

The

Mt. Lemmon Echoes

A publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association

mtlemmonhoa.org

4th of July Parade Gives Much to Celebrate

The annual 4th of July parade in Summerhaven brought many visitors up the mountain and gave locals an opportunity to showcase their creativity and patriotism. Organized by Hazel Ruggs and a team of volunteers on behalf of the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club, the parade had 26 entries, including local entries such as the Sky Island Kids' Club, the Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley Ski Patrol, the Mount Lemmon Lodge, and the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club. Alongside local entries, other organizations from the greater Tucson area also participated.

Music preceded the parade, provided by the Tucson Concert Band, which played "Stars and Stripes Forever" during the flyover coordinated by Dennis Winston to start the parade. Representatives from the BSA Catalina Council were the opening color guard, including several Scouts from the Mt. Lemmon Community. Michael Stanley and Carol Niehoff announced each entry in the parade, while the parade judges—Richard Pennel, Ariel Zamacoma, Terry Wilson, and Linda Currin—paid close attention to each entry as it went by.



Grand Marshal, Jennifer Shacter (Photo courtesy of Henry Johnson)



BSA Color Guard (Photo courtesy of Henry Johnson)

Mount Lemmon Lodge Now Open

The Mount Lemmon Lodge opened to the public on Saturday, July 22nd. Many visitors came to see the newly completed mountain lodge, which is the culmination of years of hard work by co-owners Diana and John Osborne. The lodge includes guest rooms, a Beyond Bread cafe, a forest garden, and a welcoming lobby, among many other amenities.

Continued on Page 10



Mount Lemmon Lodge sign (Photo courtesy of Diana Osborne)

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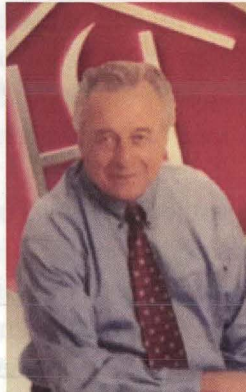
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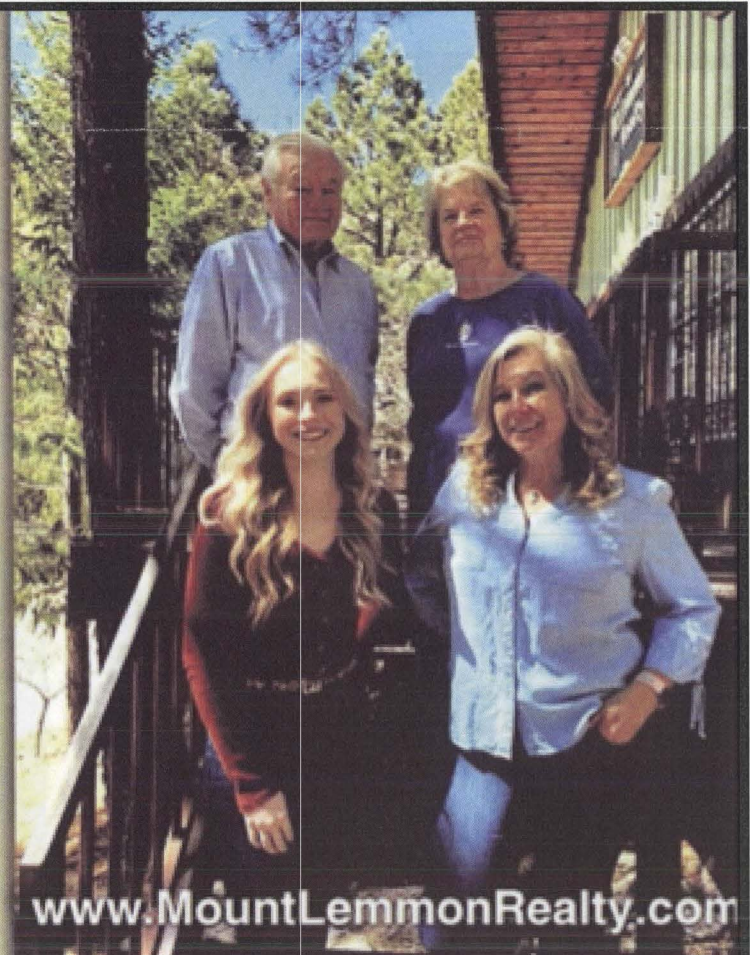
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The President's Corner August 2023

By Sally Crum
MLHOA President

I'm sure you are all enjoying some cooler temperatures as the monsoon has FINALLY arrived. Our records indicate that we are still significantly behind 2022 levels; hopefully we'll see more in the coming months.

July was an exciting month with the 4th of July Parade, Friday Night Movie, Bunko, another great presentation hosted by the MLWC, and AT LAST, the long-awaited opening of the Mt. Lemmon Lodge. See photos and stories on Pages 1, 10, and 11 of this issue of the *Echoes*.

After working with Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (NRPR), we were able to clear up misconceptions about the use of the Community Center for our monthly Bunko night. NRPR agrees that this is a 'Community Activity,' so unless the Community Center has been rented, we can continue to enjoy this long community tradition on the 3rd Friday from June through September. Please come out and join your neighbors – no skill required!

The Roads Working Group met with Pima County Department of Transportation (PC DOT) to review last year's road plowing work. The meeting went very well thanks to Michael Stanley's presentation, and it included photos and input from the rest of the group. PC DOT has agreed to supply marker posts for all of our Fire Hydrants, with Mt. Lemmon Water District providing the signs which indicate 'Fire Hydrant' to prevent the hydrants from being damaged or buried under the snow. PC DOT has purchased additional equipment to help with snow removal. The Working Group expressed a huge 'thanks' for how the crews worked diligently their first year, and PC DOT has agreed that they will continue working to improve the plowing process.

At the MLHOA Executive Board meeting in July, Michael Singervalt, our treasurer, reported that due to significantly increased costs for producing the *Echoes* each month, our budget will begin to run in the red unless some changes are made. The Board voted to initiate the following changes to our dues program:

- Dues will be raised from \$35.00 to \$45.00 beginning next February. There will be a \$5.00 discount if dues are received NO LATER THAN the MLHOA Annual Dinner, April 16.
- If dues are not paid by the Annual Dinner, the *Echoes* subscription will be suspended until payment is received.
- Just a reminder – Dues are payable in February, regardless of when you paid your dues last year. If you haven't paid yet for this year (due in February 2023), please see the coupon on Page 10.
- THANK YOU for your support.

I heard a rumor that some of our neighbors are being advised not to join the MLHOA because we 'put too many restrictions on cabin owners.' The MLHOA is a voluntary organization, and we do not have authority to put any restrictions on your property; rather we encourage you to be Firewise, and we advocate with the various agencies that impact our community. Please contact mlhoa@gmail.com with any questions.

August Calendar

(Event details on Page 7)

- 4 - First Friday movie, MLCC, 6:30pm
- 18 - Bunko, MLCC, 6:30pm.
- 19 - ML Water District Board, Zimmerman School, 8:30am.
- MLHOA Board, MLCC, 10am
- ML Woman's Club, MLCC, 1pm
- Mt. Lemmon Speakers Program, MLCC, 2:15pm.
- Firewise Celebration and Taco Bar, MLCC, 6pm.
- 21 - ML Fire Board, Fire Station and via Zoom at mlfdaz.org, 4pm.

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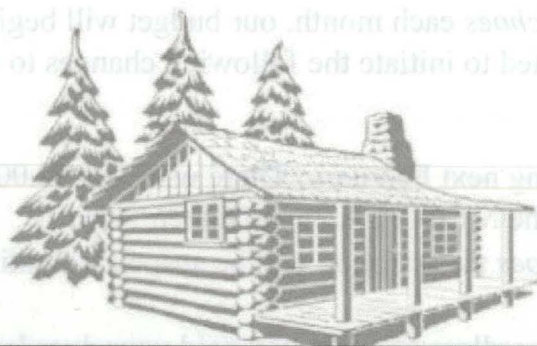
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How to Stay Up to Date on Mt. Lemmon Information

By Matthew Grossman

Here are online resources to keep Mt. Lemmon residents informed between editions of *The Echoes*:

1. A Google Group has been set up to provide email updates. To join, send an e-mail to mtlemmon-hoa+subscribe@googlegroups.com.
2. The Mount Lemmon Homeowners' Association maintains a website at mtlemmonhoa.org. Get informed and contribute to the community.
3. Sign up at Nextdoor.com, using your cabin street address. If you use Nextdoor for your valley neighborhood, sign up for Mt. Lemmon under a new email address, because only one neighborhood is permitted per email address. This offers general information and important communication, especially with wildfires and road closures.
4. MLFDaz.org is the web address for our Fire Department. On the home page, under the Resources tab, is Firewise. This takes you to important information and forms, including an Action List for Property Owners, a Community Communications form, cheatgrass and bark beetle identification, and more information to help keep your cabin and community safe.

About *The Mt. Lemmon Echoes*

The Mt. Lemmon Echoes is published 10 times a year, February through November, by the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners' Association.

To contribute stories, photos and calendar items, email Editor Susan Miller-Cochran at mtlemmonechoes@gmail.com.

To get advertising rates and reserve ad space in *The Echoes*, email mjsintuc@gmail.com.



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Flash Floods Still a Concern

By Dan Leade, Mt. Lemmon Fire District

Of the many concerns associated with the monsoon season, flash floods can be one of the most life-threatening due to their speed and ferocity. Although the monsoons have started later and fire season has been relatively light, flash floods may still be prevalent as the mountain recovers from the Bighorn Fire.

The National Weather Service defines a flash flood as “a flood caused by heavy or excessive rainfall in a short period of time, generally less than six hours.” Flash floods can often arrive without warning, resulting in a life-threatening emergency. Still, many do have some telltale signs. The best sign of a possible flash flood is a watch/warning. A flash flood watch means that conditions are favorable for flash flooding, whereas a warning is issued when flash flooding is occurring or imminent. If you hear thunder in the distance, be on alert when in flood prone areas. Just because you are under clear skies does not mean that rain falling miles away cannot still result in a flash flood where you are located. If you are near a stream, some signs of an approaching flash flood are water rising rapidly, water quickly becoming muddy, water moving additional debris, and hearing the sound of rushing water.

Thankfully, there are ways to avoid many of the dangers associated with flash flooding events. Tucson.com offers six flash flood safety tips:

1. Make sure you check the forecast. This is where you will discover any watches/warnings regarding the potential for significant rainfall. You can also sign up for alerts to go directly to your phone. Consider hiking in the morning rather than the afternoon, as the afternoon produces more monsoon thunderstorms.
2. Don't risk going out if you notice dark clouds, see lightning, or hear thunder.
3. Avoid flood prone areas.
4. Do not enter flowing water. A mere six inches of water can result in you losing your footing. Even though it does not appear that deep or fast, the best practice is to find another route.
5. Move to higher ground if you see any of the potential flash flood signs.
6. Finally, you should let someone know where you will be so that if you become stranded by a flash flood, first responders can locate you quickly. Planning ahead can significantly reduce the risk of being trapped by a flash flood.

Trico Awards POWER Grants to Five Local Non-Profits

By Roberta Lopez-Suter, Trico

Trico Electric Cooperative has awarded a total of \$35,000 to five non-profit organizations providing critical services in southern Arizona. The grants are part of Trico's POWER Grants program and are awarded twice a year to charities throughout southern Arizona.

Non-profits are selected through an application process and reviewed by a committee made up of Trico employees, employee-Members, and Board Members.

Receiving grants of \$9,000 each were Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and Sahuarita Food Bank & Community Resource Center. Receiving a grant of \$8,000 was Borderlands Produce Rescue. Arivaca Fire District Auxiliary received a \$7,000 grant. Receiving a \$2,000 grant was Mt. Lemmon Firefighters Foundation.

Since 2008, the POWER Grant program has awarded \$805,000 in grants. For more information or to apply, go to www.trico.coop/power-grants.



Mt. Lemmon Firewise Update

by Sally Crum

Save the Date: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM Saturday evening, August 19 for the Firewise Gratitude Celebration and Taco Bar in the Community Center. All Mt Lemmonites are invited to participate. Celebrate, get informed about upcoming options for bark beetle and cheatgrass control, and consider signing up to become a certified Firewise Assessor. Watch NextDoor and MLHOA email for more details

Cabin & Lot Protection: It's time to be compulsive about clearing anything burnable away from a five-foot perimeter of your cabin and minimizing risk on the lot. Follow the first page of our [Action Guide at MLFDAZ.Org/Firewise](#).

Green Waste Disposal Update:

- The burn pile is closed until further notice.
- The pine-needle trailer at Mt Lemmon Fire District remains available for you to dump your collected pine needles (only). If the pine needle trailer is not there, you may leave pine needles behind the gate ONLY if they are in PAPER bags.
- Road-side pick-up of pine-needle bags has ended. Many thanks to John Bialis and sons for the service you have provided!
- Slash may be piled along the chipper route in spaces away from trees and structures. Check with your Firewise Captain for guidance. Slash piles of vegetation only – and no locusts or bushes - will be chipped or cleared in October when bark beetles are dormant.
- Pine trees (long needles) should not be trimmed or cut down until late September or early October because pine tree sap attracts bark beetles. Trimming and thinning any other trees other than pines may be done at any time.

Addressing bark beetles and cheatgrass:

- If you need help determining whether any of your pine trees have bark beetle infestation, contact Henry Werchan, henryaw@gmail.com.
- Continue to pull and put in the trash any cheatgrass that is still green. If you have had trouble controlling the cheatgrass and would be interested in participating in a cheatgrass sheep grazing program next spring, contact Dorothy Johnson, dj.dorothyjohnson@gmail.com.

Your contact information is key to getting real-time updates from Mt Lemmon Fire District and The Mt Lemmon Firewise Team. Please go to '[Connections for Mt Lemmonites](#)' to input the current phone and email contact for your responsible family member(s). This form as well as lots of great Firewise information can be found in the Firewise tab at mlfdaz.org.

Need help? Don't forget to check '[Service Providers for Firewising](#).' However, Scouts probably will not be available during the summer.

Want to help? Please contact Dorothy Johnson at dj.dorothyjohnson@gmail.com, if you would like to join the Firewise Team, or are interested in Firewise Assessor training.

Record Your Time & Money Spent: It will soon be time to renew our Firewise Community application. Please use the form on the website and turn it in ASAP.

MLWC Speaker Programs

By Robin Kirk

On June 17, 2023, David Dean spoke on the "Biodiversity of the Santa Catalinas." He discussed the biomes of the mountain and what the parameters are to qualify as a Sky Island. He had photos of plant life, trees, biomes, and identification of the different species of conifers and oaks.

On July, 15, 2023, Hernan Castro spoke on "Foraging for Mushrooms on Mt. Lemmon." Hernan explained many species of mushrooms, showing photos and discussing medicinal uses, the distinct tastes of different kinds of mushrooms, and which ones are toxic. He plans to do a guided walk on the mountain for interested individuals after the monsoon starts. Information will follow about date and time, and it will also be posted on Nextdoor. Cost will be \$35 per person.

Attendance for both programs was an all-time high of 65 people.



Hernan Castro and Robin Kirk at "Foraging for Mushrooms on Mt. Lemmon" Speaker Program (Photo courtesy of Robin Kirk)

Future Speakers:

August 19: Henry Johnson M.D.: "Birds of Mt. Lemmon and the Southwest"

September 16: Donato DelMastro, District Ranger, USFS, Catalina District: "Status and Update on the Santa Catalina Forest"

All talks are held at the Chuck Bowden Community Center (12949 N. Sabino Canyon Rd.) and begin at 2:15 PM. Talks are open to the public and free of charge.



First Friday Movie Night

By Michael Singervalt

First Friday Movie Night will be held **August 4 at 6:30 PM in the Community Center**, and we will be viewing *No Country for Old Men*. Described as a "crime-thriller" and released in 2007, the film was nominated for 8 Academy Awards and won 4, including Best Picture. Featuring Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, and Josh Brolin, the film was described as "The Coens at the Peak of Their Powers" by Peter Travers in *Rolling Stone*.

Synopsis: When a man stumbles on a bloody crime scene and two million dollars in cash, his decision to take the money sets off an unstoppable chain reaction of violence.

No Country for Old Men is rated R for Strong Violence and Some Language.

Bunko!

- Friday, August 18, 6:30 PM at the Mt. Lemmon Community Center
- Bring snacks to share and your own drink. Everyone is invited!
- Questions? Call Linda Mulay at 520-561-1137.

Mt Lemmon Woman's Club

By Sandi Triplett

Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club President

Congratulations and a great big thank you to Hazel Rugg and her amazing team for a very successful 4th of July Parade! A special thank you to Dennis Winston for the fly over, to Matt Grossman for the sound, and to Michael Stanley and Carol Neihoff for announcing.

Service Projects

In July our very successful "Done In A Day" service project was collecting supplies for More Than A Bed. Thank you to all the ladies who donated cash and clothing to this worthy organization. In August we will be collecting school supplies for an elementary school. Look for the email letting you know the school and which items are their greatest needs.

Upcoming Meeting

Our August meeting will take place on **Saturday, August 19, at 1:00 pm at the Mt Lemmon Community Center**. Plan to stay for the speaker program immediately following our meeting. Henry Johnson will be presenting Birds of Mt Lemmon. He is an excellent speaker and his photographs are unbelievable. If you will be on the mountain Friday evening, August 18, we will also meet at the Community Center at 6:30 PM for Bunko.

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South32 Hermosa Critical Minerals Project Update

USFS, Coronado National Forest

On June 22, 2023, the Coronado National Forest met with federal, state, local, and tribal government collaborative partners to outline the timetable for all environmental and permitting actions for the South32 Hermosa Critical Minerals Project (Hermosa Project). The Hermosa Project is the first-ever critical minerals mining project in the nation to be included as a FAST-41 covered project.

Upon receiving a Mine Plan of Operations from South32, the Coronado National Forest will begin EPA processes and coordinate with other federal and non-federal parties to secure authorizations required by federal and state environmental laws.

We encourage you to continue to supply any formal comments during designated comment periods announced on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CoronadoNF> and Twitter at <https://twitter.com/>



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Mount Lemmon Lodge Now Open

Continued from Page 1

According to co-owner and lodge architect, Diana Osborne, the Beyond Bread cafe served over 400 people on opening day, as many Mt. Lemmonites enjoyed tasty meals, pastries and beverages. The staff members were busy from 4:00 AM until the evening hours as we all welcomed this new addition to our community. One of those visitors was local resident, Leigh Anne Thrasher, who wrote the following reflection for the *Echoes*.

Road Signs

by Leigh Anne Thrasher

Have you ever seen the Burma Shave road signs on Route 66? It is like taking a trip down memory lane as those quirky, vintage signs create a sense of nostalgia and charm on the open road. I feel that same charm and nostalgia seeing the signs of recovery in Summerhaven with the newest being the Mount Lemmon Lodge, "Crown of the Santa Catalinas." Jasmine and I decided we had to take a picture in front of the road sign because the Lodge is the start of something beautiful. All of us who lost everything in the 2003 Aspen Fire treasure seeing the people and the mountain recover. The Mt. Lemmon Lodge is the newest sign on the road to recovery. Thank you, Diana and John. We look forward to spending time with friends and family at the beautiful Mount Lemmon Lodge!



Jasmine and Leigh Anne in front of the Mount Lemmon Lodge sign (Photo courtesy of Leigh Anne Thrasher)

The Summer of Science, Earth Day, and Fun

by Christina Grossman

This Summer was filled with many first adventures for the Sky Island Kids Club. With the support of the Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club, children and families of the mountain were able to participate and learn from the University of Arizona's Mt. Lemmon Sky Center for a day tour. The Mt. Lemmon Sky Center is the home of the Steward Observatory's outreach program in astronomy (<https://skycenter.arizona.edu/content/visit-skycenter>). For many of the children, this was their first time at the observatory and using the Schulman 32-inch telescope. We learned the history of the location as a former military base, stories behind some of the constellations, the parameters and classifications of nebulae, and we were able to view Mercury and Sirius using the Schulman telescope. As we looked up to observe celestial life, we planned the next adventure: looking below to study the aquatic life of our streams.

One of our parent volunteers, Art Torrance, took the children, parents, and grandparents into the streams to look at the Caddisfly larvae (Trichoptera). When you are able to observe the Caddisfly larvae, their cases glitter with mica and sand. They are observed via the naked eye, but having a small magnifying lens, or pocket-sized jeweler's loupe magnifier can really help any learner expand their observations.

To extend the focus on science, our club's theme for the 4th of July parade was *Earth Day Every Day on the Mountain*. We need to remind everyone, including visitors, that we leave no trace behind in all our adventures. Whether we do a cheatgrass pull, pick up some trash in our village, or remember to use our water wisely, the sum of little acts can amount to tremendous progress. In all these things, we then get to have some fun, to come together to enjoy a ski lift ride at Ski Valley, or gather at the Thrashers' cabin to visit Jasmine and play some pool.

To continue the tradition of the Sky Island Kids Club, we need more ideas, more support, and more volunteers for next Summer. Stay tuned for a possible Halloween event that may be combined with a Chili Cook Off in October. Have a wonderful beginning of the new school year and keep some of those mountain memories in your pocket until the next time.



Clockwise, from top left: Sky Island Kids' Club visits Mt. Lemmon Sky Center; Sky Island Kids' Club entry in July 4th parade; Sky Island Kids' Club Social at the Thrashers' cabin (Photos courtesy of Christina Grossman and Henry Johnson)



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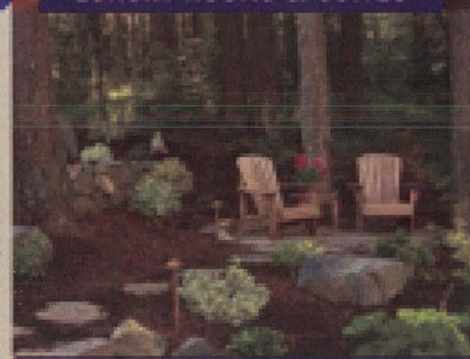
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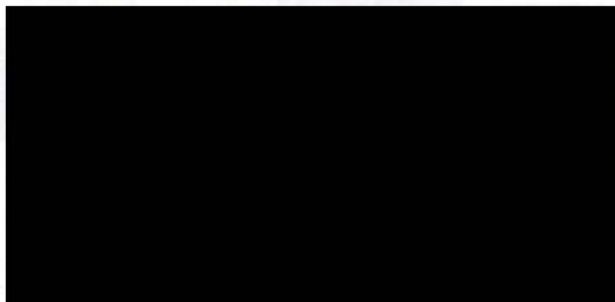


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