Bellasera's Communications committee, noting the departure of **Clayton Loisel** from its ranks, cited his creation of Bellasera's web site as an important contribution to the community.

Loiselle moved onto the Budget and Finance committee after more than two years on the Communications committee. Homeowners can only be a member of a single committee.

He set up the web site and has been running it as its "web master" for almost two years.

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

Community Manager  
(480) 488-0400  
(480) 488-2103 fax  
Security: (480) 488-3663