

# THE MT LEMMON ECHOES

Volume 26 Issue 5

Mt. Lemmon Home Owner's Publication

July 1999

## UPDATE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

by Larry Waldron

This is the first opportunity as the new homeowner's president to write an article. Let me begin by stating summer is here. Or at least that is the news from the "Bunko Queen," A.K.A. Linda Mulay. The first Bunko night of the summer has been deemed a success. There were 34 fun-loving and stuffed people at the Summerhaven Coffee House Saturday night, June 5th. The chicken and rib dinners were wonderful. The next Bunko night is July 17th, mark your calendar. It will be on the patio of the Alpine and will feature chicken or rib dinners.

It appears that the Summerhaven area may finally get the emergency sirens that we have been looking for the last few years. With the number of cabins in remote areas, many that are infrequently used, it is hard to plan an emergency evacuation to cover all possibilities. The Women's Club and the homeowners' association are each donating a battery operated portable siren.

These units will need no regular testing and can be stored during winter months. The fire department and vendor will

determine the most suitable locations and a plan for maximum coverage.

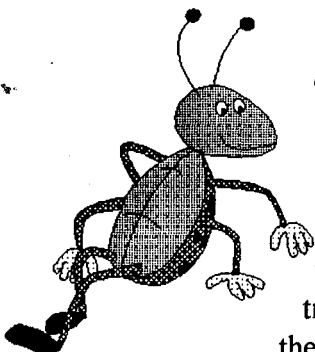
The arts and crafts weekend was great. The street and booths were packed with visitors. Hopefully the artists were rewarded for their efforts. Thanks to Cabins and Cookies for hosting a Saturday night potluck. It was a lot of fun to mingle and there was plenty of food. And thanks to "burger-miester" Tom Thomas for his burger flipping.

The popcorn night at the fire station was not well attended. The film on forest fires, the history and effect, was very interesting. I did not realize that Native American Indians would burn meadows and forests yearly. In doing so they kept meadows lush and forest fuel loads low. It was very rare to have a crown fire before 1900. The film will probably be shown again this summer and hopefully better attended.

Have a wonderful 4th of July and the best is yet to come.

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## SUNDAY MORNING HIKEs

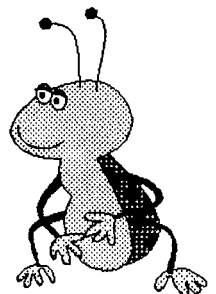


We have had a good turn out for our hikes on Sunday. June 6th we had 10 people hiking the Oracle Ridge trail, which overlooks the old Oracle Road and Biosphere. We were on the look out for honey toads which we so often see on that trail. It wasn't until the very end, on the return trip, that we spotted one.

June 13th we had 11 people (9 adults and 2 children).

We tried a new trail down Box Camp. We didn't make it to the Box Spring as we kept dropping in elevation and knew we had to climb back up. We did see some wonderful views of Tucson and, as the kids said, "big boulders."

We hope more people will join us as the season goes on. We have a great time getting to know each other, and enjoying nature.



# CONDITIONS ARE STILL SEVERE

by Fire Chief John Roads

## Fires

Things have been fairly quiet in the village and surrounding areas lately. But that doesn't mean to drop your guard. Conditions are still severe. The recent fire in the Rincon Mountains was allowed to burn because the flames were below the land death point. If a fire burns cool enough, the fire ash fertilizes the soil, and new growth occurs. If a fire burns hot enough, it sterilizes the ground, destroying its capability of supporting growth. This time of year, it is a daily calculation to determine if such a fire is beneficial or not. One big consideration is the proximity to high risk values such as cabins. A similar lightning strike near the village would be extinguished, as the potential for a fire run or blow up would be too great for cabin protection.

## Cabin Preparation

Follow the 11 Fire Safety Suggestions:

- Rake pine needles and duff, 30 ft area away from the structure and LPG tanks.
- Clear all dead brush and weeds away from structure & LPG tank. Leave only green plants & 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 the 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 pine needle dumpster seems to be a success. We

are currently on the third dumpster. The dumpster is 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. Its sole purpose is to assist homeowners in the reduction of natural fire hazards. Other arrangements will have to be made for any other substances such as old appliances, food stuff or construction materials. This project will require all village residents and homeowners cooperation to make this a successful project. Since the county did not assist with this dumpster, as had been originally promised, it is costing the department \$400 a load. The clean up efforts from just two weekends completely filled the dumpster. Donations to help offset the cost are appreciated.

## Reminder

People often ask about Fire Board governing meetings. All Fire Board meetings are open meetings according to state law. Anyone wishing to address the Board may have an item placed on the agenda by calling the Fire Chief or Janell Miranda at 576-1201, at least 48 hours before a meeting, or may show up to any meeting and address the board during the Call to the Public agenda item. Fire board meetings are generally scheduled for 9:00 am on the second Wednesday, but are subject to change due to weather and other situations.

## Popcorn Night

Popcorn night at the fire station for a fire prevention movie was held June 19th. A small group of homeowners attended the meeting, but left very educated on why our village forest is so unhealthy, why the forests are burning with such high intensity, and why cabins and villages can so easily be destroyed.

It is important for all cabin owners to learn this important information. Disasters can be prevented without destroying the quaint atmosphere of Summerhaven.

Another popcorn night will be scheduled for August. Stay tuned for this very important date.

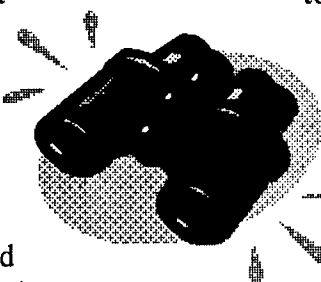
# BIRDS AND BEES FLOWER AND TREES

by Sheri Lee (reprinted with permission)

Visitors to the mountain usually ask right away, "What are those birds with the yellow bodies and the red heads?" Or they ask about the orange ones with black and white wings, or the quick little ones with red faces.

The western tanager is our most colorful bird. The adult male has a brilliant red head, bright orange body, with black back, wings and tail. Its range is from Baja to Alaska. It winters in the highlands from central Mexico to Costa Rica. It likes to sing from the top branch of the trees. The female lays three to five bluish green speckled eggs in a shallow saucer like nest in a Douglas-fir or a ponderosa pine. It feeds mostly on bugs and buds, but sometimes it is attracted to hummingbird feeders, although I have never seen it successfully drink.

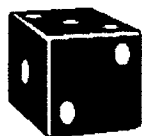
Our next most colorful bird has to be the black headed grosbeak. He has a black head, thick pale seedeater bill, rustly orange collar, breast and rump; yellow belly and wing linings. His black and white patterned wings and tail are prominent in flight. It ranges from southern British Columbia



to its wintering grounds in western Mexico. It has been noted by long time residents of the mountain that the grosbeaks are the first to migrate in the mid-summer. Its song, from a high branch is loud and melodious, but disjointed. When frightened at the feeder, it flies away to a distant branch with a sharp "eek" sound. The young make a soft mewling sound so that in mid-July you could think the trees were full of kittens!

Lastly is the red-faced warbler, with black and white bonnet and a pale gray body. This little bird ranges only from southeast Arizona and southwest New Mexico to the Mexican Sierra Plateau, and it winters in Mexico and central America. Since this bird is not seen in most states, it is one of the rare ones along with the yellow-eyed junco, to your bird watching visitors. It is a bug eater and won't come to your feeder, but can usually be found in pairs flitting in trees along the Marshall Gulch entrance gate. Like most warblers, they're very attractive and energetic, and have the usual habit of flicking their tails sideways. Their nest is on the ground, usually sheltered by a log.

## GET READY FOR BUNKO NIGHT IN JULY



July Bunko will be Saturday July 17th,  
6:00 pm on the patio of the Alpine Lodge.



Dinner will be barbecued ribs or chicken for \$12.14 per person.

Please RSVP to Linda Mulay (327-4615) by July 11th, and indicate which dinner you would like to have so Don will know how much to order.

# A CELEBRITY IN OUR MIDST

The week of May 23-29 was National Small Business Week and the Arizona Small Business Development Council hosted a day long program on May 24th at the Double Tree Hotel in Tucson, aimed at acknowledging the contributions of small businesses to the economy. The highlight of the day was the retail/supplier business, and construction and manufacturing business. On hand to help present these awards was the Arizona Commerce Director, Jackie Vieh.

Debbie Hardesty, owner of the Living Rainbow Giftshop, was chosen from hundreds of nominees to receive the best retailer/supplier business award, taking special note of the

length of time she has been in business, her day-to-day involvement in the operation of her business, having displayed exemplary business practices, and responding positively to adversity in business.

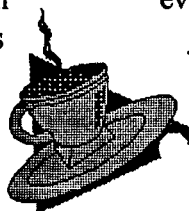
This is a very prestigious award and it proves what the residents of the mountain have known all along, the Living Rainbow is a wonderful business. Debbie has been running her shop for over 20 years. The Living Rainbow has always been a bright spot in Summerhaven, a place that attracts many tourists and keeps them coming back. Congratulations Debbie!!

# A FANTASTIC MEMBERSHIP TEA

Saturday, June 26th, the Women's Club held their 26th annual membership tea. The theme was hats and flowers. D-1 was full off fresh bouquets and the fireplace donned hats and flower garland. About 45 ladies attended the tea.

Six prizes were awarded for hats. Kathy Brown took the most votes for her hat which was decorated with paper flowers.

Janelle Miranda took on the huge task of organizing this



event. All who attended agreed that she did a terrific job. The decorations and the food reached perfection.

The music was created by Jaymee Schumuck. She played the harp and thoroughly entertained us all. After such a successful tea, everyone is eagerly awaiting next year's event.

Thank you Janelle for your hard work in organizing the annual tea, and thank you B.J. for the use of your cabin.



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## DON'T FORGET THE KIDS' CLUB

The Saturday Morning Kids' Club is going strong. So far this summer the kids have enjoyed making clay pots, created self portraits, made a terrific mess playing with bubbles, and had a grand tour of the fire department.

July is also packed with some terrific activities. We will explore birds, go on an insect hunt and have a scavenger hunt. This weekly event is a must for any kid between the ages of 3 and 10 years old.

This event is sponsored by the Mt. Lemmon Women's Club. It meets on Saturday, from 10:00 to 12:00. Contact **Olga Pace** for more information and the location, 576-1420 or 577-1993.

# SUMMERHAVEN RED WHITE AND BLUE

by Fran Zimmerman

Another successful July 4th parade has come and gone. Many thanks to all who participated in the parade. There are more families participating in the parade each year giving their youngsters the experience and thrill of this fun day.

There are a number of people involved that volunteer their time each year to help make this parade a success. Thanks to Bill and Kathy Brown, Michael Stanley, Pete Krauss and John Pershorowicz for helping line up the entries, Don Underhill, owner of the Alpine Lodge, for the use of his front porch and deck for Bever's Band Box, Supervisor Ray Carroll and my husband Bob, for doing a great job helping to introduce the parade entries.

Our many thanks to Beaver's Band Box for playing wonderful music for this event and thanks to Fred and Olga Pace for their continuing support. Many thanks to the MLFD and the Pima County Sheriff's Department for their assistance with traffic control.

Thank you to the following entries and their enthusiasm: **Whispering Pines Girl Scout Camp** won first place for patriotic, **Mt. Lemmon Marching Mandolin Band** won second place for humorous, **Hot Dogs-Cool Kids**, **The Bratton Sisters**, **James and William Madson**, **The Hensel Kids** won second place for patriotic, **Fourth of July Crazy Wheels**, the **Freedom Friends**, **Hippie-Dippies** won third place original, **The Barry Family** won third place humorous, **Summerhaven Coffee House**, **Mt. Lemmon Women's Club**, **The Rain Drops** won second place original, **Living Rainbow**, **Mt. Lemmon Spirit Line** won first place for original, **Red White and Blue Crew** won third place patriotic, **Westerbeke-Diamond Family** won first place humorous, **Rhind Family**, **U.S. Forest Service**, **MLFD** and the **Water Coop**.

This was the 24th Mt. Lemmon July 4th Parade and remember everyone is invited to participate. Hope to see at the 2000 parade.



## INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW

If you have some good news, share it with us in the Echoes. Everyone enjoys hearing about the good things that are going on. Contact Fran Zimmerman at Mt. Lemmon Realty at 576-1333.

## CALENDAR REMINDERS

**Annual Kids' Club** - The Kids' Club will be meeting on Saturdays, from 10:00 to noon. Call Olga Pace at 576-1420 or 577-1993.

**Bunko** - July 17th, Saturday at 6:00 pm., on the patio of the Alpine Lodge. Please RSVP to Linda Mulay at 327-4615.

**Women's Club** - August 7th, Saturday at 12:30, at Luann Waldron's cabin.

(520) 576-1333  
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(520) 299-1265 (RES.)

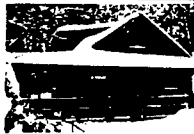


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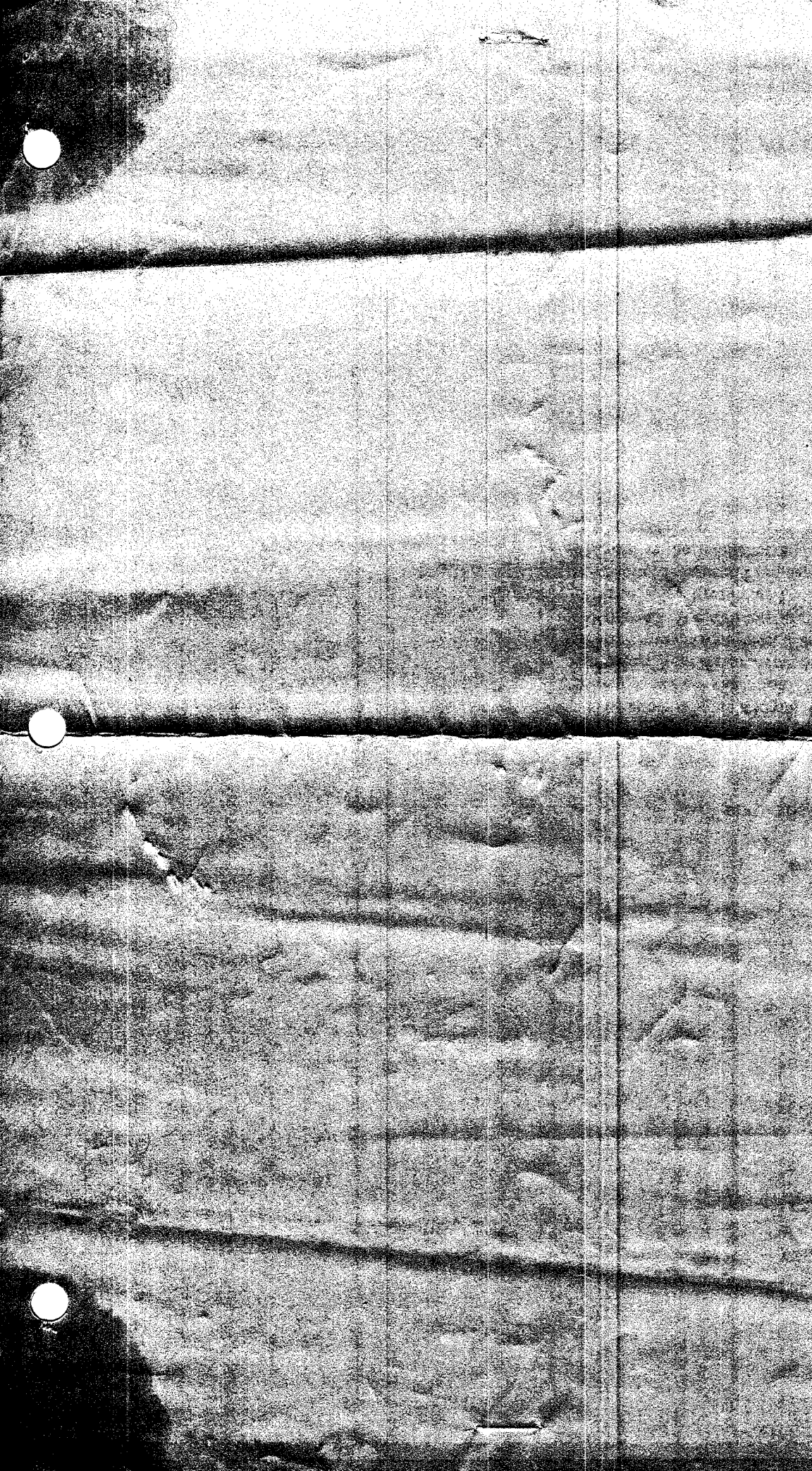


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The Echoes is brought to your home courtesy of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association. It is one of the benefits of being a member. Your board members are: Carolyn Autrey, Red Greth, Pete Krauss, Olga Pace, Carrie Reitz, Kathy Shields, Larry Waldron. 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.