

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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*“Our Life is March weather, savage
and Serene in one hour”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson



March - 2022



Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman - Board President

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Scottsdale, AZ 85266**

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Dennis Soeffner - Sec.
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It's Official: Annual Meeting Date Set

The Board has finally determined that this year's Annual Meeting of Bellasera homeowners will be held on **Sunday April 24 at 2:00 p.m.** on the patio at the clubhouse. We look forward to seeing you there.

Each homeowner should have received a mailing which includes the 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. Applications to run as a candidate for an open Board seat are due by **Wednesday, March 23**. This year there will be four open positions on the Board of Directors, three (3) for two-year terms, and one (1) for a one-year term. The Board decided against adopting an on-line voting option as one of the choices to vote. We will continue to use the customary paper ballots which will be sent out in a subsequent mailing.

More Tire Tracks in Washes

We continue to see new tire tracks from off-road vehicles or motorcycles in our washes. While we cannot be certain, this is most likely the result of actions from someone from outside Bellasera. Driving or using any motorized vehicle (motorcycle, ATV, etc.) is prohibited and, in addition to leaving unsightly tracks, can harm our desert landscape and plants. We have posted new "No Trespassing" signs at several locations to discourage such activity. Please, if you notice any such activity, report it to the Community Manager or a Board member.

Bellasera Community Events

Board of Directors will meet on **Wednesday, March 23** at **1 p.m.**

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 22** at **1 p.m.**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 8** at **10 a.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, March 16** at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 8** at **12:30 p.m.**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, March 3** at **12 noon**.

Bellasera Hikers : The March hike will be at Brown's Ranch. We will hike the Latigo Trail for a 4 mile loop. These trails are rated easy/moderate. Hike day is **Tuesday, March 8**. Meet at the clubhouse parking lot at **9 a.m.** Remember to bring water & wear a hat. A sign up sheet is in the clubhouse. --**Karen Meiliken**

March Wine and Cheese Event: We invite all wine and cheese lovers to once again join us at the Bellasera March Wine and Cheese Event on **Friday, March 18** from **5 to 7 p.m.** Bring a bottle of a red or white wine from France and a favorite cheese or appetizer to share. The March gathering will be hosted by **John and Leslie Richardson, 7403 E Pontebella Drive**. Please contact **Leslie, 408-585-3053, mamieofthree@gmail.com**, to let us know if you can attend or have any questions. You can also sign up on the sheet inside the front door in the clubhouse. We look forward to seeing everyone. It's time to party!!

A reminder to all homeowners that your Board of Directors is hosting a Welcome Reception in our clubhouse on **Sunday, March 20** from **3-5p.m.** We ask that you sign up either in the clubhouse or email our Community Manager, **Pamela Nunnally, pnunnally@associatedasset.com** to let us know if you will be attending. Even if you signed up for the January event that was rescheduled, please sign up again so we have an accurate count of our attendees. We will be providing appetizers and desserts. Please bring your own beverages. We hope to see you there!

Water Aerobics: Every **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday**, from **11 a.m. to noon**. Both lap lanes will be used during water aerobics.

Bellasera Clubhouse Patio Ideas: The Building and Grounds Committee is soliciting thoughts on how to improve the use of our gorgeous patios at the clubhouse. As you are probably aware, we have 2 main patios. One is in the front to the right of the clubhouse doors. The other is in the back of the clubhouse, directly out the back doors before the pool. We have had several ideas brought to our attention in the past including, movie night on the front patio, corn hole games with social hour, adding a shelf on the front wall of the patio to make it more conducive for setting food and drinks for events. If you have any great thoughts, no matter how creative, please send them to the **Building and Ground Committee** at **bandg@azbellasera.org**.

Weather and General Information

February Weather in Bellasera

(February 1 - February 28)

Highest Temperature: **80 degrees**

Lowest temperature: **28 degrees**

Rainfall: **0.76 inch**

Rainfall this year: **0.95 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.

Photographs used in this newsletter are provided by residents of Bellasera or obtained from social media. Name of the photographer is included if available. If you have photographs that you would like to see used in this publication, please forward them to editor@azbellasera.org

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, February 28**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, March 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. **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.

MARCH 2022

Bellaser Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Poker - 7 pm	2 Water Aerobics - 11 am	3 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	4 Water Aerobics - 11 am	5
Brush & Bulk Removal						
6	7 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	8 Bellaser Hikers - 9 am Building & Grounds - 10 am Modifications - 12:30 pm Poker - 7 pm	9 Water Aerobics - 11 am	10 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	11 Water Aerobics - 11 am	12
13	14 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	15 Poker - 7 pm	16 Communications Committee - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	17 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	18 Water Aerobics - 11 am Wine & Cheese - 5-7 pm	19
20 <i>Welcome Reception - 3 to 5 pm at the Clubhouse</i>	21 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	22 Budget & Finance - 1 pm Poker - 7 pm	23 Water Aerobics - 11 am Board of Directors - 1 pm	24 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	25 Water Aerobics - 11 am	26
27	28 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	29 Poker - 7 pm	30 Water Aerobics - 11 am	31 Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am		
Brush & Bulk Removal						

Bellasera Rules Reminders

Violation Enforcement Policy

“Friendly Reminder” In most cases, and when appropriate as determined by the Association Manager or the Board, the first notification to an Owner of their violation of the Declaration, the Governing Documents and/or a Rule will be by means of a “friendly reminder” letter. The Association Manager will issue the letter.

“Notice of Violation” - If within fifteen (15) days of the date of the “Friendly Reminder” compliance is not gained, a written “Notice of Violation(s)” together with a request to cease and desist from an alleged violation(s) may be sent to the Owner of the Lot via regular mail and shall specify the relevant facts relating to the violation.

If the Owner is leasing his/her home, the Association -will provide a copy of the Notice of Violation(s) to the Owner's tenant as well as the Home Owner- The Board may deviate from any guidelines herein based on the application of the factors contained in paragraph VI below.

VI. Imposition of Fine and any other Sanctions.

(a) Fines. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Owner may be excused from the hearing and the Board of Directors shall deliberate on the amount of the fine to be imposed, if any, based on:

-The seriousness of the violation(s).

-Whether this is a first violation or a continuing violation(s).

-Whether the type of offense poses a danger to property or any person and other extenuating circumstances and whether the Owner agrees in good faith to correct the violation(s) within the time specified by the Board of Directors.

-Whether the amount is sufficient to obtain compliance, based on the facts.

-Impact on property values.

-After the Board of Directors determines the amount of the fine, the Board of Directors shall send notice to the Owner of the amount of the fine and its due date.

-The Board of Directors is empowered to impose a fine for each day that the violation(s) continues.

Source: Bellasera Inspection Policy (azbellasera.org, "Policies" page)

Mistletoe in the Desert



Desert Mistletoe is a parasite that affects plants in our area of the valley, especially around Bellasera and especially in Mesquite and Palo Verde trees. Although it is almost impossible to eliminate completely, you can and should control its spread in your trees. Eventually it can kill the trees as is evident in the NAOS area along Lone Mountain Road. The following is an article by Chief Meteorologist **Royal Norman** of 3TV news dated January 12, 2021 and gives some interesting information.

*by Royal Norman**

It's a little late for mistletoe, but not too late to tell a fuller story about the well-known but sort of notorious plant. I sent out a tweet around Christmas when I was hiking around the desert and posted a picture of mistletoe. Yes, it grows in the desert.

All the quaint old tales of kissing under the mistletoe aside, the plant is parasitic. It lives off the tree where it hangs. There are 1,500 varieties in the world and in the Sonoran desert, the most common type is *Phoradendron californicum*. Yes, I had to look that up. Sometimes called the mesquite mistletoe, it's scientifically termed a hemiparasitic and is native to Southern California, Nevada, Arizona and northern Mexico in elevations up to 4,600 feet.

Hemiparasitic is a fancy word meaning while the plant does take nutrients from the tree it attaches to, it also does its own photosynthesis. OK, I'm done with all the big words, how about some pictures? Once I started looking for it, I found a fair amount on my 3-mile route.

Here's a little one in a Palo Verde tree and it kind of looks like the cold, morning weather may have been taking a toll on the mistletoe. Sadly, this clump of mistletoe seems to be getting the most of this Palo Verde tree.

I will say that even though I saw more mistletoe than I expected once I started looking for it, where I was hiking, I saw it in only a very small percentage of the trees.



Mistletoe in a Palo Verde tree



Mistletoe in a Mesquite tree

**3TV Chief Meteorologist Royal Norman always has his eye on the radar and how weather conditions might affect the people of Arizona. He also loves telling those quintessential stories that are uniquely Arizona. With 35 years of experience forecasting weather and his vast knowledge of Arizona and its micro climates, Royal is an Arizona Weather Authority.*



March In the Garden

by Joe McDade

A Late Winter Storm, But Signs Of Spring Are Here!

In spite of the late winter storm which brought us some welcome rain, February did provide a prelude to spring. We experienced seasonal temperatures with both chilly and a warm stretches which were perfectly timed for the fans and sponsors of our local WM Golf Tournament. It was a rather pleasant month as we get ready to welcome spring. Although we didn't get much total rain in January or February, the record rainfall in December has left your gardens still receptive for spring planting and renovation. **March is normally a great month for**

gardening in the desert!

Your Garden Is Starting To Come Alive!

Take a look at any of your landscape plants and you'll see:

Minimal Frost Damage- Our landscape plants have experienced very little frost damage as evidenced by the flowering perennials such as bougainvillea, lantana and honeysuckle which continue to sparkle. Of course, there are always exceptions depending on the plant location.

New Growth- landscape plants are beginning to come alive as you'll see plenty of new growth especially those with a southern exposure. **Citrus** are starting to bud out along new leaf sprouts.

Mesquite Trees- We have a variety of mesquite here in Bellasera and they are quickly losing their leaves at various rates depending on species and exposure. You will find new leaf growth already on some, especially velvet mesquite.

What To Plant

March is a terrific month for adding most plant types to our low-desert landscapes. Warming soil temperatures will enhance seed germination and root development before the arrival of summer's intense heat. You can **transplant**:

• **trees** • **shrubs** • **vines** • **groundcovers** • **perennials** • **ornamental grasses** • **cacti**

Choose a few plants that will bloom almost year-round (if no freeze), such as: **Baja Red Fairy Duster**, **Mexican Honeysuckle** and **Orange Bells**.

Annual Flowers

When your winter-growing annuals start to decline, consider replacing them with warm season annuals such as: • **Celosia** • **Gaillardia** • **Globe Amaranth** • **Portulaca** • **Marigold**

Citrus Trees

They grow well in our community and, if you have none and want to give it a try, this an ideal time as a wide variety is available in our local nurseries. You should be able to choose from:

- **Grapefruits** • **Lemons/Limes** • **Sweet oranges such as Mars, Trovita or Valencia.**
- **Pummelo(sweet mild grapefruit) hybrids such as Melogold or Oroblanco**

Remember, in Bellasera, only dwarf varieties are allowed in your backyard.

Cactus

You can plant all types of cacti and succulents this month. In addition to purchasing them from a nursery, they can be easily propagated from existing plants via **cuttings** or **offshoots**.

Herbs

How about an herb garden to perk up your cooking? Try favorites such as:

- **Basil** • **Chives** • **Marjoram** • **Mint** • **Oregano** • **Parsley** • **Sage**

Most of these can be purchased in the local grocery stores in small pots (for about \$6.00) and can be easily transplanted in the ground or a larger pot.

Pruning

Shrubs, Groundcovers and Vines- Since there is no threat of frost, March is the perfect time to prune these. Specifically, you should pay attention to Summer and fall flowering shrubs including:

- *Texas Sages* • *Yellow Bells* • *Lantana* • *Turpentine Bush*
- *Black Dalea* • *Mexican-honeysuckle* • *Sky Flower*

Warm-season herbaceous perennials(that have no persistent woody stem above ground), groundcovers and vines including:

- *Chocolate Flower* • *Plumbago* • *Mexican Hat* • *Gaura*
- *Queen's Wreath* • *Mealy-cup Sage* • *Rock Verbena* • *Trailing Lantana* • *Dyssodia* • *Passion Vines* • *Yellow Orchid-vine*

Prune by cutting back to emerging growth or to the basal rosette (group of leaves arranged from a central point).

Cactus- Wait to prune your *prickly-pears* and *chollas* until after flowering. Spent stalks of *aloes*, *agaves* and other succulents can be removed at this time.

Rosemary- They are in a growth spurt and blooming. Do not prune until they are finished blooming. **Note:** If you need to rejuvenate older or overly large shrubs (e.g. Texas Sage as shown above), cut all stems about 12-18 inches above the ground. This is a severe measure and changes the appearance drastically. However, when done in spring before bud burst, a great proliferation of stems will grow just below each cut by mid-summer (as shown below).



Miscellaneous

Fertilization- Now is the time to fertilize your warm-season cacti, succulents, herbaceous and woody perennials, and annuals in containers. Periodic fertilization may be needed for plants in containers as nutrients will have diminished in the soil over time. Depending on the type of fertilizer used, follow directions on the label.

Roses- Continue feeding roses every six weeks to prepare them for spring's peak bloom. Spread fresh mulch to maintain consistent soil moisture, making sure mulch does not touch their stems.

Drip System- As temperatures rise during the month of March, turn on your irrigation timer, test the timer to see if it is working properly and replace back-up batteries if necessary

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Service at <https://extension.arizona.edu/maricopamg>)

Bellasera Classifieds

Moving Sale— — furniture, art work, decorative accessories. Sectional sofa, chairs, tables, lamps, rug. Everything in like new condition. Please call **Fran, 480-284-5683**.

“Mangia” Bellasera. I’d like to do a cooking demo for anyone who is interested in learning some new techniques. I’m looking to do this on a Thursday night in March. The demo will be on Italian Specialties. Whatever we cook that evening we will eat. If we have a small group we can meet in my home: if it’s a larger group we can use the clubhouse. Text or call me if you think you would enjoy this: **rsugarrae@aol.com, 516-987-2897**. Looking forward to cooking with you. --**Rae Culotta**

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.

Need a New Look? How about replacing your old window coverings, what a difference it can make to your home. I’m **Mike Alldredge**, a Bellasera resident and owner of Array Shutters and Blinds featuring Hunter Douglas shades, O’Hair Shutters, patio shades & window film. Call me, **602-622-7575**. We’ll offer you our friends and family discount. Also, we can do custom draperies designed by an A.S.I.D. decorator.

I love living in Bellasera! The market is still on fire. We are seeing record prices per square foot in Bellasera with very favorable terms for sellers. 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 what your home is worth, please call me! **Audrey Fischer**, Realtor – Coldwell Banker Realty, **480-740-4223**, **audrey.fischer@azmoves.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**.

Life Settlement - proven alternative for those who wish to terminate their life insurance. Recent market value vs. “disposal” value examples: 1. Term policy sold for \$800,000; 2. Whole Life surrender value of \$6,500 sold for \$550,000. Problem is people aren’t aware of it: “What are life settlements”; “Sounds too good to be true.” “My other advisor never mentioned this.” Thinking about dropping a policy? Examining every opportunity before making important decisions is smart business. Contact **Marc Ruskin, 480-221-1070**, **ruskinmarc@aol.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***