

# The Mt. Lemmon Echoes

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

## Message from the Pres

by Debbie Fagan



Hello friends and neighbors! I'd like to extend a warm winter's welcome from "the hood" (your mountain neighborhood)! I hope your holidays were happy, your troubles few, and that 2006 will be a year of tremendous growth and prosperity for our community. Though the weather has been unusually warm and dry, our fall colors last year were beyond all my expectations: deep brilliant reds and bright golden yellows that took my breath away. Their beauty reawakened addictive behavior lying dormant and I literally turned into a "leaf gathering fool" on my daily walks. Bags and bags of leaves collecting in my living space soon outnumbered buckets of beads. I started stringing leaves instead and Dennis Cozzetti, being the good sport and smart man he is, has let me hang some of my creations in the Cozzetti Construction Trailer. I still have bags left so if you're interested, stop by The Living Rainbow for your free supply.

Your 2006 annual dues are due and plans are underway for the Homeowner's Dinner on April 18<sup>th</sup>, which will be held at the Hilton this year. Attendance is highly encouraged as many issues affecting you directly will be presented, so please mark your calendars.

## Fire District Updates

By the Barnella's

Happy New Year! The Mt. Lemmon Fire District would like to thank all those who assisted with, and participated in, the Halloween Party last October. This fundraiser brought in over \$1,700! The MLCEC's arranged the purchase of a new stove for the kitchen at the fire station with the monies raised. After cooking for all of the crews during and after the Bullock fires; during and after the Aspen fires; and all of the hazard fuel abatement projects, our stove has taken a beating. From all of us who cook and eat regularly at the station, THANK YOU!!

**Hazard Fuel Abatement.** The Mt. Lemmon Fire District has been working hard to complete the removal of hazard trees located in the Pima County right-of-ways. All that remains is the burn piles on the hillsides. We are anxiously awaiting snowfall to finish this project. If you have one of the few lots remaining with dead, black, or hazardous trees and would like assistance from the Fire District, please contact DeAnna Barnella at 576-1201 to schedule the cutting. The goal of the Fire District is to be finished with the hazard fuel abatement projects by June 30, 2006. We appreciate all of your patience and the assistance in contacting your "hard-to-reach" neighbors.

## It's time to renew your Mt Lemmon Homeowners Association Annual Dues

Voting Member (property owner's) \$25.00

Non-Voting Member (renter or friends of the mountain) \$20.00

Make checks payable to MLHO and mail to address on back of this coupon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Amt Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## FOR YOUR RECORDS

2006 MLHO DUES

Chk # \_\_\_\_\_

Amt-Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Fire Hydrants.** The Mt. Lemmon Water District is working hard to install several new water lines in the community. They are strategically placing fire hydrants at the same time to assist with fire protection. Fire hydrants cost approximately \$2,500 each. The Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association has stepped up and donated \$2,500 for the 1<sup>st</sup> of 6 new hydrants needed. Each hydrant will be dedicated to that specific group/individual. If you have any questions or would like to "Adopt a Hydrant", please contact Dean or DeAnna Barnella at 576-1201. Thank you again for helping to rebuild our community.

**Advanced Life Support.** The Mt. Lemmon Fire District is proud to announce that by next fiscal year 2006/2007, we will be able to provide Paramedic care 24/7. That means ALS available every day! We have 2 Paramedics on staff at this time, and have 3 more completing their certification! Keep up the good work.

#### *Upcoming Events...*

• The next **FireWise** meeting is scheduled for Saturday, **February 18<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. at the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station, 13170 N. Oracle Control Rd

• **Volunteer Training** begins on Wednesday, **February 1<sup>st</sup>** at 9:00 a.m. (We will be accepting new members as well as those who are "seasoned"!)

• **Fire Season.** In a meeting scheduled for **January 25<sup>th</sup>**, a discussion will be held regarding Coronado National Forest closing earlier than scheduled due to **High Fire Danger**.

• **Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!**

### **OBITUARY**

Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Board would like to send their Sincere condolences to :

Roy Haskell and Family in the passing of Patty, Dec 26, 2005. Patty was a long time member of the Woman's Club and supporter of many Community Events. Roy and Patty were married for 50 years and have spent many happy years in their cabin. We will greatly miss seeing her.

Tom Frank and his family for the loss of his parents, Annemarie Frank and Louis Charpentier on December 14<sup>th</sup>.

Harry Findysz for the loss of his father.

## **Santa Catalina Mountains Partnership**

By John Jones

On Wednesday January 25, 2006 the Santa Catalina Mountains Partnership met to continue the discussion about the uses and operations of the new Mt. Lemmon Community Center. The attendees represented a wide range of Mt Lemmon community organizations, the US Forest Service and Pima County.

Phil Swaim, architect, portrayed the building's location at the intersection of Turkey Run Rd. and Sabino Canyon Parkway as the most visible when entering the village. The layout of the building includes a 500 sq ft lobby, an 1800 sq ft meeting room, restrooms and storage rooms. A patio is adjacent to Sabino Creek on the west side and a walkway and drop off/loading zone is on the east side of the building. Steve Brigham outlined the result of the Public Art Committee, which has selected 2 artists to provide art for the inside and outside of the facility. Future artwork will include the trunk of the Ponderosa Inn apple tree within the center.

Meeting participants discussed the organizational concept of a multi-agency visitor center staffed by a least one paid employee and volunteers. Issues discussed were fees to cover costs, scheduling of the meeting room, providing information on Mt. Lemmon services and features and sales of maps but not other merchandise that would compete with existing merchants.

After considerable discussion it was determined to establish a Steering Committee of Ursula Kramer, Director of Pima County Department of Environmental Quality; Bob Zimmerman, Mt Lemmon Realty; Larry Raley, USFS Catalina District Ranger; Deanna Barnella, Assistant Chief of Mt Lemmon Fire Dept, and Pat Klein, aide to Congressman Kolbe to propose a business plan for the operation of the visitor center.

## **Wrestling Hall of Fame**

Long time Mt. Lemmon Homeowner John Mulay was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame on November 13, 2005. He was selected for "Lifetime Service to Wrestling". He coached and taught at Pueblo High School for 36 years. His teams won two state titles in 1975 and 1992.

**2006 MLHO Dues**

mail to  
**Home Owners Association**  
**P.O. Box 699**  
**Mt. Lemmon.Az 85619**

**Fire District Board**

by Chip Delay  
MLFD, Board of Directors

"On Tuesday, January 17, at 9:00 AM the Pima County Board of Supervisors met to consider the Mt. Lemmon Redevelopment Project and funding for the Community Center and Sabino Canyon Parkway. The County Administrator has recommended that the BOS approve a contract with Hunter Contracting. Construction must start before mid-February to avoid spotted owl surveys." ----I have been advised that the contract was approved.

The FireWise USA meeting last Saturday was cancelled due to some scheduling conflicts, and is next due to meet 02/18/06 at Sabino Canyon.

On Wednesday, January 25, 2006 Mt. Lemmon Fire District staff met with Coronado National Forest officials to work on the details of a Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement and an Annual Operating Plan. These documents allow MLFD to respond and take action on wildfire located outside our jurisdiction on National Forest Lands and provides for cooperation in wildland fire management activities.

It is mutually advantageous for MLFD and CNF to support each other's efforts in prevention, detection, and suppression of wildland fires in and adjacent to their areas of responsibility.

We also agreed to communicate on timing of fire restrictions on the mountain this season. You can expect them to start much earlier than usual this year due to the lack of precipitation. MLFD staff will be completing their annual wildfire "red card" refreshers on 02/12/06 so that everyone is ready to go by the end of February.

MLFD will begin regular bi-weekly volunteer training sessions on February 1, at 9 AM. CNF firefighting crews will also be attending these sessions with their apparatus so we all can become familiar with each other's equipment.

Keep in mind and practice all the FireWise principals this season both on the mountain and in Tucson, too!

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Feb/1 Volunteer Training 9am MLFD

Feb/18 Firewise Mgt. Saturday 10am MLFD

March/1 Woman's Club mgt. 6:30 pm @ Thompson Hughes Tucson home

March/25 Woman's Southern District Spring Convention @ Casa Grande

April/18 MLHO Annual Dinner 6pm @ Hilton

June/17 Aspen Ball 6 pm @ Doubletree

**Water District**

by Michael Stanley

**Welcome** to the continuation of spring or is it fall. This weather is truly amazing and may continue for a spell. We do need some form of precipitation soon to help the water situation. The last rain was mid-October and the dryness of the mountain is being felt. So think SNOW!

Here is a brief update on the Water District's projects; The Carter Canyon 140,000-Gallon Storage tank is completed and holding water. There is much work yet to be done on the retaining walls at the site. We hope to complete these during the summer. We were able to get almost 1,000 feet of the 6" ductile iron main installed from the new tank down Miners Ridge Road to Carter Canyon Rd. There are two fire hydrants on this portion of the main line. Along with the 6" a 2" line was installed to upgrade the distribution system in the area. These main lines will continue to Upper Goat Hill Rd and Sabino Canyon Parkway, will include provisions for five or six additional fire hydrants and should be completed by July 2006. The existing distribution system was originally installed in the 1940's and causes some water quality problems.

There are two other projects we are working on. The 800,000-Gallon Storage tank for Upper Sabino Canyon, on Turkey Run Rd., is ordered and the site is being surveyed and prepared during the Spotted Owl non-breeding season. The tank, due to the Owl, will not be installed until September 2006. Also, we were successful in obtaining funds from FEMA for a 6" main line from the Loma Linda Tank to the Middle Sabino Rd. at Ajo Avenue. This main is 2,000 feet long and will stay mostly in the common area passing through three private lots in the Loma/Sabino Subdivision. There will be provisions for four or five fire hydrants. Needless to say we have been busy but hope the weather will change and give us some of the needed moisture. So THINK SNOW.

The following will probably amaze and startle you.

One glass of water shuts down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a University study.

Lack of water is the #1 trigger of daytime fatigue.

Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day could significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers.

A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen. Drinking 5 glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%, plus it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%, and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer.

**"Forged by Fire"**

"Forged by Fire" by Mary Ellen Barnes was recently named one of the ten top Southwest Books of the Year 2005. A Tucson-Pima Public Library project supported by the Friends of the Library, this annual guide was initiated 29 years ago by Arizona Daily Star's book reviewer J. C. Martin.

If you haven't gotten your copy yet, you can purchase one at the Mt. Lemmon General Store, Living Rainbow Gift Shop, Mt. Lemmon Realty and some book stores in Tucson.

## A GHOULD'S GRAVEYARD

by Patty Thomas

Halloween events sponsored by: The Mt. Lemmon Community Event Coordinators (M.L.C.E.C.'s), Mt. Lemmon Fire Department,, Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association (MLHOA), Mt. Lemmon Merchants, and a lot of terrific Tucson Businesses and many families came together to put on a successful Halloween event for all mountain visitors. A big thank you to them. Their donation of Prizes and hard work made it possible to put on this event for you to enjoy. Thank You Tucson.

The event raised \$1,713.00 which was used to purchase (along with a Christy Appliance discount) a \$2000.00 kitchen stove for the fire house.

The event featured the Ghould's graveyard where you purchased the right to dig up a tiny coffin. Inside the coffin is written the prize you win.



Grave Yard Ghouls  
Doctor Death (Garrett  
Barnella), a witch,  
Hangman ( Larry  
Hochwert)

Dolly the Witch brewed a batch of her Nasty bad bean chili but it was so bad the witch's cauldron would not stop jumping around and Miss Kitty had a litter of 160 kittens so they were put up for adoption..



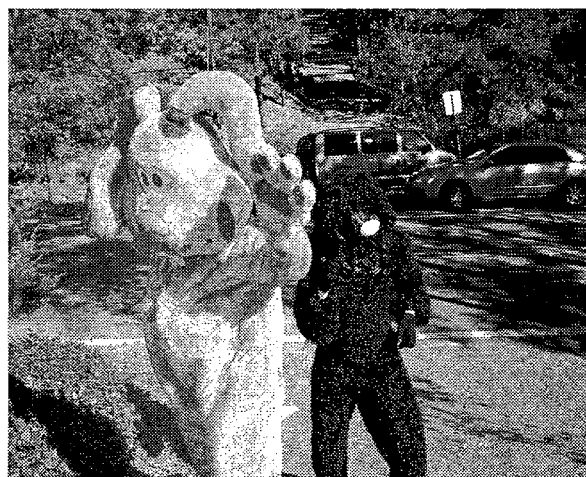
Frankenstein,  
the grave robber



Miss Kitty (Debbie Fagan), Dolly the Witch(Dolly Quinn) and  
The clown (Tom Thomas)



Grave Yard Spirits



Blues Clues and Miss Kitty

The swan Princess fell under a spell spun by "Dolly the Witch" and has fallen asleep. The Fire Chief is asking every available mountain man to kiss the swan princess in hopes of waking her from her deep sleep.



*Scott Bell tries to wake the sleeping princess*

Finally, the events coordinator, MLCEC's Donna Roll.



### **Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club**

By Linda Mulay, President  
327-4615 or 576-1417

If you want denim shirts or vests with the club logo just give me a call or email.

Our November meeting was informative on, "Living with Urban Wildlife", Barbara Welsh.

The December holiday brunch was held at the home of Pam Winsten. Our long time member Patty Haskell was able to attend, with the help of Cathy Brown. That was the last time most of us were able to see her, as she passed away December 26<sup>th</sup>. She will be missed.

Our December project was to support KUAT "Ready to Learn" program. This program puts books into the hands of lower income children in the Tucson community. We donated \$1,000 dollars from both individual members and club donations to this project. Thank you ladies!!

The Southern District Spring Convention is Saturday March 25 in Casa Grande. Please let me know if you will be attending, so I can register us together.

Our next meeting is Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup> 6:30 pm at the Tucson home of Thompson Hughes. Speakers will be Mary Ellen Barnes and Bob Zimmerman speaking on the history of Mt. Lemmon and the book "Forged by Fire".

If you are not receiving my e-mails of the club information please let me know.



Holding books for Tucson's children MLWC members share Holiday Spirit (l. to r. – Pat Irwin, Florence Wilhoit, Eden Hackney, Barb Eisele, Barbara Heisler)

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club extended the Holiday Spirit to local children in need by providing more than 300 new books to them through the KUAT- Channel 6, Ready to Learn program. A total of \$1,000 was generously donated to the program during the club's Holiday brunch. While the beautifully decorated ambience of Pam Winsten's home, the fine food, and the free-flowing wine might be considered a major factor in this largesse, KUAT believes that trust in the future of children in our community translates into an understanding of the benefits of providing free books for these children who might not otherwise have any books in their homes. Many thanks to all the Woman's Club members who made this extraordinary gift possible. For more information on the Ready to Learn program, call Carol Niehoff at 529-0580 or to help in the continuation of this program, regular pledge donations can be made out to KUAT – Ready to Learn.



## Trees for Mt Lemmon

by Sally Crawford

### Trees for Mt. Lemmon Board

Sally Crawford (crawford.sally@gmail.com) and Carol Bender (bender@email.arizona.edu) have joined the Trees for Mt. Lemmon Board. The other members are: Barb Eisele (beisele@earthlink.net), John Jones (jsjones@dakotacom.net), Linda Currin (lcurrin@mindspring.com), Nancy Alfonso (nancyalfonso@comcast.net), Lindy Brigham (lbrigham@ag.arizona.edu), Rose Mary Hinsch (RMHinsch@aol.com), and Jill Kennedy (jeffandjillkenedy@msn.com). We would like to thank Linda Benziger for her excellent help on the board these past two years. We will miss her!

### We want to be an interactive board

We are interested in your questions, comments and ideas. Please feel free to contact me at 299-0210 or my email address listed above. You can contact any of the committee members by email. We are all ready to research and answer your concerns.

### Care of your seedlings and young trees

When you read this issue of the Echoes, if it has still not rained significantly at Mt. Lemmon we suggest that you **water your trees!** Think snow!!!

### Third Annual Aspen Ball

**SAVE THE DATE – JUNE 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Doubletree Hotel at Reid Park at 6:00**

**More details will follow in upcoming issues of the Echoes**

### Do you have trees you want milled?

Contractors are available for felling and milling trees on Mt. Lemmon. Several people on the mountain have had their trees milled and the results are beautiful. If you are interested in references for felling and milling, contact Sally Crawford at 299-0210.

### Demonstration Gardens

Linda Currin and Linda Benziger were in charge of the demonstration gardens. The next time you are in Summerhaven, perhaps you will notice the demonstration gardens at the General Store, Living Rainbow and the Cookie Cabin. Just like the rest of the mountain, the trees, shrubs and wildflowers planted the past two years are dormant, patiently waiting for winter snows to arrive and spring months to begin bringing them back to life. We will be replenishing the identification markers this spring and providing you with information about ordering plants for your own properties. These native species are appropriate for our sky island, and we encourage you to educate yourselves about the possibilities for your cabins and lots! Trees for Mt. Lemmon will be distributing plants again this year.

### Trees for Mt. Lemmon Website: (www.treesformtlemon.org)

If you are interested in receiving updates on events, resources, plants, etc, sign up on the Message Board Home page – “Sign Me Up”

## Beautiful Blue Wood from our Ponderosa

by Barbara Eisele

Last spring John and I watched over a weekend as a large Ponderosa in front of our cabin died. It had been blackened at the base by the fire. The green crown was intact and for a year and half we thought it would “make it”. When we arrived on this particular Friday the needles seemed to be pointed somewhat downward and it didn’t look too healthy. By Sunday afternoon the needles were brown and the tree was dead. We were heart sick; one of our four remaining trees was gone!

I had seen Mt Lemmon “Blue Ponderosa” when we started to build our cabin. It was used as paneling in a cabin below us. I loved it, but couldn’t find any. I found references to blue stained wood on the internet but could not find a source. Over the last 8 years I learned that this blue staining is caused by a fungus that gets into the tree while it is alive. (It does not cause the death of the tree.) If the tree is to develop the “blue wood” it must be left standing for a period of time after it dies. I had never forgotten about “blue wood” and in fact it could probably be said that I “lusted after it”. This seemed like it might be the perfect opportunity.

Serendipitously, I was in a conversation with Russ Buhrow during the summer. (He and his partner, Dorothy, taught the Water Harvesting classes sponsored by Trees for Mt Lemmon in 2004.) I mentioned this tree to him and he told me he had a portable saw mill. It took a couple of months to get all the logistics worked out and on the Saturday following Thanksgiving Russ arrived with 2 helpers. With great anticipation we waited while he took down the tree. I was ecstatic when I saw blue staining on the stump.

He set up the mill on a flat area below our cabin. The rest of the day was spent milling the tree into boards of the appropriate length to put on the living room wall of our cabin. Each cut exposed more and more of this gorgeous wood. Russ has milled many trees with blue staining and he said this is the most beautiful blue wood he has ever seen.

Russ gave us meticulous instructions for drying the wood. The wood is now in our daughter’s back yard in Tucson, stacked according to instructions. This summer Russ will plane it and we will return it to the mountain. It will be installed in the cabin about 40 feet from where it grew for 60 plus years. It’s very special to be able to capture the beauty from what seemed like a tragedy on a weekend last spring.

If you are interested in having trees milled, whether it is blue or not, you can contact Russ at rb3@aol.com or call and leave a message at his home 326-6688. He is willing to bring the mill back to Mt Lemmon. He has a site in the Rincon Valley where he can mill trees as well.

**Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley**

by Jay Davies

We are still looking to the heavens for snow - remember that white fluffy stuff that falls from the sky, piles up and we ski on it ?! We are probably too ready for it.

Actually the skyride is busy with tourists and Tucsonans as well. The Motherlode has great gifts and warm wear.

I go to the Chicago Gift Show this week and the SIA (ski) Show next week - so everything is pretty normal.

The fudge tastes just as good without snow- they are always figuring out new flavors- kind of fun to be the one who has to "try" each one.

The Iron Door is open for breakfast on Saturday and Sunday 9:00 to 11:00. Karen has created a potato pancake that is very nice. The restaurant is open until 4:30 every day but Tuesday and Wednesday. The new menu really is good if you haven't been up yet. There are some very tasty new dishes and side dishes to augment Ski Valley's fabulous chili and cornbread.

See you soon-

By Marty Mollo

I came upon the mountain  
And left New York estranged  
The Library, the fountain  
The wise and the deranged

Here waiting for me on the mount  
Their arms outstretched with love  
I met the raven and the bear  
I met the circled moon above

The stars and planets found me here  
More than I knew existing  
N.Y. memories hound me there  
The yearn for culture persisting

Oh holy night, the moon is bright  
Our very souls are glowing  
Oh holy morn, with day glow light  
The love of God is showing

**MLHO**

The Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association (MLHO) was formed in 1969 to protect the welfare of the Mt. Lemmon community and to be involved in all aspects of its improvement. The concerns of the organization are not limited to private property owners. Full membership with voting rights, is accorded to private owners and leased land holders upon payment of yearly dues.

The most visible product of the MLHO is the **ECHOES**; a newsletter published eight to nine times a year. The Association organizes social events such as potlucks, pancake breakfasts, ice cream socials and raffles enabling owners to mingle while at the same time raising funds for various community causes. This group has always depended upon volunteer support and found strength in numbers. An elected board acts on behalf of and for the benefit of the membership. Board members are Debbie Fagan, President; Bonnie Lohman, vice-President; Carrie Reitz, Treasurer; Kathy Shields, Secretary; Fran Zimmerman, John Mulay; Pete Krauss; Tom Thomas; Larry Waldron; Ross Quigley; Chip DeLay; Jerry Sparks, Dean Barnella and Gordon Hunter (editor of the Echoes). If you have any suggestions or comments about the ECHOES, Gordon can be reached at 298-5971 or by Email at [gordon@hunteraz.com](mailto:gordon@hunteraz.com).

Being organized, having a legal fund and having active **LOCAL** voice participation enables the Association to accomplish most of its goals. Pima County has said the MLHO is the strongest and most respected homeowners' organization in the entire county. The Annual Dinner and Meeting is held each year on the first Tuesday after taxes.

Dues are \$25 per year payable in January. Renters and friends of the Mountain may obtain membership for \$20 a year. Membership fees are prorated quarterly. To join the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association in 2005; Clip the coupon on page one and send your check and the completed coupon to address on the back



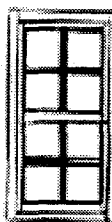
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## NEW RESIDENTS ON THE MOUNTAIN

by Barbara Welsh

This year there has been so many new homes being built, many new people buying lots and houses, and the completing of our road that maybe we overlooked the newest resident on the mountain.

On January 12<sup>th</sup> Game and Fish released 25 Gould's turkeys on Mt. Lemmon. Ten were fitted with radio transmitters to follow their movements, if they survive and if they start breeding.

This release was a cooperative effort of Game and Fish, National Wild Turkey Federation, U.S. Forest Service and the Mexican Government.

There are two native species of turkey, the Merriam's and the Gould's. For several years they have been releasing these turkeys brought up from Mexico on the sky islands around Southeastern Arizona. The Gould's turkey is slightly larger than the Merriam's and they felt they were the same as the turkeys that were on Mt. Lemmon many years ago.

These turkeys were native to Mt. Lemmon and the other mountain ranges of Southern Arizona until the settlers began to arrive and found them to be a good source of food. By 1920 all the turkeys had disappeared from the mountains.

Fish and game Department began restocking both the Merriam and Gould's turkeys in Southeastern Arizona as early as the late 1930. They found the Gould turkey was able to adapt to the areas of sky islands better than the Merriam's. Since that time their numbers have been increasing and they have been spreading even to areas where they were not introduced.

Hopefully, in several years we will start seeing these very large birds on our hikes and even near our cabins. Remember, never feed them and NO you may not have them for dinner.

### Summerhaven DSL Service

by Phil Mack

Just in case you have not heard, DSL from Qwest is on the mountain!! Summerhaven residents are now able to receive DSL service to connect to the Internet. Just before Christmas Qwest finished all the work to get DSL up and working. Let me tell you it REALLY beats the dial-up service I have been using for the past 8 years up here.

We were not supposed to even be considered for DSL for quite some time, but thanks to Brandon DiMaria our Qwest Technician/Installer we have the service almost 2 years ahead of time. He has installed phone service at many new cabins, and almost all residents have overwhelmingly asked for high speed service. So, he started a show of interest form that was filled out by many Summerhaven residents. There was enough interest shown to bring DSL service to our mountain cabins. To order, call Qwest at 1-800-850-5252, using the Promotional Code: BDIMARI. They are also offering Digital TV service. At this time no DSL service is offered at Willow Canyon, Fern Ridge, Soldiers Camp or Bear Wallow.

Thanks Brandon!!

## New Board Member-Jerry Sparks

In September of last year I was asked fill a vacancy on the MLHOA Board when one of the board members resigned.

I am relatively new to the mountain moving here from Texas with my wife Lorene in 1999. I arrived at Summerhaven in July 2001 to buy a lot and start building our cabin on Phoenix Ave. As my cabin was nearing completion the Bullock Fire threatened Summerhaven. Our cabin was completed in July 2002 and for 10 months it was pure joy. Then the next year the Aspen Fire took away our cabin. It took away all the beautiful trees that were around us. I thought -it's over everything is so devastated I will not rebuild. The village is gone except for the lucky few who still have cabins and trees. One day in July 2003 I came up and climbed on the still standing block wall that would be where the main level had been. I looked at the mountain with a view I had not noticed before. I thought to myself, you know this "new" view is also beautiful. It's not like before. It's a different view but still a beautiful view. From that moment on - I knew I was going to rebuild. I have never doubted my decision from that day forward.

As far as the remarkable progress in the village at this point - the one thing that is missing is a place to go to meet friends - having a place to have food, drink and socialize. I really miss the Alpine Lodge and Saloon because for me it was what made Summerhaven so unique. For meeting new friends and residents on the mountain it was vital. Hopefully in the coming years such a place can exist once more and the social life that once existed in Summerhaven can also rise out of the ashes.

### \*\*\* Special Photo Sale!

\*\*\* **Judy Epstein has reduced prices on In-Stock Matted & Framed Images!** If interested, Contact

Judy at 760-2802 or

**JudyEpsteinAZ@aol.com** *Hurry...selection is limited!*

**[www.JudyEpstein.com](http://www.JudyEpstein.com)**

### Mt. Lemmon Cabins

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Mt. Lemmon, Az 85619

### Fine Art Photography

#### Images by Melba

Melba Cope, 520-744-5095  
[epocphoto@comcast.com](mailto:epocphoto@comcast.com)

My photos can be purchased at  
The Living Rainbow