

THE MT LEMMON ECHOES

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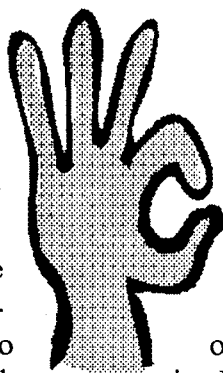
A VERY ENJOYABLE DINNER

by John Mulay

A special thanks to all of our members who attended the annual dinner Tuesday, April 27th. It was really great to see so many of our fellow cabin owners. I would really like to thank all of the new cabin owners for their attendance.

I would personally like to thank the Homeowners' Board for all of their hard work getting this event set up. Many hours were put into getting everything organized, so if you see any of the board members give them a big thanks.

The various speakers for the evening gave us a great deal of information concerning the mountain. I would like to thank the speakers for taking the time to come and speak to our



group.

The next big event coming to the mountain will be the annual water board meeting on Saturday evening, during Memorial Day weekend. This event will be held at the Fire Station and there will be a pot luck dinner before the meeting.

There are many activities that will be happening on the mountain this summer so please come and join in. It really is a great way to meet your neighbors and have a great time.

I feel privileged to join the group of Summit Award winners. I am very honored to receive the award. Thank you.

It's BUNKO TIME AGAIN

Bunko begins a new season!!

**Saturday June 5th, 6:00pm at the Summerhaven Coffee House
Dinner \$11.95. Your choice of:**

**Barbecue pork ribs with ranch beans and corn on the cob.
Herb roasted chicken with garlic mashed potatoes and vegetables.**

***Please RSVP to Linda Mulay stating ribs or chicken and how many of each by
Tuesday, June 1st, so Jim will know how much to cook. Phone: 327-4615.***

GOODBYE MOUNT LEMMON

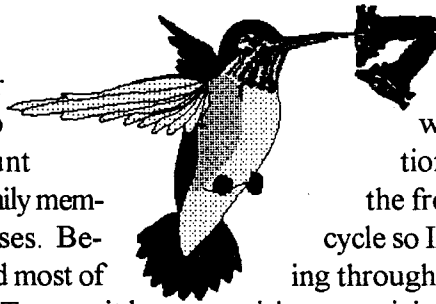
Ramblings by William

By now, many of you have learned that our family will be relocating to Boulder, Colorado this summer. When we moved to Mount Lemmon four years ago, many friends and family members thought we had taken leave of our senses. Because my work, nearly all of our shopping and most of our daughters' after-school activities are in Tucson, it has not been easy to live on Mount Lemmon, but it has been rewarding. It is difficult for many to realize that our move to Mount Lemmon was in fact a taking hold of our lives, a deliberate direction and lifestyle choice. Our move to Boulder is a continuation of this.

For many years in the past, I felt as if I lived a life of split personality. There was my Business Self, and there was my Family Self. The Business Self was expected to sacrifice personal decision making and family life in return for corporate rank and monetary reward. This, in turn, would bring social status and financial security. At least that's the sales pitch I was buying into at the time. My Family Self was the 'inside me,' the writer of these essays. It has taken me a very long time to fully accept and understand that daily life should be lived true to the self, not to other people's concepts of social nirvana and not constrained by self-imposed restrictions. Chains that hold us back from self fulfillment are only as strong as our imaginations allow. Our move to Mount Lemmon was a step along the path to this understanding.

While I was initially attracted to Mount Lemmon because of its natural environment, I have come to appreciate the community of hardy folks who make the mountain their home and/or work place. There are many factors that contribute to any group of people coming together as a community and I am particularly impressed how our small gathering of strong-willed individualists manages to live and work together within a glass 'fish bowl' social environment. I am not a particularly social person, even so, I have experienced a wealth and richness of community spirit living on our Frog Mountain.

When the highway was under construction and traffic was forced to stop and wait for the pilot car, I enjoyed how residents would get out of their vehicles and talk with each



other. A few Mt. Lemmon residents worked the check points for the construction company. They used to let me slip to the front of the line when I rode my motorcycle so I would not have to choke on dust driving through the unpaved section. One time a city visitor was giving one of our residents a hard time at the check point. Another resident stepped up and told the aggressive fellow that they both were mountain folk, and that mountain folk stick up for each other. The city visitor backed down and returned to his vehicle.

Since we live in a forest, I decided to offer some of my free time as a volunteer at our Fire Department. I have always been a good driver and I thought that I could drive one of the fire trucks if needed. I learned that Fire Chief John Roads is a professional manager who manages the Department with uncompromising seriousness. To become a fire truck driver, I would first have to learn and pass a number of fire fighting and safety courses. I took basic wildland firefighting courses, CPR and a hazardous material course and learned just what a serious business firefighting is. Chief Roads is an excellent instructor and the information I learned will be applicable throughout my life. The paid firefighters and local volunteers are some of the best people I have met. It is always impressive to meet people that you are willing to entrust your life with. I never did learn enough to qualify as a driver, but my experiences with the Department were well worth the small amount of time that I devoted to it. It is difficult to express the subjective feeling of comradery, but it is to be found as a volunteer for the Fire department. The act of fighting a fire, or helping with a rescue shoulder to shoulder with professional firefighters, community volunteers, Pima County Sheriff Deputies, and Forest Service personnel is a priceless life affirming experience.

It has also been an honor to work with the Fire Board of Directors and other locals who served as administrators. These dedicated people devote a considerable amount of their time and resources to make Mount Lemmon Fire D.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

trict a first class operation.

One night about two years ago there was a total lunar eclipse. Our family drove to the Aspen pull-out for a good view of the moon. When we got there, we found most of the community was already there. Local business owners provided drinks and music for everyone. Binoculars were shared and the night was magic, complete with shooting stars.

On many weekends groups of locals can be found sharing a meal and good conversation. Homeowners get together to play Bunko and other groups with various interests meet, hike and recreate together.

I love our 4th of July Parade. It has the small town flavor of an America of years past. When I participated in the parade as a Troll in a group put together by a local business, another local business owner gave me a huge jar of candy to pass out to the children lining the streets.

I have helped locals extract vehicles from snow banks, and have been helped in return. Locals have checked on my children, pets and home for me, and locals have helped me perform any number of small tasks.

These are but a few of the many fond memories I have gathered as a resident on Mount Lemmon. There are many more special events and people that are not mentioned here, yet are fondly imbedded in my memory. The reader may notice that I have not mentioned specific people or businesses. To do so would require a listing of every resident, worker and business owner and that is not the point of this piece.

The point of this essay is for all who call the mountain home, and all who work and play here, to take notice and appreciate the most valuable asset that we possess, our people. The person serving you the morning coffee may well be someone who fought a late night cabin fire or struggled to help an injured person in the recent past. The person sitting next to you may have just donated equipment to the Fire Department or they might have shoveled the driveway for one of our elderly residents. The water you drink is available because of hard work by dedicated locals as are almost all the services we take for granted. The couple walking along the path on Turkey Run might have invested into one of the mountain businesses, or they might have been host to an impromptu gathering of residents.

We place value on our homes, and physical possessions, but it's the people of Mount Lemmon that makes the day-to-day living experience special. Mount Lemmon is a unique environment, made more so by the kindness and efforts of those who live and work here.

And so, our family now bids farewell to Mount Lemmon, its people and to its unique 'sky island' environment. I already miss that special connection that can only be acquired by daily exposure to an area. Strawberries should be blooming now, and mint must be growing along the stream banks. By now the humming birds have returned and deer should be seeking fresh grasses.

Businesses will discuss and plan for the temporary negative impact of impending road construction and locals will perform their jobs providing services to the community and to the many thousands of visitors that seek relief from the desert.

Goodbyes to the good people of Frog Mountain. It has been an honor to walk amongst you.

BEWARE OF THE FIDDLE-HEAD PEOPLE

It's almost fiddle-head season. That's when the Bracken Ferns first begin to grow. These beautiful plants provide a lush green floor to the forest, giving an appearance that is not unlike a rain forest. Each fern can typically grow to be one or two feet in height and about a foot in width. However, in some areas, where it is shaded and moist, they can grow to be three or four feet tall.

In the early stages of growth these plants look like the end of a tiny fiddle - thus the name fiddle-head. It is at this stage that the plant is considered a delicacy, especially when prepared as an Oriental dish. Once the plant reaches maturity it can no longer be eaten, in fact, it is poisonous.

The Forest Service allows each household to harvest up to two grocery bags of fiddle-heads for personal use. A few Oriental restaurants use the plant. Since it is for commercial use, they must first acquire a permit.

Occasionally, you may find people picking fiddle-heads from private land. Removing small amounts of fiddle-heads will not have a damaging effect on the area. The following spring new plants will begin to grow. When too many ferns are picked it may make it difficult for the ferns to return. If you see someone removing fiddle-heads from your property and you do not want them to, first ask the people to move off the private land. If they refuse, call 911. Don't get too worked up about it, though. These people mean no harm, they are only "fiddling" around.

SECOND ANNUAL L'LL FINE ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY - JUNE 11, 12 & 13TH

by Neil Bloomfield

It won't be long before the village is filled again with the festive atmosphere that filled the air during last year's mountain art show.

The talent of the artists who participated was recognized by everyone who attended. And the artists' appreciation of the entire community's support is evident in the number of those who are anxious to return for our second year. As before, the number of exhibitors and demonstrations throughout the village will be limited, with an emphasis on quality, craftsmanship, and variety.

This year we hope to have an expanded local artists booth. We already know how much talent there is up here on our mountain; this year we want everyone else to see! You're all invited to exhibit and sell your artwork or crafts, with the understanding that a small percentage of sales will go back to the Business Alliance to help support future events.

Call Vic Zimmerman, 576-1542, for more details.

Again, we'll have a Saturday night potluck in front of Cabins and Cookies. Last year's event was one of the highlights of the weekend. It's a fun way for artists and homeowners to meet and learn more about each other and the mountain. Join us!

At the far end of the village, we're planning a game area for the kids - volunteers welcome! Don't be surprised if Smokey Bear is seen running around. He'll be anxious for all the kids and grown-ups to listen to his messages of fire safety.

We encourage any suggestions or comments as to how we can make this year's art show even more successful! And, if any resident is interested in "adopting an artist" for the weekend, please call **Diane Lisle at 576-1246 or Neil Bloomfield, 576-1632.**

Annual Memorial Day Pot Luck And Water Co-op Meeting



Saturday, May 29th, 5:00 pm
at the Mt. Lemmon Fire House.



Donation \$2.50 per person & BRING A DISH TO SHARE.

*No pets or alcohol allowed. Donations to benefit the community.
Annual Water Co-op meeting to follow.*

FORGET THE SPRING SNOW

by John Roads

Fire Season

The predicted fire season was only slowed by a couple of weeks due to the April 1st snow storm. The needles are already crunchy again. So, ignore the snow and be prepared for a bad season. The Arizona State Land Department (ASLD) has predicted that the severe conditions will be in the mid to higher elevations.

Cabin Preparation

Follow the 10 Fire Safety Suggestions:

- Rake pine needles and duff, 30 ft. away from the structure and LPG tanks.
- Clear all dead brush and weeds away from structure and LPG tank. Leave only green plants and trees.
- Trim all limbs, dead or alive, away from above the structure.
- Trim all limbs, dead or alive, within 10 feet of the chimney.
- Cover the chimney outlet or vent with a vertical spark arrestor of 1/2" mesh screen.
- Remove needles and leaves from roof tops and rain gutters.
- Stack fire wood neatly and away from the structure.
- Remove all exposed stored combustibles from underneath the structures.
- Prune all ladder tree branches 10 feet above the ground a maximum of 30 feet from structures.
- Remove heavy fuels, (dead and downed branches and logs) from around structures and LPG tanks
- INSURE that **VISIBLE HOUSE NUMBERS** are posted.

Dumpsters

The dumpsters are here - WHERE??? The large roll-off dumpster was scheduled to be delivered in early April. As of press time, it has not shown up. Fire personnel are working frantically to get one up here as soon as possible. The dumpster will be located just behind the fire station on the sewer plant road. The dumpster will be for **PINE NEEDLES AND SMALL TREE SLASH ONLY!!!** This dumpster **SHALL NOT** be used for any other garbage. It's sole purpose is to assist homeowners in the reduction of natural fire hazards. Other arrangements will

have to be made for other substances such as old appliances, food stuffs or construction materials. This project will require all village residents and homeowners' cooperation to make this a successful project.

Good News

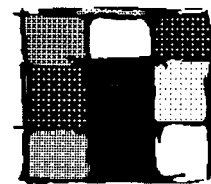
The ASLD has located two additional water storage vehicles for the village. These will be similar to the trailer on Loma Linda Extension. It will allow pre-positioning of fire water into cabin areas with no hydrants. At press time, arrangements were being made to have the units delivered.

Governor Jane Hull has signed a severity bill that affects Mt. Lemmon directly. The ASLD will spend some of that money to hire two additional MLFD firefighters for 8 hours a day, 7 days a week, for up to 90 days. These firefighters will be utilized for patrol, fuels reduction and pre-emergency planning purposes for as long as the conditions remain severe. The firefighters will most likely start duty in mid-May.

The dirt work is completed for the new station building. Floor work should begin in May. The second MLFD Compressed Air Foam (CAF) fire fighting unit should be delivered in early May.

WANTED

Zimmerman School is requesting your help. The children are constructing a Culture Quilt, and they need scraps of material. If you have any material that you would like to donate, or if you have any other supplies that could be used for arts and crafts, call **Jeanne Hartman at 576-1519**, or drop it off at the Living Rainbow Giftshop.



LATE SNOW MAY HAVE SAVED THE SUMMER

by Michael Stanley

The 4' of snow really helped the forest. The local fire danger is not quite as bad. We received about 6" of water from the snow. Our springs are at 15 G.P.M. and did not drop below 12 G.P.M. during the winter. A 4 G.P.M. leak ran on a small main line in the creek. It was not found until mid-April and used over 100,000 gallons a month. Three leaks on customer's lines were found. Two were about 35,000 gallons and one was 100,000 gallons. There are probably more leaks that will be found during our next meter reads. As of now, it looks like we will make it to the monsoons. Just hope they come in on time.

The construction projects are going well. The 6" main that connects from the Miners Ridge tank to the Loma Linda tank is almost complete. The final tie in will be finished this week. This will allow a large flow to the eastside of our system. As the main was installed, 7 fire hydrants were put on the main with control valves. The Mt. Lemmon and Loma Sabino Homeowners, along with the proceeds from the chili cook-off, donated these fire hydrants. These may lower

your insurance bill. There will be more information as the system is completed.

A second project is also underway. A 100,000 to 200,000 gallon storage tank will be installed in Upper Sabino Canyon. This tank is part of the over-all development of the system to allow less withdrawal of stream water during the summer months. The over-all plan will provide about 3,000,000 gallons of storage on the mountain. The new tank will allow raw water storage for anticipated surface water filtration brought on by the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act. The construction is halted until September 1 due to the spotted owl. We have started the rough grade for the new tank and a future 1,000,000 gallon finished water tank. Our basic goal is to have the 3 months of storage with filtration as prescribed by the new water laws. The reason for having the storage is to allow water for the in-stream flow when the flow is the least. The water providers of the mountain are continuing to work to supply service to all the areas needing domestic water with sufficient rights to do so.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Annual Memorial Day Pot Luck and Water Co-op Meeting - Saturday, May 29th, 5:00 pm at the Mt. Lemmon Fire House.

Kids' Club - The Kids' Club will be meeting on Saturdays, starting June 5th, from 10:00 to noon. Call Olga Pace at 576-1420 or Suzanne Hensel at 576-1272 for more details.

Bunko - Saturday, June 5th, 6:00pm at the Summerhaven Coffee House.

Second Annual L'll Fine Arts & Crafts Show - June 11, 12, & 13th (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). This will take place throughout the village. Potluck at Cabins and Cookies on Saturday.

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The Echoes is brought to your home courtesy of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association. It is one of the benefits of being a member. Your board members are: Carolyn Autrey, Red Greth, Pete Krauss, Olga Pace, Carrie Reitz, Kathy Shields, Larry Waldron. The Officers are: John Muley, President; Franny Crowe, Vice President; Dani Hayhurst, Secretary; Florence Wilhoite, Treasurer; Fran Zimmerman, Membership. Suzanne Hensel is the Publisher and Editor of this newsletter.

