

**MT. LEMMON ECHOES**  
**June/ July Issue**

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK:

BY RICK SMALL

Well, can you believe that we have already whipped through May and are skimming through June and into July ? Before you know it the snow will be back on the ground. Don't want to think about that yet , huh ! With temps climbing into the 100's it sure is nice to sit up here in the cooler climes and rest and relax. It's nice to see all of our friends returning and bringing new acquaintances with them.

Thank you all for sending in your membership updates from the last issue, if you haven't yet and think it's too late, not so ! We are trying to bring our rosters up to date and can only do so with your help. There are blanks in the Mt. Lemmon Realty office and you may sign and return them to either Fran or me.

\*\* A slight problem has been brought forward and you may wish to consult your are associations concerning this issue: Near the end of May I encountered two very strange looking gents dressed in camofluage and carrying guns. Knowing ther was no hunting season open, I called the sheriff at 911 and requested that a deputy check them out. Our new deputy on the mountain, Al Sargent, responded to the call and became lost since the map he was using had not been updated since 1962.

The sheriff and the fire department are here to assist us but, their job is more difficult if they do not have accurate maps and home owner information to follow. The Association is updating membership rosters and encouraging new memberships for this exact reason. If you are a member your name, telephone number, cabin location etc... will appear on the lists provided to the Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept, the Pima Co. Sherriff's Dept and 911. You will appreciate this should you require emergency assistance from your law enforcement agencies.

\*\* As was mentioned in the May issue, the Board of the Homeowner's Association is sponsoring a potluck dinner for all members and prospective members of the association at the new firehouse on Saturday , June 27 at 3: 00 pm

(con't)

This dinner is to acquaint you with your Board of Directors, the Fire Department personnel and equipment and to provide some vital information about preventing and combatting fires, in your home or in the forest. As you know, the forest becomes dry in the summer and careless use of picnic areas and fireplaces are a major threat to the safety of you and everyone on the mountain. Further details can be found in a following article, but, call in now to reserve your space.

**\*\* I am pleased to include several articles of interest, written by some residents of the Mt. Lemmon community in this issue, one of them is written by Tony Zimmerman. Tony is one of the pioneers of the mountain and father to Bob Zimmerman. This is just further encouragement to submit your articles, thoughts and ads, since I am sure that you are now tired of seeing my name on every article.**

From the Forest Service:

In a statement from Steve Plevel, dated June 8, the Forest Service has set new standards for building permits, zoning permits and septic system regulations, on lease land. They are as follows:

1. All plans will be drawn, stamped and signed by a licensed engineer or architect of the state of Arizona. The plans will meet or exceed Pima County Building Codes. In some cases where the construction is minor, the District Ranger may waive this requirement.
2. Zoning permits from Pima County will not be needed. The Coronado National Forest Plan is our zoning approval.
3. A building permit from Pima County will be required if: (a) the structure is intended for commercial or industrial use and when the valuation exceeds \$10,000, OR (b) the structure is for rent or will be for sale within one year, OR (c) the District Ranger desires that the structure have a Pima County Building Permit.
4. Septic systems permits from the Pima County Health Department will be required when installing new systems. Contact the Ranger District to review the process involved in obtaining a permit.

(con't)

5. Before a new permit is issued for a structure that has a septic system, a letter will be required from a licensed plumber or septic system company, certifying that the septic system is in good working order.

### Local Interest :

by Mike Stanley

Wait, what's that sound? The siren? Why would anyone set off the old fire alarm?

On May 28, 1987 the old firehouse siren was set off for the last time. A small noisy piece of Mt. Lemmon history was retired. The Chief and several firefighters removed the red siren from the Summerhaven fire house.

In the past, locals have heard the scream of this siren many times. It was said when the wind was right you could here its wail in Willow Canyon. For years it was used to summon emergency help. You knew when the siren went off anything could be happening and you dropped what you were doing and responded to the fire house. If the siren cycle went off a second or third time, there was a problem getting volunteers for a larger emergency. The siren was also used to signal the 6:30 pm, Friday fire meeting. Once the start button was pushed, the siren sounded on and off for 3 minutes, and sometimes that 3 minutes sounded like 30 minutes. The whole fire house shook and vibrated and the only safe place was in the fire house under the siren.

Well, now it will be silent on Mt. Lemmon, but may possibly be heard at the Safford State Prison. However, Deputy Al Sargent made a recoding. So, if you are being chased by the sheriff you may recognize a familiar sound of the old fire house siren. Remember, pull over!

## The Mt. Lemmon Highway

### An update

According to a front page article in the Arizona Daily Star, Sunday, June 7, the tranquil lifestyle we are all used to is being changed by summer swelterers trying to escape the heat and driving into the mountains.

The Pima County Sheriff's Dept. estimates and average of 4,000 or more cars on the Mt. Lemmon road during a busy weekend day.

They warn that "several times over the next three or four months that mountain bound fun-lovers may arrive at the bottom of the mountain road only to be told that they must wait in line until there is room for another car on the road." This process is called "traffic metering", in other words the sheriff allows one car to ascend only when another car has left the mountain.

Jim Kirmse, a former Mt. Lemmon deputy, said "10,000 or more vehicles may travel the highway over the course of a three-day weekend." He offers some advise, "The big thing is to be patient with other people. Everybody wants to go up the mountain at 10 a.m. and come back down right at 5 in the evening. Don't plan to come down right at sunset if you want to avoid traffic jams and accidents."

Remember, if you are a member of the Homeowner's Association, your membership card will allow you access to the road if there is no emergency situation and especially to drive safely.

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### Items of Interest:

- \*\* If your cabin was burglarized during January or February and you are missing beddings and sleeping bags, please contact Sheri Lee at 299-7143. Her burglars may have left them after they broke into her cabin this winter.
- \*\* Spiders and Ice Cream... What a combo ! Coming July, 25. Look for more.
- \*\* On June 4th , two of Mt. Lemmon's residents of the last 14 year graduated from Sabino High School. Kenneth Rinella and Jennifer Hayes Zimmerman began their formal education with kindergarten at the Zimmerman School and continued through sixth grade before transferring to Vail Junior High School, Rincon High School and finally Sabino High.

Ken spent thirteen of his school years living and commuting each day from the mountain and Jennifer spent twelve year as one of those years she lived in Florida. These two young persons are the first to complete all grades at Zimmerman school and continue through the junior high and high school years in Mt. Lemmon history.

We are pleased and proud of these young people for all those year of riding the school bus up and down the mountain road.

**CONGRATULATIONS KEN & JENNIFER !!!!!**

### MT. LEMMON HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION POTLUCK:

Date: June 27  
Time : 3:00 pm  
Place: The new Mt. Lemmon Firehouse  
Purpose: To donate monies to the Homeowner's Association for the purchase of a new water tank truck for the Fire Department.  
Admission: \$2.50 per person, children 12 and under free. Additional donations welcome

(con't)

Particulars: Bring a salad, covered dish or dessert.

The Assoc. will provide Lemonade & Coffee, Sodas available for a small charge, napkins, plates & utensils. Also, please bring enough chairs for you and your family and friends. Please call Fran @ 576-1333, Rick @ 577-0631 or Susan @ 576-1468 or 749-8562 with your reservation and what type of dish you will be bringing.

SEE YOU THERE !!!

Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept:

by Fred Keerse

The dedication of our new fire house was a great success; those who attended were able to see something tangible for their tax dollar. It also enabled us to publicly thank the many people to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude.

Construction on the interior continues, but at a slow rate, mainly due to the lack of building materials, i.e. wall plates, pipe, 2x4's etc... If anyone has a secret supply hidden somewhere and doesn't know how to get rid of it - THINK FIRE HOUSE! Give us a holler!

Even though our interior is unfinished, the Loma Linda Homeowner's Assoc. held their annual meeting there. It is hoped that other organizations will follow suit and that eventually the new Firehouse will be a hub of activities

The Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept. will be dedicating itself to fire prevention this year. There will be a display of fire extinguishers and smoke alarms for sale, promoting "an ounce of prevention" and also as a fund raiser.

It had been hoped that our new 4x4 Emergency vehicle would be delivered in time for the dedication ceremonies, but no such luck. However, it did arrive last week and it is everything we had hoped for. It was purchased with the help of a Federal Grant and our friend Iris Dewhirst. Stop by when you are in the neighborhood, we will be glad to show you through it.

\*\* Love homemade ice cream?

You be the judge for the Great Meltdown!

Coming July 25th.

## Modern Conveniences for the Mountain: Electricity

by Tony Zimmerman

(first article in a series of three)

In 1947 electrification was entering Marana . This was a great boon for farmers in this area as they had to use diesel power to pump the water from deep wells to water their cotton farms.

About this time as I was building the Mt. Lemmon Inn , a Mr. Peterson and his assistant came to see me from the Marana district regarding extending the power lines from Marana to Mt. Lemmon. He thought it possible to bring the high-line directly up the west side of the mountains to the village. He then proposed the challenge that if 300 customers would sign and pay a five dollar fee the electricity could be brought to our area. The challenge was accepted with great enthusiasm because of the prospect of the convenience it would bring to the growth and increased residency in the area.

At this time cabins were lighted by candles, kerosene lamps and a few Coleman lamps. All were hazardous to operate and caused a great fire danger. At the Mt. Lemmon Inn we were using two gasoline motors in order to generate electricity enough to operate the movie projector for the bi-weekly shows.

I took on the task on selling electric applications to the residents, a few of the old codgers wanted to stick with the stinking old kerosene lamps but decided to sign when they were told they could read by the light of an electric bulb and keep the old lamp as an antique. The women were eager to join because they were thinking of the convenience of radios, refrigerators and real reading light. By the way, I found no man that knew much about filling the lamp daily, washing the smoked up chimneys, nor how to properly trim the lamp wick.

The sales of electric applications was a great success, cabin owners and many lot owners paid the fee to become members. There was much celebration when the first load of power line poles was unloaded in the spot where the post office now stands.

(con't)

The original board of the Trico Electric Cooperative was made up of seven members, they were; John Murphy, Stan Secrist, T.H.Blaire, Oral Tucker, J.E. Farrell, Clayton Niles and myself. This group met in Washington D.C. with government officials to request funding for the Trico Coop and was given funding for this project at a low rate of interest.

### CLEAN UP & RESPECT IT DAY:

The Forest Service is sponsoring a clean up day on the Mt. Lemmon highway , Saturday, July 11th from noon until 3 or 4 pm. They are looking for 100 to 150 volunteers to help in the clean up effort. Already enlisted are volunteers from Tucson Clean and Beautiful, the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and the Sierra Club.

The objective of this clean up day is not only to pick up trash from the holiday weekend but to increase awareness of the pollution problems on Mt. Lemmon. The Forest Service will provide refreshments to the volunteers and will sponsor a picnic after the clean up at the Showers Point ramadas 2 & 3. The local chapter of the Department of Public Safety Explorers will assist the sheriff's department with safety along the roadway during the clean up operation. If you would like to volunteer your family or group , please call Ardy Michaels at 576-1344.

### I LOVE A PARADE:

by Mary Moran

I love a Parade . . . . . especially on Mt. Lemmon any 4th of July.

Every year for this past 5 or 10 years , the wonderful and the weird have marched to the delight of the crowd in the world's shortest parade. Last year was witness to trolls, firefighters, Smokey the Bear and some of his friends, a bluegrass band and the Statue of Liberty and many others.



(con't)

They all had so much fun that the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club has decided to do it again this year. You are invited to join us in the party. You can walk or ride, come alone or with the whole family or just as a part of a friendly group.

Let your imagination run wild since "I Love A Parade" is the theme. Remember that prizes will be awarded in 4 categories; Patriotism, Musical, Comedy and Crowd Appeal.

If you are interested in joining the parade please complete and return the attached entry form to : Mary Moran , P.O. Box 659, Mt. Lemmon 85619. or just phone Mary with your entry at 576-1428.

**The entry deadline is July 1st.**

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Name of entrants or group: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Category: Patriotic    Comedy    Musical    Crowd Pleasers

Describe Entry: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

No. of persons, vehicles and/ or animals: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check in at 11:00 am on July 4 @ Post office porch.

\*\*\* **Racing Daddy Longlegs**, a Mt. Lemmon tradition in its infancy?  
Reserve July 25th for your introduction to this popular new sport.

## SEPTIC ORDINANCE:

by Bob Zimmerman

We ex-military pilots, back in the good old days, had a saying which went " When the weight of the paperwork equals the weight of the airplane, it is time to take off." If this were true for septic systems, we would soon be ducking flying septic tanks.

The septic ordinance is back and the Forest Service has instituted requirements of their own. The ordinance was temporarily suspended over a technicality as the result of a law suit. However, the problem was corrected and the Board of Supervisors quickly reinstated the ordinance. Steve Plevel, Chief Ranger of the Coronado National Forest, has made rules which have extended some of the requirements to the Permittees.

If you sell your deeded cabin the septic ordinance comes in to play. It requires that your septic system be inspected by a qualified inspector and certified by Pima County. Most people contact one of the companies listed under Septic Tanks in the " Yellow Pages" to do the inspection and pumping. It seems the County's main interest is with the septic tank itself. The septic tank will be inspected for capacity , 1,000 gallons minimum, leaks in the tank or any of its pipes and proper working of the baffles and sanitary tees. The septic tank also has to pass a sludge depth test unless it is to be pumped out. Most people have the tank pumped out ,particularly if it has not been pumped within five years. The field is tested by running a hose to determine if it will accept water.

Some of the older tanks fail the inspection which can cause replacement or repairs. Metal tanks and tanks of less than 1,000 gallons may have to be replaced as well as leaching fields which do not accept water. These repairs can be expensive and time consuming. It is not a bad idea to have your septic system checked when you decide to sell rather than when you have a buyer.

The pumping and testing cost \$ 150 to \$ 200. This does not include locating and uncovering the septic tank which is an extra cost that can also be very expensive. Most either locate and uncover the tank themselves or find someone who is less expensive. If your system passes the inspection, the Pima County Health Department will certify your septic system - - for a fee.

(con't)

If you are selling your Forest Service cabin, a new permit will not be issued to the Buyer without a letter from a licensed plumber or septic system company certifying that the septic system is in good working order. I suspect that the certifying company will use the same format as is presently being used for County septic system certification and the costs will be the same. As quite a bit of water is used in testing the tank for leaks and the leaching field for acceptance of water, I am not sure how a septic system can be certified in areas without water, such as Willow Canyon.

### 1ST ANNUAL MT. LEMMON BUN RUN:

by Mike Stanley.

Excitement filled the brisk morning air. Visible frost on the Alpine Lodge roof was disappearing as the sun warmed the asphalt. Locals started to appear at 6:45 am. Bright colored garments shocked the morning scene. Yes, this was the day of the first annual Mt. Lemmon Bun Run.

The run started at the Post office and finished at the Palisades Ranger Station, a grueling five miles of varying terrain.

The starting line was painted on the asphalt at the beginning of the highway's double yellow line. As the paint dried the race was about to start. The six runners stretched and peeled off their outer shells. They came to the line. The tension and anticipation built. At 7:08 the starting gun was fired and the runners were off.

The initial pace was set by "Rapid Tom Mangano", but he was soon overtaken in the first mile by "Movin' Carl Fiske" pushing Tom to second. Then came "Swift Suzanne Langolis" followed closely by "Accelerating Debbie Vought" with "Moving Mark Hopkins" and "Barley Brisk Bryck Guibor bringing up the rear.

As the Bear Wallow hill flowed into Spencer Canyon the runners began to experience breathing problems, cramps, gas (?) and heat stroke but these minor difficulties hardly phased these highly tuned running machines. As they flew past the Spencer checkpoint only blurred images of the heated race were captured by the local media. Cheers and yells of the quickly growing throng helped push these athletes towards the finish line.

(con't)

At Palisades a crowd gathered. The local media set up their camera stations for the best photo opportunity. Tourists and hikers paused to see the finale. 38 minutes after the firing of the starting gun, the first runner was spotted heading towards the finish line. Cheers went up from the crowd, the shutters of cameras clicked. The first runner approached the bright orange finish line and at 39 minutes "Moving Carl Fiske" captured the victory of this hard fought race. Two minutes later "Swift Suzanne Langolis" seized second place as "Rapid Tom Mangano" took third. At 45 minutes "Accelerated Debbie Vought" crossed with Mark Hopkins just a minute behind. "Barely Brisk Bryck Guibor" burned the finish line at 57 minutes.

The runners, sweaty and tired, all finished the grueling 5 mile race within one hour. Jonelle Moore had the Palisades Visitor and Runners First Aid Station open for the comfort of all and Max and Joan Klinger provided fresh doughnuts and coffee.

The first place finisher received a \$30.00 cash reward, second place received \$18.00 and third place received a \$20.00 gift certificate from the Living Rainbow Gift Shop and the fourth place finisher was given a gift certificate for lunch at the Ski Valley.

This reporter would like to note the spirit of accomplishment of the Mt. Lemmon community, fun was had by all and the runners are training for the Second Annual Mt. Lemmon Bun Run.

\*\*\* *Love to make ice cream ?* Join the Big Chill Off, July 25.

The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association for its membership. Membership dues are \$ 15 per year. Renters, visitors and friends of the mountain may obtain an associate membership for \$ 7.50 per year. The Echoes is published the second week of April, May June, July, August, October and December in 1987. Photo ready ads, articles and letters to the editor of interest to the general membership should be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send these items to: Mt. Lemmon Echoes ,c/o Richard M. Small, 4545 North Camino Real, Tucson, AZ. , 85718. Ad rates: 3 x 5 , \$10; business card, 2 x 3.5 , \$ 5. For other sizes and rates or comments and questions contact the editor.

Editor: Richard M. Small  
Membership Representation:  
Fran Zimmerman  
Helen Quigley  
Cathie Brown

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