The

Mt. Lemme Echoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

PPPPP ANNUAL HOMEOWNERS DINNER APRIL 18TH - RSVP Today **PPPPP**

From the President

by Larry Waldron It is surprising how fast all that wonderful snow can melt. I just returned from a weekend trek to the mountain (Sunday March 26) where I only saw traces of what must been a beautiful winter scene. From conversation with the water experts and Mark at the post office it was very wet snowstorm. A true test regarding the benefit of a storm on the water system is; will longterm water run across the Sabino Parkway near the school. I did not see any. The springs are producing more and the system is recovering, however the springs are capable of producing much more. That means there are more storms needed to fill the aquifer to result in heavy stream flow. Keep the snow dances going.

Spring is definitely in the air. I saw a Magnificent hummingbird looking at our red sign thinking it was a nectar-laden flower. A robin was searching for breakfast. Chipmunks, squirrels and even a mole were out and hungry. Rhubarb was busting through the soil and a lilac bush showed signs of swelling buds. The village was filled with tourists. On the way down the mountain we saw license plates from Minnesota, Connecticut, Washington, Nevada, California just to name a few. They must have heard, what we all know, that Mt. Lemmon is a very

beautiful and special place. Hope you are able to make the annual homeowner's dinner Tuesday April 18th.

Dinner Update: Please use the tear off front page and RSVP for the Annual Dinner today! We need to have a head count for Hidden Valley Inn by April the 10th for the April 18th dinner. Cocktails at 6PM, Dinner served at 7PM and Speakers, Summitt Award recipient, and elections of board members will follow at 8:PM. Come hear the updates from the Fire Department, Water Coop, Forest Service, Supervisor Ray Carroll and the community.

IT IS TIME TO BURN!!!!

Through the efforts of Fred Pace and Red Greth and Company, the new MLFD Slash Burner is

completed. The large portable burn type barrel is now in service to burn pine needles. In past, burning the needles on the ground was a slow process. It left a messy residue. took time to extinguish and re-light emergency interrupted the burn process. With the new burner, the needles are elevated and fed with forced air.

completes the combustion process in a minimal amount of time. The ash remains in the barrel and not in your yard. And if an emergency occurs, the doors are closed and the fire burns itself out, with no water mess. Being portable, the unit is hauled to your residence. So, it's time to rake up and pile. Only this time, rake the pile close to the road. The burner may not be easy to park in some driveways. If you have questions, please call the station at 576-1201. Schedule early.

FIRE SEASON IS STILL UPON US! - March snows have done little to reduce the forest fire hazards. As soon as the storm passes on, the humidity drops. Once the snow melts off the needles; the needles are ready to burn. Many pine trees are currently exhibiting brown needles on the branches. These are indicators of fire conditions. Seasonal Forest Service crews



dubbed the Red Hot Pacer

should be on duty in mid-April. The State Land Department is again requesting severity funds to add additional firefighters to the mountain again this year. All residents are being requested to assist by using extreme care while on the mountain. Prep vour property early to give us a chance to stop fires. Properly dispose of fireplace, fire box and grill ashes. Every summer we have at least one serious threat to the cabins from improper disposal of ashes. If we do not exercise care, the odds are going to catch up with us. Remember, it is not too early to prepare. Without the snow pack, summer fire season is already here.

VILLAGE EVACUATION

HORNS - Are on order and should be here

soon. Next article will address specific evacuation procedures and how to prepare for an evacuation. The portable compressed air horns will be strategically placed in the village. In case of a serious and immediate threat from fire in the village area, the horns will sound for an evacuation. Since the horns are portable, they will be stored in the off seasons, and can easily be tested away from the village. This eliminates the aggravating noises of regular siren testing. Also, since the operated horns or bv compressed air, the horns only require general electricity for battery charging. They will operate in a power outage. The horns are radio activated. making it possible for the fire department to easily activate the horns without leaving the fire area. The horns are on order and should be in place later this spring. When the horns arrive,

details of evacuation procedures will be made available.

Mt Lemmon Woman's Club

News

by President Luann Waldron The winter months are just about to the end. We only have 2 meetings left in the valley. Starting in June our meeting

Starting in June our meeting return to Saturdays and in homes on the mountain.

Our next meeting is April 5th. This will be held at Olga Pace's home. Watch your E-mail or mailbox for directions. This

meeting will be for the election of new officers for the upcoming 2-year term. The nominating committee will present us a slate of nominees to vote on. Also additional nominations can be made from the floor.

The May meeting will be held at Mary Van Sickle's home. At this meeting we will have the installation of the new officers. We are also looking into finding a central meeting room for the winter meetings starting next fall. If anyone has any suggestions or know of an available room/meeting place please contact one of the board menders.

The Women's club will also have a poster display at the annual dinner. Please stop by and take a look. If anyone would like to join please come and talk to us at the annual dinner on April 18th, or give us a call. (Helen Quigley 749-0361 or Luann Waldron 743-3034).

IRS: We've got what it takes to take what you've got.

BUNKO

It is time for BUNKO!
Saturday May
20,2000 @ 6:00pm
Summerhaven Coffee

\$12.95 for either Beef Stroganoff with noodles OR Curried chicken with saffron rice. RSVP by Sunday May 14 to Linda Mulay 327-4615

Trico Update

by Barb Ziemann, Public Relations

We get tons of e-mail and yes, we read it. Our office handles many responsibilities, so we don't always have time to respond when there's no news. But the news this time is that we do have news! For the past couple of weeks crews have been testing the new generator. Last Friday (March 24th) they ran it for 30 minutes and this week they are beginning to add load. Installing the backup generator has been a very difficult, time consuming and expensive process. Fine tuning of the remote start-up feature still needs to take place, but it looks like we are finally in the home stretch of making the back-up generator functional.

Trico Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 35970, Tucson, Az85740, Office Hours 8 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday, For 24 hour service on power interruption call 744-2944.

The Census packets have been delivered to every door on Mt Lemmon. Weeks after the delivery, you can still see the plastic bag encased census forms hanging on a number of door knobs. How convenient for the burglars casing which cabins are not being used.

Book Reports

Debbie Hardesty, owner / operator of The Living Rainbow. Inc. now has in stock the latest novel by Rebecca Cramer titled The View from Frog Mountain. In the second of the mystery series about a fourth grade school teacher and detective ordinaire, Linda extra Bluenight, a trip to Tucson leads Ms. Bluenight to Mt Lemmon to help a friend open a bed and breakfast inn. Soon after the reluctant detective's arrival, violence against some of the locals pets escalates to violence to some of the villagers. In an added twist. ancient Indian artifacts appear in the hands of Summerhaven residents who claim to know nothing about them.

Debbie tells me the author renamed some of. the businesses and She thinks her store has been renamed " the Local Love-In". Also, there's a tan "gigolo-come-tourist-guide (whose) escapades reveal as much about the personal biographies of his victims, the women of this small community. as they do about his own bronze physique." You'll have to read the book to figure out who's who and who "done it"!

Stop by the Livng Rainbow (or the Local Love-In, which ever you prefer) and pick up this or other good books, as well as romance scented candles and enticing incense for atmosphere while reading. Not to mention, rainbow undies.

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Debbie Hardesty

Good-Bye to Deputy Miranda

In an open letter of to the community, Deputy Marty Miranda writes:

Dear Community members,

As you may have heard, Janelle the kids and I will be leaving the community soon. All for good reasons I am happy to say (Moving to Oregon).

I wanted to say thank you to all the wonderful people whom we have come to know and also for letting us become part of your community. This has been such a fantastic experience for our children and our family, one that we will not soon forget.

In my years as a Police Officer I have never seen neighbors reach out to one another, and take care of each other as you folks have. It is really inspiring and shows good people are out there, sometimes you just have to go high on a mountain top to find them.

I've truly enjoyed serving this community, even in the most adverse conditions. Being a Police Officer is an adventure in itself but, working here has given me even better war stories to tell. (HA, HA). You all have helped me in many ways with your kind words, your support, and an occasional friendly wave (with all five fingers), for that I give you thanks.

I have a funny story about how you Mount Lemmon Residents take possession of your Deputies and help us out.

One summer afternoon while training a Recruit, we noticed a suspicious blue truck. We had seen this truck earlier in the day near the base of the mountain. What stuck out in our minds was the truck pulled over quickly

when it saw us behind it, it wasn't in a pull out area and the three occupants made it a point to look the opposite way as we passed, as if to check out the view.

The next time we saw this truck it was near Sykes Knob Rd. and it had no registration tags. We made a traffic stop near Loma Linda picnic grounds, and contacted the occupants. My recruit was lead officer and requested the information on the truck and driver's license. The driver didn't have his license with him nor any other identification. however the female passenger provided hers. We obtained a name from the driver and identified the other male passenger.

When we got back to our truck I asked the recruit, "Well what do you think?" his reply was "I'm not sure, but something feels wrong." I informed him that his "SPIDER SENSES" were tingling (This was something I had been trying to teach him for the past week) When he ran the names of the individuals they came back as Alias's for persons, wanted on several Felony Warrants out of Florida, Texas and South Carolina. The driver was also wanted by the FBI.

In these kinds of situations we do what is called a High-Risk Stop or a Felony Stop to remove the persons from the vehicle. The officers take cover behind their vehicles/doors, and have weapons drawn.

Once in this position, the recruits front sight and eyes locked on the bad guys, he begins barking out commands to the occupants. I to, maintain the same posture as my recruit, and try to evaluate his performance in this high stress situation. After a few commands my recruit is interrupted, by a passer by across the street. The recruit tells

me from the corner of his mouth, eyes still forward, "Hey Marty, there's a guy across the street who wants to know if you need help."

Police lights flashing, two Sheriff's Deputies with weapons drawn, and truck full of bad guys was not enough to keep this resident from trying to help his Deputies.

I never got a chance to thank that person or learn of his name, but I wanted to acknowledge his courage and selflessness ... Thank You Sir.

My family wishes to expresses our sincere gratitude. Thank you for everything.

Sincerely,

Martin M. Miranda

School Daze

by Suzanne Hensel

It has been a very busy year for Zimmerman School. We have all learned a lot - teacher and students alike.

We started by learning about the trees in the area - the way they grow, their uses and how to identify them. The students each made their own tree books by collecting samples of leaves and needles. We also learned about the moon and the sun and what causes solar and lunar eclipses. To wrap up these two areas of study we took a trip to the Steward Observatory.

The children learned a little about telescopes and they were able to get a close up view of the moon. On our hike back to school they learned about the different types of trees that grow at different elevations. The students especially enjoyed

their trip down the ski lift which left us in Sabino Canyon among the maples and aspen that were showing their fall colors.

I wanted to teach the children about the community of Sumerhaven - the past and present. Rather than bore them with facts and dates we took a walking field trip around the village. We started at the post office where the students found out that they were about to embark on a treasure hunt. The treasure hunt sent them all around Summerhaven.

Each place they went to they learned about the past history of the area. Since it was close to Halloween I was able to enlist some volunteers to help make a "haunted cabin." Thank you Dani Hayhurst and

Patti Thomas.

It was an experience the kids will never forget and I won't either. Our next big event was our Christmas play "A Summerhaven Christmas Carol." This was a spoof on the traditional Charles Dickens' story. Bob Zimmerman was gracious enough to lend us his good name for the play and so was our principal, Clay Connor. The students really put their heart into this and it showed.

Our next outing will be the ASARCO mine. We have been studying rocks and minerals and their uses. This will be a great way to end the unit. Of course we do more than science and history at Zimmerman.

In fact, most of our time is spent on the basics - reading, writing and math. Today's curricular demands leave no time for relaxing.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to the school.

We are in desperate need of play ground equipment and this

will give us a great start. It is also very expensive to go on field trips since we end up traveling so far. The money will help cover the trip to the mine and a trip to Kartchner Caverns in the fall. We will be having an end of year production on Friday, May 12th. I am not sure of the location or the time.

Please look for email updates from Dani Hayhurst or call the school. We would like to see everyone there.

One of the great things about working at the school is all the community support that we receive. The

children are important and the community reflects that attitude.

We are still very interested in volunteers. Everyone has something to share. Time means everything.

HUMMINGBIRDS

by Barbara Welsh

REPORT

I remember being out at Sabino canyon, and seeing a male Mallard duck flying over a pond where his mate had been killed. Round and round he flew, and every week when we were out there he was still there.

However not all birds are as loyal to their mates and the male hummingbirds have no loyalty at all. They are the playboys of the bird world. They choose a territory for the food they can find and are not concerned about

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12880 N. Sabino Canyon Parkway TEL: (520) 576-1664 Owner: Sonni Wendt the female. The hummingbirds have beautiful displays of flying loops and dives but after they have mated they are gone. The males are even willing to interbreed with different species of hummers. Meanwhile back at the nest site the female is constructing a very complicated nest. She will use the materials at hand, moss, lichens, and spider silk. They need the spider web silk to hold their nests together. If you see them flying under the eaves they are looking for cobwebs for their nests.

In about 48 hours they lay usually 2 white eggs the size of jellybeans. In 15 to 17 days the eggs hatch and the babies are without feathers and will not be able to maintain their body temperature for about 8 days. Compare this to the baby quail that leave the nest immediately after hatching. They are still taken care of by the parents, but are not totally helpless.

The only time the mother will leave the nest is when the weather is warm. Her temperature is 103degrees.

If you had the same metabolism as she does, your temp would be 750 degrees and you would need 155,000 calories a day.

After about 21 days they are ready to leave the nest, but the mother bird will still feed them for 3 or 4 more days, chasing them all over to see that they have food.

On the mountain the first birds you'll see are the Magnificent and the Broadtailed. migrate to and from Mexico and will start coming back in March or April. I have seen a Magnificent still here in November. They are large birds with purple head and a blue throat.

The Broadtail has a red throat and is often mistaken for the

Ruby throat. They are the ones that have wings that make a whirring sound and are very common on the mountain. They also arrive in March and April but leave earlier than the Magnificent.

In the middle of July the Rufous arrives and the noise and chase is on. This is one of the tiniest and most aggressive hummingbird we have up on the mountain. The male is a beautiful golden orange and brown and he guards the feeder from everyone. This little bird has been in Alaska to breed and is on his way to Mexico. Aren't we lucky to have him stop by on the way? He'll be gone by September.

There are other hummingbirds that come through Southern Arizona on their way south to spend the winter. There are also the hybrids that are difficult to identify, but if you watch a while at your feeder this summer you may

have some delightful \ surprises. Water Co-

OP News

by President Chuck Autrey

Our water reserves are starting to recover thanks to everyone's effort toward conservation. We still have a long way to go, but at least we're heading in the right direction. Everyone keep praying, dancing or what ever you do best to bring more precipitation. Maybe we could get another six feet of snow like we did the first week of April last year.

Michael, with the help of his new assistant John, is doing a great job of finding and repairing leaks. With the new six-inch transfer line that we put in last vear it makes it much easier to isolate and identify leaks in the old distribution lines. We're making steady progress toward improving your water system. When you see Michael Stanley or Ross Quigley (Water Board Maintenance Chairman) be sure and give them your personal thanks. They are the ones that are getting it done.



First and foremost I, along with all the other Mt Lemmon business owners and managers would like to THANK all the people on Mt Lemmon who have given their continued support to "all of us" through the thick and thin of it all. With again this winter a lack of any substancal snow along with the upcoming road construction and road closures the future might seem bleak - I myself am glad Mt Lemmon is not known for any large locust population! (Famine is not a worry - we'll keep the freezers well stocked!) humor aside, thank you all. This is a very special community of caring people who, even with their busy schedules and lives. take the time out to reach out and help others. So, again, I repeat a BIG Thank you from me along with the all the other businesses on Mt Lemmon to all of you who continue to support us. A very humble

Don Underhill. owner of the

Alpine Lodae

& President of the Mt. Lemmon **Business Alliance since 1996**



What/Who is a MLCEC?

The MLCECs are a newly organized group of spirited people who are working together to coordinate, work on, and promote special events for both the local community to participate in and enjoy (like local dances, fire house bingo, block parties & cookouts. outdoor movies, etc) and also work on special events geared toward drawing more visitors to Mt Lemmon from Tucson to benefit the local business community (i.e. the Summer Light Festival is for everyone). Don Underhill, owner of the Alpine Lodge and president of the merchants association, asked for any kind of help or ideas to promote Mt Lemmon and encourage more tourist trade from Tucson. His concern was the upcoming 2 years of road construction along with road closures and its impact on the local economy. A more personal concern for somel homeowners was activities to keep older kids interested in the mountain and cabin life. They have teens that would rather stay in Tucson. Needless to say. many parents spend less time at their cabins in order to keep closer contact with the teens. So parents, businesses and tourists are becoming very interested in the Light Festival. The Mt Lemmon Light Festival "concept" was presented to the Mt Lemmon Woman's Club last August and they voted to be a sponsor of the event. Then the businesses and other families on the mountain started adding input, and friends of the mountain began offering wonderful ideas. Like the ad where someone walking with a spoonful of peanut butter runs into someone with a chocolate

the Mt Lemmon Light Festival has taken on a life of it's own. MLCECs a.k.a. The Mt. **Lemmon Community Events** Coordinators were the result of joining of all these folks willing to donate lots of time, energy, ideas, and GREAT ENTHUSIASM to this concept and Many of these people have previous experience working on these kinds of projects and no one is getting paid anything. It not a private group, and meetings are loose and do not follow parliamentary proceedings. Nor are any dues paid - except by giving back something to community we all care about. We try to have fun and keep the spirit of enthusiasm constantly kindled. One of our CECs wants to have a community square dance, so we're trying to set that event into motion for August. Here are most of the MLCECs to date: Donna and Ed Roll, Bonnie Lohman, Dorothy Crawford and Rachel Crawford, Dani Hayhurst and Pat Hayhurst, Helen Quigley and Ross Quigley, Patty Thomas and Tom Thomas, Carrie Reitz George Reitz, Wendy Tinkerbell Carlson "Stickerman", Joanne and John Eader, Mary Lou and Bill (Ma & Pa Engels) Piatkiewicz, Dolly Quinn, Dave Knittel, Navarra, Stephany, Steven and Valerie Peterman, Ted Shirley, Mike Stanley, Red and Marge Greth, and Kenton, Lynn and Amber Greth, and Stephany Gibert.

As you can tell, it's not just men or women, but families and friends. We hope that anyone that reads this and wants to work on some of these projects OR might also have some ideas of their own contact any of the MLCECs with input. We realize that Mt Lemmon is small community with a very special flavor all its own. None of us

wants to jeopardize that. We are also aware that the majority of Mt Lemmon is national forest land which is managed by the Forest Service and owned by all the people who pay taxes that support this beautiful mountain. One of the latest improvements supported by tax dollars is the highway soon to be under construction again. We'll all enjoy the finished project, those who enjoy their cabin homes, and those who drive up just to enjoy the mountain air.

Look up the Light Festival web page:

http://members.aol.com/lightfest 2000/

ROAD UPDATE

I guess no news is good news. Kaneen Advertising and Public Relations commented that the company hired to work on the next phase of the road construction. CS McCrossan. Inc., was unable to commit to any particular start up date on the road construction at print time for the Echoes except to add that it may start in 4 to 6 weeks and that all the delays are not going to affect the planned finish schedule. Perhaps more information will be available by the Annual Homeowner's dinner April 18th.

The road schedule is being revised to reflect the later start dates. I know you've heard this before (like the last 2 issues) but that's all we know and meanwhile, there is nominal or NO delays for traveling up and down the Catalina Highway. Might call that an extended blessing ... now if we could just get some of those spring showers that bring May flowers

Resident Road Update Hotline: 751-9409

(520) 570-1333 (520) 576-1300 (520) 299-1263 (RES.)



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This Echoes is brought to you courtesy of the Mt Lemmon Homeowner's Association. It's one of the benefits of being a member. Your board members are President Larry Waldron, Vice President Franny Crowe, Secretary Kathy Shields, Treasurer Florence Wilhoite, Carrie Reitz, Fran Zimmerman, Chuck Autrey, Olga Pace, John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Red Greth, and editor of the Echoes, Dani Hayhurst.

PO Box 699, Mt Lemmon, Az 85619