

#### **Open Board Meetings**

by Jane Hoffmann

The Board generally meets at 7:00p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month (Oct 6th, Nov. 3rd, Dec. 1st, Jan. 5th, Feb. 2nd, Mar. 2nd, Apr. 6th, May 4th, June 1st, July/Aug. *no meetings*.)

Holidays and vacation schedules sometimes result in the rescheduling or cancellation of a particular meeting, so please check with the secretary, 323-9299, to confirm a meeting time.

At the beginning of our meetings we allow a ten minute period for "Resident Related Issues" – these must be scheduled with the secretary two weeks before the meeting.

Articles for the newsletter are welcomed and should be mailed to Catalina Foothills Estates #7 Association, P.O. Box 64173, Tucson, AZ, 85728-4173 or e-mail to Mslec51@aol.com noting subject as Cat 7 News. Deadline for March publication is Feb 2nd.

#### **CFE # 7 Board of Directors**

President	Warren Edminster	887-5997				
Vice-preside	615-5402					
Treasurer	Jerry Boyle	888-8279				
Secretary to the Board						
	Jane Hoffmann	323-9299				

Architectural Review Committee

ChairpersonJerry Bishop615-5402Robert Parks529-3673

Covenants Committee Chairperson Diego Navarrette 529-4787 Stacy Litvak 696-2030 June LeClair-Bucko 577-0989 John Stephenson 529-4907

Welcome Committee Chairperson John Stephenson Robert Parks

> Nominating Committee June LeClair-Bucko 577-0989 Jerry Boyle 888-8279

Volunteers are always welcome to serve on the Board of Directors. We also welcome anyone who *might not* have the time to be on the board but has an expertise that our board members can utilize.

Please contact Jane Hofmann.



## **President's Message**

I feel like the "new kid on the block" in that my wife Beverley and I found our home here in CFE 7 only in April of 2002. There are many of you who have been here much longer. Our realtor took us to this subdivision because she said that it was one of the best, if not THE best area of the region in which to live. Specifically, she noted that there was a profusion of native vegetation that was undisturbed, mountain or city views from almost every lot, and there were no visible utilities or other urban clutter. She pointed out that the main reason for this was that the original developers, "Murphey Investment Trust", had established a very good set of Home Owner's Protective Covenants and Restrictions, and the homeowners had been wise to protect their land value by retaining and adhering to these documents.

My intent as president, is to continue to adhere to these Covenants, Controls and Restrictions (CC&R's) when we see developers all around us taking advantage of expiring CC&R's to make major changes in their life styles. Our Board members and committee members are always pleased to take complaints or suggestions as to potential CC&R violations and/or suggestions. We suggest that you contact our secretary, Jane Hoffmann, 323-9693, who will in turn recommend the appropriate contact to handle your communication.

Please take the time to read and understand the "Declaration of Protective Covenants" and "Restated By-laws" as they form our CC&R's. You were given a copy of these documents when you purchased your property, but our secretary would be pleased to provide a replacement if you need same. You also signed an agreement that you would abide by these CC&R's, so a "refresher" reading may be advisable.

In closing, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to serve you in this position as president. I will try to be available to respond to any homeowner problems that come to my attention.

> Warren G. Edminster, AIA President, Catalina No. 7



# Thank You!

We like to thank those Board members who have completed their terms this year. Ex President- Jim Riley Ex Vice President -Judi Beck Architectural committee- Chris Rogne

#### Con't from pg 1

#### Legislation.....

9- HB2402 Association Lien Rights

This bill amends lien and lien foreclosure provisions with respect to monetary penalties.

10- HB2478 Political Signs

This Bill addresses the issue of the permissibility of indoor and outdoor Political Signs on private property in Planned Communities and overrides any provision in an Association's governing documents prohibiting such signs. This statue only applies to Planned Communities not Condominiums and not Associations that do not fall within the definition of "Planned Community" which may still enforce sign restrictions in their CC&R's.

11- HB2492 Parking of Public Service Vehicles

This bill broadens the Planned Community statue relating to the ability of a Planned Community resident to park a workrelated public service vehicle in the driveway or on the streets of the community.

A summary of these Bills was received by the Board from the Office of Goldschmidt Law Firm.

You may obtain more in depth information on these Bills at www.azleg.state.az.us



### **Committee Reports**

#### **Architectural Review Committee 2004**

May thru to Sept

	Approved onstruction	Pending	Final Review
Addition Living Space		1	
Bath Addition	1		
Brick Walkway	1		
Enclosing Wall	1		
Exterior Painting			1
Garage Addition	2	1	
Landscaping of Yard	2		1
Master Bedroom Addition	1		
New Residence			1
Patio Construction	4	1	
Pool Construction	2		1
Ramada	1		1
Resurface Driveway	1		1
Roof Recoating	1		1
Screen Machine Equipment		1	

All residents must obtain approval from the Architectural Committee prior to *any construction, modifications*, or *building alterations*. Forms and/or any information can be obtained from the Architectural Committee or Office Secretary. The committee works diligently to review your request and enable you to complete your work project in a reasonable timely fashion.



#### Covenants Enforcement Committee 2004 Feb thru to Sept



Now that the hot summer has pasted many of us will be attending to our yards or possibly thinking of remodeling projects. Please take the time to Review the Homeowners Associations CC&R's and be sure you are in compliance. Unsure? Just give us a call.



	Inquiries	Review	Rectified	Pending
Debris	3	3	2	1
Environmental Misc	7	7	6	1
Fencing	2	2	1	1
Home Business		1	1	
Lighting	2	2	2	
Native Plants		5	3	2
Rental of Property	1	1		1
Signs		5	4	1
Waste Containers		5	5	

The Covenants Committee would like to review with our residents a few of the covenants that are in The Restatement of Declarations of Protective Covenants for Catalina Foothills Estate No. 7, Clause II:

Para 17:

Trash or rubbish containers shall remain concealed at all times from view of the other lots and roads, and shall not at any time be placed along street right of way. Para 18:

Said property and the whole thereof shall be used for single-family dwelling purpose solely; no business of any nature nor any so-called home occupations, shall be conducted thereon. Rental of any guest house is prohibited, the occupancy thereof being limited to members of the owner's family guest or servants. This shall not be construed as preventing **the leasing or renting of an entire lot**, together with the improvements thereon.

Many times these offensives are due to new residents not becoming familiar with the Homeowners Association's CC&R's or tenants who are renting homes. It is the *landowners responsibility* to inform their tenants of the CC&R's.

The Board of Directors has instituted a procedure to welcome new residents. Upon their arrival they are given a welcome packet that contains the CC&R's and we also inform them of common offenses. This has assisted in diminishing various offenses.

# Security

### Plants

This past summer we were notified by one of our residents of a home intrusion. The Board of Directors mailed awareness postcards to all homeowners in CFE 7. We again stress to all our residents, take precautions and be aware of your surroundings. Report any unusual behavior to the police (Call 911). Record license plate number, make and model of the vehicle, and a description of the person(s) you suspect. You should also notify the Board so we may keep our residents informed.

The local Sheriff's Department has furnished us with a crime report from March 1, through to Sept 28, 2004.

This report covers the geographical area from First Ave. to Campbell Ave., River Road to Orange Grove Road.

Arson2	Embezzlement	1
Assault2	Frauds	4
Burglary Force4	Larceny	14
Buglary no force5	Malicious mischief	17
Burglary attempt1	Vandalism	9
Cont. Substanc1	Vehicle Theft	2
Domestic violance1		
	<b>Total Offenses:</b>	63

Mail theft has been on the rise in Tucson. A few precautions everyone should take. 1) Don't leave mail in your mailbox for long periods of time.

- Don't use your mailbox to mail anything that contains personal and important information.
- 3) Immediately notify the police and postal service if you feel your mail has been tampered with.

#### Mailbox Security

If you would want to secure your mail box one of residents was kind enough to share their instructions for securing your mailbox.

- 1- On the door of the mailbox mark a slot 7 8 inches in width and 2 inches in height
- 2- Take a hack-saw ( can use a power hack-saw if you have one) and cut down along the 2 inch side across the 7 – 8 inch bottom an up along the other 2 inch side.
- 3- Take a pliers and bend this upwards (helps keep the rain out of the newly created slot.)
- 4- At an auto store buy edging to put around the cut edges so not one gets hurt on rough metal – can attach by gluing
- 5- Then just add your padlock to the top of the mailbox door and you are all set. (If your mailbox does not have a hole in the door handles you will have to drill one large enough to accommodate your lock.)



In the unique area of the foothills we have many native plants. We have a few issues that are affecting our native area. The issues are the theft of our native plants, the dumping of debris and the native plant destruction by landowners. We wish to review the Homeowners Association's covenants that pertain to the native growth in our area and the Arizona Department of Agriculture's Native Plant laws.

In our covenants native growth is protected by: The Restatement of the Declarations of Protective Covenants for Catalina Foothills Estate No. 7

Clause II

Para. 3: The native growth of said property, including Cacti and Palo Verde trees, shall not be permitted to be destroyed or removed from any of the lots in said property by any of the lot owners, except such native growth as it may be necessary to remove for the construction and maintenance of roads, driveways, detached singlefamily dwellings and necessary garages and other outbuildings related to said residence and walled in service yards and patios unless permission be first had and obtained from the association.

Para 5:

No lot or portion thereof shall be in whole or in part for the storage or dumping of rubbish of any character whatsoever, nor the storage of any property or thing that will cause such lot to appear in an unclean or untidy condition or that will be obnoxious to the eye; nor shall any substance, thing or material be kept upon any lot that will emit foul or obnoxious odors, or that will cause any noise that will or might unreasonable disturb the peace, quiet, comfort or serenity of the occupants of surrounding property.

Para 12

No variety of grass shall be grown on any lot outside a wall-in patio. Bermuda grass, of a variety recognized to be pollen free, and approved in writing by the Association may be grown within a walled –in patio.

All trees and other vegetation planted on any of said property shall be kept trimmed to a height which will not materially interfere with the principal views from neighboring building sites.

It is important to leave much of the natural growth on our properties to encourage the re-growth of the native vegetation. Residents have removed much of the bursage which seems to look like a dead plant but in fact a very valuable plant for the Paloverde-Saguaro seedlings as well as other native seedlings. This small perennial plant, as shown in the following photo, is the species

### **Plant Life**



that probably provides the greatest percent of the ground cover in our neighborhood. During most of its life many of the brittle branches of this plant appear to be dead. This plant is usually less than two feet in height. Rains can rapidly stimulate the development of small triangle-shape leaves that are about 1 inch length. Individuals of this plant have been reported to live as long as 50 years. The fruit that are produce after the summer and winter rainy season of the Arizona Uplands are round and very spiny and can often be found clinging to socks, pants or the hair of dogs.



Being part of the Paloverde-Saguaro-Bursage Community these understory plants prove shade, accumulation of humas and protection to the young seedlings of the much larger paloverde and saguaro trees



of the community. In turn the longer lived paloverde trees are well known to act as a nurse plant for the much slower growing saguaro cactus. If these shrubs are lost it will be very difficult for the paloverde and saguaro seedlings to germinate and survive the predation by animals and the intense solar radiation of the summer months during their critical first years.

The small perennials and semi-shrubs also provide shelter to their own seedlings as well as both water and summer annuals. One key factor is that the shade of these shrubs provides longer periods of moisture availability as well as more overall moisture. These plants also catch the seeds that are spread by wind and /or are blown across the soil surface. Without these plants there is little to prevent the movement of seed or the loss of soil across the barren desert or to give cover to the small animals such as cottontail rabbits and Gambel's quail.



The AZ Dept of agriculture has specific rules about native plant life. You may visit their web site which list plants that are protected. www.agriculture.state.az.us/PSD/ nativeplants.htm. In brief, landowners have the right to destroy or remove plants growing on their land. but 20 to 60 days prior to the destruction of any protected plant; you are required to notify the Department of Agriculture. The landowner also has the right to sell or give away any plant growing on their land. However, protected native plants may not be legally possessed, taken or transported from the growing site without a *permit* from the Department of Argriculture. A person who commits a theft of a protected native plant valued at 500 dollars or more will be committing a felony offense. Less than 500 dollars is a class 1 misdemeanor.

I recommend you visit the web site for the *complete* listing of the protected plants and specifics of the Native Plant Law Enforcement Guidelines. You may review the procedures for obtaining a permit for removal and transport of protected native plants. Here is a partial list of some generally common names of Arizona protected native plants

Cactus: Barrel, Hedgehog, Nightblooming Cereus, Prickly Pear, Cholla, Mammillaria, Coryphantha, Saguaro

Other Plants: Agave (Century), Joshua Tree, Yucca, Jerusalem Thorn, Smoke Tree, Ironwood Tree, Palo Verde, Desert Spoon (Sotol), Ocotillo, Crucifixion Thorn, Mesquite.



A plant that can be removed and should be by all our neighbors is the Mistletoe, as shown in the above photo. This species is a parasite on leguminous trees and shrubs as Acacia, Mesquite and Paloverde. If these mistletoe plants are not removed from the tree or shrub it has attached itself to, the plant will eventually die. Mistletoe plants can be readily knocked off trees or shrubs; however, this will not remove the parts of the mistletoe that have penetrated into the plant. If there are only a few small mistletoe plants on a tree or shrub. it is best to prune the infected branch carefully. In the case you are only able to knock the mistletoe off; this would still assist the tree or shrub on its struggle with the mistletoe and could still greatly extend its life.

Many of us move to this area just because of its native beauty, so let's try and preserve it.

For more information you can visit: www.DesertUSA.com

Arizona Department of Agriculture www.agriculture.state.az.us/psd/ protplantlst.htm

Lehr, J.H., 1987 *Catalog of the Flora of Arizona* Desert Botanical Gardens, Phoenix, AZ

Robichaux, R.H. (Ed.) 1999. *Ecology of* Sonoran Desert Plants and Plant Communities, University of Arizona Press, Tucson

Parts of this article were taken from October 2000, *Plants of the Bajada*, by Martin M. Karpiscak.



# CFE 7's Wildlife

Here in the Catalina's we are very blessed with the sightings of various wildlife. Having an environment that allows native animals to live in their natural environment, we often forget we are infringing on their natural habitat. Last issue we ran an article covering the packrat; this issue I would like to review the Javalina or Peccary.

Recently we had an incident where Javalina attacked a resident's pet dog and fatally injured it.

Javalina have often made the local papers for either injuring a pet or attacking residents of the foothills. While Peccaries look like pigs, they are classified in a family of their own because of anatomical differences. They are members of the Tayassuidae Family. They have large heads and long snouts with thick coats of darkgray, bristly hair and a band of white hair (collar) around the neck. A mane of long stiff hairs runs down the back from head to rump, where scent glands are located. Their odor is always apparent, especially when they are excited. You may smell a peccary before you see it.

An adult male will be 46-60 inches long and usually 20-24 inches in height. They can weigh as much as 60 pounds. Young peccaries are reddish to yellow brown in color.

Peccaries usually travel in a band from 6 to 12 although as many as 50 have been seen together. They are most active during morning and evening when it's cooler. Members eat, sleep, and forage together. The exceptions are the old and infirm, which prefer to die in solitude. Herds have a characteristic linear dominance hierarchy wherein a male is always dominant and the remainder of the order is largely determined by size.

They tend to remain near permanent sources of water. Unlike Coyotes and Bobcats, Peccaries are unable to evaporate moisture through panting to prevent overheating. During the fierce heat of midday, Peccaries bed down in the shade and forage where it's cooler.



Territories are defended by rubbing of the rump oil against rocks, tree trunks and stumps. Collard Peccaries fend off adversaries by squaring off, laying back their ears, and clattering their canines. During a fight, they charge head on, bite, and occasionally lock jaws. Their diet consists of roots, fruits, insects, worms, reptiles, grass, and cacti. The main dietary components of this species are agaves and prickly pears.

Peccaries breed throughout the year, depending on climatic conditions, especially rain. More young are raised in rainy years. Birthing mothers retreat from the herd to prevent the newborn from being eaten by other group members. They rejoin the herd one day after giving birth.

Peccaries are not dangerous when left alone but an entire band can attack if one is wounded or pursed. Speedy and agile, they can drive off dogs, coyotes and bobcats. Peccaries are slow moving casual animals unless frighten or threatened.

Their natural predators are humans, bobcats, and coyotes. Their lifespan is approximately 10 years.

Like bears and other mammals they lose fear of humans when fed by humans. They will rummage around garbage cans and campsites, like raccoons, and they are becoming an urban menace.

It is important not to feed wildlife because it creates an imbalance in their natural habit and desensitize the animal to humans. Trouble begins when Javelina expect to be fed and you're not the one feeding them. The encounter can become confrontational. So, for everyone's safety don't feed the wildlife, and if you come across a herd of Javelina observe from a safe distance and keep domestic animals away.



As I sit on my glider for my early evening wind down enjoying the evening breeze and another great sunset, I caught a movement out of the corner of my eye. Yikes! A giant spider has decided to join me. Being a city gal I'm not sure if I should run or stay still.

So as I sit hoping it will not want to be where I am, and thankfully it didn't, I decided I better find out what this fellow was all about.

Being new to Tucson, and not knowing much about the wildlife here, I decided to find out what I was dealing with. I'm sure there are plenty of newcomers who will appreciate what I have found out about Mr. Tarantula. (My new friend has been named.)

The Tarantula is the largest of spiders and is more fearsome by its appearance then he actually is. Its large hairy body causes most to flee from his presence, except for me, frozen in fear. They can be

Little Miss Muffet...... Move Over!

handled gently and seldom bite (not something I'm planning on trying). If they do bite it can be painful but not dangerous. Most people would react in a manner no more serious then a bee sting.

When the tarantula is confronted by danger (me of him or him of me?), or seeking food, the tarantula can be aggressive. It can bite with astonishing speed. (I'm getting ready to run).

In defense the tarantula moves its front legs back, raising the forepart of its body. This gives plenty of room for the fangs to be thrust forward and imbedded in the tissue of the antagonist. (I'm keeping my distance). Venom is excreted through an opening in the tip of the fang and forced in the puncture by means of muscular contractions around the poison glands. Tarantulas do not jump but will also ball up for protection.

Insects make up the bulk of the food supply, but the tarantula may prey upon centipedes, scorpions, and small reptiles. The venom is not sufficient enough for small mammals although they will feed upon them if found in a helpless condition. (I'm not dead yet!)

They are an asset in keeping harmful insects from becoming overabundant. So you should restrict your impulse to rid yourself of them. They can live up to 25 years. So now that I know their parameters, I welcome Mr. Tarantula to enjoy the evening breeze and another great sunset.



# **Rock Upon Rock**

By Connie Spittler

Rock and boulder. Layer after layer of caliche. Pebble after pebble. Shove a shovel into the Sonoran Desert and that's what you'll find waiting in the sand. This surplus of mineral matter accounts for the stones that line the driveways of Cat 7, the rocks that mark the property boundaries and the gravelly bits that leap into sandals and tennis shoes at the slightest provocation.

All because major periods of volcanic activity swept through southern Arizona about twenty-five million years ago. Towers of hot gas spewed out and avalanches of fragmented rock erupted from the looming mountaintops. The lava rushed across the landscape, enveloping everything in its path, leaving remnants of stones, boulders and pebbles embedded in the soil and resting atop it.

Three rocks, carefully balanced one upon another, caught my eye soon after we moved into our home on Via Entrada. When I asked my neighbor across the road the reason behind their statuesque appearance, she answered that the builder had placed them before he left. There they'd remained, stone upon stone. All I knew was that looking at the harmony of the simple structure pleased me.

Later, on a trip to Hawaii, driving along a high cliff that skirted the ocean, Bob and I found a long stretch of similarly balanced stones. The carefully stacked shapes and sizes reached toward the island sky. Although I asked several natives about the Maui rock piles, no one knew their meaning.

I did not give up easily. Back in Tucson, I researched the subject and found not one but several answers to the reasons that people stack stones.

Perhaps the most common rock piles are called cairns and are constructed to mark trails. I discovered an unspoken etiquette exists for the builders of this type of natural sign, esthetic arrangements preferred. Some markers are named duck cairns with the rocks placed in a set pattern to resemble birds whose bills point way farers in the correct direction. Some hikers disdain these trail cairns. Others appreciate them. One outdoorsman from the High Sierras wrote that cairns were traditionally built on summits to house the peak register, or left as a memorial to fallen comrades.

In the Arctic, the Inuit people built stone markers and called them inukshuks.

"Listen to the rocks," said the Native American, Red Owl, and I was beginning to understand their significance. Native cairns, found in the Midwest, Ohio River Valley and southeastern U. S. ranged from six feet in diameter to twelve at the base. Some thought these stone pyramids covered burial mounds, others believed they served ceremonial purposes. In Texas, on native land that contained many piles of rocks, the owners reported that wherever they found stone stackings, no arrowheads appeared.

Some rock formations represent prayers in Tibet, others lead pilgrims on stone journeys. The most powerful placement of stones might be 5000-year-old Stonehenge, rocks and stones could be used to dissuade the intruders from returning. Happily, the association installed boulders along the wash that borders our property. Soon after their placement, Bob remembered my interest in cairns and invited me down to view the new rock fence. There I found the series of stone upon stone that he had built on our side of the wash. And my heart was glad.

Some things are too good to keep for oneself. When we returned from a vacation in the mountains of Colorado, on the other side of the wash, others had placed their own symbolic balancing acts. Morning walkers, children, artists, outdoor enthu-



the massive grouping that still captures the imagination.

Conceptual artists like Scottish Andy Goldsworthy gravitate toward rock material in their work. Goldsworthy arranges and balances stones with precision, while Christo prefers to wrap his boulders. Robert Smithson constructed a famous rock sculpture in the Great Salt Lake, a project once underwater, now more prominent because of drought. Then there's the physician in Duluth who constructs stone people in the nearby woods as his own artistic contribution to the genre.

No wonder rock formations made by human hands are described as a universal phenomena.

Recently, when our wash was invaded by interlopers up to no good, we hoped that

siasts, we don't know who or how many Cat 7 dwellers arranged the stacked stones across the road that now pointed in rocky attribution to our own desert sky. Community art, for sure. There is mystery and satisfaction in working apart and alone, yet creating the project together.

It's somewhat grander than our intention, but Antoine de Saint-Exupery said, "A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral."

Whatever the Cat 7 meaning, it is no small thing. A pile of rocks. Whether it is a physical experience, a spiritual response, or just a fun adventure, the small rock piles of Via Entrada are a pleasure to view and an invitation to smile.

Take a look.



P. O. Box 64173 Tucson, Az 85728-4173

**Return Service Requested** 



Many of our walkers do enjoy a stroll through our washes. We have been asked many times about the no trespassing signs. The signs were placed to minimize the use of the washes from non-residents. We have encountered vehicles driving up washes as escape routes, we have had furniture, old or broken equipment as well as landscape debris dumped into the washes. The Board has diligently tried to minimize the destruction and abuse of our washes by adding the no trespassing signs and additional boulders. We have worked with the proper authorities to remove dumped articles, apprehend violators using motorized vehicles and we have contacted residents who haven't complied with CC&R's.

We would like all our residents to enjoy their walks thru the washes. Some of our washes are owned by lot owners of CFE 7. We ask all who like hiking through the washes to respect the area and lot owners to maintain their lot per the Covenants.

Happy hiking and enjoy the plant and wild life.

SPEED LIMIT 25 Or NOT!

My wife and I enjoy walking around the neighborhood for a little exercise, at least when it is a little cooler. However, it sometimes feels like taking your life in your hands doing so since not everyone obeys the speed limit. Even when cars are going the speed limit cars can come closer than is comfortable with all the turns in the road.

From the drivers' viewpoint it is a bit of a nightmare as well. Some people walk facing the traffic, some with the traffic and many dog owners walk along the median to avoid soiling their neighbors front yards. Further, not everyone wears light or reflective clothing at night.

If the county would agree, how would people feel about having a white stripe down the side of the main roads to mark a pedestrian lane? Admittedly, the road is too narrow in some places for this to work everywhere but it would at least let drivers know there may be walkers and joggers in the lane and might help herd the pedestrians into a defined area. In addition, lots that face the streets would have to keep the desert growth trimmed back so as not to infringe on the pedestrian lane.

Please let me know if you think this is a good idea or not. If there is a preponderance of positive feedback, I'll contact the county.

Along the same line, would anyone be interested in a more formal designation of paths down the washes and between lots. This is another way of getting exercise without running the risk of being run down.

Please feel free to write me at 5130 N. Calle La Cima or e-mail at reparks@optiper.com

Bob Parks

U.S. Postage