

Bellasera Neighborhood News

September 2009

Electronic Edition

azbellasera.org

Ten Pages

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Dalmatian Road, Governing Documents

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

Other than the oppressive heat we are experiencing, there's not a lot on my mind right now. The two issues that have come up lately are the state of the asphalt coating at our front entrance and CC&R/Design Guideline Issues.

Every time I drive in the front entrance and see the spotted Dalmatian road, I cringe! Having spent a considerable sum to seal all the neighborhood roads, I just hate to see this situation continue. We've been advised that we need to let it wear off in order to prevent it from happening again but I'm not sure I can wait much longer. How about you? Do you think it's worth spending some extra cash to eliminate the problem sooner rather than later? Send me an e-mail, crpr797@msn.com, and let me know what you think.

Over the past year, as we've had more time to focus on reading all of the requirements in our Governing Documents-and make no mistake they are vast- we've come across issues that haven't previously been addressed. Recently, we've been sending out letters on incorrect paint schemes and metal art hung on front or side walls. For some of our residents, these issues have been outstanding for a considerable period of time. So, our letters are an unpleasant surprise. To my knowledge, we've never addressed the issue of unauthorized plants. Most of we Board members are not even sure why some of the plants are on the list! Yet, these are issues you elected us to deal with. We aren't supposed to decide which issue to press on with and which issue to back away from. Nonetheless, it doesn't always make sense to tell someone they can't have a replica of a small lizard in the front yard because it's prohibited or that they must remove a plant that's been in their yard for many years. We have the ability to change some of the guidelines so before we proceed with a round of letters about prohibited plants, I wanted to get your feedback on how important you think this issue is. Please write or e-mail me and let me know your thoughts.

That's all for now. I hope you're staying out of the heat and enjoying your summer.

Meeting Notices

Board of Directors will meet for a study session on **Thursday, September 10**, and for their regular meeting on **Thursday, September 24**. Both meetings begin at **6 p.m.**

Budget and Finance Committee will meet on **Friday, September 25**, at **2:30 p.m.**

Building and Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, September 1**, at **6 p.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, September 23**, at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, September 8** at **3 p.m.** Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **12:00 noon, Thursday, September 3** to be eligible for review at this meeting.

Social Committee will meet on **Tuesday, September 1**, at **6 p.m.**,

Volunteer Opportunity

The Budget & Finance Committee is seeking individuals who are willing to share their time and expertise in a dynamic and challenging team environment. Our Committee typically meets once per month for about two hours. We review Bellasera's monthly financial statements; oversee the preparation of and monitor the annual operating budget; and advise on the level and investment of Reserve Funds.

Volunteering your time and experience is both rewarding and satisfying. You will also be contributing to the success of our Homeowners Association. We would encourage anyone who is interested in this opportunity to join us during one of our meetings.

For further information, please contact: **Ted Dixon** (Treasurer), **480-656-7343** or **Clayton Loiselle** (Chairman), **480-575-1202**.

AED Coming to Clubhouse

The Board recently approved the purchase and installation of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) for the clubhouse.

The AED is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the potentially life threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient. It's able to treat them through defibrillation, the application of electrical therapy, which stops the arrhythmia, allowing the heart to reestablish an effective rhythm. AEDs are designed to be simple to use for the layman.

Once the installation is complete, additional information and training will be provided.

Scottsdale Road Repaved

Road crews are finishing up the repaving of Scottsdale Road from Dixileta to Dove Valley. The new rubberized asphalt surface promises to reduce the road noise level for residents living and playing near one of Scottsdale main traffic arteries, just west of the Bellasera community.

August Weather In Bellasera

(August 1—August 27)

Highest temperature: **105**

Lowest temperature: **66**

Rainfall: 0.20 inch, on August 12, 13. Since January 1, 4.72 inches

Bellasera Community Activities

Water Aerobics

Water aerobics will start at **10:00 a.m.** and end at 11:00 a.m. on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.**

Monday Night Yoga Continues

Experience the amazing benefits of Hatha Yoga - right here in Bellasera! Bring more strength, flexibility and inner calm to your life! Come to Monday night Yoga! It's from **6:00 to 7:15 p.m.** at the clubhouse. Beginners welcome! Class fee \$10. - first class free. **NO CLASS ON SEPTEMBER 28.** Questions? Contact **Marci Sheer, 480-488-3426, youryogamarci@gmail.com.**

Jazzercise

The Jazzercise class taught by **Gina Leveen**, that was held in the activity room at Bellasera will relocate beginning September 1. The new location is 4815 E. Carefree Hwy., #107, in the Fry's/Home Depot Shopping Center. The Jazzercise Fitness Center will be able to offer over 25 classes beginning September 1. Please visit the website at **www.jazzercise.com** or call **602-315-5586** for more information. Thanks to all of the current Bellasera members and we look forward to seeing you at the new location. Regards, **Monica Bauer & Gina Leveen.**

Hikers Return

With a bit of luck, the hot days of summer are behind us and it is time to get back outside to enjoy the wonders of Arizona. Just to improve the odds that summer is behind us, I am scheduling our first hike of the season for late in the month. I don't know how many of you will be back in town, but I hope we can have a good group for this hike. We also welcome any new residents who are interested in joining us. We always have a great time.

The September hike is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 22.** Since we had to cancel the May hike, I am going to try again to hike the Butcher Jones trail. This trail runs along the shore of Saguaro Lake. The group has hiked this trail in the past, so this will be a repeat for some. The major features are that it is fairly close, little elevation gain, and it is near the lake. The round trip hike is rated at 6.5 miles, but we can make our own call as to how far we go. We will return to the trailhead where we will have a picnic lunch by the lake. It would be fun if everyone could make this first trip of the year.

We will meet in the clubhouse parking area at **9:00 a.m.** Remember water and sunscreen. We will plan to have a picnic lunch at the trailhead after the hike. There will be a signup list in the clubhouse, or you can simply e-mail **Don Bowman, dgbebb@cox.net.**

Golf Resumes in October

Attention Golfers: The Bellasera golf group will resume activities in mid-October. We play on Tuesday mornings and anyone interested in golf is invited to join us. More details will follow in the October Bellasera Newsletter.

Book Club Convenes in October

BELLASERA BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB: Share your love of reading with your neighbors. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month at **12:30** at the clubhouse. Bring your brown bag lunch and have an interesting and fun afternoon. Our first meeting will be **October 21** and our book selection will be a biography of your choice. November's selection will be "Olive Kitteridge" by Elizabeth Strout. Hope to see you there! Any questions, contact **Karen Moore, kkmoore@sbcglobal.net**

Social Committee Activities



Poker and Pizza Night – Saturday, September 12, 6 p.m.

Bring your penny jar and good luck for an evening of FIVE CARD DRAW. No experience necessary. You may start as a beginner, but by evening's end, will have learned a new vocabulary of Poker speak and hopefully accumulated piles of pennies (yours and/or your neighbors). Pizza and soft drinks will be provided. Remember to bring your food donations for the local food bank that evening. Sign up sheets are posted at the clubhouse.

Monthly Luncheons and Bunko

Sign up sheets for September's luncheon and Bunko are now available at the clubhouse.

Thursday, September 17, noon – Quill Restaurant at Grayhawk Golf Club, 8620 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy., **480-502-1700**. The golf club is between Scottsdale and Pima Roads.

Tuesday, September 8, 7 p.m. – Bunko, \$5 per player (prizes and dessert).

Bellasera Apparel

If you are interested in a Bellasera logo baseball cap or white t-shirt, both are available for order at the clubhouse bulletin board. These are offered at rock bottom prices to residents.

Mark your calendar for upcoming events – all at 6 p.m. unless otherwise specified.

October 23 – Cigar/Martini Night

November 14 – Italian Night

January 1 – New Year's Day event - 1 p.m.

February 3 – Casino event – off site

February 20 – Wine Tasting event

March 13 – St. Patrick's dinner

April 17 – Chili Cook Off and Country Western dancing

May 8 – Cinco de Mayo dinner

Note - The next Social Committee meeting is **Tuesday, September 1, 6 p.m.**, at the clubhouse.

Neighborhood News- Rezoning Applications Update

—By Joe McDade

As we have previously reported, two proposed Scottsdale General Plan Amendments have been filed with the City of Scottsdale for properties in our area. The first is very close to Bel-lasera on the southwest corner of Lone Mountain and Scottsdale Road and the second is at the northwest corner of Pima and Dynamite Road. The following is a status on these two parcels.

Lone Mountain and Scottsdale Roads- You may have noticed that the signs have been taken down. That's because the developer has withdrawn the application. The speculation is that they still intend on building an 80 bed facility and will submit some form of rezoning application as opposed to a General Plan Amendment. The large buildings and 80 bed usage is considered by the Coalition of Pinnacle Peak (COPP) to be incompatible with the character of the area. We will keep you informed when a new application is submitted.

Pima and Dynamite Roads- This remains as a General Plan Amendment and would remove the parcel from the boundaries of the Desert Foothills Character Area and the Foothills Zoning Overlay. COPP feels it would set a precedent for more incursions of increased density and commercial development which would threaten the desert, rural, equestrian character of our area. The applicant is proposing a hardware store, general store, gas station, flower shop and specialty restaurant. To appreciate the magnitude of this request, consider the fact that the city council votes on General Plan Amendments only once a year. There are currently only 2 cases scheduled to be voted on in October. The schedule of public meetings on this project is as follows:

September 23 Regular Planning Commission (vote will be taken)
5:00 P.M. City Hall Kiva

October 27 City Council Meeting 5:00 P.M. City Hall Kiva

Whether you are for or against these projects, we encourage you to be involved and voice your opinion. If you are against the Pima and Dynamite project, we will have a petition posted in the clubhouse that you can sign starting on September 1. If you'd like to circulate a petition with your neighbors, they will also be available.

If you would like to contact the city council, listed below are their email addresses.

Mayor W.J. "Jim" Lane, jlane@scottsdaleaz.gov

Councilwoman Lisa M. Borowsky, lbrowsky@scottsdaleaz.gov

Councilman Wayne Ecton, wecton@scottsdaleaz.gov

Councilwoman Suzanne Klapp, sklapp@scottsdaleaz.gov

Councilman Robert Littlefield, rlittlefield@scottsdaleaz.gov

Vice Mayor Ron McCullagh, rmccullagh@scottsdaleaz.gov

Councilman Tony Nelssen, tnelssen@scottsdaleaz.gov



September in the Garden

—By *Pauline Marx, Arizona Master Gardener*

Many of us have citrus fruit trees in our backyards and can enjoy a just-picked orange, lemon or grapefruit. So, since harvesting is just a few months away, I thought I would devote this month's column to the common problems that you might face with your citrus.

I recently received some valuable information from the Maricopa County Extension Service about diagnosing **home citrus problems** along with some **suggested remedies** which are listed below.

Natural Fruit Drop - This occurs in the spring as trees will shed excess fruit they cannot support. Fruit drop is heavier during hot, dry and windy weather and on trees receiving inadequate irrigation or nitrogen fertilization.

Remedy- Increase the amount and frequency of irrigation during periods of high heat, low humidity and strong winds. Do not under fertilize.

Dry Sacs- These will be evident when you cut open the fruit.

Remedy- This is cured by good fertilization and nutrition practices. Early season harvesting may alleviate this problem.

Sunburn- This occurs on fruit directly exposed to the sun during the late spring, summer and early fall.

Remedy- Since this is seasonal, no control is necessary other than to carefully plan where you plant your citrus trees. Also, infrequent but deep watering will maintain soil moisture at a more even level as opposed to frequent shallow irrigation.

Fruit Splitting- This is caused by inconsistent watering and fertilization or sunburn.

Remedy- Maintain adequate moisture and follow recommended fertilizer applications.

Thick Peel and Puffy Misshapen Fruit- This is a natural response of young citrus and low humidity.

Remedy- If found on older trees, it may be a response to fruit that has been over-fertilized.

Holes- These are caused by birds, chewing insects, or rodents.

Remedy- If you are energetic, you can try bird netting, fencing and removal of rodent nests. However, you may have noticed that the Gila Woodpeckers, which are in abundance in Bellasera, love oranges. Hopefully, you have enough to go around. Early harvesting will definitely help. Insect damage cannot be controlled.

Lack Of Growth and Stunting of Entire Tree- This is caused by planting the tree too deep, improper watering and or fertilization.

Remedy- Plant at proper depth and observe watering and fertilization guidelines.

Since most of us don't have a large space in our backyard, you can plant dwarf varieties, which are smaller trees, but the fruit size is normal.

There are several other problems which may not be quite as common. If you have another problem please contact me.

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

Pack Rat Problem

A rat infestation is one of the biggest problems that some Scottsdale homeowners can imagine.

Pack rats can live just about anywhere. They have been known to inhabit abandoned burrows, take occupancy in walls and even swim through water to reach their homes.

Pack rats tend to be smaller than roof rats. They also have shorter tails, which are often bushy. Pack rats are peculiar in that they will often leave objects and food in odd places. This behavior pattern occurs because pack rats will frequently swap an item for something new. You might therefore find shiny rocks, buttons, and bits of food and other evidence of a pack rat infestation in your home.

Rats are disease carriers that can put your health in danger and destroy the structure, wiring and insulation of your home.

Below are some warning signs that will help you identify rat infestation and rodent problems in the home.

- Look for burrowing and nesting sites on your property such as in the attic, flooring, the yard and anywhere debris accumulates. Rats typically nest in safe hideaway locations that allow them access to food
- Rat droppings in your home and on the property. Rat droppings look like small dark pellets, almost black in color.
- Listen for sounds of scurrying inside the walls of your home. You may also hear some scratching noises through the pipes and in the attic.
- Gnaw marks are another sign of rat infestation. Check for chewed electrical wiring, woodwork and home insulation. You can also detect rodent problems in the garden if you find mangled fruits and vegetables and a ransacked lawn.

If you think your home may have a problem with rat infestation, your best bet is to contact a pest control specialist. However, some homeowners prefer to take matters into their own hands. If such is the case, review the following guidelines for effective rat trapping techniques.

- Rat trapping is considered the best method to properly address rat infestation. Detect rat nesting grounds and place traps to surround the areas.
- Snap traps are a cost effective rat control strategy. Be sure to purchase the right size traps designed specifically for catching rats. For safe rat trapping, remember to keep them away from your children and pets.
- Once you've caught a rat, the next step is to properly remove it from your home. Many rats are cannibals, so leaving a dead one lying around won't scare the other rats, but rather signal them to dinner-time.
- Use tightly sealed containers to properly dispose of rats. Following rat trapping, be sure to carefully clean the area for proper rat control.
- Follow up your rat trapping with some preventative measures against future rat infestation.
- Find and seal the entryways where you suspect rats have invaded your home. Bear in mind that rats can enter your home through very small spaces. With this step, it may be wise to enlist the services of a rat control specialist.
- Other preventative measures include keeping your yard tidy with regular weeding and gardening and removing any debris from around the home. Your waste and food containers should also be properly sealed. In taking these steps, you can prevent future rat infestation and keep your family and home safe.

Community Calendar—September 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Brush & Bulk Collection Week		1 Building & Grounds 6 p.m. Social, 6 p.m. Poker, 7 p.m.	2 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	3	4 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	5	
	6	7 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Yoga 6 p.m. Labor Day	8 Modifications 3 p.m. Bunko, 7 p.m. Poker, 7 p.m.	9 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	10 Board Study Session 6 p.m.	11 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	12 Poker & Pizza 6 p.m.
	13	14 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Yoga 6 p.m.	15 Poker, 7 p.m.	16 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	17 Luncheon noon	18 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	19
	20	21 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Yoga 6 p.m.	22 Hike 9 a.m. Poker, 7 p.m.	23 Fitness 7 a.m. Communica- tions 8:30 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	24 Board Meeting 6 p.m.	25 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Budget & Finance 2:30 p.m.	26
	27	28 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	29 Poker, 7 p.m.	30 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.			
Brush & Bulk Collection Week							

****Bellasera Classifieds****

SHOW LOW, AZ Cabin for Lease, beautiful, cozy and in one of the best subdivisions in the area. "Bison Ridge". Reserve your "Get-Away" for: Thanksgiving, New Years, Labor Day, or any weekend. Only three hours driving from Scottsdale. Check our web-site: www.GetAwaysArizona.com

"All About Home Cleaning" Quality Home Cleaning Service. Owner-Manager/Bellasera Resident. Licensed-Insured-Bonded/References available. \$89, 2 Cleaners/2 Hours. Summer Coupon: \$20 OFF (first time customers only). Appointments: **Maria, 480-206-5237**.

Private Yoga Training---Thai Massage---Reiki Healing---In Home Sessions Available: We have a new resident who is now offering Convenient In-Home Private sessions. Call **Beth, 480-334-4443** or **480-575-0826** to schedule. Beth's website: www.thepurelotus.com.

Could you use some assistance with a project? Errands? General Concierge? House Sitting? Home Organization? Dog walking? Other task? Contact Resident Personal Assistant **Keli Ballinger, 77thway@gmail.com, 617-308-4229**. *Excellent References and Recommendations from Fellow Bellasera Residents* Your Trusted Source for Making Life a little more simple.

Itching to travel virtually-free? I can book your next trip for you using frequent flyer miles, AMEX points, hotel points, etc. I specialize in reward points programs and offer all travel agency services. **Pam Keystone, 480-629-5559**.

Got something *to buy, sell, want, give-away, etc.?* Why not do business within the community. Send in a classified ad — it's affordable, in fact, *it's free*.

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 are not accepted; Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.

Newsletter Copy 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 week of Monday, August 31**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, September 28**.

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, **480-312-5600**.

BELLASERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

**7350 E Ponte Bella Dr
Scottsdale AZ 85266-2701**

**Office: 480-488-0400
Security/Front Gate: 480-488-3663**

Internet Web Site: azbellasera.org

**Community Manager : Viola Lanam, vlanam@aamaz.com
Administrative Assistant: Sharon Foxworth, sfoxworth@aamaz.com**

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- 906-4940**

AAM, LLC Emergency : **602-647-3034** or toll free **866-553-8290**

Board of Directors

board@azbellasera.org

President—**Chuck Roach, crpr797@msn.com**

Vice President—**Dennis Carson, dmcarson@q.com**

Secretary—**Bob Shriver, ra_epshriver@hotmail.com**

Treasurer— **Ted Dixon, teddixon@aol.com**

Director—**Anna Ingram, bananarama49@msn.com**

Director—**Hope Kirsch, hnk@kgklaw.com**

Committees

Budget & Finance

Ted Dixon, *Clayton Loiselle*, Carlton Rooks, Charles Schroeder

Buildings & Grounds

Paul Anetsberger, *Trish Benninger-Dixon*, Anna Ingram, Robert Miller

Communications

Keli Ballinger, Dennis Carson, *Keith Christian*, Joe McDade, Emily Shriver

Modifications

Jim Gleason, Stanley Green, Craig Johnson, Bob Shriver

Social

Suzanne Guyan, Hope Kirsch, Myrna Levin, Darlene Locke,

Cheryl Renaud, JoAnne Seres, Marci Sheer, Vicki Snyder

—— indicates committee chairperson