

SYCAMORE CANYON

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COMMUNITY UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A very belated Happy 2014 everyone!

We look forward to a great year:

- The Events committee, comprised of resident volunteers is doing an excellent job in creating community events for residents to enjoy. Please keep an eye out for the dates and times of scheduled events this year. You can visit the community website for more information at www.sycamorecanyontucson.com
- The Buffelgrass Brigade, comprised of volunteer residents, has and is keeping up the enormous task of being the overseers of buffelgrass and other intrusive plant species. They have done a great job of scouting and removing any problems. The objective is to maintain control of the problem because eradicating the problem is impossible. Please try to find the time to learn about buffelgrass at one of the Buffelgrass Brigade's monthly events. Emails are sent out to HOA members of upcoming buffelgrass efforts.

Please note the items in this newsletter as reminders to help maintain our community looking great.

In development news for this year, Richmond American is constructing the site improvements to Block 1. The subdivision infrastructure is expected to be completed in May/June 2014. Notably, the homes are restricted to single story.

Please note that a couple of revisions to HOA policy and language in the HOA Design Modification Request form have taken effect January 1, 2014. Those revisions can be found on the Design Modification form on the website. Please review for your information. It is hoped the changes will help alleviate some of the issues that arise throughout the year. If you have any questions regarding any of the changes please contact Tricia at 647-6840 or tbeeler@cadden.com.

Here's hoping everyone enjoys a great new year.

Jamie Argueta
Sycamore Canyon Board President



Pretzel Butterflies are not only a tasty treat, but also a terrific project to bring out the creativity in kids of all ages.

Ingredient

- ♥ 2 cups small pretzel twists (about 45)
- ♥ 1/2 cup white vanilla baking chips or 2 oz vanilla-flavored candy coating, cut into pieces
- ♥ 1/2 teaspoon vegetable oil
- ♥ 1/3 cup small round candy-coated fruit-flavored chewy candies (from 4-oz bag)

Steps

1. Line large cookie sheet with waxed paper or cooking parchment paper. To make 20 butterflies, arrange pretzel twists on cookie sheet in groups of 2 with single-hole sides of pretzels touching to form butterfly wings. Break remaining 5 pretzels into pieces for antennae; place 2 pieces at top of each butterfly between wings.
2. In 1-quart resealable freezer plastic bag, place vanilla chips and oil. Microwave on High 1 minute 20 seconds or until melted, squeezing bag to mix. Seal bag; cut small hole in 1 corner of bag.
3. Squeeze bag to pipe thin zigzag of melted chips between pretzels to look like bodies of butterflies. Press pretzel pieces firmly into melted chips. Pipe melted chips into each hole in wings; top each with 1 candy. Let stand until set, about 30 minutes. Remove from waxed paper; store in tightly covered container.

Homes need to be painted !!

It is that time....time to paint your home!! Many homes in the neighborhood need to be painted, as they are showing lots of streaking and fading. Painting your home is one of the easiest and cost effective ways to improve your home.



The Association has put together a paint book with the color schemes from each builder. You can find the color schemes on-line at <http://www.dunnedwards.com/Homeowners/ExploreColor/ColorTools/ColorArchive.aspx>. Click Vail, then AZ, click the drop down menu to find Sycamore Canyon and then click on your builder. If an owner clicks to download a color scheme, a PDF opens to a larger version of the color scheme and a 37% discount code will be given. The HOA does not have any record of your homes original paint color.

Home Modifications

The Design Guidelines describe 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 Design Review Committee. Modifications that require approval include, but are not limited to patio enclosures, ramadas, swimming pools, play structures; additions or changes to patio walls and gates; driveways extensions; installation of security doors and sunscreens; front and back yard landscaping, front courtyards; flag poles; painting. A written request along with drawings and specifications for any modification must be submitted to the Design Review Committee. The Design Modification Form can be found online at <http://sycamorecanyontucson.com/> and click on Forms.

Events Committee



Willcox Wine Country Festival Day Trip

Saturday, May 17, 11:30 am - 5:30 pm

For ages 21 and up only

Just one hour east of Tucson, you can sample award-winning, unique and fascinating wines from the largest grape-growing region in the state. The winemakers in the region offer something for every taste: serious and bold reds; vibrant and crisp whites; dry, spicy, food friendly or sweet.

The Willcox Wine Country Festival is held in historic Railroad Park in downtown Willcox and includes nearly 20 wineries from the region and around the state. It's not too far, but feels a world away. Your \$30 registration fee includes round-trip transportation from the Sycamore Canyon neighborhood, 8 wine tastings, a commemorative glass & live entertainment. Additional tasting tickets may be purchased at the hospitality kiosk. You can also purchase lunch on your own at the event from the food trucks in Railroad Park or from restaurants located near Railroad Park. This event is open to neighborhood residents and their guests. Look for registration information via email in April.



**Saturday, May 3, 7pm
Sycamore Canyon Park**

Enjoy the ambiance of the Park after dark while taking in a movie! Neighborhood residents will vote on which movie will be shown, and then you'll see it on the big screen in the Park just after

sundown. Bring some chairs or a blanket and some snacks. Your friends that don't live in the neighborhood are invited too. It's an outdoor experience you won't soon forget! Look for your movie voting opportunity in April. We'll hold another Movie Night on September 27.

ZUMBA® in the Park

Every Saturday, 8am

Sarah Gates is now teaching Zumba in the Sycamore Canyon Park on Saturdays at 8 am. The class is an hour long and costs \$5. She will have a class this Saturday, March 8. Just show up or email her with your questions:

Sarah Gates <sarah_lynn_gates@yahoo.com>

Sycamore Canyon Website

www.sycamorecanyontucson.com

The Sycamore Canyon website is your resource for neighborhood news and event information, classified ad listings, HOA forms and community trail maps. You can also access the neighborhood's Facebook page and find us on Twitter. Bookmark it today!

Toddler Time

**Sycamore Canyon Park
April 9th, 9 am**



Thanks to neighborhood residents, Katie VanRyn and Gina Axford, Toddler Time in Sycamore Canyon Park will begin April 9th at 9 am. Neighborhood children (ages 5 and under) and their parents are invited to come to the Park to hear a story, make a small craft and enjoy playing together! There is no charge, and an unlimited amount of people are welcome to listen to the story. However, the craft will be limited to the first 20 people that sign up that morning at the Park. If there is a greater demand, more crafts will be ordered for future Toddler Time sessions, which will be held in the Park on May 7th and June 4th at 9 am. For more information, email Katie at kathryn.vanryn@gmail.com or Gina at gaxford31@gmail.com.

February
2014
Financial
Report

Operating
Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$47,685.54

Total Income
Current Month
\$36,053.24

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$28,931.63

This Month
Ending Balance
\$54,807.15

Reserve
Account

Last Month
Ending Balance
\$107,401.90

Total Income
Current Month
\$18.68

Total Expenses
Current Month
\$0.00

This Month
Ending Balance
\$107,420.58

Account
Balances

Delinquent
Assessments
\$41,116.90

Prepaid
\$31,678.25

Save the date!!

On **April 4th-14th**, 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.



Weed Control

Weeds are officially here! No one likes or wants to be the house with all the weeds in their yard! **Post-emergent for summer weeds:** Spring and summer are the best times to use Roundup concentrate. Be careful not to spray weed killer on plants or turf as the weed chemical is absorbed by the leaves and travels through the plant. These products cannot differentiate between plants and weeds. Additionally, this type of weed killer does not instantly kill the plant. If you spray the weed and then remove it, any remaining roots may not have time to absorb the weed control spray.

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.

Street Parking

On street parking is not allowed per the governing documents. 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. Developers often put restrictions that prohibit or limit on-street parking in the CCRs for their communities because a street clogged with parked cars creates an eyesore and a potential hazard. Emergency vehicles may have difficulty getting through, and pedestrians – especially children – walking into the street from behind a parked car could be hit by a car.

RV/Boat Parking— 4 hours only!! No exceptions, fines beginning at \$100.00!! Parking on Sycamore Leaf for 48 hours only. Vehicles left on Sycamore Leaf longer than 48 hours will be towed at the owners expense.



Dear Neighbor with bright lights,

I am your neighbor and I would like to talk to you about good outdoor lighting. I have noticed that you have installed outdoor lights on your property, and I applaud your desire to help improve our neighborhood.

At this time your lights are a bit too bright and they are shining into our house, the backyard, into our house etc., and interfering with our sleep, hobbies, view of the sky, etc. I'm sure you weren't aware of this and I wanted to bring it to your attention as soon as possible to avoid any misunderstanding. I am not asking you to remove the lights, but perhaps they can be re-directed downward onto the ground where they will do the most good.

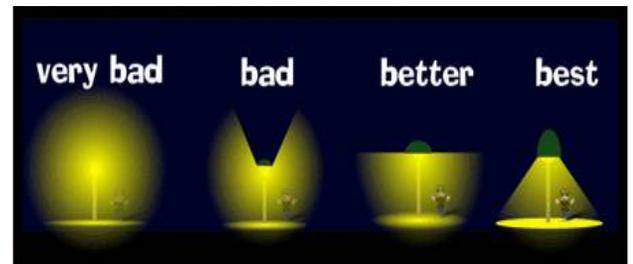
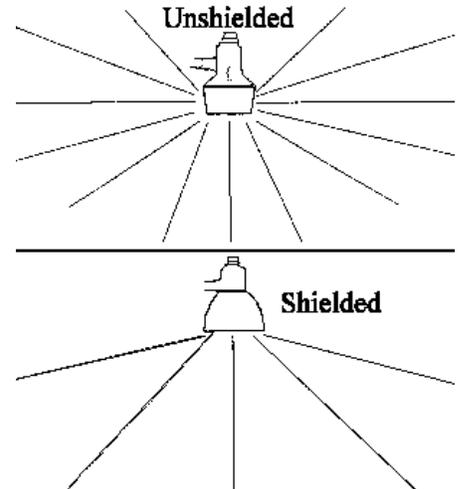
In addition, we could work together to shield the lights so that they are even more effective. Shielding a lamp usually requires a lesser wattage bulb, which is a big money saver within just a year's time. Shielding reduces glare which can be blinding and produces fewer harsh shadows where the "bad guys" can hide. Dark sky friendly lighting provides real security, not just an illusion.

There are other ways to save money and still be safe. When lights have motion sensors, they provide an alert if someone is in your yard after dark and they save you money by keeping the lights off when they aren't needed. Timers are another money saver because they can turn off your lights when you will not be using the yard; for instance, when you retire for the night.

Thank you so much for your time and understanding. I would love to talk with you about the advantages to using dark sky friendly lighting and how it benefits your safety, your budget, and the night sky.

Sincerely,
Your Neighbor

Be a good neighbor and always use shielded fixtures that are pointed down, and use low watt bulbs.



Sometimes a Bark Can Feel Worse Than A Bite

Bites eventually go away, but barking can go on, and on, and on. Sometimes, it seems that there's almost nothing you can do. But take heart! There are some steps you can take to put a civil-end to all that noise. First, don't blame the dog. It's not his fault. Second, don't automatically blame the neighbor. They may be at

work all day (or night), completely unaware that the dog is barking at all. The very best thing you can do is to politely remind your neighbor that the dog is barking incessantly while s/he is away. If the owner is aware, and just doesn't seem to care, there are legal steps that you can take.

If you're the owner of a barking dog, try to remember that your neighbors really don't want to report you. They just want some peace and quiet. The sound of your barking dog may make you feel secure, but it's nerve-wracking to others.

There are lots of reputable dog trainers who can teach you how to quiet even the most boisterous barkers. Responsible pet owners make great neighbors!



**April 12
10 am - 1 pm
Sycamore Canyon
Park**

Easter Egg Hunt & Spring Artisans Market

Enjoy the beautiful spring weather in Sycamore Canyon Park while watching your children hunt for Easter Eggs filled with candy at our second annual **Easter Egg Hunt!** Once your children have found their treasures and had their **photo taken with the Easter Bunny**, find your treasures among the variety of booths in the **Artisans Market**.

***To register for the Artisans Market, please go to:

<http://sycamorecanyontucson.com/event-registration/?ee=6>

*******The Events Committee needs volunteers to help stuff the Easter eggs!**

A "Stuffing Party" is planned for Wednesday, April 9th at 7 pm. Please email the Committee at sycamore_canyon@yahoo.com if you are willing to attend the party or to stuff eggs at home.

Schedule of Events

10 am - 1 pm

Spring Artisans Market open
Food available for sale from Small Bites
Dessert Bakery, J&R Kettle Korn, and The
Hot Dog Stand
Photos with the Easter Bunny

10:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt for ages 3 and younger

11 am

Easter Egg Hunt for ages 4-7

11 am - 1 pm

Free train rides available around the park
for children

11:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt for ages 8-12



SWIM TIME

The pool and spa are now open and heated. The pool is heated

to 78 degrees and the spa will be heated to 101 degrees. Keep in mind the pool will be closed on Monday's for maintenance except for Holidays.

The Associations pool tech will be on-site 5 days a week to be sure and address any issues that arise. In the event you see an issues with the pool or spa please call Cadden at 520-648-6730 to report.

We want swim season to be fun filled! While in the pool area and swimming, please keep in mind the rules. Visit the website for

the full list of rules. Here are a few to remember:

- ♥ No lifeguard is on duty at any time. Swim at your own risk.
- ♥ The pool/spa is open from: 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Trespassing will be reported to the police.
- ♥ The pool/spa is for residents in good standing of the Sycamore Canyon HOA and their guests. Limit 4 guests.
- ♥ Persons under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- ♥ Children under the age of 16 are not to use the spa
- ♥ Keep the gates closed at all times.
- ♥ Clean up after yourself.
- ♥ No pets allowed



If you have made a recent change in your e-mail address, please contact Cadden Management at tbeeler@cadden.com. Important e-mail blasts are sent to your e-mail address on record.