

# *The* Mt. Lemmon *Echoes*

*Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon*

Volume 21 Issue 4

June 1994

## Water Co-op Board explains need for Water District at Annual Meeting

By David Ostapuk

The Annual "State of the Water" meeting on the mountain was a productive one. Those present at the Mt. Lemmon Water Co-op meeting held Saturday, May 28, 1994 at the fire station heard from its Board of Directors about the Co-operative's current financial concerns and plans for the future.

John Mulay, Co-op Maintenance Chairman, reported on the recent collapse of the floor of the Carter Canyon storage tank and other system needs and problems. The money to repair the Carter Canyon tank will need to be diverted from \$10,000 which the Board had only just two weeks prior approved spending on a critical development of a main distribution line to the Loma Linda side of the system. Although the Loma Linda line will likely cost over \$200,000 to complete, the start of the line was viewed by the Board as an important beginning on the project. That will have to wait again while the immediate needs of the system are attended to, a pattern which has become frustratingly too familiar for the Cooperative in recent years.

Board President Alex Carrillo updated the membership about the progress achieved in the recent past on the Water Management Plan for the mountain with the U.S. Forest Service. Formal signing of the agreement reached awaits new replacements for key local officials of the Forest Service who retired recently.

What followed was a productive and open discussion about the future of the Co-operative. The Board gave its consensus opinion that the maintenance of the Co-op's water delivery system will only be able to be accomplished if the Co-op moves to become a Water District. This quasi-governmental organization will allow for a substantial increase in the number of property owners who will contribute to the annual budget. A

water district would assess a reasonable fee from all mountain property owners in the same way that all property owners now pay assessments to run the Mt. Lemmon Fire District. This increase in revenue will give the District a new-found ability to meet its needs, something the Co-op can't presently do.

Other benefits a direct savings of the approximate \$8500 per year in property taxes the Co-op presently pays. A water district would be exempt from payment of these property taxes. The District would also be free of the Arizona Corporation Commission with its myriad rules, regulations and apparent lack of interest with Co-op problems. And, forming a Water District will dramatically raise the credibility of our water delivery system. This will likely help in the competition for development grants and loans which would help meet some of the capital improvements which lay ahead.

Following the open meeting the newly elected Board members, Chuck Autrey and Ross Quigley, joined the previous members for a Board meeting. Office elections were held for the upcoming year. The new officers are:

Pres. - David Ostapuk  
V. P. - Larry Waldron  
Treas - Dale Tretschok  
Secty - Alex Carrillo  
Maint - John Mulay

The new Board will soon be asked to formally approve the filing of the necessary papers to form a Water District. Since the assurance of a water delivery system on the mountain rides on the outcome, all property owners are encouraged to approve the Water District Petition when the signature documents are circulated. You will be voting to protect your investment on the mountain and helping to maintain everyone's water service. In the meantime, as always conserve water while enjoying your mountain property.

## Bisbee Avenue cabin fire possible arson

Pima County Sheriff's Dept is investigating a cabin fire on Bisbee Avenue May 22. The fire department received the call at 5:43 p.m. and was out of the station within two minutes.

They responded with two engines, two tenders and the pumper. The fast response of our volunteer fire fighters and local residents was a great help to the fire crew.

The cabin, owned by William White, sustained moderate structural damage with the highest loss to the cabin contents. The cabin was unoccupied at the time of the fire, but after investigation it appears to have been arson.

The fire could have turned disastrous had there been strong winds that day. Within the immediate vicinity there are five other cabins and the usual carpet of pine needles nestled around all providing great fuel to the flames. Fortunately, the weather was calm averting major loss, but underscoring the importance of following the department's requests to clear pine needles and fire hazards from around our cabins.

Fire fighters Jeff Bird and Dean Barnella, Fire Chief Phil Anselmi and the volunteers had the fire out by 6:56 p.m.. A special thanks to the following volunteers for their efforts: Leroy and Tony Day, Will Jester, Ed and Anna Motzkin, John Robinson, Dave Ross, Mike Stanley and Sonja VonEhrenstein. Your dedication to the community is greatly appreciated.



## Fire Fighters Morale and Welfare Fund to kick off with potluck and entertainment

A fund raiser to benefit the Mt. Lemmon Fire Fighters Morale and Welfare fund is being planned for Sunday, July 3, 1994 at 5:30 p.m.. This event, to be sponsored by the Mt. Lemmon Arts Group, Merchants' Association, Homeowner's Association and Woman's Club will consist of a potluck dinner with entertainment provided by Tom and Becky Chambers, accompanied by the Sons of the Western Plains.

This event will be held at the outdoor area of Summerhaven Suites and Sweets...and Other Treats Gallery (the alternate location will be the fire station in the event of inclement weather).

Deputy Ed Hardesty, Project Coordinator, conceived the idea as a way to help provide some day to day personal comforts at the fire station for our firefighters thus showing our support and improving morale. This potluck fund-raiser for a non-profit essential part of our community, will be an evening of family entertainment geared towards celebrating our Western Heritage and culture.

Gini Thatcher, of Summerhaven Suites and Sweets and Chairperson of the Arts Council, has been working with Ed Hardesty to get this idea off the ground. The Mt. Lemmon groups have pledged \$275.00 toward the costs and the Chambers have also offered a 25% discount off of their regular fee to help support this worthy cause.

All monies raised through an admission donation of \$4/adult and \$1/child as well as any individual donations will go to the Morale and Welfare Fund. Remember to bring a dish for the potluck and join your neighbors for a worthy fund and night of entertainment.

## Mt. Lemmon highway project receives ASLA design award

The Federal Highway Administration's Phase I of the improvement project on the Mt. Lemmon Highway from the base of the mountain to milepost 3 has received an American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Design Merit Award.

The award recognized the success of the landscape team in repairing the landscape to appear natural within three years. The project was completed in 1989. Joanne Gallaher, ASLA, project landscape architect and Sarah Davis, forest landscape architect both of the U.S. Department of Agriculture - Forest Service, Coronado National Forest designed cut and fill slopes that fit into the natural terrain and helped develop special blasting techniques to create craggy rock faces. The award also cited the salvaging and replanting of hundreds of saguaro, barrel cactus and ocotillo on the project.

Other professionals who were commended for their work on the project included Mark Taylor, design engineer and Ben Torres, construction engineer, both of the Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal District Division; Bob Cummings geotechnical engineer, Engineers International; John Yenter, Yenter & Sons Blasting, Inc; Mountain Gravel Construction Company; and Jeff Franklin, Franklin Drilling and Blasting.

*(Information provided by U.S. Department of Transportation)*

## Aggressive javelinas & water conservation topics at Annual Homeowners potluck

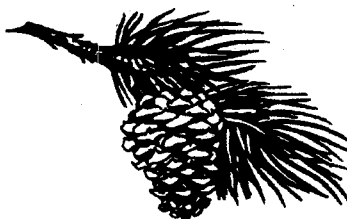
If you missed the potluck over Memorial Day weekend, you missed both a talk about the javelinas and the opportunity to see and purchase water saving and conservation products for your cabins.

Cadie Pruss, Wildlife Manager from Arizona Game and Fish spoke about the problems developing with our little band of javelinas. While they have been fun to watch, they have adjusted to being fed by several residents and are now becoming a problem. In addition to being somewhat destructive, they have now turned aggressive charging both people and pets.

While Game & Fish did not commit to removing them from the mountain, Pruss did indicate they are studying that option. In the meantime, she stressed the importance of not feeding wild animals as they can become a problem. The end result being that we humans are turning good wildlife into problem wildlife.

On the water conservation side, Glenn Phillips, owner of The Ecology Store in Tucson, provided us with a table top show displaying the many items available to conserve water. From shower reducing heads to water collection and filtration systems, his store is an excellent source for the mountain cabin owner. Glenn has worked with a number of Willow Canyon residents installing solar toilets, cisterns and other water collection devices. He is a licensed general contractor and available to work on the mountain. You can reach Glenn at 327-3235.

The Homeowner's Association thanks both Glenn Phillips and Cadie Pruss for their time and helpful information.



## Alpine Lodge and Pub offer warm welcome to area residents

By Neil Bloomfield

The Alpine Lodge is back in full swing! After re-opening in late October with a warm welcome from our year-round residents, the Lodge is now open seven day a week for lodging guests, great food from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., and a pub that swings on weekends and closes during the week only when the crowd goes home.

Many of you have already stopped by to take the grand tour. The first thing you'll find each weekend is the warm and welcoming smile of owner Jean Martin, whom many will remember with great affection. Jean and her staff are

anxious to see all their old friends again who made the Lodge such a special mountain spot and also to establish lasting relationships with all the new homeowners. Those who haven't heard Jean at the piano bar are in for a real treat. This summer she'll also be sharing the limelight with other musicians from the Tucson area. With all the changes - from decor to personnel - the hospitality remains the same.

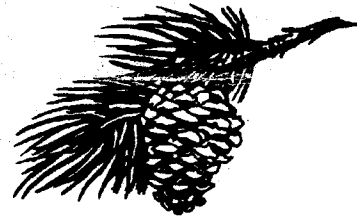
Downstairs, the dining room is quickly becoming a mini-art gallery of Arizona talent, and the local raccoons (and occasional skunks!) are still in the pub window sharing the spotlight.

Upstairs, on the second floor, everyone's welcome to come up and

see the six guest rooms that are ready for year-round visitors. So far, we understand the only complaint has been about the lack of TV or phone in the room...and that ironically, from a honeymoon couple!

There's lots of positive energy flowing at the Lodge. Lots of ideas on how to make it better serve the homeowners, residents and tourists alike. Whether you stop in for morning coffee, Friday night dinner or a nightcap, you're encouraged by the management to express your suggestions, ideas and comments.

You'll see the sign on the deck when you walk or drive into town now: "WELCOME TO THE ALPINE LODGE".



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### Calendar of Events

- |           |                      |   |
|-----------|----------------------|---|
| June 18   | 7 - 9 p.m.           | Art Reception at ...and Other Treats Gallery  |
| June 25   | 2 p.m.               | Woman's Club Annual Silver Membership Tea at B.J. Singh's cabin   |
| July 3    | 5:30 p.m.            | Potluck Dinner Benefit for Mt. Lemmon FireFighters Morale and Welfare Fund at Summerhaven Suites and Sweets |
| July 4    | 12:00 Noon           | 17th Annual 4th of July Parade in village   |
|           | 7 - 9 p.m.           | Art Reception at ...and Other Treats Gallery  |
| July 16   | 7 - 9 p.m.           | Art Reception at ...and Other Treats Gallery  |
| July 23   | Time To Be Announced | Townhall Meeting with US Rep. Jim Kolbe at Fire Station   |
| August 14 | 1 - 4 p.m.           | Third Annual Mt. Lemmon Cabin Tours   |

# News... from the Association

By Dannie Hayhurst,  
President, MLHA

There has been an excellent response to the cabin security profile sheets included in the last Echoes. Deputy Ed Hardesty announced at the annual potluck, that he has received over a 30% return. He also announced a change from the original plans to keep these profiles filed at the Fire Station. They will instead be kept by Deputy Hardesty for the Sheriff's Department. While he will maintain these files, blank sheets will be available at the fire station for any changes or updates that you might need to make. If you haven't filled one out, please take the time to do so and drop by or send to the Fire Station.

Ed also reported that the security placards will be available soon for distribution. In an effort to make the laminated placards harder to duplicate or steal, they will have the P.C. Sheriff's decal, a registration number coded to your security profile, the last three digits of your address and finally, color coded to your area on the mountain.

It is recommended that these cards be placed in an easily visible window when you or guests/renters are in residence. Do not put them in cars. A suggestion for property rentals was for the card to be returned with the cabin key before security deposit is refunded. With all these precautions, the security placard will make it easier for both the sheriff's department and your neighbors to determine if the people in your cabin should be there.

As you have already heard, we have low water reserves, and this could be a very dry summer. Continue to promote water conservation and fire safety. Heavy usage, open faucets and leaks in water lines and tanks left a few cabins without water over the Memorial Day weekend.

Remember this is a co-op - and that means you and I are also responsible to see that the system works. Look for water leaks where lines might be buried and report this

info to the Water Co-op. Use low flow devices whenever possible. Finally, be supportive of the Water Board in their efforts to keep our water system afloat this summer.

Don't forget the 4th of July Parade! Anyone can participate. Look for the registration form in this issue and be sure to enter before June 28. See you at the Parade!



## Fire department call load picks up

By Phil Anselmi, Fire Chief

The department responded to a total of 13 calls in April. Again the majority were for medical assistance, three were motor vehicle and one a false alarm.

With the greater need for medical service, we will begin class work on our I, EMT class on June 10. We have also applied for a grant from the Department of Health and have passed the first level of eligibility. The next level is a meeting on June 15 to explain our needs for a new four wheel drive ambulance. With a new ambulance and our advanced training, we will be able to provide Advanced Life Support as well as transport a patient to Tucson.

Over the past year, we have unfortunately been victim to several thefts. Over \$4000 worth of equipment, including donations from Fred Pace and the Homeowner's Association as well as a complete firefighter's outfit and other equipment have been stolen from the station. Insurance has replaced a portion and we have taken steps to beef up our security at the station. We feel at this time that the problem has been solved.

We still have numbers available at the station for anyone who has not yet put up their cabin numbers. Please stop by at your earliest convenience to pick up yours' and get them posted.

We are continuing to do our home inspections for fire safety. Contact the fire department to set up your appointment.

## MARY MORAN JOINS FAMILY REAL ESTATE FIRM

Mary Moran, longtime active community member and fulltime local resident, has joined Paul Speasl Realty & Investment Co., specializing in Mt. Lemmon property listings and sales.

"We are members of the Tucson Association of Realtors and Multiple Listing Service, which is a two fold benefit for our customers and clients. As Association members, we agree to be bound by its strict ethical code, to provide representation with integrity and competency. Multiple Listing Service assures that our listings are accessible to, and we cooperate with, hundreds of offices in the Tucson area."

Mary invites you to call her for your real estate needs at 576-1428.

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## Birds & Bees Flowers & Trees ..and Hermit Thrush

By Sheri Lee

You may never have seen this robin-size bird, but you probably have heard the Hermit Thrush sing...it sounds like someone is playing a flute off in the distance.

Mostly I see it bobbing along on the ground as it eats ants, spiders and worms. It is a brownish-grayish bird with a very speckled breast and whitish eye ring. Found in conifers and mixed woodlands, it is fairly common, but shy. The Hermit is our only thrush with the habit of slowly raising its tail several times a minute. In birding terms, it also "twinkles" which means it habitually flips its wings.

The song is a single high flute-like note followed by a rapid series of rising and falling notes. I like Audubon's description which is, "Loud, slow repetitive phrases spiralling down the scale carry and echo in the still of the evening forest; it also sings at dawn. Many consider this the most beautiful bird song in America." Roger T. Peterson describes it as "perhaps the most ethereal, varied song of all." Once you have really listened, you will always notice it thereafter.

Its nest is usually on the ground or low in a conifer and near a moist area and made of weeds, rotted

wood, twigs, grass, moss, maybe some mud and a lining of fine materials. The eggs are plain greenish-blue and about 3/4 inch long.

I usually can find this bird in the picnic area that's off to the side and across the bridge in Marshall Gulch. Another place I see it is at the intersection of Middle Sabino Road and Lane where the little creek runs under the road on Middle Sabino Lane.

The Hermit Thrush is one of the songbirds that has been observed "anting". Whatzat you ask? Two ways have been observed, but neither ever by me. The Hermit, and the other songbirds too, picks up ants in its bill and rubs them on its feathers. Or less commonly, the songbird sits upon an anthill and spreads its wings and tries to disturb the ants so they will swarm up among the feathers.

The purpose of all this is not understood, but the best guess is the ants' defensive secretions are used as an insecticide, fungicide, miticide and bactericide. If you ever see such behavior, stop and watch because you are seeing something that most folks never will.

It was named Hermit because it spends the winters alone. I have seen it in the lower Chiricahaus in the winter; it winters anywhere in southern North America all the way to Guatemala and El Salvador.

## Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club News...

By Sharon Thomas

Thank you to Carol Jones for hosting our May meeting that included our Installation of Officers. My sincere appreciation to Regina Rhind for her wit in writing the installation ceremony and her graciousness as my installing officer.

I invite all ladies on Mt. Lemmon to join us for our Annual Silver Membership Tea at the cabin of B.J. Singh on June 25 at 2 p.m.. For those new to the mountain, it is a wonderful way to meet some of your neighbors. The food is outstanding and the entertainment, a choral group this year, is always a delight. I hope you will join us.

Fran Zimmerman is chairing our July 4th Parade for the 17th year. We need marchers for the Woman's Club. Practice will be July 3rd at the clubhouse at 1:30 p.m.

August 14 is the date for the Third Annual Mt. Lemmon Cabin Tours from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Watch for ticket information.

Keep on the lookout for the Library Flag and signs directing you to our ongoing Book & Rummage Sale. Call Vivianne at 298-5713 or Sharon at 297-0990 if you have rummage to donate.



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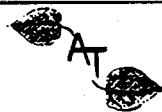
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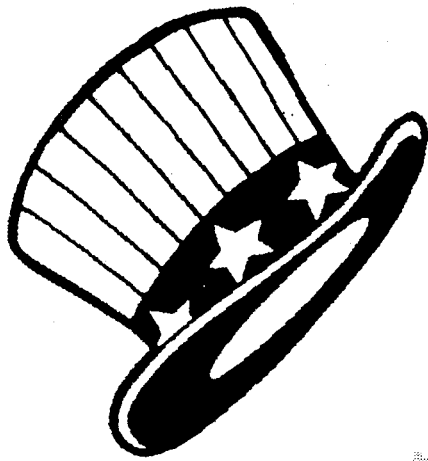
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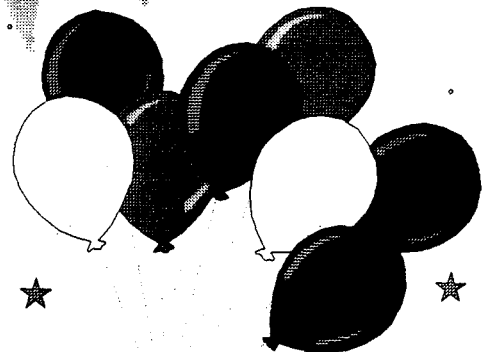
# 17th Annual "Down Home" 4th of July Parade

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★ ★ **ENTER NOW** ★ ★



Parade sponsored by Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club  
and Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association.



## Mt. Lemmon Annual July 4th Parade

Monday, July 4th, 1994

Parade begins at 12:00 Noon

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN GROUP: \_\_\_\_\_



### ☆☆☆ CATEGORY ☆☆☆

(      ) ORIGINALITY

(      ) PATRIOTIC

(      ) HUMOROUS

This is an invitation for you or your group to join us on cool Mt. Lemmon for the Annual 4th of July Parade.

Please remit this form to: Fran Zimmerman, P.O. Box 1, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619.  
Telephone number is 576-1333.

Deadline for return of entry form will be June 28, 1994.

**MT. LEMMON HOMEOWNER'S  
SECURITY PROFILE FORM**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

HOMEOWNER'S NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

MT. LEMMON ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MT. LEMMON PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PERMANENT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

IS YOUR CABIN WINTERIZED? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

IF NO, WHEN DO YOU CLOSE? \_\_\_\_\_ REOPEN? \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE ALARM SYSTEM? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION OF SYSTEM \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER & ADDRESS OF ALARM CO. \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SYSTEM ORGANIZED? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

IF YES, WHO WATCHES YOUR HOME? \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST NAMES, ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS OF INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES WHO HAVE  
AUTHORIZED ACCESS TO YOUR CABIN.

| NAME  | ADDRESS | PHONE |
|-------|---------|-------|
| _____ | _____   | _____ |
| _____ | _____   | _____ |
| _____ | _____   | _____ |
| _____ | _____   | _____ |

OTHER INFORMATION YOU WANT THE SHERIFF'S DEPT. TO HAVE ON FILE:

MAIL COMPLETED FORMS TO:

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P.O. BOX 759  
MT. LEMMON, AZ 85619

THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE IN THIS FORM WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL.



Robert & Sheri Lee  
5790 E. Territory Avenue  
Tucson, Az 85715

Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Assoc.  
P.O. Box 699  
Mt. Lemmon, Arizona 85619

