

Bellasera Neighborhood News

March 2008

Electronic Edition

www.azbellasera.org

Eight Pages

* **SURVEY SAYS... RESULTS ON PAGE 3** *

LM GATE, TRAILS, ROADS, TENNIS, VIEW FENCES

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

—My thanks to everyone who replied to last month's request for opinions on closing the back gate for improved security. The overwhelming theme of the responses was "don't do it"! So...the Board will look at other alternatives for improving the situation. I'll advise you again if we plan to make any changes.

—It's been a while since we posted a project list so I want to let you know what we've been doing. At present, there are three relatively major items we are in the process of completing: 1) Erosion/trail work, 2) Crack sealing the roads, and 3) Replacing the tennis windscreens.

—After reviewing the trail requirements with the City and working with a trail expert they recommended, we brought in an erosion specialist for another opinion. In addition to the eroded trail areas in the main washes on Scottsdale Road and Lone Mountain Roads, there are several areas in our interior washes that require remedial repairs. We have taken a considerable amount of time to look at all options before we make a decision on the best long-term solution. At the present time, each time we have a relatively strong downpour, the trails in the wash fill up with silt and a bit more of the concrete washes away. We are looking for a more permanent solution to this problem.

—When we updated our Reserve Study in 2007, we hired a road expert to develop a road maintenance plan. We reengaged this gentleman to assist in the bidding and inspection process to ensure a quality job is accomplished. He is in the process of soliciting bids at this time. Several residents have asked about over-sealing, which returns the streets to a consistent black color. The current plan calls for some over-sealing in fiscal 2009, which begins on July 1, 2008.

—Although our plan doesn't call for replacing the tennis windscreens until fiscal 2010, the condition of one screen is such that it cannot be repaired and must be replaced at this time. In order to maintain a quality appearance, we elected to replace all screens now at an estimated cost of \$4500.

—After an exhaustive review of alternatives and prices, the Board elected to stay with Life Fitness equipment for the exercise room. Our new treadmills and cross-trainers should be delivered sometime in March.

—As we move into next year, we will need to tackle the significant project of painting the view fences throughout the community. This project will create some difficulties for residents that have "rabbit" fences and for anyone that has a considerable amount of plant growth up against their fence. We believe we've delayed this project as long as we can and it's now time to move forward. I want to ask for both your understanding and cooperation as we prepare to paint the fences.

ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 19

Three members of the Bellasera Board of Directors will be elected at the Association's annual meeting scheduled for Saturday morning, **April 19, at 10 a.m.**

The two year terms of **Shawn Meyer, Chuck Roach** and **Bob Shriver** will end in April. The terms of the other directors (**Dennis Carson, Bruce Martin, Dennis Noone, David Redman**) end in April 2009.

Members of the community are encouraged to consider filing an application to serve on the Board. Applications must be filed no later than **Monday, March 17**, for the candidate information to be included in the mailing to be sent to all members 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

Application Forms are available in the community manager's office, or at **azbellasera.org**, click on 'Forms.'

A "Meet the Candidates Night" is planned for **Friday, April 4, at 7 p.m.**

BELLASERA COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

WATER AEROBICS — NEW TIME

Water Aerobics time will change starting **March 3**. It'll go from **10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** every **Monday, Wednesday and Friday**. It'll be cancelled if it's raining.

YOGA ON MONDAY

Monday night Yoga continues! Come experience the wonderful benefits of Hatha Yoga. Beginners welcome. From **5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.** at the clubhouse. Class fee \$10. Theme for March - Yoga Tools To Manage Your Mood! Questions? Call **(480-488-3426)** or e-mail <youryogamarci@gmail.com> **Marci Sheer**. NO CLASS on **March 17** - Happy St. Patrick's Day!

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

--Want to see where all the "stars" hung out during Super Bowl Week? Have lunch with us at Olive and Ivy on **March 20** at **12:00 noon**. Olive and Ivy is located at 7135 E. Camelback Rd.

--Get an early start on St. Patrick's Day and have a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner with your Bellasera neighbors at the clubhouse. Everyone's Irish on St. Patrick's Day so come and have fun. We would appreciate your sharing an appetizer or dessert. The dinner will be **Saturday, March 15** at **6:30 pm**.

--Armchair Travelers Alert! Share in the travels of Dave Wagner and his wife Flo as they tell of their yearlong backpacking adventures in SE Asia. His presentation will be followed by a book signing of his newly published work titled "Unpaved Roads." Join us **March 7** at **7:00 p.m.** Dessert and coffee will be served.

--As always, sign-up sheet will be in clubhouse and call Karen or MerryBelle if you need a ride.

--Art Class possibility at our clubhouse: Develop your creativity in an atmosphere of fun and freedom. You may choose from a variety of media. Classes will be given by Bela Fidel and would be once a week. Contact **Bela** directly at **480-595-6685** or belaboodles@yahoo.com. Some of Bela's work can be seen at Janna Antiques in Carefree on Easy St.

UPCOMING: **April 9** at **7:00 p.m.** Bobby Friedman, a physical therapist, will be speaking on difficult areas to treat, the part that aches and nags and loves to be iced. She will be accompanied by a Licensed Acupuncturist for a demonstration and question and answer session. Mark your calendars!

YOGA ON THURSDAY

A yoga class is being offered by **Cory Schidler** (Core Fitness) on **Thursday evenings, 5:15 to 6:15**. The class will be led by **Lynn Seawell**, a certified Yoga Instructor. Drop-in price is \$14.00, with 10 classes for \$120.00, or 20 classes for \$200.00. There may be substitute classes offered if it can be scheduled. Call **Jan Swenson**, **480-575-0443** for information.

BELLASERA HIKERS

Last month, 13 hikers enjoyed not only a beautiful sunny day but a wonderful hike in the Cave Creek Recreation area. We hoofed the Go John trail--a 6 mile route amid beautiful desert landscape far out from the sea of homes. Most of the trail was improved, easy to navigate but a few spots required careful stepping. Picnic lunch was tasty at the conclusion.

Thursday, March 13 is the next scheduled hike. We plan to enjoy the wildflowers that are sure to be in bloom then. We will wait until closer to the hike date to choose a spot, but it will not be a strenuous trek so all can enjoy the desert beauty. Choices may include the Superstition Mountains, Lost Dutchman State Park, the Ballentine Trail and South Mountain Park. Be sure to bring plenty of water, snacks, hiking gear, sunscreen, etc. A sign-up sheet will be at the clubhouse and/or contact **Vivian Kurtz**, **480-575-1391**, e-mail Roy312@cox.net.

BOOK CLUB

Will meet on **Wednesday, March 19**, at **7 p.m.** The group will discuss "Lolita" by Vladimir Nabokov. Additional information is available from **Maureen Simpson**, **480-575-7693**, e-mail maureensimpson@cox.net.

GOLF

Golf dates for March are: **Tuesday, March 4**, at the 500 Club; **Tuesday, March 11** at Dove Valley, which will be a scramble; **Tuesday, March 18** at Dove Valley; & **Tuesday, March 25** at Dove Valley. Please call **(480-575-9848)** or e-mail (embornstein7@att.net) **Ellen Bornstein** for more information or to sign up.

COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

PULSE OF BELLASERA

A majority (198 of 360) of Bellasera homeowners took the time to respond to the resident survey mailed last month. The response rate (55 %) is by far the highest of any Bellasera community survey. Thank you! Congratulations to the winner of the \$50 AJ's gift card: **Freya & Robert Weissner**.

Results of the survey are provided below. Percentages given refer to the share of responses from all those who returned surveys. Not all responders answered all the questions. All written comments supplied by survey respondents will be reviewed by the Board of Directors.

1. The common area property of the Association (trails, lawn area, roads, entry way, lighting, front and rear gate):

a. Are the common areas maintained to your satisfaction?

90 % Yes

10 % No

b. Does the monthly fee offer value for cost?

81 % Yes

9 % No

2. The current Board decisions:

a. Is the Board governing satisfactorily?

83 % Yes

9 % No

3. Services that the Community Manager and Administrative Assistant provide:

a. Are they performing to your satisfaction?

83 % Yes

10 % No

4. The Community Building and Recreation Center (meeting rooms, equipment, pool, tennis courts):

a. Does the community center meet your needs?

93 % Yes

5 % No

5. The Association's social activities (lunches, presentations, shared dinners, special holiday parties)

a. Is the Activities Committee providing the events you like?

73 % Yes

5 % No

Demographic information:

1. How long have you lived in Bellasera?

2 % Under one year

14 % 1-2 years

20 % 3-5 years

65 % 6-9 years

2. What is your age group?

1 % 25-30

2 % 30 - 40

10 % 40 - 50

19 % 50 - 60

63 % over 60

Number of children living with you: **21**

Their ages: age 1-2: **3**; age 2-5: **1**; age 5-10: **2**; age 10-15: **7**; age 15-20: **1**; over age 20: **7**

3. Are you working?

34 % Full-time

10 % Part-time

52 % Retired

MEETING NOTICES

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Activities Committee will meet on **Monday, March 3**, at **9:30 a.m.**

Board of Directors will meet for a study session on **Thursday, March 13**, and for their regular meeting on **Thursday, March 27**. Both meetings begin at **7 p.m.**

Budget and Finance Committee meeting date/time will be posted.

Building and Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 4**, at **6 p.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, March 26**, at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 11**, at **2:30 p.m.** if there are applications to review. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **12:00 noon, Thursday, March 6**, to be eligible for review at this meeting.

CC&R/BYLAW/DESIGN GUIDELINE DISTRIBUTION

The revised CC&R/Bylaw documents recently approved by members of the Bellasera Community Association will be distributed early in March. The latest amendments to the Design Guidelines, as approved by the Modifications Committee, will also be added to the packet, bringing all three documents current and up-to-date.

Residents will be informed when the packet is available for pick up in the clubhouse office for two weeks during normal business hours (M thru F, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.). Watch the bulletin boards and check your e-mail for news of the packet availability.

Thank you for helping minimize the considerable cost of mailing by picking up your copy when they become available.



MARCH IN THE GARDEN

—By *Pauline Marx, Arizona Master Gardener*

Be aware that the last frost date for our area is usually around March 15. This is an important milestone and triggers a variety of important garden chores that include planting, pruning and general maintenance.

Roses

For those of you that grow and nurture roses, the following items are important this month.

Fertilization- Rose growers differ on fertilization schedules. The best advice is to follow the label directions on the rose food that you select.

Pests- Continue to monitor roses for aphids and powdery mildew. Powdery mildew is often spread by leaving infected leaves around the plants or by splashing from overhead watering.

Large Flowers- To encourage larger flowers on your roses, remove any side buds that arise around the flower of a hybrid tea rose. On shrub roses, floribunda, or grand flora roses remove the center bud to increase flower size.

Herbs

Cut back ratty looking herbs like mint and sage, then fertilize and water. You should be aware that mint often dies back from the center. To reinvigorate it, stab a sharp spade down through the roots several times in a crosshatch pattern.

Cacti & Succulents

Planting-You can plant all types of cacti and succulents.

Propagation- Propagate from existing plants with cuttings or offshoots. Allow cactus cuts to become dry and callus, then sow them in another area of your garden in October. However, plant agave, yucca, and aloe cuttings immediately.

Bulbs, Tubers & Corms

Shop for caladium, canna, and crinum bulbs, but wait until soil warms to 65 degrees before planting. Set out dahlia tubers and gladiolus corms after danger of frost is past.

Pruning

Prune frost-tender tropical plants such as **bougainvillea**, **hibiscus**, and **natal plum** as they begin to leaf out with warmer temperatures.

Drip System

Clean out sediment and algae in your drip system. Replace clogged emitters that you can't clear and also clean filters.

Culinary & Flowers

Did you know that there a multitude of culinary uses for flowers? Try some of the following.

- Stir-fry, deep-fry, or batter dip squash and day lily blossoms.
- Float borage, chrysanthemums, or dianthus flowers in a punch bowl or soup.
- Use calendula flowers as a substitute for saffron.
- Substitute small amounts of a flower for a herb you usually use.
- Garnish casseroles, cheese platters, and desserts with colorful blossoms.
- Freeze small flower blossoms in ice cube trays for special summer teas.
- Pansies add panache to a sweet dish or atop a salad.
- Next time you use thyme, consider trying the blossoms.

Hints:

- Deeper colored flowers are usually more flavorful
- Herb flowers are best in savory dishes and flower petals in sweet dishes.

WOULD A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME TASTE AS SWEET?

Questions about plants? Call (480-575-0404) or e-mail <PlantPerson@cox.net> me.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR—MARCH 2008

Sunday 2	Monday 3	Tuesday 4	Wednesday 5	Thursday 6	Friday 7	Saturday 1/8
Brush & Bulk Collection Week	Fitness 7 a.m. Activities 9:30 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 5:30 p.m.	Golf Building & Grounds 6 p.m. Poker 7 p.m.	Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Idea Camp 7:30-9:00 p.m.	Yoga 5:15 p.m.	Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Wagners' Travelogue 7 p.m.	
9	10 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 5:30 p.m.	11 Golf Modifications 2:30 p.m. Poker 7 p.m.	12 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	13 Hike 9 a.m. Yoga 5:15 p.m. Board Study Session 7 p.m.	14 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	15 St. Patrick's Day Dinner 6:30 p.m.
16 Wine & Cheese Pairings @ AJ's 5 p.m.	17 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	18 Golf Poker 7 p.m.	19 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Book Club 7 p.m.	20 Lunch 12 noon Yoga 5:15 p.m.	21 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	22
23 Easter	24 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 5:30 p.m.	25 Golf Poker 7 p.m.	26 Fitness 7 a.m. Communications 8:30 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	27 Yoga 5:15 p.m. Board of Directors 7 p.m.	28 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	29 Dinner Gathering 6:30 p.m.
30 Brush & Bulk Collection Week	31 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 5:30 p.m.					

****BELLASERA CLASSIFIEDS****

BELLASERA PET CARE. "We care while you are away!" Residents **T. J. & Thenia Raney, 480-575-8787.**

'07 Lincoln Town Car Limited. 15K miles, Moon Roof, Factory Chrome wheels, Fully optioned and perfect condition. \$27,900. Call **T. J. Raney, 480-575-8787.**

Got something to buy, sell, want, give-away, etc.? Do business within the community. Send in a classified ad.

E-mail yours to <editor@azbellasera.org>, or FAX to 815-333-2268.

Ads only accepted from Bellasera homeowners; ad copy limited to 25 words if space is limited; real estate for sale, business or commercial ads not accepted; Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.

IDEA CAMP

On **Wednesday, March 5, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.**, in the Bellasera clubhouse there will be a free informal open discussion facilitated by Bellasera resident **John Dubuc**, founder of ROI Creations, LLC.

The topic will be a process for getting paid for your product ideas and inventions.

According to John, we all have ideas for new products or how to improve existing ones. Most people don't take action because they think they have to start a company or be the manufacturer or pay for prototypes, patents and lawyers. The truth is this is the rare exception, not the rule.

DESIGN GUIDELINES CHANGE ON YARD GATES

On Tuesday, February 12, the Modifications Committee adopted a new amendment to the Design Guidelines on gates. This will replace U Gates, page 26 in the current Design Guidelines.

Revise Item/Article U. Gates as follows:

1. No gates to access the Common Areas from Individual lots shall be permitted.
2. Side yard access gates shall be constructed with heavy duty steel jams and gate frames with cedar wood or similar vertical slats to match other such gates as originally installed by the developer. The metal parts of the gates are to be painted with Frazee "Bernard Brown" or a similar color to match wrought-iron fencing throughout the community. Gates must be repainted when rust is visible from the street.
The wood slats of all gates shall be maintained to retain their original non-weathered appearance by use of a light stain, linseed oil or a slightly darker stain that preserves the original cedar appearance.

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 20th of the month. The monthly newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee. The editor is Keith Christian, 480-330-7109.

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 weeks of Monday, March 3, and Monday, March 31.**

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 Dr, Scottsdale AZ 85266-2701

Community Manager : Marshall Chess <mchess@aamaz.com>
Administrative Assistant: Earlene Morgan <emorgan@aamaz.com>

480-488-0400 • <manager@azbellasera.org>

—Office Hours—

Monday thru Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Questions regarding your Homeowner's Association Account?

Contact AAM, LLC • **(602) 957-9191**

Security/Front Gate• 480-488-3663

Internet Web Site: www.azbellasera.org

Board of Directors

e-mail: <board@azbellasera.org>

President—**Chuck Roach** <crpr797@msn.com>

Vice President—**Dennis Carson** <dcarson7@cox.net>

Secretary—**Bob Shriver** <ra_epshriver@hotmail.com>

Treasurer—**Dennis Noone** <dnoone@cox.net>

Director—**Bruce Martin** <marbru@cox.net>

Director—**Shawn Meyer** <meyerdc74@cox.net>

Director—**David Redman** <david_redman@hotmail.com>

Committees

Activities

MerryBelle Beltz, *Eve D'Alleyrand*, Marcia Lefkowitz, Bruce Martin, *Karen Moore*,
Barbara Rutledge

Budget & Finance

Clayton Loiselle, Dennis Noone, Carlton Rooks, Charles Schroeder

Buildings & Grounds

Paul Anetsburger, *Trish Benninger-Dixon*, Hope Kirsch, Robert Miller, David Redman

Communications

Keith Christian, Pat Manion, Joe McDade, Shawn Meyer, Jon Miller, Emily Shriver

Modifications

Anne Chernis, Jane Fay, *Jean Grutta*, Dottie Schultz, Bob Shriver

—— indicates committee chairperson