



The Springs Chat



A Newsletter for and by the residents of the Springs at Santa Rita

The Springs at Santa Rita, 951 West Via Rio Fuerte, Green Valley, AZ 85614
Phone: 520-648-1699, Website: www.thespringshoa.org,

January 2015
email: springschat@gmail.com

The Springs Chat is your newsletter.

Communication and sharing information can contribute to the vitality and the culture of our community. The Springs Chat is for you and by you. The Newsletter Committee invites your contributions - information you would like to share with the community. The committee also wants your ideas and suggestions- just email them to: springschat@gmail.com or contact a member of the newsletter committee: Eileen Owen, Juanita Kauffman, Jeannie McGaughey, Sandie Stone, Pat Strnad, Pat Johnson

New to the Chat

We would like to welcome Pat Johnson to our newsletter committee. Thanks, Pat, for accepting another volunteer position.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 6** **Open House**, Valley Assistance Services, old Dorn Bldg. 3:00
- Jan 13** **Board Meeting**, Fiesta Rm, 4:30
- Jan 17** **Potluck**, Anza Rm, 5:00
- Jan 24** **Annual Meeting**, Anza Rm, 3:00
Meet'n Greet, following the meeting
- Jan 25** **Picnic in the Park**, Perry Park, 1:00

January Pot Luck

Details are being worked out on the January potluck program. There will be an email later from the HOA office with information about the program.

Chat available on website

Don't forget if you delete your email with the Chat attached, you can always find a copy on the Springs website, www.thespringshoa.org It's on the side menu under newsletter. Home owners, please tell your renters about this valuable resource.

Board Meeting Summary

Three incumbent board members, Howard Bryan, Norm Tenbrink and Jim Owen have agreed to run again for the board. Since there were no other names submitted they have been elected by acclamation.

Once again the HOA property along Viva & Nardos was discussed. A proposal to change the Master Landscaping plan will be sent to our attorney for review. It will be voted on in January.

Please consult the HOA website at www.thespringshoa.org for the complete minutes and officer's reports.

Fun Golf

Are you a Springs couple interested in playing 9 holes of non competitive golf at a local course and meeting for drinks and food after? If so, contact Eileen Owen (jimeileenowen@aol.com) with your name, address, and phone number and you will be added to the list. We meet twice a month (2nd and 4th Fridays). Join the 11 couples who have already signed up. Snowbirds welcome.

Open House just for Springs residents

As most of you already know, the Dorn Building was gifted to the Valley Assistance Services. There will be a special Open House just for Springs residents on Tuesday, Jan 6, (3-5 pm) The open house will be in lieu of our monthly Meet N Greet since it falls on the same date and time. The January Springs Meet N Greet will be held immediately following our annual meeting January 24th.

Springers are Generous

(Bill Perry)

The homeowners and renters who attended the Spring's Potlucks in 2014 gave a cash donation of **\$2,999.00** and contributed **116 pounds of food** to the Amado Food Bank. Many thanks to all Springs residents from the Amado Food Bank.

Mark Your Calendars For 2015

Our Board meetings and social events seem to change every year as GVR grows and more and more clubs are using the facilities.

Unfortunately the HOAs must wait until all club reservations are filled before we can confirm our dates for using the rec centers.

This year, after making our requests last April, the following dates were confirmed...in November!!!

Monthly board meetings will be held the 2nd Tuesday of each month, in the Anza Room, beginning at 1:00 p.m. – EXCEPT the January meeting which will be held in the Fiesta Room at 4:30 p.m.

Our annual meeting will be on Saturday, January 24th, in the Anza Room beginning at 3:00 p.m. Our Meet N Greets will still be held on the Fiesta Deck (and in the Fiesta Room if the weather doesn't cooperate) but will now be on the 1st Tuesday of the month – EXCEPT January. We will have a Meet N Greet following the annual meeting (January 24th) and instead of a get together on the 6th, we encourage everyone to go to the special open house hosted by Valley Assistance Services at 3950 Camino Del Heroe from 3:00 - 5:00 pm.

And finally, our potlucks will be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month – EXCEPT in February when it will be on the 2nd Saturday (which happens to be Valentine's Day!). We will still meet in the Anza Room at the SRS Rec Center, at 5:00 p.m.

Please check either the calendar on our website (www.thespringshoa.org) or at the mailboxes for any changes throughout the year.

The Board encourages everyone to attend – and don't forget our picnics in Perry Park the 4th Sunday of January, February, March, and April!

Our New Neighbor

Some who are not familiar with Valley Assistance Services may be wondering what they do. This is what their website lists as their purpose: "Valley Assistance Services' professional, compassionate staff provides RN Advocacy, Financial Literacy Training, Benefits Checkup and

Family Programs. We are here to connect seniors and families with appropriate and essential social services, to reinforce independence and resilience, and create an improved quality of life.

Volunteers are an important part of our fulfilling our mission. We have a wide variety of volunteer opportunities:

- In-home Volunteers
- Office Help
- Financial Education
- Economic Security Initiative
- Special Events."

To learn more about this organization, please plan on attending the Open House here in the Springs on Tuesday, January 6, 3-5. Location: the old Dorn Building.

Picnic in the Park

For those of you not familiar with Picnic in the Park, we meet the 4th Sunday afternoon each month (Jan - April) in Perry Park for a picnic. Yes, it's another Springs community activity where we get together with our neighbors to socialize. You bring something to grill for yourself and a side, appetizer, or dessert to share. Coals for grilling are provided by the Springs. Please bring your own table service and your favorite beverage. See you Jan 25 at Perry Park.

Hospital Update



If you haven't traveled south on the east frontage road, this is what the new Green Valley hospital under construction looks like.

CEO David Wanger said he is in the process of getting the hospital management team on board. A temporary office is located in the Compass Bank Bldg on Esperanza Blvd. and will be open for business in early January.

Message from the Handicapped

Many of us are, or soon will be, less mobile than we used to be. We use canes, walkers and wheelchairs to get around. We, just like you, enjoy "taking a walk" on the sidewalk and enjoying the beauty of The Springs and its many common areas. Unfortunately, we are not all able to avoid obstacles placed on the sidewalk, particularly garbage bins on Mondays and Thursdays. Please remember it is the policy of The Springs to always keep sidewalks open for pedestrians. Please remember to place your trash and recycle bins on your driveway or front yard on trash pick up days. Please park your car in the street and not covering or partially covering the sidewalk. Your disabled neighbors will appreciate it! In addition, it makes the neighborhood landscape look better to enhance property values.



Saturday Bike Rides

Interested in a bike ride? Bill Perry will be leading Saturday morning bike rides. They will be 15 to 20 miles at an easy pace on paved roads. For more information, call Bill Perry at 393-7401 or email at wperry42@cox.net

Where have all the restaurants gone?

On a recent Saturday ride, Bill Perry and his Easy Riders, 12 strong, rode their bicycles to BK's Outlaw BBQ Restaurant for lunch. For years, BK's was located in Amado near the Cow Palace but they have shuffled off to DeAnza RV Park, on the east frontage road between Amado and Tubac. BK's Outlaw BBQ is located in the dining hall of the RV Resort and is open only Friday, Saturday and Sundays for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Prices are modest, food is good "down home" grub, and you won't go away hungry.

Request from SAV

The Sherriff Aux Volunteers (SAV) recommends that all caregivers keep a card along side their driver's license stating that they are a caregiver with the name of the person they care for. On this card is the name of the person requiring care, their address and phone number, and the nature of their needs. This helps the medical response team treating the caregiver in case of an emergency. They then know the obligation of that caregiver.

Green Valley Council information

The Green Valley Council has ended its contract with the publisher of the Green Valley Directory. Therefore changes submitted to them may not be made in the new directory. The publisher of the directory may contact you if you have purchased a home lately in Green Valley. The Green Valley Council has a vetted vendor program, if you are looking for a contractor; call the GVC at 520-648-5079 or e-mail: info@gvcouncil.phxcoxmail.com. This program is part of the way the GVC is making income this year.

Favorite Recipe from the Dec Potluck

Cookies & Cream Salad

(Jean Rauls)

- 1 C. buttermilk
- 1 sm. pkg. vanilla pudding
- 1 15 oz. can or larger mandarin oranges (drained & cut up)
- 1 16 oz. pkg. Cool Whip
- 1 box Keebler stripped cookies (chill)

Crush cookies, reserving 1/2 C. for topping.

Add ingredients in order; top with crumbs.

Protecting Your Plants From Frost

While Green Valley is a pleasant escape from the harsh winters "up north", where many of us have lived, it is not a tropical haven. Our nighttime temperatures frequently dip below freezing, even when the daytime temperatures are quite moderate. Some storm fronts can bring temperatures that are in the teens or even lower during January and February. The last frost date for the Tucson area is March 15th,

although it often feels very spring-like by mid February. In "The Springs", our temperatures can be as much as 5 to 10 degrees F below what is reported for Green Valley and much colder than the temperatures experienced by our neighbors who live just on the other side of the freeway.

One of the reasons that our neighborhood is one of the coldest in the Green Valley area is because cold air settles downward, flowing like water to the lowest point. As air comes across the freeway from higher areas to the west, flowing down to the Santa Cruz River, we experience those colder temperatures in our yards. Calm, clear nights pose the greatest danger of frost, and the coldest temperatures occur around daybreak.

So what can we do in the garden during our Green Valley winter? When frost is predicted (or when temperatures in the low 30's are predicted for Green Valley), cover plants with frost cloth (sometime called frost fleece) or cloth sheets or blankets. Drape the covering around the entire plant from the top to the ground. Do not gather it around the stem or trunk, as the goal is to trap heat being radiated from the ground. If you use sheets or blankets, remove the coverings every morning when the temperature warms to about 50 degrees F. This is to prevent the plant from warming up too much under the cover and causing it to break dormancy. Then the plant may try to begin actively growing again and be even more susceptible to frost damage. Many kinds of frost cloth may be left on for extended periods without risk of harming the plant. Adding a 100-watt electric light bulb (in an outdoor fixture) under the cover can provide supplemental heat. Hang the fixture below the foliage to allow the heat to rise, and make sure that the fixture is not too close to the trunk or to the covering as to create a burning hazard.

Never cover plants with plastic, as condensation on the plastic will freeze and allow cold to directly reach the surface of the plant. Another problem is that once sunlight hits the plastic, air temperatures underneath rise sharply and may cook plants, especially if the soil isn't wet and roots cannot absorb enough moisture. To avoid this, the plastic must be removed promptly at sunrise when temperatures may still be below freezing. In general, avoid plastic coverings.

Most trees and shrubs (woody, non-succulent plants) do best in cold temperatures if they are well watered. The University of Arizona Extension service advises that frost injury occurs when ice crystals form on the leaf surface, drawing moisture from the leaf tissue. The damage from this dehydration will be less severe if the plant is not already drought-stressed. The opposite is true for cacti and most succulent varieties. These plants can tolerate lower temperatures if they are dehydrated. According to Mark Dimmitt at the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society, that is because less water means more concentrated electrolytes, lowering the temperature at which the plant tissue will freeze. Damage to cacti and succulents usually occurs on the growing tips first. For many columnar cacti, covering the top with a cloth, cap, or Styrofoam cup will provide adequate protection for the tender growing tip.

If despite all these efforts, our plants still are damaged from the cold, here are some tips. One of the hardest bits of advice to follow is to delay pruning until all danger of freezing weather has passed. For trees, shrubs and vines, the damaged plant material may insulate the remaining growth from additional damage. Wait until new growth appears in the spring to determine the exact point of the damage, and then prune back to that spot. If the plant dies back to the ground and no buds or new leaves appear in the spring, the roots may still be alive. Prune the plant to about 6 inches above the ground and be patient. Some plants may take as much as a few months to sprout again. For cacti and succulents, watch the damaged area to see how much of the tissue is dead. If only small areas are damaged, the plant may self-heal. If bacterial rot sets in, remove the infected areas with pruners or a sharp knife, sterilizing the tool between each cut with a mixture of 1 part bleach to 10 parts water. If no rot is present, wait until warm weather to prune away freeze damage. Many cacti and succulents may freeze solid or turn droopy after a freeze but will still recover. Avoid touching the plants when they are still cold to avoid additional damage.

Take heart, be patient, and spring will soon return with lots of wildflowers and beautiful blooming cacti to brighten our neighborhood!

Keep the Light On (Harold Moberly)

The Springs is a very dark place at night. That light above your house number is very important in case of an emergency or when friends are trying to find your house in the dark. A few minutes can make a real difference for an ambulance, the firemen or police when they are trying to find your home during an emergency call at night.

Check your light often to be sure it is working properly. The little sensor located under your electric control box turns the lightbulb on and off that is found above your house number. When it is dark enough it turns the light on and when it is light enough it turns it off. If the light does not come on when it should call the Springs office and one of our lightbulb replacers will promptly install a new bulb. If that does not work you may have a problem with the sensor. If the light stays on during regular daylight your sensor may have been painted over or is covered with dirt. Sometimes a bush or vine may shade the sensor enough to keep the light on during the day. If the light fails to come on during the night or does not turn off during the daylight, and you know that the bulb is good, you probably need a new sensor. New sensors are available from True Value.

It is necessary to remove the electric panel cover to replace the sensor. We do not recommend anyone doing it unless they really know what they are doing or have done it previously. We have several knowledgeable people living in the Springs who have done the actual replacement with no problem. We don't recommend anyone in particular but you can ask around and could find someone who can do the job for you. It is not a difficult job for a person knowing what he is doing. Most electricians charge \$100 to 125 to do the job. Remember, that little light could be a lifesaver.

HOME SALES (since the last newsletter)

3800 S. Camino Comica – Charles & Sylvia McDonough, Green Valley, AZ

4093 S. Golden Lynx Rd – Milo & Sally Weingart, Green Valley, AZ

3950 S. Camino Del Heroe-- Valley Assistance Services, Green Valley, AZ

Coyotes in the Nature Park



Please be vigilant when walking in the nature park. This year there have been more coyotes than usual in the Springs Nature Park.

Coyotes eat carrion (dead animals), berries and other vegetation. They also hunt small animals (mice, amphibians, snakes, birds). They hunt alone or in small family groups. They are not aggressive toward humans unless humans attempt to feed or interact with them. Remember they are wild animals. Coyotes generally are not interested in confronting people, even small children. Of course, parents should always keep an eye on children while in the park, but coyotes pose no special danger. While there are reports of coyotes attacking and killing a person, these types of incidents are extremely rare. Remember, coyotes are wild animals. They can be seen during the day, but they are most active in the evening and at night.

Coyotes will hunt house cats and small dogs. However, if your pet is leashed and you and your pet are on a trail, a coyote will likely not try to attack. You can stop and watch, but do not approach it. As with any wild animal, if it feels threatened by someone coming toward it or chasing it, it may feel the need to protect itself. **DO NOT FEED** or attempt to feed them. Once a wild animal gets accustomed to being fed by humans there is much more likelihood that an individual will get bitten by an animal looking for food.

New Column for the Chat

We would like to start a new column: "Where Have you Been"? If you have visited an attraction or event and would like to recommend it to others, please write up a paragraph about it and send it to the springschat@gmail.com.

Many of us are snowbirds and would like to know what others have seen and enjoyed in the area. Here is our first write-up.

Where Have You Been?

(submitted by Sally Bryan)

On December 2nd, I went to Tucson with a dozen girlfriends for a tour of the HF Coors Dinnerware factory. Our tour was led by Beverly, who took us through the factory with a bullhorn. Some of the processes were a bit loud!!! I understand that groups of 5 or more can arrange a tour, at a cost of \$10/person.



Everything is made from scratch at the plant, even mixing their own clay. All painting is done by hand, rather than by machine. All products are oven, microwave, dishwasher, broiler and freezer safe and all of their paints and glazes are lead free and non-toxic. Many of the finer restaurants contract to have their dinnerware made at the Coors plant.

Longaberger Baskets from Ohio have a dinnerware pattern, and there is a Frank Lloyd Wright design featuring the "whirling arrow" pattern.



Ever since the debacle some years ago with toxic paints on products from China, I've been hesitant to buy products made in China, especially dinnerware. I was also influenced by the series that ABC News has featured for several years called "Made in America". The series highlighted the many benefits to our national economy which result from buying American made goods.

After touring the factory and gift shop, I decided it was time to start a collection of their American made dinnerware. I chose the Aztec pattern, which has some similarities to Fiesta Ware, another American-made dinnerware company. I bought my first place-setting that day, in a variety of bright colors. The following Saturday, I went to their first-Saturday sale and picked up a few more pieces that didn't meet their stringent quality standards and were considered "seconds". It was fun and I also purchased some miscellaneous pieces.

There is so much to do in Tucson and we followed our tour with lunch at Roma Imports, but we'll cover that gem of a visit in another issue!

Need more info about HF Coors factory? There is a good utube video, "HF Coors featured on CNBC." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nv2IKRbFfJU> It's a great video about the Coors factory and emphasizes their American made product.

Lesson Learned

Recently when I opened my front door I saw water on the front step. My first thought was I never get rain there, my second thought was it hasn't rained. Then I noticed water under the garage door. Yep -- The water heater was leaking. I opened the moon block and nothing was labeled water heater. My fingers began dialing quickly. Howard, no answer, Katrina, no answer, then Ron--he was home. He would be down quickly. Then I remembered I had a shutoff put on my line to keep the irrigation running while I am gone in the summer but not the inside of the house water. I shut that off and it helped. Then Ron arrived and he shut off the valve at the top of the hot water heater. I hadn't seen that shutoff. Ron also knew a repairman.

I was lucky in that it had not been leaking very long. The lesson learned was for everyone in the household to know where the shutoff valves are. Water damage can be very costly and I was lucky to be home at the time it started.
--Juanita Kauffman

Resident of the Month



Phil and Kaye Gray both grew up in Ohio but spent many years living in Sycamore, Illinois. They raised their four children, three sons and a daughter in Sycamore. Phil taught communications, mostly to seniors and grad students, at Northern Illinois University. Kaye was a real estate agent for many years. When the children got older she wanted more home time with them so she accepted a job as the Director of the Chamber of Commerce and worked there for 15 years.

When it was retirement time, they knew they wanted a warmer climate. They had traveled to Florida, it was too flat. The shores Mississippi and Alabama were too humid and buggy. They knew they liked Arizona. Kaye had lived in Tucson as a child and they both had traveled to various Arizona cities while they were working and attending conferences.

They rented in Tucson in '97 and looked around for housing. Kaye learned about Green Valley because at one time a fellow realtor was a snowbird and he bragged extensively about how great GV was. Phil did not want to live with all of those "old people." Then one day on a drive back to Tucson from Nogales they decided to look around Green Valley just to see what was here. In '98 they rented a place for three months in Desert Hills. They saw a casita ad for The Springs and came over and talked to Mr. Steindorf. He did not have casita models built

at that time, so they ended up buying a casita on Nardos based on what they saw on the drawings and what was being offered. Steindorf included in the price many options other builders had as extras. For example, 2 x 6 construction. They spent three months here in their casita and then decided to make the Springs their permanent home. However since Kaye's mother was going to live with them they needed a larger place. Sadly Kaye's mother passed away several days after she arrived here. With a new area just opening, many lots were available and it was a hard decision finding a lot with good views at right price. They picked the model that best suited their needs with several added upgrades were happy with the choice.

Both Kaye and Phil have kept involved in the community. Kaye and Phil both were clay studio members and Kaye served as president. Both served as president of our Home Owners Association. Both were involved with the GVR where Phil served as parliamentarian. Both have been longtime hiking club members and Phil has been a hiking leader for years. Phil served on the Master Association. He was on the board of the Springs when it was turned over to the HOA from Mr. Steindorf. Phil helped with the Master Association CC&R's revision. Currently Phil is on the Board of Directors at the Live Theatre Workshop (5317 E Speedway).

Kaye and Phil's oldest son lives in California, their daughter and second son live in Sycamore, IL and the youngest son lives in Tucson. They have 6 grandchildren (from 29 years old to one month old) and one great grandchild who is two weeks younger than their youngest grandchild. Phil has two advanced degrees from Ohio State U and is proud to have a grandson attending his alma mater Ohio Northern University and he will be the 5th generation to attend ONU.

Considering the fact that they did not want to live with the old folks in Green Valley, Kaye & Phil have been great assets to the community and our HOA. Many of us may have had those same feelings about GV, then we discovered what a great community it is.



Happy Holidays
Thank you volunteers

