

Bellasera Neighborhood News

May 2006

www.azbellasera.org

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN PLACE

At the Bellasera Community Association Annual Meeting on April 6, three new Board members were elected. They are: **Shawn Meyer**, **Chuck Roach**, and **Bob Shriver**. They join current member **Bruce Martin**. Following the resignation of **Carol Sotnick** (see page 5), **Dennis Noone** applied for the open position and was appointed to the Board at their April 24 meeting.

The Board elected officers at their initial meeting on April 10. **Chuck Roach** will serve as President, **Bob Shriver** as Secretary, and **Dennis Noone** agreed on April 24 to serve as Treasurer.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON BOARD MEETING

—By **Chuck Roach**, *President, Bellasera Board of Directors*

With the coming of spring, new members of the Bellasera Community Association Board of Directors began tackling the emerging issues at its April 24, 2006 meeting.

Clubhouse repairs was the first hot topic to be discussed. Completing the steam room repairs is a high priority project. In addition, there are a few water leaks that have caused damage and mold formation in some clubhouse areas. These repairs will require ceiling tile and drywall replacement in the exercise room, kitchen and manager's office. New TVs will be purchased for the exercise room. Lastly, the fountain at the clubhouse entrance will be turned into a landscaped area to prevent further water intrusion into the manager's office.

Other Projects. Over the summer, we will be painting the frame and light poles at the tennis courts. We will also give the guardhouse interior a fresh coat of paint. Upon completion of the Spa refurbishment, we will be making some minor repairs in the pool area, which will not require any shutdown of the pool.

Rules, rules and more rules. We live in a society of rules generally designed to keep us safe from a variety of threats to our health, safety and well-being. Here at Bellasera, we have additional rules to further that goal, as well as, to protect our property values and our right to enjoy the amenities we purchased with our homes. We rely on two primary methods to support compliance with our rules: 1) voluntary adherence by our residents, their guests and contractors, 2) reports of violations to our management company for follow up. We do not have a police force or a paid compliance investigator. Several residents have approached me and asked why we don't enforce the rules. Simply put, if our residents don't let us know when they believe a rule is not being followed, we have very few ways of finding out. Please help us keep our community safe and beautiful by reporting suspected violations to the office.

Unleashed Dogs. This topic was the subject of considerable discussion. I do not have enough space left in my column to do justice to all the various comments that were made at our meeting so I will try my best to let you know where the Board stands at this time. The majority of the Board wishes to achieve a solution that will allow interested dog owners to use some portion of the common area as a place where dogs and humans can interact and socialize while protecting the rights of other residents to enjoy surrounding amenities without any fear for their safety, all in compliance with applicable law. At the present time, more information is needed to come up with such a solution. In the interim, the Board decided to refer all enforcement actions on this issue to Maricopa County.

Communication. The Board would like to hear your concerns, suggestions and, if appropriate, your compliments. Let us know what you think is going wrong or right and what we can do better. You can send us a letter, call the Association phone line, e-mail us or put a suggestion in the newly installed box inside the main door at the clubhouse.

Thanks for letting me be of service to you.

MEETING NOTICES

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Activities Committee will meet on **Tuesday, May 2**, at **10 a.m.**

Governance Committee has not scheduled a future meeting.

Building and Grounds Committee meeting date & time will be posted.

Board of Directors meeting date & time will be posted.

Modifications Committee meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 9**, at **5:30 p.m.** Modification applications are due no later than the Monday before the meeting.

Budget and Finance Committee will meet on **Thursday, May 18**, at **2:30 p.m.**

Communications Committee will meet **Tuesday, May 23**, at **3 p.m.**

MANAGER'S MEMO

Greetings Bellasera homeowners:

Hard to believe summer is fast approaching and we will soon be hitting triple-digit temperatures.

For those of you who plan to head back to your summer residence, please make sure that you have someone to watch over your landscape. Last year our #1 concern/problem area was landscape area maintenance. If you have a telephone # where the management office can contact you while you are away, please e-mail it to: <manager@azbellasera.org>.

With the pleasant weather we are experiencing, we hope you are enjoying the clubhouse amenities and the pool deck area. There have been rumors surfacing about pool renovation work that will cause the pool area to shut down. We would like to allay anyone's concerns who will be here during the summer months that there will be no planned LONG-TERM summer renovation work in the pool area. We were also able to have the Jacuzzi/spa area repaired in April.

The biggest area of concentration for repair work has been on the women's/men's locker room steam rooms. There was a concern of a health hazard and we took every cautionary step to ensure the problem was eradicated. We appreciate your patience, as it is time consuming and complicated due to past improper maintenance.

Sometime in mid-May we will be conducting an evening light inspection. Please ensure your garage and landscape lights are in working condition. Remember, as the temperatures rise, more of the wild animals are around at night so everyone having as much lighting as possible can assist in an unwanted encounter.

As always, if you have any questions/concerns/complaints about neighboring properties, etc. please e-mail us so we have it in writing at: <manager@azbellasera.org>.

—Patti & Sheila

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

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HIKING

The **May 11 (Thursday)** hike will be a trip to Sedona. It's the last hike scheduled until fall. The group will hike the **Fay Canyon Trail**, a two mile round trip to the boulders, rated 'easy.' However, there is a spur trail off this trail to the arch which is 1/2 mile round trip and rated 'moderate.' Total time should be about 3 hours.

The group plans on stopping at the Rock Springs Cafe on the way home for a late lunch. However, be sure and bring snacks for the trail, plenty of water, sunscreen and proper hiking gear. Plan to leave the clubhouse at **8:00 a.m.** on **May 11**. Contact **Vivian Kurtz**, 480-575-1391, or e-mail <**Roy312@cox.net**> for additional information.

BOOK CLUB

Meets **Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m.**, to discuss "**The Glass Castle**," by **Janet Wall**. Additional information is available from **Maureen Simpson**, 480-575-7693.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 18 at **Bistro Provence**, located at 8900 E. Pinnacle Peak Road. Sign-up by May 16. The group will meet at the clubhouse at **11:30 a.m.** to carpool. If you wish to drive yourself, please let us know.

MEMORIAL DAY POOL SIDE PICNIC

It'll be **Sunday, May 28**, at **5:00 p.m.** Join your neighbors for dinner (and swim). Hoagies, hot dogs, potato salad, etc., will be served. There will be no charge to residents. Please sign-up by May 24.

Note: there will be no regular Pot Luck dinner in May.

WATER AEROBICS

Water aerobics continues on **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday** from **10:00 to 11:00 a.m.** If you wish to join, please call **Janet Biondo**, 480-488-0259, to borrow the DVD which shows all the underwater steps.

WALK TO THE SUMMIT

A nice trail, part of the City of Scottsdale System, is now completed from Bellasera to the Summit Shopping Center. Enter the trail just across the road from the Bellasera entrance on Lone Mountain Road. Heading west, then north, the trail follows the perimeter around Whisper Rock Estates, and later, the Solstice development, just south of the shopping center. Just a bit over a mile hike, to all the shops and eating spots at the Summit.



MAY IN THE GARDEN

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—By *Pauline Marx, Arizona Master Gardener*

It is necessary to start caring for your existing cacti, succulents (any fleshy plant that belongs to one of many diverse families among them species of cactus, aloe, agave, and yucca) and other Desert perennials this month in order to keep them looking good throughout the summer. Also, remember that you can continue to plant succulents through the summer.

Watering Schedules

Water large cacti, ocotillos, and yuccas once a month from now until September. Water agaves, small yuccas, prickley pear, and smaller cacti every three weeks during the summer. Barrel and beavertail (smaller prickley pear) cactus do not need as much water as most other succulents but watering every five to six weeks in the summer maintains their vigor.

Aloes

Aloes, especially those that form extensive colonies, can be overgrown if not kept divided regularly. Divide them by cutting out plants along the edge until you have reduced the size of the clump at least by half. Cutting out more than a half should not kill the plant.

Protect New Plants

Newly planted succulents regardless of size or type may need to be shaded to prevent sunburn. If a nearby tree, shrub, or building does not provide enough shade to prevent sunburn, drape shade cloth with at least 30% coverage on a frame over the plant. When you buy cacti, notice which side of the pot is facing south in the nursery. Mark that side. When you replant be sure it is oriented to the sun the same way. This helps prevent sunburn.

Pruning

Cacti may be pruned any time it is hot. Remove any damaged or diseased stems as soon as you can to prevent further infection. Always use a sharp saw or tool so that you have a clean cut. Cut at a joint wherever possible. For multi-stemmed cactus like organ pipe or senita, cut the stem as far back to the base as possible. Dust any cut with sulphur to help prevent infection.

Water Stress

Cacti can become water stressed. Signs of water stress are:

- skin that is soft to the touch and offers resistance to gentle pressure.
- yellowing or paleness of the skin, especially on the south or western side.
- shriveling or shrinking of the skin.
- shrinking distance between the ribs of columnar cactus (if you can't get your finger between the ribs the plant is desperate for water).
- wilting, drooping, or falling pads on prickley pears.

Because cacti have large reservoirs of moisture in the stems, these signs show up only when the plant is deeply stressed. Water frequently enough to avoid these symptoms, but if they appear, water deeply immediately, and adjust watering schedule.

Planting in the Shade

You can grow shade loving plants in the high filtered shade provided by mesquites, and palo verdes. However, the shade of deciduous trees, tall fences, and buildings, or north facing areas can be a big problem. For areas that have this kind of shade, look for plants that either bloom well in the shade or have colorful leaf patterns.

Some good perennials for the shade include the following:

- Coleus (a perennial in frost-free areas, otherwise an annual)
- Cast-iron plant (*Aspidistra elatior*)
- Japanese boxwood
- Heavenly bamboo
- Philodendron
- Sago palm
- Spider plant

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

(reprinted from the Bellasera Neighborhood News, May 2005)

PEOPLE OF BELLASERA

After several months hiatus due to lack of space, we resume our continuing series...

—**Steve** and **Cheri Richardson** have lived here for a bit over two years, moving from Peoria -- Illinois, not Arizona. They look forward to visits from their two children: Danielle (21, senior at Wake Forest University in NC) and Chase (18, freshman at U of A). Steve is the General Manager of Paradise Valley Country Club; Cheri is a calligrapher, wedding coordinator, crafter, volunteer.

—**Gina Nowicki** and **Michael Worley** have been residents of Bellasera for almost five years. Gina lived in Peoria and Mike moved from Houston. Gina is a Director of Operations, and Mike is a pilot (Captain) and an Realtor. They'd like their neighbors to know they're the proud owners of the most beautiful Cocker Spaniel, named 'Boeing.'

Editor's Note: The Bellasera Neighborhood News invites you to participate in this series. Just answer the following questions, by sending an e-mail to <editor@azbellasera.org>:

---How long have you lived here, and where did you last live?

---What are the names of those who live in your Bellasera home?

---What do you do (or did you do) for a living?

---One thing you'd like your neighbors to know about you?

Thank you!

MESSAGE FROM CAROL SOTNICK

Dear Bellasera Homeowners:

I am tendering my resignation as president of the Bellasera Community Association, and resigning as well from the Board of Directors, effective immediately.

My surgeon has advised me that the recovery from my operation earlier this week will be significantly slower than I had assumed, and my energy level will be far less than before. I am disappointed that I will not be able to continue to help lead this great community and finish my term, but I am confident that the new Board will lead the community into the future.

Carol Sotnick
April 8, 2006

MAY 2006

Sunday	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6
	Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. City Bulk & Brush Collection Week	Activities 10 a.m. Poker 7 p.m.	Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.		Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	
7	8 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	9 Modifications 5:30 p.m. Poker 7 p.m.	10 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	11 Hike—9 a.m.	12 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	13
14	15 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	16 Poker 7 p.m.	17 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Book Club 7 p.m.	18 Residents' Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Budget & Finance 2:30 p.m.	19 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	20
21	22 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	23 Communications 3 p.m. Poker 7 p.m.	24 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	25	26 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	27
28 Pool Side Picnic 5 p.m.	29 Memorial Day	30 Poker 7 p.m.	31 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.			

GENERAL NEWS UPCOMING EVENTS

TO PAINT OR NOT TO PAINT

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Residential paint products have an approximate life of 5 years in the harsh Arizona sun. If you've noticed that your garage door has turned from a shiny sheen to a faded chalk look or you can see the block lines in your fence, it's time to get out the paint brush.

If you've already painted your house and you were pleased with your painting contractor, let Sheila hear about it by e-mailing her at the Bellasera Community Association offices, <sricci@associatedasset.com>. A list will be maintained for those of you looking for a recommendation.

—Board of Directors

THANK YOU, MIKE & PAUL & CAROL

All residents of Bellasera acknowledge with appreciation and gratitude the contribution of retiring Board members **Mike Simpson** and **Paul Broad**. And **Carol Sotnick**, who resigned for health reasons. Through their many hours of volunteer work, they all helped make our community a better place to live.

S...L...O...W D...O...W...N

The **speed limit** on the streets of Bellasera is **25 mph**. Be a good neighbor...please remember to observe this regulation at all times.

IN MEMORIAM

The Bellasera community extends its sincere sympathy to the relatives and friends of **Richard Corley** and **Patrick Quinn**, who passed away in the month of April.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

If you have meeting dates, or articles for publication, please e-mail to: editor@azbellasera.org, or turn them in to the Association office no later than the 15th of the month. The monthly newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee. The editor is Keith Christian, 480-575-7109.

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.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE BRUSH & BULK COLLECTION



The city of Scottsdale will pick up **brush and bulk items** in the Bellasera area during **the week of Monday, May 1.**

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.

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

Bellasera Community Association
7350 E. Ponte Bella Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85262-2701

BELLASERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors:

e-mail: board@azbellasera.org

President—**Chuck Roach** (crpr797@msn.com)
Secretary—**Bob Shriver** (ra_epshriver@hotmail.com)
Treasurer—**Dennis Noone** (dnoone@cox.net)
Director—**Shawn Meyer** (meyerdc74@cox.net)
Director—**Bruce Martin** (marbru@cox.net)

Committee Chairpeople:

Activities: Sheila Lavin
Budget & Finance: Carlton Rooks
Buildings & Grounds: vacant
Communications: Keith Christian
Modifications: Steve Comstock

Community Manager : Patti Smith • (480) 488-0400 • manager@azbellasera.org

—Office Hours—

Administrative Assistant: M thru F, 8:30-12:30 Community Manager: Tu & Th, 12-4

Questions regarding your Homeowner's Association Account?
Contact Associated Asset Management (AAM) • **(602) 957-9191**

Security/Front Gate • (480) 488-3663

Internet Web Site: www.azbellasera.org