The

Mt. Lemmon-Behoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

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

Message From The Pres.

By Ross Quigley

I'm sure all of you are excited about the snow we have had so far this winter, or at least you should be, as it will help greatly in the spring with the regrowth of our burned areas.



True, it is a pain in the neck for travel and construction right now, but it also helps with insulating the water system from freezes. There have already been a number of lines that froze as a result of the duff and tree limbs being burned off, leaving little protection for pipes that were partially exposed by erosion after the fire. Michael and Nathan have had quite a lot of work trying to thaw these lines and I know they welcome the snow blanket.

Very soon the County will be sending out notices to those folks who have not yet completed their lot cleanup. These notices will not only include debris, but hazard trees as well. Don't panic if you receive a notice. The county realizes that this work is difficult, if not impossible at this time, and they will allow us some time after the snow is gone. Also, if your

notice is about trees you have not removed because you intend to use them for non-structural lumber for your home, you should be aware that they still need to be cut to save them from bacteria and fungus. They will last longer if they are no longer attached to the root system. If you are planning on replanting your lot you should probably cut and remove the dead trees first so you don't destroy your seedlings in the process.

I would like to update you on the situation I mentioned in last months article about the potential rezoning of some additional lots along Sabino Canyon Parkway to RVC. Thanks to Spencer Block, we were able to have an additional informational meeting to properly inform everyone who was interested about this rezoning. Spencer mailed notices out to all property owners in Summerhaven and invited you to attend an unbiased meeting with Jim Mazzacco from Pima County Development Services. About 125 people attended and after hearing the straight facts from Mr. Mazzacco, who answered any and all questions, a straw vote was taken to poll the audience. Four possible scenarios were voted on and in the end the originally proposed compromise (which I outlined in last months Echoes) won by a huge margin. Supervisor Ray Carroll was also present at the meeting to observe. This is the way our community should continue to work out problems that arise!! Don't let anyone get you worked up on an issue. Our community needs to continue to work together and avoid

Cut along Dotted line and return coupon with payment
This is our second notice so if you paid last month please don't send another check
Thank you from the MLHO Association

unnecessary battles. By meeting as a group and rationally discussing issues we can avoid mis-information and divisiveness. This proposed compromise was passed by the Planning and Zoning Commission on February 25th by a unanimous vote of the commissioners present and it will now be heard by the Board of Supervisors before the final approval.

This past month a number of people from the various organizations in the Summerhaven community met with the new Forest Service District Ranger, Larry Raley. This meeting was called to begin the process of understanding his philosophy on forest management and to introduce him to the community leaders. Mr. Raley comes to us from a ranger district in Glenwood, New Mexico. I am familiar with his old district as I have hunted in it for over 20 years with my wife's family. Glenwood is only one of a number of very small communities in the district which enjoy a setting similar to ours. I have traveled a great deal through the forests there and hope our mountain can someday be as beautiful. I will keep you posted on any future developments with the new ranger and hope to create a much better working relationship than we have had in the past.

Public adjuster Peter Romero has set up a location here in Tucson to continue to assist anyone with insurance problems. I have also asked Peter to attend our annual dinner to meet new folks and answer any question you may have. You don't need to wait until the dinner, however, as he is available at any time by calling 290-3341.

In closing I would just like to remind you about our upcoming Annual Dinner on April 20th. Come out and enjoy some good food, informative speakers, and the great company of your friends and neighbors

2004-2005 Zimmerman School Year

By Mark W. Jones
Director
Pima Accommodation District

As the Director of the Pima Accommodation District, I want to congratulate all the Mount Lemmon residences for their fortitude and perseverance in the face of the Aspen Fire Disaster. I am more than confident that your dedication and spirit of optimism will ultimately create a community of sharing and prosperity.

The Pima Accommodation District supports your efforts. Part of the process of healing is to ensure that educational services are provided to all school age children on the mountain. To this end, the District is making an effort to determine how many K-6 students may attend the Zimmerman Elementary School for the 2004-2005 school year. It is important to the District that we gather this information as early as possible in order to determine the feasibility of reopening the elementary school. If you are a resident, or are planning to settle in the Mt. Lemmon community, and have children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade, please contact the District office. Your input is important. Please contact:

Patsy MacKenzie
Pima Accommodation District

Phone: 520-740-4724

Email: pimaaccom@schools.co.pima.az.us

****PLEASE VOTE on May 18 th !!!!****This Special Bond Election will help Mt. Lemmon

The Board of Supervisors has approved Resolution No. 2004-18 calling for a special bond election on May 18, 2004. Please get out and vote in favor of these two items of interest to the Mt. Lemmon community.

Question 2 includes \$1,000,000 for the Mt. Lemmon Community Center. Question 6 includes \$7,200,000 for the Mt. Lemmon Sewer System

Information on May 18th Pima County Bond Election is available at: http://www.bondelection2004.pima.gov/

MT LEMMON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

Summer is approaching and soon it will be time for our annual membership dinner. This year we will again use the buffet serving style in an attempt 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 dinner meeting will be held at

THE HIDDEN VALLEY INN

on April 20, 2004.

The cash bar will begin at 6:00 P.M. with the buffet line opening at 7:00 P.M.

Prime Rib Carving Station
Baked Cod in dill sauce
Portobello Mushroom Ravioli
Chicken Asiago
Baked Potato
Steamed Seasonal Vegetable
Fresh Fruit
Vegetable Platter with Ranch Dip
Garden Salad
Chef's choice for Dessert

The buffet price is 25.00 per person (includes-Coffee, Iced tea or Lemonade ,tax and gratuity).

Please, place your reservations no later than **April 13** using the form below. THE HIDDEN VALLEY INN needs an accurate count of attendees. Make Checks payable to MLHO and mail your reservations to MLHO Annual Dinner, c/o Carrie Reitz---PO Box 31705, Tucson, AZ 85752-1705



Fire District Update

By D&D Barnella

What's Next" for Mt. Lemmon

On Wednesday evening, March 31st from 6:30 to 9:00 pm, the FireWise Committee has scheduled *Break Out* sessions for Mt. Lemmon residents and homeowners. This will be held at the North side Christian Church 1990 East Prince Road, courtesy of Pastor Glenn Davis, Nate Davis' father. He has provided a location for the Mt. Lemmonites to gather. You will have the opportunity to learn, ask questions, and get answers regarding the following hot topics:

- Insurance Questions/Concerns
- Rebuilding/Reconstruction
- Water Issues
- Fuels Treatment/Property Assessments
- "Trees for Mt. Lemmon" and Re-vegetation
- NeighborWise This will include homeowner ID pictures, updating homeowner information for communication, and property identification

It has come to the attention of the FireWise Committee that any/all members of the Mt. Lemmon Community are not receiving accurate, and the most updated information on the above needs of the Community. The Mt. Lemmon Fire District will have the assistance of Pima County, Arizona State Land Department, USFS, the Mt. Lemmon Co-Op Water, and many volunteers. If you have any questions/suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact DeAnna at the fire station, 576-1201. Please share this event with your friends and neighbors.

Back at the Fire House,

The Mt. Lemmon Fire District is in the process of completing our FireWise Communities Recognition Application.

With the assistance of Steve Plevel and the Arizona State Land Department, our final step is nearly finished-The Fire Management Plan. The goal is to complete the Application process by March 31st.

The Mt. Lemmon Fire District is also proud of the accomplishments of our "Fire Support" team. It has been recognized in Pima County, that we are 1 of 2 active CERT Programs (Community Emergency Response Team). Our Volunteers have completed the Basic Wildland Firefighter certification, Basic 1st Aid, CPR, and continue training every Tuesday morning. They assist us on many responses, especially snow related accidents! Thanks again to the following members: Carol Mack, Dennis Cozzetti, Nate & Wendy Davis, Ken Witthoeft, Chip DeLay, Karen Shunk, Bill Brown, and Michael Stanley.

The Mt. Lemmon Fire District has been fortunate this year to receive several grants. We have received grants to supply the new fire truck with equipment, Personal Protective Equipment, a Chipper and fuels treatment grant, additional fuels treatment grants, 3 AED units from SAEMS, and a recent receipt of Wildland gear along with funds for a vehicle which would tow the wood chipper and be modified as an additional Brush Truck. With these grants, I would like to thank 3 dedicated staff members who have been working through the winter months on fuels treatment. Elton Seaux, Jeff Craven, and Travis Cartwright have been thinning, chipping, and removing ladder fuels under our grant projects. Thanks again for your hard work!

If you are ready for your lot to be assessed, please contact Harry Findysz at the station, 576-1201 or leave a message with your name and address of the lot(s) to be evaluated. Harry works on Mondays and Thursdays and will complete your lot assessments. Harry completes anywhere from 4 to 12 evaluations each day! Thanks Harry!

Don't forget, March 31st! We will also be mailing out reminder postcards. Please advise DeAnna of any address changes or additional persons who may not be on the current listings. Hope to see you there!

POSSIBLE GOOD NEWS FOR MOUNT LEMMON FIRESTORM FIRE LOSS VICTIMS

Last week while in So. Cal. for 2 days, I attended the "Governor's Blue Ribbon OES Fire Commission" hearings in Costa Mesa. There are 37 high-ranking officials on that Commission (Federal politicians, State politicians, FEMA/SBA officials, State fire officials, etc.). Their function is to make legislative recommendations to the CA Legislature for changes in the laws; and to recommend to the CA Insurance Dep't. changes in: policy coverages, insurance agents' responsibilities to the policy applicants, other possible "optional" coverages (such as "tree debris removal", etc.), consider removing policy limits for substantially "underinsured" policyholders, etc.

The number one complaint from the 100+ filed complaints to the CA Insurance Dep't. has been about the total-loss homeowners' substantial "under-insurance" problems. So far, according to the CA Insurance Dep't., it appears that more than one-half are "under-insured" by at least \$50,000. to \$100,000. per home. And, the number two complaint is that the "Loss Of Use" ("Additional Living Expense") coverage is for too short a period of time and for too low an amount of money. Doesn't that sound familiar?

During the "public comment" period at the hearing, I presented some information and a number of recommendations to the Commission (which I was requested to provide the Commission in writing by yesterday), including:

The number one and number two problems were "underinsurance" and "Loss Of Use" in the: '89 hurricane "Hugo", '91 "Oakland/Berkeley Firestorm", '92 Los Angeles "Riots", '93 hurricane "Andrew", '94 "Northridge Earthquake", '95 "Storm of the Century", '96 hurricane "Fran", '98 hurricane "George", '00 "Cerro Grande Firestorm", '02 "Showlow Fires", '03 "Mount Lemmon Firestorm", '03 "Southern California Firestorms", and '03 hurricane Isabel.

Solution:-- Recommend more availability of the old-fashioned "Guaranteed Replacement" policy,

Solution:-- Recommend that insurance agents have to inform policy applicants of all possible "optional" coverages, so that they can better insure and protect themselves,

Solution:-- Recommend that if the insurance companies refuse to substantially increase the limits for those policyholders substantially "under-insured", to force that,

Solution:--Recommend that new coverage be offered for "tree debris removal",

Solution:--Recommend that "Loss Of Use" coverage be for a minimum of 2 years (in a major catastrophe), and that it be at least a minimum of 30% of the building limit,

Solution:--Recommend that coverage for "code upgrade" ("law or ordinance") be at least 20% of the building limit and "additional" insurance...not out of the building limit.

Solution:-- Recommend that at least one experienced and licensed Public Insurance Adjuster be Involved as an "insurance coverage, policy adjustment expert and resource",

Solution:--And much more.

The insurance industry "PR" spokesman had told the Commission what the "industry has learned from the '91 "Oakland/Berkeley Firestorm". What was it that the industry had learned? Certainly not how to properly insure their policyholders in "catastrophe-prone" geographical locations; with better policy coverages, and more of it!

I informed the Commission of what has been going on here; and how it was beginning to rise to the surface in their "Firestorm" communities. They were very interested, and concerned. I hope that it will be of benefit to all of the "totalloss" insured homeowners here on Mount Lemmon. Because if changes are made by the So. California insurance companies to the benefit of the many "under-insured" homeowners there; it should be of assistance in helping to resolve those same issues here, for this smaller but equally devastated community.

By the way, there has been absolutely no verification to the rumor that "USAA" has increased their policy limits after the date of the loss, as had been suggested. It may come to pass; however, as of today it can not be verified. I will keep you informed of the progress there, as it may impact the Mount Lemmon policyholders.

Switching subjects: Now that my firm represents a larger number of the Mount Lemmon policyholders, we are able to compare just how policyholders within the same insurance company and with the same policy, are being treated and/or discriminated against in their claim settlements. There are some very interesting situations with policyholders having the same insurance company, policy, and even the same adjuster sometimes:

No depreciation has been taken with some, while it was with others, Much more depreciation taken with some, and much less taken with others, Debris removal paid from coverages "A", "B", and "C" with some, and not with others, Tree debris removal being paid for a few, and not for most others, Loss Of Use paid without being incurred for a few, while not for others, And much more!

Also, please note that I will be here giving free claim reviews and settlement analysis most of the time for the next several months, other than: March 5th thru 11th, March 18th,

and 10 days or so in April, May and June. These meetings take place in the "computer room" at "Far Horizon's Tucson Village, at 555 N. Pantano Road, Tucson; and last between one and two hours per policyholder's claim. Take advantage of this free opportunity. If its being for free bothers you, then donate something to the Mount Lemmon Fire Department; and then still take advantage of my free claim and settlement review. You just might learn what else you are entitled to.

Our adjusters are working successfully with many of your neighbors already; and we're finding lots of insurance coverage payments that are legitimately owed to them, from their fire losses. This is even true for those of you that had believed that their claims were settled properly and fairly. Let us help you, too!

Thank you for your time and your support. We all wish you the very best with your claims and your recoveries. Please let me know if we can be of assistance to you. I have lots of open time to meet with you; and I am here most of the time. Until next time, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Pete Romero, President
"PETER ROMERO, P.A."
Arizona State licenses 135136 and 163993
(520) 290-3341 (locally), email: promero4@cox.net

Water Co-Op/ Water District

by Michael Stanley

I hope all of you are having a good winter. The latest storm on 2/23 brought us 12" of fresh snow. This will help the watershed and give us a better start to the spring. I hope we continue getting these storms as we approach summer. The Sabino Spring is producing 14 gallons per minute and we have pumped water to fill both Loma Linda Big and Miners Ridge Tanks.

We have had more freezing this year than any other year I can remember. The main line in Upper Loma Linda Loop froze a section in the roadway and required 6 hours of welder time to thaw. Guthrie loop was frozen in at least four places. We thawed the line from the Turkey Run Road through the creek. The line still has a freeze between Grosbeak and Cap Rock Trail. This may be frozen for some time due to the condition of the road way and getting the welder up to a connection point. Also, we have had several freezes at customer's locations

I am working with the Fire Wise community and the County on locations of fire hydrants. We are counting on getting FEMA funding to extend the 6" main line in the Cater

Canyon area. These work orders have been presented to the federal office of emergency management for their approval. I have received a final quote for the two new tanks, the Sabino tank will be 66' in diameter and 32' high, 809,000 gallons, the Carter Canyon tank will be 38' in diameter and 16' high, 141,000 gallons. I will put these tanks on order this next week in order to lock in the steel costs.

On the district due diligence, I had to rewrite the Forest Service schedules as to the property of ours on federal land. We are in the final phase of this documentation. The engineers have been up and are inspecting the system. They want to see every meter but due to the weather this may be impossible until spring. This is continuing work.

We have been using the "85" Dodge as a support vehicle but there is a problem with the drive train. I have not had time to diagnose the problem. Bill Slanaker from Quest Design & Construction Company is helping us to secure a donation of second vehicle to replace the Blazer which burnt in the fire. He struck out with the first auto company but is now working on another big dealer for the vehicle. Bill has also supported us in getting matching donations from businesses. Thank you Bill.

Nathan is doing a great job of keeping the system up and in operation while I have worked on the District. This concludes the major happenings for the past month or so.

P.S.

Dennis and Barbara Haynes are leaving Tucson to start a new phase of their lives in Boise, Idaho to be near their family. The Water Co-op/DWID and the Mt. Lemmon community will miss them both as they were always available for community assistance. Dennis had been on the water board for over 10 years, taking minutes at the meetings and being available for whatever help we needed. Dennis was the spark plug working tirelessly to get the DWID formed in record time last fall. The DWID would never have been formed without his perseverance and determination. Mt. Lemmon water thanks both Dennis and Barbara for their continuing effort providing community assistance wherever needed. We wish Barbara and Dennis the best in Boise, Idaho and hope that when they return to Tucson to visit we will see them on the mountain

Ed Roll

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Discounts for all Mt. Lemmon Homeowners

Trees for Mt Lemmon

Barb Eisele - Interim Project Director

Trees for Mt Lemmon plans many activities for the spring. If you have questions please feel free to contact me at 749-2695 or beisele@earthlink.net. Our website, treesformtlemmon.org, will be up in the next month. Contact me for a list of native and invasive plants.

Ponderosa Propagation:

About 10% of the seeds we planted in January have germinated. The low rate is due to our extensive drought and the Ponderosa's unique characteristics.

Our technical advisory committee has recommended that we wait until next year to plant the seedlings that we are growing at the Plant Materials Center. We will transfer them into larger pots for planting next year.

The trees we will be distributing to property owners this year will be the trees that the Forest Service has been growing to plant along the highway construction area. They have generously offered them to us to for use on private and community land. We will have 1,300 trees to distribute for free to Mt Lemmon property owners. An email announcement will be posted giving the schedule of the education classes.

Shrub and Wildflower Grant Awarded!

Alix Rogstad of the U of A Cooperative Extension Service wrote a \$10,000 grant that will provide seeds for wildflowers and native grasses to private property owners. The intention of the grant is to keep invasive species from getting established on our properties that have been burned. The seeds will be available to everyone.

Native and Fire Wise Landscaping Demonstration Site:

Scott Calhoun of Civano Nursery has volunteered to assist with the design of the demonstration garden. We are seeking grant monies to pay for the plants and educational materials needed to create the demonstration area.

Collaboration with Civano Nursery

Civano Nursery at 5301 S. Houghton Rd. is working with Trees for Mt Lemmon to sell native plants to Mt. Lemmon property owners. In some cases they will be propagating plants from seeds collected on the mountain. The plants will have the Trees for Mt Lemmon logo on them indicating they are indigenous species to Mt Lemmon. Shari Kelly of Kelly's Green Nursery has been growing Gamble Oak from seeds collected from Marshall Gulch. The trees, in 15 gallon pots, will be available for purchase at Civano Nursery.

Fundraising and Donations:

Trees for Mt Lemmon has received some wonderful financial support from the Tucson and Mt Lemmon communities. The Tucson restaurant association, Original's, had a fund raiser late last summer and has made a donation of \$7,448.35. Probably the most inspiring donation came from the three 7 year olds pictured here. They sold lemonade, did household chores and solicited donations from friends and relatives around the country, "to help Mt Lemmon". They came to the greenhouse to see the trees and presented us with a check for \$122.20.



Christy, Robert, and Clare visiting the "trees" and making a donation to Trees for Mt. Lemmon

The Desert in winter

By Barbara Welsh

While the mountain is resting under a snow blanket, the animals and plants are very active in the desert. I have many goldfinches in my yard as well as the very fat quail and doves. A pair of cardinals has also been around and the humming-birds are constant visitors. In the desert the year round hummingbirds are the Anna's and the Broad billed species, also the calliope is not that rare. We do not have the Ruby throated humming bird here unless one accidentally is blown in on a storm. Many people mistake the Broad tailed for the Ruby throated as both look very much alike. The Ruby throated lives east of the Mississippi and is the only hummer in that part of the country. The two species rarely interbreed especially this far west.

The prickly pear in Sabino Canyon is starting to get its leaves, (that is not a misprint) the spines on the pads were once leaves. You can see them for a couple days when the new pads start to form. After the rains some of the grasses are just starting and hidden in the green will be the wildflowers.

We have had an interesting year at Sabino Canyon as the mountain lion and the foxes have joined us in that lovely place. Fortunately, where we have the children these animals are not regularly seen. They are probably here this year because the fire destroyed some of their habitat and they still need food and water. Rabies is fairly common in foxes and the animals that approached humans were in the last stages of the disease. We have only had one class cancel and this was right after the newspaper story.

Enjoy the desert for now until spring again comes to our mountain.

Mount Lemmon Memorial Quilt

By Tina Hanks

The Mt. Lemmon memorial quilt project will be making 3 quilts. Two of the quilts will be 5 blocks by 6 blocks and one will be 4 blocks by 5 blocks. The reason we have had to split them is due to the difficulty of dealing with quilts that are larger than the 5 by 6 blocks.

One of our neighbors, Leigh Anne Thrasher, has introduced me to a wonderful person and wonderful resource to help us with the quilt. Her name is Rose Page and she will be with us at the meetings. She has made some suggestions that will help us to be better organized and to help people know how they can best take part in this "phase two" of the quilt. There will be three groups of people at each location.

Group one will be the pressers. They will iron the pieces both before and after we sew them together. Will those people who want to help in that area please bring an iron, a spray water bottle, and either an ironing pad or ironing board.

Group two will be the pinners. They will help by pinning the pieces and the sashing together. Please bring long pins if you have some.

Group three will be the folks who sew. Please bring your sewing machine, light grey thread, a full bobbin, sharp machine needles, scissors, and a seam ripper.

It would be helpful to let me know which group you would like to be in by email if possible. Some have asked if they can come only some of the days and/or part of the time and the answer is OF COURSE! And if you would just like to watch and to visit that will be good for all of us too.

We have two meeting places, one on the east and one on the west side of town. On the east side, we will be meeting at Hancocks Fabrics on the northeast corner of 22nd and Wilmot. We will meet there on Wednesdays from 10am to 1pm. The dates for these meetings are

March 3rd, 17th and 31st April 7th and 21st May 5th and 19th

On the west side of town we will meet at Cathey's inside of Joann's Fabrics on the southeast corner of Roger and Oracle. It is inside a shopping center and you have to go behind the first set of building. We will meet there on Sunday afternoons from 12pm to 4 pm. The dates are

March 7th and 21st April 11th and 25th May 2nd, 16th and 30th

Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope this part will be fun for everyone

Woman's Club News

By Luann Waldron, President MLWC

Dates of upcoming meeting:

March 27- Saturday- 8:00-2:00- Southern District GFWC Meeting at the Tucson Woman's Clubhouse April 7-Wednesday-6:30 PM- Election of Officers for 2004-2006

May 5- Wednesday-6:30 PM Installation of new Officers May 15-16 Saturday/Sunday GFWC State Conference in Tempe, AZ.

Any information regarding our Woman's Club please call Fran Zimmerman 567-1333 or Luann Waldron 743-3034.

Peter Romero, P.A. Licensed Public Adjuster Lic. #135136 & 163993

PETER ROMERO, P.A.

Licensed Adjusters Of Claims For The Insured

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DAVE CUTSHAW

3110 NORTH FIRST AVENUE TUCSON, ARIZONA 85719 LICENSE #ROC 167870-B 520.791.0030 FAX 520.622.8636 CELL 520.240.0107

2004 membership dues are due. in January 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 (editor of the Echoes). If you have any suggestions or comments, I can be reached at 298-5971 or by Email at gnhunter@mindspring.com.