

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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*"February is the border between
winter and spring"*

Terri Guillemets



February - 2023



Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman, Board President

Board Sets Date for Annual Meeting

At the recent Board of Directors meeting on January 26, the Board agreed to schedule this year's Annual Meeting of Bellasera homeowners on **Sunday, April 16 at 2:00 p.m.** on the patio at the community clubhouse.

A formal notice of the Annual Meeting date, together with a Candidate Application form for those who wish to be included on the election ballot for the open Board of Directors positions, will be sent to all homeowners later in February, with ballots to follow in March. This year there will be two (2) open positions on the Board of Directors, each for two-year terms.

As is our custom at our Annual Meeting, ballots for the election to fill those vacancies on your Board of Directors will be tabulated by volunteers and the results of the election announced before the conclusion of the Annual Meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there.

**7350 E Ponte Bella Drive
Scottsdale, AZ 85266**

Office: 480-488-0400

Front Gate: 480-488-3663

Community Manager
Pamela Nunnelly
manager@azbellasera.org

Board of Directors
Richard Hoffman - Pres.
Joe Carlon - V.P.
Tom Saari - Sec.
Jim Ragborg - Tres.
David Wyllie

Email Addresses:
Board of Directors
board@azbellasera.org

Budget & Finance -
bandf@azbellasera.org

Building & Grounds -
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Communications -
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Modifications -
mod@azbellasera.org

Security Advisor -
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Web Site:
azbellasera.org



Bellasera Sunset - photograph by Paul Rippens

Bellasera Community Events

Board of Directors will meet in the clubhouse on **Thursday, February 16** at **1 p.m.**

Budget & Finance Committee will meet in the clubhouse on **Tuesday, February 28** at **1 p.m.**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet in the clubhouse on **Tuesday, February 14** at **10 a.m.**

Communications Committee will meet in the clubhouse on **Wednesday, March 15** at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet in the clubhouse on **Tuesday, February 14** at **12:30 p.m.**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, February 9** at **12 noon**.

February Wine & Cheese Event: We're inviting all wine and cheese lovers to join us at our February Wine and Cheese Event on **Friday, February 17**, from **5 to 7 pm**. Bring a bottle of your favorite Italian or French wine, an appetizer or dessert, and a desire to meet and socialize with each other. The February gathering will be hosted by **Howard & Sheree Twitty** at **7780 E Balao Dr**. Please call **Sheree, 425-444-6112** or email her, **Shereelburns@gmail.com**, to let us know if you can join us or have any questions. You can also use the clubhouse sign-up sheet if you are interested in attending. Look forward to seeing you all!

Tennis & Pickleball Reservations: Bellasera will be using a new tennis/pickleball reservation company. User accounts on the prior system are invalid. All users must create a new account. Click or touch the link on our web site, **azbellasera.org**, "**BCA Members**" page. After account is created, click or touch **MY CLUBS**, then **CONNECT TO MY CLUB**, and select **BELLASERA HOA**

Weather permitting, Water Aerobics will be held most **Mondays, Wednesdays** and **Fridays** from **11 a.m. to Noon**. The lap lanes will be used during that time.

Pickleball Invitation: You are invited to join a small group of men playing intermediate level pickleball on **Thursdays & Saturdays** at **9 a.m.** on the Bellasera court. For additional information contact **Dan Martin, danielrichardmartin@yahoo.com, 480-734-0387**.

Yoga: Bellasera yoga instructor **Joy** continues to offer Zoom classes, in addition to the clubhouse sessions **Monday & Thursday** at **8:30 a.m.** You may contact her via e-mail, **joy.blonstein@gmail.com**.

February Bellasera Bookclub: Our meeting this month is on **Wednesday, February 22** at **noon** in the clubhouse. We will choose biographies, autobiographies or memoirs of individuals choice to share with our members. Any questions contact **Karen Moore, kkmooore40@yahoo.com**.

Weather and General Information

January Weather in Bellasera

(January 1 - January 31)

Highest Temperature: **73 degrees**

Lowest temperature: **28 degrees**

Rainfall: **2.11 inch**

Rainfall this year: **2.11 inch**

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: **weather.azbellasera.org**

Bellasera Weather at a Touch: A free app for your iPhone, iPad, or Android phone. Provides instant Bellasera weather information at a touch. This app is available in the Apple App Store or Google play. In the App Store or Google play, search for “PWS Monitor” (no quotation marks). Install the free app. Touch the gear icon at the lower left of your display. The Settings screen will appear. Touch “Enter A Known Station ID”

Enter “KAZSCOTT79” Touch OK.

That’s it. More information, if required, is available by e-mail, **editor@azbellasera.org**

Newsletter Copy Deadline

If you have classified ads, 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, 480-382-9310**.

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 community during the week of **Monday, January 30**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, February 27**. 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. **Remember, here in Bellasera, items cannot be put out prior to Friday of the previous week.** For more information, contact Solid Waste Management, **480-312-5600**.

Web Site Search



Bellasera’s web site, **azbellasera.org**, has a wealth of information about our community. It’s easy to search for whatever you’re looking for by doing a Google (or equivalent) search as follows. To find everything on the site about the word “rain”, enter the following: **azbellasera.org:rain** After the colon, enter any topic you wish to search for.

FEBRUARY 2023

Bellasera Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			¹ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	² Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am	³ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	⁴ Pickleball - 9:00 am
Brush & Bulk Removal						
⁵	⁶ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	⁷ Poker - 7:00 pm	⁸ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	⁹ Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am	¹⁰ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	¹¹ Pickleball - 9:00 am
¹²	¹³ Yoga - 8:30 am Hiking Club - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	¹⁴ Building & Grounds - 10:00 am Modifications - 12:30 pm Poker - 7:00 pm VALENTINE'S DAY	¹⁵ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am Mangia Foodies - 6:00 pm	¹⁶ Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am Board of Directors - 1:00 pm	¹⁷ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am Wine & Cheese - 5 to 7 pm	¹⁸ Pickleball - 9:00 am
¹⁹	²⁰ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am PRESIDENTS' DAY	²¹ Poker - 7:00 pm	²² Water Aerobics - 11:00 am Book Club - noon	²³ Yoga - 8:30 am Pickleball - 9:00 am	²⁴ Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	²⁵ Pickleball - 9:00 am
²⁶	²⁷ Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11:00 am	²⁸ Budget & Finance - 1:00 pm Poker - 7:00 pm	Brush & Bulk Removal			

Continued from page 3.

Mangia Foodies: It's time to cook again. If you are interested in learning how to make Spanakopita, a beautiful Greek pastry filled with spinach and feta, please join me in my kitchen at **30994 N 74 Way** at **6 p.m.** on **Wednesday, February 15**. We will be making this along with Tzatziki, a yogurt based dip that pairs so well with the pastry. We will top it off with a salad. Not a Greek salad, but Mediterranean nonetheless. Then of course we eat. If you want to bring something to drink that's great. I would suggest a Moscofiliero, a crisp Greek white wine that will complete a lovely meal. Please contact **Rae Culotta, 516-987-2897, rsugarrae@aol.com**, if you would like to come.

Restorative and Yoga Nidra with Joy: Saturday, March 4 from **10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** in Bellasera clubhouse. Limited to 12 participants. \$12 per person. Please reserve space by e-mailing **Joy, joy.blonstein@gmail.com**. Feel free to email with any questions.

Relax, restore and rejuvenate the body. The first part of class is spent in gentle, restorative poses using props such as blankets and blocks for comfort. Time is spent in each pose allowing gentle opening and deep relaxation in the body and mind. The second part of the class is spent in Yoga Nidra, a guided meditation technique. It is the easiest form of meditation since you are comfortably lying down and all you need to do is be there. Yoga Nidra quiets the mind, while boosting the energy flow in the body. The practice is known to promote healing within the body, aid in insomnia, stress, behavior patterns, and anxiety.

In addition to 500-level Yoga Alliance certification, **Joy** has completed over 100 hours in Yoga Nidra training and is certified in this specialization through the Amrit Yoga Institute.

Bellasera Hiking Club: Monday, February 13, another exciting, adventurous hike has been planned. We will leave the clubhouse parking lot at **8:30 a.m.** and drive to the Brown's Ranch Trailhead. We will scale Brown's Mountain – some hikers may wish to hang behind on Brown's Mountain Spur and wait for the others to conquer the top - then return with the others down the north side of the mountain to the Basalt Ridge Overlook. The view from the Overlook is not observed by many hikers and offers a different dimension of the Preserve. The final loop of the hike will be along the west side of Brown's Mountain. Total hike around 6 miles with total elevation around 350 ft. Technical skills not required but water is a must. Let's do lunch afterward. Sign up in the clubhouse. Questions, call **Pamela Ewing**, leader, **480-687-3774** or **Georgette DeMarte**, assistant leader, **480-862-9013**.

Bellasera Rules Reminders

Business or trade activities within a residence is restricted to activities in which a) the activity is not apparent by sight, sound or smell outside of the residence; b) the activity conforms to all zoning requirements; c) the activity does not involve regular visitation of the residence by clients, customers or other business invitees; and d) the activity is consistent with the residential character of Bellasera and does not constitute a nuisance, hazardous or offensive use, or threaten security or safety of other residents.

Residents may keep a reasonable number of common household pets only, however, pets which make objectionable noise, endanger the health or safety of, or constitute a nuisance to others or roam free, unleashed will be considered in violation of the CC&Rs. Pet owners are required to remove and properly dispose of pet excrement within the community.

One “security” sign, measuring no greater than 100 square inches, no higher than 18 inches tall and placed no more than 2 feet from the foundation of the home may be installed in the front yard of a residence. Open House Signs shall not exceed 18 x 24 inches and a sign rider shall not exceed 6 x 24 inches. Open House hours are limited to between 8:00AM and 6:00PM. For Sale or For Lease signs, shall not exceed 18 x 24 inches and a sign rider shall not exceed 6 by 24 inches. For Sale, For Lease, Open House signs or directional signs of any kind are prohibited on common area. Political Signs may be displayed no earlier than 45 days prior to an election nor later than 7 days after an election day on an Owner’s property. Signs shall not exceed 16 square feet.

(source: Bellasera Community Guidelines, May 2021)

Bellasera Hiking Group



The Bellasera Hiking Group hiked to and through the Coyote Canyon at the Sonoran McDowell Preserve on January 24, 2023. The starting temperature was 37 degrees. We saw an abandoned gold mine, a crested saguaro (pictured), and a “Michelin Man” cactus along the route. Our next hike will be February 13. Check the clubhouse for details.

Hikers in the photo are (Left to Right): **John Smith, Bev Smith, Joel Erickson, Cindy Goodwin, Ellen Roach, Michele Shannon, Mary Van Cleave, Randy DeMik, Tom Shannon, and Jeff Jenkins.**

Photographer: **Bruce Van Cleave**



February In the Garden

by Joe McDade

Winter in The Homestretch? Not Yet!

The sun's retreat to the north and longer days are supposed to be sure signs that winter is in the homestretch, especially for us living here in the desert. However, it looks like this year will be an exception as our chilly January temperatures, sans frost, will continue a little while longer into February.

A Perfect Weather Year? Probably!

It's in the eye of the beholder, but a perfect weather year in the Sonoran Desert is defined as receiving frequent low-intensity winter (December/January) rains as well as violent summer (July/August) "monsoon" thunderstorms. These distinct rainy seasons support a broad array of warm and cool-season flora and fauna, and are the primary cause of the amazing species and lifeform diversity of the Sonoran Desert. Our weather has closely followed this script and will not only benefit our beautiful surroundings but, more importantly, your garden.

Cleanup & Get Ready for Spring Planting

The growing season officially starts in mid-February for us and, given the cool weather projections, I would not recommend starting before then. However, be prompt as we need to give plants and trees a chance to grow before the punishing summer heat.

I suggest you take the following steps:

- Survey your garden for areas that might need to be or cleaned up rejuvenated.
- Identify now what you might consider planting this month.

Planting Suggestions

Landscape Plants: You can continue to plant cold-hardy and fall-winter growers such as:

- *Globe mallow* • *Penstemons* • *Brittlebush* • *Blackfoot* • *Golden Columbine*
- *Gooding's Verbena* • *Red Justicia* • *Fragrant Evening Primrose*
- *Desert Milkweed* • *Trixis* • *Cleveland Sage* • *White Sage* • *Aloes*

Agaves: When sprucing up your garden this spring, you should consider agaves. They are typically native to Mexico but many grow very well here and will give instant drama to your landscape. The agave is a succulent with rigid stiff leaves that form a rosette shape and, if you look carefully at the underside of the leaf, you will see an impression of another leaf. There are about 20 varieties to choose from which can be found at your local nursery such as:

- *American century plant (Agave Americana)* • *Foxtail Americana (Agave attenua)*
- *Parry's agave (Agave parryii)* • *Queen Victoria agave (Agave victoriae-reginae)*

Purple Lilac Vine (Hardenbergia Violacea): This evergreen vine is native to Australia where it is most frequently spotted scrambling over rocky banks, using any neighboring trees and shrubs for upward support. Here in Southwestern U.S., Purple Lilac Vine is more cultivated and tame, often supported by trellises or a block wall. And, more importantly, it waits until the dead of winter to produce its purple lilac-shaped flowers.

Valentine's Day Considerations: If you are at all influenced by this wonderful occasion think about planting:

Roses: I'll repeat my recommendation of the last few months to consider planting either **bare root** or **container grown** roses. There is a wide variety still available in local nurseries. Also, this is a perfect month to address maintenance of your roses (see on page 9).



Emu Bush: The *Eremophila Maculata* or ‘Valentine’ can be looked at as a long-lasting Valentine “bouquet”. It is covered in tubular flowers beloved by hummingbirds from January through March. Flower buds start out red and then open fully to hot pink. In cold weather, foliage displays an unusual reddish-purplish hue.



February Pruning

Frost Considerations- Although we have not had any serious frost so far this season, do not prune frost sensitive plants until the last chance for freezing conditions has past, which is usually around mid-February to early March. Suggested pruning guidelines for February:

Deciduous trees- Finish pruning nonnative deciduous shade trees and deciduous fruit trees by mid-month.

Citrus trees- Prune frost sensitive citrus after they begin to leaf out, if needed. As a general rule, citrus needs to be pruned only if there are aberrant branches ruining the shape of the tree.

Succulents- As a general rule, if plants have frost damage, resist the urge to prune affected stems until the weather warms next month. The only exception is flowering stalks on aloes, which can be removed anytime.

Flowering annuals and perennials- Continue to deadhead to encourage additional blooms.

Remember: Have a purpose and an end result in mind before you make the first cut. Never remove more than 1/4 of the total plant. Always use sharp, sterile, quality pruning tools and disinfect them between cuts to prevent the spread of disease. Pruning is an art as well as a science. How much you cut off and where you choose to make the cuts will affect both the health and the beauty of the plant or tree.

Miscellaneous Garden Tasks

Watering- Your irrigation timer should have been turned off this past month and you should manually trigger a cycle later in the month only if rainfall is insufficient.

Maintain Roses- Finish pruning by mid-month. Rake up and dispose of leaf litter around shrubs, as it may harbor powdery mildew. Apply fresh mulch. Start fertilizing when new growth is about 2 inches long. Continue feeding every 6 weeks in preparation for April’s major bloom fest.

Fertilize Fruit Trees- If you did not do so in January, feed citrus with one-third of the tree’s annual nitrogen requirement.



Vegetable Garden

If you have the ambition and energy to grow vegetables, considering the rainfall we’ve had, this an excellent month to prepare a new vegetable garden.

Vegetable seeds to sow now include:

- beets • bok choy • carrots • collard greens • lentils • leaf lettuce • mustard greens
- green onions • Irish potatoes • radishes • turnips

Vegetable seeds to sow the second part of February include:

- sweet corn • cantaloupe • cucumbers • muskmelon • summer squash • watermelon

Vegetable Transplants include:

- Artichokes (Globe & Jerusalem) • Asparagus • Chard • Kohlrabi • Lettuce,
- Onion Sets • Peppers • Tomatoes

Happy Valentine’s Day!

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Plant Hotline at maricopacountyplanthotline@gmail.com)

Bellasera Classifieds

Bellasera Residents: The Kiwanis Club of Carefree can pick up your unwanted furniture, clothing and household goods. All items will be sold in our Marketplace resale store in Cave Creek. Proceeds go to support kids in our local school district. Contributions may be tax deductible and a receipt will be provided. Call **480-488-8400** for information and to schedule an appointment. Thanks for your support.

Heiku Fans (2). Factory like condition. One is 28 inches from ceiling, the other is 40 inches from ceiling. Bamboo-like 3 blades, remote operated, variable speed whoosh, etc. Very quiet and stable. \$225, each. E-mail: **sgreenp@msn.com**.

Arizona Real Estate – it's all the buzz... I know you've heard the market has shifted, however, it's not dead. My quarterly market updates created specifically for Bellasera show that our community is still in demand. As we head into our high season, if you have pondered the thought about selling, now would be a great time. Contact me today for a free market assessment: **Regina Alvarez**, Realtor: My Home Group **480-334-1750** or **regina@craigbennettgroup.com**

Introducing Desert Dwellers Home Watching Service exclusively for Bellasera residents. Owned and operated by year-round Bellasera residents, we are dedicated to ensuring our neighbors have access to reliable and trustworthy home monitoring. Licensed and insured we provide visual inspections of the interior and exterior of your home. For a complete list of services and to schedule a complimentary assessment contact us at **480-634-1452** or e-mail us at **ddhomewatch@gmail.com**.

LET THE SUNSHINE IN! UPDATE YOUR HOME. If you have the need or want new window coverings, take advantage of the significant discounts offered to Bellasera residents from your neighbor **Mike Alldredge**, owner of Array Shutters and Blinds, a Certified Hunter Douglas Dealer with Expert Installation and over 40+ Years of Window Covering Experience. We also offer Custom Shutters, Outdoor Shades and Beautiful Draperies. Contact me at **602-622-6565**

Hello Bellasera Neighbors! In addition to being a licensed AZ realtor, I've been securities licensed for 35 years in most states and specialize in real estate 1031 exchanges. My website, **Sandysimmons.bhhsaz.com**, offers a wealth of information on finding and buying or selling a home/investment property. Please call me to learn how I can customize a tax friendly exchange that meets your specific needs. **Sandy Simmons**, Realtor - Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Arizona Properties, **310-405-1403** or **sandy.simmons@bhhsaz.com**.

I love living in Bellasera! Our market is not at the frenzy it was a few months ago, it has struck a more reasonable balance. Our community is still very much in demand. Does your house need some work prior to sale? We have a program called REALVITALIZE. If you are interested in selling or just want an idea of market value, please contact me! **Audrey Fischer**, Realtor – Coldwell Banker Realty, **480-740-4223**, **audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

*Classified Ads are only accepted from Bellasera homeowners. Real estate for sale, non-resident business or commercial ads are not accepted. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad. **Your ad will run for 3 months**, and may be extended upon request. Ads are limited to 75 words. E-mail your ad to: **editor@azbellasera.org***