Bellasera Neighborhood News

May 2018

azbellasera.org

Twelve Pages



Happy Birthday...To Us All

Following the Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 29, attendees enjoyed celebrating the Bellasera community's 20th Anniversary -- with cake and refreshments.

2018 Annual Meeting Highlights

- No Pickle Ball: <u>No</u>, 111; <u>Yes</u>, 93
- Marilyn Lillienfeld, Dave Reed, Dennis Soeffner elected to Board of Directors
- No dues increase for the new fiscal year.
- Major project for next year: new mailboxes.

Bellasera's Board of Directors with three new members and two incumbents are pictured to the right.

Front (I-r) Marilyn Lillienfeld, Dave Reed

Rear: Dennis Soeffner, Joe Carlon, Dennis Carson



Clubhouse Corner

--By Laurie Forte, Community Manager

Thank You Residents

Many of you know that I am dealing with some health issues with my husband of 30+ years.
It has taken me away from the office, and sometimes left me not quite as 'Cheerful' as I usually am. The support of my Bellasera family has been so very amazing and I am grateful to be here. Thank you for your support and patience. --Laurie

Goodbye Snowbirds

The weather finally became reasonable in the east, west and northern states and many of our residents have returned to their summer homes. Safe travels and we look forward to seeing you all when you return to us in the fall/winter.

• Fence Painting Clarification

In last month's newsletter, I mentioned re-painting of the view fencing. That will not happen until 2020. My message is to remind homeowners that as we are in prime growing season, you need to keep in the back of your mind that anything growing on, around, over your view fences will have to be trimmed or pulled off of the fence at the time we re-paint.

City News

Plug into Electronics Recycling Day, **Saturday**, **May 5**. Scottsdale residents can recycle unwanted electronics from **7:30 a.m.** to **2 p.m.** at the city's Corporation Yard, 9191 E. San Salvador. Items accepted include computer, office and entertainment equipment.

Scottsdale EZ is here to assist you. Whether it's a broken streetlight, a fresh pothole or a missing trash can, a new online service is making it easier for residents to report problems with city facilities or services. Scottsdale EZ lets you quickly report issues on your desktop or mobile device and provides the city with a consolidated tracking and reporting system. Go to: **scottsdaleaz.gov/ez**.

In Memoriam

The Bellasera community extends its condolences to the family and friends of three residents who passed away in April: "Mike" Lindblad, Barbara Turoff and Dorothy Williams.

Meet Our New Residents

Mike and **Susan Whalen** have been visiting Arizona multiple times a year for the past thirty years. They recently purchased their Ponte Bella Drive Bellasera home from parents. Parent **Joleen** will still be visiting her home away from home as often as desired.

The commercial real estate industry keeps them both busy. **Mike** provides a full range of commercial development and construction services, primarily in the Midwest. **Susan's** work involves commercial brokerage and property management services predominantly in Minnesota.

For leisure pursuits, hiking the mountains is one of their choice activities, though just being in the sunshine/ warm weather is probably at the top of the list. The **Whalens** also enjoy cooking in a wood burning oven, outdoor grilling, and good wine.

Mike & **Susan** believe the Bellasera community has a lot to offer that should not be taken for granted. There are few communities that have the number of amenities that we enjoy here: the quiet neighborhood, the mountain views, the fitness center, the tennis and basketball courts, the open green space, the clubhouse and connection to a quality community among them.

Arvid & **Liza Straume** purchased their Corva Drive home in February. They currently live full time in the Seattle area. They have family in the Phoenix area and eventually plan to retire in Scottsdale.

The new residents both work in the construction industry. **Liza** is a small contractor and supplies specialty building products to consumers and builders and will be opening an office in Scottsdale.

Time-away-from-work finds them keeping fit, playing golf and travelling.

Two things that attracted the **Straumes** to Bellasera: the large American flag out front, and the clean, beautiful neighborhood.

Joel & Peggy Holmes (and furry housemates **Fred & Walter**) very recently moved in to their home on Brisa Drive. The two lived in Scottsdale for 28 years prior to moving to Utah in 2014. After 3-1/2 years there they realized Scottsdale is where they belong and are thrilled to be moving "back home."

Both are retired and enjoy golf. **Joel** is an avid golfer and has played most of the Phoenix area courses over the past 30+ years. They also enjoy traveling, especially taking cruises to various parts of the world. Both enjoy reading and working out at the gym. **Peggy** is looking forward to joining the hiking group and book club as well as taking advantage of volunteer opportunities in the Valley.

What attracted the **Holmes** to Bellasera? They can't name just one thing. The Utah refugees were attracted to the community as a whole: wonderful open spaces throughout; lovely clubhouse; beautifully maintained landscape and facilities; delightful property manager, and both love the dog park.

Meeting Notices

Board of Directors will meet on Wednesday, May 16 at 1 p.m.

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 23 at 1 p.m.

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

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

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday**, **May 8** at **noon**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday**, **May 10** at **12 noon**.

April Weather In Bellasera

(April 1—April 30)

Highest temperature: 97

Lowest temperature: **42** Rainfall: **0.00 inch**

Rainfall this year: 1.55 inches

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: weather.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 25th 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**, **May 21**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday**, **June 25**.

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**.

Potluck Off for Summer

The April Potluck hosted by the **Rook's** family was a wonderful event. The intimate crowd of twenty enjoyed delicious appetizers and entrees and of course great dessert. After dinner daughter **Sydney** hosted a trivia game with very challenging questions. The winning team received gift bags containing something sweet, salty and savory!

During the last two months the potluck attendees agreed to take a break for the summer. A new and improved event with a new name will debut in the fall so stay tuned. Enjoy the summer, stay cool, travel safe and we'll see you in the fall.

Water Aerobics

Water Aerobics will be every Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 10 a.m.

Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga will be offered all **Fridays** in the month of April at **9 a.m.** in the clubhouse. Hope to see you there. --**Sandy Rooks**

Bellasera Yoga Continues

Although temperatures are rising and some residents are leaving for cooler climes, Yoga at Bellasera continues! Need some peace in your life? Bellasera has a <u>wonderful instructor</u>, **Joy Blonstein**. Suitable for students of all abilities, her classes include breath work, both standing and floor poses, some with props such as blocks and straps, great stretches and also fun sun salutations.

Classes are held each **Monday** and **Thursday** morning at **8:45 a.m.** in the clubhouse activity room and are offered at the very reasonable rate of \$7.00/per class (or you can pre-pay and receive 10 classes for the price 9); first come first served. Start your day or week off right – give Yoga a try. You will leave feeling not only well stretched but also calm and peaceful!

Book Club

On **Wednesday**, **May 16**, at **noon**, we will meet in the clubhouse. Our May selection is "The Great Alone" by **Kristin Hannah**. Please join us as we discuss the book. We will also select a summer read, to be discussed at the first meeting in the fall. Any questions, please contact **Sandi Berger**, **sandals85@live.com** or **Karen Moore**, **kresmor60@gmail.com**.

Ladies Luncheon

Bellasera Ladies Luncheon hosted by **Mary Landau** will be on **Thursday, May 17**, **12:00 noon** at Cafe Pino, 7000 E Mayo Blvd., Scottsdale. Cafe Pino in next to The Harkins 101Theatre. To beat the heat, think lunch and a movie! For more information contact **mlandau717@aol.com**, **520-907-6835**.

Wine & Cheese, Austrian/German White Wines

We're inviting all wine and cheese lovers to join us at our May wine and cheese gathering on **Friday**, **May 18** from **4:30 to 6:30 p.m.** Bring a bottle of a nice white Austrian or German wine, a favorite cheese or an appetizer, and a desire to share with and learn from each other.

The May gathering will be hosted by **Linda** and **Bart Sotnick**, 7403 E. Brisa Drive. Please contact

Linda, **480-575-7040**, **lindagschwend@gmail.com** to let us know if you can attend or have any questions. You can also sign-up at the clubhouse. We look forward to hearing from you.

Bellasera's Volunteer Trash Collectors **Residents Below Help in City-wide Event **



(I-r) Paul Rippens, Emily Shriver, Pat Rippens, Ed Szkaradnik, Bruce Van Cleave, Mary Van Cleave, Ginny Burnell

Philip & Shelly Taylor, and Becky Eisiminger, were already working and missed the photo op.

City Sends Its Kudos

Thank you for your hard work! The City of Scottsdale, the Adopt-A-Road/Scottsdale Clean & Scenic Program and the non-profit group Keep Scottsdale Beautiful want to thank all the Adopt-A-Road/ Scottsdale Clean & Scenic groups than participated in the April 21 Keep Scottsdale Beautiful event.

The event was a tremendous success: 44 Groups, 321 Participants, 88 Miles of roadways cleaned,2 tons of litter picked up!

Bellasera in the Rear View Mirror

A look back in Bellasera history. This may bring back memories for long-time residents and be of interest to those not living in our community 5 & 10 years ago. Clips from past newsletters follow.

Bellasera Neighborhood News, May 2008, 10 years ago

- Thanks to all our residents that came to the Annual Meeting. For those of you who weren't there, here are some of the highlights:
- --We will need to increase assessments 5% again this year in order to continue building our reserves. The cost of oil, which directly impacts our road maintenance, is the primary factor driving up our expected future costs.
- --Over the next few months, we plan to over-seal all the roads except the parking lot and entries, which were done 2 years ago.
- --We finally have a respected contractor who has provided a bid to do the erosion clean-up work in the washes. The Board will review the bid at our April 24th meeting and, if satisfactory, commission the work as soon as possible.
- --In the next year, we will be painting all the view fences in the community. This topic sparked a lively discussion! One resident threatened to sue the Association if we get any over spray on his plants! Another didn't think we need to do anything, apparently for a long, long time!--Chuck Roach
- At this year's Annual Meeting of the Bellasera Community Association on April 19, Hope Kirsch, Chuck Roach and Bob Shriver were elected to two year terms on the community's Board of Directors. Ballots were cast by 163 of the 360 eligible homeowners.
- Bellasera's management company, AAM, LLC, has announced that Community Manager Marshall Chess has resigned from the company, effective immediately. A successor will be named promptly.
- The Bellasera community extends its sincere sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of homeowner Brian Ong, who passed away on March 25 at the age of 52.

Bellasera Neighborhood News, May 2013, 5 years ago

- Bellasera Street Tragedy! Got your attention? That's the intent.I hope this headline never appears in our monthly Bellasera newsletter. Only you can prevent it. By observing the posted 25 MPH speed limit on our streets, and by making a complete STOP at the signs so posted. Think about it...and thank you!---Editor
- Good tip offered by a resident during the Annual Meeting Q & A. To restore faded house numbers, use a large tip permanent magic marker.
- The City of Scottsdale is currently working with APS, Cox and CenturyLink to design and construct the conversion of the
 existing overhead power lines on Scottsdale Road, from Pinnacle Peak to Ashler Hills, to underground facilities as part of
 this road's designation as a Desert Foothills Scenic Drive. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in July 2013.
- Many homeowners have been contacted to stain the gates going to the back yards. I am asking everyone to check if
 your gate might also require staining. If you have a need for a vendor to do this work, there is a list available at the Bellasera office.--Viola Lanam
- A pleasant spring day was the setting for the recent Annual Meeting of the Bellasera Community Association on Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m. A quorum was established by more than 120 mail-in ballots and we thank the many residents who attended in person. The two candidates for open Board positions, Gregg Dittoe and Dennis Corbett, were elected to new two-year terms
- Outgoing President, Gregg Dittoe, reported the new Dog Park is an overwhelming success based upon the high level of
 utilization by our residents and the reaction of potential purchasers in our community to a new attractive amenity.
- --Richard Hoffman



May in the Garden

--By Joe McDade

Yellow, Lavender & Pink...Sure Signs of Summer

A wonderful signal that summer is not far off is our beautiful Bellasera landscape, right now awash in a corridor of yellow as our Palo Verde trees are currently in full bloom. This explosion of color will soon be followed by our Ironwoods which will give off their beautiful lavender-pink blossoms. Of course there is a price to pay for this, the blossoms fall off, to be followed by the seed pods! **Summer is in Sight... Get in Step!** April was a repeat of last year, warm, pleasant and not a drop of rain. However, May is the traditional transition month into summer and our recent, gradual climb into the 90's should be a reminder that we will likely see our first day over 100°F during this month, a month that will most likely be clear, dry and hot. So, as our Bellasera neighbors and

friends head for their summer refuges, we reluctantly turn on our air conditioning. This is an important month in that you need to pay attention to *maintenance/upkeep tasks*, although there is still an open window for some *selective planting* which I'll also cover.

What to Plant

Succulents May through the summer is the perfect time to plant warm season succulents.

Reminder#1: Many plant families make up the succulent species, the best known being cactus. Virtually all cacti (or cactuses) are succulents, but many succulents are not cactus.

When transplanting cacti and succulents, mark either the south or west side and plant facing the orientation you marked to avoid the burning of tender tissues. Most nurseries will mark the side of the container to help you determine proper planting orientation. However, if the original orientation is not known, newly planted cacti and succulents need to be covered with shade cloth if the plant surface appears to yellow or pale suddenly. Use a shade cloth rated between 30-60% as anything higher will block most of the sunlight and will not be suitable for your cacti and succulents. You may need to keep the shade cloth on the plant for the duration of the summer.

Reminder #2: Wait a week after planting your cacti and succulents before watering to minimize the chance of rot. After the initial irrigation of your succulents, allow the soil to dry out and water every 10-14 days. Cacti need to be watered once more after initial watering during the month, but allow the soil to dry out between watering.

<u>Ocotillo</u> Plant your Ocotillo from March through May as these are the ideal months to achieve greater transplanting success. This is a woody shrub, not a cactus and therefore is not a succulent plant and should not be treated as such. Most mature Ocotillos found in nurseries have been salvaged directly from the desert.

<u>Warm-Season Vegetables</u>- A variety can be sowed from seeds including cantaloupe, okra, black-eyed peas, Tran Armenian cucumbers, and yard long beans. You can also transplant sweet potatoes and Jerusalem artichokes. **Note:** Okra is in the same family as hibiscus and hollyhock and tall-growing okra (3-6 feet tall) produces large lobed leaves and hibiscus-like flowers, which add beauty to summer vegetable gardens.

Trees- If you have lost a tree or have one that's dying, May is an excellent month to replace it.

<u>Warm Season Annual Flowers</u>- If you still have winter annuals, I'm sure they're on their last legs as it's time to replace them with warm season annuals. Below is the suggested list I had in last month's column: - *Celosia - Gaillardia - Globe amaranth - Portulaca - Gazania -Zinia -Verbina - Lisianthus - Madagascar periwinkle - Marigold - Petunia*

If you have questions about what to choose, local nurseries are always glad to help as they will have a wide selection right now.

Remember: when planting during the month of May, it is crucial that newly planted plants are monitored carefully for heat stress as temperatures can get high.

Maintenance

Trees- May is a good time to pay some attention to your trees. Specifically:

- •Pruning- Lightly prune desert legumes (like palo verde or mesquite) removing dead limbs and small crossing branches. Delay hard-pruning until later in the summer as it will encourage a heavy regrowth which will make them unstable and prone to toppling over during monsoon season.
- •Stakes- If you added stakes to trees that you planted in the fall, it is time to take them away.

Expect the tree to lean at first, especially if it is small, but, as it gains strength, it will correct itself quickly

•Watering- Increase the watering of newly planted or young trees to maintain a watering depth of 3 feet. This may mean watering once a week if the temperatures are already hot or if the soil drains quickly.

(but wait, there's more....on the next page)



<u>Mulch For Summer</u>-Layer 3 to 4 inches of organic matter (compost, bark chips, shredded leaves) around the bases of plants and on the tops of containers and garden beds. Mulch maintains soil moisture, reduces soil temperature and inhibits weeds. As mulch breaks down, it releases nutrients into the soil.

<u>Citrus</u>- if you haven't already applied the second application of citrus fertilizer, be sure and do it this month. Fertilize with one-third of the tree's total annual nitrogen requirement. Water to a depth of 3 feet immediately after application. Don't worry about fruit drop. Citrus trees set more fruit than they can bear to maturity and shed the excess.

<u>Roses</u>- Continue fertilizing established roses, liquid fertilizers can be added at 2 week

intervals, follow the directions on the container.

Fertilization- Most native and desert-adapted plants in the landscape do not generally require fertilizer as they are adapted to our soil conditions. In most cases, fertilizers are generally applied to prevent deficiencies. If fertilizers are needed, one application for the year is usually sufficient. If you did not fertilize in March or in April, go ahead and fertilize

your landscape plants if necessary. However, it is recommended to fertilize your landscape plants the early part of May.

Watering

May is the traditional month to raise your awareness to watering and let's start with a few basic reminders. Be sure that your drip system is activated and in good working condition. It's important to adjust your watering habits now that the heat has arrived and continue to adjust as we warm up. It is recommended that you:

- Water in the mornings, not during the heat of the day or evenings.
- Water slowly and deeply to get to the thirsty roots.

Your soil should be moist several inches below the surface. Remember that plants in pots need more water than those in the ground as soil dries out faster in containers.

Observe plants regularly for signs of water stress. Some signs to look for include: wilting, curling leaves, yellowing or falling of older leaves, and dead stems or branches.

The amount of water and watering frequency depends on many factors. These include: soil type, weather (temperature, humidity, rainfall, etc.), microclimates, plant size and species, and whether newly planted or established in the land-scape (two years or more). I'll attempt to cover this topic every month.

Desert Observations for May

Saguaro-In addition to the obvious "bloomers" mentioned earlier, the iconic Saguaro will soon start blooming. The Saguaro flowers open in the evening and will remain open throughout the following day. Many animals and insects are attracted to the white, fruit-scented flowers.

Spring-Blooming Perennials- Penstemons, Brittlebush Globemallow Fleabane, and Golden Columbine will be producing seed. Allow them to produce seed before pruning spent flowering stems. The seed is a valuable food source for many animals.

Ocotillo- This native, deciduous shrub has been putting on quite a show with its spectacular fiery red flower clusters throughout our community and surrounding areas. They can be especially lavish during this first bloom cycle of spring. Butterflies- it's that time of year when beautiful black and yellow swallowtail butterflies may be seen around citrus. They lay eggs on fresh citrus leaves that hatch into "orange dog" caterpillars. These gray, brown, and white mottled caterpillars resemble bird droppings. They will eat only a few leaves, therefore no control is necessary.

Have You Ever?

Saved seeds- If you haven't, here's how:

- •Allow flowers of cool-season annuals to dry and go to seed.
- •As seeds begin to drop naturally, hold a paper bag or container beneath the dry seeds and tap them into it. Or, tie a paper bag over flower heads to catch falling seeds.
- Punch a few holes in the bag to allow air circulation. Collect seeds on dry, sunny days.
- If seeds are exposed to moisture, spread them on newspaper to dry for a week.
- Remove any stems or leaves before storing in an airtight container in a cool, dry place.

Would You Like a Year-Round Hummingbird Garden?

Make a list of your existing plants and when they flower. Add trees, shrubs, perennials, succulents and wildflowers that bloom in different seasons or offer lengthy bloom periods to provide nectar sources. Hummers regularly visit:

- Aloe (winter to spring)
 Baja Red fairy duster (almost year-round if frost-free)
- Chuparosa (late winter to spring) Desert Willow (spring to fall)
- Flame Honeysuckle (summer to late fall) Hummingbird Trumpet (summer to fall)
- Mexican, Red, and Yellow Bird of Paradise (late winter to spring)

Are You?

- Enjoying the reduction in our traffic as our winter visitors fade away?
- · Slowing down for our quail pairs as they scamper around our streets?

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Service at **602-470-8086**)

Community Calendar—May 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1	Wednesday 2	Thursday 3	Friday 4	Saturday 5
		Poker 7 p.m.	Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	Yoga 8:45 a.m.	Chair Yoga 9 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Bridge 1:30 p.m.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Yoga 8:45 a.m.	Building &	Water Aerobics	Yoga 8:45 a.m.	Chair Yoga 9 a.m.	
	Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	Grounds 10 a.m. Modifications	10 a.m.		Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	
		12 noon Poker 7 p.m.			Bridge 1:30 p.m.	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Yoga 8:45 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	Poker 7 p.m.	Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Book Club 12 noon Board Meeting 1 p.m.	Yoga 8:45 a.m. Ladies Luncheon 12 noon	Chair Yoga 9 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Bridge 1:30 p.m. Wine & Cheese 4:30-6:30 p.m.	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Brush & Bulk Week	Yoga 8:45 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	Poker 7 p.m.	Communications 8:30 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Budget & Finance 1 p.m.	Yoga 8:45 a.m.	Chair Yoga 9 a.m. Water Aerobics 10 a.m. Bridge 1:30 p.m.	
27	28	29	30	31		
	Memorial Day	Poker 7 p.m.	Water Aerobics 10 a.m.	Yoga 8:45 a.m.		

10

Bellasera Classifieds

Bellasera Community Association

7350 E Ponte Bella Dr Scottsdale AZ 85266-2701

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

Web Site: azbellasera.org
Weather: weather.azbellasera.org
Community Directory: directory.azbellasera.org

Community Manager: Laurie Forte, Iforte@aamaz.com

—Office Hours— Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Questions regarding your account?

Contact AAM, LLC: **602-957-9191** or toll free, **866-354-0257** AAM, LLC (after hours, emergency): **602-647-3034** or toll free, **866-553-8290**

Bellasera Community Volunteers

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.

Interested in volunteering? Go to azbellasera.org, "BCA Members" page.

Board of Directors board@azbellasera.org

Director—Joe Carlon, jmc0465@aol.com
Director—Dennis Carson, dmcarson7@gmail.com
Director—Marilyn Lillienfeld, 401grandave@gmail.com
Director—David Reid, dreid997@gmail.com
Director—Dennis Soeffner, dennissoeffner@aol.com
(Board Officers will be selected during the May 16 meeting)

Committees

Budget & Finance

Marilyn Lillienfeld, David Reid, Chuck Roach, Carlton Rooks, Charles Schroeder, Paul Snyder

Buildings & Grounds

Steve Bernett, Bob Gromko, *Jim Ragborg*, *Tom Saari*, Jill Wyllie

Communications

Keith Christian, Richard Hoffman, Joe McDade, Paul Rippens, Emily Shriver, Dennis Soeffner

Modifications

Stanley Green, David Hathaway, *Craig Johnson*

Security Consultant: Joe Carlon

—— indicates committee chairperson