

*The*


# Mt. Lemmon Echoes

*Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon**"You can overlook Tucson, but you can't overlook Mt Lemmon"***MT LEMMON HOMEOWNERS ASSOC. ANNUAL DINNER**

Summer is approaching and soon it will be time for most of us to head up the mountain for your annual spring-cleaning, needle raking and cabin opening. And it is also time for our annual membership dinner.

It will be held, again, at the **HIDDEN VALLEY INN** on **APRIL 22, 2003**.

This year the dinner will be served buffet style---an attempt by your Board of Directors to give you more time to eat and less time to wait. This also means that you don't have to make any choices until you have plate in hand at the dinner.

**The CASH BAR will begin at 6:00 P.M. with the BUFFET line opening at 7:00 P.M.**

The menu is as follows:

Entrée offerings: Baked chicken, Prime Rib and B-B-Q pork ribs

Salad Choices: Garden Salad, Pasta salad, and fresh fruit

Vegetables Choices: Baked potato, Vegetable medley

Dessert Choices: Five Berry Pie and Apple Pie for dessert.

Drink Choices: Tea, coffee and soda will be available.

**The buffet price is \$25.00 per person.**

Please, make your check payable to **Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association** and mail along with the reservation form below to MLHOA Annual Dinner, c/o Carrie Reitz---

PO Box 13430, Tucson, AZ 85732-3430

All reservation are required no later then April 16

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**Reservation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_ 25.00

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

## A Message From The President.

by: Ross Quigley

Our Annual Dinner Meeting is almost here and I would like to tell you a little about our guest speakers. We have put together a program to fill you in on our two most important topics: A Fire Prevention Plan for the Summerhaven area and what to expect with the upcoming Mt. Lemmon Highway project.

On the topic of the new highway project we will have Shari Brandt, the new project manager for Federal Highways and Kathy Jirschele from Kaneen Advertising, to fill you in on what to expect this year and when to expect it.

Our program on the Summerhaven area's Firewise Project will include a guest speaker from the Governor's staff who will tell us what the State of Arizona can do to help us in our efforts to create buffers with the Forest. Governor Napolitano is unable to be here that evening, but will provide a staff member who is up to speed on the Prescott efforts and knowledgeable about the Governor's plans for community aid. In addition we will have a presentation by Bob Zimmerman and Fire Chief Dean Barnella of a new Firewise Plan to create our own internal buffer zone as well as completely Firewise our community. I'm impressed by this completely achievable plan and I think all of you will like it as well.

Our other guest speakers will be Ed Roll, President of the Mt. Lemmon Cooperative Water Co. and Steve Hensel. Ed will fill us in on Water Coop news and upcoming projects as well as a status report on what we might expect this summer from a water availability standpoint. Steve will present an award to this year's Summit Award winner. Each year the previous year's winner has the honor of presenting the award to a member of our community who has donated a substantial amount of his or her time and energy to the betterment of the



Summerhaven Community. These Summit Award winners spend a great deal of their time on community projects that they could use for relaxation, and we greatly appreciate their work.

If you haven't already sent in your reservation, please do so soon, and I hope to see you all at the Annual Dinner.

## Fire District Update

by the Barnella's



The Mt. Lemmon Fire District would like to introduce a new program under our FireWise organization, "NeighborWise". The NeighborWise program was designed as an extension of our FireWise Community efforts. With this program, the **Summerhaven Community** will be broken into smaller sections, neighborhoods, to aid in the completion of the forest thinning projects essential for our survival.

The goal of this organization is to meet the recommended thinning guidelines and specifications for all properties, with or without cabins, to the best of our abilities. This project is mostly dependent upon our property owners to assist in the accomplishment with this task:

### Objectives:

- 1 To reduce the number of small diameter trees
- 2 To remove trees that are infested with bark beetles
- 3 To remove and prune trees that have mistletoe
- 4 To remove dead standing trees (except those designated as wildlife trees)
- 5 To remove ladder fuels
- 6 To reduce the amount of dead and downed material
- 7 To dispose of all slash material

## Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Annual Dinner

### Registration Form

## Specifications:

1. Trees 5.0 inches DBH (diameter at breast height) and smaller will be cut. Trees less than 24 inches in height will not be thinned. Spacing is not to exceed fifteen (15) feet.
2. The crown of the trees should not overlap.
3. Trees up to 8.0 inches DBH that are overstocked, have bark beetle infestation, are damaged, deformed, stunted, or in a leaning position, shall be removed.
4. All trees with mistletoe rating of 4 or greater shall be removed. All trees with mistletoe in lower branches shall be pruned up to 12 feet above the ground. All seedlings and saplings that have mistletoe with a lower rating shall also be removed. If pruning the tree results in a rating less than 4, then we will default to this practice.
5. All dead standing trees will be removed up to 8 inches DBH provided they are not designated as wildlife trees.
6. All ladder fuels (live and dead branches) shall be removed if the branches are lower than six to seven feet above the ground.
7. Remove all dead and downed material that is over 1 inch in diameter. The exception will be logs that are decaying on the forest floor.

These are the recommended specifications that the Loma Sabino Pines HOA and the Mt. Lemmon Fire District follow within the Wildland/Urban Interface Grant projects. In order to achieve this goal, the Fire District Board members believe it is essential to work together as a group. The first step is to recruit a leader from each Neighborhood. As a leader, you will be responsible for reporting *the status, the needs, and the activities* of your neighborhood's group efforts. If you are interested in participating as a leader in your neighborhood, please contact DeAnna Barnella at 576-1201 or Bob Zimmerman at 576-1333.

Again, thanks to everyone for your continued support! Together, we can become a recognized FireWise Community.

### Debbie Fegan's Birthday

Owner of the  
"Living RainBow"  
Gift Shop



### Improve the FireWISE conditions of our community while preserving your cabin

By Judy Epstein, 760-2802 or nRichLife@aol.com

Need to Seal or Paint your cabin? Want to make your cabin Flame Retardant?

### FLAME STOP Order Deadline is April 25<sup>th</sup>!

Last year we had two successful group purchases of Flame Stop, the flame retardant product recommended by Los Alamos Fire Department and a demonstration video was viewed at last year's Annual Homeowner's Dinner. As promised, a **cost-saving** opportunity for 2003 has been arranged to purchase Flame Stop products at **lower rates** through a collective buying plan. Flame Stop comes in several different forms, but on Mt. Lemmon you will probably want Flame Stop II or Flame Stop III.

**Flame Stop II** is a water-based flame retardant that is easily applied (sprayed, rolled or brushed on) to exterior wood. It is said to dry clear and act as a long-lasting wood sealer (up to 10 years in our climatic conditions) by penetrating and bonding with the molecular structure of the wood fibers and sealing the pores.

**Flame Stop III** is a fire retardant paint additive that takes on the characteristics of the water-based paint and develops a self-extinguishing reaction.

More technical information is available at [www.flamestop.com](http://www.flamestop.com) or at 877-397-7867. Informational flyers will also be available at the Annual Homeowner's Dinner, another great reason to attend the Annual Dinner! The group order **DEADLINE is 2 p.m. on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup>**.

To benefit from the group buying plan, here is what you will need to do:

1. Place your order by **2 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2003** by calling 1-877-397-7867.
2. Identify yourself as a participant in the Mount Lemmon Group Order.
3. Arrange for credit card payment for your individual portion of the order, including shipping costs. The actual costs will be calculated based on an accumulated quantity discount price. (Estimates can be made by calculating what costs would be if you were buying it on your own.)
4. Shipment will be sent to the Ace Hardware Store at Tanque Verde and Catalina Highway. The arrival date and protocol for picking it up will be posted in the next Echoes.

**Safeguard YOUR cabin and our community!**

## Woman's Club News

By Luann Waldron  
President, Mt Lemmon Woman's Club

General Federation of Women's Club-Arizona Southern District spring meeting was held on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. We had 3 members in attendance, Fran Zimmerman, Regina Rhind and Luann Waldron.

Our Club received the following awards:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Conservation Special Projects
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Beautification
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Out Reach for Children
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Arts & Crafts-Holiday Card-Judy Epstein
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Arts & Crafts-Photography-Judy Epstein
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place-Arts & Crafts-Decorated eggs-Olga Pace

2<sup>nd</sup> Place- Arts & Crafts-Cross Stitch-Luann Waldron

3<sup>rd</sup> Place- Mt Lemmon Woman's Club scrapbook

As you can see our club members have been busy. There were other area's we did not place in the top 3, but that does not mean they were not important such as in the time and money we have donated. We are all working together to benefit our community, and the talent that we have is incredible, and it's wonderful to be associated with all these woman throughout the state of Arizona.

Our Southern District President, Jeni O'Callaghan, so enjoyed her time with our club at the Christmas Brunch and she has asked to be invited to our Annual Membership Tea on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

## CALENDAR

### Women's Club Meeting

April 2, 6:30 pm -meeting in Tucson

May 7, 6:30pm meeting in Tucson

### Next FIREWISE Mtg

April 12, 10:00 am at the MLFD

### Annual Homeowner's Dinner

April 22, 6:00 pm at Hidden Valley Inn

### Flame Stop Order Deadline

April 25, 2:00pm

### Water Co-Op Meeting

April 27, 10:00 am @ Co-op Office

### Basic Wildland Course

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

## Classifieds

**For Sale cheap?** Three almost new Windows Bronze Anodized. Aluminum. W/ low E double glazing. Single hung. 1 - 37"h x 29 1/2"w (orig. cost \$132)  
Single hung 2 - 33"h x 27"w (orig. cost \$117 ea.)

Total orig. cost: \$366

Will sell for 1/2 price. Bob Swaim 886-6848.

## Mt. Lemmon Photos!

Samples at **Summerhaven Coffeehouse & Alpine Lodge**

Contact **Judy Epstein** at **760-2802** or visit:

**www.mtlemonphotos.com**

**Great Gifts! Cabin Décor! Tucson Home Décor!**

Place your custom order today! Note cards, too!

## Mixed Blessing

By David English

Manager Southern Pines Baptist Camp

Our recent snow was a special blessing as well as a challenge. Hundreds of desert families made the trek to "Mt. Lemmon" to go tubing, skiing, throwing snowballs, and spontaneously creating snowmen. Gloves, hats, shoes and pant-legs were soon soaked and cold- all part of the fun. Pickup beds were filled with snow for the trip back to the desert.

The snow pack promised much needed moisture to replenish vital water supplies. Shaded north slopes agree to harbor their snow loads for additional weeks resulting in slower runoff, deeper soaking, more water reserves and less erosion. Businesses benefited from increased traffic. Even the ski area was able to open for several days.

However, snow can mean special challenges. Highway crews toil long hours to keep the roadways safe and clear. Sheriff's deputies are always extra busy. Emergency calls increase and mountain traffic is often thick and notoriously slow.

Many of our wild animal friends found it rough going until bare ground appeared again. All-in-all, we welcome this special white blanket of ice that we call snow.

by Dennis Haynes

The board of directors of the Mt. Lemmon Water Cooperative (MLWC) is making good progress on its work preparing information for its members on the advantages and disadvantages of converting the coop from a nonprofit corporation to a Domestic Water Improvement District (DWID). As in most things in life there are pros and cons to DWID conversion but on balance, the board feels that there is significant advantage to becoming a DWID and recommends it to our customers.

The ultimate decision to form or not form a DWID will be made by the property owners with property that lies in the boundaries of the district. The decision will be determined by the results of petition signatures. Sometime in the future, when Pima County approves our petition paper work, individual petitions will be mailed to each property owner in the service area.

In order that all the property owners can make an informed decision we are preparing several ways for them to find out what the pros and cons of DWID vs. nonprofit corporation organization are. We have written an information packet which will be mailed to all the property owners after it is reviewed for accuracy by the attorney who is assisting us. We will hold at least two public information meetings, one on the mountain and one in town, to present information and answer questions. Also, we are setting up email and telephone hotlines so people can ask question or make comments.

When the board of MLWC was first urged by the Water Infrastructure Authority (WIFA) to consider converting to a DWID it was reluctant to consider the change. The general feeling was "We don't need more government and more regulations" and "We don't want our Mt. Lemmon property taxes to go up." But WIFA, which financed our last construction loan, was very encouraging even offering a grant to help with the expenses of the DWID conversion. So we decided to investigate further. With the help of some public minded citizens of the Mt. Lemmon community we began to gather information on what would be involved if we became a DWID. The full results will be given to you in the future information packet. Here are a few examples

Item	Pros for DWID	Cons for DWID	Comments
<b>Taxes MLWC Pays</b>	DWIDs pay NO property and vehicle taxes	None	MLWC would save approximately \$15,000 per year
<b>Interest</b>	DWIDs qualify for lower interest loans	None	MLWC could probably refinance existing loans and save approximately \$83,000 over the 20 year term of the new loans.
<b>Property Taxes</b>	DWIDs can use property taxes to pay operation and maintenance expenses	Owners' property taxes might go up sometime in the future.	The present MLWC board opposes raising taxes. See Question 1 on the Questions and Answers sheet

**Q1. I don't want the taxes on my cabin to increase any more than they already are. What is the likelihood of the DWID raising my taxes?**

**A1.** All improvement districts (like the DWID and the Mt. Lemmon Fire District) are granted the ability to use taxes to generate income. All DWIDs are that way. It's just part of the law. Taxes can only be used for operation and maintenance expenses, not for system capital improvements.

Unlike the Fire District which HAS to use taxes because it does not CHARGE for its services, our DWID could continue to generate its income as the Coop always has, by water sales and fees for things like meter hookups. Several existing DWIDs have operated for years without using taxes as a means of generating revenue.

The present MLWC board is **STRONGLY OPPOSED** to using taxes to generate revenue. But that is no guarantee of what future boards might do. Taxes can only be implemented by the DWID if the property owners approve in an election.

## Springtime Thoughts

by Barbara Welsh

The Vernal Equinox has finally arrived and now we wait for Easter. Easter is the first Sunday after the first full moon following the Vernal Equinox. That is why it is sometimes as early as March and sometimes late as it is this year. Although spring has not yet come to the mountain with the longer days and evenings we can tell it is on it's way. At Sabino Canyon the prickly pear is getting new growth and the tiny wildflowers are trying to quickly bloom while the moisture from the last rain can nourish their roots and set seeds. The only purpose of flowers is to propagate themselves and we are the beneficiaries of the beautiful flowers. Along with the flowers, the ragweed is also blossoming so we take the bad with the good.

When we open our cabins we hope not too many mice and chipmunks have spent the winter inside. Over the years I have found food stored at the bottom of the bed, piles of the poison in drawers, and the usual signs that the mice have been warm and snug during the winter. Somehow every year a chipmunk manages to drown in the toilet. (Not a very nice surprise when you first arrive.)

The Magnificent and Broadtail hummingbirds will be back anytime now and will stay until late September at least. For the people new to the mountain the formula for feeding the hummingbirds is one cup of sugar (no honey or brown sugar) to 4 cups of water. Boil for about 6 minutes and **don't add coloring**. The hummers have excellent eyesight, very much like a hawk or vulture, and can find the food they need.

I will not even mention wildcats and hawks except to say, the Jayhawk is an imaginary animal. We are graduates of K. U. but have been going to Arizona games forever. Enough said!!!!

Until we are all enjoying the mountain again have a happy Easter and a beautiful springtime.



BINGO March 8th at the Alpine Lodge

## Cutler's Grandson Big BINGO Winner

By Patty Thomas  
For the MLCEC's

Connor Edwards, nine year old grandson of cabin owners Dan and Linda Culter, won the \$34 dollar jackpot in the grand finale of total blackout Bingo on March 8 at the Alpine Inn, which caused grandpa to exclaim "Don't tell your Dad, we took you gambling!"

Everyone went away a winner that night and the room was packed solid. The MLCEC's (Mt. Lemmon Community Event Coordinators) donated 22 sweat shirts, numerous Tee shirts, stuffed animals and toys. Vic Zimmerman, owner of Cabins and Cookies donated five gift certificates, Debbie Fagen, owner of the Living Rainbow Gift Shop donated five gift certificates, Phil and Carol Mack, owners of the General Store donated five gift certificates, Jim Berdice, manager of the Coffee Shop donated five gift certificates, Kelly Obe, manager of the Iron Door restaurant at Ski Valley donated five gift certificates, Janet Fayleen, Health Therapist donated two jars of massage crème and Don Underhill, owner of the Alpine Lodge donated five gift certificates plus the generous use of the Apline Inn to play BINGO. So big Thank-You's to the Mt. Lemmon businesses who donated.

Also a big Thank You to Donna and Ed Roll, Patty and Tom Thomas and (new MLCEC's) Wendy and Nathan Davis who donated their time to run the BINGO games.

It's "People" and "Businesses" working together that make it possible for the MLCEC's to bring you these fun community events on these cold winter night's. So "Please" let these businesses and volunteers know you appreciate their efforts. For it's people who volunteer and businesses that "continue to give" that make a "community"

Hope to see you at the next BINGO.

2003 membership dues are due. 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, Larry Waldron; David Ostapuk and Gordon Hunter. The editor of the Echoes is Gordon Hunter. If you have any suggestions or comments, I can be reached at 298-5971 or 576-4377 or by Email at [gnhunter@mindspring.com](mailto:gnhunter@mindspring.com).