

The Mt. Lemmon *Echoes*

December 1990

Sabino Creek tests show water is clean

By Michael Stanley

There have been concerns that septic tanks or sewer lines may have an effect on the Sabino Canyon Creek. In March of 1990 the Arizona State Department of Environmental Quality did some testing on the quality of the stream water to detect any abnormal conditions. Five sample locations were noted: (1) above Summerhaven, (2) across from the Alpine Inn where septic odor was reported, (3) 200 feet downstream across from the sewer treatment plant and (5) Carter Canyon and Sabino Canyon creek. A test for fecal coliform and fecal strep were taken. The coliform is a basic indicator for human waste and strep is for animal. A test was also performed on the rust colored ozings in the creek for any contamination.

The conclusion of this March report was that there was little or no impact from either human or animal waste in Sabino Creek; the rust colored sample proved to be dead blue

green algae that had taken on an iron stain from the water. The March report went on to say that the biggest violation was the accumulations of solid waste (trash) along the creek and that a follow up test should be conducted when summer occupancy is up.

On July 25, 1990 the second test was performed. The fecal coliform, fecal strep along with total inorganics and total metals were taken at three sites along the creek. There was no rust sediment to sample at this date. The conclusion of the testing showed no indication that additional fecal contamination is being introduced into the Sabino

Creek via septic tanks or from leaking sewer pipes. The inorganic results show the water of the creek is almost comparable to that of drinking water except for bacteriological results! The report suggested if solid waste continues to be a winter-only problem, that Pima County keep some dumpsters on the mountain year round and perhaps sign the area especially across from the Alpine Inn with Litter Unlawful signs.

These results are a far cry from the late 1970's results, when the sewer plant contributed to the pollution of Sabino Creek. Personally, I feel the new sewer plant along with Pima





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Water cont.

County septic rules have greatly aided in control of contaminations. However, the sewer plant effluent (the outflow of the sewer plant) is pumped from Sabino Creek to the watershed going to San Pedro. This causes a reduced flow in Sabino Creek. Sure the water is cleaner, but there is not as much flow. There is even a possibility that over 5,800,000 gallons of water per year could be transported from the Sabino Creek watershed. This causes the creek to go dry more often. The Mt. Lemmon Cooperative Water Company is attempting to find a permittable way to reuse the effluent water within the Sabino Creek watershed without causing any contamination impact. Reports on the water situation in South-eastern Arizona have stated the reuse of effluent is a major water resource and use of this commodity is encouraged. There is even technology to clean the effluent to drinking water standards. This is a far reaching goal, but for now we just wish for the transport of water to resort back to stream flow for Sabino Creek.

Homeowners' donations continue to help Fire Department this year

By Chuck Hammel, Fire Chief

The Fire Department would like to thank the homeowners for the two donations to the department. The first was for \$400.00 and was used to buy hose for the new engine and the yellow engine. The second donation was used to purchase a copy machine along with the water co-op.

With the winter coming up, you need to check your fireplace and get it cleaned. Also remember to dispose of the ashes in a steel container. Check the October issue of Echoes for a detailed program.

The Fire Department would like to invite your and your families to join us on December 22 for a pot luck dinner at 7:00PM. We will supply the turkeys and drinks, and ask you to supply the side dishes and dessert. After eating we may have a visit from a jolly old man in red. There will be dancing and singing.

We at the Fire Department would like to extend our wishes to each and every one of you to have a joyful holiday season.



MLWC News & Gossip

Upcoming events & Meetings for Woman's Club

By Danielle Hayhurst, Pres. MLWC

December is here, so mark your calendars for upcoming events. First, every Monday afternoon, weather permitting, Nancy Goodwin will open the library for those of you who want to snuggle up with a good book on these cold nights. On Wednesday, December 5th at 10:00AM, Midge Swanson will hold her annual Christmas ornament beading class at her residence in Tucson. All you'll need is a pittance to cover the cost of the beads, a sack lunch and working tongues and fingers. Call Midge and let her know you're coming. This gathering has always been fun and your rewards are a lovely

ornament to take home, an opportunity to admire the sparkling beaded ornaments on Midge's Christmas tree and some tasty desserts. Our regular business meeting for December will follow the beading and gab session at 1:00PM.

Don't forget the Christmas brunch at Cathie Brown's house on December 15th starting at 10:00AM.

NO JANUARY MEETING (yea!). Recovery time from the holidays. There will be one day set aside in January for report writing, tentatively scheduled for January 11, 1991.

1991 - hard to believe we are into the last decade of this century. We'll start in again in 1991 with a meeting February 6th at Sharon Thomas' house. In March, we can look forward to a meeting at Helen Quigley's house, and Southern District Spring Convention on March 23, 1991. By then, we should have another Echoes ready for mailing, hopefully a new governor in office, Mike Stanley will have gone over the top of the hill (the big "40"), ...we'll talk again in the March issue of the Echoes. Have a happy!



Sign wave still has people talking

By Sandra Ostapuk

From the response we've received regarding the article "Sign wave hits Catalina Highway" in the October issue, many have been counting, discussing and wondering how many more signs can be planted. Feelings vary as to the usefulness of the yellow chevrons and the choice of street names, but everyone seems to agree that there are simply too many signs.

With 18 years of experience in sign control in Tucson, Peggy Lockhard decided to check out the sign proliferation. Earlier this summer she talked with Gregg Lunn, who referred her to Paul Steiner, Manager of Transportation. "In my first conversation with Mr. Steiner he seemed to agree that

the signs looked terrible, and said he would do what he could" Peggy said. Later, however, she was told the "chevrons are required on curves of a certain degree" and would be installed as planned. And installed they were - right in the middle of a number of pullouts making it difficult and dangerous to pull off the road to allow faster moving traffic to pass.

However, there are good stories about some of these newly placed chevrons.

During a trip home one night in January, Mt. Lemmon resident and environmentalist, Debbie Vought says they saved her life. As she headed up the mountain, she encountered a winter storm from Bear Canyon all the way to Summerhaven. Visibility

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Signs cont.

was reduced to zero with blowing snow obliterating the yellow center line and the sides of the road. On three occasions she found herself looking over the edge of the mountain - all three locations without chevrons. "I would not have made it home safely had it not been for those yellow arrows which were the only thing visible. I know that they are ugly, but I owe my life to them" Debbie said.

So as you see, the chevrons do help, and the street signs are to aid 911 emergency services (the streets were named and platted in the 30's, so we can thank our ancestors for the names). As for those double-double signs-signs, perhaps some calls or letters to Mr. Lunn or Mr. Steiner might bring some action-action. But PLEASE - NO MORE SIGNS!



Mt. Lemmon business community continues to grow

By Sandra Ostapuk

Kimball Springs Mercantile expands

In September the Kimball Springs Mercantile opened its newly expanded hardware, sporting goods and clothing store just north of the Kimball Springs General Store and Gift Shop. The Garcias, with eleven years experience living on the mountain, have carefully stocked the hardware department with much needed items, from various tools, nails, screws and washers, etc. to a variety of plumbing and electrical replacement parts. If they don't have what you need, they can special order it for you. In addition to snow shovels, sleds and toboggans, you will find fishing, camping and backpacking supplies as well as gifts and clothing for all ages.

After the move, the General Store found more shelf space available, and Susan has done a good job of stocking both needed basics and some wonderful gourmet foods as well as magazines, movies, newspapers, foods to go and FUDGE! She has saved this writer on two occasions. Can you imagine inviting dinner guests and leaving the dinner meat in the valley? It is a great relief to know the store is only a walk away - not 25 miles.

If you've not checked out Mt. Lemmon's newest store, be sure and stop by on your next visit. You'll be pleasantly surprised! The Mercantile is open 10 AM - 5 PM Monday through Friday, and 8 AM to 5 PM on Saturday and Sunday - even during the highway construction.

Summerhaven Suites & Sweets newest business

Ponderosa Pine Suite, Sugar Pine Suite, Aspen Suite and Wild Apple Suite are some of the new names given the units at Summerhaven Suites and Sweets (formerly Pinecone Suites). The Sweets - and other treats shop - continues with the same mouth-watering chocolate chip cookies and new additions that include pecan sticky buns, muffins and hot cider.

New owners Gini Thatcher and Vic Zimmerman have recently returned to the mountain and their new venture. They have spent the past year

Business cont.

traveling through Europe while Vic taught Marketing, Management and Communications working for the University of Maryland. They were in Heidelberg, Neu Ulm, and Kaiserslautern, Germany and Terrania, Italy as well as short trips to many other places. Prior to their European adventure, Gini was Artist/Photographer at Flandrau Planetarium and Vic taught Marketing at the UA as well as working with students at the UA International Students Office.

They have returned filled with ideas for the Suites & Sweets and have plans for a studio where Gini can continue work in her first love - art and photography. In the meantime, they're busy getting some of their ideas going - like a firepit out front that is open to all to stop and warm their fingers and enjoy some hot

chocolate or Gini's special Cocofee.

On Saturdays and Sundays they will have Chili and Breadsticks at the bakery. You are welcome to stop by or call ahead for some Chili to go at 576-1542. Their hours are from 8 AM - 7 PM everyday.

Gini and Vic are looking forward to serving the cabin owners and guests and invite you to stop by and check out their new Summerhaven Suites and Sweets.

And remember, if holiday shopping and crowds have you frantic, frazzled and frustrated, then try Mt. Lemmon! Be sure and check the ads in this issue. You will find many different and unique gifts at the various shops in Summerhaven. And if you need to mail some, the Post Office is right there and with no long lines. So treat yourself to some fun and relaxing holiday shopping and a bite to eat while enjoying the sun and beautiful blue sky atop Mt. Lemmon.



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"A Charlie Brown Christmas" to be ZAS holiday production

By Florence Koch

The voting is over and the Kids Voting program gave our students an opportunity to think about the issues and candidates. We had some good discussions, and the students sounded well informed and prepared to vote. The students who had registered enjoyed a first-hand experience in getting to vote outside of the school.

The school children have enjoyed three artists sponsored by the Tucson Pima Rural Arts Council. Tobias Manuel taught water color techniques and talked about the culture of the Pima (Gila) Indians of which he is a member. Ellen Fountain, our next visiting artist, also showed the children about the art of water color. They feel very good about using this media now. The last artist to work with the children this year was Barbara Mocking of the New Kiva Puppets. They made up characters for a shadow show and had a finished production at the end of the day.

The school Halloween Party was planned by the students and the guests participated in their games. They received a great many treats and have continued to enjoy the treats given to them by the Fire Department and Joan Klinger.

National Book Week was held during the week of November 11. The students and teachers dressed as book characters and told parts of a book to help the others in guessing which character they represented.

The Zimmerman Accommodation School will be giving their annual Christmas program on Friday, December 14 at 7:00PM. A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS and singing carols will be the main event with time for special beverages and treats to follow. We would like to have you join us for this very special night with the students of Zimmerman Accommodation School.



Words from the Mare's Office...

Word is out on the new Mayor. Mayor Mr. Ed (Buddy) has been seen with the trots through Summerhaven. It's been said that he's been seen with the Democrat mules in Carter Canyon lobbying on fee cost. Guess it's a good thing there aren't any elephants living on Mt. Lemmon. However, the Mayor states he'll never work for peanuts and remain nonpartisan. Vice Mayor Manley just says "Hay!" The Mayor just whinnies.

The Mayor recently found out the Annual Homeowners' Dinner was held at Traildust Town and became very excited about being this year's Master of Ceremonies. Relating his favorite tail to Vice Mayor Manley, he recalls the old days when a man was a man and all he needed was his horse and a gun. The Mayor was quick to clarify this statement had nothing to do with gun control, but man could do more horsing around. His tail continued to color this tiny Tucson town as wild and lawless, pointing out that if it wasn't for him in these early pony days the wild town would have never been tamed. Our Mayor almost single hoofingly set history in motion taming this town; for you see, he broke this whole area away from the lawlessness as it was so inclined to be destined. To this date the old timers in Traildust Town still hear the distant clap of hooves on the brick roadway. They say during some of the steak filled sunsets, you can almost hear Roy Rogers singing "Happy Trails" as vivid memories of Mayor Mr. Ed dance throught their minds....

As this story finished the Vice Mayor reminded the Mayor it was time to take the Lemm-o down before the road would close for blasting. Of course, the Vice Mayor had checked the road suspension schedule. The Mayor was reluctant to enter the Lemm-o trailer. He had asked for new astro-turf carpeting, a white Lemm-o paint finish, and one of those spa's like you see on the "Rich & Famous" show, but these appropriations had all been refused.

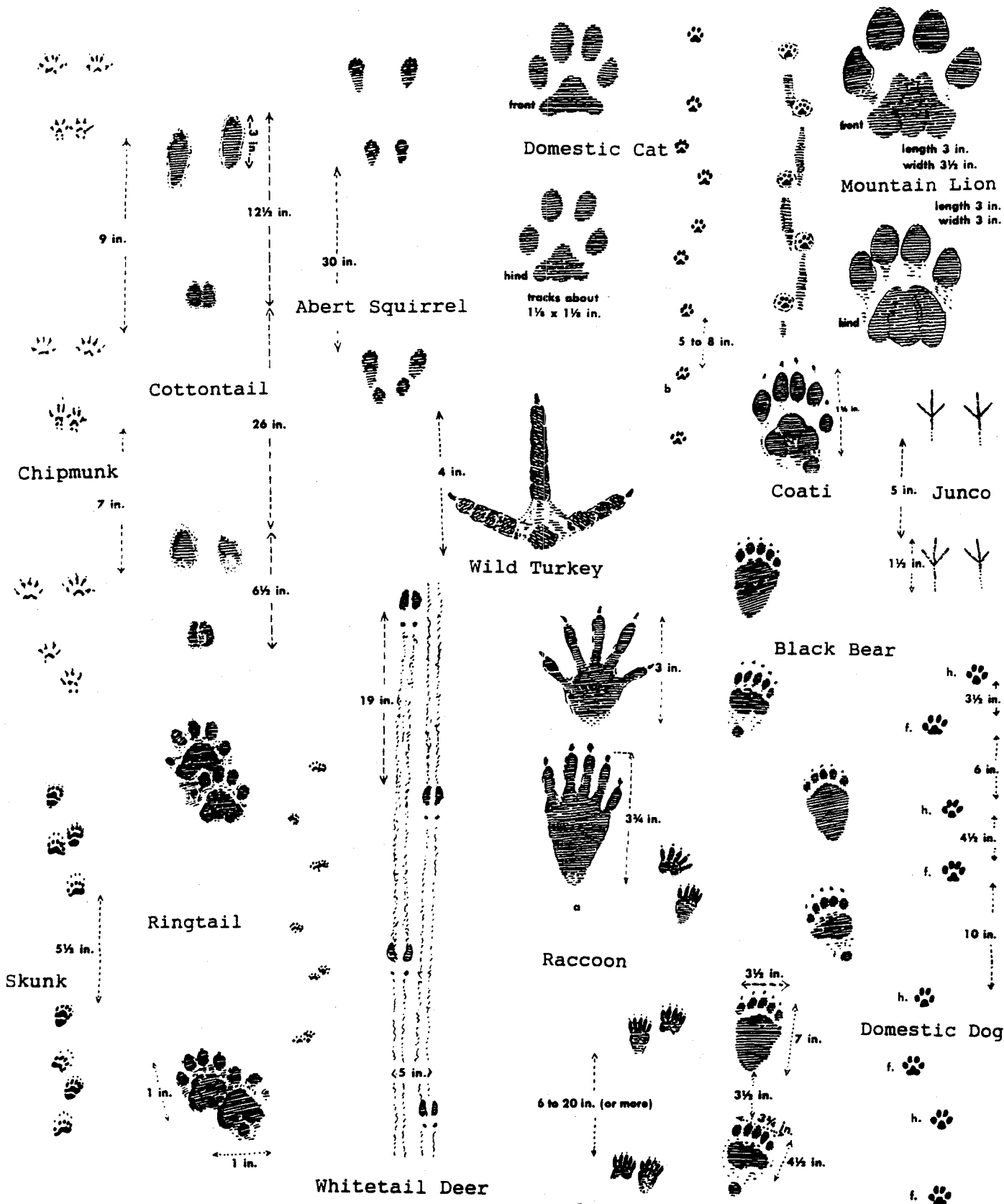
When loaded, the Mayor's destination was the Tucson Rodeo Committee. He thought it was at the Rodeo grounds, but it was really at the Pima County Fairgrounds. Confused, his goal was to inform the officials of the horses' view on moving the parade from the downtown area. His thought was to move it to Summerhaven on the 4th of July, stating the additional income would benefit the whole community. Funds for new fire hydrants and hitching posts would be available. However, the Mayor's main money maker is to pass the Summerhaven Pollution/Odor Ordinance or P.O.O.. This ordinance would require one of them rear scoops he's been working on. This would be a big budget income vs. out-go item.

The Mayor is hoping for your support. Have a great holiday and New Year.



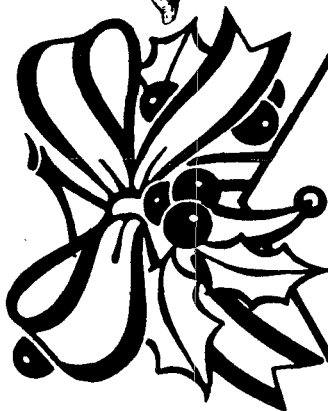
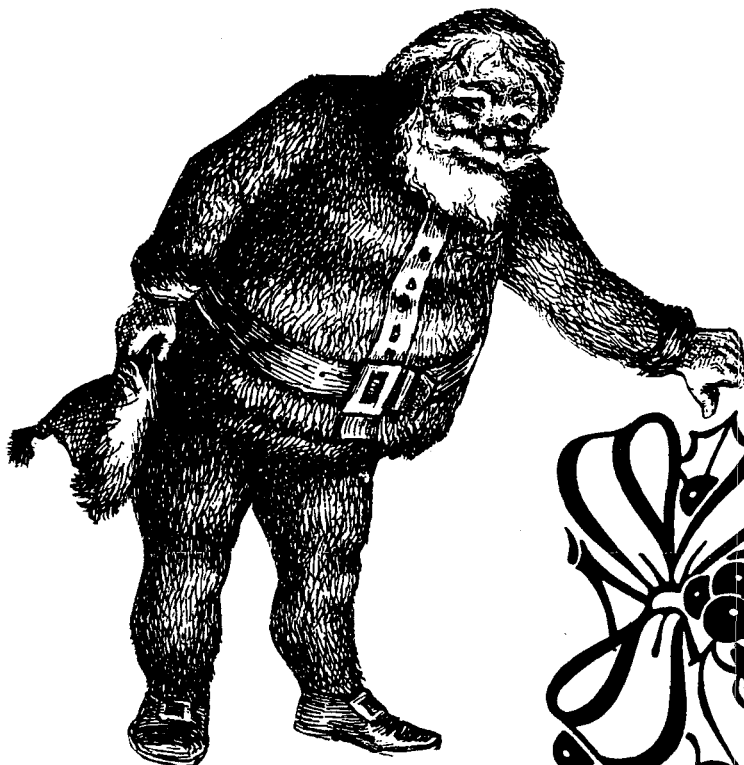
Birds and Bees and...Tracks in the Snow

By Sheri Lee





Season's Greetings



The Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept.
invites you to join them on
Saturday Dec. 22 at 7:00 PM
for Christmas Dinner and Dance
MLFD will provide turkey & drinks
You bring a side dish or dessert
Dancing, Caroling and a visit from
Santa will top off the evening.

Come join in the fun!

**Birds and Bees
and...Tracks in the Snow**

Selections taken from:
Peterson Field Guide to Animal Tracks
by Olaus J. Murie
Second edition 1974 \$13.95
Sponsored by the National Audubon Society and
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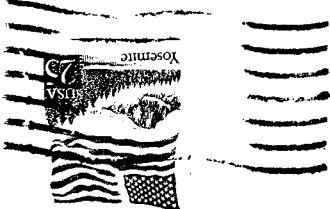
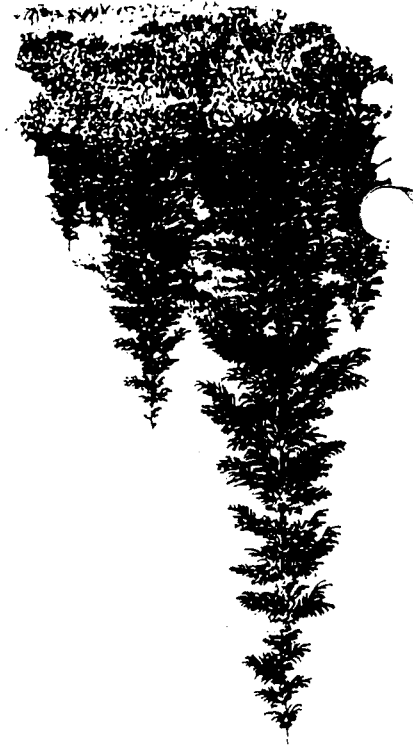
Home Inspection Report
VA & FHA Termite Wood Infestation Report

KEN VAN ZANDT, Owner
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Robert & Sheri Lee
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Tucson, AZ 85715



Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Assoc.
P.O. Box 699
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The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association for its membership. Controversial and political articles reflect the opinions and decisions of the Board of Directors. The Board reserves the right to approve all submitted articles. Membership dues are \$25.00 per year. Renters and friends of the mountain may obtain an associated membership for \$20.00 per year. The Echoes will be published in 1990, April through September, November and February. 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 articles to Echoes, Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619. Ad rates 3x5 business card = \$10.00; 2x3.5 = \$5.00. For other sizes, inquire to the editorial staff.

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Sandra H. Ostapuk 888-0805