# IT'S ALWAYS SOMETHIN'

# By Chuck Roach, President of the Bellasera Board of Directors

Periodically, I think it's important to let our residents hear about some of the things that keep our staff busy on a regular basis. So, to that end, I thought I'd list a few things that have come up in the last few weeks.

<u>Tennis Courts</u>: After keeping an eye on the cracks in the courts for the last year, the Board decided it was time to have the cracks filled, which also included resurfacing and re-stripping. Obtaining 3 bids, evaluating them and supervising the work are time intensive. The cost of this project was approximately \$16,000.

Asphalt Over Sealing: This project is not yet completed. There remain some punch list items and re-stripping of the parking lot. Follow up has been on going. This was one of our most expensive projects to date. Approximately \$75,000.

<u>Steam Rooms</u>: The steam rooms in both locker rooms are on the blink. Another project requiring selection of contractors, supervision and follow-up. No cost estimates yet.

<u>Storm Damage</u>: There's some residual damage at the east end of our community requiring some erosion control work. No cost estimates yet.

<u>Common Wall Touchup</u>: We've gone through a lengthy process to get the contractor who originally painted the walls to live up to his warranty. Unfortunately, he went out-of-business during the process. Bids were obtained from new contractors and a contract awarded for \$5.000.

<u>Park Benches</u>: the Board approved a request by several residents for some park benches. Although this project is under \$1,000, it required time for review of products, sighting and coordination.

<u>Clubhouse Thermostat</u>: After some confusion on trying to determine how to improve the temperature balance in the clubhouse, we found that the thermostat in the hallway outside the locker rooms was in the wrong place! We worked with an electrical contractor to move it to the right spot.

<u>New Handyman Selection</u>: After a considerable amount of frustration with our present contractor, our Community Manager, Viola, worked to locate a replacement and get them up to speed on our needs. Many of the small items that come up are handled by this contractor (lighting problems, minor touch-up painting, doors, tile replacement, street signs, etc.).

Roof Inspection: It's time again to take a look at our roof and make sure it's in good shape. We weren't too pleased with the last roofing company so Viola had a company she's used for many years come out and take a look. They will be performing maintenance on our roof over the next few weeks. Approximate cost \$5,000.

<u>Gate Inspections</u>: As previously indicated, we are beginning gate inspections and sending out letters to remind our residents of the need to periodically stain their gates. (see related story on page 5 —Editor)

Well, I think you get the idea that there's always somethin' going on in our Association. I'm particularly happy we have a great staff to take care of all these projects.

My wife and I wish you a happy Holiday Season.

# EDITOR'S HOLIDAY MESSAGE

Each day of the year, PEOPLE — staff & volunteers — work hard to continue to make Bellasera a great place to live. This time of year seems a good time to acknowledge with appreciation and thanks the many contributions of just a few of those individuals.

- --Jasmin Hajric, Mike Meindl, Keven Peterson, and AJ Slagter, our very professional Securitas gatekeepers, whose friendly welcome brightens many a day.
- --Viola Lanam and Sharon Foxworth of AAM, LLC who occupy the clubhouse corner office, and manage the day-to-day affairs of the association.
  - --Pauline Marx, who faithfully provides the monthly garden column for this newsletter, with the able assistance of Communications Committee member **Joe McDade**, who edits the column each month.
  - --Bellasera residents who volunteer as Board and committee members. Check the list on page 9. These are all folks who devote their time and talent to help make Bellasera run smoothly. Thank one or more next time you see them it's the only 'compensation' they receive.

As we look toward 2009, the Communications Committee always solicits your ideas and suggestions to make this monthly epistle more informative and readable. Please e-mail your ideas to **editor@azbellasera.org**.

Here's hoping your Holiday Season is one to remember, and that the New Year will be the best ever. ---Keith Christian

# **BELLASERA COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

## **WATER AEROBICS**

Water aerobics continue on **Monday**, **Wednesday** and **Fridays**, beginning at **11:00 a.m.**, and ending at 12 noon. A recent photo of the group is on **azbellasera.org**.

## **MONDAY NIGHT YOGA**

Experience the amazing benefits of Hatha Yoga - right here in Bellasera! Bring more strength, flexibility and inner calm to your life! Monday night Yoga continues! It's **6:00** to **7:15 p.m.** at the clubhouse. All levels welcome! Class fee \$10. Questions? Contact **Marci Sheer**, **480-488-3426**, **youryogamarci@gmail.com**.

## **JAZZERCISE ON TUESDAY & THURSDAY**

Jazzercise now every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** morning at **9:30 a.m.** in the clubhouse.

Fee is \$35 per month (on Electronic Funds Transfer - directly from checking or credit card) or \$85 for 2 months. There's also a one-time joining fee of \$35. For more information please contact **Monica Bauer**, Jazzercise of Cave Creek, **602-315-5586** (cell) or **480-585-9440** (home).

# **GOLF**

The Bellasera Golf Group is playing this month on **Tuesdays** at **9:00 a.m. December 2** is at Dove Valley; **December 9** is at Rancho Manana; **December 16** is To Be Announced; **December 23** is at Rancho Manana; and **December 30** is at Dove Valley. Cost is between \$60 and \$70.

For more information and to sign up please contact **Ellen Bornstein**, **480-575-9848**, **embornstein7@att.net**. It's a social group, so why not give it a try?

## **BELLASERA HIKERS**

On Thursday, November 6, eight of your neighbors enjoyed a beautiful day in the land of the Lost Dutchman Legends. We did not find the gold, but did see some wonderful country. Lunch was eaten while sitting on the rocks at the summit of Parker Pass with a great view of Weaver's Needle and Boulder Canyon. All of this in the Superstition Mountains east of Mesa.

The December hike is scheduled for **Wednesday**, **December 10**. Staying closer to home, we will hike at Spur Cross Ranch north of Cave Creek. This will be an easy hike on the Metate trail with a diversion into the Tonto National Forest. We will cover about 3.2 miles over nearly flat terrain, so everyone should be able to join us. After the hike we will gather for lunch in Cave Creek. The weather should be cool, but don't forget to bring water and sunscreen. As usual, we will meet at **9:00 a.m.** in the clubhouse parking area. There is a \$3.00 per person fee for entry into Spur Cross Ranch. Please let me know if you plan to join us. You can sign up on the list in the clubhouse, or e-mail **Don Bowman**, **dgbebb@cox.net**.

# **BOOK CLUB**

There will be no book club meeting in December. In January, each person will read a biography, of their choosing, and share it with the group. More information: **Maureen Simpson**, **480-575-7693**, **maureensimpson@cox.net**.

## **ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

Because of the hustle and bustle of the holidays and so many people travelling, there are no luncheons or dinners scheduled for Dec.

Have you heard all the shouting coming from the clubhouse every second Tuesday of the month? It's those Bunko women having a great time! Join them at **7:00 p.m.** and bring your favorite beverage and \$5 to cover snacks and prizes. It could be one of your best Tuesdays ever!

2nd Annual New Years Day Brunch: you're invited to spend New Years Day morning with your neighbors at **11:00 a.m.** at the clubhouse where a delicious brunch will be served to you. We will try to accommodate as many as possible so please sign up early. The sign up sheet will be in the clubhouse on December 1. There will be some outside seating so dress warm. If you sign up and can't make it, please notify **Karen Moore** as there may be a waiting list.

At Bellasera, we are so fortunate and this year we want to share with others. **Marci Sheer** has made arrangements to "adopt a family". These are the details and ways you can help:

(continued on page 3)

# **BELLASERA COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

"Advocates for Kids" Adopt-A-Family Program

The Bellasera Activities Committee has teamed with "Advocates for Kids" to Adopt-A-Family for the Holidays. We received a family of ten. A mom, dad and eight kids (2 sets of twins)!

Our goal is to provide them with a fabulous Christmas.

Here is their "wish" list:

WHO	NAME	AGE	SHIRT SIZE	PANT SIZE	SHOE SIZE	SPECIAL WISH	
Dad	David	30	Large	32	9 1/2	Tool set for mechanics	
Mom	Lucia	32	Large	16	7	Pots & Pans	
Girl	Judith	15	Large	?	?	?	
Girl (twin)	Zuri	9	7	7	2 1/2	Dora the Explorer, Bratz doll	
Girl (twin)	Yireth	9	7	7	2 1/2	Dora the Explorer, Bratz doll	
Boy (twin)	Daniel	7	7	7	1 1/2	Remote control car	
Boy (twin	Elias	7	7	7	1 1/2	Remote control car	
Boy	Gabriel	6	small	5	12 1/2	Remote control car  Age appropriate toy	
Boy	Mario	4	4	4	6		
Girl	Jaime	1	2	2	?	Musical toy	

Christmas food box suggestions: canned fruit, canned vegetables, tomato sauce/paste, canned meat, mac and cheese, masa flour, tamale husks, cooking oil, dry pasta, dry beans, jello or dried pudding, cookies, powered milk.

Choose how you'd like to participate and contact **Marci Sheer**, **480-488-3426**, **findingmarci@yahoo.com** - to let us know how you plan to help (so we can be sure to get something for everyone.)

Please join us on **Sunday**, **December 21** from **2:00 - 4:00 p.m.** for a "gift wrapping extravaganza" and to share some holiday cheer in the Bellasera community room. (If you can't make it on that day you can still help - we'll arrange to collect the items from you.)

ı	I hank you for participating in making the holidays bright for a needy family.	

Hello Bellasera friends! My name is **Spencer Eisner** and I'm 13 and I'm doing a mitzvah (good deed) project and I'd like your help. It's a canned food drive - it starts **Monday**, **December 1** and ends **Sunday**, **December 21**. There will be a box to drop off food items at the clubhouse. There is a list of suggested items to donate on the box. I'm doing this because I'm helping the homeless and people who need help in life. The food will be donated to the Foothills Food Bank and Vista Del Camino. Thank you for your help!

UPCOMING: The January luncheon will be **January 15**, **12:00 noon**, at the Kona Grill in the new City North Shopping Center on Deer Valley Road. Join us and check out the newest shopping center. Sign up at the clubhouse.

It's been my pleasure to be chairman of the Activities Committee for the past two and a half years. I will be stepping down as of January 1. I would like to thank everyone who served with me as well as all the residents who supported our activities. I would also like to thank my husband, **Terry**, for all the picking up and delivering of food and setting up tables, **Keith Christian** for his outstanding job in letting everyone know about our events, and let's not forget **Paul Anetsburger**, the king of vacuuming after all the parties!

**Suzanne Guyan** will be the new chairman, and along with her wonderful committee, we can all look forward to an exciting 2009. We are all lucky to have them.

-Karen Moore

# **COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

# BELLASERA COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP EVENT: wipes the washes clean for another year

# --By Trish Dixon, Building and Grounds Committee Chairperson

This year's November 15 Community Clean-Up Event rallied 43 residents (see list below) to heed the call to "Keep Bellasera Beautiful". Walking the internal washes and the exterior roads 37 Bellasera volunteers collected discarded items that ranged from the mundane (bottles and paper) to the exotic...well if they weren't exotic at least they were interesting things like an industrial tank and an abandoned truck.

Six other Bellasera residents made contributions to community clean-up day by setting up the hearty breakfast that awaited all the 'collectors' following the clean up. In addition, the volunteers provided transportation of collectors and collectables and took pictures.

Unexpected achievements of the day go to the following:

Barry Kluger for the most interesting find: a plastic (quite real looking) foot.

Alice Parks for collecting the most wine bottles...and there were a lot of them!

**Pat Bradley** for the most creative use of a kitchen utensil; she brought along a set of tongs to pick things out of hard to reach places.

Martha Johnson wins the 'most attractive to cholla cactus' award: she finished the collection event covered with cholla pickers.

And **Emma Pappas** (the Guyan's Niece) is recognized for being the youngest collector.

Thank you everyone. It was fun. Let's do it again next year!

# **BELLASERA 2008 CLEAN-UP DAY CREW**

Paul AnetsbergerBob GromkoDan & Darlene LockeLynne BleakneyDon GuyanJoe & Michele Martire

Walt Bleakney Martine Hebrant Becky Noone

Pat & Dan Bradley Mary Hodel Emma Pappas (Don's niece)

Sid Charnock Mary Kay Huff Alice Parks
Keith Christian David & Martha Johnson Mike Ruotolo

Dixie Comstock Hope Kirsch Larry & Joanne Seres

CC Foushee Barry Kluger Bonnie Sisson Janet Geretti Roy Kurtz Jan Swenson

Robert & 'Sarge' Greco Hank & Janice Lewandowski Clay & Janet Wilcox

Breakfast Hostess: **Terry** and **Karen Moore**, **Suzanne Gromko** Organization & Transportation: **Bob Miller**, **Trish Dixon** 

Photographer: Bob Shriver

# BELLASERA SMALL BUSINESS OWNER - RESIDENT MESSAGE THERAPIST

**Jim Birkholz**, a licensed Massage Therapist, is a new resident to Bellasera. **Jim** moved to Arizona from Bismarck, North Dakota in 1986 to attend massage school. He has 21 years of massage experience and presently is providing his services at Paradise Valley Country Club.

Relaxing or therapeutic massage is available in the privacy of your home or office.

Gift certificates are available.

For further information, please contact **Jim** at **480-244-9567**.

Got a news item you'd like to share with the community? Or if you're a resident with a small business, we'll publish a one-time story about your enterprise.

E-mail yours to **editor@azbellasera.org**, drop off at clubhouse office, or FAX to **815-333-2268**. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any submission.



# **MEETING NOTICES**

Activities Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 9, at 6 p.m.

**Board of Directors** will meet for a study session on **Thursday**, **December 11**, and for their regular meeting on **Thursday**, **December 18**. Both meetings at **7 p.m.** 

Budget and Finance Committee will meet on Friday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Building and Grounds Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 2, at 6 p.m.

**Communications Committee** will meet again in January.

Modifications Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 9 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, December 4, to be eligible for review at this meeting.

# **\$AVE MONEY**

I thought that would get your attention in these challenging economic times.

You can save our Association some bucks if you're still getting this newsletter in your post office mailbox.

Last month, according to our Community Manager, we spent **\$621.39** to mail out 231 paper copies of the November newsletter. With increasing computer availability among residents, this is one expense we can reduce.

It's easy to save money -- our Association's money, just send an e-mail to **editor@azbellasera. org.** Beginning in January, the latest Bellasera news will be delivered to your computer. Usually about a week before the paper copy is mailed, and less clutter in your USPS mailbox.

--Keith Christian, for the Bellasera Communications Committee

# YARD GATE MAINTENANCE OPPORTUNITY

Bellasera residents **Dan** and **Darlene Locke** are sponsoring a fund raiser for the Cactus Shadows Wrestling Team, with the added benefits of making Bellasera properties look better, and saving participating residents a few dollars.

As indicated on posters that have been distributed to residents, the project includes:

- --team members coming to your house, removing the wood slats, sanding, restaining and reinstalling with new rust resistant bolts.
- --work will be done on **December 6 & 7**, and **December 27 through 30**.
- --Cost is \$100 per gate panel.

As indicated in Board President Chuck Roach's columns in recent newsletters, courtesy notices have been sent to several residents whose gates are in need of maintenance.

You may contact **Dan** or **Darlene**, **480-563-3925**, **dlocke3@cox.net**, for additional information.



# **DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN**

# —By Pauline Marx, Arizona Master Gardener

December ushers in winter and a time of year when you need to pay attention to the weather, both temperature and rainfall. Winter also provides some of the best opportunities for pruning and planting, especially roses.

### Weather

Temperature- Monitor weather forecasts for possible freezes and be prepared to protect frost tender plants. Wrap young citrus and other frost tender trees with cloth, cardboard, or layers of newspapers, never plastic. Leave them wrapped until the danger of frost is over.

<u>Rain</u>- With normal winter rainfall and temperatures, reduce watering frequency and reset automatic timers along the following guidelines:

Native/desert adapted-Trees (30 to 60 days)

- -Shrubs (30 to 45 days)
- -Ground covers and vines (21 to 45 days)

Non-native-Trees (14 to 40 days)

-Shrubs, ground cover and vines (10 to 14 days)

Please note that the watering frequencies and ranges are affected by rainfall amounts.

# **Pruning**

Now is a good time to start thinning, pruning, and reshaping many of our desert trees such as mesquite, palo verde, acacia, and other deciduous trees. Tree sap has moved down into the root system making it the most desirable time to thin and prune. Some guidelines:

- -Remove touching branches that cross over each other and limbs that rub against structures and neighboring trees.
- -Thin overall to decrease the trees susceptibility to wind damage.

December is also a good time to prune Texas sage, roses and other desert and deciduous shrubs.

Do not prune frost sensitive plants such as bougainvillea and hibiscus.

## Roses

This is the time of the year to plant *barefoot roses*. Because you have a month or more to plant them, take some time to look for the best quality plants in the varieties that grow best in the valley. So, here are some:

Purchasing Guidelines

- -Bargain prices often mean inferior plants.
- -A healthy plant should have large, healthy canes with no leaves but visible buds, and strong anchor roots with at least some secondary and feeder roots.
- -Never buy roses that have been dipped in wax.
- -Keep them cool, moist (or soaking in water) and in the shade until you are ready to plant.

Planting Guidelines

- -Plant within a week after purchase.
- -They should do well in a 2-foot by 2-foot hole that is well amended with organic matter.

## Citrus

Continue to harvest citrus, testing for sweetness. If the fruit size is small it may be lack of normal rainfall during the midsummer period. Citrus fruit growth is greater as a response to rain versus a similar amount of irrigation.

# Miscellaneous Planting

Now is the time to plant *cold-hardy* trees, shrubs, and vines.

Plant your *leafy* crops in an area where there is plenty of sunlight for the plants to develop properly. Don't be afraid to transplant and move seedlings into different areas so there is plenty of sunlight for the plants to develop, especially snow peas.

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

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR—DECEMBER 2008

Sunday 30 Brush & Bulk Collection	Monday 1 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	Tuesday 2 Golf 9 a.m. Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Building &	Wednesday 3 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	Thursday 4 Jazzercise 9:30 a.m.	Friday 5 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	Saturday 6
Week	Yoga 6:00 p.m.	Grounds 6 p.m.				
7	Fitness 7 a.m.  Water Aerobics 11 a.m.  Yoga 6:00 p.m.	Golf 9 a.m. Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Modifications 2:30 p.m. Activities 6 p.m. Bunko, 7 p.m.	10 Fitness 7 a.m. Hike 9:00 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Board Study Session 7 p.m.	12 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	13
14	15 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 6:00 p.m.	16 Golf 9 a.m. Jazzercise 9:30 a.m.	17 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Board Meeting 7 p.m.	19 Fitness 7 a.m.  Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Budget & Finance 6:30 p.m.	20
Gift Wrapping 2—4 p.m. Hanukkah begins @ sundown	Fitness 7 a.m.  Water Aerobics 11 a.m.  Yoga 6:00 p.m.	23 Golf 9 a.m. Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Poker 7 p.m.	24 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	27
28	Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m. Yoga 6:00 p.m. Hanukkah ends @ sundown	30 Golf 9 a.m. Jazzercise 9:30 a.m. Poker 7 p.m.	31 Fitness 7 a.m. Water Aerobics 11 a.m.	NEW YEARS DAY 2009 Brunch 11 a.m.	2	3

# \*\*BELLASERA CLASSIFIEDS\*\*

FOR SALE: Western Art and Bronzes purchased at May Gallery and Charles Pabst Gallery in Scottsdale. Includes certificates of authenticity. Also, San Diego oils of Hotel del Coronado. 25 pieces. **Gary Harnett, 602-568-6767.** 

\*FOLDING BED \$65 OR BEST OFFER. ORION OBSERVER 70MM ALTAZ TELESCOPE \$75 OR BEST OFFER CALL **LUCY**, **480-595-8218**.

Wanted: used car, reliable, in good condition, Accord or something comparable. **781-710-8503**.

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 <u>not</u> accepted; Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.

# **ELECTRIC TRANSFORMER BOXES**

Our electric utility, APS, will be in the neighborhood over the next several weeks evaluating the transformer boxes throughout the community to determine if any units need to be replaced or painted. They will also determine if any bushes or other items such as sprinklers or irrigation systems are too close to the box. The work will take one to six months to complete within the community. APS will place a door hanger on your door prior to any work being completed.

# NOVEMBER WEATHER IN BELLASERA

(November 1—November 28) Highest temperature: 83 Lowest temperature: 44

Rainfall: 1.18 inches on November 9, 26, 27

# **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 week** of Monday, December 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, 480-312-5600.

# **BELLASERA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION** 7350 E Ponte Bella Dr., Scottsdale AZ 85266-2701

Community Manager: Viola Lanam, vlanam@aamaz.com Administrative Assistant: Sharon Foxworth, sfoxworth@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: 602-906-4940 AAM, LLC Emergency: 602-647-3034 or toll free 866-553-8290

Security/Front Gate• 480-488-3663

Internet Web Site: www.azbellasera.org

# **Board of Directors**

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—Hope Kirsch, hnk@kgklaw.com

# **Committees**

Activities
MerryBelle Beltz, Suzanne Guyan, Hope Kirsch, Darlene Locke, \*Karen Moore\*, Cheryl Renaud, JoAnne Seres, Marci Sheer

# **Budget & Finance**

\*Clayton Loiselle\*, Dennis Noone, Carlton Rooks, Charles Schroeder

# **Buildings & Grounds**

Paul Anetsburger, \*Trish Benninger-Dixon\*, Bruce Martin, Robert Miller

# **Communications**

Dennis Carson, \*Keith Christian\*, Pat Manion, Joe McDade, Emily Shriver

## **Modifications**

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

\*——\* indicates committee chairperson