

# LáSolana Living

An Official Publication of LáSolana Condominiums

March Issue

## Notes from the Board Meeting February 14, 2012

**Russ Anderson** shared a bicycle safety idea at the start of our meeting. Please refer to his Block Watch article in this edition of the newsletter.

**Pool:** Ray, from Pirate Pool Services, our pool contractor, explained the quotes which have been received for the pool and pool decking. The non-skid 1x1 tile at the entry of the pool and waterline tiles will remain. They will be cleaned by bead blasting and then the joints will be regouted. The Board agreed that the pool will be replastered this year with "white pebble sheen", a very durable product (over \$17,000). The pool deck area will be power washed. Any hairline cracks will be fixed. The decking will be painted with two colors to depict the restricted four foot area and then a top coat and sealer product will be applied. The shower stall will be refloated, textured and painted (\$4240). We will notify all residents of the timelines for this work as soon as it has been scheduled. These expenses will come from our reserve fund. The quote to replace the grassy area at the pool with concrete and deck finishing was not considered due to the unknown costs to repair or replace the trash compactor.

**Landscape:** Mike, from ProQual Landscaping, discussed the long range plan and associated quotes which had been submitted. We learned that the sprinkler system in the grassed areas is sound; however, the irrigation system (inside and outside our buildings and on the rest of the property) is deteriorating. Typically the "poly" tubing lasts 10 years and we are well past that. ProQual has proposed that we look at replacing the irrigation system over the next 4 years (approx. \$12,000 per year). They have also suggested that we look at upgrading the watering control system on the entire property from a manual one to an internet based "smart" controller technology (over \$8,000). The watering settings could be modified remotely by ProQual. The Board is interested in reducing water consumption. We received a quote to start to replace some of the plantings every second year. ProQual has suggested that 200 - five gallon flowering shrubs should be distributed throughout the property in 2012 (\$5,796). To clarify the landscape requirements for LáSolana, the Board's next step will be for Brad, Ken and 1 other board member to meet with ProQual to discuss all the details written in our existing contract.

**Architectural Report:** The Board was asked to consider the standard "teal" color for the patio umbrella's rule. The teal color is no longer readily available in a 7' umbrella. The Board approved "tan" as a second color for patio umbrellas.

**Smoking issue:** We received input from 95 owners regarding the 4 suggestions on the smoking issue at LáSolana. Thank you for sharing your opinions with us. The information revealed that a strong majority wanted no change. This majority response outnumbered the other three options added together. The Board voted 4 to 1 in favor of continuing with our designated smoking area at the pool. The Arizona Smoke Free Act governs the rest of the property. Note: no smoking is allowed in the Clubhouse or in the Building hallways, stairwells or elevators. Smoking is allowed inside individual units and on patios.

Ann Ward, President, LaSolana Board of Directors

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## Meet Your Neighbor

Just about everybody has heard of Tupperware, but do you know which LáSolana couple partnered and managed to turn this product line into a very successful business for over 30 years? They are Cornhuskers by birth and have lived in Omaha, NE for the past 28 years where their three sons, their wives, and four granddaughters also live. If you answered “Bob and Deannie Price in Building 6”, you’re right.

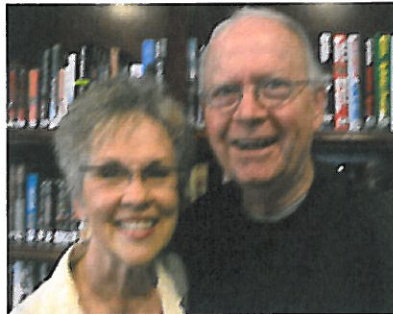
These “Big Red Fans” were born in outstate Nebraska and met at McCook Junior College where Bob played football and Deannie was a cheerleader. In May of 2012 they are looking forward to celebrating 50 years of marriage involving multiple moves among towns in Nebraska; Cheyenne, Wyoming; Denver, Colorado; Calgary, Canada; and even Mumbai (Bombay), India where they established a number of Tupperware franchises. Indeed, 50 years together is a special milestone! Their family and friends at LáSolana and elsewhere wish them many more years of good health and love for each other, their family, and friends.

After retiring from Tupperware, both Bob and Deannie were very involved for several years with their 3500 member community church as volunteer coordinators, connecting volunteers to serve in many places in the community such as working with inner city kids, prison ministries, home repair for the elderly, mentoring teen moms and making meals for the Ronald McDonald House. Bob was also in charge of the Career Center which provided free career counseling and job connections for those who were unemployed.

Currently Deannie is involved in Assistance League, a women’s organization that identifies needs in the community and finds solutions for them. This past year they provided new school clothes and winter coats for over 3000 needy children as one of their projects called “School Bell.” In addition, both Bob and Deannie have been on church mission trips to Mali, West Africa in 2005 and China in 2007.

Now you may ask, “What does this couple like to do in their spare time?” According to Deannie, who just volunteered to edit the LaSolana newsletter; Bob, if he could, would play or watch any kind of sports. Unfortunately, at the moment, he needs to rise to the challenges of Parkinson’s Disease in addition to issues from back surgery. As for Deannie, when she can, she likes to read, dabble in water color art, listen to music, gourmet cook and connect with family and friends on the computer. Probably, most of all, they both enjoy socializing with both long time and new friends — when at home in Nebraska, through travel, especially with those they have made at LáSolana. Their positive attitude about life is a magnet for all who encounter them.

Earl Lindquist, #2301



## Non-Resident Owners Fireside Social

The LáSolana Communications Committee is offering monthly Fireside Welcomes for new renters and owners this season. Our goal has been to help make newcomers feel at home here and the gatherings have been full of laughter and very successful.

We would like to bring this full circle and invite you to the first annual Social for NON-RESIDENT owners on Tuesday evening at 7 p.m., March 27th.

If you live in the area, please plan on coming. Decaf coffee and cookies will be served. We look forward to seeing you then!



## 2011 Survey Results

Thanks to the many homeowners who responded to the 2011 opinion survey. The Board appreciates the many complimentary comments that were noted. Many of the other suggestions have already been addressed e.g. pool hours for kids, speed limits, week-end hours for clubhouse.

Some of the other comments were:

Why do renters have to pay \$125 fee to use SCG facilities?

**This is an administrative charge for transfer of use rights from owner to renter.**

Why do we pay for landscaping when SCG's included in annual fee?

**SCG owners pay for all of their own landscaping. Only the common areas are covered by the fee. Our agreement with SCG does not cover LaSolana common areas thus we pay for it.**

We need to connect the road behind building #4.

**There is no possible way to do this because we do not own the necessary land.**

We need more chairs at pool.

**This has been taken under advisement by the Board.**

The trash area smells bad.

**We are in the process of getting bids to fix or replace the dumpster.**

## Mike's Corner

There is a big difference between a dumpster and a trash compactor. An open-air dumpster will fill up very quickly, where a trash compactor holds 5 tons of trash. Our LáSolana compactor is in need of major repair, and work is being done to determine how extensive it is. A new compactor would cost over \$22,000.

Do not place any remodeling debris such as carpet, bath fixtures, tile, etc. in the compactor. These items wear the compactor out. In addition, we are charged by weight, and when it is overweight, we are assessed an extra charge.

Please, do NOT throw your bags of trash over the top of the wall, hoping that they land in the compactor. That makes much unnecessary work as bags can break open on impact, splattering garbage everywhere. As you leave, be sure to CLOSE THE DOOR. It does not close automatically.

Do not place paper recyclables in the compactor. The recycle bin is for paper only, such as newspapers, magazines, and flattened cardboard. Boxes must be broken down and flattened to save space. Do not place items on top of the lid. Other recyclables may be taken to the recycle bins next to the Fire Station on Reems.

## Block Watch

Two bicycles were stolen last week from buildings 2 and 6. The bikes were cable locked to the bike racks but the cables were cut.

The police would have a better chance of recovering stolen bikes if you would do the following:

1. Take a couple of photos of your bike.
2. Flip the bike over and locate the serial number on the bottom side of the crank housing.
3. Write the serial number on the back of the photo.

Report thefts to the Surprise Police Department at (623) 222-4000. Also, call Russ Anderson, Block Watch Coordinator at (623) 583-8604.



## MEETING DATES

**Chat with the Board**  
**March 15 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**2012 Board Meetings**  
**March 20 - 10:00 a.m.**  
**April 17 - 10:00 a.m.**



## Thank You!

*A big thank you to Polly Schroedel, Unit 4108 for the hours of assistance she provided the office staff in proofing and copying the 2012 Community Directory. Your help was very much appreciated.*



## SCG Neighborhood Representative Report

Regularly reading the Sun City Grand Times monthly magazine is a great way to keep up on SCG happenings. There are always copies available at the Chaparral Center and by the activities desk in the Sonoran Plaza. At the beginning of the month there are usually some copies in the LáSolana Clubhouse. Another source is Channel 22.

Another way to keep up with SCG news is to place yourself on the SCG Executive Director's E-mail distribution list. You may make this request by sending an E-mail to mitzi.mills@scgam.com or phoning her office at 623-546-7473.

At the last meeting of neighborhood representatives on February 3, Gina Worch, Activities Director, reminded representatives of the following:

1. The next garage sale is on April 14 beginning at 7:00 a.m. There were still a few spaces left, but 100 have all ready been sold.
2. The annual Spring Art & Craft Fair is set for March 17 beginning at 9:00 a.m. There will be over 90 vendors.
3. Soon, the library in the Sonoran Plaza will be offering large print books and audio books for your enjoyment.

Other reporting that may be of interest to LáSolana residents are as follows:

1. On the second and fourth Friday's of the month the Banner volunteers arrive at the Adobe Fitness Center to give free blood pressure checks. Just stop by between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. for your reading.
2. Adobe Fitness Center's Spring Break Children's Hours start on February 25 and will run through Sunday, April 15. The hours will be 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. for the outdoor leisure pool. There will be no indoor pool hours during this time period for children. Regular children's hours resume Monday, April 16.
3. Negotiating terms with a new tenant for the Desert Springs Restaurant, previously occupied by Dillon's remains unsettled so the process continues.
4. About the end of April, Birt's Café at the Chaparral Center will close. The association may then operate the site, but no decision has yet been made.

This article is submitted by Earl Lindquist, Alternate Neighborhood Representative for LáSolana, and only highlights some of the discussion that occurred at the February meeting. Reading the Sun City Grand Times or signing up to receive Mitzi Mill's E-mail blasts will give LáSolana residents a more complete picture of happenings in Sun City Grand.