

# BELLASERA

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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**Kindness is like snow -  
It beautifies  
everything it covers**



December - 2021





**Bellasera Community Association**  
**7350 E Ponte Bella Drive**  
**Scottsdale, AZ 85266**

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**Joe Carlon - V.P.**  
**Dennis Soeffner - Sec.**  
**Jim Ragborg - Tres.**  
**Dennis Carson**

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# Clubhouse Corner

by Richard Hoffman - Board President

## THANK YOU!

As we all gather with our family and friends this holiday season and give thanks for our blessings after a challenging last two years, I would personally, and on behalf of your Board of Directors, like to thank and express our sincere appreciation for the work and efforts of many. Including the Bellasera staff - our Community Manager **Pamela Nunnelly**, the guardhouse staff, and our cleaning crew - for their work in keeping Bellasera the safe, attractive and welcoming community in which we live.

I would also like to convey our appreciation and a special and resounding "Thank You!" to those Bellasera residents listed below who unselfishly volunteer their time and talents to serve on our various committees, and all others whose efforts, input and historical knowledge make our work as Directors possible.



**Pamela Nunnelly**

<b>Annette Barnard</b>	<b>Joe McDade</b>
<b>Joe Carlon</b>	<b>Mary Moore</b>
<b>Dennis Carson</b>	<b>John Nielsen</b>
<b>Elaine Christian</b>	<b>Carol Padwe</b>
<b>Keith Christian</b>	<b>Jim Ragborg</b>
<b>James Derks</b>	<b>Paul Rippens</b>
<b>Aundrey Fischer</b>	<b>Chuck Roach</b>
<b>Stanley Green</b>	<b>Tom Saari</b>
<b>Richard Hoffman</b>	<b>Charles Schroeder</b>
<b>Jeanne Horvath</b>	<b>Tom Shannon</b>
<b>Craig Johnson</b>	<b>Paul Snyder</b>
<b>Lena Junker</b>	<b>Dennis Soeffner</b>
	<b>Cheri Valuet</b>

## TIRE TRACKS IN WASH

Recently, we have noticed deep tire tracks from an off-road truck or other similar heavy vehicle in one of our washes. While we cannot be certain, this is most likely the result of actions from someone from outside Bellasera. Driving or using any motorized vehicle (motorcycle, ATV, etc.) is prohibited. In addition to leaving unsightly tracks, this can harm our desert landscape and plants. If you notice any such activity, please report it to the Community Manager or a Board member.

# BELLASERA COMMUNITY EVENTS



**December Wine and Cheese Event - Paso Robles, CA Wines:** It's been almost 2 years since our last Wine and Cheese. We're inviting all wine and cheese lovers to join us once again at our December Wine and Cheese Event on **Friday, December 17th** from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m.**

Bring a bottle of a nice red or white wine from Paso Robles, CA and a favorite cheese or appetizer to share with each other. The December gathering will be hosted by **Tom and Dianna Saari** at **7628 E Ponte Bella Drive**. Please call **Dianna, 408-218-5425** or e-mail her, **disaari@aol.com** to let us know if you can attend or have any questions. You can also sign up on the sheet inside

the front door at the clubhouse. We look forward to seeing everyone. It's time to party!

We are looking for future hosts of the Wine and Cheese. We need hosts for the March, April, May and June events to either host in your home or at the clubhouse. Please let us know if you are interested, so we can continue to hold this very social event on a regular basis.

**City of Scottsdale Reminder:** Never empty pool water into the street. Reuse pool water by draining it into the sewer clean-out or onto your desert landscape or lawn. If doing the latter, make sure your plants are salt-tolerant! Do not drain your pool into the NAOS area!

**Water Aerobics** will begin at **11 a.m.** and end at noon, **Monday, Wednesday** and **Friday**. Both lap lanes will be used.

**December Bellasera Bookclub:** We're reading "*A Christmas Carol*" by **Charles Dickens** for December but will discuss it on **Wednesday, January 5** at our annual holiday lunch and book exchange at **Karen Moore's** home, **7695 E Pasaro**. Our second meeting in January will be on **Wednesday, January 26** and we will discuss "*Pavillion of Women*" by **Pearl Buck**. Any questions contact **Karen Moore, kkmoore40@yahoo.com**. Happy Holidays everyone.



**Attention car enthusiasts:** Several car enthusiasts have expressed interest in having a car and coffee social event in the clubhouse parking lot. We'll meet on **December 11th** from **10 a.m. to 12 p.m.** Bring your car and coffee to the parking lot and share conversation and car interests. **Rick Forbes, 602-284-0388**.

**City of Scottsdale Electronics Recycling:** The City of Scottsdale will hold an electronics recycling event on **Saturday, December 4** at their facility located at **9191 E. San Salvador Drive** from **7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** They will accept items such as televisions, computers, phones, etc. For more information, check their web site.

## Meeting Notices and Weather

**Board of Directors** will meet on **Thursday, December 30** at **1 p.m.**

**Budget & Finance Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, December 21, 2021** at **1 p.m.**

**Building & Grounds Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, December 14** at **10 a.m.**

**Communications Committee** will meet on **Wednesday, January 13, 2022** at **8:30 a.m.**

**Modifications Committee** will meet on **Tuesday, December 14** at **12:30 p.m.**. Applications must be received in the Community Manager's office no later than **Thursday, December 9** at **12 noon**.

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### November Weather in Bellasera

(November 1 - November 29)

Highest Temperature: **88** degrees

Lowest temperature: **46** degrees

Rainfall: **0.00** inches

Rainfall this year: **12.52** 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)**

*Note to Users: when our nation is on standard time (NOV-MAR), the "last updated..." time shown in the app is incorrect. It should be 1 hour later than shown.*

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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, December 6**. Brush and bulk items to be picked up should be at curbside by 5 a.m. at the start of the week. It will be removed during the week. **Remember, here in Bellasera, items cannot be put out prior to Friday of the previous week.** For more information, contact Solid Waste Management, **480-312-5600**.

# December



2021

## Bellasera Community Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<sup>1</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>2</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	<sup>3</sup> Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>4</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Electronics Recycling - 7:30 am to 2 pm
<sup>5</sup>	<sup>6</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am Hanukkah ends (sundown)	<sup>7</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>8</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>9</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	<sup>10</sup> Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>11</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Cars & Coffee - 10 am to Noon
<b>BULK WASTE PICK-UP</b>						
<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>14</sup> Poker - 7 pm Building & Grounds - 10 am Modifications - 12:30 pm	<sup>15</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>16</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	<sup>17</sup> Water Aerobics - 11 am Wine & Cheese - 5:00 to 7:00 pm	<sup>18</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am
<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>21</sup> Poker - 7 pm Budget & Finance - 1 pm	<sup>22</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>23</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am	<sup>24</sup> Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>25</sup> 
<sup>26</sup>	<sup>27</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>28</sup> Poker - 7 pm	<sup>29</sup> Pickelball Open play - 8 am Water Aerobics - 11 am	<sup>30</sup> Indoor & Zoom Yoga - 8:30 am Board of Direc- tors - 1 pm	<sup>31</sup> Water Aerobics - 11 am	

## Bellasera Rules Reminders

A home and the adjacent block walls will be deemed to be in need of painting if one of the following conditions exist; Splotchy or mottled paint on any exterior location and/or visible shading on block walls such that lines separating the blocks are apparent. Garage doors will be deemed to be in need of painting if the door is faded or has a chalky appearance.

Side yard gate metal shall be painted with Dunn Edwards - "Spiced Hot Chocolate" or a similar color to match fencing throughout the community and shall show no rust. The wood slats of all gates shall be maintained to retain their original non-weathered appearance by use of a light stain, linseed oil or a slightly darker stain that preserves the original cedar appearance. Gate slats may also be painted to match the color on the fascia and pop-outs of the residence. Gate slats may also be of Trex or similar non-deteriorating man-made materials in a color of a natural wood coloring.

Residents may display religious and holiday signs, symbols, decorations or temporary structures on their property of the kinds normally seen in single-family residential neighborhoods.

Overnight parking of vehicles in the clubhouse parking lot will be allowed for no more than 72 hours and only with prior written permission from the On-site Assistant or the front gate attendant.

Source: Bellasera Community Guidelines ([azbellasera.org](http://azbellasera.org), "Policies" page)

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## January Welcome Reception

Your Board of Directors is inviting you to attend a January Welcome Reception in our Clubhouse. We are welcoming our new residents, returning snowbirds, and all of our residents to our Bellasera Community. This will be our first post COVID event in almost two years and we hope that you will be able to join us. The specifics are:

- **Date: Sunday, January 16, 2022**
- **Time: 3:00-5:00pm**
- **Place: Bellasera Clubhouse**

We will be providing appetizers, desserts and bottled water at the reception. Feel free to bring your own wine, beer, or other drinks of choice. We will utilize the space in the activity room and also use the outdoor space to allow for airflow. Masks and hand sanitizer will also be available.

If you are interested in attending the reception, we ask that you respond no later than **December 31, 2021**. You can respond via email to: **[pnnunnelly@AssociatedAsset.com](mailto:pnnunnelly@AssociatedAsset.com)** or sign up at the sign in sheet in the Clubhouse.

We hope that you will be able to join us to meet new friends, reconnect with old friends and celebrate the New Year!

**Richard Hoffman**, President  
and the January Welcome Reception Committee





# December in the Garden

by Joe McDade

## Our Beautiful Winter Is Upon Us!

November turned out to be true to form as it was a beautiful month with very comfortable, pleasant weather, cool in the evening and morning and almost perfect weather during the day. It was a great introduction to December which will usher in our beautiful winter weather. So, this is the perfect time to review **winter watering guidelines** for your garden as well as identifying some opportunities for **pruning** and **planting**. I'll also be provid-

ing some annual Holiday Tips.

## Winter Watering Guidelines

I briefly covered this last month but feel it's important to reiterate and expand on guidelines for the winter. 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. Miraculously, plants seem to know the difference between irrigation and rain. Even with steady, appropriate irrigation, fruit set and growth is always better with adequate rain.

*\* Native trees are mostly drought tolerant and, once established, need no supplemental watering as our normal rainfall is sufficient. They may need a soaking once or twice during our hot season if rainfall is below normal. This applies to most of the trees here in Bellasera.*

**Note:** If you have the time and patience, I recommend turning off your drip system timers after a rainfall and manually triggering a watering cycle as necessary.

**Container Plants** that are winter dormant should be watered once a month or less. Winter growers in containers can be watered once a week depending on the weather conditions.

## Pruning

I covered this last month but here are some additional guidelines for December:

- Continue pruning **deciduous trees** such as Desert-willow, Cat-claw Acacia, and Chaste Tree.
- Resist the urge to prune any damage on plants due to frost and do not prune cold-tender plants, wait until springtime
- Many **agaves** are semi-dormant at this time and old, dead leaves can be removed by gently pulling from the base. Resist the urge to pull out the dead leaves that are firmly attached as this can damage the base of the agave.

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**.

## Planting: Herbs, Vegetables, Roses and Trees

(Here in the Sonoran Desert, we can always find something to plant.)

**Herbs**- You can **transplant** or sow a variety of herbs. My favorites are:

**Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, Thyme and Basil** - For you cooks out there, try varied alternatives of these culinary favorites.

- Sow **parsley** seeds for 'Giant of Italy' (large, flat-leaf), 'Krausa' (triple-curved leaf with a frilly appearance) or 'Paravert' (curly leaves with a soft texture).

- Set out transplants for golden, pineapple or tricolor **sage**; 'Arp', 'Gorizia' or 'Spice Islands' rosemary; and lemon, lime or nutmeg **thyme**.

- **Rosemary** is everywhere in our community and easy to grow.

- **Basil** plants are readily available in small potted plants in grocery stores. Simply transplant to a larger pot, put it in the sun, water it and you'll have a steady supply of fresh basil.

Other herbs you can consider are:

*Transplant* • borage • salad burnet • calendula • feverfew • French sorrel • lobelia  
• chamomile (German & Roman) • pennyroyal • Johnny jump-ups

*Sow Seeds* • cilantro • borage • caraway • chervil • chicory • dill  
• fennel • Florence fennel • hollyhocks • parsley

**Vegetables**-The following vegetables can be sown or transplanted.

*Transplant* • asparagus • head and leaf lettuces • cabbage • cauliflower • kohlrabi

*Sow Seeds* • beets • bok choy • carrots • collards • mustard greens  
• green onions • peas • radishes • spinach • turnips

**Bare-Root Roses** - This is the perfect 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.

**Trees**- If your garden has a need, this a good time to plant or transplant deciduous trees. Deciduous trees planted on the south side of a house provide summer shade but allow sunlight through during winter when the leaves are off.

## Annual Holiday Tips

**Christmas Trees**- We do have some Bellasera residents that purchase a live Christmas tree. So, if you plan to purchase a live tree and would like some tips on purchasing and maintaining refer back to December 2016 column which can be found at <http://www.azbellasera.org>

**Holiday Lights On Plants**- If you must put holiday lights on your plants and trees, take care to wrap them loosely and remember to remove them after the holiday season. Don't put "costumes" on saguaros or other columnar cacti, as this inhibits the plants ability to photosynthesize. However, lights on frost sensitive cacti and succulents can add a few degrees of protection during the cold winter months.

**Poinsettias**- I have noticed there was a wide selection of healthy, good looking poinsettias available locally. If you purchase one, follow these simple handling instructions to keep them looking good during the holiday season: *After purchase, remove decorative foil wraps from pots so that water doesn't accumulate and cause root rot. Alternatively, remove the foil when you water, let the plant drain in the sink, and then rewrap. Place pots in a bright spot but away from cold drafts, heating vents and fireplaces. Feed with a slow-release fertilizer or with an all-purpose fertilizer for blooming plants at half-strength every two weeks.*

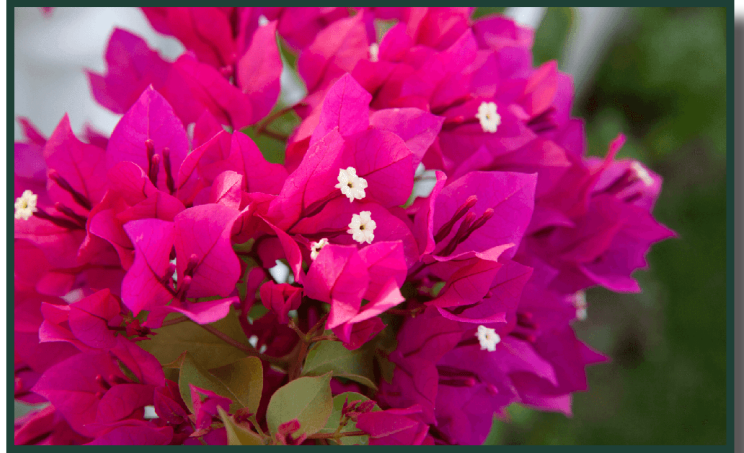


### **Enjoy Your Surroundings**

At this time of year, I would encourage you to get out and enjoy Bellasera. Our community is beautiful this time of year, attributed mostly to our magnificent gardens whose flowering shrubs (Bougainvillea, Lantana, Bird of Paradise, Honeysuckle and others) are in full bloom and will continue for the next couple of months. And, when our winter rains arrive, many shrubs such as brittlebush, creosote, and ocotillos will sprout bright new leaves adding to the color and vibrancy our surroundings.



***Lantana***



***Bougainvillea***



***Bird-of-Paradise***



***Honeysuckle***

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

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

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

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.

I love living in Bellasera! The market is still on fire. We are seeing record prices per square foot in Bellasera with very favorable terms for sellers. Does your house need some work prior to sale? We have a program called REALVITALIZE. If you are interested in selling or just want an idea of what your home is worth, please call me! **Audrey Fischer**, Realtor, International Diamond Society – Coldwell Banker Realty, **480-740-4223** or **audrey.fischer@azmoves.com**.

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

Notary Services are available from a Bellasera neighbor. Contact **ken@strobeck.com** or text **602-501-4989**.

Need a New Look? How about replacing your old window coverings, what a difference it can make to your home. I'm **Mike Alldredge**, a Bellasera resident and owner of Array Shutters and Blinds featuring Hunter Douglas shades, O'Hair Shutters, patio shades & window film. Call me, **602-622-7575**. We'll offer you our friends and Family discount.

*Classified Ads are only accepted from Bellasera homeowners. Real estate for sale, non-resident business or commercial ads are not accepted. Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad. **Your ad will run for 3 months**, and may be extended upon request. Ads are limited to 75 words. E-mail your ad to: **editor@azbellasera.org***

### Honoring Bellasera Veterans -- Addendum

Acknowledging the service and sacrifice of the following Bellasera residents whose names were omitted from last month's newsletter:

**Len Van Niel, United States Marine Corps, 1979-1982**  
**Marc Ruskin, United States Navy, 1972-1974**

Thank you for your service gentlemen.

