

Spring, 2018

Spring takes on a new meaning for me now that I am Board President. Some volunteers are heading home; there is still work to be done; and I am already making plans for fall along with the other members on the board.

I want to thank the departing volunteers for a job well done. I want to thank the remaining volunteers for continuing to work over the summer.

I plan to be back several times over the next months to take care of some tasks, enjoy the monsoon rains, check on my garden, and chat with summer residents. It was a good winter season for The Springs and I have learned a lot about our HOA that makes me very proud. Be well, wherever you are.--**REBECCA KEENAN**

Summer Fun With Amigas

Amigas, the group for all Green Valley women, will hold a Meet and Greet May 3, 3-5PM, in the Anza Room at the Rec Center. For further information, call Patti, 520 625-308, info line at 520 289-9215, or contact www.gvramigas.org. Meet new friends, join interest groups, and explore nearby treasures.

Bring your favorite mug to join Amigas Coffee Time, 9-11 AM, same place. Open to all Green Valley women.

The Springs

Chat

The Springs at Santa Rita
951 W Via Rio Fuerte
Green Valley, AZ 85614
Phone: 520 648-1699

<http://www.thespringshoa.org>

CHAT email: koltun3@gmail.com

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May Events

Day	
3	Amigas, 3-5 PM
8	HOA Board meeting
15	Deadline for June CHAT
17	Potluck
19	Amigas coffee, 9-11 AM

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Snakes and Snails, and A Grateful Dog's Tale: Ground-Crew Guys & Gals Volunteer to Manage Our Environment

Our Ground Crew, along with a couple of local landscaping companies (Weed



Hard-working Ground Crew digging up a clogged drain at the fountain: Bob Muldoon, Larry Smith, John Frederickson, Don Kelly, Mark Koruga.

PHOTO BY JIM OWEN

Busters and Hot Desert), monitors and helps maintain our 22 parks and common areas. These include the Nature Park, Nardos, Viva, and Blue Fox). Hot Desert also hauls away a lot of our trimmings and weed control which saves us from having to chip up everything. We would also like someone to volunteer to be responsible for new planting in our parks.

We meet every Tuesday and Friday at the equipment shed, 8 or 9 AM. depending on how hot it is. Anyone in The Springs is welcome to come and assist us. We welcome all volunteers. No experience is necessary. We usually work around two hours at a time and we have some volunteers who show up every time and others who show up when they are available. Occasionally we have to watch where we step. The Grounds annual report is listed on the Springs website so you could see who you would be working with or contact someone on the list to see what goes on.

One of our big projects this year was adding an addition to our equipment shed. Tony Hanson, a Springs resident, was our contractor and was very

helpful. Another project in the planning stages is the Rio Fuerte entrance to the Nature Park. We are working with Bob Buehler, a Springs homeowner and a Master Gardener. Hot Desert is also advising us and will assist us in purchasing our plants and planting them. It is a mess right now after Farmers Water did some work there.

Last summer, our Ground Crew--Mark, Bob Muldoon, Ron Sills and Bob Fillion--put 350 feet of snake fence around the dog run. They were helped by numerous 'pet people': Bonnie, Marta, Tish, Maryland, Martha and Laretta. It was a hot summer and everyone's help was appreciated.

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Lastly, we have automated all of our irrigation systems and naturally increased our water consumption. We are currently monitoring all plants that are well established and no longer need water. We also ask residents, as you walk around the Springs, to be aware of anything that doesn't look right such as standing water, geysers, stressed plants, dead critters. Please don't hesitate to contact Mark Koruga, Jim Owen, or any of the other grounds volunteers listed on the Springs website so that we can address the situation.



Our Ground Crew takes great pride in maintaining the parks and common areas in The Springs and we really appreciate all the comments thanking us for what we are doing and how great everything looks. We don't take any of these comments lightly. Thank you all—**JIM OWEN**

EDITOR'S NOTES—As you may have observed, some of the diggers (previous page) are wearing boots, a useful precaution against snakes. One of Jim Owen's sightings of snakes is at left. As you may have seen in last month's CHAT, the Ground Crew found and rescued a lost dog, and returned it to its owner. Such a tale!

Editorial Policy

To meet our community's needs, both deadlines and light editing are provided. Our HOA CHAT is limited to about 4 MB per issue. We ask that articles, except for occasionals with multiple contributors, be limited to 500 words. Photos should be formatted as JPEGs and sent separately from stories. If you are unable to check your photo's size before sending, the Editor will do that before inserting it with your story. Deadlines, approximately mid-month before the following month's issue, are printed on the front page. Your generous cooperation with these few suggestions is much appreciated. **THE EDITOR**

Meet Our Neighbor: Sharon Toborg

Fasten your seat belts as you read about Sharon Toborg. When not attending live NASCAR races at Tucson Speedway, she is a whirlwind of volunteer activities combined with interesting hobbies.

Sharon moved from Garberville, California, to Green Valley two years ago, after retiring from a career in Credit Union finance. She had visited Southern Arizona often over the past 30 years, as her dearest friend resides in Amado.

Volunteering is a prime activity for Sharon, both within the Springs and the larger community.

She provides weekly maintenance for our entrance fountain to keep the water running clean & clear, as part of her role with the Springs Ground Crew. Her financial expertise comes into focus as chairperson of the Springs Capital Reserve Fund. She also works closely with the Springs Finance Committee by providing a quarterly review of bank statements.

A heartfelt passion is her work with Desert Labrador Retriever Rescue (DLRR). Sharon has always had labs, but wondered “who has labs in the desert?” During her online research, she found DLRR and completed an application to adopt. She initially wanted a puppy, but the volunteer who did her home visit said “Are you nuts? Have you met Pluto?”

Pluto's owner had died, which resulted in Pluto being placed in a shelter. As a senior dog, she was due to be euthanized, until DLRR rescued her and placed her with a foster. The rest is history, as they say, and you'll regularly see Sharon and nine- year-old Pluto on their daily walks around the neighborhood.

In addition to promoting the DLRR organization, Sharon also works at the monthly adoption events at Pet Club in Sahuarita, along with home visits for potential adoptees and finding foster homes for dogs awaiting adoption.

“Points of Interest” is a special interest group that Sharon leads within GVR Amigas. She has led groups of 20-40 Amigas on the streetcar tour of Tucson Street Art, a docent-led visit to DeGrazia Museum, Historic Canoa Ranch

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tour, Tubac Presidio visit and a Food Warehouse session in Nogales. With our weather warming up, she'll coordinate indoor venues for the coming months.

When not engaged in volunteer efforts, hiking, gardening, movies, theater, and attending her niece and nephew's sporting events round out her days.

Sharon enjoys and recommends the "movie pass" APP, \$9.99/month, which provides admission to unlimited movies, up to one per day, at cinemas including Desert Sky in Green Valley and multiple theaters in Tucson. She enjoys all movie genres, with the exception of violence.

My life has been enriched by having Sharon as a neighbor. Be sure to say "hey," and get to know Sharon and her sweet dog, Pluto—**SALLY BRYAN**

Fur, Feathers, and Scales

I cannot write this without disclosing my biases: Having grown up on an island where there were no harmful snakes, my early conditioning included having been scared into wetting my jeans as my cousin, Gordy, chased me while whirling a garter snake like a lariat (I didn't know then that they weren't dangerous). I'll continue to be watchful and wary where snakes are concerned, especially the four-foot rattler below, which, until recently, was living under a prickly pear near the photographer's patio wall.

Not all early conditioning is bad. Being watchful is the best precaution, especially for dog owners at this time of year. But "watchful" doesn't mean "fearful." Snakes are usually as wary of us as we are of them. So giving any reptile a wide berth is a good idea, as is calling the Snake Removal Corps to remove and relocate those that want to live in your favorite pathways. Call **629-9200** to use this free service, provided by the Green Valley Fire Department—**JAN KOLTUN**



Photo by Dick Bierman

Camera Club Fulfills Any Photographer's Needs

Our Santa Rita Springs Rec Center, the big building on your right after you enter the main gate, is a multifarious asset containing many treasures, large and small: the GVR Camera Club (CC), extensive art and photo libraries, Computer Club, and Clay Studio. This summer, CHAT will explore these for the benefit of “year-arounders” and snowbirds: enjoy, anywhere you are!



Elegant Trogon * Photo by Pat Lindemann

And what better place to start than the Camera Club? Its 750 members constitute the largest group of its kind in Arizona. Here on the second floor of the Rec Center, they learn to scan old photos and slides, copy CDs and DVDS, old prints and 8 MM film, print and mat their photos, take a variety of hands-on classes, workshops, and lectures, show off their own photos, and enjoy the galleries on the CC website as well as an up-to-date lending library.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) focus on black-and-white photography, studio work, Photoshop and Lightroom, slideshows and multimedia presentations, and Photoshop Elements. For example, the latter SIG will be held May 9 at 9:30 AM for members wishing to improve particular photos.

The Club's 3,200 square-foot, state-of-the-art facility has both Windows- and MAC-based computers that contain the latest software for processing photos, creating slideshows and taking existing photos to higher levels.

You may visit the CC at Santa Rita Springs Recreation Village, 921 West Via Fuerte, or check out its website, dev.gvcameraclub.org. Phone 520 648-1315. Membership is \$30/year for one member of a household, \$40 for two members, payable January 1. To join CC, you must be a member of Green Valley Recreation.—JAN KOLTUN

The Strength of Books

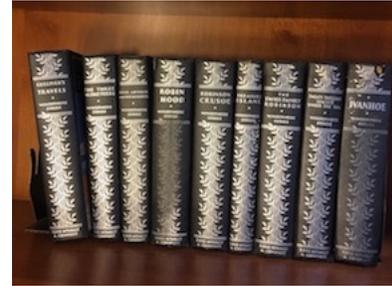
In times of war, malfeasance, and incivility, I've always sought strength in books, including sacred texts, fiction, or nonfiction, from *Dr. Doolittle* to *Robinson Crusoe*. It is in this spirit that I invite your contributions to this proposed column, which will welcome your take on any book that has given you courage, strength, or understanding.

Your review doesn't need to be lengthy; a few honest paragraphs would suffice. In fact, "short and sweet" respects the fact that many people's busy lives seem to afford them little time to read.

In hope that this will encourage your responses, I'd like to share a recent read: *The Immortality of Henrietta Lacks*, a black woman who lived in poverty most of her life. Her cancer cells showed such a remarkable capacity to divide that doctors at Johns Hopkins used them prophylactically. Contrary to all scientific expectation, Henrietta's cells have shown the capacity to divide well past her own lifetime, because they have been used—and still are—in medicines to fight disease.

At first I thought the book was a metaphor for the truth that what we give lives beyond us. That may be, but the author, the science writer Rebecca Skloot, has also provided an intense look at poverty, an examination of medical professionals' ethical issues, and most of all, the passion of a writer for her work.

What books have inspired you? Please share.—JAN KOLTUN
Email koltun3@gmail.com.



OLD FAVORITES

PHOTO BY JAN KOLTUN

HOA Board Highlights

Some projects that will keep Board members busy over the summer are:

1. Assessing joists in the entrance canopy for strength and adequate attachment.
2. Gathering data from other HOAs in the area about garbage collection.
3. Finalizing which sidewalk repairs are needed.
4. Monitoring the new LED street lights that have been installed at a couple locations.
5. Looking for viable options to save resources in our community (water, dollars, energy, and time).
6. Raising the height of a number of stop signs.
7. And as always, looking for a few volunteers to fill out the ranks. Currently we need permanent Meet & Greet hosts for this fall (contact Brent Gordy) and substitute block captains for when regulars are traveling (contact Jackie Marchetti)

I have been so grateful for the honest feedback by community members at our meetings. Thank you for taking the time to be involved—**REBECCA KEENAN**

Recycling Tips

Currently Republic Services does not charge customers for recycled material pick-up and we are allowed to place all recycle materials in one bucket (single stream) by having Republic sort the material at their distribution center. Republics' expense reimbursement comes from selling recycled materials BUT any non-recyclable material contaminates the entire recycled load. This results in Republic incurring the cost of the pick-up and sorting the refuse, potentially without cost recovery.

We are asking folks to be more vigilant about what they recycle because Republic could start charging customers for picking up the materials put in the bins or discontinue the service. If Republic were to discontinue this program the material currently being placed in the bins would be placed in trash bins and exacerbate the current trash truck problems. We need to make it clear what materials can and cannot be placed in the recycle bins.

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DO RECYCLE THESE CLEAN ITEMS WITH REPUBLIC:

Paper (staples okay) – newspaper, envelopes, junk mail, phone books, brochures, magazines

Cardboard - cream wrappers, file folders, poster board, frozen food boxes, cardboard boxes, milk cartons

Plastic - water bottles, take-out containers, soda bottles, bagged film plastic (retail plastic labeled #2 and #4)

Glass - beverage containers, glass food jars

Aluminum/Metal - aluminum beverage cans, food cans, pots, pans, tins & utensils, scrap metal

DO NOT RECYCLE WITH REPUBLIC:

Aerosol cans, aluminum foil, batteries, clothing, food waste, napkins, mirrors, ceramics, plastic bags (not labeled #2 or # 4) shredded paper, stickers/address labels, tissue, Styrofoam, paper towels, glass windows and Pyrex. Contaminated loads prevent Republic from recovering their costs. If you are not sure about the item, DO NOT ADD IT TO YOUR REPUBLIC RECYCLE BOX.

Some items can be recycled elsewhere, so feel free to organize them apart from the Republic load and take them to the right place. (For example, neighbors could help each other if going to a battery recycling place or shredded paper site.)

Thank you for your help!--**RICK FILLION AND REBECCA KEENAN**

CHAT AD: We Need YOU!

Want to renew old friendships, and stay in touch with what's happening? A host and/or hostess are needed for "Meet and Greet."

Held monthly, 3-5 PM, during the 2018-19 fall/winter season on the upper Fiesta deck of the Springs Rec Center, this social function plays an important part in creating and maintaining our community.

You don't have to be a "year-arounder" to do this; snowbirds are welcome and your volunteer job is a good way to ease back into this amazing community. Only a small amount of your time and effort is required. It will provide big rewards in smiles and fellowship with no out-of-pocket expense. A Board member will help you get started. The previous Meet and Greet host/hostess will walk you through it. You can even commit to this position by email! —**BRENT GORDY** bcgordy1@cox.net

2018 HOME SALES

ADDRESS	SOLD TO	HOME TOWN
3809 S Camino del Golfista	Mary Ann Painter & Charles Smith	Portland, OR
3788 S Camino Comica	Thomas Woolard	Sahuarita, AZ
3969 S Camino del Golfista	Vincent Alberta	Henderson, NV
3990 S Camino del Heroe	Jay Adams	Green Valley, AZ
810 W Calle de la Pelotita	Charlie & Judy Arteaga	Ketchikan, AK
890 W Calle de la Pelotita	Christopher & Vivian Murphy	Tucson, AZ
1017 W Blue Fox Road	Raymond & Cindy Tarvin	Topeka, KS
979 W Via de la Fpnda	Philip & Linda Nuechterlein	Eagle River, AK
3765 S Calle Rambles	Jack & Shirley Stoddard	Green Valley, AZ
3616 S Paseo de los Nardos	James Padgett	Singapore
3797 S Camino del Golfista	Daniel & Patricia Boone	Homer, AK
3788 Camino Comica	Sylvia Mansfield	Oakdale, MN
3933 S Calle Viva	Gary & Patricia Moe	Chicsago City, MN
3801 S S Avenida Solmos	Susan Hunter	Grand Forks, ND
3880 S Calle Viva	Jaye Thorinson	Camano Isl., WA
4071 S Wolf Run Road	Robert & Ginny Muller	Hackensack, MN