

The Mt. Lemmon Echoes

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

Message from the Pres

by Debbie Fagan



It's Monday, May 22nd, and the winds are howling. The Romero fire, barely fifteen hours old and 200 + acres, is casting a shadow over this otherwise beautiful, sunny day. This shadow is not visible to the naked eye. It's silent, unspoken, as if all life forms are holding their breath, waiting and hoping. There's tightness in my chest where my heart is. But there are many wonderful things happening here as well. New life has sprung up everywhere. Thanks to some rain last week, our mountain looks lush and green. There are walls of baby aspens and burned oak and maple stumps are covered in new growth. The ladybugs look like giant mutants and the wildflowers are everywhere. I hiked Red Ridge Trail for the first time ever (thanks Dennis for taking me!) and the flowers there are incredible: much larger and brightly colored. The Indian Paint Brush is so huge I did not recognize it at first. There was also TONS of cow patties, which according to Steve Hensel, could be the reason for the difference. Either way, I recommend that trail to all of you!

June brings the Woman's Club Tea (June 3rd), and the Aspen Ball (June 17th) which marks the third anniversary of the Aspen Fire. Tickets can be purchased on the mountain or in Tucson. Preparations are under way for our 4th of July Parade and Mt. Lemmon Community Barbeque.

Road construction in the village is progressing nicely. FREE concrete, courtesy of Hunter Contractor's, may be available over the next several weeks. Call Mt. Lemmon Realty for availability. Happy June!

Fire District Updates

By the Barnella's

The temperatures are rising in Tucson. These are the times we love our mountain even more, the days have been wonderful. The fire station is continuing to work with Forest Service and Arizona State Land on the thinning project between Willow Canyon and Rose Canyon. The State Land Crews were not available for a short stint because of the Safford fire and the Romero fire, but our sawyer crew is still available. The Pima County Department of Transportation contract has been extended until late next year to leave funding for burning of the slash piles in the right of ways. The sawyer operation will cease on June 30, 2006 for property owners. Anyone needing tree removals please contact DeAnna as soon as possible 576-1201.

The recent fire activity has prompted the district to run severity patrols Sunday and Monday until 8:00 p.m. The severity engine will patrol the campsites around the village and 3 miles down Control road. The intent is to catch an abandoned camp fire, provide additional personnel, and educate the public on the current fire restrictions and the increased danger. The patrols will be in effect until monsoons or late July which ever comes first.

MLFD is prepared for Wild Fire season with seasonal hiring taking place and all personnel finishing up their pack tests for red card qualifications. All volunteers are asked to check in and out with the fire station so shift supervisors will know the availability of additional personnel on the mountain. Also a reminder that if anyone has concerns about visitors that are not treating the forest or village appropriately is urged to contact the Sheriff's Department via 911. We are still encountering vandalism and theft throughout the mountain.

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Dorothy Crawford
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P.O. Box 664
Mt. Lemmon, Az 85619

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

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

GFWC-General Federation of Women's clubs is the international group that Mt Lemmon Womens club belongs to. Arizona has 55 clubs with 1,784 members. We have two District conferences and one State convention each year.

We would like to increase our membership.

Annual Womens Club membership tea is Saturday June 3rd, 2:00pm at D-1 cabin on Turkey Run. This is a great way to get to know the ladies of the mountain. Ginny Durham is planning a wonderful afternoon for us.

Dues of \$30.00 are due now! Please fill out the form in the homeowners' packet, come to the tea or contact me for the information. Everyone is welcome to join.

Luann Waldron is planning to have an afternoon of playing games each week on the mountain.

Sally Crawford is working on more cabin tours.

Karen Shunk is working on getting the permit for the Fourth of July Parade. Construction on the main road will make this parade a little different. Plan to attend or participate in the parade! This year there will be a pot luck at the fire stations following the parade.

We are planning for a fun filled summer, so please join us.

***Judy Epstein's artwork is back on the mountain
(at Public Restrooms)!***

***Residents get 10% off on Canvases
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Hurry...selection is limited!

www.JudyEpstein.com

Trees for Mt. Lemmon past events

On Saturday, April 1 a workshop on Invasive Species was held at the fire station. It was presented by Gretchen Lopez with assistance from Alix Rogstad. They did an excellent presentation and we learned about invasive species and the issues associated with them. We had a field trip to locate and identify Cheatgrass, an invasive species that is already on our mountain. We also learned about native species that can be incorporated into our landscapes.

On April 29th the 3rd Annual FireWise BreakOut session was presented by MLFD at the fire station. Besides learning about contractors and building materials, there were discussions on ideas for utilizing gray water, water harvesting and new landscape ideas.

Find out what Cheatgrass is and eliminate it from your property. It is invasive and a fire hazard. We had a demonstration at the fire station on April 1 and 29th. Watch for future demonstrations or call a board member for assistance.

Business Feature

Every Echoes publication will feature a business that is associated with Mt Lemmon. The businesses are chosen at random so if any interests in having a feature on your favorite business please contact Dean dean@mountlemmonfire.com

Mt Lemmon General Store & Gift Shop

The Mt Lemmon General Store & Gift Shop is owned and operated by Phil & Carol Mack. The store located in the middle of the village offers general store supplies, specialty gifts and homemade fudge. If you are looking for picnic supplies or a t-shirt to send back home, the Mt Lemmon General Store & Gift Shop has it. Don't forget about the etched wine bottles that make a special gift exclusively from Mt. Lemmon. New gift ideas arrive daily so stop in any day 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Next month look for a feature on Cozzetti Construction.

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*Trees for Mt. Lemmon**By Sally Crawford***ASPEN BALL, SATURDAY JUNE 17TH****6:00 TO 10:00 p.m.****DOUBLETREE HOTEL AT REID PARK****MUSIC BY THE DESERT CADILLACS****Tickets are \$40.00 and are available at:****The Living Rainbow****Mt. Lemmon General Store****Thomas Cleaners on Tanque Verde****Bed Mart, Speedway at Wilmot****Bed Mart, North Oracle at Prince**

Mark your calendars and buy your tickets because you do not want to miss this year's Aspen Ball. The theme is

"REDISCOVER MT. LEMMON, THEN & NOW."

There will be a continual slide show of Mt. Lemmon before and after the fire.

If you have any old photos of Mt. Lemmon, call Nancy Alfonso at 299-9474.

Plant Information:**Invasive Species**

Many plants look beautiful, but they can damage the native plants. An example is the Japanese honeysuckle. It is a fragrant and lovely plant but it can spread into a tree and destroy it.

What to Plant

General information about Trees for Mt Lemmon can be obtained on our web site: www.treesformtlemmon.org or for specific information on good plants and plants to avoid go to this web site:

(treesformtlemmon.org/ED-plantavailability.html)

We will have native plants grown from seed or cuttings available this summer. We will be asking for a small donation because we did not receive a grant this year. This will occur during the rainy season. **Watch for announcements in the Echoes or on the Message Board.** If you are not already receiving messages from the Message Board, here is how you sign up: Trees for Mt. Lemmon Website: (www.treesformtlemmon.org)

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

Plant Resources**Nursery suggestions include:**

www.desertsurvivors.org/nursery.asp

www.civanonursery.net/gardencenter.shtml

Two nurseries in Flagstaff:

www.nativeplantsandseed.com (does not deliver, but get a group together and order in quantity)

www.warnercompanies.com (in the past Warners has given Mt. Lemmon property owners a 20% discount)

Trees for Mt. Lemmon Board:

Please feel free to contact us with your questions, comments and ideas!

Nancy Alfonso (nancyalfonso@comcast.net)

Carol Bender (bender@email.arizona.edu)

Lindy Brigham (lbrigham@ag.arizona.edu)

Sally Crawford (crawford.sally@gmail.com)

Linda Currin (lcurren@mindspring.com)

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Rose Mary Hinsch (Rmhinsch@aol.com)

John Jones (jsjones@dakotacom.net)

Jill Kennedy (jeffandjillkennedy@msn.com)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 3	Extrication Training @ MLFD
June 17	Aspen Ball @ Double Tree
June 23	MOVIE NIGHT @ 7:00 p.m.
July 4	Parade with Potluck @ MLFD

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, Gordon Hunter and Dean Barnella (editor of the Echoes). If you have any suggestions or comments about the ECHOES, Dean can be reached at 576-1201 or by Email at dean@mountlemmonfire.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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4TH OF JULY PARADE AND BBQ!!

*It's that time again! Get out your costumes, horses, dogs, and instruments and sign up as soon as possible for this years Parade! Follow the signs when you get to the village as to where to park, and where Entrants should line up. It may be a little different this year due to the construction in Summerhaven, but, **THE PARADE SHALL GO ON!!***

After the parade, Please return to the bandstand for awards to be given out, then at 1:30, there will be a Community Potluck and BBQ at the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station where we can enjoy the company of our long time friends from "Beaver's Band Box." Mt Lemmon Homeowner's Association will be providing hamburgers and hot dogs, bring a side dish!!

Please return entry forms to Karen at P.O. box 748, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619, or Fax to 886-0394 before July 2nd.

Looking forward to seeing you all there

**MT. LEMMON ANNUAL, JULY 4TH PARADE
TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2006
12:00 NOON**

NAME: _____

NAME OF GROUP: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

ADD'L NUMBER: _____ NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN GROUP: _____

CATEGORY: () Original () Patriotic () Humorous () Musicians () Walking
() Vehicle () Horse () Other _____

Please write below what you want the announcer to say about your group:

This is an invitation for you or your group to join us in cool Mt. Lemmon for the Annual 4th of July Parade. Please remit this form ASAP to Karen Shunk, P.O. Box 748, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619 or Fax to 886-0394 no later than July 2nd. For more information call Karen at 488-6991. All entries meet in front of Mt. Lemmon Post Office no later than 11:15 a.m. Tuesday, July 4th, 2006.

A TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Barbara Welsh

Pretend for a moment that you lived several thousand years ago. You probably slept outdoors and most of your existence depended on how closely you observed the sun and moon and stars. You knew when to plant, when to store food for the winter, and when the food was ripe. There were some few who were close observers and could figure out patterns of events relating to the sun and moon and stars. These were the ones that could predict when events would happen. These men rose to great power as the Pharaohs, kings, high priests, medicine men etc. Can you imagine being threatened with the sun disappearing if you did not pay tribute to the rulers? This would be followed by "Next time I'll make it go away forever."

We were privileged to see a total solar eclipse this past March and I'll try to describe what the event was like. There were thirty in our group and we had a two and a half week tour of Egypt and the Nile. The final night was spent on a plateau one half mile from the Libyan border. It looked like tent city with twenty thousand people on the plateau each having their own encampment area. We could see the Libyan entry checkpoint from our area. The floor of our eating- common area was cover with oriental rugs as was the area under our tent. The tents were what we consider "pup" tents with two pallets and camel hair blankets that had just come off of a camel. The next morning we awoke to a heavy fog and some very nervous astronomers. By nine thirty the fog started to burn off and everyone was setting up telescopes and cameras in a roped off area.

We had been given special glasses so as not to harm our eyes and others had materials to cover our binoculars and cameras. As the first contact was made the atmosphere seemed to take on an air of excitement. After about an hour the planet Venus appeared very faintly in the western sky. Slowly it became brighter until every one could spot it with the naked eye. As the eclipse progressed it became dimmer like a cloudy day. About 10 minutes before totality we were told to put on our jackets. (It was about 85 degrees and hot) At about three minutes a wind began and it was getting darker. The temperature dropped 24 degrees. Someone was counting off the time and suddenly there was a bright flash of light on one side of the moon lasting only a second then the ring of "beads" appeared. Everyone took off their glasses, took off the covers on cameras and binoculars and a collective sigh went up from the entire plateau. I'm not sure we didn't all hold our breath over the immense wonder of what we were seeing. The corona appeared and for 3minutes and 47 seconds we stood in awe of this magnificent sight. Just as suddenly there was another blinding flash of light and the eclipse was over. We watched the shadow race out over the Mediterranean and there was laughing and dancing and hugging and shouting everywhere. We had seen a perfect eclipse with all the events that we had read about but had no comprehension of what they would be like.

We had read books, had lectures, and seen pictures of what we were to see; yet the emotional impact could never be described.

What must the first people who ever witness an eclipse have thought?

The Read runner Is Coming, the Read runner Is Coming!

By Phil Mack

What is the Read Runner? The Read Runner use to be called the Book Mobile 100 years ago when I was a kid. Carol Mack has talked with the Pima County Library to see if the mobile library could start coming up the mountain on a regular basis. Much to her surprise there is no red tape, no hoops to jump through, just ask for it to come. Wade with Pima County Library - Mobile Services said they would be happy to service Mt. Lemmon with monthly service. Since they are currently merging with the Tucson Library system they cannot start to provide service until July 2006. Details are sketchy at this point but services like getting a library card if you or your kids don't already have one, returning books at any library should not be a problem. We do know you can request a certain book title, and if it is available in the Pima County/Tucson system, they will bring it up on the next scheduled trip. Days of the month and hours will be provided in next month's newsletter. Please show your support for this service by utilizing this wonderful opportunity of having the library at your doorstep.

At this point the Read Runner stop point will be at the Mt Lemmon General Store and Gift Shop. If you would like a reminder of the date and time, respond to this article via e-mail to pjmack@mindspring.com.

MOVIE NIGHT

The MLCEC's have just purchased equipment to produce a MOVIE NIGHT on Mt Lemmon like never before!!! The first MOVIE NIGHT will be on Friday June 23 at 7:00 p.m. The location will be at Ed and Donna Roll's home on Sabino Canyon Parkway. Bring a blanket and a sweet dish. Mt Lemmon Fire District will be providing drinks. If you have any questions contact Dean at the fire station.

Fine Art Photography

Images by Melba

***Melba Cope, 520-744-5095
epocphoto@comcast.com***

***My photos can be purchased at
The Living Rainbow***