

The

Mt. Lemmon Echoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

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

Message From The Pres.

by: Ross A. Quigley

I can't tell you all how pleased I am at the turnout for our fundraiser Pancake Breakfast this past weekend (May 25, 2003). Due to your generous donations we were able to raise \$1600 for our Fire Department to put towards the chipper. I want to thank all who came to eat and all who came to help. All of us workers especially appreciate George Reitz, who spent a whole day partially cooking the sausage and bacon so we could keep up with the demand. In addition to the volunteers from the Homeowner's Board we had Janet Faleen, Bob Danielson and Bob Zimmerman help as cooks. Thank you one and all.



I have not had any requests for information on homemade ice-cream making yet and I hope it means you know perfectly well how to make it on your own. I'm sure we all made it as kids, only now it's more fun because we don't have to hand crank it. Mike Stanley brought over a batch this weekend and he thinks he might have a winner, but I'm sure one of your kids can dream up a flavor that no one has tried yet.

If you haven't had a chance to begin participating in the NeighborWise lot cleanup that is going on, I urge you to take a little time to assess your lot. This is a program that can have tremendous success in making our village safe from a disastrous fire, if we will all pitch in and help out. No one is asking you to spend your summer working every day on your property, but please make a little time to get your part done. If we can achieve a national Firewise rating, it will make a tremendous difference in all of our insurance rates and possibly even our insurability!

Please check this copy of the Echoes for upcoming community events that may interest you and, as always, if you have any concerns you would like the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association to address just call me. Remember, we are a community service organization that is here to try to do good things for Summerhaven and Mt. Lemmon.

Announcing "Neighbor to Neighbor" – a new monthly question/answer & information column

I've been asked to write an article about my experiences clearing our lots in keeping with the NeighborWise program. The idea is to start a monthly column called "Neighbor to Neighbor", a forum in which we can submit questions to knowledgeable community leaders, or share positive ideas and suggestions to help each other enhance the FireWise, NeighborWise, WaterWise, and cooperative community we have on Mt. Lemmon.

NeighborWise? Where do I start?

I targeted ladder fuels, fallen branches, and trees less than 5" in diameter and taller than 2 feet, although I left some of the smaller trees that were over 10 feet apart. In three weekends and with the help of our daughter and her friends, I have three piles on the side of the road that will be hauled out by the time this article is published. There are larger fallen trees from when we started construction that still need to be cut up, but they are dry and I believe pose no problem for beetle infestation. I sprayed the stumps and logs of the fallen trees with 'Sevin', a smaller, ready-mixed bottle I bought from Ace Hardware. I also made one 'burn pile' in a clear area of our property, sprayed it, and covered it with a brown tarp until it dries out and is safe from beetle infestation. This will be burned by MLFD this winter.

I've been a tree-hugger all my life. When we first started building, I demanded that as few trees as possible be cut. But the fears of another Bullock fire have made me see the importance of clearing our special piece of the woods to make it safe from a devastating fire. I LOVE how our property now looks! I've spotted a few more trees I want to clear. I can walk it easier and it FEELS safer. I even found a small wild violet when clearing the fallen branches. I'm sure the added light will encourage more wildflowers.

Feel free to check out our property: 12664 N. Tucson Ave (from town—up Retreat Rd, right on Tucson to the second cabin on the left). And please send your questions, comments and suggestions to "Neighbor to Neighbor", c/o Linda Benziger, lindabenz@aol.com. In the coming months, anyone wishing to volunteer to collect and choose letters for submission is welcome to do so. This way many diverse voices will be heard. See you on the mountain!

Beetle Mania

By Bob Zimmerman

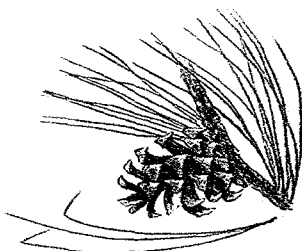
We do have a great deal of Pine beetle activity, as expected. This time of year it is the Eps beetle that is infesting newly cut pine slash and also live pine trees. This fall it will be the Round Head beetle. State Land and Forest Service recommend not cutting or thinning Pine trees until the monsoons start. The drought and starvation (caused by high tree density) has stressed and weakened our trees making them vulnerable to pine beetles. Pine beetles destroyed twice as many trees last year in Arizona than did wildland fires.

The Eps beetle in pine slash, leaves fine, reddish sawdust as they push all their cuttings out. In is the same in trees plus very noticeable pitch knobs on the tree. Eps beetles often kill the tree from the top down; so yellowing upper branches is a good indication of beetles. A tree that is healthy can push the beetle out with its pitch, killing it. The eggs laid by the Eps beetle quickly hatch and pass through various stages and "emerge" as thousand of hungry beetles. Emergence is detectable by small pinholes (without sawdust) in the bark created by the Eps beetle offspring boring through the bark to the surface. Several generations can emerge in a few weeks.

Thinning (FireWise-ing) improves tree health and resistance to pine beetles by increasing sunlight, moisture and nutrients to the remaining trees. For important trees, consider watering (using hauled Tucson water) to improve tree health or using Otho's Sevin designed for pine beetles as a preventive. I found Sevin works on infected slash and trees. Call 576-1333 or email (bobzim@mindspring.com) for more information on this topic.

Cover fresh woodpiles as shown in the Pamphlet, "It Can't Happen To My Home," using clear, six mil plastic. Once the limbs and wood dry out, they no longer attract beetles.

Remove slash and infected, dying trees quickly. During the beetle season, consider cutting only fir trees, which do not attract Eps or Round Head beetles. The needles on Fir trees connect individually and directly to the stem, while pine tree needles are attached to the stem in bundles.



Ponderosa Pine



Douglas Fir

Iron Door Found

by Trudley

It was most interesting to read Suzanne Hensel's, chapter on the Iron Door Mine in her masterful book, "Look to the Mountains." I chuckled when she says, "The truth of the existence of the Iron Door mine may never be known." Those of us, who communicate with trolls, know differently.

The first troll was Ymir who was slain by the God Odin. When Ymir fell, his bones created the rocks and hills. His flesh created the land and his blood brought forth the rivers and seas. It is said that from his rotting flesh crawled small maggots that formed into dwarf like trollish creatures. Some of these creatures flew into the air and became what we call Faeries, the others crawled under ground and became dwarfs/trolls/land faeries. In a mixture of mercy and cruelty Oden decided to let these creatures live.



Trolls, famous for protecting bridges, are equally attracted to protecting hoarded gold. Who else, say I, would know best where the "long lost" Iron Door Mine is located? I visited my old friend, Gertie, one hot mamma troll, who demurely admits to being only 500 years old and who has outlived 50 husbands to the best of her knowledge.

After swearing to secrecy on pain of death, Gertie allowed me to witness her airing a pot of gold at the entrance to the Iron Door Mine. She claims that gold gets musty after several hundred years and will stink up the mine. I was not able to detect a musty good odor since Gertie has not bathed since her last husband died in 1214. I think I know his cause of death.

BUNKO July 12th

Summerhaven Coffee House 6:00 pm

Meal Choices:

Marinated Grilled Chicken Breast stuffed with cilantro pesto goat cheese & black bean sauce.

OR

Marinated Grilled Pork Chop stuffed with corn-bread chorizo & Salsa Verde.

With rice, black beans, vegetables and drink included. You can also bring your own wine.

Cost: \$18.00 includes tax & gratuity.

RSVP by July 7th -Linda Mulay

327-4615 or 576-1417

A TALE OF TWO NESTS

By Barbara Welsh

In the last month I had the privilege of watching two mother birds building a nest and hatching their young. One story does not have a happy ending.

A dove started her nest in a Palo Verde tree. Doves are not good nest builders and usually two sticks seem to be their idea of a wonderful nest, but when the first egg fell out, she built another nest on the rung of a stepladder. She laid two eggs but the next day only one was left. About ten days later a tiny chick with some down but no feathers, hatched from the egg. Its eyes were shut and it could barely move. Each day it grew larger and soon the feathers begin to appear. The eyes opened and one-day the little one could stand up on his own. The next day I went out to see him and he stood up and raised his wings and chirped at me to leave him alone. About an hour later I heard a racket outside my window and went outside and the baby bird was dead in the nest. Probably a Curve-bill Thrasher had found him.

The second nest was a Gambel quail's nest built in a hanging basket about six feet off of the ground. I knew about this nest for at least two weeks and also knew she was actually sitting on the eggs. Sometimes the quail build nests and lay their eggs and then seem to forget where they put them. I'm sure you have found quail eggs many times that never hatched. One afternoon the male quail was sitting on the patio on the wall, then he would walk around the patio, then fly back to the wall, all the while making noise, so I started watching out the window. Soon I could see movement in the nest and the mother quail was sitting on the edge of the nest. All of a sudden a baby quail started jumping out of the basket onto the patio brick. These babies were fully formed, even to the little feather on their heads and they quickly clustered together and momma (who had been calling to the male) took

them to another place unknown to anyone.

I have another (at least one) dove nest and another quail nest that I know about but these two were so easy to see and take pictures. I am always amazed at the diversity of the animals that live in our desert. One has helpless chicks while the other has young that while they are not self-sufficient, can move about on their own from the moment they are hatched.

"Insurance Heads-Up!"

By Judy Epstein

Becoming FireWise on Mt. Lemmon has just gotten more significant...

On May 21, 2003 State Farm, the nation's largest home insurer, announced it is giving 21,000 homeowners in high-risk wildfire zones in Western states two years to **make their homes defensible or risk losing insurance coverage.** Homes in the very highest-risk areas will be inspected and homeowners that need work done will be advised by letter.

A local State Farm policyholder reported that State Farm is in fact going to be inspecting their property on Mt. Lemmon to make sure cleanup efforts have been taken seriously and are effective. Carole Walker, executive director of the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association (www.rmiiia.org) says other insurance companies also are becoming stricter about issuing new policies for homes in high-risk areas because of the increasing wildfire threat. The message to us on Mt. Lemmon is getting through: FireWise is not just for conscientious cabin owners, it is a necessity for all of us.

Want to learn more? Come to the Fire Station on **Saturday, June 7th at 10:00 a.m.** to hear what Erin Klug, Commissioner for the Arizona State Board of Insurance has to say. EVERYONE is welcomed and encouraged to come! Immediately following Erin Klug's presentation will be our 1st NeighborWise gathering! Come and meet your Section and Neighborhood Leaders and learn how you can have a FireWise neighborhood!

The following article is an excerpt from the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association (RMIIA) website (www.rmiiia.org) which provides advice for homeowners related to fire insurance:

TIPS FOR INSURING YOUR HOME TO ITS VALUE

You should insure your home for the total amount it would cost to rebuild your home if it were destroyed. That's not the market value, but the cost to rebuild. If you don't have sufficient insurance, your company may only pay a portion of the cost of replacing or repairing damaged items. Here are some tips to help make sure you have enough insurance:

- For a quick estimate on the amount to rebuild your home – multiply the local building costs per square foot by the total square footage of your house. To find out the building rates in your area, consult your local builders association or a reputable builder. You should also check with your insurance agent or company representative. (Note: This is only an estimate and shouldn't replace annual coverage reviews).
- Factors that will determine the cost to rebuild your home: a) construction costs b) square footage of the structure c) type of exterior wall construction—frame, masonry or veneer d) the style of the house (ranch, colonial) e) the number of rooms & bathrooms f) the type of roof g) attached garages, fireplaces, exterior trim and other special features like arched windows or unique interior trim.
- Check the value of your insurance policy against rising local building costs EACH YEAR. Check with your insurance agent or company representative if they offer an "INFLATION GUARD CLAUSE." This automatically adjusts the dwelling limit when you renew your policy to reflect current construction costs in your area. However, you still should keep up with local building costs by checking in periodically with your local builders association.
- Check the latest building codes in your community. Building codes require structures to be constructed to minimum standards. If your home is severely damaged, you might have to rebuild it to comply with the new standards requiring a change in design or building materials. These generally cost more.
- Do not insure your home for the market value. The cost of rebuilding your home may be higher or lower than the price you paid for it or the price you could sell it for today.
- Most lenders require you to buy enough insurance to cover the amount of your mortgage. Make sure it's also enough to cover the cost of rebuilding.
- Increase the limits of your policy if you make improvements or additions to your house.

The most important thing you can do to safeguard your home and property is to understand that your insurance policy is a contract and you need to know what's in it. Your insurance agent or company representative will be able to walk you through it and answer any questions. **The bottom line: Don't put your policy up on a shelf somewhere and let it collect dust! Review your policy every year.** (The above tips address insuring the structure of your home. Remember to also give detailed attention when insuring your personal belongings.)

ANNUAL WATER BOARD MEETING

JUNE 21st 9am @ MLFD

We will be voting on three new board members and whether to transfer the Water Co-Op from a corporation to a Domestic Water Improvement District

Each vote for the DWID must be signed by all partners (owners) and must be notarized. There will be Notary's present at the Annual meeting

CALENDAR

Erin Klug –AZ State Board of Insurance

June 7th 10am MLFD

Next FIREWISE Mtg

June 7th Saturday, 12:00 am at MLFD

Women's Club Meeting

June 7th, 1:00 pm @ Luann Waldron's Cabin

Bunko

June 7th, Saturday -6:00 pm at the Coffee House

July 12th, Saturday -6:00 pm at the Coffee House

August 2, Saturday -6:00 pm at the Coffee House

Teddy Bear Sale

June 8th, Sunday noon-3pm

@ MLCEC'S Cabin, corner of Sabino Parkway and Carter Canyon Rd.

Annual Water Co-Op Meeting

June 21st, 9:00 am @ MLFD

Annual MLWC Membership TEA

June 21 2:00 pm @ Singh Cabin's on Turkey Run

Community PotLuck and Ice Cream Social

June 22, Sunday, noon @ the MLFD

Mt Lemmon -Art, Crafts and Psychic Fair

June 29th, Sunday in the Business District

Annual 4th of July Parade

July 4th, Friday @ Sabino Canyon Parkway

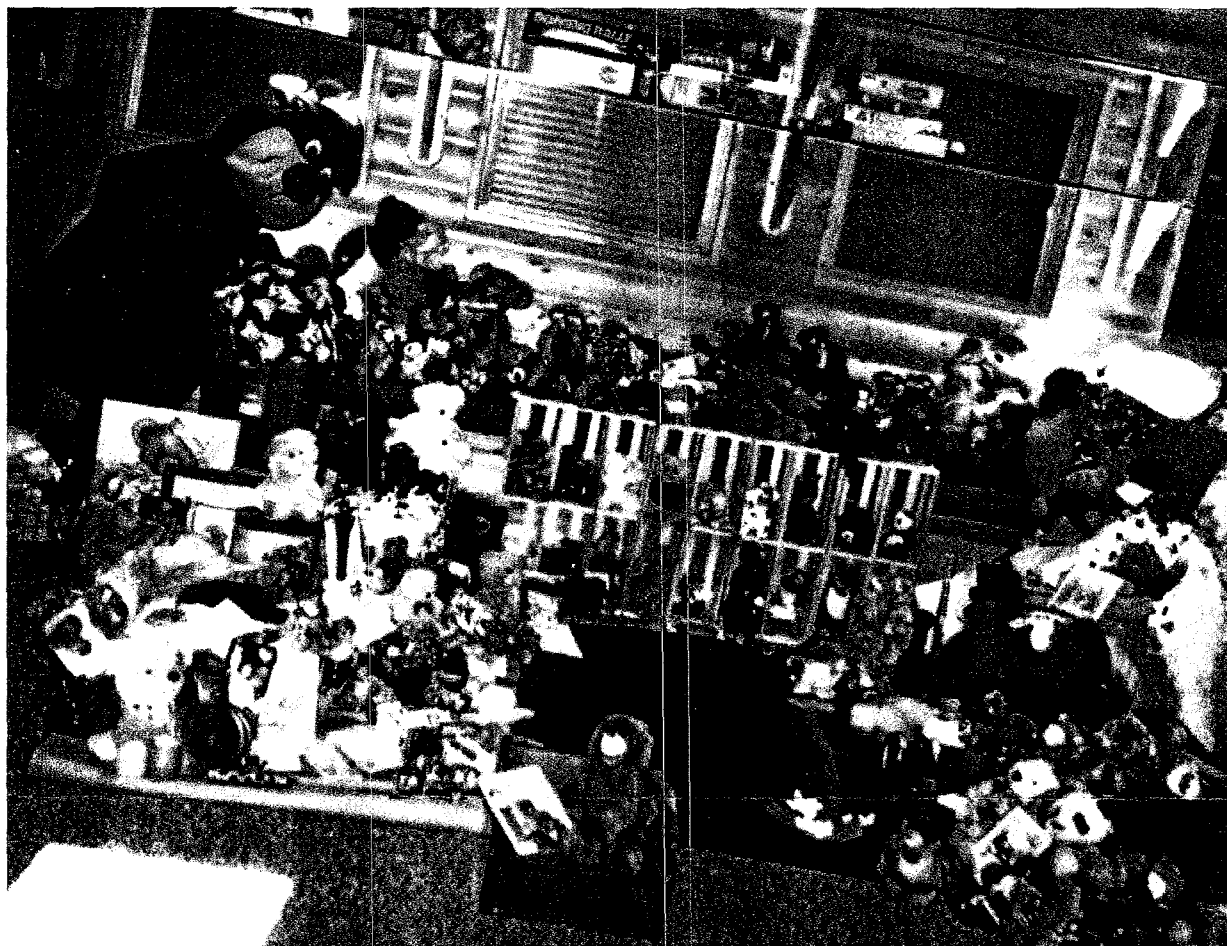
Village Clean Up

July 12, Saturday -Post 4th of July Clean up

Pancake Breakfast

August 31st, Sunday 8-10am @ MLFD

BEARS FOR SALE by MLCEC's



"Teddy Bear and Bear Related Items Sale" will be held Sunday June 8th Noon to 3pm. There will be a large selection of Teddy Bears (many custom designed) and other Bear related items for you to browse through and buy. All proceeds from these sales will go to "Our Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept." If you want to donate a Teddy Bear or Bear related item for this worthy cause, you can drop it off at the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station or call Donna Roll 886-3503 or Patty Thomas 576-1616. This sale will be held at the MLCEC's club/cabin garage area which is located in the town of Summerhaven at the corner of Sabino Canyon Parkway and Carter Canyon Road

*****PRESS RELEASE*****

Suzanne Hensel's book, "Look To The Mountains" is now available in the Mt. Lemmon Gift Shop. Suzanne describes the book on the front cover perfectly, "An in-depth look into the lives and times of the people who shaped the history of the Catalina Mountains". Just the 200+ pictures in the book make it worth the price at \$29.95. Over 70 personal interviews and years of work. You can't miss out on this one!

"Festival of lights" begins at dusk. Saturday June 7th. So decorate your cabin with lights and turn them on at dusk. The MLCEC's are also sponsoring a "Light Contest" for the best decorated cabin. We will award 1st, 2nd & 3rd place prizes. The winners will be announced from the podium located in front of the Alpine Lodge at the beginning of the 4th of July Parade. Trophy awards will be given at this time. If you want to enter your cabin to be judged for this contest, please contact Dani Hayhurst at 298-6328 no later than June 6. Leave address and telephone number.

*****PRESS RELEASE*****
ATTENTION SUNDAY PAPER PEOPLE

"The Mt. Lemmon General Store is offering the Sunday Edition of the Arizona Daily Star. Papers should be in the store by 10:30 AM each Sunday. If you really want to be assured a copy of the Sunday paper every week, call and leave a message for Phil at the General Store between 10 AM and 6 PM. 576-1468 Price will be \$1.50."
 - Phil Mack

*****END PRESS RELEASE*****

WATER CO OP

By Mike Stanley

Welcome to summer on the mountain. A year ago the village was evacuated. I stayed to help the fire fighters with water supply and to prevent the draining of our water system. The 30,000-acre Bullock Fire on this date last year was within ¼ mile of destroying the whole Village. The embers at the Loma Linda picnic grounds flew hundreds of feet in the air above the main highway just waiting for the wind to change. If not for prayers and luck we would have lost everything. I hope that experience will not be repeated for many years. Last year, the springs were producing about 3 to 4 gallons per minute and the storage water was down to less than 500,000 gallons. The water supply is so much better this year. The springs are still flowing above 20 gallons per minute and we have almost 1,000,000 gallons stored. Even though the status has improved, there is still cause to be careful with water use and fire around your mountain homes. You can see the Fire District's article and learn more about the ongoing FireWise Project. We all need to put forth the effort to become a FireWise Community.

The new water rate, passed last year, will become effective on 7/1/2003. We will be sending out notices on the new rate and information on the DWID. Please remember the **Annual Membership Meeting is slated for 6/21/2003 at 9am at the Fire Station.** It is important that the Members attend, as there are several items for discussion and voting. The biggest of these is the change from a Co-operative to a Domestic Water Improvement District (DWID). Another item is the election of three new Members to the Board of Directors. We will also be starting improvements funded by the loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). This \$570,000 loan is for the replacement of the Carter Canyon Tank with a 140,000-gallon tank along with 1,000 feet of 6" Ductile Iron Main from the tank to the intersection of Miners Ridge Road and Carter Canyon Road. There will be 4 or 5 big fire hydrants installed on this main for protection of the upper canyon. A new 1,000,000-gallon storage tank for filtered water will be installed in Sabino Canyon and a filtration system will be installed at both of our sources. We hope to install the 1,000,000-gallon tank this year and to get the Carter Canyon area prepped for the new tank in the spring.

Some of you are aware of the Phoenix Avenue Road Project going on at this time. The County let a bid to Ashton Construction to rebuild the upper portion of Phoenix Avenue. The road is impassable for all vehicles including emergency traffic for the next 2 months. As this project started, we at the Co-Op and the Fire District were very concerned about the inability to maintain fire protection in the area. To remedy the situation Nathan and I installed a big fire hydrant at the end of Phoenix Avenue on the 8" Ductile Iron Transmission Main that comes from the 500,000-gallon Miners Ridge Tank. We

completed the installation before the roadwork was started and tested it with fire personnel. We are able to get more than 500 gallons per minute at this location. The fire personnel placed several hundred feet of hose at the hydrant in the event of an emergency. They also laid fire hose from the main road to the Upper Goat Hill area on the downhill side of the road project. This gives the community protection on both sides of the project.

Please call us if you have water problems at 576-1538.

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.

For sale—Electric Incinolet toilet model CF
Paid \$1550 will sell for 1300, never used
Call Richard Westervelt 297-2713

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!

2003 membership dues are past 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, Kathy Shields, Carrie Reitz, Fran Zimmerman, John Mulay, Pete Krauss, Tom Thomas, Don Underhill, Larry Waldron; David Ostapuk, Debbie Fagen, Chip Delay, Bonnie Lohman 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.