



Web address: www.DesertHarborAZ.com

newsletter

Desert Harbor, a 55+ Community

July 2010

Apache Junction, AZ

“THE BOMBS BURSTING IN AIR” by Jan Ginsburg



Celebrating America’s Fourth of July holiday is something we all love taking part in for many reasons, especially the one that gives us a chance to honor our country, celebrating signing the Declaration of Independence in 1776 by the Continental Congress giving us our freedom from Britain. We usually think of the Fourth of July as a celebration with parades, picnics and, of course, **Fireworks**. They are a big part of the day, as much as the hot dogs, potato salad and apple pie.

The discovery of fireworks (or making of gunpowder) is believed to have happened by chance approximately 2,000 years ago in China. It was thought that a Chinese cook accidentally mixed three common kitchen ingredients. (*The actual mixture breaks down to Saltpeter, Charcoal and Sulphur, which is what is used today to make our firecrackers.*) The Chinese named this fascinating black powder “huo yao” (Fire Chemical). **The basic Fire Cracker was born!**

Then we jump ahead hundreds of centuries to jolly old England to 1605 and the infamous *aka* Bonfire Night where a man named Guy Fawkes and his fellow conspirators attempted to blow up the British Parliament with 36 barrels of gunpowder in the cellars of Westminster Hall. On November 5th, Fawkes was arrested and Parliament was saved. The Brits have been celebrating the night of Nov. 5th ever since by setting off fireworks and burning an effigy of Guy Fawkes on a bonfire.

Our history with fireworks revolves around the Fourth, and shows it started July 4th, 1777, when British officers noted the firing of 13 guns, once at morning and again at evening in Bristol, RI. Philadelphia celebrated their 1st anniversary more like our modern day holiday, an official dinner for the Continental Congress, toasts, 13 gun salutes, speeches, prayers, parades, troop reviews and our favorite, “Fireworks.”

Here at Desert Harbor on Sunday, 4th of July, you should be able to enjoy wonderful fireworks at Apache Junction High School at 9 PM. You can check their web site at: www.ajhs.ajusd.org for more information. Remember if using any type of fireworks or sparklers at your home, use extreme caution. Even as grown up ‘Kids’ accidents still happen!

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

by Ken Camp



Enjoy the Summer

Things have been quiet in the Park since the summer months have begun. Our first day of 100-degree temperatures was May 21. I am sure we all enjoyed the cool, relaxing days of May this year! Now that the weather will be warming up, please be careful not to get too much sun at one time. Joann and I had a wonderful trip to Laughlin with two other couples to celebrate the women's birthdays on May 19, 20, and 21st. From slot machines, to feeding wild burros, to enjoying the beauty of peacocks and hollyhocks--this was quite a fun time! On a housekeeping note, I would like to have the people who hold events in the Clubhouse to be sure to empty the trash can when the event is over. It has been left full recently and this can become a health problem, can attract insects, and the smell is not always the greatest! The trash goes outside, by the wall near the inside swimming pool. Trash bags are under the sink in the kitchen. Joann and I will be traveling for a while...we should return by mid-July. Until the next time, enjoy the summer!

THERE'S A NEW 'GRILL' IN TOWN ... *By Jan Ginsburg*

Just recently, I received a phone call from our neighbor, Delores Henager's daughter, asking me for a favor. Not knowing what it might be, I responded, "Sure, what can I do for you?" It seems that Delores (Lot 193) will be moving to Illinois next month and her daughter asked if she could donate her gas grill to our Activities Organization. I told her we would love to accept Delores' gift and thanked her very much for thinking of us. It is a beautiful grill with a side burner and a much-needed 'upgrade' to our current grills. Thanks to Dick Smith for transporting it to over to the clubhouse area. We would like to thank Delores for her gracious gift and we will miss her here in the community. It is not often we get a "New Grill" to use.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

DATE	NAME	LOT #
3	Steve Ziegele	71
4	Kitty Hutson	56
6	Bob Aemmer	160
7	Bill Johnson	5
9	Harvey Nelson	131
9	Cathleen Smartt	20
10	Bob Albright	14
11	Anne Eubank	169
11	Bertha Luby	86
14	Jerry Murphy	205
14	Alma Shephard	107
15	Marge McClain	150
15	Penny Newby	185
16	Jerry Ann O'Mealy	55
16	Doris Patricca	136
17	Karen Majur	173
17	Ron Ruetz	73
19	Don Boyer	135
19	Milly Kusch	25
20	Art Roberts	81
23	Bev Borchardt	142
23	Jim Hutson	56
24	Helen Rietow	73
27	Elaine Anfang	145
27	Mary Lou Croyle	120
27	Dot Smith	196
28	Jack Quetschenbach	141
29	Jim Stephens	156
30	Jerry Champion	37
31	Karla McClain	150
31	Joe Schnier	146

If you wish to add your birthday and/or anniversary or make any corrections to the list, please call **.Kay McKersie at 480-288-9531.**

ANNIVERSARIES ON PAGE 4 THIS MONTH

Desert Harbor Residents Offer Services:

Name	Lot Number	Services	Phone
Bill Hightower	6	Handyman	480-374-4570
Philicia Hightower	6	Cleaning & Errands	480-374-4570
Richard Nienkark	128	Painting, Roofing	480-983-1396
Carroll Cooper	198	Installation of small Locks, Woodworking	480-671-3147
Elaine Dupree	54	Notary Public	480-786-1503

Meet our new Neighbors

Have You Met the Hightowers? by Connie Riter



Bill and Philicia Hightower, who moved into Desert Harbor (Lot 6) on April 9th, have met more people in their brief time here than most of us have met in a year! I had the pleasure of meeting them as they were moving in and was told that Philicia (“with a P”) could also be called “Gator.” Enthusiastic, friendly, community-minded, generous....these are only a few of the ways I would describe them.

Bill and Philicia (and their toy Poodle, Mitzy) moved here from Jeffersonville, Indiana where they had lived for 13 years. The twenty years before that, they called Ocala, Florida their home. This is why Philicia is also known as “Gator.” Philicia grew up in Ocala, which is the “beautiful horse country area of Florida.” Her father was a jockey there and her mother and she were horse groomers. Because her grandmother and mother had moved to Arizona, the Hightowers decided after a visit here last Fall, to move here themselves. Talking with them, this has been a good decision for them!

They have four children and six grandchildren (all grandsons). Three of their grandsons are in Indiana, two in North Carolina, and one in Virginia. Bill has 4 brothers and 4 sisters who live in Minneapolis and Philicia has 2 brothers, one in Florida, and the other near Saratoga Springs, New York. (Another horse country area.)

Bill works full time for Home Depot in Mesa, leaving for work at 3 am each weekday! Philicia also wants to work and is organizing a home cleaning service in the area. In addition, Bill sharpens scissors and dog grooming supplies, and with his twenty years of experience at Home Depot, has learned how to be an expert handyman. He has won numerous awards from Home Depot as “Employee of the Year” and displays his collection of Home Depot gifts in his bathroom! As soon as he finds some orange towels and is ready, we will feature his “Home Depot Bathroom” in a future newsletter. It is, no doubt, the ONLY such bathroom in all of Arizona!

Cooking and gardening are Bill’s favorite hobbies. The two of them also enjoy fishing, hiking, camping, and going to garage sales. They have volunteered to work on the June Pot Luck and on the 4th of July Picnic. You will see Bill helping out with the grilling in July, so stop and say “hello and welcome.”

“We really enjoy living here in Desert Harbor,” Philicia said. “We’re just happy to be here!” added Bill. And, we can add, “We’re happy to have them here!”

Desert Harbor Activities & Coordinators

Activity	Coordinator	Telephone
Applique	Reni Dieball	983-0578
Bible Study	Elaine Kereluk	987-8587
Card Games	TBA	
Casino Trips	Cindi Smith	983-5819
Closet Quilters	Reni Dieball	983-0578
Genealogy	Ester Lough	288-8579
Golf	Don Walker	288-5686
Ladies Luncheon	Helen Rietow	983-6151
Ladies Soup & Salad Luncheon		
	Joann Hankinson	641-0975
Line Dancing	Mary Pat Summers	983-4227
Mah-Jongg	TBA	
Pinochle	Elaine Kereluk	987-8587
Poker	TBA	
Stitch & Chat	Reni Dieball	983-0578
Tai Chi	Dick Smith	983-5819
Travel	Connie Riter	641-7753

For questions about these activities contact the appropriate coordinator. Your participation is welcomed and very much appreciated. Thank You.

Activities with no specific coordinator:
Water Aerobics Billiards

Recent Activities cancelled or suspended:

Dominos	Bunco	Card Bingo
Shuffleboard	Cribbage	Positive Thinking
Stretching Class		Yoga

Next residents' meeting is scheduled for October 2nd 2010.

A Taste of England - Shakespeare's Restaurant

by Connie Riter and
Monica Bauschard



One of the advertisers in our Newsletter each month is this lovely English pub and restaurant located in AJ's shopping mall on the Northwest corner of Baseline and Val Vista Drive. On one of our triple digit days last month, six of us went for lunch both to escape the heat and to help support our advertisers who help pay for the cost of our Newsletter each month.

Our first impressions were quite positive! Someone met us at the entrance to welcome us. The restaurant was friendly, clean, and cool, with its hard wood floors. While it is a Pub, serving traditional Irish and English beer (quite refreshing on such a hot day), the dining area is separated from the bar and is cozy. Our server, John was especially friendly, helpful, and "cute." We were all set for a fun time!

The menu is extensive and the price reasonable especially when one uses one of the discount coupons available in the newspapers and even in our newsletter. Monica and Jan had Bangers and Mash, with a side of mushy peas. Connie had a Smothered Chicken Sandwich. Stella Coletta and Art had Reuben sandwiches, and Mike ordered Chicken Curry. All dishes were very tasty with real mashed potatoes or crispy coated French fries. Portion size was large so several take home boxes were needed. Yet we had to find SOME room to sample their desserts.

After having such a wonderful meal, with a very tall cold beer, what is better than a dessert? We selected an old English bread pudding with Bird's Eye custard and shared it among the four of us women. It was to die for! "What memories it brought back of my childhood.... on cold winter nights or special occasions, my mother would make this dessert and we would welcome such a lovely surprise with shouts of joy," said Monica. There were several typical English desserts on the menu, but this one is without a doubt the very best. So eat hearty, but be sure you save some room for this special delicious bread pudding. Our only question now is "When are we going again?" (Perhaps on a Monday when all entrees are \$3 off.) Check out their website at www.shakespearesaz.com



Last month **Stella Colletta (Lot 67)** had some special visitors while her son, Tom, was in the hospital. Cookie, her daughter, from Long Island, New York made an emergency trip here to stay with her mother and to drive Stella to the hospital and other places. Many of us had the pleasure of visiting with Cookie at the pool.

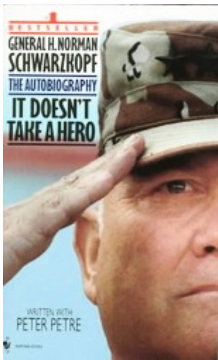
But, Stella had other visitors, too! On her ladder on her patio, she was graced with a mother mourning dove who decided to build her nest there. Stella watched the two babies grow up as their mother cared for them. Things are back to normal now. Her son, Tom is better. Cookie has returned to New York and the baby birds are gone. But occasionally, the mother bird can still be seen on the ladder.



CELEBRATE THE JULY ANNIVERSARIES

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>LOT #</u>
6	Larry & Bertha Luby	55
10	Elnor & Josephine Stambaugh	69
11	Harvey & Marjorie Nelson	131
12	Bill & Philicia Hightower	6
14	James & Lorna Almon	9
19	Robert & Bette Roy	130
20	Bob & Betty Holley	40
23	Richard & Karen Anderson	39
25	Bob & Fran LeVeque	62

Book Review by Bob Mayo



IT DOESN'T TAKE A HERO

This is the autobiography of General H. Norman Schwarzkopf written with Peter Petre and recounts the life and experiences of the Commander of all U.S. and Allied forces during the Persian Gulf War, also known as Desert Storm, which took place from August 1990 to February 1991.

It follows the life of Norman Schwarzkopf from his boyhood years as the son of a serving Army officer during WWII and describes the circumstances of living with a mother who took to drinking heavily during the long periods of separation and the responsibility of caring for Norman and his sisters. Following the war and during his teenage years he goes on to describe how he went to live with his father while his father was posted in Tehran, Iran. Later they were joined for several years in Europe by the remainder of the family. His experiences during this period provided him with invaluable insight into the mores and cultures of the Middle East and provided him with an understanding of the Gulf region which later served him well during his time as the Commander of Central Command during the Persian Gulf War.

While General Schwarzkopf is probably best known for his command of allied forces during the Persian Gulf War, the book follows his life through his years at West point as well as his assignments and actions during the Vietnam War as well as Grenada. It also provides a “frank account of the West Point graduate’s early disillusionment with the cynicism, incompetence, and careerism found in the “real” Army – A disappointment that nearly prompted him to leave the military until a colleague convinced him to become part of the solution.”¹

The section of the book dealing with the period of his command of forces during the run-up to and the actual period of the Persian Gulf War and the decisions from both the military and political perspective at the time makes fascinating reading and provides an interesting insight into the problems and thinking of both military commanders as well as politicians during the preparation for and the actual conduct of military operations.

This is an interesting and valuable read for those who might be interested in U.S. military history and operations from the perspective of one who was there and in many instances instrumental in the planning and preparations for, as well as conducting such operations.

¹ Book Jacket by Peter Petre

Our July Casino Trip

8:00 AM on Thursday , July 22nd is the time and the date of our monthly trip to one of the local casinos. This month we are going to Casino Arizona located on the 101 loop. Our casino coordinator, Cyndi Smith will have a sign-up sheet in the clubhouse to encourage early confirmation so none of the people planning to attend will have to ride on top of the bus.

Casino Arizona has over 1,600 ticket-pay multi-denominational slot machines, including 131 high-limit slots, live Blackjack, 46 poker tables, and live fast-action Keno. The *Starz Sportsbar* offers video poker slots and numerous televisions for viewing sporting events.



This looks to be a fun trip!! Plan to attend.



LUSCIOUS FOUR-LAYER PUMPKIN CAKE by Toni Ague

1 Pkg -Yellow cake mix
1 can - 15oz pumpkin
Divided
1/2 cup milk
1/3 cup oil
4 Eggs
1 1/2 Teaspoon pumpkin
pie spice Divided
1 8oz pkg Cream Cheese
1 cup Powdered Sugar
1 Tub Cool-Whip
1/4 cup Caramel Ice Cream
Topping
1/4 Cup Chopped Pecans

Pre-heat oven to 350°

Beat cake mix, pumpkin, milk, oil and 1 teaspoon of the pumpkin pie mix. Mix well until well blended. Pour into 2 greased and floured 9 inch pans. Bake 28 or 30 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the middle comes out clean. Cool in pans for 10 minutes. Remove from pans and place on wire racks to cool completely.

BEAT cream cheese (Room temperature) in medium bowl with mixer until creamy. Add sugar, the remaining pumpkin and the spice, mix well then gently stir in the Cool Whip. Cut each cake in half horizontally with a serrated knife. Stack on a serving-plate spreading cream cheese mix between each layer. *Do Not Frost The Top.*

Drizzle with Caramel topping and pecans just before serving. Refrigerate leftovers. Enjoy!

Our Ladies Go To Lunch— Here and Out of the Park

THE JUNE SOUP N' SALAD LUNCHEON by Jan Ginsburg

On Tuesday, June 1st, our ladies of Desert Harbor met for their monthly Soup N' Salad luncheon at the clubhouse, where our hosts that day were Elaine Anfang and Kay McKersie. Everything from soup to sandwiches, salads and of course desserts was served along with some cool lemonade and good company.

Approximately 14 people attended, which was a pretty good turn-out considering it was the day after our Memorial Day Picnic here at the park.

These luncheons are always a good time not just to eat and show off our best recipes but also to catch up on each other's news. Whether it is about a new store opening, a sale going on or how our families are doing.

Next month's luncheon is on Tuesday July 6, at 12 noon, so girls, mark your calendars and try to bring a friend or neighbor along to join in. The more the merrier, see you then!

LADIES' LUNCHEON by Jane Boudreau



The May Ladies' Luncheon was held at Famous Dave's located in San Tan Village. Twenty-one ladies enjoyed a variety of BBQ dishes ranging from Chopped BBQ Chicken Salad to a sampler plate of four mini sandwiches. This is a new location for the Famous Dave chain having opened on April 12, 2010. For a new establishment the service was good including a sufficient number of wait staff for our group and the ever bothersome individual checks were handled with ease. Our waitress may not have thought she handled the checks well but we did.

After lunch several of the ladies took time to do a little shopping and enjoy the beautiful day.

The July luncheon will be held on July 20 at Mimi's Café.

The restaurant is located at 1250 S. Alma School Rd. in Mesa. Mimi's Café has hosted our Ladies Luncheons in the past and the food as well as the service has been very good. I checked their web site where they offer a two-course lunch including your drink for less than ten dollars. I recommend you check the web site prior to July 20 for current specials. I have including the link to their web site for you. <http://www.mimiscafe.com/MenuLunch.aspx>

Helen Rietow our coordinator will have a sign-up sheet in the clubhouse. She asks you to sign up a couple of days in advance to allow her to notify the restaurant the number who will be attending.



A Birthday Bash . . .

by Monica Bauschard and Connie Riter (with permission of Joann Hankison)



When one thinks of someone celebrating their 70th birthday, one pictures an elderly woman or man with a cake full of candles! However, in May, three ladies in the park celebrated their 70th birthdays, and they are far from being the “older women.” Joann, Connie and Monica turned 70 within a few days of each other, and that was cause enough for a celebration which they wouldn’t forget for years to come. A trip to Laughlin was planned to mark this event and to prove that age has nothing to do with enjoying life.

For three days we were “on the go.” We were laughing, eating, and enjoying all that life has to offer including companionship, friendship and most of all, the love of life.

Our trip took us from Apache Junction to Laughlin, with a stop for a leisurely breakfast in Wickenburg. A few hours later, we checked into our hotel and planned to have dinner at Harrah’s Casino Buffet. Dinner was wonderful with such a variety of items on the buffet. At seventy, who can decide what one really wants? We had to satisfy our “wants” by many trips to the buffet to sample a little of everything and many desserts. After dinner, we had to stop at the Slot Machines to try our luck. However, it seemed our luck had gone to bed with our men. Oh well, another day was fast approaching with us “birthday ladies” saying good night at 11:30pm.

An early morning wake-up call was not needed for us to be ready to start another day of celebration at the Casino breakfast buffet. From there, we drove to a local grocery store for bags of carrots! We were well prepared to visit the wild burros at Oatman. This rustic Wild West gold mining town has some unique shops and a hotel where Clark Gable and Carol Lombard spent their honeymoon many years ago...even before our time!

The hotel was closed for renovations and the nearby gold mine was not open to tourists because they are mining gold from there again. However, the burros are still there, walking proudly up the main street, looking for carrot hand-outs.

We fed them our carrots, which they eagerly devoured, and when they were all gone, they even tried to eat our purses and plastic bags! One burro even chased Monica into a nearby gift shop looking for one more carrot... We needed a drink and decided to stop in the local bar for a cool beer. The walls are covered in dollar bills from past patrons, and it looks like a saloon from the early 1900’s. We were still celebrating, and before we knew it, our waitress brought us a huge chocolate sundae with six spoons. Happy Birthday, again! If you ever get near Oatman and have time to stop and see the town and the animals, you will really enjoy it, as we did!

When we returned to Laughlin, we had a delicious dinner at the Outback. We also received more birthday desserts and singing wishes from the staff. Then back to the slots!!

On the final day as we were on our way home, we stopped for pie at Luchia’s near Wickieup. We enjoyed seeing and feeding the peacocks and fish, walking through the lovely grounds, and admiring the colorful hollyhocks and delphiniums. This is another must-stop place on the way home from Laughlin.

This was certainly a birthday celebration to remember! Turning 70 is not all THAT bad, we decided. Wonder what “71” will bring?



“Smile.....You’re on Candid Camera!” by Monica Bauschard

Have you ever wished you had a photo from one of our many planned events, our pot luck suppers, ladies luncheons, or other special events? Well now you will have that chance. I will be a roving photographer at these events, and the pictures I take will be posted on a special photo board in the clubhouse. A big “Thank you” to Cyndi Smith who donated the board.

Come take a look and enjoy the happy times we share together -- once again! If you see a photo you would like, please don’t take the one from the board. (I plan to keep these in a special photo album for future viewing.) Just give me a call at 288-4332 or stop by Lot 99, and I will be pleased to print the one you want as soon as I can. I am excited about taking photos at as many events as I can and sharing them with you.

SALAD BAR SMARTS From the Mayo Clinic Health Letter...by Midge Drouin

Dining out? If the goal is to eat healthy and you’re thinking of having the salad bar rather than ordering from the menu, first check what’s offered at the salad bar. Unless you make careful choices, you could end up with a plateful of calories. For tasty, yet healthy salad options, look for:

■ *Plentiful fresh greens* —

Lettuce or fresh spinach is generally the foundation of a healthy salad.

■ *Fresh fruits and vegetables*—

Pile on a colorful array, such as tomatoes, carrots, broccoli, cucumbers, beets, radishes, bell peppers, pineapple, cantaloupe, watermelon, grapes and strawberries.

■ *Healthy dressings* —

Look for fat-free or low-fat, low-calorie dressings. Flavored vinegar — try balsamic, red wine and others — mixed with a small amount of extra-virgin olive oil is another option, as well as herbs and peppers or other available seasonings. Take your dressing on the side, dipping your fork into the dressing, then into the salad, to limit how much dressing you use. A squeeze of lemon can add fat-free flavor.

■ *Lean protein and fiber*—

Chickpeas, red beans and peas help you to feel full. When it comes to the high fat ingredients such as cheese, chopped eggs, bacon bits, sunflower seeds, buttery croutons, pasta and potato salads, take a very small amount or avoid them altogether. ☐

Yes, After all your looking, you found it... Humor and more humor!!!

A Canadian lumber camp advertised for a good lumberjack. The next day, a skinny little man showed up at the camp with his axe and knocked on the head lumberjack’s door. He took one look at the skinny man and told him to leave. “Just give me a chance to show you what I can do,” the skinny man said. “OK. See that giant redwood over there?” the lumberjack said. “Take our axe and go cut it down.” The skinny man headed for the tree, and in five minutes he came back to the lumberjack’s door.

“I cut the tree down,” the man said. The lumberjack couldn’t believe his eyes. “Where did you get the skill to chop down trees like that?” “In the Sahara Forest,” the man replied. “You mean the Sahara Desert,” the lumberjack corrected him. “Oh, sure, that’s what they call it now.”



Memorial Day is always a good one here at Desert Harbor by Connie Riter

Sixty-nine people enjoyed an afternoon picnic and pot luck on Memorial Day. Jan Ginsburg, who hosted the event, and her many helpers, decorated the clubhouse and bulletin board in festive patriotic colors. Connie Riter set up the Veteran picture display with a few new faces added. (Anyone who has a military relative past or present and would like to be added to this display, please give Connie (#81) a picture to copy for the November display.)

Monica Bauschard and Cyndi Smith, as well as Jan, worked in the kitchen most of the morning. Dick Smith and Bruno Borowczyk graciously offered to grill the hamburgers and bratwursts. Everyone who came brought salads and many desserts. A Styrofoam carton of ice appeared on the dessert table and it contained a huge tub of Neopolitan ice cream. A nice touch for a Memorial Day "picnic."

Mike Bauschard said Grace Before Meals and included a special prayer for the victims of a terrible auto accident which occurred on Baseline just before the picnic. Art Roberts sold 50/50 raffle tickets and gave four monetary prizes to the lucky winners, saving \$40 for the Activities Organization Account. The special Big Event was the silent auction of the treadmill to the highest bidder, Bob Wilson in #53, for \$105. This money will be given by Yvonne to the person who donated the treadmill, who prefers to remain anonymous. Thanks to all who made this event a "fun time" for all.



Potluck Reports



OUR MEXICAN POT LUCK *By Monica Bauschard Lot 99*

Ola! Ola! Our Mexican pot luck dinner which was held May 15th was a huge success. 62 residents and their guests attended it. Our gracious hosts this month were Toni Ague, Rose Brunett, and Dennis and Jackie Bowman with everyone lending a hand with the clean up. The many different foods that our members prepared were out of this world, great job everyone! It is wonderful that each month so many of our residents cook and show up for these pot luck dinners.



Such a good time was had by all and a great anticipation for the next month is always present. The first place of the 50/50 this month was won by my husband Mike. This month's dinner will be held July 17th and this will be regular pot luck with no particular theme, so cooks get your skills going in the kitchen for some of those wonderful casseroles, veggie dishes and desserts – pies, cookies, cakes, etc. It is always a surprise to see what is prepared and the “ooh’s and ah’s” that’s my favorite, no that’s my favorite, oh dear, I love them all. Can hardly wait until next month for all the goodies, and to enjoy the company of so many friends.

Activities Organization

President	Ken Camp	#178	480-641-0975
Vice President	Janet Ginsburg	#183	480-983-5303
Secretary	Judi Quetschenbach	#141	480-854-7553
Treasurer	Art Roberts	#81	480-641-7753
Board Members:			
Tom Hennessy		#70	480-671-3696
Midge Drouin		#203	480-982-9425
Dick Smith		#74	480-983-5819

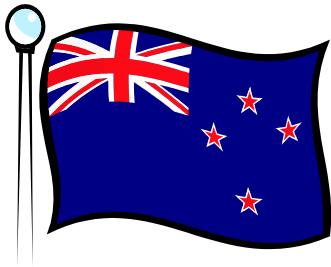
Newsletter - If you want something to appear in the newsletter, submit a request in writing and place it in the "Bright Ideas Suggestion Box" in the clubhouse or contact a member of the Newsletter Committee...

Janet Ginsburg, Connie Riter, Dave Borchardt, Kay McKersie, Bob Mayo, Midge Drouin, Jane Boudreau, Pat Ballock, Margo Crawford, Monica Bauschard, Dick Smith and others.

Desert Harbor Web Master Tom Hennessy #70
 Email Address: tom.hennessy@mchsi.com

Desert Harbor Manager: Yvonne Cavazos
 480-288-8876

We continue with our trip to New Zealand in 1993-1994 by Kay McKersie



Saturday, December 25th, 1993

Because today is a holiday, we will spend the day traveling. The Clapham Clock Museum in Whangarei was opened for one hour especially for our tour group. It was fascinating to see so many different clocks from around the world. The grounds had a magnificent rose garden.

As we arrived back in Auckland, we went through the Tarlton's Sea Aquarium. Not my cup of tea, I don't like sharks swimming over my head even in a tank! Jim and Rick loved it! We spent this night in Auckland at the same hotel we stayed at our first night. Jim had to hassle the manager to get a table for three at 6:30 p.m. for our Christmas dinner. He insisted they were booked by locals and could not accommodate us. After having the staff contact the Manager at home, we received a table for six at 6:30 p.m. Imagine our surprise when only four tables in the dining room were occupied!

This was not the only incident of rudeness from the New Zealand people. We found them only doing a job, don't bother me and I really don't care about your needs. If they expect tourists to continue coming to their country, they will have to change their ways!

Sunday, December 26th, 1993

Before leaving Auckland, we drove to the top of an extinct volcano, Mt. Eden and surveyed the Queen City. Great views on all sides.

We stopped at Waitomo Caves where we walked through the beautiful caves--almost like a cathedral. To reach the entrance, we took a boat ride through the glow worm grotto. The grotto is tremendous, it is hard to put into words the feeling of spirituality that comes over a person. Everyone has to be very quiet or the glow worms turn their lights off and the wonderful effect is lost. Rotorua is our next stop and is known for their hot baths. We decided to take a sauna before the dinner hour.

Dinner tonight is a Maori Hangi (buffet) and Concert. Excellent dinner and program. We thought some of our old standards may be based on Maori music. They sounded very familiar.

There were some slot machines in the lobby of our hotel which drew Jim's attention. While he was videoing an eight year old boy won five hundred coins (twenty cent pieces). The parents then helped their three year old up to enjoy some play. Someone told us that they teach "proper gambling" in the schools. Shook up our American standards!

[Continued on Page 13]

More of the 1993—1994 McKersie Trip to New Zealand

Monday, December 27th, 1993

This morning we visited the Agrodome, a display of trained sheep and sheep dogs at work. We hadn't expected to enjoy this part of the tour, but it was very enlightening. They also had the I.S.S. where we stocked up on sheepskin slippers for everyone. Our next stop was Rainbow Springs to see the Rainbow and Brown Trout in their natural habitat. They also had beautiful tropical grounds and a small zoo, including the elusive "kiwi" (a native nocturnal flightless bird).

Whakarewarewa Thermal Reserves with its mudpools and geysers was next on our agenda. An old Maori settlement occupies the grounds and much of their cooking is done in thermal ovens over the hot springs. It is really quite unique! The balance of the day was ours to fill as we pleased so we decided to visit the Mineral Springs. The baths were wonderful, our skin felt so soft and silky. There's springs in Apache Junction, but we had to go halfway around the world to try one. We walked back to the hotel, eighteen blocks! Had an early evening after such a busy day.

Tuesday, December 28th, 1993

Today is another driving day on our way to Wellington. We stopped by the Wairaki Steam Valley where the New Zealanders have leashed the geothermal power for electricity. We stopped for tea by Lake Taupo, New Zealand's largest fresh water lake. We will spend the night here on our return trip. Richard and I found some fairly good pizza! Upon our arrival in Wellington we drove up to Mount Victoria for a spectacular view of Wellington and the sea. The bus over heated on the way up the mountain so we had to walk part of the way while it cooled down. We went to the James Cook Hotel in downtown Wellington where we did a little window shopping and took a ride on the Wellington Cable Car. The Capitol building is quite unusual as it is shaped like a bee hive.

Wednesday, December 29th, 1993

Today we took the ferry across Queen Charlotte Sound to Picton. The ride took about three hours. We had lunch on board (another buffet). We were lucky to see two Orca whales following the ship. I wasn't quick enough to get some photographs, but Jim caught them on the video camera. After departing the ferry, we continued on to Nelson arriving quite late and had a late supper around nine!

Thursday, December 30th, 1993

Today was one of the wettest days as we drove through Buller Gorge and then along the Tasman Sea. We stopped at the Pancake rocks and blowhole. We donned our rain capes and walked out to the shore. The rocks really looked like stacked pancakes! The sea was rough, so the blowhole was busy! Tonight we stayed in Greymouth, the name suits the area, grey! Richard and I walked along the beach, it was cloudy and windy, but we enjoyed it. We had a nice dinner and a local talent show performing afterwards who did a nice variety show with American music! The comics were hilarious!

Friday, December 31st, 1993


We spent the morning at Shantytown, a modern replica of a mining camp. We took a narrow gauge railroad ride and did some panning for gold. No luck! We went on to Hokitika where we toured a greenstone (jade) factory. We didn't realize greenstone was so hard. It has to be cut with a diamond blade and will not scratch. I indulged in a kiwi bird and a Tiki pin (supposed to be lucky). Late afternoon we arrived at the Franz Joseph Glacier under heavy cloud cover and rain.

We wanted to take a helicopter ride, but all planes were grounded. Did the laundry instead.

We were surprised to find no entertainment planned for New Year's Eve, but a couple of the tour group stepped up and entertained for a while. One of the women played the piano (with no music--very good) and a man thought he was the second Frank Sinatra (NOT!).

This finishes 1993. 1994 Later.

July 2010 at our Desert Harbor Home

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SAVE THE DATES: SUNDAY, THE FOURTH—Independence Day—Happy Hour 4:30p Picnic 5PM TUESDAY, THE SIXTH—Soup & Salad Lunch—Noon SATURDAY, THE 17TH—Potluck dinner at 4:30p Dinner at 5 PM THURSDAY, THE 22ND—CASINO TRIP 8 am				1 6:30p Billiards	2 4:00p Happy Hour 7:00p Cards/ Games	3 8:00a Coffee/ Donuts
				7:00 AM Water Aerobics		
4 1:00p Texas Hold'em Poker 4:30 Happy Hour 5:00 Picnic Goodies 	5 1:00p Mahjong 6:30p Billiards	6 12:00p Ladies Soup and Salad Luncheon 6:30p NDQ Poker 7:00p Cards/ Games	7 1:00p Mah-jong 1:00p Quilting 6:30p Quilting	8 1:05p Quilting 6:30p Billiards	9 4:00p Happy Hour 7:00p Cards/ Games	10 8:00a Coffee/ Donuts
7:00 AM Water Aerobics						
11 2:00p Pinochle	12 1:00p Mahjong 6:30p Billiards	13 6:30p NDQ Poker 7:00p Cards/ Games	14 1:00p Mah-jong 1:00p Men's Poker 6:30p Quilting	15 6:30p Billiards	16 4:00p Happy Hour 7:00p Cards/ Games	17 8:00a Coffee/ Donuts 4:30p Happy Hour 5:00p Potluck
7:00 AM Water Aerobics						
18 1:00p Texas Hold'em Poker	19 1:00p Mahjong 6:30p Billiards	20 11:00a Ladies Luncheon Out of park 6:30p NDQ Poker 7:00p Cards/ Games	21 1:00p Mah-jong 1:00p Quilting 6:30p Quilting	22 8:00a casino trip Casino Arizona 1:05p Quilting 6:30p Billiards	23 4:00p Happy Hour 7:00p Cards/ Games	24 8:00a Coffee/ Donuts
7:00 AM Water Aerobics						
25 2:00p Pinochle	26 1:00p Mahjong 6:30p Billiards	27 6:30p NDQ Poker 7:00p Cards/ Games	28 1:00p Mah-jong 1:00p Men's Poker 6:30p Quilting	29 6:30p Billiards	30 4:00p Happy Hour 7:00p Cards/ Games	31 8:00a Coffee/ Donuts
7:00 AM Water Aerobics						