

HARBOR LIGHTS newsletter

Web address: www.DesertHarborAZ.com

May 2008

Desert Harbor, a 55+ community

Apache Junction, Arizona

This is NOT an Official publication of the Desert Harbor Activities Organization or American Land Lease.
Any views and opinions expressed within are strictly the views and opinions of the editor/publisher.

Your newsletter sucks go back to the old one!

This is one of many comments I received directly and indirectly from residents when I first started as rookie editor back in March 2007. I told myself then just *'be patient, they'll come around. Do the best job you can with each issue and they'll come around.'*

I worked hard and strived to make each issue better than the one before. During the course of the first few months, I encouraged residents to participate with their input. *'After all,'* I told myself, *'what IS a community newsletter if it's not all about the people and the community it serves.'* My thinking was to have as many people as possible involved offering tid bits about their lives and activity. Month after month I made the same request in column after column and even suggested how to do it. Were my efforts successful...no, not really!

I was hoping the Activities Board as a body would assume some responsibility and provide a little input. I'm here to say that that never happened.

The Annual Activities Meeting/Election/By-Laws voting fiasco resulted in the resignation of a popular Board officer. This simple act created its own fallout and issues involving the By-Laws continued to concern many for weeks. A special By-Laws committee struggled further transformed this document which was finally approved by community vote months after December's Annual Meeting.

When the Activities President announced news early this year of a re-organization and then established five new chairperson positions, I thought finally, there will be some coordination with activities and I'll get some real material for the newsletter. Nothing changed! The Board continued to hold its meetings and conduct business in the same manner or at least in the same way I've observed for the two years and more. How disappointing!

I will confess, I have not been completely happy with the content in your newsletters. Yes the format has changed but still not what I visualized when I took over. I acquired this position by default. I think I understand now how the previous editor felt when dropping this soul task on me. At the time I was stunned. I was hoping for some guidance, perhaps from the Board but in fact, from day one, I've been totally on my own. I have not once been invited to an Executive Meeting of the Activities Board to share or receive ideas for the common interest of the community...how sad is that? The community has had shamefully little input from the Board, less the president's message with frequent prodding.

I admit now I have not done a good job as editor. I have failed to deliver what the people want in their community newsletter. This was clearly brought to my attention at the conclusion of the April 5th Residents Meeting in the clubhouse. I was told I would no longer be provided with a "President's Message" and I would no longer be given activities information for the Calendar page. In addition I would no longer receive a copy of the monthly Resident's Meeting minutes to recap. These were all decisions made by Board members and that was that!

I have concluded as a result from these and other Board actions and by the seemingly lack of interest from the community that I have not been serving everyone's best interests as editor of this newsletter. In light of the lack of community and Board support, I will respectfully conclude my duties as editor effective with this issue, May 2008.

Now everyone can have their old newsletter back ...after all, this one SUCKS!

Respectfully submitted, *Don Walker*

2008 Activities Organization

President:

Joe Schnier #146
602-550-0437

Vice-President:

Dave Blomeyer # 58
480-982-3938

Treasurer:

Art Roberts # 81
480-641-7753

Secretary:

Cookie Pein # 53
480-983-9304

Bob Mueller #108

Mary Lou Croyle #120

Tom Hennessy # 70

A.L.L. Community Manager
Yvonne Cavazos...office
480-288-8876

Newsletter Editor/Publisher

Position Vacant

Web Master

Tom Hennessy# 70
480-671-3696

tom.hennessy@mchsi.com

President's Message

The
President's Message
and other material
is not included
in this
newsletter due to
decision made
by the
Activities Organization

This anonymous note was found
in Newsletter Comment Box in
our clubhouse...

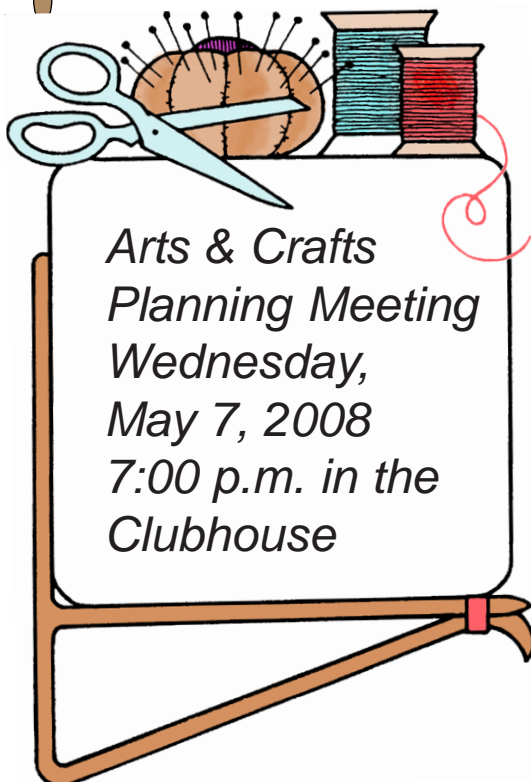
HARBOR LIGHTS
newsletter

Suggestion Idea Story Comment

Don Walker

I saw you at the
50-60's party.
And was Disappointed
that you (Newspaper Editor)
did not take pictures
This was good party and
it should be shared w/
others. Shame on you.

Name: Resident Lot Date 4/19/08



Thank You All...

I'd like to say a few words to express my gratitude to those of you who have given your time and effort to making this newsletter what it is and has been. Your input given voluntarily or at times with a little prodding has been appreciated. If the community has enjoyed this paper at all, it is due to you for being so interesting. As I reflect over the last fifteen months through your "Personal Profiles", your short stories, tips and trips and so much more, you have been the source of it all. I thank you.



Desert Harbor is a wonderful Park. It is beautiful and clean and most of the people here are nice. I'm still trying to figure out some others but I'm pretty sure they're nice too, in their way.

I hoped by donating some of my time to the newsletter, I would have made more friends but it seems just the opposite has occurred. On that subject, I am sorry.

I want to extend my hope for the community that it will find its identity and be all it can be. There is so much potential here for a truly fine neighborhood. I will remain positive and always believe in the basic goodness of people.

Respectfully, Don Walker...#206

Celebrating the 50's & 60's at Desert Harbor

Arguably one of the best events we've had at Desert Harbor in a long time. Approximately 80 turned out to eat hamburgers, hot dogs, drink cherry cokes and dance...oh did we dance. Larry and Judy Liles provided the entertainment. Larry was a talent that kept everyone hoping and laughing. We've not seen so many hats...and the costume changes were beyond belief as the pictures below with Miles Lowery (Lot #164) for his birthday is just an example. We're not sure but Miles may have wished he had never been born after the treatment he received from one very liberal lady of the night.



Saturday, April 19, 2008

It's Food and Entertainment



HOT DOGS AND HAMBURGERS WITH MACARONI SALAD AND ALL THE FIXINS FROM THE SODA FOUNTAINS OF THE FIFTIES AND SIXTIES FROM 5:30 PM AND THEN

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT STARTING AT 7 PM.

50'S & 60'S NIGHT

Sign-up Sheet on the board
Date: 04/19/2008
Time: 5:30 PM to 10PM

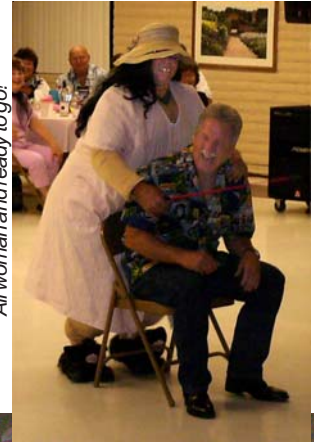
Live Entertainment plus Food
Price is only \$10.00 per person for this fun evening and there is NO entertainment tax.
\$10.00 per person includes everything

Desert Harbor Club

Photographs courtesy of Cyndi and Dick Smith...thank you.



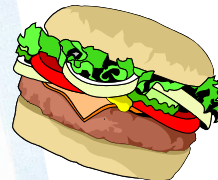
Miles Lowery gets his birthday wish!



All woman and ready to go!



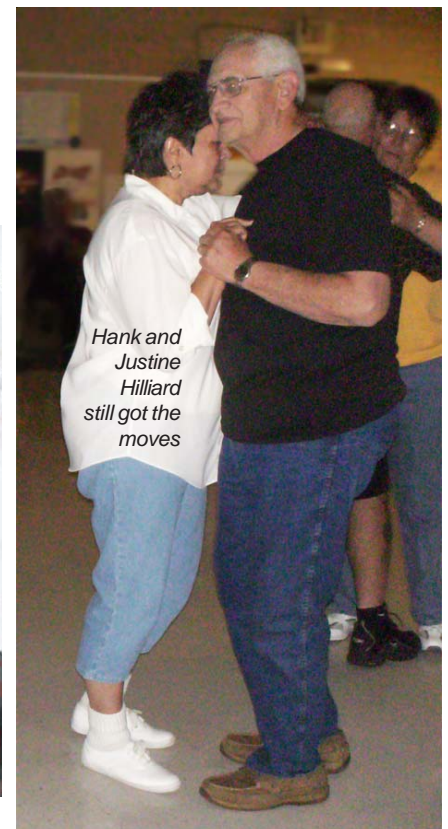
It's an old fashion dance contest...we don't see you in there!



Larry & Judy Liles were true entertainers and definitely provided a night that we all will remember.



Carol Sabareio and Midge Druoin show they can remember the old dance.



Hank and Justine Hilliard still got the moves

A Settlement May Be in Sight

The Desert Harbor Association of Home Owners (DHAHO) was formed for the purpose of raising funds to bring attention to collective issues concerning many residents in our community. Legal council was retained through Stewart Law Firm with offices in Phoenix. A "demand letter", dated March 25, 2008, was prepared and sent to ALL Homes Corporation in Florida for the purpose of informing them that participating residents were offering a way to resolve their claims. Summarily ALL Homes Corp were to buy out the contract price of each DHAHO resident home including any upgrades and/or repairs done by the resident.

At a meeting held on April 21st, DHAHO reported that it had received a response as a result of the "demand letter". ALL Homes Insurance Company asked Stewart Law to have homeowners submit their "Personal Demand Inventory" to include the information stated above. Moving forward, DHAHO members were then asked, in light of the ALL Homes request, to make the decision whether to stay in the process or not. Many dropped out but many others paid the additional fees and remained focused with sticking with the group. A number of residents were prepared and submitted their completed forms that evening.

It is not sure the time ALL Homes will need to review all the PDI's but the group is hoping to hear something by the end of May. Many homeowners may be moving as a result of all this or maybe not. Only time will tell.

It should be pointed out, however, that only a few homes are seriously affected with the issues raised by DHAHO members. It is estimated that the highest number of homes involved was 41 but since the initial story broke the news a few months ago, roughly half have dropped out and those residents are working directly with American Land Lease for solutions to their individual issues.

American Land Lease

Words from Management

Yvonne Cavazos, Desert Harbor's Community Manager

In last month's newsletter, Joe Schnier, President of the Activities Organization, discussed in his President's message stating that permission had been given for dog owners to walk pets on the golf course. The newsletter editor, Don Walker, followed up on this information and learned that conditions were required for this activity to be successful and that the permission was based on a 30 day trial period. Again the conditions for use are:

Pets may NOT be permitted off their leash and must remain in adult control throughout the Park at all times, including in the Golf area. Use of the Golf area for pets is in effect for a 30 day trial period only (April 1 thru April 30, 2008). If during this trial period, there is evidence of misuse (urine spotting, fecal matter, pets off their leash, and disregard of golfer right of priority), use of the area for Pet Walking will be rescinded.

At this time the specified conditions have not been adhered to. It would seem that if someone wanted this opportunity to remain available they would follow the rules. There have been several residents who do NOT want dogs on the golf course. The issue is creating problems for the community as a whole.

In an effort to get everyone's opinion on this issue, we're starting over. We will solve this with a community wide simple majority vote. This will occur within the next two weeks. Further information concerning the vote will be provided by May 9th. If the community votes to allow pets on the golf course this does NOT mean that rules won't apply. If residents continue to violate the rules for using the golf course while walking their dogs, it will show that the community is not valued and as a result management can and will discontinue the opportunity.

Recap from April, 2008

Residents' Meeting

*Minutes of the Residents Meeting
are not shown in the Newsletter
due to decisions made
by the Activities Organization*

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Ladies Get Acquainted Soup & Salad Luncheon as reported by Jane Boudreau

April 2008 The monthly "Ladies Get Acquainted Soup and Salad Luncheon" was held on April 1ST in the Desert Harbor Clubhouse. Twenty-three ladies were in attendance and again this month's luncheon offered a variety of soups and salads. All were delicious thank you.

Carol Rysavy and Jane Boudreau conducted the 50/50 drawing and there were two winners, Linda Stephens and Barb Borchardt. Twenty dollars was collected for the drawing.

Our "Ladies Get Acquainted Soup and Salad Luncheon" is held on the first Tuesday of each month at 12 noon in the Clubhouse. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board. Select your favorite soup or salad and indicate your category on the sign-up sheet. Just a reminder, you are to bring your own table service but coffee, hot and ice tea will be served by the committee .



We encourage all ladies of the community to become acquainted with those you don't know and renew old friendship with others. The response to our luncheon has been wonderful and we hope those remaining in the community over the summer will continue to meet with us on the first Tuesday.

For those who might require assistance with getting to the clubhouse, please contact Joann Hankinson (480) 641-0975 or Jane Boudreau (480) 671-0477 to arrange a ride. If you are willing to bring a neighbor who needs assistance, your participation will be greatly appreciated by them as well as by the committee.

"Join the Fun" with the Ladies of Desert Harbor.

Men's Luncheon as reported by Dick Smith

April 2008 The first "Men's Luncheon" got off to a shaky start. Due to prior commitments, only 3 men went to the luncheon. We had a chance to learn about our neighbors but we never got around to solving all the problems of the world...maybe next time.

We went to **Linda's Hoosier Cafe** located at Higley and University in Mesa. The food was delicious, the service was great, and the prices were very good. We would recommend it for anybody interested. They serve breakfast and lunch except for the weekends.

We will try again and see if we can get more men interested. Why let the "girls" have all the fun. If you are interested, please sign up at the clubhouse.

Charities

Celine Leonard
Lot #106 (480) 982-1618
Coordinates the efforts for both of these organizations for our Park.

Sunshine Acres Children's Home -- Kids make crafts of all kinds to sell in their Boutique. They take the fronts of old greeting cards and transform them into sellable projects. Your once used seasonal and all occasional cards are needed for this worthwhile home. Please place all your discarded cards in the basket provided for this in our clubhouse.

Superstition Mtn. Mental Health Care -- This facility takes in those in need without discrimination and accepts donations of small soaps, shampoos, and other hygiene products like those used in motels and hotels. These small unopened items are preferred and provide the needy with safe contamination-free hygienic products.

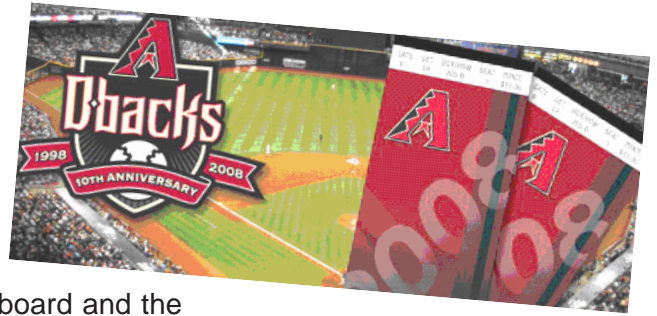
Summer Activity Suspensions

Known activities that will be discontinued until fall are:

- Positive Thinking Class** coordinated by Elaine Kereluk
 - Golf League** coordinated by Don Walker
 - Residents Meetings** coordinated by President and Board Members.
-

Travel Club...

Ten of us Desert Harborites went to Diamondback's Home Opener on April 7th. The bus picked us up at the clubhouse and drove right to the Stadium gate nearest the great seats where we sat. The festive pre-game ceremonies included lots of music, a dramatic fly-over by jets from Luke AFB, the debut of a massive new high-definition scoreboard and the unveiling of the team's 2007 National League West Championship Banner. The Arizona D'backs did everything right this evening including hitting 4 home runs to beat the L.A. Dodgers, 9-3. It was all quite a show and the game was oh so very exciting. We all had a great time!



Other D'back games available this season with bus transportation include:

May 13	- Colorado Rockies	June 17	- Oakland A's
August 5	- Pittsburgh Pirates	August 19	- San Diego Padres
September 1	- St. Louis Cardinals	September 15	- San Francisco Giants

Prices are \$39 pp which includes transportation and reserved seating in sections 109 and 110. Bus pick-up is at Fry's on Phelps Dr. in AJ (If we get 10 or more to go from Desert Harbor, the bus will pick us up at our Clubhouse).

On July 22nd the D'backs are playing the Chicago Cubs in an evening game. Members and friends of the Phoenix Red Hat Society have reserved the Diamond Club for this game and one of the Red Hatters will be singing the National Anthem. I have two tickets left for the Diamond Club Lounge (men are invited, too) at \$20 each. I'll hold these D-Club tickets until mid-May but must offer them to another Park if I have no takers. For an additional \$20, you can have bus transportation – we WILL have a bus pick-up here at Desert Harbor for this game.

If anyone would like to purchase tickets on their own and sit in an area of your choosing, you may still ride on the bus with us for \$20 pp.

Any game with the Diamond Backs is colorful and lots of fun! If you're interested in any of these D'Back's games, just give me a call, Connie Riter at (480) 641-7753.

I'm looking forward to the exciting trips we're planning for this fall and I'm sure you will too!

Casino Trips...

For May's trip we go to **Harrah's Phoenix Ak-Chin Casino & Resort** in Maricopa. They have a 40,000-square-foot casino with everything you need for a thrilling gaming experience.

They boast of fast-action slots, keno, poker, live dealer blackjack and a host of other exciting games not to mention a 10,000-square-foot newly redone **Bingo**tainment Center (play starts at 11:30 a.m.) for the bingo fans.

Everyone gets \$10.00 on arrival if you have a card but if you don't just go to the Rewards Desk to get yours. They'll give you the \$10.00 automatically.

Add your name to the Sign-up Sheet in our Clubhouse if you want to join in on this trip to Harrah's Ak-Chin Casino. Trip day is **Wednesday, May 21st** and

check-in time is 8:00 a.m. in front of the Clubhouse to board the bus. The bus will return promptly at 3:00 p.m. sharp.

The casino trip for **June** will be to Laughlin at the **Edgewater Resort and Casino** located on the Colorado River. Tentative plans are for **June 18th & 19th**.....cost will be **\$39 pp double** or **\$53 for a single**. More details to follow so keep checking the Board. I'll put up the sign-sheet as soon as I have all the info.

For any additional information contact **Celine**, Lot #106...(480) 982-1618

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TERRY MAJUR UPDATE

It was great to see so many friends and neighbors come out for the Spaghetti Benefit Dinner on April 16. Everyone seemed to enjoy the food and the opportunity to share in the giving of a helping hand.

The funds collected, the prayers and the cards were all very much appreciated. Karen was overwhelmed by your show of support. Terry is holding his own in a very tough struggle. We have no idea how much longer they will have to be in Houston. They just take it day by day.

Karen asked me (Frankie Johnson, Cardinal Homes) to thank all of you from her and Terry. She loves Desert Harbor and hopes in the near future to return home. She is looking for a room closer to the hospital so she can give up the rental car. She's not yet sure where she is going to be staying.

If you would like to send cards or a note to Karen and Terry, I will bundle them and forward them on to wherever she tells me. Please address and send your cards to:

Karen & Terry Majur
c/o Cardinal Homes
330 S. 72nd Place
Mesa, AZ 85208

Thanks again for your kindness.



Poker Tournament

Texas Hold'em

The Spring Texas Hold'em Tournament was completed after only four sessions. Seventeen participants had signed up and play began on April 20 in the clubhouse. Participants paid their \$25 entry fee and received an equivalent of \$1,000,000.00 in chips. One by one players lost their money and forced to drop out.

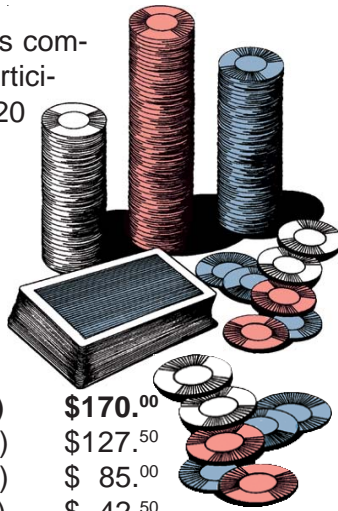
After only 4 sessions, we can reveal who the winners are who had the best poker face or best hand or both:

1st Place Bruno Borowczyk	(Lot # 26)	\$170.00
2nd Place Mike Kereluk	(Lot # 82)	\$127.50
3rd Place Dave Drouin	(Lot #203)	\$ 85.00
4th Place Chuck McCall	(Lot #114)	\$ 42.50

Dave Drouin was the only repeat winner from last year, finishing 3rd in 2007.

We've been having a Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament each year for the last few years but lately, players and spectators wanted more so we've decided to hold them twice a year now (Spring and Fall). If you're interested in participating in our upcoming fall event, keep an eye out for the announcement on the bulletin board and sign up...all residents are welcome to play.

Much thanks to Fred and Reni Dieball (Lot #85) for coordinating this exciting event.



Special Days for People

ANNIVERSARIES in May

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lot #</u>
John & Collette Greenwood	8	174
Carroll & Paula Cooper	13	198
Larry & Judy Oeltjenbruns	16	157
Fred & Reni Dieball	18	85
Allen & Jeanette Kitterman	25	36
Bob & Jean Hansen	25	151
Bill & June Gibson	31	205

BIRTHDAYS in May

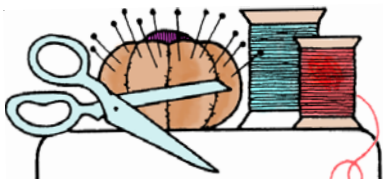
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Lot #</u>
Alan Goodwin	5	200
Dennis Justus	8	24
Mae Johnson	11	192
Jerry Miller	11	170
Agnes Miller	12	152
Paula Cooper	13	198
Jim McKersie	19	177
Connie Riter	20	81
Don Bjornstad	22	76
Chuck McCall	22	114
Sharon McCall	23	114
Justine Hilliard	28	101
Jimmy Campbell	28	171
Steve Seider	30	9

Write a little note and put it in these peoples cubbie slots. It is a nice way to say "Hello" and recognize their special day!



DAMN
 They got smart

You know something's got to change or we'll all pay a price!



KRAFT KORNER

by Midge Druoin, Lot 203

Why Crafts?

Did you ever say to yourself, “why would I ever be interested in doing or learning a craft?” To begin with, you can make new friends and have something to look forward to anytime you’re in the mood to be creative. For many, crafting helps keep your sanity while others say it’s a way of getting together with friends or family.

Many times crafts are handed down as heirlooms from one generation to another. It’s a great avenue to teach your children or grandchildren.

There are many roads you could take with crafts. They can be exhibited competitively, sold, given as gifts, or just a way of interacting with other people who are into the art of crafting.

Crafts are a good way to keep your fingers and your mind from getting forgetful. It gives great satisfaction when you complete something you’ve created and someone compliments you on your finished work.

These are just some of the quality reasons for getting involved in such a creative venture.

Intarsia ... an ancient art form making pictures from cut pieces of wood

Bill Martin (Lot 165) said, “I always enjoyed working with my hands and in high school took various shop classes to learn how to do it better. During college, I continued taking woodworking and metal shop courses as electives. I knew way back in those early days I’d always enjoy a passion for making things.”

After college, I settled with IBM and started a career in the computer industry and watched it take off. I retired in 1987 after 31 years. Now retired, Beverly and I now could concentrate on our true loves, woodworking for me and Bridge for Beverly.

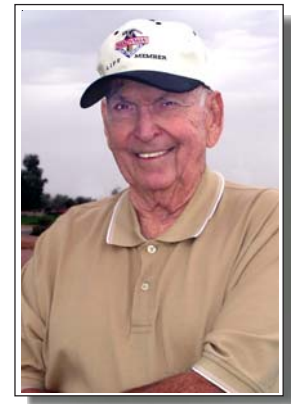
It didn’t take long to rekindle my woodworking passion full time...I was loving

The Tucson area offered so many opportunities to learn new skills, I took advantage of a few and enrolled in stained glass classes and thoroughly enjoyed the art of working with glass. This along with my woodworking, golf and now stained glass, I had plenty to keep me busy.

While living in Tucson over the last 20 years, I’ve displayed and sold many of my craft pieces. There was an Arts & Craft store nearby where I placed and sold most of my work on consignment. The store owner was a skilled woodworker and concentrated much of his efforts specializing in Intarsia. Intarsia is an ancient art form making pictures from cut pieces of wood shaped and fitted together. I knew I too could create pictures with wood after watching the store owner create his beautiful art work but thought I’d rather not start my own designs and then be forced to compete with the store owner for sales. So I waited. Eventually, he closed his store and in 2004 I jumped into the art of Intarsia quickly adding to my focus on crafting.

With Intarsia, there is no painting or staining. The wood pieces used in creating the work are all natural in color and with the grain clearly visible, it all helps in defining an impressive art piece. Only two or three coats of clear polyurethane are applied to seal and preserve the wood texture. I’ve displayed and sold many pieces at art shows in my former town of Spokane, Washington where my wife and I still have family. I still

have many works and the word somehow has gotten around as friends and neighbors often call asking to see this ancient art form. If anyone is interested and would like to see my work, I would be happy to show my work. So don’t hesitate to give me a call at 983-1645 to set up a time to take a look.



Bill Martin



Examples of Intarsia made by Bill Martin

Free Notary Service

Penny Newby is a certified Notary Public. She lives in Desert Harbor at #185 and is offering her service **FREE** to anyone in the Park. If you need documents notarized, here is a way to get this done at no cost. You can contact Penny Newby at (480) 354-9696 Available during evenings and weekends only.



Margaret G. Jubb

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- 10% OFF FOR SENIOR CITIZENS*
- 10% OFF ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL*
- 10% WITH THIS COUPON

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Desert Harbor Goes Green

as reported by Bob McCanin, #41

There's a new gate going in at our back entrance to the Park. It will be powered with Solar Energy and for what it's worth, you can say that Desert Harbor is doing its part towards saving the planet. Think "GREEN" everyone! As of this writing installation is not yet complete but it is expected within the next two weeks of May.

The solar powered 30ft. sliding gate will replace the hinged two part one. The gate will open along an embedded track. Residents can use the same remote device currently for the main gate. People concerned by the ever increasing traffic along Ironwood will be happy with the new safe and secure to and from the community.

Many thanks to American Land Lease for this welcomed improvement. Management wanted to express its thanks to Ed Croyle, #120, for volunteering his time to close and lock the gate each evening for these last few months.



ACCESS 4 LESS Workers, Joe and Patrick, take a break and pose for a picture

Activities and the coordinators . . .

Clubhouse

- Billiards
....no coordinator
- Line Dancing
- mary pat summers
#189.....983-4227
- Shuffle Board
- dick smith
#117.....361-4759
- Tai Chi
- dick smith
#117.....361-4759
- Water Exercises
- jackie watts
#117.....361-4759
- Yoga
- dick smith
74.....983-5819

Cultural

- Genealogy
- esther lough
#126.....288-8579
- Positive Thinking
- elaine kerehluk
82.....987-8587

Crafts

- Applique
- reni dieball
85.....983-0578
- Closet Quilters
- reni dieball
85.....983-0578
- Stitch, Craft & Chat
- reni dieball
85.....983-0578

Games

- Bunco
- paula cooper
#198.....671-3147
- Card Bingo
- celine leonard
74.....983-5819
- Card Games
- fred dieball
85.....983-0578
- Cribbage
- bob mueller
#108.....983-1119
- Mah-jongg
- celine leonard
74.....983-5819
- Pinochle
-no coordinator
- Poker
- fred dieball
85.....983-0578

Out of Park

- Casino Trips
- celine leonard
#106.....982-1618
- Golf
- don walker
#206.....288-5686
- Ladies Luncheon
- agnes miller
#152.....982-6063
- Travel Club
- connie riter
81.....641-7753

Desert Harbor Golf

We're a loose group of individuals who enjoy the game of golf and play whenever the mood strikes. During winter months, October thru April, we give the appearance of being somewhat organized. We routinely get together every Thursday before noon and play 9 holes (18 if we're really into it that day). We like playing at Sunland Springs Village G.C. (located on Baseline between Ironwood and Signal Butte) because this course offers three 9-hole layouts each with an average par of 32. It's fairly easy to play and a short distance from our park. Since only a few of our residents admit to or play golf, we only had a hand full who participated. If you'd like to join up with our ragtag group, contact the golf coordinator (see the Activities list for name and phone number). We might even give you a ride to the golf course. Everyone is welcome to chase balls with us!



During the summer, May thru September, golfing is less formal for the few who tough it out and stay all year. We play various courses and particularly those with the cheapest rates. Not to worry, we get an early start before the sun begins to fry. Incredibly we have found golf rates less than \$20 and in some cases less than \$10 for 18 holes including the cart. So what are you waiting for?

A Ten Day Road Trip

...as reported by Dorothy Bowles, #181

Mike and Elaine Kerekuk, Lot 82, recently took off on a 10 day road trip in March. They left the cat's at home but couldn't leave the dogs, Molly and Willy...well no wonder, they are family, duh!

The couple along with Molly and Willy first drove east to visit Mike's cousin in Texas. It was a short stay but still a great visit. Back on the road again, they kept moving but this time turning north for Iowa. Elaine's family lives there and visiting everyone kept her and Mike hopping for fear they'd leave someone out. It was a long list that included Elaine's Mom, her sister, many nieces and a nephew not to mention more than one uncle and aunt. Phone calls and e-mails are good to stay in touch but nothing can replace a personal visit with family.


Mike and Elaine reported seeing lots of green grass and spring flowers at various points along the way but the high light, they said, was being snowed on in both Texas and in Iowa. It doesn't snow much around here at Desert Harbor and Molly and Willy weren't sure what to make of the white stuff. Mike, Elaine and the dogs thoroughly enjoyed their trip and will treasure the precious visit with family.



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Jim Brandenburg
Branch Manager

AZ Lic. No. I5157B
480-220-3007



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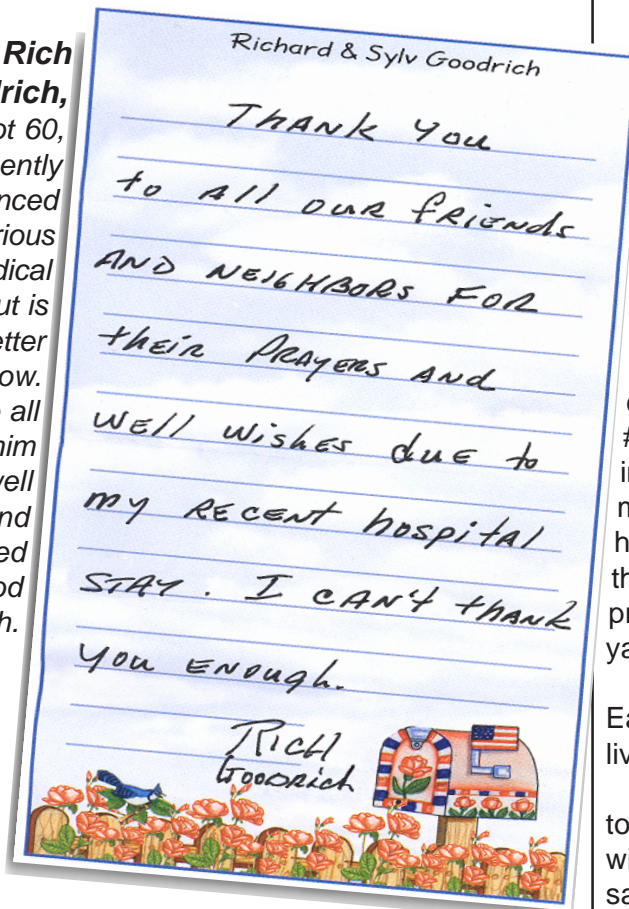


Recently at Apache Junction's Multi-Generational (Senior) Center, they held a contest to find the silliest hats people could come up with to celebrate the First Day of Spring. **Earl Shively** (Lot #12), who visits the Center daily for lunch, brought in a very silly hat and with it won 1st Prize for the men. He told everyone that his wife had made the hat for him. Alice Shively passed away a little more than a year ago and Earl said with unmistakable pride that Alice had made it out of old beer cans and yarn.

The lady to Earl's left won 1st Prize for the ladies. Earl told me he didn't know her name or where she lived...he said he was shy and didn't think to ask.

The other ladies on both ends are administrators at the Center and presented the awards. Both winners received a mug of candy as their prize. Earl said later, yeah, all I need is another sugar high.

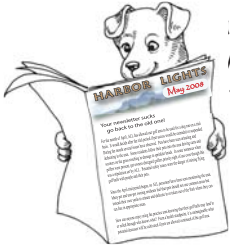
Rich Goodrich,
Lot 60,
recently
experienced
some serious
medical
issues but is
doing better
now.
We all
wish him
well
and
continued
good
health.



Word from the street...

Pets in the Golf Area

For the month of April, ALL has allowed our golf area to be used for a dog run on a trial basis. It would be decided after the trial period if pet access would be extended or suspended. During the month several issues were observed. Pets have been seen urinating and defecating in the area. Some residents follow their pets into the area driving carts and scooters on the grass resulting in damage to sprinkler heads. In some instances when golfers were present, pet owners disregarded golfers' priority right of use even though this was a stipulation set by ALL. Potential safety issues warn of a danger of mixing flying golf balls with people and their pets.



Since the April trial period began, no ALL personnel have been seen monitoring the area. Many pet and non-pet owning residents feel that pets should not use common areas but instead their own yards to urinate and defecate in or taken out of the Park where they can run free in appropriate areas.

How can anyone enjoy using the practice area knowing that their golf balls may land in or rolled through who knows what? From a health standpoint, it is unimaginable what potential diseases will be cultivated if pets are allowed continued use of the golf area.

The latest word about the QT Convenience Store and Gas Station...

Construction of a QuikTrip on the vacant property next to Desert Harbor is still up in the air. Recent petition drive collected well over 250 signatures opposing the planned business and seemingly resulted in company withdrawing its application for a liquor license. The overwhelming neighborhood involvement was good and hopefully will help to show the City that residents of Desert Harbor, La Casa Blanca, and Palmas del Sol are not in favor of another gas station next to one that already exists. Petitioners have agreed to supporting all efforts to stop this plan.



On April 7th, a neighborhood meeting was hosted by QuikTrip management at the Multi-Generational Center in Apache Junction per City requirements. Nearly 50 people turned out. The evening saw heated discussions with many expressing their concerns and outright objections. QT tried to offset the disgruntled residents by assuring them that each and every one of their issues would be addressed but most were not appeased. The question repeatedly asked was, "Why are you building another gas station next to one that already exists?" Their answer was always the same, "We believe there is enough traffic on Ironwood Drive to support both businesses."

It appears the QT Corporation has now submitted site plans to the City's Planning Department. It will review the plans for safety, environmental, and code compliance, etc before sending its findings on to the City Council for public hearing and approval or denial by the City. The whole process should take an estimated three to four months to complete.

At the City Council hearing/meeting (not yet scheduled), residents will have the final opportunity to voice objections before the Council votes.

If those working to defeat QuikTrip stay firm in their resolve, there is hope that QT will realize the opposition is too great to overcome.

Personnel from QT have admitted that the vacant property is in escrow. Final transfer of the property is pending rezoning and planning approvals and City Council's favorable vote. If opposition remains strong, QT could very well withdraw plans for this location. Hopefully then, **AIOP**, a subsidiary of American Land Lease will find a buyer with better ideas for the site.



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Newsletter...Why Are There So Many Ads? How Much Does It Cost To Print?

It is not so often lately but more than once these questions have been asked regarding our newsletter. Actually both questions are very legitimate and deserve honest answers. I will try to respond and clear up some nagging questions. Hopefully, the following will satisfy those who want to know.

Before March 2007, the Activities Organization routinely printed the newsletter using its own copier. Good idea right? It did take a while to print each month but the actual time depended on the number of pages in each issue and the average appeared to be about six pages. As I understand (and I might be wrong), it usually took 2 hours or more and 1 full printer cartridge to print the newsletter every month. Cartridges for the printer ran around \$40 each meaning the printing expense to the Organization was \$40 per month or \$480 each year.

In March 2007, the newsletter took a different track and changed the format, permitted ads to offset printing costs and began using commercial printers to improve quality control. With all these changes, the goal was to produce a better looking and more informative newsletter for the community at or below previously accepted costs.

Since I've been editor, the following is a breakdown of income and expenses:

March thru December 2007 (10 months with an average of 11.66 pages each)

Total income from Advertising	\$777.70
Total printing expenses	(\$802.59)
The total being	(\$ 24.89) Loss = \$2.49/mo. loss

January thru May 2008 (5 months with an average of 17.6 pages per issue)

Total income from Advertising	\$559.45
Total printing expenses*	(\$421.39)
The total being	\$138.06 Profit = \$27.61/month average surplus

* May's printing costs estimated at \$90.00

The newsletter currently has \$432.55 in the bank with \$48.00 in cash for a total of \$480.55.

During 2007, the newsletter operated with the financial support of the Activities Organization which received all ad monies and paid for all printing costs including deficits.

By decision of the Board, effective January 2008, the newsletter became independent from the Activities Organization and therefore responsible for its own finances. The Desert Harbor Newsletter has not been a liability to the Activities Organization of this Community for the past 4+ months.

Because our Harbor Lights Newsletter has done so well with attracting advertisers, I have offered and will pay our web master, Tom Hennessey, repay his cost for maintaining our web site on the internet from January through June 2008. That cost breakdown is as follows:

Domain Registration Fee for DesertHarborAZ.com	
for 2 yrs. is \$105.00	\$ 4.38/month
Monthly cost for Hosting Services	<u>\$19.90/month</u>
	\$24.28/month
The total cost for Web Site for 6 months	\$145.68 to pay in full thru June

Due to reasons explained in the article "Your newsletter sucks..." on page 1, this May 2008 issue of the Desert Harbor Newsletter will be the final publication by this editor. I will clear up all of the newsletter's outstanding obligations including the return of money to advertisers for Ads not published. Then whatever amount is left over, I will donate all to the Activities Organization for the community's use.

I want to thank all the advertisers for their confidence in our community and the support they have provided with their ads. It has been a great run through these last few months and I am sorry it had to end...but end it must.

Respectfully yours, *Don Walker*



May 2008

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Calendar of Events information will no longer be available in the Newsletter due to decisions made by the Activities Organization

This blank calendar is provided so you can write in on the date and time your favorite activity

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