

BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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from Laurie Forte,
Community Manager

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Photo by Kathy Thom

Snow in Bellasera

Bellasera residents peering outside for the first-time last Friday (February 22, 2019) morning were amazed to view a solid blanket of white (snow). Something we had not seen in several years and not likely to be repeated for many years to come. That day also recorded the lowest high temperture for the greater Phoenix area in over 100 years.

The first light snowfall occurred the previous afternoon, but most of the white stuff floated down overnight. Snow fell down to the 2,000-foot level (Bellasera is about 2,240'). Nearby mountain peaks were all pristene white, with picture postcard beauty. Higher elevations nearby received much more: Cave Creek/Carefree, 9-12 inches; McDowell Sonoran Preserve, 7 inches.

The two-day storm left 2.52 inches of much-needed precipitation.

March - 2019



Clubhouse Corner

by Laurie Forte, Community Manager

Golfers wanted!

If you are a golfer, we have a group for you! Contact resident **Ed Szkaradnik** at **713-**

301-5845 to get specific details. The group is playing at Dove Valley on Tuesday mornings this year. Each year they look at their options for courses to play. This is open to both men and women.

Have you had your fire sprinklers checked recently?

Every year the clubhouse has all of the fire extinguishers checked as well as the fire suppression system. When have you had the fire systems in your home checked out? Companies such as Service 1st Fire Protection will come out and inspect your systems and provide you with a detailed report.

Room Rental at Bellasera

If you are looking for a venue to host a party, shower, luncheon or other special event, we hope you will consider the clubhouse at Bellasera. The cost for resident's is only \$150 which includes use of the large kitchen. The room is large enough to seat 65 at tables, more for seminars, training events, etc. Call the office to reserve your event soon!

Winter Weather

This years winter weather has taken a toll on many of the cactus, bushes and trees throughout the community. Once we are out of danger of having another round of freezing temperatures it will be time for you to trim away dead leaves, branches and other dead segments. Please make sure your landscapers cut back to allow for new growth. Let's keep Bellasera BEAUTIFUL! There is much more information in the March in the Garden section on page 10-12.

Extra trash

Help! More than once now we have found the trash cans by the dog park filled with people's trash (not the dog poop bags you would expect). If you are heading out of town and do not want to leave your trash in your bin while you are gone, please ask a neighbor or call the office for alternatives. Thank you!

ANNUAL MEETING!

Just another reminder to mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 28th at 2:00 p.m.** for the 2019 Annual Meeting. Notices will start arriving in your mailbox shortly!



You never know who's going to come for a visit, or a nap on your patio. This Bobcat was a visitor at the home of Renee and Dan Braun.

This and That

City Property Information Web Site

The City has introduced a new portal for Planning and Development Services Property Information. This new customer service tool allows anyone to immediately obtain property information. Users can immediately access zoning information, access an interactive map, connect with the County Assessor, and search for associated development cases, plan reviews, and permits for a property. Further, the "Property Information" allows users to request more custom information, such as site-specific setbacks, land uses and information regarding signage. There's a link on our web site, azbellasera.org, click or touch "Local Links."

Bellasera Hikers

The March hike is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 12**. We will meet at the clubhouse at **8:30 a.m.** We will be hiking the Marcus Landslide Trail which is a 4.1 mile out and back trail located off S. Alma School Rd. The trail features beautiful wild flowers and is well-maintained and rated as moderate for the most part except for the final loop section which climbs up. There are many boulders and interesting rock formations along the way. The interpretive signs give information about the landslide, how it was believed to be caused, and the resulting landscape. The trail also gives nice views of the surrounding area, including Four Peaks, Mount McDowell, and Weaver's Needle. Remember to bring water, sunscreen, trail snacks, and a smile. The hike coordinators are **Carolyn and Ralph Vernacchia** (carolynvernacchia@msn.com, 360-708-8332; ralphvernacchia@msn.com, 360-708-8263). Lunch will be at Pinnacle Peak Grill for those who are interested. Sign up for the hike at the clubhouse or by contacting **Carolyn or Ralph Vernacchia**.

The March Pot Luck Extravaganza will be held on **Friday, March 8th** at **6pm**. The Kallighan family and friends are the hosts. Theme is Country Western -----so grab your cowboy hat, jeans and boots come out and have a good time. We're serving a full dinner with appetizers, entree and desert. We have a few surprises for guests the biggest being ENTERTAINMENT provided by Bellasera's own Arizona Idol. The team has been working on this performance since January so we're in for a great time. If you attended the January community event you saw this talented group sing and dance, the crowd was well entertained. Please sign up to attend at the clubhouse. This event usually is sold out please sign up early so you won't be disappointed. Guest's are required to sign up and identify the type of food they will be bringing (appetizer, entree or desert) quantity should be enough for ten people. Guess are charged \$1.00 to cover cost of paper products. We'll be running a 50/50 and some additional surprises. Thankfully the rain and snow are over so come out hear great entertainment, good food and chat with neighbors. If you have questions contact **Mary Kallighan** at **480-659-8960** or **732-239-4792** mkall033@gmail.com. See you there partner!!!



Photo by Joe McDade

Meeting Notices

Board of Directors will meet on **Wednesday, March 20** at **1 p.m.**

Budget & Finance Committee will meet on **Wednesday, March 20** at **10 a.m.**

Building & Grounds Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 12** at **10 a.m.**

Communications Committee will meet on **Wednesday, March 13** at **8:30 a.m.**

Modifications Committee will meet on **Tuesday, March 12** at **noon**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, March 7** at **12 noon**.

February Weather in Bellasera

(February 1 - February 28)

Highest Temperature: 72

Lowest temperature: 27

Rainfall: 4.57 inch

Rainfall this year: 5.81 inch

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 **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, March 25**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, April 22**. 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**.

Plan Ahead - 2020

Bellasera will be painting all the view fences in the community during February & March, 2020! Make plans to trim or remove plant material from your view fence and remove all rabbit fencing. Remember - February & March 2020

Bellasera Community Calendar

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					¹ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	²
³	⁴ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	⁵ Poker - 7 pm	⁶ Water Aerobics - 10 am	⁷ Yoga - 8:00 am	⁸ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm Pot Luck Extravaganza - 6pm	⁹
¹⁰	¹¹ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹² Bellasera Hikers - 8:30 am Building & Grounds - 10 am Modifications - noon Poker - 7 pm	¹³ Communica- tions commit- tee - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹⁴ Yoga - 8:00 am	¹⁵ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	¹⁶
¹⁷ 	¹⁸ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	¹⁹ Poker - 7 pm	²⁰ Water Aerobics - 10 am Budget/Finance - 10 am Board Meeting - 1 pm	²¹ Yoga - 8:00 am	²² Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	²³
²⁴ Brush & Bulk Pickup	²⁵ Yoga - 8:45 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁶ Poker - 7 pm	²⁷ Water Aerobics - 10 am	²⁸ Yoga - 8:00 am	²⁹ Water Aerobics - 10 am Bridge - 1 pm	³⁰

B e l l a s e r a C l a s s i f i e d s

Moving Sale: Queen mattress with frame and bedding, \$100; Outdoor patio heater, \$75; Small wooden end table with extensions, \$50; small 2.6 cu ft refrigerator, \$60. Call **Steve, 602-309-5234**.

For Sale by Bellasera homeowner: dining table, hardwood very nice carving. 6' plus 2 leafs. 6 black leather chairs carved to match the table. \$1,300. Call **Larry Brader, 509-952-7007**.

Electrologist with 25 years of experience. For all unwanted hairs, no need to suffer in silence anymore. Electrolysis works on any hair type, any skin type and any area. Contact **Suzanne Rothfeld, 480-473-7313, masuzannie@yahoo.com**, for an appointment or any questions you may have.

I love living in Bellasera! Did you know that real estate inventory levels in our community are very low? I have buyers who want homes in Bellasera. Have you been thinking about making a move? Now is a great time to sell. Contact me today for a market analysis: **Audrey Fischer, Realtor, Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, 480-740-4223 or audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

Massage is a potent medicine. There is no question that proper massage can relax tense muscles, and decrease pain. Relaxing therapeutic massage is available in the privacy of your home or at the clubhouse Massage Room. For an appointment or further information contact Bellasera resident **Jim Birkholz**, licensed Massage Therapist at **480-244-9567**. Gift Certificates available.

All about Cleaning *** Professional Window Cleaning. Inside-Outside-Tracks. Power Wash (After Monsoon season Must). Request an over the phone estimate or on-site free estimate. Call **Maria at 480-206-5237, www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**, e-mail: **Info@AllAboutCleaning Arizona.com**.

Cabin available for rent in Munds Park. enjoy fall foliage or plan ahead for snow adventures. 3 bedrooms, 2 sleeper sofas/2 baths; gas fireplace; fabulous deck; full kitchen; washer/dryer. \$300 weekend/\$500 for 3 night Holiday weekend. Cleaning fee negotiable. Call Bellasera resident **Marti Bening at 480-488-4297** for details.

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.

All About Cleaning ***Regularly scheduled Home cleaning ***One Time Cleaning ***Move In/Out cleaning ***After Remodeling Cleaning. We have excellent references from long-time Bellasera Resident customers and surrounding areas. Call **Maria at 480-206-5237** (owner-operator, Bellasera resident for over 10 years). Licensed-Bonded-Insured. **www.AllAboutCleaningArizona.com**, e-mail: **Info@AllAboutCleaningArizona.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. E-mail your ad to: **editor@azbellasera.org***

Classifieds continues on page 8

BELLASERA HIKERS

Bellasera hikers pause for a photo op on the Metate Trail at Spur Cross Ranch on February 13. We had a perfect day for hiking and plenty of beautiful scenery on the trails!



Pictured from left to right: John Nielsen, Carolyn Vernacchia, Diane Arnold, Pat Nielsen, Karen Meiliken, Patti Blix, Cheri Valuet, Brian Blaesing, Mary Van Cleave, Tom Shannon, Barb Atteberry, Bruce Van Cleave, Michele Shannon, Jim Atteberry, and Ralph Vernacchia.

Classifieds - continued

Introducing Desert Dwellers Home Watching Services, LLC, available exclusively to Bellasera residents. Desert Dwellers is owned and operated by year-round Bellasera residents, **Jennifer Brummet** and **Ross Strozeqski**. We are dedicated to ensuring our neighbors have access to reliable and trustworthy home monitoring services while they are away from their desert dwelling. We are licensed, bonded and insured and can provide a variety of weekly, by-monthly, and monthly home monitoring visits. Services are based on our clients' preferences and include inspections of both the interior and exterior perimeter of the property. All visits include a comprehensive home watching report. For a complete list of services and to schedule a complimentary assessment, please contact us, **480-634-1452**, **ddhome watch@gmail.com**.



Photo by Joe McDade

Rear View - A History of Bellasera - 2009 & 2014

MARCH 2009

It has begun, but it is not too late to join the 'losers.' You may lose as little or as much as you want. As a group we meet every Saturday at 9:30 a.m. to weigh in and work towards our goal to lose weight and be fit. Program ends on May 16. Contact Suzanne Guyan, guyan1@msn.com, 480-575-1975 for more information.

Disco Fever or the 70's Night was enjoyed in February - food, decorations and dress of the disco era were highlighted. Several went all out in 70's dress that fit right in with the album decorations and disco lights. All generations partook in the fun. With help from a professional dance instructor, we refreshed or learned The Hustle, the Electric Slide and a fun "Chicken Dance" group dance. Our DJ spun a few tunes further back in time to dance to the 50's. Based on Saturday night's dance popularity, we may host a 50's celebration during next year's roster of events. Special thanks to Roger Deane for DJ'ing and providing the incredible sound equipment.

We'd like to give a warm welcome to Paul and Vicki Snyder who joined the Bellasera community in January. They previously resided in north central Phoenix for over 30 years and are looking forward to becoming part of our community.

A couple of requests from our residents I'd like to share with you. First of all, please remember to obey all the traffic rules while you're driving around the community, which includes stopping at all stop signs and driving at no more than 25 miles per hour. Also, one of our residents has had some vandalism at his home so be on the lookout for anyone who is acting suspiciously.--Chuck Roach

MARCH 2014

Starting this past Monday, February 24, DR Paint of Tempe, Arizona, began work on repainting and repairing the iron "view" fences between the Owners' Lots and the Association Common Areas (NAOS) throughout Bellasera. The Community has been divided into nine sections, one for each week that this major project is projected to take to complete, weather permitting, through April 26, 2014. Please remember to trim or tie-back all plants and remove all objects that would inhibit painters from fully accessing the inside of all fences and remove all rabbit/snake fencing from the view fences prior to the painters scheduled arrival at your property.

Bellasera's dog exercise park marked its first anniversary last month and has proven to be extremely popular, based on the number of dogs and their caretakers that use the park each day. The number of users is still on the increase.

We had 35 Bellasera residents take the CPR classes offered by Scottsdale Fire Department in December and February. I would like to thank everyone that attended for learning the new easy way to save a life.

In our on-going effort to eliminate dog waste in Bellasera, the Board authorized the purchase of 8 dog waste stations which were placed at each mailbox area. As a pet owner, it is your responsibility to clean-up behind your dog. Piles of fecal matter around our neighborhood is simply unacceptable, and it is a health hazard. Please take the extra 1 minute and pick up after your pet, it is the Right thing to do!



March In the garden

by Joe McDade

Will Winter Let Go?

Last month I postulated that, *“as we move into February, winter will start to loosen its grip on the desert as temperatures in the 80’s are possible”*! Well, that certainly never happened as winter tightened its grip in dramatic fashion at the start of February and never let up. Some cold facts:

- * Temperatures were well below average as they never reached 70° (it still might happen, there are a few days left as I write this).

- * A legitimate freeze did occur.

- * Rainfall was almost double the average for the month.

- * A winter wonderland magically appeared as Bellasera was covered in snow.

What does all this mean for your garden? Well, let’s start with another prediction, hopefully on the safer side. *Winter will lose its grip as March arrives with the first whisper of spring.* As this occurs, you should make a general assessment of your garden with three major things in mind: 1. **Frost Damage**, 2. **Planting Needs**, and 3. **Maintenance Needs**.

Frost Damage

What causes frost damage? Frost injury occurs when ice crystals form on the leaf surface drawing moisture from the leaf tissue. Note: The damage from this dehydration will be less severe if the plant is not already drought-stressed. Hence, that’s why it’s always recommended to maintain proper moisture when a frost is imminent.

Assess the damage. The frost has taken its toll, especially on our vulnerable plants such as bougainvillea, lantana and honeysuckle. The damage is often not nearly as bad as it initially looks as new growth may come out of tissue that you thought was dead.

Damage recovery. I covered this last month but it is worth repeating.

1. Many native plants will show no harm from the cold. Do nothing with plants that have been damaged. If the dead foliage is left on the plant until new growth starts, it will protect the lower parts of the plant from further freezes.

2. When you see green leaves emerging lower on the plant, that is the time to prune it back to about 1-3 inches from the base. But remember, do not prune until the last chance for freezing conditions has past, which should be soon.

3. We’ve had two freezes this winter. If you pruned after the first freeze but before the second, you may have to prune once more since pruning encourages new growth.

Note: if you covered your winter annual flowers, they should have escaped any significant damage. I’ve noticed that Petunias seem to thrive in these conditions.

Planting Needs

March is normally a terrific month for adding most plant types to our low-desert landscapes as warming soil temperatures will enhance seed germination and root development before the arrival of summer’s intense heat. Our winter rains have left our soil very moist and full of nutrients. So, whether you need to simply add or replace a tree or shrub or renovate an area

of your landscape, it is the ideal time to tackle these projects. I assume very little planting was attempted during our cold February.

What to Plant. You can **transplant:** • trees • shrubs • vines • groundcovers • perennials • ornamental grasses • cacti and succulents.

Select plants with varied bloom seasons to provide nectar and seed sources for birds and other pollinators throughout the year. Limited space? 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

Our weather has certainly cooperated in providing ideal conditions for our winter-growing annuals. Mine are still looking spectacular with no sign of wilting. So, I would recommend waiting until April to replace them with warm season annuals. I'll provide suggestions next month.

Fruit Trees

They grow well in the valley and our community is no exception. 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***

Dwarf varieties grow well here and take up less room in your yard while producing normal size fruit. **Remember, in Bellasera, only dwarf varieties are allowed and can only be planted 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***. Simply allow the cactus cuts to become dry and callous or hardened before planting. This usually takes two to three weeks. The exceptions to this are ***agave, yucca*** and ***aloe*** cuttings which should be planted immediately.

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.

Vegetables

Cool-Season Veggies- Sow a late crop of carrots, green onions, lettuces and radishes so they will mature before the heat hits.

Warm-Season Veggies- Transplant artichokes, eggplant, peppers and tomatoes. Protect them if late frosts are predicted. Sow seeds for lima and snap beans, corn, cucumber, jicama, melons and squash.

Tomatoes- Plants should be in the ground no later than March 15.

Pruning

Shrubs, Groundcovers and Vines

Providing 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 Sage*** • ***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).

Continue to deadhead annuals and herbaceous perennials to encourage continued flowering including ***Desert Marigold, Red Sage, Angelita-Daisy and Gaillardia***.

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.

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. Check for leaks and clogged emitters and flush out the poly lines. With all of the rain we've been having, you should not have been running the system for the past two months. However, depending on March temperatures and rainfall, you may have to crank it up.

March is Wildflower Month

I realize that, to many, March does not conjure up thoughts of wildflowers. After all, we have **March Madness** (thank God after a slow month of sports), **Spring Training** (kind of a restart due to our nasty weather) along with **St. Patrick's Day** and **The Ides of March**. And, of course, we can't forget **Arbor Day**! I assume this year should be spectacular with all of the rain we've had.

Think Sunshine and Warmth!

(If you have a gardening question, please contact the Maricopa County Cooperative Extension Service at 602- 827-8200)



Bellasera Community Association

**7350 E Ponte Bella Drive
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, Lforte@aamaz.com**
-Office Hours-
Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 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): **602-957-9191** or toll free, **866-553-8290**

Bellasera Community Volunteers

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless
*Interested in volunteering? Go to **azbellasera.org**, "BCA Members" page*

Board of Directors **board@azbellasera.org**

President - Dennis Carson - dmcbsca@cox.net
Vice President - David Reid - dreid997@gmail.com
Secretary - Dennis Soeffner - dennissoeffner@aol.com
Treasurer - David Reid - dreid997@gmail.com
Director - Joe Carlon - jmc0465@aol.com

Committees

Budget & Finance - Andrey Fischer, Mary Moore, Chuck Roach, Carlton Rooks - Chair, Charles Schroeder, Paul Snyder

Buildings & Grounds - Bob Gromko, John Maddox, Jim Ragborg-Co-chair, Tom Saari-Co-chair, Dennis Soeffner, Jill Wyllie

Communications - Dennis Carson, Keith Christian-Chair, Joe McDade, Carol Padwe, Paul Rippens

Modifications - Stanley Green, David Hathaway, Craig Johnson, David Reid-Chair

Security Advisory - Joe Carlon