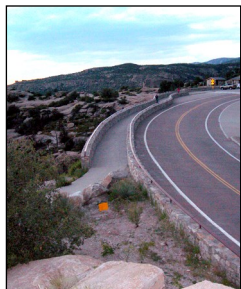


# The Mt. Lemmon Echoes

## “I Hope You Remember Me...”



Next time you drive up the Catalina Highway to visit your cabin, sit on the deck, enjoy a picnic or hike a trail, take an appreciative glance around the beauty of it all and think of me. That's right, Mother Nature here. I'm also known fondly as Mother Earth or Earth-Mother, depending on who you talk to. Since you've been reading about some of the local business folks in last year's "Echoes," I wanted to make sure you take a moment to acknowledge MY importance in this place known as Mt. Lemmon.



If it weren't for me, the guiding force of creation, all that Mt. Lemmon offers wouldn't be possible. The mountain is enjoying beautiful winter weather this season, with over 18 inches of the white stuff for great skiing, sledding, snowmen and happy times, except when some people get stuck or slide into a ditch! The snowpack will allow much-needed moisture for spring's flow and hopefully lessen the summer fire danger. And last year's abundant rainfall of over 20 inches meant beautiful wildflowers, plentiful spring water, fewer forest fires and continued recovery from the Aspen Fire of 2003.

Treat yourself to my splendor, no matter the season or time of day. From the incredible beauty of the night sky, to grand vistas along the highway, ageless rock formations and of course the amazing variety of birds and wildlife, I hope you remember me when you glimpse some of the friends in my forest.

Yes, there is drought, wind, thunder, lightning, fire, bark beetle infestation, and other parts of me that aren't so pleasant. That's why it's important for you to help protect Mt. Lemmon and its beauty and uniqueness. Protect the forest and me by preserving water, being FireWise, taking care of your property, and being respectful of all the mountain has to offer. It's been around for millions of years, and I'll do my part to make sure it is for millions to come.

Stop and smell the forest, Happy New Year, and remember, "It's not nice to fool Mother Nature!"



Pamela Selby-Harmon

**Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association**

by Jerry Taylor, president

**February 2015****14th - Valentines Day**

Sawmill Run Dinner—5-8 PM

**17th - Black Crown Coffee -**

MLWC - 10 AM

**21st - MLWD -**

Board Meeting 8 AM - MLCC

**- MLHOA -**

Board Meeting 10 AM - MLCC

In just a couple of months, spring will finally be here again. It can never come too soon for me. The winter snows and rain have provided much appreciated moisture. Who does not enjoy the warmth of a cozy fire and the breathtaking views of our beautiful scenic snowy mountains and also the wonderful winters we have in Tucson? But it is the late spring, summer and early fall on Mt. Lemmon that to me provides the best of all worlds put together in one place. It is the time of year to be thankful for all we have up here, way more than the intrinsic value. It is the value of good mountain friends and neighbors, having a place where family and friends can visit and enjoy all the activities so many people work very hard to make successful.

It will soon be time for summer activities to commence, beginning with our annual meeting and dinner, always held the first Tuesday after tax day, this year on April 21<sup>st</sup>! Mark your calendars and think spring!

**This Is It!**

Below you will see the information form to send with your **Annual Homeowner's Dues** for **2015**. All dues are to be paid in the month of February. If you have paid for years in advance, please check your label to confirm whether or not your renewal is due this year. Thank you for your support and membership.

**Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association Annual Dues**

Voting member (property owner) \$35.00 Non-voting member (renter or friend of the mountain) \$30.00

Make checks payable to MLHOA and mail to MLHOA P.O. Box 699 Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619

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**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Home Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mt. Lemmon Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell/work/alternate phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email address** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**For your Records  
2015 MLHOA Dues**

Ck # \_\_\_\_\_

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Letter to the Editors

To the Mount Lemmon Community (especially the Woman's Club),

May wonders never cease! Just after Christmas, I had an over-the-phone job interview with my supervisor, Pat Hawkins. After talking for about three minutes, he said that he had already received permission to hire me as the Postmaster here at Mount Lemmon. He said that he had spoken with his boss earlier that day; he had one question: "How long has she been there? – Since 1996?!? Yes, go ahead and hire her."



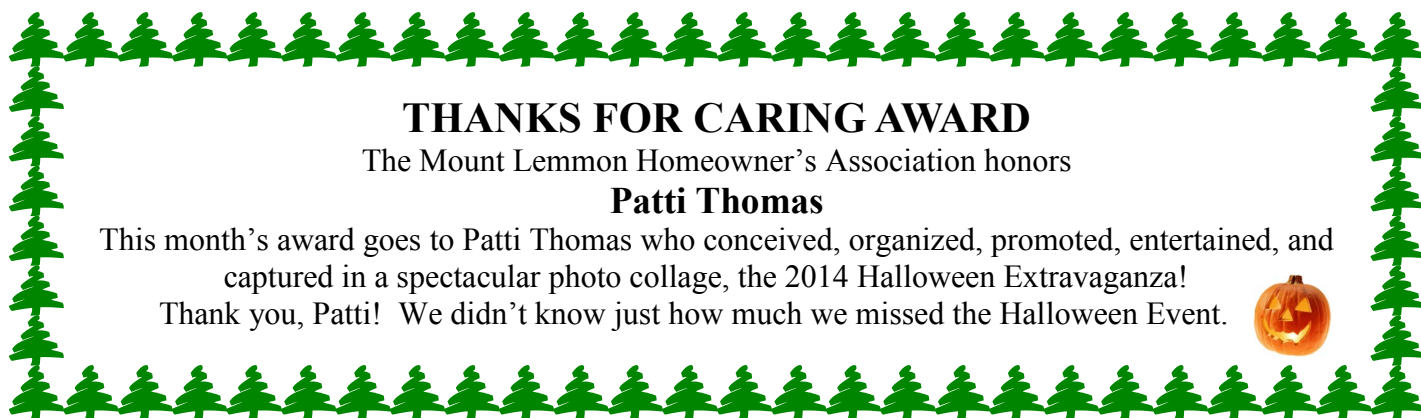
So, persistence pays off I guess. As well as having good people in your corner! Mr. Hawkins took over as my (and many other's) manager late last year; he has a lot of Postal experience, but most has been in the Plants and not much in the Customer Service end of our business. So, it turns out that the amazing letter of support the Woman's Club wrote to him on my behalf was REALLY effective! As Carol Niehoff will attest to, I didn't think such letters would make any difference at all. But Pat said that it really made him feel good about having someone here who connected with the community and our customer base.

Sometimes the words, "Thank You," seem so inadequate, but THANK YOU! The support from this community has made a wonderful impact on my life, and I am very grateful!

Now, as soon as we get a formal date for the new job to take effect, I'll host a little celebration—Pamela's Permanent Placement as Postmaster Party! I'll keep you posted!

In the meantime, thanks again and please do continue to support YOUR little Post Office. To all businesses, numbers matter. When you can, buy your stamps here, mail your packages from here...I even have some nice packaging products for sale! And don't forget about the Postal "lottery"—the reissue of the Inverted Jenny stamps are available here—for \$12.00 you will get six \$2.00 stamps, with a chance at having a VERY rare un-inverted sheet. They made 100 sheets (out of the 2.2 million sheets produced) with the plane right-side-up. The last I heard, there is a collector willing to pay \$15,000 for a Right-Side-Up Jenny! Who knows, you might get lucky and be thanking me instead. I hope to see you soon!

Sincerely, Pamela Selby-Harmon



### THANKS FOR CARING AWARD

The Mount Lemmon Homeowner's Association honors

**Patti Thomas**

This month's award goes to Patti Thomas who conceived, organized, promoted, entertained, and captured in a spectacular photo collage, the 2014 Halloween Extravaganza!

Thank you, Patti! We didn't know just how much we missed the Halloween Event.



## Update to Bark Beetle Activity in Bear Canyon

by Rachael Biggs, USFS

In the upper reaches of Bear Canyon, *Ips* engraver bark beetles are causing mortality in Arizona pine and Chihuahua pine. Dead trees are visible from Catalina Highway near Chihuahua Pine, Middle Bear and Cypress picnic areas and the General Hitchcock Campground.

The Coronado National Forest is proposing the removal of about 400 bark beetle infested trees around Chihuahua Pine, Middle Bear and Cypress picnic areas and the General Hitchcock Campground to decrease the magnitude of the bark beetle infestation in these popular recreation sites and to reduce the anticipated future tree mortality.

The Forest Service is working with Arizona State Forestry crews to remove the trees. The infested logs will be disposed of in areas isolated from other pine trees. The FS is also working with Forest Health Protection, a branch of the Forest Service that manages insects and disease, to mitigate beetle damage and limit impacts to existing live trees.

The Bear Canyon recreations sites will be closed during this phase of the work, which is anticipated to be completed by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The FS will continue to monitor the area over the next year. Although the removal of infested trees will decrease the bark beetle population and mitigate future tree mortality, it is likely that lower, but still elevated, levels tree mortality will continue. The FS may need to do additional tree removals next winter in this location or in other high value locations on the District.

## Keep Thinking Snow!

by Michael Stanley

Welcome to February! As always, the weather is creating much talk. The snow has been slight, and we've had some rain, all of which have helped our springs to produce 20-30 gallons per minute (GPM). There's still a lot of time over winter to add to the precipitation. It is already better than last year.

We completed the projects for 2014. Both the Ray/Tucson and Tempe Avenue projects are complete and operating. Tempe is now supplied from our Miner's Ridge tank system. The Ray/Tucson project now has a 6" mainline from our Loma Linda tank, and we were able to add 6 new fire hydrants to the system. The operations crew is continuing to install customer meters and perform regular maintenance on the system. Please call if you have questions or a water quality issue.

Recently, I have noticed how often my cabin's aerators need to be cleaned. They seem to pick up mineral deposits weekly! Every cabin owner should remove and clean the aerators after an absence, as they begin use of the cabin's water system. When you shut off and drain your water in the fall, add a small amount of environmentally safe antifreeze in the toilet and drains to protect your drain pipes from freezing. Then, when you start up in the spring, one of the last things you should have on your "turn-on and shut-off" list should be to remove the faucet's aerators and clean them. This will remove tiny particles in the screen and restrictors, thus allowing smooth flow. Often customers call the office wondering about lack of water pressure. Mineral content and dirt in the aerators, flow restrictors, and deposit screens, even those in showerheads and pressure regulators at your meter box, frequently account for this situation.

The District personnel are always available to address issues of low flow on the system since this might lead to the discovery of a leak and potentially save thousands of gallons of our precious resource.



## Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club Celebrated the Season!

by Linda Mulay, president

Our club ended 2014 with two wonderful events. First, a fabulous holiday brunch at the beautiful Tucson home of Betty and Bob Rice, provided a festive opportunity to get together and enjoy a nice environment to visit. Robin Kirk did an outstanding job of organizing this event and providing delicious food. Thanks to all who helped by bringing chairs, tables, setting up and cleaning up afterward.



Second, the Catalina Village Assisted Living project was a big success with all the donated items, help with filling goodie bags, and the many volunteers who helped set up. This year's helpers included members, many husbands (boosters of GFWC-MLWC), and the SRT team from Customs and Border Protection who donated, moved everything from the Mulay home to Catalina Assisted Living, and did all the heavy lifting for us. The residents were so appreciative of our efforts, and it was rewarding for all who participated. The members who filled the 30 Christmas Wish Stars for the residents' Christmas Eve party made a difference in their lives. Thank you so much for your generosity.



On January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Mary Hunter, Connie Taylor and Linda Mulay attended the Southern District board meeting. Focus included planning of the March 7<sup>th</sup> Southern District convention and sharing of projects accomplished. Please get any craft projects, photos, paintings, etc., to Linda Mulay for this convention.

This coming April 24<sup>th</sup> will be the GFWC's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! The GFWC clubwomen have done incredible work for the needs of local, national and international communities. Lessons learned and experience gained through this action gives credence to the value of organized volunteer service such as the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club!

Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00 PM, at the MLCC.

Some of our members are planning a get-together at the BLACK CROWN COFFEE HOUSE (you may remember we went there last year) on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 AM, to catch up on what's happening and enjoy a visit. You may purchase your own coffee, tea, hot cocoa, Italian soda, or hot or iced chi tea, and pastries are also available. Black Crown Coffee is located at 4024 East Speedway, across from Lucky Strike Bowl. Please RSVP to [ljmulay@aol.com](mailto:ljmulay@aol.com) so we can provide a count. Looking forward to seeing you there!

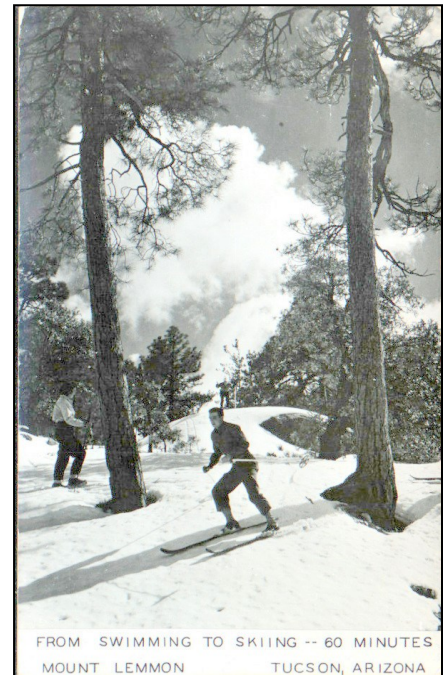
## Amazing Ski Valley's Humble Beginnings

by Chuck Huber

Many people do not know the Mt. Lemmon Ski Area was initially started by Lowell Thomas, the "This is Lowell Thomas with the News" radio broadcaster. Thomas is one of the first adventure journalists and the man who made Thomas Edward Lawrence of "Lawrence of Arabia" famous.

During World War II, a group of skiers including Lowell Thomas, the noted journalist and adventurer, a local forest ranger, and many Davis Monthan servicemen which included Thomas' sickly son, later a governor of Alaska, and Art Devlin, a future Olympic ski jumper and television commentator, formed the Sahuaro Ski Club.

Paul Webb, the well-known cartoonist, created a patch and membership certificates for the club's members, showing a skier wrapped around a saguaro cactus. Thomas sent honorary memberships to dozens of friends, including famous personalities around the world, making membership a tongue-in-cheek must. A ski gala was held that first year at the Arizona Inn with many of Thomas's friends in attendance. A Forest Service lease was obtained, an old Model A with its tires removed, propelled a rope tow to the top, and thus the Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley had its unlikely beginnings.



As you begin a winter's ski adventure, think back to Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley's history and enjoy the slopes!

## The Soldier's Camp Kids Korner

by Carly Huber

This section is a public service area for all those residents who have kids that come up to the mountain. This section is written by a real kid, who loves it up on top!

There are lots of trails to hike in the Mt. Lemmon area, but one of the best ones is the route to the Bathtub. To get to this trail you go to Soldier's Pond, which is the first of many ponds that all lead up to the biggest pond with the best view.

From Soldier's Pond you climb down on to a trail and follow that one for a while; on the way you pass by rock climbers, beautiful scenery, and cross a running stream.

In one part of the trail you are surrounded by columbines that are red and yellow. It's really a sight to see. A little past this is an area I like to call "Danger Ledge" where the right side of the trail drops off about 15 feet, like a cliff. The distance from Soldier's Pond to the climbing rocks is about 550 ft., but from there you continue another 500 ft. before you start to see pools of water. Then, if you keep walking you will see an opening in the trees at the final pool. The view is breath-taking, and you can see straight down to the bottom of the crystal clear water. If you've never been, the Bathtub is a wonderful hike.

Please provide comments, suggestions, likes, and dislikes to the author(s), or specific suggestions for "Soldier's Camp Kids Korner" articles by emailing [chuck@chuckhuber.com](mailto:chuck@chuckhuber.com).

## Cheatgrass Grant Takes Center Stage!

by Lindy Brigham

The Mt. Lemmon community now has a signed agreement with Arizona State Forestry Division Invasive Plants Grants Program for managing cheatgrass in the Summerhaven area. The key points include the following:

- This is a Mt. Lemmon community grant from the Arizona State Forestry Division that has the support of our community leaders, our HOAs, and our community organizations, including the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club (MLWC), Mt. Lemmon HOA (MLHOA), Loma Sabino Pines HOA (LSHOA), Mt. Lemmon Fire Department (MLFD), and The University of Arizona School of Natural Resources and the Environment (UA/SNRE).
- The **GOAL** is to remove as much cheatgrass as possible in **two years** on **all** property in Summerhaven so that from then on, it will be much easier for property owners to keep the cheatgrass at bay
- **Start:** December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - **End:** September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, meaning two years of treatment in the summers when cheatgrass is green - usually from the end of April until June.
- LSHOA is the fiduciary agent, meaning it is handling the movement of dollars. However, LSHOA will not have any financial obligations for the grant.
- This is a REIMBURSABLE grant which requires us to donate time and spend money before getting reimbursed by the grant sponsor. Trees for Mt. Lemmon has donated funds for start-up expenses.
- The grant includes a MATCH involvement, so our match is in-kind labor and equipment so we will need YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS TO MAKE THE GRANT SUCCESSFUL. We will need you to DO YOUR PART WHEN THE TIME COMES!
- The total amount of the grant is \$37,231. We have the potential to receive \$18,581 actual dollars from the grant for our expenses, but this requires us to match this amount with in-kind labor at the rate of \$20/hour.
- All property owners will be sent information in the mail asking you to sign a form giving us the ability to selectively spray the cheatgrass on your property. After two years of treatment through this grant, you will be responsible for keeping the cheatgrass out permanently.
- We will be using supervised professional spraying crews and community volunteers to spray with community grant representatives to monitor the work.
- We will also have community pulling events for areas that cannot be sprayed. We will send out information on where and when to show up.
- We will keep the community updated through the listserv and the Echoes and at the annual FireWise event on Memorial weekend each year. You can find more information and the grant proposal and agreement on the MLHOA website. ([www.mtlemonhoa.org/cheatgrass](http://www.mtlemonhoa.org/cheatgrass)) If you would like to help or have questions, please contact Lindy at [labrigham@msn.com](mailto:labrigham@msn.com) or 520-955-2599. Please be involved!

### Don't Forget!

Being a member of the MLHOA provides you with a voice in our community and keeps you up to date with news, friends and interesting information. This is the first issue of the Echoes for 2015. Be sure to renew your membership today, in order to continue receiving your Echoes. Dues are \$35.00 for property owners and \$30.00 for renters and friends of the mountain.



## Mt. Lemmon Fire Department Trains Volunteers

by Doug Mance



On Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department volunteers had their first training session of the new year. Mt. Lemmon Fire Department personnel, Jarrod Dorman and Jacob Jirschele, had the volunteers do a full inventory of the ropes and rescue equipment, and then they broke out the brand new ropes and rescue pack. A special thanks to the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club and the Long Cares Foundation for their generous donation and grant. Sheriff Lee Hayes ended up being the "victim," hauled out of harm's way again and again by each volunteer. He took advantage of the opportunity to show us his bull-riding talents. Chief

Randy Odgen noted that Deputy Hayes was "under the radar" during the entire training session. The fun morning provided a very valuable set of new skills for the lucky MLFD volunteers. The mountain is so fortunate to have the safety talent it has with these guys and gals, such an important part of our community.

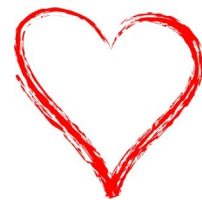
Congratulations and thanks to Dennis Cozzetti, Carol Mack, Pete Krauss, Bill Brown, Jerry Taylor, John Mulay, Rick Small, Doug Mance, John Perchorowicz and Debbie Fagan!



### SAWMILL RUN RESTAURANT VALENTINE DINNER SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2015 5:00 - 8:00 PM

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Chocolate Lava Cake or Fresh Berry Crème Anglaise



**Mount Lemmon Listserv**

Receive information from the Mt. Lemmon community by signing up on the **Mt. Lemmon Listserv**. Send an email to the listserv at [Announcements@mtlemmonhoa.org](mailto:Announcements@mtlemmonhoa.org) with your name and email address. We will sign you up and you will receive instructions on how to use the listserv.

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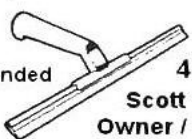
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**Mount Lemmon Community Center**

The Mt. Lemmon Community Center (MLCC) is part of Pima County's Natural Resources Parks Recreation (NRPR) department. The Mt. Lemmon Community Center, Inc. is organized exclusively for charitable, social and educational purposes. The facility is dependent upon local volunteers to staff and support the visitor's center. Our mission is to welcome all who visit the facility and promote Summerhaven, Mt. Lemmon and Pima County Arizona.

The MLCC board would like to encourage local social & charitable use of the community center. The community center can be used at no charge, with approval, for our local events.

Reservations to use the Community Center can be made by calling Kelly Cheeseman at the Pima County Parks and Recreation phone number: 520.877.6155 or E-mail [Kelly.Cheeseman@pima.gov](mailto:Kelly.Cheeseman@pima.gov)

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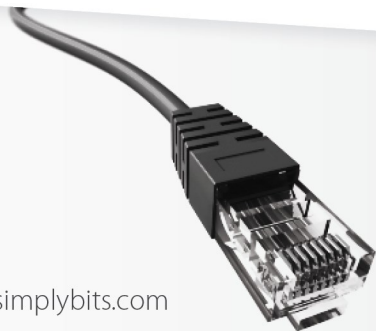
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## Restaurant News

### Sawmill Run Winter Hours Beginning November 1

Closed Mondays  
Tuesday-Friday 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Saturday 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM  
Sunday 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Hope to see you this winter!  
Stop in at Mt. Lemmon Realty office to receive your  
2015 VIP Discount card.

### The Iron Door

HOURS:

Monday, Thursday & Friday  
10:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Saturday & Sunday  
9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

### The Cookie Cabin

Hours:

Monday thru Friday 10:00 - 5:00 PM  
Saturday and Sunday 10:00 - 5:00 PM  
Delighting customers with:  
Pizza, Chili, and Giant Cookies

### Ski Valley News

When the slopes are closed:

- On Saturdays and Sundays, a free Sky-ride with breakfast from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM.



## MLHOA

The Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association (MLHOA) 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. 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 MLHOA is the strongest and most respected homeowner's organization in the entire county. Dues are \$35 per year payable in February. Renters and Friends of the Mountain may obtain membership for \$30 a year. The Annual Dinner and Meeting is held each year on the first Tuesday after taxes. To join the Mt. Lemmon Homeowner's Association, send a check to Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619.

The most visible product of the MLHOA is the **ECHOES**, a newsletter published ten times a year. The Association organizes social events such as potlucks, pancake breakfasts, ice cream socials and raffles, enabling owners to mingle. Members of the Board are: Jerry Taylor, president; Bonnie Lohman, vice-president; Jennifer Rollins, treasurer; Carrie Reitz, secretary; Mickie Gelsinger; John Mulay; Pete Krauss; Debbie Fagan; Glen Schager; Michael Stanley; Mike Bernstein; Bill Piatkiewicz; Jenni Avram; Carol Niehoff and Bob Gary.

Advertising in the Echoes is \$10 per issue for a proportional business card and \$50 per issue for a 1/4 page ad.

Echoes Editors: Linda Currin (lcurrin@q.com) and Carol Niehoff (niehoffc@aol.com)

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