

SYCAMORE CANYON



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COMMUNITY UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A belated Happy 2013 to all.

We held our annual meeting January 24, 2013. I had a chance to go over the issues and activities that occurred in 2012 plus going over things expected in 2013. Lia Lavallee presented the annual update from the Buffelgrass Brigade which have been doing a fantastic job. The financial state of affairs were discussed and 2012 avoided any big surprises, so the approved 2013 budget had a few minor modifications with the assessments at \$65/mo for the Master Association remaining the same.

At the end of the meeting, an open forum had several items discussed:

- Speeding by construction workers. The builders currently building in Sycamore Canyon were notified to give notice to their contractors that speeding within Sycamore Canyon is dangerous and should cease. The builder agreed it was to be addressed immediately.
- Need for a dumpster for spring yard cleaning. Saguaro has agreed to provide a dumpster from March 14th to March 18th for residents to use for landscape debris ONLY. Please avoid throwing additional items into the dumpster.
- Trail Signs restricting wheeled vehicles. In the continued effort to curb wheeled vehicles from using our trails, additional signs have been ordered at trail entrances from Sycamore Leaf Road. These trails are designated foot trails only. Bicycle tracks and sightings of kids and adults on bikes on trails have been viewed - this activity is prohibited.

Recently the HOA received news from Pima County Department of Transportation that it was going to address some of the cracks on Sycamore Leaf Road. This is great news as they "bumped" us up their to-do list.

I appreciate those in attendance at the annual meeting. As always, we appreciate all feedback and observations from residents that can help the community be better.

I hope 2013 is a good one for everyone.

Jamie Argueta
Sycamore Canyon Board President

January
2013

Financial Report

Operating Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$28,956.31

Total Income
Current Month
\$50,990.58

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$44,885.52

This Month
Ending Balance
\$35,061.37

Reserve Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$74,946.76

Total Income
Current Month
\$13,968.22

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$0.00

This Month
Ending Balance
\$88,914.98

Account Balances

Delinquent
Assessments
\$34,298.36

Prepaid
\$26,936.99

Save the Date!!

On **March 14th-18th**, there will be a dumpster at the end of Sycamore Leaf just past Rustling Leaf. The purpose of the dumpster is for homeowners to have a place to dispose of landscaping debris from pruning. Its time to spruce up your landscaping and trim back all the dead plant material. Start cutting back your plants for adequate Spring growth. This should include all your "woody" plants including Lantana, Bougainvillea, Mexican Bird of Paradise, Yellow Bells, and Red Salvia.



This & That

Mailbox Lights—Be sure to report any out mailbox lights to Cadden at 520-648-6730 or email tbeeler@cadden.com with the location and we will have the bulb replaced.

Trails—Biking on the trails is not permitted. Additional signs are being installed.

Holiday Lights—All holiday lights need to be removed.

House Paint—Many homes in the community will soon need to be painted, especially due to fading. Please take a look at your home and if painting is needed, submit a Design Modification Request and include the colors you would like to use.

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

Winterizing Outdoor Pipes—One of the challenges in winter is keeping the water pipes outside the house from freezing. One option is to try running a constant trickle of water through the pipes. Of course you don't want to do this all winter, but a steady trickle works well during those extreme cold spells when you're worried about the pipes freezing solid. Another option is to wrap the exposed pipes with insulated tubing or wraps. These can be found at any major hardware store. Using towels is not recommended as they absorb moisture and freeze faster.

Dog Stations—Attention all dog walkers!! Two new dog stations have been installed along Rustling Leaf. Please always remember to pick up after your pet even when on the trails or in natural areas.

Payment of your Assessments—Don't forget that the Association has changed banks. If you have Auto Pay through Cadden, you don't need to do anything. However, If you mail your payments or have bill pay through your bank be sure to change the address to:

Sycamore Canyon HOA
c/o Cadden Management
PO Box 94737
Las Vegas NV, 89193-4737

SYCAMORE CANYON EVENTS COMMITTEE



Easter Egg Hunt and Arts, Business, Craft (ABC) Fair in the Park

Saturday, March 23, 2013

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather in Sycamore Canyon Park while watching your children hunt for Easter Eggs filled with candy. Afterwards, shop the booths at the Arts, Business, Craft Fair. It's a wonderful way to welcome spring and get to know your neighbors! More details to come!

Event Schedule

10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Arts, Business, Craft Fair Booths Open

Food available for sale

10 a.m. 0-3 year olds Easter Egg Hunt

10:30 a.m. 4-7 year olds Easter Egg Hunt

11 a.m. 8-12 year olds Easter Egg Hunt

WE ARE ALSO IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS to help stuff Easter Eggs before the event and to hide eggs at the event! To

volunteer, please email April at

sycamore_canyon@yahoo.com.

Booths are still available for rent at the ABC Fair. For more information and to register, go

to www.sycamorecanyontucson.com.



If you have made a recent change in your e-mail address, please visit the community website and update your email address or contact Cadden Management at tbeeler@cadden.com. Important e-mail blasts are sent to your e-mail address on record.

PLANTS: DESERT WILDFLOWERS

Cactus, flowering shrubs and trees, and wildflowers all contribute to the colors of the desert. Cactus and many shrubs will flower throughout the year (perennials). Brightly colored wildflowers bloom primarily in the spring (annuals). You may hear people comment on having a “good” wildflower season. If the winter rains have been cooperative and temperatures are right, the spring wildflowers will respond. The following is the short list of flowers and flowering shrubs that may be seen in the Sycamore Canyon Preserve.

WHIT E TO GREEN

- PRICKLEPOPPY: Tissue paper thin flowers on tall stems (up to 3 feet).
- DESERT ZINNIA: A member of the Sunflower Family, the desert zinnia grows in low clumps.
- FLEABANE DAISY: A member of the Sunflower Family with narrow white rays and yellow centers; grow on stems up to 16 inches.
- SACRED DATURA: Large white, trumpet-shaped flowers with large grayish-green leaves. This plant is highly toxic and was used by Native Americans for medicinal purposes.



YELLOW TO ORANGE

- BRITTLEBUSH: The yellow flowers grow on long stems that extend above the shrub like plants. Leaves are gray-green in color and wooly. It is in the Sunflower Family.
- DESERT MARIGOLD OR BAILEYA: A member of the Sunflower family, the flowers grow on nearly leafless stems up to 2 feet tall.
- FIDDLENECK: Yellow-orange funnel-shaped flowers grow in a distinctive coiled spike; stems are up to 20 inches tall.



- DOGWEEED: A member of the Sunflower Family, the yellow flowers grow on this low rounded bush.
- DESERT GLOBEMALLOW: These bright orange 5-petaled flowers grow on stems up to 40 inches tall.
- MEXICAN GOLD POPPY: Bright gold flowers consist of 4 cup-shaped petals growing on single, slender stems. Fern-like leaves grow at the base of the stems.



PINK TO RED

- PARRY’S PENSTEMON: Pink funnel-shaped flowers on thick stems up to 4 feet tall.
- ARIZONA PENSTEMON: Lavender-red funnel shaped flowers on thick stems up to 4 feet tall.
- FILAREE: Grows low to the ground with long pink flowers and fern-like leaves. The seed pod is long and slender, giving it the other common name of Heron’s Bill.
- SAND VERBENA: Pink to lavender 5-petaled flowers grow in clusters; plant has square stems.



BLUE TO PURPLE

- LARKSPUR: Royal-blue flowers with whitish centers with a backward projecting spur; grow on leafless stems up to 30 inches tall.
- LUPINE: Purple-pink flowers with yellow centers, pea-like in appearance; palmate hairy leaves growing at base of stems.
- OWL CLOVER: Rose-purple member of the Snapdragon Family. Flowers grow on stems up to 16 inches tall.



Aphids in the desert

DESCRIPTION:

Small, soft-bodied piercing sucking insects that thrive in cold weather. They are 1/16 of an inch long and come in a variety of colors including green, yellow, and black.

DAMAGE:

Aphids are found on the growing tips and buds of many annual plants and shrubs, where they suck the plant sap. They cause yellowing, wilting and leave a sticky residue. They weaken plant and spread diseases

MANAGEMENT:

- Nurture beneficial insects which feed on aphids including ladybeetles, lacewings, tiny parasitic wasps, etc. by not applying insecticides indiscriminately.

Look for aphid mummies. These are aphids that turn brown and harden up or freeze on the plant. Aphid mummies are caused by tiny

parasitic wasps that lay their eggs within the aphid. The wasp egg hatches into a larva that feeds inside the living aphid. When the wasp has about completed its life cycle it releases chemicals that cause the aphid to harden. Shortly afterwards, the wasp will emerge. Leave mummies alone; they will help take care of your aphid problems.

- Wash aphids off with a strong blast of water
- Spray aphids with Insecticidal Soap



USE MANUAL RAT TRAPS, NOT POISON

All of us have experienced the frustration of rodents on our property and its natural to want to GET RID OF THEM. When you do, remember that rat poison works SLOWLY. The rat or mouse is poisoned. It's weakened, so an owl or hawk (or your dog or cat) can catch it more easily. The predator eats the rat and now the bird or mammal is dead, too. To eliminate this problem, use snap traps or live traps. That way the predators stay alive to help US keep the rodent population under control. And we keep our pets out of harms way.



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Easy tips to keep cool and help manage energy cost!

- Make sure unit is up to date on service to help prevent mechanical failure.
- Install a Programmable Thermostat and consider setting air conditioners a few degrees warmer on hot days. Every degree you add to your temperature in the summer can reduce your energy usage by up to 5 percent.
- If your home has an attached garage, keep your garage door closed during the hottest hours of the day. This can reduce the amount of cool air that might escape.
- Close air conditioning registers in unused rooms and keep the doors to those rooms closed. This will reduce the amount of energy your air conditioner will use to maintain the homes temperature.
- Remember, keep filters clean.



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Sycamore Canyon Park
(Call for directions)

www.tlpawsandclaws.com

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