

The

Mt. Lemmon Echoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

"You can overlook Tucson, but you can't overlook Mt Lemmon"

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

For Ross Quigley

By Fran Zimmerman

The pancake breakfast was a success bringing in \$923.00 in donations for the fire department. Chief Barnella reported that new beds for the firehouse were purchased after receiving the donations. Many thanks to all the folks that helped and those that came out that early Saturday morning. The pancakes were great and the cooks got very creative! Hopefully, we can get the word out earlier for next year.

Soon everyone should be receiving his or her copy of the FireWise pamphlet. Thank you to all who contributed to the pamphlet. It has a lot of needed information regarding fire

protection of your property. Make sure you take the time to read it!

We are looking forward to a lot of snow this year for a lot of reasons, one being fire protection and water use for cabin owners. **PRAY FOR SNOW!**

By now, a lot of you folks have shut down your cabin for the winter. Hopefully, you turned off the water meter and drained your cabin for the season. I'm sure you know that if you have any questions or concerns, contact the Mt. Lemmon Cooperative Water at 576-1538.

Wishing all a **Happy Thanksgiving!**

Pancake Breakfast Pictures



Master chef -Tom Thomas and his assembly line of cooks



Fran and Bob Zimmerman, Judy Epstein, Larry Waldron and Bob Danielson



Kathy Shields -Chief Cashier
and alternate cook Jeff Kennedy



And just a few of the many Breakfast guests

MT. LEMMON WOMAN'S CLUB NEWS...

by Lauan Waldron

Since this is the last Echo's mailing for this year, I thought I'd recap some projects our club has been involved in over the last year.

- The women of our club donated children's shoes, socks & underwear at our Christmas Brunch last year. These items were donated to a Tucson Elementary school. We also gave the Zimmerman School children gift certificates.
- We purchased a Roll-off that helped in cleaning-up of the mountain and have been supportive of the Fire-Wise committee.
- We donated \$100.00 to our General Federation of Woman's Club-Arizona towards a \$1,000.00 statewide donation that was given to the Forest Service for reforestation in the state after this year's devastating fires.
- The Membership Tea was delayed until August. Four new members joined our club at this event.
- Our family potluck was held in September with approximately 40 people in attendance.
- We are purchasing a PUMPKIN for the Fire Dept. This is a 2,500 hundred-gallon inflatable water storage system similar to what was used during the Bullock fire.
- At our November meeting we will be putting together Toiletry Gift Boxes to be donated to a local school district clothing bank.
- Our Christmas Brunch will be held at Linda Benzinger's home December 7th at 10:30 AM. We will be having our GFWC Southern District President as a guest. This will be our last meeting until March. The March, April and May meetings will be held in Tucson.
- Our new directory is completed. If you have not received one and will not be attending the brunch, please call or E-mail me and I will mail one to you or stop in and see Fran Zimmerman at her office to pick up one.

If you have any information for our club or ideas for upcoming events or wish to join please contact Fran Zimmerman 576-1333 or Luann Waldron 743-3034.

Firehouse Update By Chief Barnella

Summer may have ended, but the fires can continue. On Monday, October the 7th, a lightning strike started an acre fire and burned a shed to the ground at the old Sawmill property. Please continue to think FireWise! There are galvanized ash cans still available at the fire station.

The Bucket Brigade will begin! The 1st training is scheduled for November 11th thru 14th. This is Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm till 10:00pm. With the assistance from the USFS, the Mt. Lemmon Fire District will be sponsoring a mini basic wild land course for our residents. (Also see Karen Shunk's article) There will be a second class in May for those residents not on the mountain year round. This course will educate residents on Safety, Fire Behavior, Tool usage, and Protective clothing. The goal of the fire district is to provide a supply cache at 2 locations in town. This will aid with equipment distribution in the event of a fire in Summerhaven. Please contact DeAnna at 576-1201 with any questions or concerns.

Thanks again to the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association. The Pancake Breakfast was a success! The proceeds raised assisted with our station improvements; the firefighters' dorm room renovation and kitchen cabinets. We appreciate all of your hard work and creativity!

Winter safety tips: #1 please make sure your home has a fire extinguisher that is up to date, and in an accessible place; and #2 remember smoke detectors, with a minimum of one on each floor.

Square Dance held August 31



Dorothy Crawford's Annual square dance was held Aug 31st Fred Field was the caller and the band consisted of Bud Field on guitar, Bonnie Lohman on bass, Rachel Crawford on fiddle

Don't Stop Now!

By Judy Epstein, FireWise Chairperson

Don't stop FireWise actions just because its winter! You can still make a difference!

A brand new MLFD Lemmon FireWise brochure -- "It Can't Happen To My Home!" -- has been created and soon will be sent out to everyone that owns property, cabin(s) or resides (renters, too!) anywhere on the mountain. Please be sure that everyone in your household and everyone that uses your cabin reads this important brochure! You may want to make it mandatory reading before using the cabin.

Illustrating how important this is, we recently had older parents attend the MLFD educational seminar on FireWise. The very next day a fire threatened the village because a member of their family buried fireplace ashes outside, after the older couple had left! After smoldering for quite some time underground, the ashes eventually ignited the duff and needles and then burst into a fire along the ground. Such a ground fire follows the needles and ignites any combustible fuels within contact of the flames, whether it is the wooden step(s) to someone's deck or low hanging branches of a tree. Removing ladder fuels and raking needles from all combustible sources helps keep a ground fire on the ground, otherwise it becomes a destructive and dangerous force!

People often believe that it is okay to bury ashes in the snow. Wrong! Fires have been known to burn for weeks underneath layers of snow. If you have a fireplace in your cabin, then you **MUST** have an ash can, as ashes remain hot far longer than people think! Ash cans are available for purchase at the Mt. Lemmon Fire District's station, 576-1201.

People often think that fire danger is only during the summer. Wrong, again! Just last month (October), a lightning strike at 12:30 a.m. struck a tree downhill from the old sawmill. The lightning bolt traveled down the tree and ignited the thick layer of pine needles on the ground. Then the needles burned uphill right up to the sawmill's storage shack. Since needles came right up to the shack, it ignited the building, which then eventually burst into flames, singeing a nearby tree and power lines (fortunately inactive). The fire lookouts are only manned during the summer so no one saw or called in these flames. Fortunately during the 6:30 a.m. shift change at the fire station, firefighters saw the fire covering about 1 acre. If this lightning strike hadn't been so close to the fire station and if it hadn't been caught when it was, a devastating fire would have resulted, even though it had rained that night and the humidity was high. Last winter, there were 2 potentially consuming fires on the mountain, one even when snow was on the ground. Humans were believed to be the source for both of those. Just goes to prove that a fire can happen anytime of the year!

This summer we were motivated to do a lot of FireWise activities. Much got done (and there is still much yet to be done!). Most everyone got to experience how quickly the dumpsters got filled, sometimes because large branches took up space. The MLFD is aware of the fuels still to be removed and the challenges in removing such fuels from the mountain. To do this in the most cost-effective and safe manner, they are purchasing much-needed wood chipper available for use by all of us. The cost for this equipment is \$28,000. With the end of the year approaching, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to the MLFD toward this purchase. What a worthy and gratifying way to say thank you for the tremendous effort and dedication given by so many people connected with the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department and our FireWise community, individually and as a whole. Checks should be made payable to the Mt. Lemmon Fire District with the designation, "wood chipper" and sent to MLFD, P.O. Box 759, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619.

Reprint of a letter sent to Mt. Lemmon Fire Department

Dear Chief Barnella

I wish to take this opportunity to inform you of a kind and generous gesture on the part of members of your fire department who went out of their way to return my missing checkbook on Saturday, September 28, 2002. There was a knock on the door of my cabin that morning and two members handed me my checkbook, which they found at milepost 4 on the Catalina highway. At the time I wasn't even aware that it was missing. They were able to trace my location on Mt. Lemmon through records in your department. Apparently, I had laid the checkbook on the bumper of my truck in the Safeway shopping center while loading groceries and forgot to pick it up before departing for Summerhaven. It must have fallen off the bumper at milepost 4.

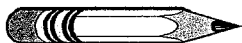
I am most grateful for the return of the checkbook knowing that had it fallen into the wrong hands I would have had a financial nightmare to deal with. Thanks to those two men, I have been spared the ordeal.

I also wish to thank you and the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department for the extraordinary efforts you all went through to protect our cabins during the Bullock fire. You saved not only the cabins but also the entire village of Summerhaven. I can't thank you enough. Please pass along my appreciation to those men who returned my checkbook.

Sincerely

Charles Sessions

School Days



Some thoughts from Zimmerman Elementary Students

Hi, I'm Hillary Ingalls

◆ In this article I'm going to tell you about what us kids at Zimmerman School are planning to do this winter. As you probably guessed, we are going to build a snow fort! Last year we built the biggest snow fort ever in Zimmerman Elementary history, and we only had 12 students in the whole school! I hope you think that is impressive because we worked on it almost every recess. Another thing we are planning to do is ski on the slopes of Ski Valley. I sent a letter to Ski Valley asking them if could ski this year. We haven't gotten any reply yet but I have a feeling that it is coming. Just recently the class had an election. We had the following jobs available-Class President, Class Secretary, Class Cleaner, Safety Chairman and of course Board Senator. Well, thank you for tuning in to this article, but until next time good-bye!

◆ In the following article I'm going to tell you about the Mt. Lemmon Halloween Party! This year's Halloween Party will be held at the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station on Halloween night. There will be games, music, and of course sweets! The party is like a ceremony that brings all the residents of Mt. Lemmon together! We are always welcoming people to come and party with us. You only need to bring yourself. Oh, and your kids! And if you please, wear a costume that won't scare little kids.

Hi, I'm Adam Hollenback

◆ A potluck happens every year at Lee's house and the whole community comes in with a whole mess of food—Hams, breads, fruits, potatoes, turkey, steak salads and lots of delicious desserts. It is a time when everybody says hello and visits with each other. It happens every late September.

Hi, I'm Garrett Barnella

◆ Brrr! It's getting chilly out. You better get a nice and warm, thick and your size jacket for the new snow to come to the mountain. Once it hits you better get a shovel, sled and skis for the best winter of sledding and skiing! Yes, there might be a lot of shoveling included for the season, but it's worth it for great skiing on the Ski Valley Slopes. If you're getting hungry and you want a fast lunch, go to the Iron Door right across the street from the slopes. And that's on Ski Valley Road!

◆ It seems like yesterday that the twin towers collapsed by the hijacked planes of 9-11. It's been a full year since the

death of thousands of lives of workers, firefighters and innocent lives living in New York. Even other buildings were damaged by the two building's scrap blasting off.

I recently went to New York and the sight of the twin towers and it's cleared out with the work and donation of people all around nation of the U.S.A. It really is amazing how everyone stayed united by the attack and are still after a year.

Garrett's Riddles

1. What has two legs on three legs having no legs and four legs had some?
2. If a rooster lays an egg on a roof, which way would it roll, left or right?
3. What's yellow on the outside and gray on the inside?
4. What's harder to catch the faster you run?
5. Where do computers go to dance?
6. What's black, white, black, white?
7. What's green and sings

Answers

1. A man on a three-legged stool, having a fish and his cat had some.
2. Neither, roosters don't lay eggs.
3. A bus filled with elephants.
4. Your breath.
5. A disk-0
6. A penguin rolling down a hill.
7. Elvis Parsley.

"Live Entertainment Alpine Lodge Oct 12th"



Wendy,
Barb,
Leanne
and
Scott
Jeffers



Tom Thomas, Debbie Fagan, Bill Brown & Bonnie Simmons with Jack Simmons looking on



Tom & Patty Thomas, Chet Goldberg, Karen Shunk, Cathie & Bill Brown, Debbie Fagan, Dennis and Maggie Cozzetti

THE MOVING MOUNTAINS

By Barbara Welsh

The Catalina Mountains are very young mountains, but the rocks that make up the mountains are very old. The Oracle granite is 1.4 billion years old and the Wilderness granite is 25 million years old. The Catalina's, as we know them are only 12 to 15 million years old. This area of the country has gone through many upheavals of being below the seas and centers of volcanic activity. Some of the minerals found on the surface, such as garnets, were formed 6 miles underground. Later most of this part of southern Arizona was a fairly level plain, but the elevation was 9000 to 10,000 feet. Erosion and weathering began to shape what we now know as the Catalinas. There were two more major events that shaped our valley. As the mountains assumed their shapes, part of the volcanic areas started to slide. Picture a pile of magazines on a table and a hand underneath pushing up on them. Slowly they will slide off of the table. This is the start of the Tucson Mountains. They would only have to have moved an average of 2 inches every hundred years to reach their present location. Also during this period the basin and range area formed. This area runs from Southern Arizona up into Washington State. The mountains are rising and the Basins are dropping

And the Tucson valley is taking the shape that we know today. The erosion by rains and weathering is still continuing. and does so to this day. Look at the foothills outside of Sabino Canyon, those are different places the creek has deposited its sand and rocks over millions of years.

(I am not giving you dates as most of my good notes are up on the mountain, so will the geologist please excuse my errors.)

THE FIRE DANGER WITHIN

By Jane Force

We had a little excitement at our cabin one Spring and I thought I'd tell you about it. We managed not to burn the whole place down and maybe you can avoid this scenario if you learn from our little story.

We've been trying to find someone to sweep our chimney for several years now. We even went so far as to call several places in Tucson a couple of years ago and see if they'd come up. We had no luck.

We have lots of fires in our airtight stove as we spend a lot of the winter on the mountain and we burn some pine. Anyhow, I started up a fire one chilly morning last spring and pretty soon it was burning briskly. I tossed in a shoebox we needed to get rid of and it too burned briskly along. Out the window we noticed a fair amount of smoke, more than seemed altogether reasonable. It was kind of wafting among the trees. It looked pretty thick. "That's odd," I said to my husband. All of a sudden there was a rather subdued "whoosh". "Amazing," I said, "just like folks describe when a chimney fire takes off." But it was such a gentle "whoosh" that I dismissed it. I know such back drafts are supposed to be pretty impressive. Then some flames backed out the air vents, "Wow," I thought, "just like a chimney fire. But of course that's not what THIS is." Eric decided it was time to go outside and look at the chimney. He called in, "It's probably a good idea to phone the fire department." He came in to say flames were indeed spouting out of the top of the chimney. I called the fire department and Eric closed down all the intake vents in the airtight stove and that quelled the enthusiasm of the fire so that by the time the fire truck arrived the show was over. The chimney continued to smolder for 24 hours but the danger was over. Also we got some great looking chunks of frothy black, crystallized pine tar, kind of like pumice, that came out through the melted spark arrestor. If our gutters had been full of pine needles, these could have caught our roof on fire.

That afternoon our friend John Eaton stopped by to give us a "howdy". We told him about the drama of the morning, and he said he cleaned chimneys. Since his full name at our house is John Eaton, The Man Who Fixes Everything, I guess we shouldn't have been so surprised, but we'd never thought to ask John if he cleaned chimneys. So he showed up the next morning and he and Eric took the stove out and lowered the chimney pipe and he cleaned the chimney and stove until they were nearly shiny. Then they replaced the spark arrestor and put everything back together again. Just in time for a snowfall to start.

So if you're intending to use your fireplace, insert, or wood-burning stove, get the darned thing cleaned, especially if you burn pine. John is at 795-2632. It's a lot cheaper than replacing the whole cabin.

FREE BUCKET BRIGADE URBAN INTERFACE AWARENESS EDUCATION

By Karen Shunk

Before the Bullock Fire, several residents and homeowners Indicated an interest in the formation of our very own community "BUCKET BRIGADE". Thanks to Mt. Lemmon Fire District and the U.S. Forest Service, those classes are now available!

Anyone interested in learning what to do and how to help our Fire Department and us in a positive, safe manner, in case of another fire in the village area, is encouraged to attend. The class is a condensed 16 hour version of Basic Wild land Fire Behavior and will be broken down into four evening classes for all full-time residents November 11-14, 6:00p.m-10:00pm. Another class will be offered for homeowners May 17-18, 9:00a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Last December a fire started near Loma Linda Water Tank immediately threatening four surrounding cabins. Again in April, (one day after a Firewise meeting) another fire started in the center of the village from dumped fireplace ashes, which threatened three more surrounding cabins. July 8th, Jim and Judy Connolly woke up to their kitchen on fire. On October 7th, a lightening fire started at 12:30 a.m. at the sawmill. Lightening struck a tree, caught the needles below on fire, which spread to a nearby building. Fire can start at any time and can get out of control in a hurry. If more of us know what to do and the correct way to do it the minute a fire is spotted, we can help our Fire Department by doing time-consuming tasks like directing traffic or clearing a fire line, leaving our firefighters to fight the fire and work the more important tasks that only certified Fire personnel can.

We all have a lot to be grateful for this holiday season. Please, show your community support and your gratefulness to Mt. Lemmon Fire District for all they are doing to try to educate us and make us Firewise. PLEASE SIGN UP AND ATTEND!!

God Bless You All, and Happy Holidays!

WATER IS LIFE

By Chet Goldberg

It's amazing how much most of us take for granted getting water out of our taps. We have three volunteer groups on the mountain, the fire board, the homeowner board and the water board. The homeowner board does great things and often has a lot of fun in the process. The fire board did great things this summer and got a small piece of the glory of associating with our heroes on the mountain.

The water board works at least as hard but with little fun

or glory. We have the good fortune of having a great board of highly skilled and experienced people who do most of their needed work far below the appreciation radar screen.

After attending a water coop meeting and watching "these" heroes in action, I would like to strongly encourage all water customers to show appreciation to the board members for their fine work and perseverance for this difficult and often thankless volunteer effort.

Classifieds

For Sale-Electric Incinolet Toilet

Paid \$1550 will sell for \$1300, never used.

Call Richard Westervelt 297-2713

For further Information about what's happening on the mountain visit the following web site

<http://www.mountlemmonfire.com>

Calendar

Bucket Brigade

Nov 11-14 6:00pm -10:00pm MLFD

May 17-18 9:00am -5:00pm MLFD

Women's Club Meeting

Christmas Brunch December 7th 10:30am

Water Co-Op Meeting

Nov 22th ,10:00 am @ Maint. Office

All membership dues are now past due. If you'd like to remain on the mailing list, please mail your dues today! The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association for its membership. Membership dues are \$25 annually. Renter and Friends of the mountain may obtain an association membership for \$20. Send your checks to MLHO, P.O. Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619. This Echoes is brought to you courtesy of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association. It's one of the benefits of being a member.

Board members are Ross Quigley, Franny Crowe, Kathy Shields, Carrie Reitz, Fran Zimmerman, Florence Wilhoite, John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Tom Thomas, Don Underhill, Jim Connolly and David Ostapuk. The editor of the Echoes is Gordon Hunter. If you have any suggestions or comments, I can be reached at 576-4377 or by Email at gnhunter@mindspring.com.