



# *The* Mt. Lemmon *Echoes*



SEPT 1992

## **Mt. Lemmon land exchange update**

By Larry Waldron

The proposed land exchange involving 94 cabins on approximately 100 acres adjoining Summerhaven has taken on new form. To this point, discussion has been between the permittees, their representatives and private land owners. The land exchange has now entered into the public forum.

On Monday, June 22, a public meeting was held at the UMC Duval auditorium. Ninety-eight concerned citizens attended the meeting. The majority of those in attendance were cabin site permittees. The hearing commenced with an overview of the land exchange, slides of the land involved and an explanation of the environmental process that is necessary to produce the NEPA document. The environmental consultant then fielded concerns and comments from those in attendance. Other than a few concerns, there was broad support for the exchange.

Tuesday, June 23, a second hearing held at

the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station was attended by twenty-four people. This hearing followed the same format as on Monday. Additional support for the exchange was strongly given by the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association, business leaders and residents of Summerhaven.

The environmental consulting firm has finished a walk through of the Mt. Lemmon acreage and parcels looking for endangered plant and animal species and archeological sites that may exist. Nothing noteworthy was found, but additional searches may become necessary before finalizing their report. An appraisal and BLM survey of all lands involved are currently under way to determine fair market value for the forest service and permittees.

Thank you! Your support can aid the proposed exchange and success will hopefully benefit our community. Additional funding for the Fire Department and an increased

county tax base are obvious gains. We should also expect increased political influence as a result of the exchange.

### **Calendar of Events**

**Saturday Sept. 5**  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
and

**Sunday - Sept. 6**  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**MLWC Annual Book,  
Bake and Rummage  
Sale**

**At the Clubhouse on  
Sabino Canyon Pkwy**

**Saturday - Oct. 10**  
5 p.m.

**At the Fire Station  
MLHA  
Annual Fall Potluck  
\$2.50 Donation p/p  
plus dish to share**

**Monies raised for Z.A.S.  
science equipment.  
Come welcome the new  
teacher.**

## New Teacher at Z.A.S.

By Sheri Lee

Please welcome Mr. Stephen Sandler, a New Jersey native to the mountain. He is the new teacher at Zimmerman Accommodation School, and he is looking forward to the challenge of teaching 15 students, K-6. Classes started Monday, August 24.

Mr. Sandler has a masters degree from Columbia University and fourteen years of experience teaching in public schools including two years in the Peace Corps on a small atoll in Micronesia (in the Pacific north of Australia and just north of the equator). Other places he has taught include Jersey City, NJ, Kansas City, MO, Tititlet, Alaska (near Valdez), Fairbanks and Minneapolis. From this list we can guess he is no stranger to snow and cold weather.

He has lots of enthusiasm and many good ideas to share with the students. His specialties are math, science and computers. Mr. Sandler has a list of equipment needs as long as his arm, and he will be contacting various Mt. Lemmon and Tucson organizations and businesses for donations of equipment

and money.

As a single parent, he wanted to come to the Tucson area to be closer to his mother who lives on the northwest side. His daughter, Rachel, age seven, will be on of his students at Z.A.S..

He was hired by a panel which included, besides Anita Lohr and Mary Grace Wendel, Dr. Phil Archambault as a representative from our community. Mr. Sandler accepted the position because he feels the job is a big challenge...and no doubt he's right!

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## Water Board receives first draft from engineers

The water board has continued to work on the various alternatives to solving the financial problems it is facing. We have received a first draft proposal from the engineers with their recommendation as to the overall system improvements needed to be able to meet the requirements of all property owners in our certified areas. A map has been prepared that is color coded to indicate the recommended pipe size for each area. Anyone wishing to see the map may do

# What's the Forest Service up to now?

By Sheri Lee - with research by Ross Quigley

No doubt you've noticed all the construction at the picnic and campgrounds along the highway. Several projects are underway.

Snazzy new composting toilets are being constructed at Molino Basin, Whitetail, Rose Canyon and Bear Canyon (two). The toilets at Bear Canyon and Molina will have solar powered equipment, while those at Rose Canyon and Whitetail will be electric.

New tables and grills will be constructed this fall at Loma Linda, Inspiration Rock (3 areas), Hitchcock Campground and Bear Canyon (3 areas).

A search is underway for a water source in Molina. A four foot trench is being dug from Willow to Rose Canyon for the toilet equipment power line.

Whitetail will likely be closed through the 1993 season. The project there includes water, electricity and the composting toilet.

These improvements have long been needed, and it's great that money was finally found to pursue them!



LABOR DAY WEEKEND

LOOK FOR OUR SIGNS

HACKNEY'S - MAIN ROAD

BETWEEN GIFT SHOPS

IN SUMMERHAVEN



## Fire Dept. stays busy

By Phil Anselmi, Fire Chief

The Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept. responded to 24 emergency calls during the month of July; two wild land fires on the Fourth of July; a fall victim at Showers Point, propane leak on Loma Linda and several auto accidents.

During the month we hosted two Rope Rescue classes on Sun Rock. We certified several persons in Rope Rescue I and II. We have had several rescue calls in the past and this training will be very advantageous to us. Most all in the

class enjoyed "climbing and hanging" on the rocks. Mike Garcia was very helpful during these classes. I wish to thank him for his assistance.

We are starting into the second portion of the year now - where has this year gone? We are all doing well in regard to fires and I wish to thank all of you. I have received several calls for assistance on how to cleanup around cabins, and this is going well. With this rain we have been having, the wild land season seems to be passing, but we all need to keep alert. Remember, when the weather cools and leaves start to fall, the fall season starts. This is the time when grass and leaves burn the most. Please keep all refuse and leaves away from structures and homes. Now would be a good time to check those chimneys and dampers for winter. Make sure that all are clean and secured. For those of you who are collecting fire wood, remember to store it away from your structures in a safe location.

Craig Beale, a new fire reservist was injured during training exercises in August. He is recovering in Tucson and we wish him a speedy recovery.

## CARPENTER ANTS

*Camponotus spp.*

These are among the most conspicuous of ants found around homes, being large and typically blackish or very dark bodied. Foraging workers have rather large mandibles, with which they can bite or give a strong pinch. Workers vary greatly in size, from 1/4 to about 3/4-inch long. Many species are black, perhaps with some faintly grayish bands on the abdomen; others may have some brown or reddish coloration along with the black so they have a distinctly two-toned coloration. In the Western United States, the same species which are found in the East and Midwest typically occur at higher altitudes, while other species will be found nearer to sea level.

These ants excavate galleries in wood which somewhat resemble the work of termites, but which can be distinguished by their entirely clean and almost sandpapered appearance. These galleries are frequently hollowed out in moist or unsound wood, although carpenter ants can burrow in sound wood. Carpenter ants do not use wood for food, but hollow it out for nesting.

Carpenter ants will establish nests in a number of different locations. Outdoor sites include stumps, hollow logs, telephone poles, fence posts, or other similar large pieces of wood. Ants may be carried into homes in firewood or enter and establish colonies via other routes. Often ants move into a building solely to feed. Among the other methods, foragers often simply enter homes via tree limbs or wires which touch the house. Therefore, the nest which is the source of infestation, may or may not be in the home itself. Indoor nests may be found in hollow doors, window sills, the substructure of porches, roofs, behind baseboards, fireplaces, shingles, or other natural hollow areas. The nest may also be just a hollow pipe with several hundred ants in it.

The occupied galleries are kept very clean. Shredded wood fragments resulting from the excavations are carried from the nest and deposited outside. This "sawdust" is not always evident, however, as the ants may dispose of it in a hollow portion of a tree, void areas in a structure, or unused galleries within the nest. However, when it is found during a carpenter ant inspection, this sawdust is very useful in locating the nest.

Winged reproductive forms swarm primarily in the spring, but may also do so at other times of the year. The colony is said to be mature when winged reproductives are formed. This takes three to six years for most colonies, at which time 2,000 to 3,000 or more individuals will be present. There is seldom any further increase in

numbers, due to the constant drain of many swarms produced each year. The carpenter ant diet includes other insects, both living and dead, and nearly anything the people eat. Aphid honeydew is particularly attractive.

Foraging ants will travel 100 yards or more from the nest for food, and may wander throughout the house. Workers can lay down trail pheromones, at least on major foraging trails, but they are often seen scattered about and foraging without any noticeable effect of a trail of pheromone.

Carpenter ants are of economic importance because of the damage that they do to structures, the food they contaminate, and their unsightly and unwanted movement inside and outside of buildings. Their nesting activities can weaken building structures, although not as seriously as termites. This damage can often be considered primarily a symptom of water damage and wood decay, as they usually will not extend their galleries far beyond this softened wood and into the sound wood structures.

(Condensed from Scientific Guide to Pest Control)

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## BIRDS & BEES... FLOWERS & TREES... and Beavers

By Sheri Lee

In the last two Echoes you've no doubt noticed the subjects of beavers and moles and the creature that bit one of our younger residents who was subsequently treated by the EMTs at the fire station.

First of all, about beavers: According to Kathy Alexander's book about the Catalinas, Paradise Found, Arizona Game and Fish introduced beavers to the Catalinas in 1943. These fellows did not survive due to hunters and natural causes and were completely wiped out in a few years.

And secondly, there are some mammal authorities for the Mt. Lemmon area who insist there are no moles on Mt. Lemmon. They believe what bit our friend had to have been a pocket gopher. There is quite a biological difference between the two, but they both tunnel just under the surface of the ground. If you are quick and get a look at the mouth of a pocket gopher when it pokes its head out



### *Visitors Are Welcome To Zimmerman Accommodation School*

However, we do ask you to observe the following policy:

- Contact the teacher (576-1340) or the Pima County School Superintendent's Office (740-8451) ahead of the time and indicate the date/time you'll be coming into the classroom.
- If you choose to volunteer, the teaching staff will provide you guidance and direction upon your arrival.

*Thank You For Your Assistance and Cooperation!*

for an instant, you will notice two big orange teeth, so big that the animal can't close its mouth over them. Not so with the mole. The pocket gopher does come out of his tunnel and scurry around above ground on rare occasions, but the mole never does. Enough said about beavers, moles and pocket gophers.

### **Where are the hummers?**

Have you noticed the decrease in the hummer population this summer? Seems most of us have. Bill Huggins, who goes in for hummer feeding in a BIG way, has half to two-thirds less birds than recent years. Many others have reported similar decreases to me. A couple possibilities occur to me...either a big storm in the Gulf during migration, or disease or fire in their habitat in Southern Mexico last winter.

### **Bears scarce in '92**

Few bear sightings

have been reported, and we've had none of the usual recent wild and crazy bear stories of the last three years. Although the above mentioned Bill had a bear come onto his back porch to get a 25 pound bag of sugar...but how could any smart bear resist something that sweet or that handy! Bill keeps the sugar indoors these days.

### **Ring-tail cats reported**

I've heard some complaints about ring-tail "cats" invading cabins especially in Carter Canyon this year. Ross Quigley used one those ultrasonic gadgets from a local hardware store to rid his crawl space of skunks and it worked. Maybe this will do the same with these "cats". I'll continue to ask around and write my findings in future Echoes.

## Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

By Sharon Thomas, Pres.

Our annual Rummage and Bake Sale will be held Sept. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sept. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.. We need volunteers to help set up on Friday, Sept. 4 and volunteers to man the Rummage Sale. We also need baked goods. Please get in touch with Vivianne Danielson at 298-5713.

Plans are well on the way for our First Annual Cabin Tour which will be held October 11. This tour will be open to Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Assoc. members and Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club members. Please watch for our ad in the Echoes.

We will not be meeting in September because of the Rummage Sale. Our next meeting will be October 3 at Vivianne Danielson's. Anyone interested in our club is welcome to attend.

WOW what bargains at the  
MLWC annual Rummage Days  
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## Neighborhood robbed of interest in Watch program

By Dannie Hayhurst

No one was interested enough to respond to the call to organize a Neighborhood Watch Program in the July issue. Why? We all have great excuses until it's our cabin that gets robbed or vandalized. Talk to your neighbors. Talk to a Sheriff's Deputy stationed here. He will be happy to come to your cabin and offer suggestions to make your cabin secure. Even if you don't have a formal neighborhood watch program, you can connect with a few of your neighbors in keeping a watchful eye on each other's cabin. Ultimately, the security of your cabin is up to YOU.

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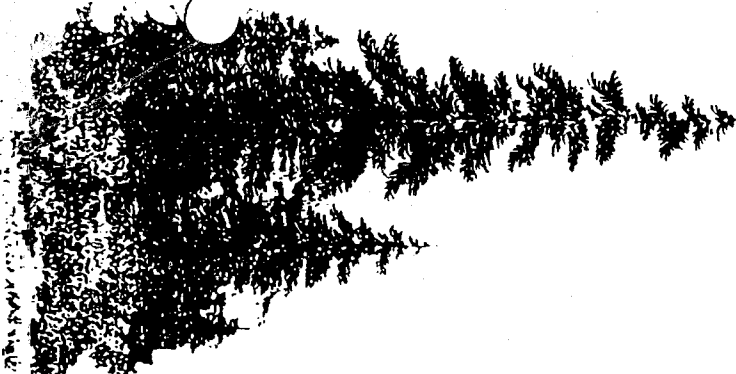
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