

LáSolana Living

March 2014

Notes from the Board

I wish to thank Marcia for her unending commitment to our community as Vice-President and President her final year on the Board. She has been a pleasure to work for and an outstanding mentor for me during my first year on the board. We have talked and texted MANY times this year about many property related subjects and she has always had suggestions or solutions for me.

I also served as the "point person" to JoAnne, Cindy and Mike. They all now have a voice to the board and our community. Their input to me this last year has been invaluable and has helped facilitate many positive changes. I look forward to continuing as their point person this year.

I want to take a moment to recognize our newly elected board members. Duey Kerper has been elected to serve as our secretary. I welcome two new members, Don Allen as Vice-President and Deannie Price as our member at large respectfully. I look forward to working with them and our beloved treasurer, Ken Marks. I can't continue without acknowledging all of the support that this and past boards have received from our Community Manager, Brad Schaeffer. He is another key asset to keeping La Solana as marvelous as it is.

Our February 11th board meeting provided us with input from Harry from CareScape with his plans for improving the irrigation system serving the courtyard in each building. The Board walked these areas with Harry on the 18th and is currently considering the bid and our various options.

The board passed a motion to install a lollipop light by the sidewalk behind the mailroom and clubhouse. You should "see" that happening very soon.

On February 26th, we all gathered for a wonderful night of fun and entertainment at our Annual 50's/60's Party. We had over 150 people in attendance. Thank you to all who participated and helped pull off such a fabulous evening. Well done!

We have received two lounges and 2 more chairs for the pool area. Four new replacement large tables and 2 new small tables are in route as you read this.

I had my first official Chat with the Board on February 27th. We had 2 members from the Surprise Fire department make a presentation. They covered two very important topics:

- **Lock Box.** They recommend that owners purchase a 'lock box' which on the exterior of our unit beside the door. We place a key to our unit along with emergency contact information inside the box, and then it's locked by the Fire Department. In the event of a 911 emergency, if the occupant is unable to come to the door, the Fire Department can easily gain access by using the key in the lock box. Otherwise they would have to break the door down to get in. The boxes are only accessible to the Fire Department when they respond to an emergency. Each time we call 911 a fire truck responds with at least 2 certified paramedics on the truck. An ambulance is really only used for transport if necessary. There is a one time charge of \$50 to purchase a box and have it installed by them.
- **Smoke detectors.** Fema states that the life expectancy of a smoke detector is usually 10 years. They can start to lose effectiveness beyond that time frame. The newer smoke detectors have an easy access battery compartment. So, consider having yours replaced.

For more information on either of these topics, you can go to www.surpriseaz.gov and google in the topic at the top of the page.

I appreciate the support that all of you here in LáSolana have given me this past year; The board has accomplished many things this past year and I look forward to keeping our community the Grand, resort style, home that it is.

Dave Kearney
Board President

Meet Your Neighbor

Arizona Republic's news columnist, E.J. Montini, recently defined 'home' as "the place where you and your family find comfort, and support, and love..." Canadians, Michael and Suzanne Radi feel that way about their Arizona life at LaSolana in Building 7 as it reminds them of the desert type life they also enjoy in British Columbia, Canada. Although not as hot as the Southwest Sonoran Desert they experience here, they are reminded of 'home' in Penticton located in the Okanagan Valley approximately 250 miles east northeast of Vancouver. After first visiting friends in Sun City Grand who introduced them to the LaSolana property during the winter of 2006-7, they decided to rent units in Buildings 7 and 5 during the subsequent two winters. After spending the next winter in Lake Havasu, they were satisfied that LaSolana was the place to



Suzanne & Mike Radi

be and they bought their first unit in Building 7 sight unseen. When Nancy Solla, long time resident, decided it was time for her to sell her unit in the same building this winter, Mike and Suzanne took advantage of the opportunity. They love the people in the LaSolana community and the amenities of Sun City Grand during their winter stay. LaSolana is definitely 'home' while they are here.

Among Mike and Suzanne's interests that they share are swimming and the Arizona sunshine, socializing with their many friends, attending theater events and a variety of restaurants, travel adventures, reading murder mysteries in particular, and sports such as pickle ball, bocce ball and golf to which Suzanne admits to a love/hate relationship. Not so, with Mike's passion for skiing in his younger days. When asked about any special interests she might have in food preparations she responded by saying Mike does the cooking and she helps by cleaning up, and that's the way it's been for 27 years during a second marriage for each of them. Mike said he really likes to cook and since he got home from work at least an hour before she did it was the perfect arrangement even though she worked in the pub and catering business.

As Canadian citizens, Mike and Suzanne have traveled to Cuba, a destination few U.S. citizens have been permitted to visit in more than a half century. Besides extensive U.S. travel, they have also visited Costa Rica, Spain, Hungary, and the British Isles. Suzanne whose father was in the British Royal Air Force traveled extensively with her family after being born in Chester, England. During her youth she experienced life in Singapore, North Africa, Malta, Egypt, and Cyprus, all sites to which her father was assigned. Upon returning to England, she and her first husband raised three sons who continue to live in England. They and their spouses have provided Suzanne and Mike with seven grandchildren that they don't get to see as often as they would like. However, they are thankful that they can communicate as often as they do through Skype. They would welcome a visit in either of their 'homes' from any of them.

Mike, by contrast, was born in southern Alberta to parents who immigrated from Hungary to Canada with one older sister. When Mike was fifteen years old his family moved to British Columbia where he later married his first wife and raised three children, one son and two daughters. In 1956 he joined the Canadian Public Service as a Customs and Immigration Officer at the border Port of Osoyoos, B.C. opposite Oroville, Washington. In 1987 Mike retired with 32 years of service. Being community service minded, he also served three years as an Alderman and three years as the Mayor of Osoyoos. Then, in 1991, Suzanne and Mike moved to Penticton, B.C. where he served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Elks Lodge for ten years and where they could be closer to family members.

Both Suzanne and Mike have found much joy in dividing their time between their northern and southern desert 'homes' and are now looking forward to a March visit to Arizona by his son and daughter-in-law before Mike and Suzanne return to Canada in April. For sure, their 'homes' are places of comfort, support, and love.

Earl Lindquist #2301

Board's Eye View

To have **YOUR** question answered, please send an email to 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 monthly *Chat with the Board* during the season. The LáSolana Board of Directors look forward to addressing your questions in the future.

Question: What is being done about the security of our bikes?

Answer: *The Bike Committee is actively investigating a couple of solutions to prevent further theft of bikes and/their parts. You will be notified in upcoming board meetings.*

Question: Who do I contact about any problems on our property involving buildings, the pool, landscaping, water leaks etc.?

Answer: *Always call CITY PROPERTY @623-437-4777. They have a system in place to handle those situations.*

Question: The clubhouse looks different to me? Has some of the furniture been replaced?

Answer: *It's the same furniture we've always had, and the good news is that no money has been spent! The existing furniture has been rearranged to give it a fresh look, and also to make it more accommodating. As an example, the two chairs right inside the front door allow you to wait in comfort as you watch for your ride.*

Question: Will there be a Newsletter in April or is March's the last of the season?

Answer: *This will be our last Newsletter, period, unless one of our talented residents volunteers to be the Editor. Deannie Price, who has served as Editor for 3 years, has been elected to our Board of Directors for a 3-year term so a new editor is NEEDED to continue.*

Upcoming March Social Events

Arts & Craft Show - Thursday, March 6, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Arizona Opry - March 14, bus leaves at 4:30 p.m.

Caribbean Night Pool Party - Wednesday, March 26, 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Dates!

Architectural Meeting - Tuesday, March 11, 9:00 a.m.

Board Meeting - Tuesday, March 18, 10:00 a.m.

Non-Resident Owner Meeting - Tuesday, March 18, 7:00 p.m.

Chat with the Board - Thursday, March 27, 7:00 p.m.

"Take care of your thoughts when you are alone, and take care of your words when you are with people."

Author Unknown



Newsletter Editor urgently needed!

You can join the great LaSolana volunteer team by becoming the Newsletter Editor. It's an easy and fun job, and a good way to get better acquainted here in our community! A group of people contribute articles each month, which really helps the Editor. Our wonderful office staff does all of the hard work like putting everything in the proper format, publishing and emailing or printing the newsletter for everyone to enjoy.

This will be the final newsletter until we find a new Editor. Let's keep it going!

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