

September, 1982

## Homeowner News

The Homeowners Board met on August 21st and decided the top priority for the mountain is the road system. There are many conflicts with the Forest Service and Pima County about who is supposed to be doing what about the roads. Thanks to Joan Klinger's energy we are going to meet with Chuck Huckelberry in early September. We should have better information after that meeting to share with you.

We are going to need the full support of all homeowners in order to solve some of the problems on this mountain. If you get a call, please give whatever time and support you are able to give. If anyone wants to be more involved, call me at 748-1781. There's much to do.

The Board hopes your Labor Day Holiday is delightful and the start of a new school year goes smoothly.

Our next Board meeting is September 25th at 10:00 A.M. in my cabin. If you would like to visit, please call.

JUDITH MAXIMOV, President  
Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association

## WATER CO-OP

At the regular meeting held August 8, 1982 Roy Garcia, Maintenance Chairman, reported that the Florence Hill project is completed. Another fire hydrant was installed on Old Highway. Roy mentioned that about half of the water going into the systems is metered through the individual meters. Roy feels that a major portion of the loss is due to tank overflow at Ponderosa, Loma Linda and Miners Ridge Tanks. Miners Ridge overflowed due to a faulty shut off switch which has been replaced. Loma Linda tank has recently been fitted with a shut off valve. Ponderosa cannot be controlled until faulty valves are replaced in the pump house.

The Corporation Commission has heard our request for rate increase. We should have their decision within two months.

Purchasing a maintenance vehicle was discussed as at present the maintenance person is supplying his own vehicle. It is hoped that by next year the Co-op will have a vehicle that the maintenance person can use to respond to calls and a place to keep some tools and supplies.

BOB ZIMMERMAN, President  
Mt. Lemmon Cooperative Water, Inc.

## Fire Dept. News

New changes have taken place in the fire department this past month that have created a great turn around.

We are happy to announce that Fred Keers is our new Fire Chief. With his knowledge and guidance the fire department has advanced in just three weeks. The first thing Fred has done is to appoint the following positions:

1st Asst. Fire Chief - John Pullen  
 2nd Asst. Chief - Ted Moore  
 Safety Officer - Ted Moore  
 Attendance Officer - Bob Murphey  
 Equipment Officer - Bob Murphey  
 Mechanic - Mike Stanley  
 Equipment Mngr. - Mike Stanley  
 Fund Raising - Kasey Murphey  
 Physical Training - Sam Ervin  
 Hazardous Material Officer - Danny  
 Hamilton

Fred has also divided fire fighters into teams so that training can be thorough and interest can be maintained.

### SPECIAL MESSAGE!

All must realize that volunteer firefighters who have protected our homes and responded to fires are renters and not homeowners. This message is to HOMEOWNERS. There is a need for you no matter what your age or physical ability. We have a strong need for people to respond when the alarm goes off to remain at the fire house when firefighters leave for a fire. This is to insure safety to equipment and advise late arrivers as to the location of a fire. Also needed are volunteers to make coffee for firefighters. We have new members like Joe and Florence Wilhoite who will be responding when the alarm sounds. If they are not on the mountain, who will be there to help? PLEASE - we need your help!!! This is your fire department, your forest, and your homes.

Please attend a Friday night fire meeting and learn the important difference you can make in building a strong fire department. You will find it interesting to see how we are trained and to look over the new equipment that we have. Every Friday evening the alarm is sounded at 6:30 and the meeting begins at 7:00. So much is needed from you. You can help in fund raising and ideas. Please support us!

JONELLE PALMER,  
 Secretary to the Fire Chief  
 Mt. Lemmon Volunteer Fire Dept.

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### EMERGENCY PHONE LIST

#### MT. LEMMON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPT.

1. Fred Keers (Chief) - 791-9804
2. Ted Moore - 791-9868
3. Jonelle Palmer - 791-9821
4. Bob Murphey - 791-9782
5. Ron Armella - 628-9631
6. Mike Stanley - 628-9621

(Please post this and call in descending order.)

## Animal Anecdotes

Darrell Walker is a longtime Mt. Lemmon resident and bee enthusiast extraordinaire. He maintains hives on Mt. Lemmon, down on the back side of the mountain and at the base of the mountain. He is extremely knowledgeable about honey bees and has kindly consented to share some of his vast information on the subject:

"The complexity of the honey bee colony has fascinated mankind for centuries. Bees carry pollen, nectar, water to the hive from sources within a two mile radius from the hive. Water is used for cooling the hive as it is put on top of the combs and evaporated by wing fanning. Nectar is the sugar water substitute excreted by certain plants used by the bees to produce honey. Pollen is used for feeding the brood. Bees go through four stages of development called metamorphosis (similar to the butterfly) - these stages are egg, larva, pupa, adult. There are three types of bees that make up the colony. Several thousand workers which are sterile females with no sexual role at all. Their function is to maintain the colony. This includes feeding the brood, cleaning the hive of all the dead bees and larva gathering and curing nectar, cooling and warming the hive, guarding the hive against intruders and storing pollen and honey. The drones are the males who have no function other than to wait for the opportunity to mate with a virgin queen. The queen's function is to lay eggs continuously to preserve the population of the colony.

Bees are the most germ-free of all the animal kingdom. They are so bacteria free that a dead bee put into a sterile environment would remain intact and not decay ever.

During the course of one year, the bees store honey and pollen all summer and fall for winter consumption when no food is available and the bees are not very active. In winter the population is increased on food storages of pollen and honey. In Spring, the population is reinforced even more so that there is the largest population available for gathering nectar during the summer harvest season.

Man has used the honey and pollen for his own consumption for years, the pollen as a food supplement has more protein and essential minerals per weight than any other food source on earth.

The worker bees go through different stages of responsibility during their six week lifetime. The first week they clean the comb, clean and feed the queen and drones. The second week, they build the comb and ripen the nectar. The third week they become guard bees and guard the hive entrance. After the third week, all worker bees become field bees, and, until they die a few weeks later from sheer exhaustion. All they do is make trip after trip to and from the hive carrying in nectar and pollen day in day out.

If the day ever comes that honey bees ever perish, it will be a very sad day for many people who have always enjoyed chewing on a piece of good ole honey comb."

DARRELL WALKER



**MADONNA L. MILLER**  
Broker Associate DBWF  
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Sunday: Noon to 10 PM

## MT. LEMMON REMEMBERED

For those of you who have lived on Mt. Lemmon for any length of time I am sure you have had the distinct privilege of meeting the man of the mountain, Tony Zimmerman. I have just recently become acquainted with Tony, and there is no more pleasurable time spent than spending an afternoon with Tony - the twinkle in his eye and the wealth of knowledge he loves to give out about the early days on Mt. Lemmon. He raptured the school children in his namesake school at the graduation ceremony in June. His audience knows no age. With greatest pleasure I offer to you more of the memoirs of Tony Zimmerman:

"Early residents of Mt. Lemmon experienced great difficulty in transporting their living necessities to their mountain homes before the advent of a road. The Knagges operated a pack train up the south slope of the Catalinas. Only by riding over this trail can one vaguely conceive of the labor in building and operating this rough and winding trail. A pack train generally consists of a dozen or more animals. Some of these were loaded with articles such as windows, doors, roofing, iron stoves, etc. While others were loaded with a Kyax box slung on each side fastened to a pack saddle. These kyax boxes were some larger than an ordinary apple box but wider at the top. When the box was built its entire outside was covered with a green or fresh cowhide. The hide dried in a few days to make a snug fit. In certain places the trail follows the canyon, then it leads up a steep incline to follow the side walls of the mountain hundreds of feet above the yawning canyon below. With the animals loaded, even if they were sure footed, any small jostle could land one to its death in the deep canyon below. These weekly caravan arrivals were always eagerly awaited because of the mail and various articles ordered the week before.

Prior to the twenties a road had been built from Oracle to several ranches and the mines on the north side of the mountain. In 1921 this road was extended from the Control Mine to Summerhaven, a distance of seven miles of controlled road. It was a rocky, steep and very narrow road with hair pin curves. You could go up only every other two hour period. Even at that, the road was a great boon for the mountain residents and visitors.

In the late thirties, breezes began carrying tales of a new road to the top via the south

slope. General Hitchcock, then the Post Master General of the U.S., lent his influence toward the project that was to be built mainly with prison labor. The first prison camp was located for a short time at the base of the mountain. Later it was moved to two miles above Molina Basin where it remained for the duration of time it required to complete the road, which was about ten to twelve years later. The inmates were principally C.O.S. from Arizona and California with a sprinkle of Chillies and a few hard characters that necessitated guards with boom sticks. It was quite a task to keep an eye on 250 unfortunates at all times, so frequently a "Weary Willie" would successfully escape in the direction of Mexico or California. Later this camp was moved to the Grahams near Safford to another project. Upon completion of the Hitchcock Highway the door was opened to Tucson and out of state tourists, which included notables such as Lowell Thomas and his son, and Presidential aspirant Dewey in 1948.

The Westfalls built and operated the La Mariposa Lodge in 1921. Mr. Westfall served as District Ranger at Mt. Lemmon while his wife operated the Lodge. It was well understood that she carried her 30-30 'bubble stick' not for her own protection but to induce inquisitive snoopers to keep their distance from her private stock and operation in the rear of the lodge. I am sure that the potency of her home brew was equal to the persuasion of the pellets from her 30-30.

The Neoli Lodge, which was also built in the early twenties by five bachelors would furnish an interesting and intriguing story to relate.

The Mt. Lemmon Inn was built in 1944-45. It was built of logs and lumber from the new saw mill. It had a large hall for community affairs. It served as a church for two groups on Sundays, a movie house where we showed movies twice a week, dances every Saturday night and as a place of business for the community. For a number of years, our movie projector was operated by a gasoline motor which gave us many an intermission. What a scramble when the gas ran out, for the lamp-lit counter for drinks, pop corn and candy; then another scramble as the weary motor began chugging and the movie resumed. Thus we wore out two gasoline engines before Trico Electricity came to Mt. Lemmon.

In 1948, Santa Cruz, Pinal and Pima Counties formed a cooperative known as Trico Electric Coop. By 1948, Marana had 115 miles of lines in operation to various farmers in the area. Early in the same year two men, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Smith contacted me in regards to their success in bringing electricity to remote areas. They stated that if about 300 lot owners on Mt. Lemmon would sign up as members, chances were good that Trico would run their lines to the mountain. I told them that I would accept their challenge. Since 1940, I had sold hundreds of lots for Randolph Jenks, which enabled me to recontact these same people regarding electricity. Of course, some few hesitated, being reluctant to part with their kerosene lamps; however, that feeble excuse was not difficult to overcome. By 1949 the first load of poles arrived to be unloaded at the sawmill. Construction crews were laying lines under the management

of the chief engineer, Swaim. When I learned that the power lines were to run over the top of Mt. Lemmon I suggested the Oracle Ridge route as being more accessible for vehicles in repairing the lines. But the engineer stated that the government would frown on the extra distance via the Oracle Ridge. Subsequently, we suffered many break-downs of the lines over the top of Mt. Lemmon due to heavy loads of ice forming on the lines. On many occasions I rented horses to the repairmen who had three and four foot snows to combat. This difficulty was finally solved when the lines were buried.

At this time rumors were leaked out that two men were planning to form a telephone company on the mountain. I had had some experience with a one horse telephone company in Kansas. So I was skeptical, and I contacted Mr. Williams, Supt. of the Bell Telephone Co. in Tucson. He soon sent two engineers to the Summerhaven area to investigate the possibility of a sound telephone system. The result came through beautifully; as only the old timers could testify to because the old existing forest lines were generally out of order during the summer season storms and in the afternoons the line were so full of birdies(static) that one could hardly do any conversing. Now the Bell Company in conjunction with the radio static atop the mountain, thus eliminating the need for long lines of wire. From the peak to Summerhaven lines were buried to eliminate future troubles. Now we could hear London as distinctly as though we were conversing with a next door neighbor.

Mt. Lemmon from its infancy to the present has experienced many growing pains such as severe rain and snow storms, droughts, fires and community squabbles. It will only be through the efforts of those who fully realize the esthetic value of this precious jewel in the desert that the fullest potential can be achieved for the Summerhaven community."

### Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

Fourteen members met at my cabin on August 4th for our regular monthly meeting. We were happy to have as our guest, Mrs. Lehan. The Clubhouse is coming along fine and slowly. Construction on a new deck should begin very soon. The inside is very nearly completed and we hope to open our library sometime in September for all those bookworms in the community.

We plan to make up for all we missed on July 4th by having a real fun time on Labor Day, September 6th. Book Sale, Arts and Crafts, and of course, food will be a few of the fun things planned.

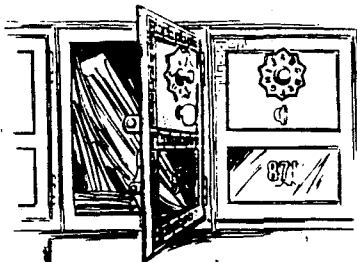
Our Membership Tea was especially nice this year. Barbara Quaid (D-1, Upper Sabino) really knows how to serve tea! We certainly enjoyed this traditional affair and hope many more ladies will be joining us next year!

One of our dearest members, Katherine Lovett opened her cabin to all for her annual Family Potluck. We all threw our diets to the wind and enjoyed. Thank you, Katherine, for a wonderful Sunday afternoon.

For more than ninety years, members of the General Federation of Woman's Clubs throughout the world have worked together as volunteers to improve their community. From education, Conservation to Home Life, Public Affairs and the Arts, the General Federation of Woman's Clubs has upheld a tradition of helping and caring about others. You, too, can make a difference. Join with other women who share your concern.

Say "I Will".. Become a Volunteer! It will make a world of difference.

LINDA BROOKEY, President  
Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club



It seems that every year, the tranquility that should naturally be Mt. Lemmon is somehow disturbed by some new creative project from Pima County. As, I am sure you must have noticed, we are in the midst of the Great Sewer Caper. Indeed, there have been certain inconveniences connected with this project in Sewerhaven, but basically the construction crew has diligently tried to accomodate the traffic flow and needs of Mt. Lemmon area residents and tourists. This is not my major concern. The project will soon be finished and life will return to normal atop the mountain as the quaking Aspens turn their golden color this fall. But will things really be normal again? The environmentalists, in all their concern, stirred up this pollution problem several years ago, and it turns out that the solution may have more far reaching problems than the problem. As it turns out, the pollution in Sabino Creek dissipates just a couple of miles below Marshall Gulch and the water is very clear that flows into lower Sabino Canyon. The key is that the water is flowing into Sabino Canyon naturally. It, even though it starts out polluted, stays in its natural watershed. The new system will take water from the Sabino Watershed and pump it over the back side of the mountain into an entirely different watershed. Long range effects on both sides of the mountain could be devastating. Where are those same environmentalists who found their cause on Mt. Lemmon several years ago? I suspect they are not among the residents of Summerhaven. I suspect they are on to a new cause in Oregon or Alaska.

LIZ HARDY

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A recent article in the Arizona Daily Star referred to the fact that the US Government was this year putting thousands of acres of Forest Lands up for private sale. Land in all national forests is up for sale except land in the Coronado National Forest. Why? That is the question I am asking the Forest Service and not finding much information to my satisfaction. Apparently the Forest Service still has designs on the Mt. Lemmon area. Perhaps it would be in the best interest of all homeowners to try to investigate this matter. Give it a try and let me know what you uncover.

LIZ



BOX 727 is your opportunity to speak out on the issues that face Mt. Lemmon. Please use this column to express your opinions. Send all contributions to Box 727, Mt. Lemmon, Arizona 85619. If you wish to be published anonymously, please specify.

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# The Great Blaze of 1910

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In June, summer's dry heat becomes very intense and creates the yearly beginning of the dreaded forest fire season. August marks the end of the annual dry season. This year Mt. Lemmon has endured several fires, most of them quite small and no personal injury or loss of property. Such was not the case in 1910 in eastern Idaho. Conditions were especially dry in north-eastern Idaho from early Spring onward. That March was the driest since records were started in 1894. June was also the driest on record and July that year brought less than 50% of the normal amount of rainfall. August was the driest month in history, with some stations reporting zero precipitation. The forest floor became tinder dry. Many small fires were smoldering in early August, and around mid-month lightning strokes kindled many more fires in inaccessible places.

The big blow-up came on August 20, when the temperature soared to 100, the humidity dropped to below 10% and strong southwest winds fanned the flames. Many fire whirlwinds formed and moved with great speed into the canyons. The fires turned into their own storms, jumping from tree top to tree top. Many tinder-dry trees exploded from top to bottom in a simultaneous flame as they were struck by a wall of heat in advance of the conflagration.

In all, 1,736 fires were reported burning in the national forest preserve. More than 3 million acres of forest were consumed, and an estimated 8 million board feet of fine timber destroyed. Several villages were razed, and one third of the mining town of Wallace went up in flames.

The Great Idaho Fire of 1910 has been called the Milestone Fire because it marked a turning point in the nation's attitude toward its forests. Conservationists succeeded in getting the U.S. Congress to pass the Weeks Act, providing federal assistance to states and private forest owners who maintained forest protective organizations. The law led to the creation of state forestry departments with corps of trained professionals. So the Idaho Fire of 1910 was one of the catalysts that started the great conservation movement in our country.

Let's do our part as homeowners to keep the Coronado Forest fire-free this next year. Let's stamp out careless smokers and campers. Eliminate fire dangers around your cabin.

LIZ

Thanks once again to Jim Copeland for his contributions. I have, as I am sure you have, enjoyed his poetry during this last year. If there are any budding poets or writers or artists in your family, please send any and all works to me at Box 727, Mt. Lemmon 85619.....

## RAIN

The first big drops make jets of dust  
in the desert sand  
Water dripping on a stove  
from a careless hand.  
The rain descends in a flood  
quickly forming pools of mud  
in a sun baked land.

Lightning rips from cloud to cloud  
electrifying sight and sound.  
Underneath the rainy shroud  
the thunderclaps are sharp and loud  
cannonading round on round  
until it shakes the ground.

The storm has passed! There still remains  
the scent of pine trees drenched with rains.

JAMES COPELAND

(602) 791-9777  
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Broker

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## ANNOUNCEMENT

It gives me great pleasure to announce that a good friend has become a sales associate of Mt. Lemmon Realty. Liz Hardy, mother and resident of Mt. Lemmon, who is well known for her activity in community affairs, is now a licensed real estate practitioner. Being raised in a real estate family, Liz feels quite at home in her new vocation. I know Liz will have a successful career as she understands the two most important requirements - honest dealings and good old fashioned hard work.

If you have a real estate need, give Liz a call. Bob Zimmerman, Broker

MT. LEMMON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
POST. OFFICE BOX 99  
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