

SYCAMORE CANYON

Advisory Committee

David Knawa

gato-negro@cox.net

JoAnn Hinchliffe

mamahinch@cox.net

John Ryan

Jryan39@cox.net

Michael Walser

rmwalser@mac.com

Deborah Yanoska

desertchime@cox.net

Events Committee

April Bourie

abourie@live.com

Gina Axford

gaxford31@gmail.com

Rebecca Kranz

kr9091@aol.com

Cadden Community Management

101 S. La Canada Dr, #20,
Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 648-6730 tel
(520) 648-6658 fax
www.cadden.com

Tricia Beeler, CAAM®
Association Manager
tbeeler@cadden.com

COMMUNITY UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Summer everyone.

As the heat index creeps up we would like to remind residents of issues that arise this time of year.

- **Weeds.** We have appreciated the efforts of most to clean up the normal weed growth in the front yards. Spraying the weeds now will also keep the weeds from coming back during the monsoon season. If you wish, you may contact Sycamore Canyon resident Arnis Robbins, who has a landscape company FloraVista, contact him at 520-668-9090.
- **Pool Use.** Please remember there is a Pool Conduct Policy to abide by for the enjoyment of all residents. For more information please go the HOA website www.caddenmanagement.com/sycamorecanyon
- **Pets.** With the high temperatures, please remember to consider how the heat will affect your pets if they are left outside. Shade and water are important elements for their health.
- **Trails and Open Space Use.** All trails (not including Sycamore Leaf/Harrison Rd paved path) in Open Space areas are to be foot trails only. Bicycles, ATV's, and any other motorized recreational vehicles are prohibited in these areas. Violators will be considered trespassing and will be prosecuted.
- **Monsoon Season.** With the upcoming monsoon season, please remember to consider the winds and heavy rains and how they may affect the neighborhood and your travels. Trash bins may be best not over-filled in case of high winds. And backyard umbrellas should be stored away and any other things that may blow away.

Due to recent inquiries about advertising within the community, we are adding in this and future newsletters a space for Sycamore Canyon residents to add their business and promote services that may be of interest by community residents. Don't forget there is a Classified section to the website as well.

I hope this summer season is an enjoyable one for everyone.

Jamie Argueta

Sycamore Canyon Board President

April 2012 Financial Report

Operating Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$47,424.40

Total Income
Current Month
\$28,759.96

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$40,526.22

This Month
Ending Balance
\$35,658.14

Reserve Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$40,953.67

Total Income
Current Month
\$1.39

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$0.00

This Month
Ending Balance
\$40,955.06

Account Balances

Delinquent
Assessments
\$21,379.69

Prepaid
\$27,496.29

The Buzz on Africanized Bees

Here are some tips to keep your residence from becoming a future home for bees:

Eliminate Shelter

- Fill or cover all holes 1/8 inch in diameter or larger, in trees, structures, and block walls. Caulk cracks in walls, in the foundation, and in the roof.
- Check for separation where the chimney meets the house. Make sure the chimney is covered properly.
- Put window screen mesh over drains, attic vents, and irrigation valve boxes. Make sure windows are screens fit tightly.
- Remove trash or debris that might serve as a shelter for bees.
- Keep doors tightly closed and in good repair.

What to do if you come into contact with Africanized honey bees

The best method of escaping a bee attack is to cover your head and run for shelter. Any covering for your body, especially your head and face, will help you escape. A small handkerchief or mosquito netting can be easily



carried in a pocket. If all else fails, pull your shirt up over your face—stings to the facial area are the most serious.

Try to find shelter as soon as possible. Do not jump into water! Bees will wait for you to come up for air. Once you are away from the bees, evaluate the situation. If you have been stung more than 15 times, or if you have symptoms other than local pain and swelling, get medical help immediately. If others are in danger, call 911. Lastly, scrape the stingers off the skin with a plastic card—don't use tweezers.

Reminders

Trash Cans—Remember that trash containers must be stored away at all times as not to be seen from the street or neighboring property.

Parking—Please remember that street parking is prohibited per the CCRs. While we know that you will have friends and family come to visit, we encourage you to have them park in the driveway during their visit. This is important because the streets in your community are narrow, and service vehicles like Saguaro Environmental have a much more difficult time maneuvering to pick up trash. Safety is also an issue, as cars parked in the street can cause blind spots where children can run out without warning.

Pool Area—The pool and spa is open from 7:00 am– 9:00 pm, and closed Mondays for maintenance. Always remember pool safety first. Should there be an emergency please immediately call 911 or the fire department across the street.

Sycamore Canyon Patriotic Bike Parade!

Join us at the Sycamore Canyon Park to celebrate America with our First Annual Patriotic Bike Parade on Saturday, June 30th at 8 a.m. Come with your decorated patriotic bike, wagon, or stroller. Parade around the track while listening to American Classics and enjoy a cool treat. See you at the park!



The Sycamore Canyon CC&Rs and Design Guidelines describes the procedure for approval of exterior modifications to all homes. Once the original construction of a home has been completed, any modification to the exterior of a home, including landscaping, must have prior written approval from the Architectural Committee. Modifications which require approval include, but are not limited to, swimming pools, patio wall modifications, court

yard walls, front and back yard landscaping, flag poles, painting, patio enclosures, and structures such as ramadas.

A Design Modification Request form must be completed and submitted along with a drawing or specifications for each modification. The Architectural Committee will then have 30 days to respond to the request and you will receive written confirmation of the committee's decision. The forms are available from Cadden Management at 101 S. La Canada, Suite 20, 520-648-6730, via e-mail at tbeeler@cadden.com or on the Association's website at www.caddenmanagement.com/SycamoreCanyon in the documents folder under the resource tab.



As the weather heats up, it is important to maintain your landscaping. Be sure that trees are trimmed as not to block the sidewalk and dead or dormant shrubs are trimmed. As well as the managing those pesky weeds, will help keep neighborhood appearances up.

Weed control should also be considered by either removing the weeds manually or applying a post-emergent

herbicide, such as Round-up. To prevent seed germination, you can also apply a pre-emergent herbicide, which can be purchased at local discount or hardware stores, as either a liquid or granular product. Pre-emergent should be uniformly applied over all areas of your rockscape and then watered in thoroughly. The pre-emergent forms a barrier, which prevents seed germination. Both pre-emergent and post-emergent are safe for humans and animals but contact should be avoided while the product is still wet.

Homeowners, who will be absent during the summer, should make arrangements to have their landscaping appropriately maintained, including trimming trees and plants away from the sidewalk, by hiring a landscape company or caretaker or perhaps, reciprocating with a neighbor.

Things to Know About Having a Dog in the Desert Heat



Living in a region where summer temperatures can be higher than 100 for a good part of the summer means that there are some things you should know to keep your pet

happy and healthy.

- **Dogs in the House**

The best situation for your dog would be to have the dog be trained as an indoor pet, where she can keep cool inside the air conditioned house during the hot summer days. Keep the thermostat at a reasonable temperature for your pet.

- **Dogs in the Yard**

If the dog must be kept in the yard during the hot parts of the day in the summer it is absolutely essential that there be a dark, shady place where the dog can escape from the blazing sun. A tree is probably not good enough. A ventilated dog house, or a pen with shade cover, or a covered patio is a must. Make sure that there is adequate shade at all times of the day that the dog is outside.

- **Dogs and Water**

If the dog is outside, make certain that there is a good supply of clean water in a weighted dish (or two in different locations in case one gets knocked over anyway).

- **Keeping Dogs Cool**

Some dogs enjoy water and can keep cool if a misting system is left on during the day, or if there's a kiddie wading pool for them with a couple of inches of water in it where they can sit to cool off. Keep these in the shade, too. Sitting in a tub of 110 degree water won't help the dog. Some people I know say that they provide a sandbox with damp sand for the dog. Digging must be allowed in the sandbox--you'll only frustrate a dog with a sandbox where digging is not permitted!

- **Walking the Dog in the Summer**

Can you walk your dog in the summer? Yes, but it is generally accepted that you should only walk your dog early in the morning or later in the evening, about an hour after the sun has gone down. That's because not only is the temperature high, but the sidewalks will be too hot for the pads of the dog's paws. They'll burn. General rule: if the sidewalk is too hot for you to walk barefoot, it is too hot for your dog to walk on. If you choose to walk your dog in the summer, hopefully early or late, bring along water and make frequent water stops for the dog. Don't take long walks or over-exert in the summer. Consider these walks light exercise.

- **Dogs and Heat Exhaustion**

Heat exhaustion is common in dogs. It can happen your own yard, or on a walk. Dogs cool themselves by panting. If panting does not reduce the body temperature the dog will develop heat stroke. Early signs of heat exhaustion include rapid breathing, heavy panting, and salivation. Other signs are fatigue, muscle tremors, and staggering. If you see a dog that is experiencing heat exhaustion, take the dog to a cool, shady place, and apply wet towels or cloths to help cool the dog's body down. Try to give the dog small amounts of water, and immediately call a vet.

- **Dogs and the Sun**

Dogs get sunburned. Especially dogs with short hair or little hair on some parts of their bodies. Keep them out of the sun.

- **Dogs in the Car**

I know that Fido loves to ride in the car, too. I've never met a dog that didn't. If you are going to run some errands, and it's 100 degrees outside, and the dog wants to come along in the car, please do him a favor and leave him home. If for some reason you have to take him along, do not ever leave him in the car without the A/C on. Even with the windows cracked, that car will heat up fast enough to cause brain damage or death in just a few minutes.

Using common sense, and taking some of these tips into account, you should be able to keep a happy healthy pet in our desert climate.

Gila Monster

If you happen upon a Gila monster (*Heloderma suspectum*) while hiking along one of the Sycamore Canyon trails, you should consider yourself very lucky. These extremely reclusive reptiles are a rare sight, active mostly during the day from March through November. The Gila monster is a large lizard that reaches about 1.5 feet in length and appears to be bumpy due to the presence of small bones under the skin. The skin of the Gila monster usually varies from bright pink to orange with black. The critter has a large head with beady eyes and a stout, fat tail.

Gila monsters forage primarily on small mammals such as newborn rabbits and other rodents, baby birds, and eggs. Research has shown that these critters spend up to 98 percent of their lives underground resting, hibernating, or hunting. They mate in the spring.

The female lays usually three to seven eggs in July or August, and the young appear in the following spring.

The Gila monster is one of two venomous lizards in Arizona, though they represent little to no threat to humans if left alone. Unlike the hollow fangs of a rattlesnake used to inject venom, the Gila monster secretes the poison along grooves in their teeth and must grip the victim in its locking jaws. If you do come across one, take some time to observe it from a safe distance. Be certain not to touch or poke the critter, and let it go along on its way. Nearly all Gila monster bites on humans can be attributed to human irresponsibility in the way of poor handling or intentional harassment of the animal.



With the monsoons comes a certain lingering smell that many desert dwellers refer to as “the smell of rain in the desert.” It is unmistakable. It smells fresh and clean. It smells of rejuvenation and relief. The distinctive smell, attributed to the creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), is imbedded in the identity of the Sonoran desert. The leaves of the creosote contain as many as 50 different oils, all of which collaborate to create that undeniable scent.

Considered the most drought tolerant perennial plant in North America, creosote bush is an important nurse plant in the Sonoran desert. This very long-lived plant commonly shelters various species of small cactus. The O’odham say that creosote was the first plant ever created, and it will likely survive after we are long gone. Appropriately, it is the most widely used medicinal herb in the Sonoran desert. The creosote contains antioxidants, which were used in foods and paints through the 1950s. Now these properties are being evaluated as anti-cancer agents.

Creosote Bush



“The Good Dog Way of Life”

Come puppies, come dogs, come all!
ONE day ONLY dog and puppy training
tips. Get tips on being the alpha
dog in your “pack”, giving proper
commands, “5 minutes to heel” leash
training, and all your questions an-
swered. RSVP below.

\$10/dog admission (special offer).

Held every week on

Friday or Saturday @ 0900

Sycamore Canyon Park

(Call for directions)



Dog Training!

Paws and Claws Pet Services

Tiffany Lee

(888) 613-8401

www.tlpawsandclaws.com

SC1 Firearms Training

520-820-9540

Located in Vail, AZ. SC1 Firearms Training
offers instruction in the following areas:

Arizona Concealed Carry Permit

Personalized Instruction

**Personal Protection - Self Defense
Safe Gun Handling**

NRA Courses offered

- **First Steps Pistol Orientation**
- **Basic Pistol**
- **Home Firearm Safety**
- **First Steps Rifle Orientation**
- **Basic Rifle**

- **Group or Individual Instruction is available**

SC1 Firearms Training can be contacted via our website at:

www.lucerienterprises.com

or sc1firearmstraining@live.com

Classes are held every Saturday from 0800-1200

