

# BELLASERA

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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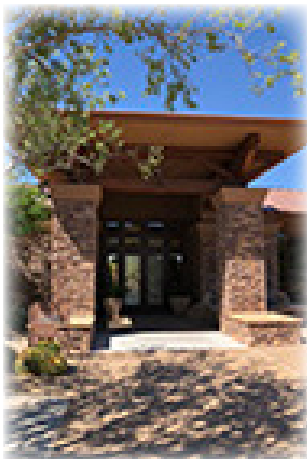
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July and August - 2021



# Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman - Board President

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Bellasera Community Association was held on Sunday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the Bellasera Clubhouse.

Our attempt to simultaneously stream the Annual Meeting via the Zoom platform went poorly and I apologize to those homeowners who attempted to view the meeting online. We thank the many residents who attended in person.

**Jim Ragborg – Treasurer** – gave a presentation and took audience questions with respect to the Association's finances. The Association's finances are in excellent shape and the Budget for fiscal year 2021-2022, a copy of which had previously been mailed to each Homeowner, was discussed. We thank the members of the Budget & Finance Committee and our Community Manager, AAM, for their on-going efforts in monitoring the finances of the Association, including our Reserves.

**Jim** also gave a short presentation on the proposal to amend our CC&Rs to impose a Capital Reserve Fund Fee, equal to one year's assessments, upon new Buyers of Bellasera homes beginning next year. A solicitation to vote on the proposed Amendment will be sent to each Homeowner. There will be four community meetings scheduled over the next few months to discuss the proposed amendment and to respond to Homeowner questions and concerns. The amendment must receive approval from at least 241 homeowners to pass.

**Richard** reported that the biggest accomplishments this past year were:

1. **Swimming Pool and Spa Updated.** The community swimming pool and spa were resurfaced and updated with a new full Pebble-Tech interior surface for the pool, and a new interior tile surface for the spa. Some additional needed upgrades and repairs were also made.
2. **Enhanced Appearance of the Community.** Working with our new landscaping contractor we have been able to improve and enhance the physical condition and appearance of the Bellasera common areas. These efforts are ongoing.

## ***Upcoming Projects –***

1. **Ongoing Wildfire Mitigation Efforts.** Spearheaded by our Building & Grounds Committee, we will be continuing our efforts to reduce the risks of wildfires. This involves the removal of more dead trees in the NAOS areas, regular clearing of the 5-foot defensible area behind homes, and new efforts to preserve some of our heat-stressed trees in our common areas.
2. **New Ellipticals and Exercise Bicycles for the Clubhouse Gym.** New updated Elliptical machines and exercise bicycles will be installed in the clubhouse exercise area later this year. Next year we are scheduled to replace our treadmills, as well.



3. **New Landscape Lighting.** We will begin replacing the existing landscape lighting in the common areas with new more efficient LED lights beginning this coming year. The work will be done in phases over a three-year period.
4. **Major Road Work Maintenance and Repair.** Our roads are our community's most significant capital asset and the most significant item in our Reserve Budget. Roads comprise more than 75% of our future projected capital expenditures. Bellasera roads are scheduled for a major structural enhancement and overlay sometime in the next year or two.



**The Bellasera Board of Directors has proposed adding a Capital Improvement Fee to our CC&R's.**

Our community is over twenty years old and in addition to ongoing maintenance of the property, there are aging assets that will need to be repaired or replaced.

Currently, due to the interest climate for the last few years, our reserve balance is generating less than \$3,000.00 in interest annually. Since we expect this rate environment to continue, the Capital Improvement Fee for new home buyers can replace the lost interest.

The change in CC&R's requires a community vote and the approval of 241 of our 360 property owners. The vote will be online (instructions to follow) and be ongoing until 10/31/2021.

The Board of Directors wants to answer your questions and will host 4 community meetings at our clubhouse and via Zoom.

**Meetings will be held on the following days at 2pm (MST):**

Sunday, July 11th  
Sunday, September 12th

Sunday, August 15th  
Sunday, October 17th

For more information, email [pnunnelly@AssociatedAsset.com](mailto:pnunnelly@AssociatedAsset.com)

# BELLASERA

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

A pool party is planned for **Friday, July 16** and **Friday, August 20** at **6 p.m.** Bring your own food and drink. No glass please. If it's hot, bring your suits and cool off in the pool.

Our **book club** will be spending the summer reading and relaxing. We've chosen to read any of the books by **Hemingway** and **Mark Twain** and discuss them when we meet in the Fall. *"The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto"* will also be discussed at that time. Happy Summer!  
**Karen, [kkmoore40@yahoo.com](mailto:kkmoore40@yahoo.com).**

**Indoor Yoga Classes Return:** Yoga in the Bellasera clubhouse will resume on Monday, August 9th! Classes will take place on **Mondays** and **Thursdays** at **8:30 a.m.** Zoom classes will still be offered at the same time. Classes are \$7 each or \$63 for 10 classes. No Outdoor Yoga Classes are scheduled at this time. Please feel free to contact **Joy, [joy.blonstein@gmail.com](mailto:joy.blonstein@gmail.com)**, with any questions.

**Water Aerobics** now begins at **10 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.** Participants will be using both swim lanes from 10 to 11 a.m.


**Bellasera Wine and Cheese Event:** Keep your fingers crossed. We are tentatively scheduling our next Wine and Cheese event for **Friday, September 24.** It's been a long 17 months since our last Wine and Cheese in February 2020 due to Covid. We will provide more details for the September event in the September newsletter. However, in the meantime, mark your calendars in anticipation of restarting this extremely popular event.

This is a great way for us to meet many of our new neighbors who have moved into Bellasera during the Covid shutdown.

Starting with October's event, we will be looking for people to host the Wine and Cheese events at either their home or at the clubhouse. We normally have done this event on the 3rd Friday of the month from 5 to 7 p.m., but occasionally it has fallen to the 4th Friday of the month. If you are willing to be a host, please let **Tom** or **Dianna Saari** know, **[tksaari@aol.com](mailto:tksaari@aol.com)**, **408-218-5424.**

# JULY 2021

## Bellasera Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<sup>1</sup>	<sup>2</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>3</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
<b>BULK PICK-UP WEEK</b>						
<sup>4</sup> 	<sup>5</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>6</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>7</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>8</sup>	<sup>9</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>10</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
<sup>11</sup> Capital Im- provement Fee meeting - 2 pm Bellasera Club- house	<sup>12</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>13</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>14</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>15</sup>	<sup>16</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am Pool Party - 6 pm	<sup>17</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
<sup>18</sup>	<sup>19</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>20</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>21</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>22</sup>	<sup>23</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>24</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
<sup>25</sup>	<sup>26</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>27</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>28</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>29</sup> Board Meeting - 1 pm	<sup>30</sup> Water Aerobics - 10 am	<sup>31</sup> Pickelball Open Play- 8 am

# AUGUST 2021

## Bellaser Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Water Aerobics - 10 am	3 Poker - 7 pm	4 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	5	6 Water Aerobics - 10 am	7 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
<b>BULK PICK-UP WEEK</b>						
8	9 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	10 Poker - 7 pm	11 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	12 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	13 Water Aerobics - 10 am	14 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
15 Capital Im- provement Fee meeting - 2 pm Bellaser Club- house	16 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	17 Poker - 7 pm	18 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	19 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	20 Water Aerobics - 10 am Pool Party - 6 pm	21 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
22	23 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	24 Poker - 7 pm	25 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	26 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	27 Water Aerobics - 10 am	28 Pickelball Open Play- 8 am
29	30 Indoor and Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 10 am	31 Poker - 7 pm				
<b>BULK PICK-UP WEEK</b>						

## Meeting Notices

**Board of Directors** will meet on **Thursday, July 29** at **1 p.m.**

**Budget & Finance Committee** meeting date is TBD

**Building & Grounds Committee** meeting date in **September** is TBD

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

**Modifications Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, July 13 & August 10** if there are applications to consider.

Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **July 6 and August 3 at 12 noon.**

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### June Weather in Bellasera

(June 1 - June 30)

Highest Temperature: **114 degrees**

Lowest Temperature: **61 degrees**

Rainfall: **.14 inches**

Rainfall this year: **3.16 inches**

Bellasera weather 24/7/365: **[weather.azbellasera.org](http://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](mailto:editor@azbellasera.org)**

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### Newsletter Copy Deadline

If you have classified ads, meeting dates, or articles for publication, please e-mail to **[editor@azbellasera.org](mailto: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.

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### 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, August 2**, with the next pickup the week of **Monday, August 30**. Brush and bulk items to be picked up should be at curbside by 5 a.m. at the start of the week. **Remember, here in Bellasera, items cannot be put out prior to Friday of the previous week.** It will be removed during the week. For more information, contact Solid Waste Management, **480-312-5600.**



# REAR VIEW - A HISTORY OF BELLASERA

## **JULY 2006**

The Bellasera community expresses its sincere sympathy to the family of residents Keith and Elaine Christian upon the death of his father on June 25. Floyd Christian was 94.

Bob and Emily Shriver moved to Bellasera in 1999 from Chesapeake Bay, Virginia. Anchored in the desert as a retired Navy captain, Bob is currently a vestryman and Emily a choir member at St. Barnabas on the Desert. When life gets too slow, they both love to travel. What a retirement!

There are two positions open for application on the Bellasera Board of Directors, as it expands to seven members.

## **AUGUST 2006**

The proposed shopping center at Scottsdale and Lone Mountain Roads was unanimously approved by the City of Scottsdale Development Review Board. Following completion of the design phase, the Pederson Companies are now preparing construction drawings and a building permit.

The most significant accomplishment this month was approval of the revised Bylaws and CC&Rs by the Board of Directors. The Governance Committee has been working diligently on these documents to reflect life at Bellasera without Del Webb and changes in the laws governing community associations. We will now forward the documents to our attorneys for review and roll them out to the community for a vote later this year.

Keven Peterson received the Securitas Supervisor of the Month Award for May 2006 from John Larson for his superior performance to the residents of the Bellasera Community.

## **JULY 2011**

Our lifestyles are normally enhanced by our activities, interest, and hobbies. Maureen Simpson, a longtime resident of Bellasera, along with her husband Mike, certainly qualifies as one whose life has been enhanced. Having a multitude of interests, she leads a very busy, active life and has found a way to channel those interests and activities back to the community.

You have probably heard the Arizona Legislature has passed new legislation affecting Planned Communities, taking effect on July 20. Arizona's Open Meeting Law is one of the most important of the new laws. Bellasera already complies with most requirements of this law, so we must only make minor changes in our procedures to be compliant with the revisions.

## **AUGUST 2011**

Welcome to new resident Brent Bourdeau who moved to Visao Drive in May from Divide, Colorado -- on the western slope of Pike's Peak at 10,000 feet elevation. He and his wife built a dream house for retirement, 6,000+ square feet, 20 acres with a creek and pond, in an elk preserve. But she passed away in February of 2008. The house was too large for one person, too much to keep up, and the real estate market was not very good. So when a cash buyer showed up, he sold. Brent has a son and his family in Scottsdale. Another son lives in Costa Rica.

A new law requires HOA's to allow flagpoles in both the front and back yards (requiring Modifications Committee approval) and the Gadsden Flag is added to the list of flags that are allowed to be displayed.

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## REAR VIEW - CONTINUED

One resident recently reported nearly becoming a car-hits-pedestrian statistic at the intersection of Ponte Bella & Corva. That's the STOP sign near the tennis courts after coming through the Scottsdale Road gate entrance.

### JULY 2016

Major repairs to and resurfacing of Bellasera's two tennis courts will begin on Tuesday, July 5 and, weather permitting, should be completed by the end of July. During construction both courts will be out of service.

On June 24, residents on Moura Drive residents were awakened by howling coyotes and screaming dogs. Resident Jeannine Dittoe came outside to see the coyotes closing in on two large Husky dogs. She called on a couple neighbors to help scare the coyotes away, which they finally did. Bellasera residents didn't recognize the dogs and assumed they came from the Mary Sharon Drive area (Lone Mountain Vista).

### AUGUST 2016

The Bellasera community extends a welcome this month to our new Office Administrator, Laurie Forte. Laurie is a new addition to the staff at AAM, LLC, Bellasera's management company. She previously worked for Board Developer, and owns her own company, Connecting Through Cooking. A four year Arizona resident from Michigan, Laurie lives in Cave Creek with husband Al, and Boston Terrier, Chloe. She has a daughter, Jamie, who lives in Denver.

The owners of our neighborhood Summit Shopping Center have filed an application with the City of Scottsdale Development Review Board for two new 25-foot-tall tower signs. One on Scottsdale Road, and one on Ashler Hills Road, located outside of the scenic corridor. The application also requests removal of two existing scenic corridor monument signs.



**Marc & Rhonda Ruskin** have recently moved here from Buffalo Grove, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago. They've been visiting AZ for the past 40 years, having lived here for 7 of them. They're now back and excited to be year round residents at Bellasera. **Rhonda**, is a retired hairdresser. She has helped start several retail businesses and assisted many others with organizational challenges. For the past 10 years she has volunteered at the local food pantry. She loves to read, research and plan travels for her family and friends, and play Mahjong. She also loves walking and being outdoors. **Marc** has spent 4 decades

in the insurance industry as a broker, Vice President, and Managing Director. He is experienced in all aspects of investments and estate planning. For the last 15 years he has specialized in the area of Life Settlements. He enjoys being out of doors, overseas travel, old muscle cars, baking and Great Danes.

## People of Bellasera

*We have a diverse range of working, retired, and volunteers in our community. Thank you to all those who responded to share their stories. --Editor*

**Lucy** was an executive secretary at ABC Paramount, located in Times Square in New York City; retiring to be a stay-at-home Mom. **Mike** spent 42 years as a Mechanical Engineer in the design and development of military systems, retiring as a Chief Mechanical Engineer. He was the first member of the Bellasera Building and Grounds Committee, remained on the committee for seven years.

**Keith** is an ex-radio DJ, ex-Military Communications Engineer, now a long-time volunteer at HonorHealth hospital. **Elaine** retired as a manager for Pacific Telesis in San Diego. Then she volunteered at Sharp hospital in San Diego for 10 years. After retiring to Scottsdale, Elaine volunteered at Mayo hospital in Phoenix for 15 years.

**Ron** is a Medicare counselor for SHIP...The State Health Insurance Assistance Program. He helps people enrolling in Medicare and answers questions regarding their coverage.

**J.B.** is a licensed professional counselor who has worked with children with complex health-care needs and their families for 20 years. She currently owns a consulting business and provides clients across the country with expertise in child welfare, system transformation and stakeholder engagement.

**J.B.** is a volunteer Board of Directors member for a behavioral health and foster care agency in New Mexico. Also volunteers as a board member for the Maricopa County Foster Care Review Board, which makes recommendations to presiding judges on permanency planning for children in foster care. She volunteers to assist visually impaired people across the country when they need assistance, this is done through an app called "Be My Eyes."

**J.L.** spent most of her working life in the Golf Course Management business at Lake Tahoe. Over the years she's volunteered with the following organizations: American Cancer Society "Reach to Recovery" Program, Reno, Nevada; Junior League of Reno; Pinnacle Peak Park - Scottsdale.

**A.B.**, a native Arizonan, began her work life deactivating and reloading tear gas bombs for banks. Later went on to be one of the first woman EMTs in Arizona, working for Kords Ambulance, before the fire department began training and using EMTs. She was also a special education teacher, regular education teacher, principal and interim superintendent. A.B. is a lifetime volunteer, most significantly supporting a very small orphanage in Romania and a large orphanage in India.

**Jeff J.** worked for 42 years in the elevator/escalator industry for one of the 4 largest firms in the world. He was involved in sales and project management, then service and construction management. The last 30 years in the NY City area Jeff was VP of a subsidiary elevator company. He was a member of the Trumbull(CT) HS building committee, responsible for a \$64M "renovate as new", six year project from 2008- 2013.

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**Dan** was the President/CEO/Owner of an International Industrial products Company. He retired and sold his stock last year, remains on the Board of Directors of the Company.

**Mike** is a retired Media executive. His current passion is building guitars after completing several Luthier Programs. He is now building for future sales as well as possibly custom orders.

**Philip** is a retired Screenwriter & Professor. **Shelly** is a retired VP Human Resources. Both are volunteers.

**Randy** is a retired Captain, United Airlines. **Nancy** is a retired Administrative Assistant, Wheaton North High School.

**Carla** runs an executive recruiting firm focusing on placing engineers and sales professionals in the electronics industry. She also heads a 501c3 nonprofit organization in her home state of Nebraska.

**Dennis** is a personal injury attorney.

**Roberta** is a retired music teacher, 29 years in her school district in NY. She volunteers with the Saint Vincent de Paul society here.

**Millie** is a bank Customer Service Representative, and volunteers for her church

**Sheree's** husband is a retired professional golfer who played on the PGA Tour for nearly 35 years. She prefers to keep him anonymous!

**Rae** is a retired Postmaster of Massapequa Park NY, a town on the south shore of Long Island.

**Barbara** currently works at the CORE Institute Specialty Hospital, where she manages the Health Information Management Department, and the Privacy Officer and Compliance Specialist. She spent her career in healthcare in Health Information (Medical Records), Compliance and Privacy. Barbara considers this her "retirement" job and plans to work a few extra years. She is a veteran and retired as a Major from the Army National Guard with 22 years of service.

**Phil** was the director of IT for SGL Carbon Group. He volunteers as well, having been a member of Lions International for the past 44 years. Phil has been on two medical missions in the Philippines, and volunteers at the Foothills Food Bank. He's now working with the Scottsdale Schools to do vision screening for 29 schools this fall.

**Nat** is a retired Engineer/Manufacturing Manager, who worked for GM and John Deere. **Barbara** is a retired RN and was a Girl Scout leader.

**Sandy** is a 1031 exchange specialist which means he helps people with highly appreciated investment property real estate to replace it with a Delaware Statutory Trust (DST) investment. The transaction defers all taxes on any gains and depreciation recapture and creates a monthly income check. He also does volunteer work.

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**Chris** was an attorney and **Margi** was a sales exec at Microsoft. They've been retired for several years and volunteered at Habitat for Humanity and Birdies for Babies.

**L.W.** is a nurse, **B.W.** a physician.

**Dennis** volunteers every Tuesday evening as a Trail Rover to close Pinnacle Peak Park. The park is an over and back (2 mile each way) mountain trail, rated moderate.

**Ken** did research, training and advocacy for cities and towns in Arizona. He's a citizen representative on the City of Scottsdale Public Safety Retirement Board. **Kate** owned a graphics design business in Oregon for 25 years, now in a second career as an Alaska Airlines flight attendant.

**T.S.** and **D.S.** were both professionals. **D.S.** was a teacher for 42 years in MN, IL and CA. **T.S.** was a Sales Executive for several software companies in Silicon Valley and other places around the country. They both volunteer at the Foothill Food bank in Cave Creek, and T.S. volunteers at the Mayo Clinic as a tram driver. He's also on the Bellasera Building and Grounds Committee.

**B.B.'s** career was in mortgage banking, consulting and efficiency studies, real estate broker, insurance broker, construction management, CFO of home for abandoned children in Ecuador (volunteered), JOAT (Jack of all Trades) when needed.

**Janene** is a nurse practitioner. Husband **Dan** is a physician in internal medicine. He's retiring in August. The couple is still living in California but will be moving to Bellasera permanently in the Fall.

**Maureen** is a nurse at Mayo Clinic Hospital and her husband **Blair** is an Internal Medicine physician.

**Mary Moore's** entire career was spent in the banking industry as a teller, manager, commercial banker, private banker, and investment manager. When she retired, **Mary** volunteered as a literacy teacher in the Montgomery County, MD school system and then joined the Board of the Literacy Council. After moving to Bellasera in 2016, she volunteered at her church as a preschool teacher helper and front office receptionist. **Mary** also volunteers on the Finance Committee of Bellasera.

**Mike Alldredge** owns and operates a window covering business.

**Josh Miller** is a Financial Advisor, member of Rotary and volunteers through their various projects.

**Tami** currently works for JPMorgan Chase Bank as an Executive Director in the Retail Organization. Her husband, **David**, is a CPA and Controller for CellTrust.



**Susan Reed** and her husband **Tom** moved here in July of 2001 from Kansas City. Prior to their move she was a professional singer, and now sings with a fundraising group called the “Up-scale Singers”. The groups’ videos are available at [upscalesingers.com](http://upscalesingers.com), or Facebook. **Susan** sings in Desert Hills Presbyterian Church choir and belongs to P.E.O., an international women’s philanthropic organization. **Tom** and **Susan** enjoy traveling and enjoying retirement.

**R.J.K.** is celebrating 25 years of retirement from Caterpillar this July. His last position was Manager of Human Resources at the company’s Decatur IL manufacturing facility. He was a volunteer at Mayo hospital for 7 years. Current activity, maturing. His wife **V.C.K.** retired as an Administrative Assistant and now is an active grand & great grandmother.

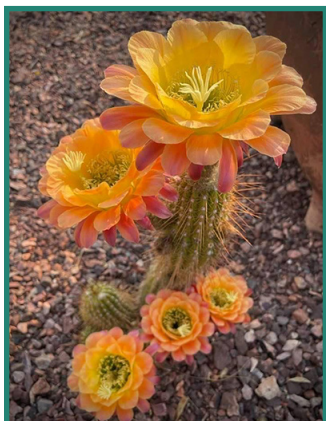
**Caryn’s** paying job is working for her husband. She also volunteers for FlintCreek Wildlife Rehabilitation, Advocate Lutheran General Children’s Hospital and Bernie’s Book Bank.

**Debbi Cohen** was a pediatric optician in her last career before retirement.

**K.M.** worked as a ladies fashion designer and now volunteers with the Chamber of Commerce and Kiwanis Club.



*Photograph by Sandy Simmons*



# July & August in the Garden

by Joe McDade

## Summer Has Arrived... Help Your Garden Cope & Avoid Heat Stress Will The Monsoon Show Up?

Welcome to the annual Summer Edition of the garden column as I attempt to cover two months of garden advice which I think pair together perfectly. From a garden perspective, July and August have a common theme, our summer heat and, awaiting the answer to an annual question: ***Will we have a monsoon this year?***

### Your Garden Slows Down

Your garden has now started to go through a metamorphosis that is not visible. Starting in July and continuing into August, it enters a slowdown period when it's just not a good time to do any serious planting.

Although we got a little rain along with some welcome temperature relief at the end of June, the month was mostly true to form with hot, dry conditions. The heat will certainly continue into July and August but the arrival of the ***monsoon*** (hopefully) will bring welcome relief for you and your garden. In the meantime, these are three major tasks that you need to concentrate on during these months: (1) **Pruning**- Especially native trees. (2) **Watering** and (3) **Preventing Heat Stress**. Remember, **planting should be avoided** during these two months

### Pruning Native Trees

Summer is the recommended time to prune native desert trees because they are actively growing and can recover quickly. Things to consider before undertaking this task:

- Good pruning is both an art and a science.
- The result should be a safe, healthy and beautiful tree that complements its natural growth habit.
- If you prune your trees yourself, familiarize yourself with proper pruning principals and techniques. There is a lot of literature available, including the internet.
- If you hire someone to prune your trees, be sure they understand proper pruning principals and techniques.
- Remove no more than one-quarter of a tree's branches in a year. Cutting off too much foliage "starves" the plant by reducing its ability to synthesize and can leave it susceptible to disease.
- It's advisable to hold off any pruning for at least one year after planting. Two years is even better. If you allow as many branches as possible to survive, the tree will develop strength and trunk girth.

Keep in mind that the longer you wait to prune your mesquites, the higher the risk of wind damage during the monsoon.

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## **Watering**

Last month I discussed **How Much** and **How Often** in some detail. I'd like to add to that with some specific tips:

### ***Landscape Plants***

- Increase water application as the weather warms. Pay attention to irrigation needs of plants.
- Apply mulch to the ground around the base of heat sensitive plants to keep the roots cooler and prevent evaporation. Keep the mulch several inches away from the trunk.

### ***Roses***

- Cut back on fertilizing established roses to encourage plants to slow down for the hot summer.
- Water deeply as temperatures climb
- Hose off plants in the early morning to increase humidity and control spider mites
- Toward the end of August and into September, add an iron supplement if roses show yellowing from iron deficiency

### ***Succulents***

Succulents are normally drought resistant. However, we're at that point in the summer where they too will succumb, especially to the high nighttime temperatures. When the night temperatures stay at 90° or above and the humidity is high, most succulent plants can't breathe. After several nights in a row, chances are many of them will rot. Other than careful watering, there is nothing that can be done. \*\*Remember, 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\*\*.

### ***Annual Flowers***

Growing annual flowers in containers is relatively simple in fall, winter and early spring, while summer can be another matter entirely as soil temperatures heat up to triple digits, and roots will "cook" without adequate moisture. Containers in full sun often require **daily watering** which results in nutrients being leached out of the soil. It is a challenge!

### ***Citrus***

Our hot weather will easily stress your citrus trees for water which results in fruit rinds becoming tough. Later in fall, rinds will crack and split because they are unable to expand as the fruit increases in size. Water mature trees every 10 to 14 days to a depth of 3 feet. Newly planted trees need water every 5 to 7 days to a depth of about 2 feet (or through the entire root ball). Note\*\*\*\*Citrus will let you know when they are stressed as they will literally look like they are begging for water.

### ***Trees***

The monsoon normally brings adequate moisture for your native trees. With our paltry amount of rain, you'll need to keep a close eye on them. If our monsoon is a bust, you will need to soak them thoroughly, one time each month. A soaker hose is ideal for this.

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## Heat Stress...Understand It, Recognize It And Deal With It!



**Heat Stress** occurs in your garden when temperatures reach above 110 degrees in a four day span which happened multiple times last summer and has already occurred in June.

1. You need to increase the frequency of watering when temperatures are consistently above 110 degrees. Water **deeply and infrequently** as we often water them too often and too shallow for it to do much good. Deep watering is the proper method for irrigating plants because it encourages deep root growth where the soil is cooler and stays moister for longer. As a result, you do not need to water as often. During the heatwave, water deeply every four days. On average, 2 hours is the length of time to irrigate to the desired depth.
2. Shrubs should be watered to a depth of 2 feet and perennials and groundcovers to 18 inches.
3. Don't fertilize. Feeding plants simply makes them work harder to produce new growth when all they are trying to do is deal with the heat.
4. Don't prune away heat-damaged growth until September and the weather is more normal. Those ugly leaves are protecting the interior of the plant.

**One last note:** As mentioned above, **Mulch** around your plants as it will help cool soil temperatures in summer while helping to conserve moisture – all important in helping plants thrive despite hot temperatures.

**Happy 4th of July.....See You In September! Think Football!**

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



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

Introducing Desert Dwellers Home Watching Services exclusively serving 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, ddhomewatch@gmail.com.**

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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.

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**Colorado Vacation:** I have a timeshare reserved in Breckinridge that I'm not able to use. The luxurious Hyatt at Main Street Station is booked September 18-25 for a 2 bedroom, 2 bath, full kitchen. \$2000. Escape the heat and enjoy fall colors. Call resident **Marti Bening, 602-616-6085.**

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**Sedona Resort.** Looking to deed timeshare for FREE. Two weeks every odd year. Call for details, **480 204-7877.** Leave name and call back number.

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All new or renewal classified ads must be 75 words or less. Ads will run for 3 months and may be renewed upon request. Editor reserves the right to edit all ads submitted. Send your to : **editor@azbellasera.org**



## **Bellaser Community Association**

**7350 E Ponte Bella Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85266-2701**

**Office: 480-488-0400**

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

**M-F: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.: Sat: 6:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.: Sun: 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Web Site: [azbellasera.org](http://azbellasera.org)**

**Weather: [weather.azbellasera.org](http://weather.azbellasera.org)**

**Community Directory: [directory.azbellasera.org](http://directory.azbellasera.org)**

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**Community Manager: Pamela Nunnelly ([manager@azbellasera.org](mailto:manager@azbellasera.org))**

**Office Hours: Monday thru Friday, 8:30 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**

## ***Bellaser Community Volunteers***

*Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless*

*Interested in volunteering? Go to [azbellasera.org](http://azbellasera.org), "BCA Members" page*

### **Board of Directors**

**[board@azbellasera.org](mailto:board@azbellasera.org)**

**President - Richard Hoffman**

**Vice President - Joe Carlon**

**Secretary - Dennis Soeffner**

**Treasurer - Jim Ragborg**

**Director - Vacant**

### **Committees**

**Budget & Finance - ([bandf@azbellasera.org](mailto:bandf@azbellasera.org)) James Derks, Audrey Fischer, Mary Moore-Chair, Jim Ragborg, Chuck Roach, Charles Schroeder, Paul Snyder**

**Buildings & Grounds - ([bandg@azbellasera.org](mailto:bandg@azbellasera.org)) Jeanne Horvath, John Nielsen, Tom Saari-Chair, Tom Shannon, Dennis Soeffner, Bruce Van Cleave**

**Communications - ([comm@azbellasera.org](mailto:comm@azbellasera.org)) Keith Christian-Chair, Richard Hoffman, Joe McDade, Carol Padwe, Paul Rippens**

**Modifications - ([mod@azbellasera.org](mailto:mod@azbellasera.org)) Joe Carlon - Chair, Stanley Green, Craig Johnson, Cheri Valuet**

**Security Advisory - ([sec@azbellasera.org](mailto:sec@azbellasera.org)) Joe Carlon**

**Wildfire Safety Advisor - Paul Rippens**