

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 Debbie Fagan

It's April 29th and all month I've been looking for signs of spring. The Cow Parsnip is 4" high (known by the nickname "Skunk Cabbage" to all whose kids who trample through it all summer). The Dandelion is in full bloom. Mullein is abundant. Its soft, furry leaves are a substitute for toilet paper - so I've been told. Trees and shrubs are budding. Birds are pairing off, including a couple of crows hanging out by my shop. (Maybe they are waiting for the Cookie Cabin to reopen!) Last, but not least, tons of insects have appeared, including ladybugs.

April also brought our 2005 Annual Homeowner's Dinner. For those who could not attend, over 200 were treated to a great buffet at the Hidden Valley Inn. Guest Speakers included: Ray Carroll, our Pima County Supervisor, Marv Athey, Trico Electric, Phil Swaim and Bob Zimmerman, Summerhaven Village Center, John Jones, Trees for Mt. Lemmon and Stakeholders, Brian Lauber, Mt. Lemmon Firewise Designation, Dean Barnella, Mt. Lemmon Fire Dept., and Ed Roll, Mt. Lemmon Water Improvement District. Chip Delay and Fred Pace were elected to be on the Homeowners Board and Gordon Hunter will remain for another term. I'd like to send a heartfelt adios to Don Underhill, whose term expired.

Last month, I wrote and sent a letter to Lt. Tim Hughes, on behalf of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association concerning the lack of having two deputies covering the mountain. Later Carol Bender wrote another letter expressing a similar concern. These letters were answered by Capt Warren Alter. You will find his response included in this issue of the ECHOES. Letters and/or phone calls from Mt. Lemmon Homeowners are still needed.

I hope to see you all Sunday, May 29th, at the Community Potluck and Bingo Games. (Details are inside). Plans are also in the works for the official Grand Opening of The Living Rainbow on the same day. (Keep your fingers crossed!)

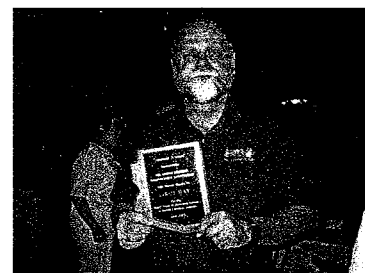


Happy May!

P.S. Sat. morning, April 30th, Ski Valley: Aspen are beginning to bud, Lupine are in bloom and the fern are just starting to uncurl. Yahoo!

Leroy Day receives SUMMIT AWARD

This year's recipient of the Summit Award went to Leroy Day. The award was presented by last year's recipient Chip Delay. Those of you who are not acquainted with Leroy, he is the school bus driver, active member of the fire department, snow plow driver, and all around great guy! Leroy has been a resident of Mt. Lemmon for 12 years and is married to Jeanne Mayer, also a member of the fire department. Congratulations to Leroy and many thanks for his many services to the mountain.



Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Annual Dinner Door Prizes

Contributors	Item
Jay Zucker	Az Sidewinders Gift Basket
Mt. Lemmon Café	One \$25 free Lunch for Two
General Store & Gift Shop	Two \$35 Gift Certificates
Living Rainbow	Two \$25 Gift Certificates
Thomas Cleaners	One \$25 Gift Certificate
Ski Valley	Two Sweatshirts
	Four Gift Certificates
Ace Hardware/Catalina Hwy	Electrical drill & Sander
Chuy's Catalina Hwy	Dinner for Two
Tree's for Mt. Lemmon	Shirt & License Plate
(Wendy & Jonas Hunter & George & Carrie Reitz)	Three Necklaces
Mt. Lemmon Reality	"Look to the Mountain"- Book
	"Forged by Fire" - Book
Hidden Valley Inn	One \$50 Gift Certificate
(Jim Murphy & Ron Brown)	
Trico Electric	Two \$50 Gift Certificate

Sheriff Dupnik Office's Reply

April 5, 2005

Dear Ms. Bender,

Sheriff Dupnik has directed staff to evaluate, review, and respond to your letter and its attached petitions. It should be noted, that yours is not the first letter we received regarding this issue, having also received correspondence from the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association (Ms. Deborah Fagan) in February. As a result of research conducted for that original letter, I am quite familiar with the staffing and call load issue for the Rincon Patrol District and Mt. Lemmon in particular.

The Pima County Sheriff's Department is extremely concerned about prevention of crime and protection of a safe environment for all of Pima County, not just Mt. Lemmon. While it is true that a second deputy assigned to the Mt. Lemmon area might be deterrence against various crimes, the deputies I have available are assigned to areas requiring immediate response to crimes in progress. Unfortunately, our calls for service throughout Pima County have increased and our department's staffing has not grown sufficiently to meet all those needs.

In August of 2004, when one of the two Mt. Lemmon deputies retired, I supported the decision by Lt. Hughes not to fill the vacancy due to staffing levels the Rincon Patrol District was experiencing. Since that time, staffing levels in the Rincon Patrol District, as well as the rest of the Uniform Operations Division (Patrol) have remained nearly the same despite efforts to hire, train and replace vacancies. Many people are not aware that it takes close to nine months to hire, train, and produce a fully productive officer once the decision is made to replace them.

In making the decision to leave staffing on Mt. Lemmon at one officer, I considered the growing population and call load in other parts of the Rincon District and Pima County, as well as the population and number of calls for service occurring on Mt. Lemmon. The southeast portion of Pima County is growing at an amazing rate, and the calls for service match that growth. However, please don't think that the Pima County Sheriff's Department is simply ignoring your needs. Although you only have one deputy assigned to the mountain full-time, you have the benefit of all the department's resources when needed. We are continuing response to all priority calls for service, even when the assigned Mt. Lemmon deputy is off or unavailable. The Rural Squad of the Rincon District has primary responsibility for supplementing calls for service on Mt. Lemmon, and if for some reason one of them is unavailable, a Rincon patrol unit is dispatched. This Rural squad also handles search and rescue responsibilities, so frequently one or more of them are in the Mt. Lemmon area for those activities. We also utilize our Sheriffs Auxiliary Volunteers (SAV) to assist us with traffic control and traffic

related Issues on Mt. Lemmon. On special occasions and holiday weekends you may have units from the Special Operations Section assigned to work the mountain providing traffic control and traffic enforcement as well as responding to calls for service. You also have the support and service of our department's Criminal Investigations Division and their detectives. These detectives do follow-up investigations on all major incidents. Finally, we have also adjusted the assigned deputy's schedule to maximize his availability during peak hours and on weekends. At all times that he is physically on the mountain, he is on-call 24-7 for emergency response. I recognize while some of these solutions may be short term solutions, they all demonstrate our concern for the residents of Mt. Lemmon.

With regards to long term solutions, we have asked for 93 additional deputies over the next three years in our department's budget requests. As stated, it is not just the Rincon District that is experiencing a shortage of commissioned officers. With the addition of more deputies, our ability to meet the ever increasing demands for service would be addressed. As the Uniform Operations Commander, I am continually evaluating the staffing needs of the six patrol sections under my command and making staffing adjustments. At the current time, our division is short 15 deputies, but replacements are in various stages of training. I am hopeful that by fall, when the majority of those trainees complete their training, our staffing levels will have improved sufficiently for me to address your request.

Meanwhile, Lt. Hughes (Rincon District Commander), Sgt. Berry (Rural Squad Sergeant) and I will continue to review and monitor the call needs for your areas. While I do not anticipate assigning a second full time officer to Mt. Lemmon, I do anticipate increased patrol coverage by our Rural Squad during the traditionally busy summer months as highway construction concludes and local residents leave the valley to escape the summer heat. Hopefully, this letter has provided you with some additional information which may alleviate some of your concerns. The Pima County Sheriff's Department is committed to community policing and will continue to monitor and adjust its resources to meet our citizens' needs. If you would like any further information, please feel free to call Lt. Hughes or Sgt. Berry at the Rincon Office (295-4511) or me at the Sheriff's Administration Office (741-4636).

Sincerely,

Captain Warren M. Alter
Commander, Uniform Operations Division

Fire District Update

By the Barnella's



Fire Season is here! And the Campgrounds opened on Friday, April 29th. The Mt. Lemmon Fire District did not receive additional funding this year for Severity to patrol for fire danger. We are asking the Community to assist in the patrol efforts, to be aware of any "unoccupied" BBQ, campfires, warming fires or suspicious activities while driving or hiking the mountain. If you notice any of these situations, please do **not** hesitate to contact the fire department directly at 576-1202 or call 9-1-1 with this information.

The Mt. Lemmon Fire District is working to continue the Pima County Right-of-Way projects. The next and final phase is being presented at the Pima County Supervisor's meeting on May 3rd. This funding will complete the "Hazard Fuel Abatement" project on the South side of the mountain; including the Tucson, Ray, and Ajo corridors. Please remember, if you have dead trees that still need to be removed from your properties, contact Harry Findysz at 576-1201. He is available at the fire station on Mondays and Fridays. Harry Findysz can make sure there is a Liability Release Form on file, and/or schedule your property for cutting.

For those who did not make it to this year's Annual Homeowner's Dinner, the Mt. Lemmon Fire District would like to take this opportunity to recognize Bob Zimmerman and Dani Hayhurst for their years of service and dedication to the Mt. Lemmon Fire District and the Community.

Bob Zimmerman 1982-2004 and Dani Hayhurst 1990-2004

Thank You!



ARIZONA FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

2nd Annual – "What's Next" on Mt. Lemmon

When: Saturday, May 14th, 2005
Time: 10:00 a.m. til 2:00 p.m.
Where: Mt. Lemmon Fire Station

Topics Included:

- Fire District, Forest Service & ASLD Fuels Treatment Projects
- Water District Plans & Progress
- Trees For Mt. Lemmon
- Rebuilding Q&A w/Pima County

Fundraiser – BBQ Lunch at the Fire House!

Please Contact DeAnna Barnella or Joe Gunia
 At 576-1201 with any Questions

REAL LIFE ADVENTURES/ Gary Wise & Lance Aldrich

I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE OUR NEW SON. HE WAS OUR CONTRACTOR, BUT HE'S BEEN WORKING HERE AT THE HOUSE SO LONG, WE DID THE MATH, AND IT WAS CHEAPER TO ADOPT HIM.



Forest Closures and Restrictions

by Ross Quigley

A question asked by Chet Goldberg at a recent Stakeholders meeting prompted a response by Forest Service District Ranger Larry Raley. The question was "What are the key criteria for imposing Forest Closures or Use Restrictions?" This is a question many of us have asked for years as we see drought conditions increase and the potential for man caused fires increase. I thought the answer would be simple, however I am now aware of the fact that many factors affect these decisions.

The Forest Service has a very precise procedure for imposing restrictions and District Ranger Raley has provided a concise Closure Implementation Guide for my review. This is a ten page document that the Homeowners Association will be happy to provide to anyone who requests it, but I will attempt to summarize the key points.

The Forest Service evaluates the Energy Release Component (ERC), a measure of potential fire danger, into five categories. These are low, moderate, high, very high and extreme. These are viewed by how they are affected by the ten day weather forecast and responses are rated as Level 1 & 2, Level 3-, Level 3+, Level 4 and Level 5. Other factors considered are : risk to fire fighters, ongoing fire activity, social, political and economic impacts, Increase/decrease in recreation use, and likelihood of natural or human caused ignitions

There are four levels or stages of restrictions and closures when considering fire danger.

Stage I(restriction)- No smoking outside of vehicles, or buildings. No open campfires outside of developed sites. No fireworks.

Stage II(restriction)- Adds prohibitions for explosives, chainsaws, welding and using motor vehicles off road. Also requires spark arresters.

Stage III(closure)- Partial Forest closure, with very few exceptions.

Stage IV(closure) - Full Forest closure, with very few exceptions.

The District Ranger identifies the need for restrictions or closures based on the existing conditions & then contacts the Forest Fire Management Staff who contact the Southeast Zone Board. An assessment of needs is established and the Forest Supervisor authorizes the order for restrictions or closures.

After reviewing the Forest Service plan for restrictions and closures it appears that there really are very rigid guidelines that are followed and the decisions are not made in a random fashion. I have only summarized the process and I urge you to request a copy of this document if you have further questions. I've read it several times and I'm still not 100% clear!

Fire Season Update

By Sarah Davis

Santa Catalina Ranger District,
Coronado National Forest

April 29, 2005

Today the upper elevation campgrounds on Mt. Lemmon are open for the summer season. The popular Rose Canyon Campground, along with Spencer Canyon and Showers Point Group Site will offer camping and picnicking. Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site and Peppersauce Campground remain open year-round. Molino Basin Campground closed April 25th.

In case you are wondering about the three closed picnic areas in Bear Canyon (Chihuahua Pine, Middle Bear, and Cypress), the highway reconstruction contractor is still occupying these areas with construction materials and equipment. Once they are finished and maintain the picnic areas back to their pre-construction state, the District recreation employees can get the facilities ready for picnicking again. The three sites will then be opened.

With many people coming to the mountain again, and with the always possible chance of lightning strikes, there is an increased potential for wildfires especially as the temperatures rise and the days get longer. The Santa Catalina District has a year-round fire permit process. Any visitor to the Forest who will be starting a fire in an area other than in a developed site grill must get a fire permit. At the time the permit is applied for the issuer has the opportunity to discuss fire safety with the applicant. This is also valuable because the employee provides the forest visitor with the **latest** conditions in the area and the most up to date information regarding fire safety. There will soon be a need for fire restrictions on the mountain so this permitting process, coupled with media releases, will provide the personal face-to-face communication necessary to explain the restrictions.

Currently four counties in the state have fire restrictions: Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, and La Paz. These restrictions are due to low elevation and the lack of rainfall. These areas are much dryer than ours, and much lower in elevation. The Tonto National Forest has restricted fires in the south and western portions of the Forest, also in all low elevation areas. All state and federal agencies will likely be creating fire restrictions in higher elevations based on weather conditions as they occur. Signs will be posted, as this is required for law enforcement officers to take action in the field. This state-wide group of land managers will look at the moisture in light fuels, frequency of human-caused fires in each area, and other factors, then proceed as a group to begin the high elevation fire restrictions and signing of the areas. According to their recent conference call, this will probably happen about mid-May.

For fire restrictions see www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire and select FIRE INFORMATION on the right side of the home page, then select Fire Restrictions.

Trees for Mt Lemmon

By Barbara Eisele



Trees and Shrubs:

Brad Blake who is growing our trees and shrubs reports that we have an excellent "crop" of both trees and shrubs growing at NAU.

There are several varieties of trees including Ponderosa, Doug Fir and White Fir, it looks like a blue spruce! He also is growing shrubs including raspberries and Dogwood and native Columbine and Penstemon in the flower category. We expect all these to be available again in July and August during the monsoon season, so watch for notices.

Living Rainbow Demonstration Garden Dedication:

We are all very excited about the official grand opening of the new Living Rainbow. As part of that celebration the Alpine Rock Garden will be dedicated on Sunday, May 29 at 11 AM. The garden is being funded with money donated by the Patio Garden Club in Tucson. Please come and join us for this celebration.

Stakeholders Meeting April 1-2, 2005 Summary:

Please call John Jones at 271-7298 or Barb Eisele at 977-0562 if you have any questions regarding the Stakeholders Meeting.

Motivated by the Aspen Fire and the resulting devastation to the forests on Mt Lemmon, the Village of Summerhaven and surrounding areas in June 2003, a group of community leaders initiated a broad-based effort to stimulate collaborative natural resource management on Mt. Lemmon and Upper Sabino Watershed region. The meeting of multiple entities, referred to here as stakeholders, involved with the natural and community resources on Mt Lemmon was organized. The kick-off event, a multi-stakeholders workshop entitled "Collaboratively Managing Natural Resources: Deciding Mt. Lemmon's Future," was held in Tucson on April 1-2, 2005 to explore stakeholder interests, the potential for collaboration, and to begin planning for the future. The meeting was organized by a steering committee led by Trees for Mt. Lemmon, a community-based special project of the Coronado Resource and Conservation Development Area, a 501 © 3 non profit corporation. The Steering Committee was made up of representatives from Trees for Mt Lemmon, the US Forest Service, University of Arizona, the U of A Cooperative Extension Service, and the Audubon Society.

Mt Lemmon is part of the Santa Catalina Mountains, a unique sky island that includes the Upper Sabino Watershed, ponderosa pine with genetics distinct from other areas, habitat for a wide variety of plants and wildlife, the village of Sum-

merhaven with its businesses and surrounding areas of homes for full and part time residents, and attractions for southern Arizonans to enjoy the high cool forest. In addition to the huge structural losses incurred during the Aspen Fire, significant damage occurred to the watershed and forest. Limited water resources have always been an issue on Mt Lemmon. Forest management has been debated for years. Both issues have, at times, divided individuals and entities responsible for them. The group that initiated this meeting sought to bring organizations and entities responsible for all the natural and community resources together to discuss how to build collaborative relationships to create a future for Mt Lemmon based on common visions and goals.

The professionally facilitated meeting was convened on Friday evening, April 1, and all day Saturday, April 2, 2005, at the City of Tucson's Ward 6 Office. On Friday evening, approximately 65 people from the Mt Lemmon community were present when two members from the Forest Service kicked off the meeting: Larry Raley, Santa Catalina District Ranger, described fire mitigation work, the Forest Plan Revision, and other plans in the Coronado National Forest, while Ignacio Peralta, of the Carson N.F., described the innovative Collaborative Forest Restoration Program in New Mexico. The majority of the meeting was dedicated to participant input, discussion and planning. Issues of concern included, education of the public regarding fire danger, when is it appropriate to close the forest to the public because of fire danger, and thinning a perimeter around the village of Summerhaven. The major concern expressed by the community dealt with preventing another catastrophic fire from affecting their properties and the community.

On Saturday, about 40 people, representing an array of constituencies and perspectives, brought forth their views about future management of natural and community resources on Mt. Lemmon. The dominant themes were:

- Healthy forests and watersheds through sustainable and balanced forest management, planning, collaboration and stewardship.
- A balance between natural systems and community needs through a process of collaborative and integrated management of the whole landscape.
- A sustainable community and healthy economy that provides for residential, commercial and recreational uses, including the commercial use of forest products.
- A spirited sense of collaboration, partnership, cohesion and volunteerism.

Participants identified a range of entities that would have to work together to achieve the desired future of Mt. Lemmon. While the Coronado National Forest is responsible for activity on public lands, other activities would be under the purview of the community organizations of Mt. Lemmon, including Trees for Mt. Lemmon, the Mt. Lemmon Fire District and the Mt. Lemmon Water District. Pima County, the Arizona State Land Department, the University of Arizona, and

organized conservation groups were also identified as critical participants in a collaborative process for Mt. Lemmon.

The participants identified principles to guide the collaborative effort. The primary principle is that the group be a new entity, not an outgrowth of existing organizations. All entities that were invited to the April meeting are to be included and further brainstorming of other participants will take place at the first meeting of the group that is to be created. Participants indicated a preference for open membership with multiple levels and options for participation and varied methods of outreach to engage stakeholders not yet involved. The new alliance would serve as the umbrella organization for collaboration and coordination among stakeholders, provide a forum for education and communication, and facilitate joint planning and implementation of agreed-upon projects. The new group could also be the primary public interface with the Coronado National Forest, which is preparing to launch its Forest Plan Revision process later this year.

Finally, the participants agreed to a series of immediate next steps, including expanding and distributing a new stakeholder list to participants, to convene a second meeting the week of April 25, and to distribute the final report of the stakeholder meeting to all of the meeting participants and the community at large through an Executive Summary with the full notes being available on the Trees for Mt Lemmon website www.treesformtlemon.org. The participants also agreed to learn from other collaborative groups working on similar issues elsewhere in Arizona, to review the current Coronado National Forest Plan, and to meet with Coronado National Forest planning staff to discuss options for collaboration with the Mt. Lemmon stakeholders in the Plan Revision process.

Follow on meeting of the Stakeholders:

A follow up meeting was held on April 27 and attended by approximately 30 people. They identified several areas of focus:

- Public Education and Communication
- Water Resources Plan
- Community Fire Plan updates.
- Forest Products
- Input to Forest Service Land Management Plan

Sub groups were formed to work on each issue and to bring results of their first meetings to the next meeting scheduled for May 25 from 12 noon to 2 PM at the Tucson Ward 6 office, 3202 E. First St.

A draft mission statement and group name were presented and will continue to be worked on: The draft version is: the mission of the Catalina Mountains Partnership is to restore healthy forests and sustainable communities through collaborative management:

- Promoting stewardship
- Practicing partnership
- Joint planning
- Project implementation
- Public education outreach
- Community involvement

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

Linda Mulay, President
327-4615

The Southern District Spring Convention in Benson, Arizona on March 5th was attended by Linda Mulay, Fran Zimmerman, Helen Quigley, Luann Waldron and Ginny Durham. Our club received eight recognitions for reports written by Luann Waldron for work in Education, Conservation, Home Life, International affairs and Public affairs. Linda Currin received 1st place for her pinecone wreath and 1st place for an adult and child knitted ponchos, Linda Mulay 1st place for stamped Christmas note cards, Ginny Durham 1st place for a water color painting, Rosemary Hinsch 1st place for her diva sunglasses and Luann Waldron 2nd place for counted cross stitch. We received 3rd place for our scrap book (we should have gotten 1st). Thank-you to Rosemary Hinsch for taking the time to put the scrap book together for us. I will bring it to the meetings for you to see all the work she put into the book.

April 13th we had a meeting at Olga Paces home. Our speakers were from the Nash Elementary Family Literacy Program. After talking to the Director of the program and three of the adult students we now have a better understanding of the program.

Our club donated \$500.00 for the Nash Elementary students to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind competition.

April 9th we had many members of our club participate in the community cleanup of the Village. We helped fill three trucks that Dennis Cozzetti provided and a trailer provided by Fred Pace.

April 22-24 is the GFWC-AZ state convention in Prescott, Arizona.

Next meeting is May 18th at Judy Epstein's studio and she will talk to us about digital photography.

 * ASK MAGGIE *
 * This is a new ECHOES column . You can ask *
 * Maggie any question about the mountain and Maggie *
 * will research and answer it. We'll be working out *
 * the logistics, but for now you can email your ques- *
 * tions to gordon@hunteraz.com. I will relay them to *
 * Maggie and we will publish the question one month *
 * and the answer the following month. *
 * Q1. Is it true that there are "prints" of the proprietors *
 * derriere in the sidewalk of the Living Rainbow? *



Come Chill at the 2nd Annual Aspen Ball

On Saturday, June 18th, Trees for Mt. Lemmon is holding the 2nd Annual Aspen Ball, a night of dinner and dancing at the Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park from 6 – 10 pm. It will feature music by the Desert Cadillac's.

Come chill with a winter theme, great food and music, a large selection of gifts at the silent auction and an opportunity to support Trees for Mt. Lemmon, the Mt. Lemmon Fire District and the Mt. Lemmon Water District.

The ticket price is \$40.00 per person (\$15.00 tax deductible)

Tickets are on sale at:

BedMart, 6252 E. Speedway & 3739 N. Oracle

UPS Store, 5425 E. Broadway

Thomas Cleaners, 6767 E. Tanque Verde

Mt. Lemmon General Store

The Living Rainbow



By the time you receive this issue of the ECHOES the following test will probably have already happened, but it's included here so that in case you were not aware of the test, you will have the information. This notice is posted throughout the village

NOTICE

Smoke Testing Sewers

Pima County Wastewater Management work crews will be conducting smoke tests of the sanitary sewers in your area on Wednesday **May 4, 2005**. During the test **YOU MAY SEE SMOKE COMING FROM VENT STACKS ON BUILDINGS OR FROM HOLES IN THE GROUND**. Do not be alarmed. The smoke has no odor, is non-toxic, non-staining, does not create a fire hazard, and will dissipate in a few minutes.

Between 6:00 a.m. – 7:00 a.m. on May 4, please pour water into basement floor drains and into any unused sinks. This will seal the drain traps so that smoke will not enter your building through the drain.

If smoke should enter your building during the test, it probably means that there are defects in the plumbing that could allow **DANGEROUS SEWER GAS** to enter. Note the location where smoke is entering your home and call **576-1225** to arrange a meeting with our inspector. Open all doors and windows to ventilate any smoke that enters the building.

Please notify us before we conduct the test if you have any of the following situations:

- Dogs, birds or other pets that will be confined alone in the building during the test,
- A person who will be alone and is incapacitated or sleeping during the test,
- Any individual with respiratory problems who will be in the building,
- An elderly person who will be alone and might be alarmed or confused if they see smoke.

If you have any of these situations or have questions regarding the smoke test, call:

Laura Fairbanks at 740-6532

STACY TOOL

4112 E. GRANT RD. • TUCSON, AZ 85712
(520) 881-4545 • (FAX) 881-3969

Discounts for all Mt. Lemmon Homeowners

Field Trip

By Bob Celaya
Forest Health Specialist
AZ State Land Department

April 15th Field Trip

The following are just some of my observations:

- 1) Everyone had questions about the large number of hover flies/flower flies/drone flies found in the area. If you check the following website you will find some of the answers:
www.uky.edu/Agriculture/CritterFiles/casefile/insects/flies/syrphid/syrphid.htm
www.uky.edu/Agriculture/CritterFiles/casefile/insects/flies/syrphid/syrphid.htm .

Also found in conjunction with the hover flies were large numbers of lady beetles on the pine needles. See the following site for info. on lady beetles: www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/05594.html . Although I didn't find very many aphids on the pines, I suspect they're the common denominator for the presence of large numbers of hover flies/lady beetles. I suspect we'll see a lot more aphids during our field trip(s) on May 14th. See the following site for info. on aphids:
www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/05511.html .

2) I also found large numbers of thrips on pine foliage. I'm not sure how this insect fits into the picture---stay tuned! In addition to the thrips, I also found weevils, honey bees, tiny wasps, gnats/flies on the foliage & flea beetles which may feed on Az. alder after the trees re-leaf---you talk about biodiversity! I didn't see/hear any insectivorous birds in the area, & this may help to explain all the bugs I encountered. Even as I type this email, I suspect the birds are making their way up the mountain.

3) I did encounter a few more wind thrown trees in the area, & scattered broken tree branches. I didn't see any red sawdust on the wind thrown pines, so it appears that Ips beetles have not emerged from over wintering trees. Call me if you have any questions about these or other observations, & hope to see you on the 14th of May.

OBITUARY

Patricia Ann Gremmler
&

Carl Conrad "Connie" Gremmler II

The Gremmler's were property owners in Carter Canyon for over 25 years and devoted members of the Tucson Model "A" Club. They tragically lost their lives April 12, 2005 and will be greatly missed.

Water District

By Michael Stanley

It is spring? Some days on the Mountain still seem like winter but the conditions are rapidly changing. One day may be warm and sunny but the next may be cloudy, rainy and snowy with very strong cold winds. The winds have been extreme and even green trees have been uprooted. There has been over 30" of precipitation since October of last year.

The Water District is in the process of getting the Carter Canyon Tank site prepared for the new 140,000-gallon storage tank. The wet weather has set us behind due to the amount of water in the area of the site. We will be doing the final prep the first two weeks in May. The tank, scheduled for delivery May 18th, is estimated to take 3 weeks to complete the erection. After the tank completion, construction of the new 6" Ductile Iron Main line will start. At this time, there is no completion date set for this main line project but we estimate it will take about 4 weeks to install. Most of our activity will be in the Carter canyon area along with the regular workings over the mountain. We get really busy during the summer months due to the amount of construction taking place. Homeowners and construction persons, remember to call for BLUE STAKE before you dig anywhere on the mountain. When a water line is hit, it causes outages and requires us to leave our construction projects to do the repair work. The outages create an inconvenience to all the customers. In light of the fact there will be outages, I again request all of the customers to have extra water on hand during times of limited water or interruptions to service.

We are working with the Forest Service to start our Sabino Tank Project in September. This project will add over 800,000-gallons to our storage supply. The site is in the Spotted Owl Area and work can only take place during September to March. Of course, this is the hardest time to do work in the Upper Sabino Canyon area but we are accustomed to this procedure and installed our 212,000-gallon tank and filter building during the 1999-2000 season. We are expecting the approval to be in place prior to the winter season.

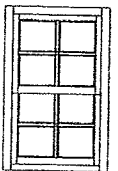
We are working on the final wording of the mitigation application for FEMA funds to install a 6" main line from the proposed new 800,000-gallon tank to the village. We expect to have a decision by September. This main will allow water for fire protection in an area that is very important to the watershed and did not burn during the Aspen fire. A second phase of the mitigation funding is to install a main from the Loma Linda Tank south to the Ajo/ Middle Sabino Area. Again, this area has no large diameter main line for fire protection and did not burn during the Aspen Fire.

We continue to move water lines to the public rights of way and out of properties. These projects will be ongoing for several years. Remember to call us if you have lower pressure than normal, see suspicious leaks or need to contact us on water issues. Our Phone number is 576-1538 and the billing number is 325-9558.

During the month of April I was able to take some time off and traveled to New Zealand. It is an amazing country and in many places reminded me of the mountain. While I was away, Nate did an excellent job of keeping the system running. Nate has been the co-operator of the system since July of 2002 and has done very well in learning the system and keeping water flowing to customers. This April marked the start of my twenty-fifth year working with the Mt. Lemmon Water Company. These years have seen many changes to the community and even though other places have their beauty the mountain remains my home. I want to thank Nate and the Board of Directors for their wonderful work while I was away.



REBUILDING DISCOUNTS FOR MT. LEMMON PROJECTS



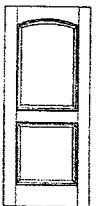
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Clean Up Saturday

By Dennis Cozzetti

I would like to thank the many dozens of volunteers who braved a very cold and very, very windy Saturday morning to pickup trash and construction debris along Sabino Creek, Carter Canyon and Turkey Run. In all, over six tons (hard to believe) of trash got hauled down off the mountain, including an engine block, certainly the one of the more unusual things to find in the stream bed. A special thanks to Phil and Carol Mack for providing the caffeine and sugar to get us all going and also to Fred and Olga Pace for providing equipment to haul the trash down the mountain and for *paying* the dump fees. The stream looks a whole lot better. I'll be asking for volunteers again, maybe towards the end of the summer, if needed, but definitely again next spring. But I promise to wait for warmer weather next time. Again, many thanks to all of you who helped.

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2005 membership are past due. The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association for its membership. Membership dues are \$25 annually. Renters 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 Debbie Fagan, President; Ross Quigley, vice-President; Carrie Reitz, Treasurer; Fran Zimmerman, Secretary; John Mulay; Pete Krauss; Tom Thomas; Don Underhill; Larry Waldron; Kathy Shields; Bonnie Lohman; Chip DeLay; Fred Pace 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 gordon@hunteraz.com.