

LáSolana Living

March Newsletter

LáSolana at Sun City Grand

Mailing Address:
14950 W. Mountain View
Surprise, AZ 85374

Phone/Fax:
Phone: 623-214-5532
Fax: 623-214-8832

Board of Directors
board@lasolanahoa.com

President

Marcia Sbrega
Vice President

Ken Marks
Treasurer

Duey Kerper
Secretary

Member at Large



City Property Management

Mailing Address:
4645 E. Cotton Gin Loop
Phoenix, AZ 85040

Phone/Fax:
Phone: 602-437-4777
Fax: 602-437-4770

Community Manager
Brad Schaeffer, Ext. 164
bschaeffer@cityproperty.com

Association Coordinator
Kelly Kochenash, Ext. 159
kkochenash@cityproperty.com

Association Accountant
Bill Hoffman, Ext. 219
bhoffman@cityproperty.com

Notes From the Board February 12, 2013

We experienced a marathon meeting as much discussion occurred and the agenda was a lengthy one. "My "fanny" was numb by the time we adjourned.

Harry Graham, from our landscape company, opened our meeting with an update on their work. He explained the treatment schedules for the turf, granite and flowers on our property and he discussed the process to eradicate the weeds areas.

Ken Marks presented the financials for Dec.31/12 and Jan. 3/13. Both were approved.

We owe a huge thank you to Barbara Magnusson and Earl Lindquist for their service as the LáSolana's Neighborhood Rep. at the Sun City Grand reps meetings held the first Friday each month. Both representatives have submitted their resignations and your community needs one or two people to fill the void. This is your opportunity to help LáSolana. Earl has graciously agreed to remain until a volunteer comes forward.

Jack Mumford was appointed to the Communications Committee as Earl Lindquist has stepped down. Thank you Earl for your involvement and we look forward to your continuing to write the "meet your neighbor" column in our newsletters.

Patricia Wagner and Suzanne Radi were appointed to the Architectural Review Committee. Trish Carter-Diers, Annette Bergen and Barbara Magnusson had indicated their desire to resign from this Committee. They have served your community well for several years and have done an excellent job. Russ Anderson graciously served as the Board liaison to this committee. A big thank you to all former committee members. The new Board liaison will be appointed in March.

Mike Donovan discussed the various options for bulb replacements for our flood lights. The Board agreed to have the floods replaced to CFL lights as needed.

The Board passed the Communications Committee's Mission statement for the LáSolana website and we are looking forward to a new user friendly product by April 15.

Now that the proximity card access system is up and running, several clarifications of policy were required. The metal security door in the bathroom hallway will be closed by staff at 4:30 pm; coffee will be available in the clubhouse when the staff is on site; and a "learning curve" information document for circulation to residents was approved by a vote of 3-2. Russ Anderson read a statement describing the time lines involved in providing our residents access to the clubhouse.

The Board approved the purchase of 20 folding chairs as requested by the Social Committee at a cost of \$14.99 plus tax.

Ken Marks will be giving the RDA company updated figures for 2012 expenditures and upcoming costs. A motion was approved for \$940 for this work.

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Notes From the Board February 12, 2013 (cont'd)

I shared with the residents that I was thrilled to sign the Health Easement Agreement on their behalf and that the Board was pleased with the final result. We believe Sun Health will start construction of the wall along the "new" fence line soon.

The Board started the review of a consultant's bid for replacement of the irrigation system. Much more information needs to be considered before any action is taken.

Ken Marks discussed the elevator modernization bid and the financial implications as it relates to our reserve study. By moving one building forward to 2013 from the 2017 projected date in the reserve study, there will be an accelerated contribution required in 2014 from the owners. Many ideas were presented and will be considered before voting on this item in March.

I have some closing remarks to make. On behalf of the Board, a big thank you is owed to everyone at LaSolana for their support and partnership over the past 3 years. It takes numerous volunteers to create the wonderful community in which we live. You are so appreciated. JoAnne, Mike and Cindy are exceptional and it has been a pleasure working closely with that team. Thank goodness for Brad, our community manager, who has been such a valuable resource for the Board and especially in my work, as President. You are a great manager and a vital part of LaSolana's success.

"The Board Team": Russ, you have made a difference by spearheading the Chat with the Board" and facilitating the clubhouse open on weekends volunteer list. You continue to provide excellent service as our "Neighborhood Watch" rep. Duey, you have invested many hours on several projects. I commend you for your efforts with Bolt Security in finalizing the quotes and installation negotiations with Brian for our clubhouse access system. Your business and IT expertise will serve this community well. Marcia, it has been a pleasure working closely with you on many issues. I must recognize the numerous hours you spent with the Communications Committee and assisting in the details required to have the proximity card system up and running. You have a great ability to analyze a situation and propose solutions. Congratulations on being our new President. Ken and I started our journey on the Board together in 2010. We spent many, many hours discussing the items which needed to be reviewed, setting priorities and having the Board take action. Ken, you will always be my \$\$\$\$ and sense man. I appreciate all the phone calls, the Skype time, the emails galore and your verbal support. You are unique and LaSolana is blessed to have you holding the purse strings. I would like to recognize my family, especially George, for his loving support. I couldn't have done the job without you. My sincere thanks goes to each of you.

Ann Ward,
Past President, LaSolana Board of Directors

Happy 
St. Patrick's Day

2013-14 Board of Directors

We are indebted to Ann Ward & Russ Anderson, whose terms expired at the Annual Meeting. Ann's leadership & Russ's contributions were extraordinary!

Congratulations & Welcome to our two new Board members, Dave Kearney and Terri Nagler.

You can contact the new Board at board@lasolanahoa.com



Board of Directors

President...Marcia Durell Sbrega
Vice President...Dave Kearney
Treasurer...Ken Marks
Secretary...Duey Kerper
Member-At-Large...Terri Nagler

Clubhouse Weekend Opening

The process of getting OUR clubhouse open on weekends and for extended hours every day has been an eight year journey for myself and fellow LaSolana residents who supported this concept. It was Ross Bowman who first suggested a "swipe" card entry access system for our clubhouse several years ago. The final impetus for our clubhouse access system regarding the contract for this installation was the dedicated planning by Marcia Sbrega and Duey Kerper.

So, eight years later your clubhouse is open. Enjoy!

Russ Anderson, Unit 2112



"It was Ross Bowman who first suggested a "swipe" card entry access system for our clubhouse several years ago."

THANK YOU to our WONDERFUL STAFF

**JoAnne, Mike, & Cindy always have our best interests in mind.
They think outside the box to find innovative ways
of doing things to save us time & money,
often adding compassion to the mix.**

**With the new card access system, their dedication was really tested but
they came through with shining colors and smiles on their faces!**

Mike's Corner

Prior to vacating your condominium for any length of time, we recommend the following:

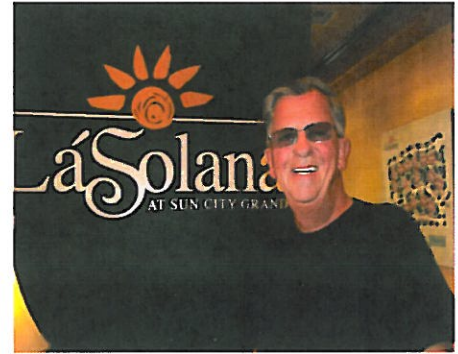
1. Set the thermostat to 85/90 degrees and leave A/C on.
2. Shut off water valves inside closet (1/4 turn crosswise to pipe is off).
3. Shut off hot water electric in panel at breaker box.
4. Place 2-3 gallon bucket of water in each room.
5. Empty ice from bin and lift arm up on ice maker.
6. Close all windows, blinds and drapes.
7. Make sure that all appliances, etc. are unplugged.
8. Remove disposable food from refrigerator and freezer
9. Leave a bowl of baking soda in refrigerator and freezer.
10. Place saran wrap over toilet seat to prevent water from evaporating.
11. Leave an emergency contact phone number and address with the office.
12. Make arrangements (if possible) with a friend or relative to occasionally check on your unit monthly.
13. Birds nest May/June. Please remove any nests from patio, as needed.
14. Bring inside any decorations, mats or tables in front door entrance.
15. Remove bikes from bike rack and store in unit.



Meet Your Neighbors

This month's LáSolana newsletter features our two newly elected LáSolana Board members. Our good fortune is that they are both full time residents who stepped up to the plate when nominations were sought for a term commitment of three years. Both provided our electorate with their qualifications prior to the election, and they have personal stories that residents should find interesting as both are relatively new to the LáSolana community and have had limited opportunities to share them until now.

A brother with a family in Glendale was the motivation **Dave Kearney** needed to move to Arizona in 2011. After retiring from a management position with Nordstrom Department Store's shoe department in Norfolk, Virginia, he sold his house, packed his belongings in search of "his paradise" not far from his brother's family. As soon as Dave found LaSolana he did not need to look further. Friends he has made since buying his unit in Building 4 are to quote him "like an extended family."



Dave Kearney

Dave was born and raised in Dover, New Jersey. While attending Bernards Public School he met up with the likes of Meryl Streep with whom he performed in the musical "Music Man" and also John (Jay) Geils who later led the best white American Blues Band of all time known as *J Geils*.

During high school he also got his start in the shoe business. Following graduation he spent four years in the military, stationed in Thailand, California, and Virginia.

A connection with New Jersey still exists as the son he had with his first wife and a grandson still live there. Dave's second wife, now deceased, whom he married in 1993 gave him a step-daughter and son-in-law and two grandchildren who live in Virginia. They are looking forward to visiting in Arizona soon, but not in August. That's when Dave expects to escape the summer heat here for a few weeks in Gold Beach, Oregon, as he did last summer with his brothers family.

As engaged in activity as Dave has become since arriving in Arizona, it's hard to believe that he has experienced, at times, crippling rheumatoid arthritis. Besides his activity on LáSolana's Social Committee, he's a season ticket holder of NAS-CAR, has attended more than two dozen auto shows while living here, and now wants to join the Sun City Grand Photography Club. He's also been a good neighbor to others in need.

Dave is very proud of his association with Nordstrom and it's obvious that in his relationship with others he embodies the culture of Nordstrom. That bodes well for the LaSolana Board and all of us.



Terri Nagler & Robert Mont

Having had previous exposure to life in Arizona, Terri Nagler sweet talked Robert Mont, her partner of 14 years, into moving from Chicago to Scottsdale following her retirement. So, last year they packed up their belongings and rented a condo in Scottsdale, not far from where Terri visited her parents over the years when they wintered there. Terri and Robert's stay in Scottsdale was brief once they discovered the LáSolana neighborhood and the unique unit they purchased in Building 2. And, besides, they wanted a community like Sun City Grand where they could explore their wide variety of interests amidst a sea of organized activities as well as use their professional talents.

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Meet Your Neighbors (cont'd)

It didn't take long for Terri to respond to LáSolana's need for two new board members. With encouragement from Robert and others, she gave consideration to her candidacy because of her business background and a previous association with a condominium HOA. Raised in Chicago, her schooling led to a long career in the business sector with a focus directed toward both accounting and administration. Knowledge and organizational skills developed in these capacities should assist Terri in her work with the LáSolana board.

Terri's business career spans more than 20 years in LA preceded by years in Chicago and years afterwards when she returned, drawn by family ties including extended family and her son who continues to reside there. It was, however, in the Los Angeles area where she met Robert, a Brooklyn New Yorker by birth. He has pursued a lifetime career in show business from NYC to LA that has included stage acting, directing, and producing. To keep food on the table at times, he owned a taxi, worked in food and beverage as a waiter, and restaurant manager. While in LA, Robert's TV credits include work on "NYPD Blue," "ER" as well as "Buffy, The Vampire Slayer,"

Both Robert and Terri have joined the Sun City Grand Drama Club so don't be surprised to see Robert perform in one of the future club productions. Meanwhile, Terri is exploring contributions she can make in wardrobe, make-up, or ushering. Both share a love for each other, theater, and movies, but they can also march to their own drum beats. For example, Robert is passionate about Sun City Grand's Poker Club and Texas Hold 'em. If he plays that game like he predicts Oscar winners, challengers should be cautious. In contrast, Terri's passions are directed at a variety of self improvement activities, both physical and intellectual and she knows Sun City Grand is just the right place to maintain and develop these.

Earl Lindquist, #2301

Blockwatch



Credit Card Reminder - Law enforcement agencies always recommend that when shopping online you pay by Credit Card NOT Debit Card.

Online Credit Card purchases means you're protected under the Federal Fair Credit Billing Act. If a transaction goes wrong you have the right to dispute charges on your credit card, and you can even withhold payments during a credit investigation.

Russ Anderson, #2112
Blockwatch Coordinator

A FEW THINGS TO ADD TO YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR...

March is a busy month, socially speaking.

By the time you read this newsletter, the 'Sports Theme' pool party will have already taken place. That evening, residents enjoyed 'tail-gate' type food while showing off shirts and hats supporting their favorite sports team. If you haven't had a chance to join in the fun at the pool parties, be sure to mark the next one on your calendar and come join the fun. It's a great way to get to know your neighbors, and the food is always yummy.

On Wednesday, March 20th, we will once again be enjoying Caribbean Night at the pool. The tacos and margaritas will be plentiful and delicious as usual. Be sure to sign up for your contribution to the taco fixings. On the Wednesdays in-between, there will be Game Nights in the Club House from 7 PM – 9 PM. These are such fun evenings with a variety of table games to enjoy.

Finally, next November, we would like to recognize our military veterans on Veterans Day/ Remembrance Day. Your help is needed, however, in identifying those who served. If you are a veteran of the military, whatever country you served, please include your name and branch of service in the black book on the Club House desk. We look forward to honoring our veterans on November 11th.

Meeting Dates

Board Meetings for 2013

Tuesday, March 19

Tuesday, April 16

Other Meetings:

Welcome Newcomers - Tue., March 5, 7 pm
Fireside Chat w/Board - Thurs., March 7, 7 pm
Architectural Meeting -Tue., March 12, 10 am
Fireside Chat with Non-Resident Owners -
Tues., April 2, 7 pm

Activities Calendar March 2013

Bocce Ball- Sundays - 2:00 pm SCG
Movies - Mon., Wed., Fri. - 10:00 am & 2:00 pm
Stitchers - Tuesdays 10:30 am - 1:00 pm
Hand & Foot - Thursdays -1:00 - 3:30 pm
Pool Party - Sports Night Wed., March 6th 4 - 6 pm
Game Night - Wed., March 13th & 27th - 7 pm
Pool Party - Caribbean Night - Wed., March 20th
4:00 - 6:00 pm

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: I've heard that LáSolana can have a community Tag Sale at any time. When is that going to happen?

Answer: Even though we are a neighborhood of Sun City Grand, we can hold a community Tag Sale--as long as the street-side sign advertising it stays on our property. A resident willing to coordinate it is what is needed. If that is something you are interested in doing, please leave your name and contact information with the office staff.

Question: We used the Rental List to find a unit to rent

here. It was a frustrating experience because no one got back to us.

Answer: We're sorry for your inconvenience. The Communications Committee will be working with owners who rent their unit out at the Non-Resident Owner Fireside Chat on April 2nd in the Clubhouse at 7 p.m. It is essential that we find a user-friendly way of revamping this list. If we aren't successful, the list will be eliminated and services such as VRBO will need to be used. If you rent your unit and are unable to attend, please email your suggestions to info@lasolanahoa.com.

Question: Our staff doesn't work on weekends and yet the pool furniture is always in place at the beginning of each day. Who is paid to do that?

Answer: Did you know that YOU are responsible for returning any pool furniture that you moved when you leave the pool? That straightening

the pool furniture isn't in any of our staff's job descriptions? We've been fortunate that one of our residents puts the pool area in order every day (Thank You, Ricky Haas!). So please put back the lounge, chair or table that you use to it's proper position and lower the umbrella you raised so it doesn't get damaged if the wind picks up. If possible, please lift the lounges, rather than dragging them, so the "skids" on the bottom last longer.

"We've been fortunate that one of our residents puts the pool area in order every day (Thank You, Ricky Haas!)."

