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# LáSolana Living

Summer Edition



## Notes From the Board

Summer and the extreme heat are upon us now. We hope you are keeping calm, cool and collected and that not too many of you have been affected by the power outages from severe storms in various States.

Our Board treasurer, Ken Marks, is gearing up for the 2013 budget year. He is working diligently collecting and analyzing all available data. Brad is contacting the utility companies to get the anticipated rates for next year. They are in touch with our vendors to review the contract costs for the future. We are very grateful for their efforts.

Your Board will be hosting a budget workshop and information meeting in October for all owners to receive a detailed explanation of the 2013 proposed budget. You will be notified of this date in the fall. The budget workshop has been a useful tool in providing owners an opportunity to ask questions and receive details. We love to watch Ken, with his white board, draw circles around us! Time constraints at a regular Board meeting would not allow owners to get all of their questions answered. So by the October 23rd. Board meeting, the budget will be in its final draft and ready for approval.

The Board is continuing its dialogue with the Colonnade regarding the property line issue. Duey Kerper, Ken Marks and Brad are the point people involved in this negotiation process. We look forward to an update in the autumn.

The Association is not pleased with the problem areas we are experiencing on the property with regard to brown patches on the grass, tree trimming requirements, other landscape issues, etc.... Brad has sent 10 photos and a communication to ProQual pointing out these deficiencies and he continues to meet with them and to monitor the situation. We are grateful to all our staff for their continued care for our property.

Thank you to JoAnne and Cindy in the office for their attention to details. I am in communication with them frequently. Thank you to Mike for working on our large property complex and keeping it looking great.

I have a serious topic with which I will close.. My term on your Board will expire in February 2013 at the annual meeting. I will not be seeking re-election. (No you can't persuade me to reconsider!) It is time for others to get involved. The Board will be asking for applications to be submitted in December. Please think about the quality of your life at LáSolana and decide if the time is right for you to give back.

Enjoy the rest of your summer until we meet again,  
Ann Ward, President, LáSolana Board of Directors



## Meet Your Neighbor

If you have encountered “Prince” and “Duke,” then you have likely met their owners who are Carolyn and Gary Welch from Building 2. This Maltese and Bichon pair are walked around LáSolana regularly when Carolyn and Gary are in residence. At times you might even see Gary attempting to untangle himself from their leashes wrapped around his legs. These twelve year old family members take priority over everything say Gary and Carolyn. They live the good life like their owners.

While spending the winter in SCG, Carolyn and Gary can reconnect with her 11-year old grandson who lives in Peoria with his parents. Carolyn also has a 14-year old granddaughter in Kansas.

Both grandchildren are offspring of her two sons. Gary, by contrast, has two daughters who have given him six grandchildren ranging in age from 14 to 22 with a mix of 4 boys and 2 girls. Spending time with them means going back to the Midwest.

When Carolyn and Gary are not at LáSolana, they are likely at home in Lenexa, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, Kansas. If they are not there they could be traveling. During their 30-year marriage their travel destinations have included multiple trips to Europe, Mexico, and Hawaii. They have even explored the pyramids of Egypt.

In addition to Gary and Carolyn’s love for travel, they enjoy entertaining. They host an annual Super Bowl party for friends here at LáSolana, and they belong to a neighborhood dinner club in Kansas. Gourmet food preparation is something Carolyn has always enjoyed in addition to being a professional wedding cake designer who was trained by Wilton’s in Chicago. With the support of Gary they had a commercial kitchen built in their home to operate this business after Carolyn retired from Sprint as an executive assistant to the executive vice president. For years before that she was a real estate broker while raising her children.

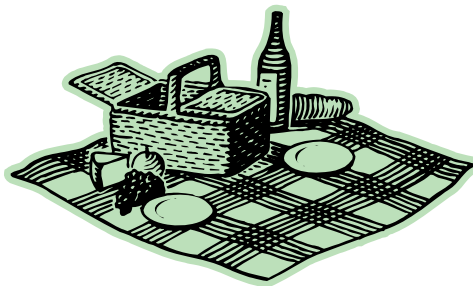
Gary’s background after graduating from the University of Kansas in Lawrence includes three years in the army stationed in Europe, a banking career including the presidency of a small bank coupled with service in the army reserves for 10 years, a stint in retail that is now Macy’s, and being Carolyn’s most reliable assistant in developing their successful wedding cake business.

Now, what do they do in their spare time: While in Arizona, Gary volunteers at the Kansas City Royal’s spring training games here in Surprise. He also does philanthropic work in both Arizona and in Kansas for an organization called AUSA that lends support to disabled veterans. Carolyn’s hobby is sewing using embroidery machines. She also takes classes in both locations. When asked, she also likes to assist others with their decorating needs.

When renting during the winter of 2007 in Building 1 they fell in love with some of the people they met at LáSolana and when they learned that their present unit in Building 2 was for sale they wasted no time in buying it. The Welch’s are enthusiastic about being part of the LáSolana community for part of each year. They think of LáSolana as a “healing touch,” a reward for all that they’ve done during the years preceding the present. If you haven’t met Gary and Carolyn or their furry friends, make a point to do so. The four of them are easily recognizable around LáSolana’s grounds during the winter months.



Earl Lindquist #2301



## Did You Know!

- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul Society will pick up items such as ironing boards, household appliances, linens, lamps, etc.. You can either call for pick-up at 623-583-7303 or drop off at 9728 W. Palmeras Dr., Sun City, AZ.
- ◆ Goodwill picks up larger items. They can be reached at 623-474-3550 or dropped off at 14063 W. Grand Ave, Surprise, AZ.
- ◆ All architectural changes, such as security doors, window coverings, awnings, etc. must be submitted for approval prior to installation.
- ◆ Contact information for contractors, plumbers, painters, handyman, etc...is available through the PORA office or the Clubhouse office.



## SCG Restaurants

- ◆ **Angela's at Grand Desert Springs Restaurant**  
19900 N. Remington, Surprise, AZ 85374  
623-399-6514  
11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Monday - Sunday
- ◆ **Coco's Bakery and Restaurant**  
15955 W. Clearview Blvd., Surprise, AZ 85374  
623-214-7776  
6:00 a.m.—9 p.m., Seven Days a Week
- ◆ **Grand Café**  
(Inside the Chaparral Center)  
623-546-7512  
7:00 a.m. —7:00 p.m., Monday — Sunday
- ◆ **The Bistro at the Colonnade**  
19116 Colonnade Way, Surprise, AZ 85374  
623-236-3700  
Breakfast 7:30-10:30 am; Lunch 11:00-4 pm;  
Dinner 7 pm M — F only. No Holidays.

### REMINDER!



A Banana Split Social will be held on Wednesday, August 22nd at 1:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse. If you haven't signed up yet, please do so in the Clubhouse Activities Book. Everything will be furnished.

All residents are invited. Come and enjoy the fun!

## Board's Eye View

To have YOUR question answered, please send an email to [board@lasolanahoa.com](mailto:board@lasolanahoa.com), or drop it in our separate condo mailbox located just to the left inside the Mailroom (must be **signed**), or attend a **Chat with the Board** next season. The LáSolana Board or Directors look forward to addressing your question in future newsletters.

**Question:** I found an ironing board in the trash compactor. I've also heard that items removed during the remodeling of units have been put in there, too. I don't want to pay for the irresponsibility of others. Where can such large items be discarded? Neither our staff nor Surprise's Chamber of Commerce could give me an answer. Perhaps clarification to all residents would help stop the problem.

**Answer:** Small household items can be taken to thrift shops in Sun City, Sun City West or to the Goodwill Store, or the Salvation Army will pick up items. (The Goodwill on Grand Avenue will not accept old appliances but the one in Sun City will.) Renovation waste materials must be removed by the contractor or if the homeowner is doing the remodeling, then you are responsible to take the debris to the dump.

**Question:** We are planning on renting the clubhouse for a private party. One of the attendees has a karaoke machine and we think it would be fun to use it pool-side. Why isn't that possible?

**Answer:** The Board recently updated the Rental Contract to clarify that your rental is for the Clubhouse itself. You may use the outside grill area. While you're welcome to have music at your gathering, it must be kept inside the Clubhouse. Because many of our units are so close to the pool and not everyone likes the same music, outdoor music is only allowed at Board sanctioned gatherings to which all residents are invited.

**Question:** My wife & I are excited about our recent purchase of a unit here at LáSolana. Everyone has been very friendly and helpful, especially JoAnne and Cindy. However, we were wondering if there was some sort of local Welcome Wagon service we could avail ourselves of.

**Answer:** Welcome! And, yes, there is. Last year our Communication Committee felt it would be helpful to newcomers--renters as well as owners--to gather together to get acquainted and learn more about their new community. The Newcomers' Fireside Welcomes were such a success that they will be offered several times during this up-coming season. Light refreshments will be served. You will learn more about LáSolana, as well as what's available in the Phoenix area--such as museums, shows, games, day trips, etc. By attending, you will have familiar friendly faces to look for at LáSolana's activities. Look for the notices of the Welcome on the Bulletin Board, in the mail room, and on the desk in the clubhouse next season.

**Question:** We've rented out our unit for many years so have never attended a LáSolana event. In March, we were invited to a fireside gathering specifically for non-resident owners. We had such a *grand* time and want to thank you! Is this going to be an annual thing?

**Answer:** We're planning on it! Glad you enjoyed it. It was fun and informative for us as well. Please encourage your tenants to attend the fireside welcome for new residents, too.

### Lemonade Cheesecake *Creamy, light, and oh so easy!*

- 1- 8 oz. package cream cheese (low-fat or fat free)
- 1 tsp. Crystal Light lemonade drink mix
- 1/4 cup low-fat or fat free milk
- 1-8 oz. tub Cool Whip Free Whipped Topping (or low-fat), thawed
- 1 ready-to-use reduced-fat graham cracker crumb crust



Beat cream cheese and drink mix in large bowl with mixer until well-blended. Gradually add milk, mixing until well-blended. Stir in Cool Whip; spoon into crust. Refrigerate four hours or until firm. Serves 8. *Garnish with fresh strawberries/blueberries and aerosol whipped cream, if desired.*

*Thanks, Deannie Price for sharing this recipe.*

## Meet LáSolana's Office Staff

Not everyone looks forward to going to work every day but JoAnne Wentzloff, LáSolana's Clubhouse Manager, says that she is one of those lucky people. JoAnne has held this position since 2004 following an interesting career history since marrying Jim Wentzloff in Michigan in 1964. Because of his employment in the airline industry with multiple transfers in the Midwest, JoAnne experienced a similar change of positions as she followed him from state to state. During this time she built her repertoire of administrative and public relations skills that benefit LáSolana residents on a daily basis.



Some LáSolana residents are aware that our community was once known as the Village at Sun City Grand. While waiting for Del Webb to finish JoAnne and Jim's retirement home in Sun City Grand, they actually lived in Building #4. This fact combined with her years of tenure in the LáSolana office has made her a walking encyclopedia on which our residents and Board of Directors have relied for a variety of information.

When asked about her life in Arizona, JoAnne's reply was reduced to two words, "Love it." This reference is not only about her work at LáSolana, but the summer heat, and the fact that most of her immediate family lives in the valley—a daughter, a son and his wife, and granddaughter. Another granddaughter is attending Lewis University in Illinois.

When JoAnne is not in the LáSolana Clubhouse she might be reading, sewing, or playing cards. In the past, she has directed activities at the Altera Alzheimer's Center and hopes to do so again upon full retirement, and as often as time permits she can be found at Sun City Grand's Cimarron Center working out so she can once again golf following knee surgery in March.

Although JoAnne is not ready to retire, she and Jim are looking forward to using those airline passes that Jim earned from his years employed by United Airlines. Indeed, LáSolana residents are fortunate to have JoAnne employed in our clubhouse because her concern for residents, her knowledge, and her administrative skills have made LáSolana a truly special neighborhood within Sun City Grand.



Upon their return this fall, LáSolana's snowbirds will meet Cindy Duffy who was hired to replace Judy Goulbourne when Judy retired from LáSolana Clubhouse administrative position this past spring. The resume that Cindy submitted for employment at LáSolana reveals that her past work experiences have allowed her to develop a variety of skills needed for her position in the clubhouse. Accounting, resolution management skills, logistics manager and purchasing are among the litany of experiences she has had at Kraft Foods Inc. in Battle Creek, Michigan, for more than twenty years.

This year Cindy and her husband, Tim, permanently moved to Sun City Grand from Michigan after six years of snow-birding. They have two sons, their wives, and five grandchildren ranging in age from four to thirteen .

This is the first summer they've spent in the valley, and Cindy described this learning experience as "Desert Survival 101." When you see her or meet her do ask her if she passed this introductory class that is a prerequisite for the summer of 2013. Let's hope so.

Although she missed the summer breezes at Gun Lake south of Grand Rapids, Michigan, this summer, both she and her husband are re-modeling their home and have adopted a rescue dog, named Kayley, an Irish Wolfhound. They already have a Standard Schnauzer, Cody. Being a pet lover, she is also a member of the Pet Club. She is currently secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary Military Oder of the Purple Heart and will attend the National convention here in Arizona in September. Hopefully, Cindy and her husband will find enough time for golf and all the other activities that make living in Sun City Grand grand! When you meet her make a point of welcoming her to LáSolana.

Earl Lindquist

## 2012 Surprise HOA Academy

Registration is now open for the very popular Surprise HOA Academy.

**Class Dates:** Monday, October 15

Monday, October 22

Monday, October 29

Monday, November 5

Tuesday, November 13

**Time:** 6 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Public Safety Building

14250 W. Statler Plaza

Surprise, AZ 85374



You may register online under the Community and Economic Development Neighborhood Services “Surprise University” link, or contact Ruby Sitea at 623-222-3242.

The goal of the Academy is to provide expert information for west valley HOA board members, management company staff, and homeowners. Topics range from contracts and budgeting to CC&R enforcement and code compliance.

Applications are due by 6 p.m., September 27, 2012.

## Board Of Directors

If you are interesting in serving on the Board of Directors, or have questions regarding serving on the Board, we encourage you to contact Brad Schaffer at City Property Management at 602—437—4777, ext. 164. Any home owner in good standing is eligible to be a candidate. Two terms on the Board will expire in February 2013.

The Board will be asking for applications to be submitted in December. Please think of the importance of giving back to your community. Your help is needed!



## Thank You Faye

LáSolana is lucky to have such dedicated volunteers. Faye Schulthies #4101 falls into this category. She has provided numerous hours to see that our Library is organized during the summer months.

Her willingness to give of her time is greatly appreciated. Thanks Faye for doing such a fantastic job.

