

August 2017

LàSolana Living

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Notes From the Board



Greetings all from the rather warm Southwest.

I hope all of you are enjoying your summer and accomplishing all the plans that crowded our plates in April.

There has been a lot of small projects taking place here in Surprise but more importantly, the place looks great and the bills are paid.

Sometimes we overlook the fulltime residents who become the stewards of LaSolana when the snowbirds and part time residents scatter to other parts of the country and world during the warmer months. Thank you all for your watchfulness and concern when things need attention.

As I write this, Annie and I are down here working on budget items for 2018 and meeting with vendors. The elevator installation in building #4 starts Monday and should be completed by September. Under discussion this week will be a planned planting of the courtyards and other sparsely planted areas. Of course cost is everything and how aggressive we get depends on the program. There is remodeling scheduled for the pool and deck and new furniture is beginning to show up for the season. We have a ways to go on many items but overall, the place looks great.

There will be a quick board meeting this coming Monday the 14th. A new pet policy will up for approval and thanks to the pet committee, a agreeable compromise has been struck. Time will tell.

There is new theater equipment in and ready to go. Thank you Jack Mumford.

There will be a lot of new faces again this year. Some long time residents have moved on and there are new people and ideas to replace them.

The Board has received a resignation letter from Don Allen who with his wife Lynette have decided to re-locate to a small ranch in the Wickenburg area. We thank you Don for your time on the board and you help whenever it was asked. Best Wishes.

There will be Two openings in February so please give consideration to giving your time when it comes to the operation of this great place.

That's all for now. I hope to see you all at the October board meeting when we approve the 2018 budget.

Happy summer.

Ken Marks
President



Meet Your Neighbors



You might say that Dallas and Olivia Reynolds just accidentally moved to LaSolana. They used to come to visit Olivia's mother, Cesarina Roberts who lived in building four. In her 90's Cese became ill, and Dallas and Olivia took her to their home in Durango, Colorado to care for her. At the same time, they were at a new stage in their lives. Dallas was winding down his architectural business of many years, their spacious home of 35 years was on the market, and they were preparing to downsize. When Cese passed away, they listed her LaSolana condo for sale, and soon had an offer. The happy accident occurred as their Durango home sold, and they began to process their thoughts about where they were going to move. Maybe it was time to try something really different. So they declined the purchase offer and decided to try LaSolana living for themselves. They moved here in 2014.

Growing up, Dallas graduated from the University of Illinois, and then went to work for the University's Department of Architecture. They were offered a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to do research across America and develop national standards for constructing different kinds of buildings relating to criminal justice such as courthouses and prisons. During his research travels over the next few years, Dallas visited Durango and enjoyed its beauty. Meanwhile, Olivia graduated from Fort Lewis College in Durango, and then began teaching first grade to Navajo children on the reservation. None of them could speak English. By the end of the school year she had taught them to speak and read English, an accomplishment that thrilled her as well as the children.

Later, Dallas was offered a job as Planning Director for city of Durango and La Plata County. He remembered how beautiful the area was, and so he accepted. By this time Olivia was selling real estate, so their jobs soon caused them to meet, and Olivia says it was "spark city", immediate attraction for both of them.

They raised their children, a daughter and a son, to enjoy all sorts of outdoor pursuits. The kids were skiing by the time they were three, the family camped and hiked everywhere, and practically lived out-of-doors. They enjoyed backpacking, snowshoeing, and fishing. Dallas bought a river raft, and they began taking river trips, finding a perfect spot and setting up camp for the night. Now their daughter is a professional river guide, and their son is a personal trainer.

Dallas' career as an architect was multi-focused, and over the years he enjoyed designing both commercial and residential buildings ranging from banks to casinos and from low income apartments to high-end very expensive homes. Olivia was involved in youth programs, building bridges between youth and adults. She also spent 12 years as a probation officer.

Since moving here, Dallas has become President of the Sun City Grand Wood Crafters Club, and spends many hours in their woodworking shop creating beautiful pieces of furniture for their condo. The designs are unique and lovely, finishes are smooth as silk, and all the pieces are joined together with wooden pegs instead of nails. He even built a sturdy table to hold Olivia's rock collection which is displayed on their patio. He also enjoys bike-riding, fishing, hiking, working out and producing architectural drawings. Olivia had a major health hurdle to overcome this past year with four surgeries. Now that she's feeling much stronger, she looks forward to taking some of the classes offered in Sun City Grand, may do some volunteer charity work, and she says that she really enjoys working with children. Together, they are hiking in the White Tank mountains, and also plan to explore Black Canyon as well as some of the other interesting places around the state.

Dallas and Olivia are happy they made the decision to make LaSolana their home. They love living here, and really enjoy the beautiful friendships they've made.

Deannie Price— #6209

Hot Dog Pot Luck



The ladies of the round table



Our hostess, Polly



Our chefs, Dave and John



Ice Cream Social



These ladies love to socialize



Everyone loves a party day



Ricky and John enjoying their ice cream



Special thanks to **Polly Schroedel** for making sure that the folk here at LaSolana celebrate the summer holidays...and Memorial Day cookout, July 4th ice cream social were well attended and we look forward to our Labor Day event as well.



Staff Notes

LaSolana welcomes a new member to our office staff, Patti Farrell who joined us this summer. Patti, a people person comes with an excellent resume', and we are glad to have her. When you come "home" again, do stop in and say hello.

Caryl Moskowitz

We are all vulnerable. Paying attention to the daily routines of our neighbors should not be considered an invasion of privacy or an attempt at "assisted living". Instead it should be showing an interest/concern for anyone living here and in some instances, living alone and not necessarily "elderly". I would also hope that these residents would take responsibility for their own actions. It is really not so difficult to give a key to a neighbor/friend, have a lock box installed, leave emergency and current contact information in the office. How hard can it be to say to someone you might see every day, in the mailroom, at the clubhouse or anywhere on the property, I will be away for a few days or, I am feeling a little under the weather. Our community is very quiet in the summer, most buildings have a handful of occupants, unlike season when we are all around and visible. I have heard an occasional comment that we are not an assisted living facility....foolish to say. We are not certainly, but I would like to think we are a community where common sense and kindness exists.... and that we can and do feel a measure of responsibility for each other.

Thanks for reading this.

Caryl Moskowitz

Newsletter Editor



Mike's Corner



During an onsite inspection of the property, it was noted that a number of units are in need of window screen replacement. Please look at your screens, if you are seeing your screens looking faded and worn it is time you replace them. The hot sun out here is very hard on the screens.

If you bring boxes to the recycle bin, please take the time to flatten them and place them in the bin. Leaving them on the ground or on the top of the bin causes more work for your fellow neighbors, and is also a fire and tripping hazard.

Please remember to keep the entrance to the building closed upon entering and exiting the building. Too many doors are being left open by residents and vendors. We don't want to one day find coyotes roaming the halls.

Social Calendar

Board & Chat

Meeting Dates 2017

October 5	Chat with the Board 7:00 pm
October 10	Board of Directors Meeting 10:00am
Nov	TBD
Dec	None Scheduled

Nov 11	Veterans Day	3:00 pm
Nov 21	Thanksgiving Celebration	3:00 pm
Dec 6	Ugly Sweater Pool Party	4:00 pm
Dec 24	Christmas Eve	7:00 pm
Jan 10	Pool Party	4:00 pm
Jan 24	Soup Supper	4:00 pm
Feb 14	Valentine's Party	4:00 pm
Feb 28	Pool Party	4:00 pm
Mar 14	Italian Night Pool Party	5:00 pm
Mar 28	Easter Celebration	2:30 pm
April 11	Pool Party	5:00 pm

If you don't currently have an emergency contact person listed, please add it to your office homeowner's information sheet.

See Cindy or Patti in the office !

Upcoming Season

We are publishing our coming season calendar as always, and want you to see some changes and additions made by our hard working social committee. There are a few new events posted.....and make sure you bring that ugly sweater!!!!

Also, as in the past there will be a Halloween party on Halloween night, so once again plan ahead if you are going to be in costume. It is not on the schedule....but it is a good way to start the season with some of the early birds.

Renovation Policy for LàSolana

While each of us own our units, they are not free-standing homes. This policy compiles the relevant points of the CC&R's that need to be adhered to in order to protect the appearance of the community and structural integrity of the buildings. Regardless of whether Board approval is required, the office must be notified in writing, email is acceptable, of any planned renovation work.



LaSolana Pet Corner



In the spring of this year the LaSolana HOA Board appointed a Pet AD Hoc Committee to address and make recommendations in regards to ongoing Pet concerns. The Committee which consists of Board Liaison Don Allen, Chairperson Jean McBrien, Secretary Doug Corbett, and Committee Members Daisy Brooks, Deannie Price, Nancy Hendricksen, and Jan Smith met throughout the summer and will be making some Pet Friendly recommendations to the Board for their consideration.

Many positive changes will be forthcoming and you may have noticed one already, there is a new Pet Corner Bulletin Board in the Mailroom. If you haven't seen it yet, stop by. It highlights the City of Surprise Pet Law, LaSolana Pet Policies, Pet tips, and an area to introduce you to our LaSolana Pet residents.

The LaSolana HOA Board and the AD Hoc Committee are working hard to assure that LaSolana remains a Pet Friendly Community with responsible Pet Owners.