President’s Remarks

SMR’s Website Has a New Look: If you haven't checked out the SMR website in the last few weeks, I encourage you to do so. Its style and content have been upgraded, it is more user-friendly, and is very attractive. The Board previewed the website at our May meeting and offered our suggestions for a few minor tweaks. These have been accomplished, and the site is now ready for your viewing. Please take a look – I think you will be pleased with what you see. A huge thank you to Jim Warner and Herb Burton for putting this new site together for us all. Your comments and suggestions are welcome and can be submitted via e-mail to Jim at holycow1@mindspring.com or to Herb at herbburton@icloud.com. I encourage you to check back with the website often as this will become a major source of community news from the Board.

How Do You Receive SMR’s Newsletter? Approximately 68% of our homeowners have chosen to receive the SMR newsletter electronically. A few advantages to having an electronic subscription are:

- Inclusion in SMR's e-blast system, which provides rapid communication, timely alerts, and pertinent reminders. This keeps subscribers up-to-date on SMR's current events and announcements.
- No-cost to our residents.
- Makes the best use of our financial resources and volunteer time and effort.
- You will always receive the latest edition of the newsletter no matter your location.
- It's an eco-friendly choice and produces no waste.

If you are among the 32%, I encourage you to change over to an electronic subscription. In doing so, you'll be making a decision that is good for you, good for your neighbors, and good for the HOA.

More Eco-Friendly Choices: A few words about bird feeders and ornamental water fountains and how they may attract more than birds:

- **Bird Feeders & Rodents:** Rodents can invade feeders, and they're particularly fond of foraging on the ground for spilled seed and hulls. If you enjoy feeding birds, please don't scatter seed on the ground. It is also prudent to attach a seed catch tray to your feeder to prevent extra seed from falling on the ground. Choose a no-waste, no-mess food that is primarily comprised of hulled sunflower chips and no fillers. The fillers aren't good for the birds and may be particularly attractive to rodents. Ideally, feeders should be placed close to natural areas and away from homes. Please observe and respect your neighbor's personal space by feeding birds responsibly and by placing feeders away from their property. Your neighbors may not share your belief that feeding wild birds, and the potential consequence of that feeding, is acceptable.
Rodents and Snakes: Because bird feeders attract rodents, they also attract snakes. The snakes aren't in search of seed -- they're in search of the rodents the bird seed draws. Since snakes are often attracted to areas in search of prey, eliminating rodent populations is an important step in making an area less attractive for snakes.

Snakes and Fountains: The dampness associated with ornamental water fountains, pools, and fishponds may also make the surrounding area attractive to snakes.

Our CC&R's do not discourage feeding wild birds so this activity is not within the Board's purview. That said, SMR homeowners who wish to feed wild birds are encouraged to use care when feeding and to be considerate of their neighbors.

What's That Smell? One of our residents asked that I share the following information with you. His wife noticed that their dryer smelled funny. When he removed the dryer hose, it contained a newly dead pack rat. Although uncommon, dead animals can be found inside ducts, vents, or AC system of a house. So if you notice an odd smell, best to check it out to determine the cause. In addition, the following steps can be taken to prevent rodents from entering your home. Openings in the building foundation and any openings for water pipes, electric wires, sewer pipes, drain spouts, and/or vents should be sealed. Make sure doors, windows, and screens fit tightly. Coarse steel wool, wire screen, and lightweight sheet metal are suitable materials for plugging gaps and holes.

SMR Lost and Found: The Recreation Committee is now providing a lost and found receptacle at the East Pool. Look for the large blue bucket labeled “Lost and Found” right next to the Book Nook cabinets. Please deposit found items in that bucket. If you’ve lost an item, please look there and with any luck it will be waiting for your retrieval.

Solicitation in SMR: During these quiet summer months, we may see an increase in door-to-door sales people. This is a reminder that our CC&Rs prohibit door-to-door solicitation unless the person, or activity is approved by the Board. Our community has posted “No Solicitation” signs at both of our entrances. If salespeople come to your door, please inform them that they are not allowed on SMR property, ask them to leave, and notify your Neighborhood Watch Block leader or Roger Wiswell, Neighborhood Watch Chairman, at randewiswell@msn.com or 299-2234, that this activity is occurring.

See you in September…when the next issue of SMR's newsletter will be published. Enjoy your summer.
Carmen

Dear Sunrise Mountain Ridge Homeowners:

During the next few months, your homeowners’ association will be doing necessary spraying to control buffelgrass, fountain grass and desert broom on association property.

As I am sure you are aware, Pima County and the general area around Tucson are experiencing multiple serious wildfires. In every case they started in grass and brush, some of them continuing into more forested areas. SMR has had a program for spraying started a number of years ago but this year these invasive grasses are particularly widespread and are a serious problem for our homeowners. If a fire starts in the unimproved common areas, homes that border the unimproved areas will be at increased risk.

Because we have to work around weather (rain and wind), it is not possible to tell you far in advance when this work will be accomplished; however a brief email will be sent when we know location dates and times. We will be treating behind back walls as necessary and in some cases property lines extend beyond back walls. If yours does and you do not want us to spray, please clearly mark your property lines and call Dick McGann (919 696-3444) so that we do not spray in that area. If you do opt out of spraying on your property you will be responsible for removing any invasive grasses by September 15.

Just a reminder, we only treat where the target weeds are present. If there are none of the above-mentioned weeds, there will be no treatment.

On behalf of the SMR Board and the Landscape committee, Sylvia Burton, Director and Landscape Chair

The SMR Landscape Committee is continuing its battle to eliminate buffelgrass and fountain grass on our property. Recent fires have underscored the need for this important work to continue. We plan to do specific spot spraying of these invasive grasses as soon as the monsoon rains begin in earnest. Spraying is more effective when these grasses are actively growing. Infinity Earthworks will do the spraying using backpack spraying equipment. We will use Roundup or its generic form of chemical. We will send additional information via e-blasts if spray dates have to be changed due to weather.

Please refer your questions or concerns to Sylvia Burton, Landscape Chairman.
Recreation

POOLS NEWS—Well, summer has arrived with its hot, hot, and hotter temperatures. That’s even a bigger reason to jump in one of the swimming pools, both of which are open from early mornings to 10 pm.

TENNIS COURT—The tennis committee has met with a contractor who is thought to be the best provider for reconstruction of our court. They are currently updating their proposal to include extension of the north and south ends of the court which will then be able to accommodate two pickle ball courts when tennis is not being played. In addition, the update will include adding a “bump-out” area on the east side of the court to have seating and a new water fountain. Yes, I said a new working water fountain. If all goes as envisioned construction would start in early September and be completed in about two months. Until then, tennis and pickle ball continue to be played with players disregarding the non-functioning water fountain, and playing around the cracks in the court. We are temporarily providing bottles of water to anyone forgetting to bring a bottle with them.

The tennis court reservation system continues to work well for our residents. It is receiving more and more reservations. The reservation site is “reservemycourt.com” and the facility password is SMR. After completion of the new court the reservation system will be expanded to allow two groups of pickle ball players to sign in for the same time frames.

BOOK NOOK—a reminder that the committee has designated the lower shelf of cabinet #2 for resident-donated board and children’s games. Hopefully, this will save some residents a little money when their offspring come to visit, who knows, maybe some of us will also give the games a try while enjoying the pool facility. Donations of books and games are gladly accepted. The Book Nook committee has a big need for large print books and periodicals.

AEROBICS & YOGA—water aerobics and yoga are continuing throughout the summer. Water aerobics is offered every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the east pool starting at 8:30am. Come join the enthusiastic men and women enjoying the activity. Yoga is offered on Wednesdays in the clubhouse at 9:30. Suggestion, try to arrive by 9:15.

A LOST AND FOUND BOX has been placed in the east pool Ramada area adjacent to the Book Nook cabinets. Please place any found items in the big blue bucket for possible redemption by some lost soul.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me at pauljoy@gainbroadband.com or 615-9669.

Architecture

When you’re hot you’re hot!

Yes, Sunrise Mountain Ridge is hot—and not just because it’s summer!

We recently spoke to a leading realtor who praised SMR as “Definitely one of the most sought after neighborhoods in this area. The quality of the homes’ maintenance and appearance is excellent.”

These comments are music to the ears of the Architecture Committee! We’re proud of our residents and everyone’s effort to maintain and repair their homes—all of which contribute to our increasing property values and quality of life in our neighborhood.

In last month’s newsletter, we talked about inspections required by our HOA upon a home’s resale. These are intended to identify any non-compliant alterations/improvements in the home’s construction made in recent years. Either the seller or the new owner must bring these items into compliance. Our real estate expert emphasized the importance for all home owners to keep up with maintenance and avoid delays in inspection approval if and when you sell your home.

We encourage everyone to periodically take a look to see if your house has any “appearance” issues. Is your light post painted? What is the condition of your driveway? Do any utility boxes or wiring need painting? We’re here to help so let us know if you need recommendations for repair, paint or concrete contractors. And as always, please contact us to submit any plans for home improvement and remodeling projects for Architecture Committee approval.

Thanks for making SMR one of the hottest neighborhoods in Tucson!

Larry Glasser, Architecture Committee Chairman

Email Address: larry.glasser.smr@gmail.com

Phone: 520-303-7230
Roads

Be it the heat of summer or the cool of winter our roads continue to serve our community well. But true to form, the STOP signs and speed limit signs do not always seem to perform as they should. Well, maybe we, the drivers, aren’t as observant and aware as we should be. A few times each year we get complaints about excessive speeds and failure to observe stop signs. This leads to discussion of speed bumps, rumble strips, flashing speed signs, etc. which, in turn, leads to our request to “please be courteous drivers by observing and obeying our traffic control signs”. This month let’s take a different view of the problem as seen from the perspective of a resident just beginning to drive. A few weeks ago, we received the following letter. Please take a moment to read.

Hi. My name is Norma, and I am a 17 year-old high school student who lives with my family in the SMR community. As a young adult who has learned to drive in this neighborhood, and now a licensed driver, I have noticed the number of residents and visitors who regularly roll thru stop signs, disregarding their purpose. I have been honked at many times, and nearly been rear-ended more than I can count due to taking this precaution and following the law by coming to a full stop.

Today, on Sunday the 18th, I had two incidents where I stopped at a stop sign and was honked at and made rude gestures for being safe and stopping. On the second incident, I was driving with my parents, and after being honked at, my father, who was not driving, got out of the car and went to talk to the women behind me. While trying to talk to her, the women did not care for what was being said, and simply rolled up her window and ignored my father. I find this quite absurd, considering this is a law and can prevent accidents and injuries. We live in an retired dominant community, with people walking along the streets daily, children and pets along with them from time to time.

After reading this email, I hope you can come to the same conclusion as I have, that the stop signs around this area need to be respected. The consequences of this negligence can result in a small accident or injury to a pedestrian.

Thank you for your time,
Norma

(This is published with the permission of Norma and her parents.)

This thoughtful email presents a problem and solution far better than I ever could. Perhaps we should all take a hint from the young before we say be respectful to us as the older and wiser generation.

Hope your summer is going well! Please feel free to call me with your questions or comments at 303-877-5019 or email me at thomasattriplett@aol.com.

Tom Triplett

Hospitality Committee

We have no events for Hospitality planned for the Summer months. We will have at least four events for Fall starting on September 20, 2017. Others are being finalized and will be in future Newsletters. The September 20th event will be a program on “Living with Urban Wildlife” presented by Ken Kaufman of the Pima County Natural Resources Department.

Have a safe and fun filled Summer Season.

Susan and John Ladd, Co-Chairs, Hospitality
Phone: 520-308-4568
Cell:618-791-6359
email: laddsjl@comcast.net

Dates to Remember:
September 20, 2017; "Living with Urban Wildlife"
John & Susan Ladd
SMR Hospitality Co-Chairman
Neighborhood Watch

Roger Wiswell, Chair, Neighborhood Watch Committee

The Neighborhood Watch Committee has no official report but has a reminder from:

Republic Services Trash and Recycle Service
Our trash and recycling provider is Republic Services (formerly Saguaro Environmental Services). If you have any questions about our trash or recycle service provided every Friday, please contact Roger Wiswell at 299-2234 or by e-mail at randcwiswell@msn.com.

Concerns regarding our service should be reported to him immediately so that he can follow up with the company.

Service Reminders:
Curbside service is 0 feet from the curb, or the edge of the street if no curb exists.
Your barrels must be out by 6:00 a.m. to avoid being missed.

Do not pack the container too tightly.

Refuse must be level with the top of the barrel, not overflowing.
Home compacted garbage needs to be in plastic bags and placed inside the barrel.

Drivers will not leave their trucks, so please don’t place items outside your barrel.

Recycling Information:
Specific information regarding recycling rules is provided on our SMR Website: http://smrhoa.com/

Observed Holidays:
Trash and recycling will be delayed one day for the following holidays unless we are notified otherwise. Barrels must be out by 6:00 a.m. on Saturday of these holiday weeks.

New Years Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day
Roger Wiswell, Chair
Neighborhood Watch Committee

Volunteer Liaison

Wendy Reed
Volunteer Liaison

Having been residents here since 2002, Tiny and Pete Read are well known in our neighborhood—especially since they’ve both invested much time and energy on behalf of SMR. The couple met in high school in Tucson; dated while attending the U of A; eventually married; and raised three children together. Married for over 50 years, Pete and Tiny have lived in Chicago, Florida, and points in between.

Coming back to Tucson was not a difficult choice. They like the weather! Pete said no way he was going back to those Chicago winters. And luckily while looking for a home here, a close friend of the family got in touch and said there was a perfect place nearby on Plaza de Toros. The rest is history—they loved the house and the view and quickly found in SMR that “sense of community” which is so important to them.

Pete said he “volunteered to be a volunteer”, and before he knew it he had been “talked into” serving as president which he did for four years. Having worked in real estate and having heard many horror stories about expensive and not particularly effective outside managers, he believed strongly in self-governing HOAs. So, he did his part.

Besides serving as president, Pete has been the SAC representative for a number of years and helped revitalize that organization as leadership transitioned. He’s worked with Bob Cole, the present treasurer of SMR, and credits him and Dick Grisham (our former treasurer) for the HOA’s stable and secure financial position. He is further very happy at having done his part to prevent speed bumps!

Wendy Reed, Volunteer Liaison

July/August 2017
When asked about the best part of living in SMR, Pete says (like a veteran realtor) “location, location, location” – access to most of what Tucson has to offer in 20 minutes or less. And he and Tiny love the tennis court, being tennis and pickle ball enthusiasts. In fact, he says SMR is “pretty perfect”. And certainly, our community maintains its practically perfect status with the contributions of those, like the Reads, who are willing and happy to do their part.

The Volunteer Liaison for 2017 is Wendy Reed. She will continue to highlight individual volunteers and act as Liaison between volunteers and committee chairs. You can reach Wendy at nortonreed@gmail.com or 520-638-8082.

Database
Please submit any updated information to:
smr_data_update@smrhoa.com

Welcome to Sunrise Mountain Ridge!
Mark & Rebecca Alger, 4230 Ferreo
William & Debra Romancho, 4422 Ferreo

SNAP is almost ten years old. For the past few months, an ad hoc committee on restructuring has been looking at where we have been in our “youth” and where we hope to go from here in order to provide continued programs and services to growing numbers of requests for service within our designated borders. Currently, SMR residents comprise 28% of the total client caseload and about 35% of the summer volunteer base. Additional clients and volunteers are found in ten other Sunrise communities and a handful more come from outside our service area. Some clients remain with SNAP forever, while others may have immediate or short-term needs; others register for information and/or the security of knowing that transportation is available if and when needed. As you might imagine, the summer volunteer transportation base is reduced by nearly 50% while seasonal visitors enjoy cooler climes elsewhere.

Twenty-five SNAP members enjoyed a recent tour and lunch at Splendido at Rancho Vistoso. More tours are scheduled for October and November. Visit our website for the details at www.sunrisesnap.org.

On Monday, August 21st, bring your laptops or mobile telephones to the Lutheran Church of the Foothills at 2 pm for another Sizzlin Summer Social—an introduction to our new IT/Digital Skills program where we will be mentored by high school students from Basis School, in an effort to improve our comfort and competence on laptops and telephones.

Lunch Bunch gatherings continue throughout the summer. Join us on July 26th and August 30th in the SMR clubhouse for summer fun and fellowship. Bring your own brown bag lunch. SNAP provides dessert and a beverage.

Tiny Read and Tamela Nelson
SNAP Coordinators
Advertising by Residents

Procedure: Ads must be limited to 50 words, text only, no pictures, include a phone number and/or email address, and be submitted by the middle of the month preceding the newsletter publication date (the first of the month, except for a combined mid-summer issue on July 15). The ad is good for one issue. If you want it repeated, you must submit another request. Ad copy should be sent to Joy Jensen, mjensen1@msn.com, 577-8208.

Recycling original SMR exterior lighting: 4 wall sconces and parts of 1 post lamp. Available until October 1. Free!
Ellen Russell, 520-615-6215

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- Smart device setup and integration Smart TV, Tablets, Smartphones

- Streaming Media Devices Roku, Amazon Fire, Chromecast

- Home Automation Lights, Door Locks, Thermostat, Security

- Home Surveillance Systems – Indoor/Outdoor cameras with video storage servers

Jim Warner “Your SMR Computer Guy” Call: 520-908-7200 or Email: compnetaz@gmail.com
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Guitars Wanted!
As a lifelong guitar player and performer, I’m always on the lookout for guitars in need of a little love. Unused guitars, that is, collecting dust in a closet, living lives of quiet, unplayed desperation. Oh, the humanity.

Do you have an unused, unplayed guitar? Any condition or age, it may be one I can give a good home to or, even better, give to a budding young rocker in need. Let’s chat!
Scott Peterson, 520-271-2110, scotty@scottycar.com
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(16-year S.M.R. residents)
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