

# The Resort Report

November 2017

La Posada at Park Centre

NUMBER 227

## The Holiday Season is Upon Us



Photos by Don Berard, Anne Lynch, Lillian Monson, Boone Owens

## Editor's Notes

After an unusually warm fall that had record heat on Thanksgiving Day, it doesn't seem as though Christmas is almost here. This Resort Report has articles that are seasonless, but a few photos, especially on the front cover, might get you in the holiday mood.

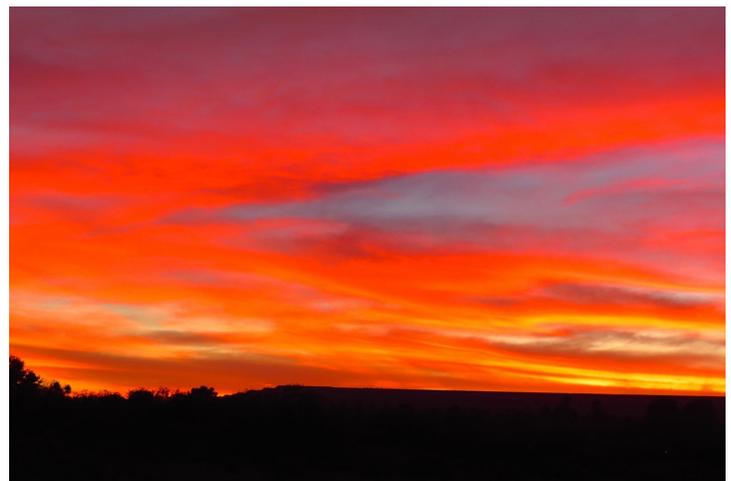
Thank you to all the residents who have contributed such a variety of fascinating articles and photos during the year. Our final 2017 issue continues with more interesting articles and photos about wildlife, pets, resident activities, celebrations, and new resident biographies.

The next Resort Report is scheduled to be printed on February 3, 2018. The deadline for submitting typed articles and photos is January 19. Please send your contributions to my cubby: L J 66, or via email to: [apslagter51253@gmail.com](mailto:apslagter51253@gmail.com)

The Resort Staff wishes all of you a very happy holiday season.

*Ann Slagter*

## Arizona Sunsets



*Photos by Boone Owens*

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## A Cat Named Tasha

I have had some wonderful pets, and my cat, Tasha, was certainly one of the most unique. Tasha's story begins in 2001. I was at my mother's house in Missouri, packing her up for a move to a senior residence near my home in Des Moines, Iowa. My friend was helping with the move, and I was standing in the back of his pickup truck rearranging the last load. I looked up from my task to find him holding an adorable tortoise shell kitten with snow white chest and paws. I said, "Jim, no! I can't handle a stray cat right now!"

But the kitty hung around so I went to Wal-Mart for food and litter. Though my mother insisted she did not want a cat, I said, "We will keep her tonight and let her out in the morning. If she is not here by the time we have the house cleaned and the car packed, we will just assume she has another home. Okay?"

Incredibly, the next evening, as we were putting the last items in the car, the cat appeared. So we put her on a pile of boxes between us in the front seat, and she did not move until we got to my house in Des Moines. On the way, we named her.

In Des Moines, Tasha joined a menagerie -- dogs Punkin and Roscoe, and cats Chloe and Ashes. But before she could really settle in, my mother called to say she wanted Tasha after all. So intrepid Tasha made another move, and soon took over Mother's wraparound second floor deck. There she enjoyed watching birds and squirrels until she decided to leap off one day. Thanks to those nine lives, she landed unharmed on top of a large bush. That escapade gave Mother and her fellow residents some needed thrills.

Tasha was with Mother when she died very suddenly eight months later. Traumatized, the cat made it her business to stay close. When I walked the dogs she went along with us. Her routine was to follow us as far as the corner, drop off and wait for us to return.

By the time I moved to Arizona several years later, Roscoe and Tasha were the only animal friends I had left. We moved into our empty house on New Year's Eve, 2005 and spent the first night sharing a sleeping

bag on the floor. When Roscoe died a year later, a lovely golden retriever mix came to live with us. We named her Penny, and she was as bright as her name. For eight years she and Tasha were inseparable, each of them following me as I worked around the house. And when I walked Penny, Tasha would always be somewhere on the route shadowing us.

The two animal friends always greeted me at the door. But one day, I came home to find only Penny waiting. I said to her, "Where's Tasha?" The dog looked at me with a quizzical expression and then started down the hallway. She stopped once and looked back so I followed her to the guest bedroom where she sat down before the closet. When I opened the door, a grateful Tasha stepped out. She never got



*Photo provided by Carol Richardson*

over her tendency to dart unseen through open doors.

When I moved to La Posada, it was not a good move for Penny. She was a people-shy dog bothered by noise and commotion so she would often spend all day hiding in the bedroom. She obviously missed our house and yard, especially considering her favorite sport was chasing a ball. So Penny went to live with a lady who has a large house and yard, three cats and a willingness to play ball. But it was a sad day for Tasha and me when she left. From that time on Tasha hated letting me out of her sight.

If I came in through the front door, Tasha was there to meet me. If I entered through the patio, Tasha would appear before I reached the gate. Wherever I was, Tasha was my shadow. And she held her own with the neighborhood canines. When she was outside with me she never let a barking dog intimidate her. She would just hunker by my feet and stare him down. If neighbors brought their dogs to visit, vigilant Tasha would make sure she claimed my lap.

For 17 years I lived with Tasha. But, tragically, she has finally left me. I always thought I was caring for her, but I now realize she gave me much more than I ever gave her – more love, more loyalty, more enjoyment. She was in every way this woman's best friend.

*Carol Richardson*

## 18<sup>th</sup> La Posada Veterans' Day Celebration - 2017

On Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, La Posada Veterans assembled in the La Vista Madera Room to celebrate Veterans' Day and to honor fallen comrades. About 65 men and women veterans attended the celebration. The Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force were present. Service experiences spanned the years; veterans from World War II through the Middle Eastern conflicts were represented. The La Posada catering staff provided a lovely continental breakfast and decorated the room with a patriotic theme. The La Posada Lifestyles group was instrumental in the organization and preparation of all the paperwork involved with the event. Music was provided by May Jane Clabots and Agnes Sprunger.

Chaplain Vern Harms delivered the Invocation. There were two resident speakers at this year's celebration. John Vold, a Naval Aviator, served in Korea. He recounted his work at a number of sites, all of which he recalled were very cold! John McNiece, U.S. Air Force, studied Chinese language in an intense training program at Yale University. He was then stationed on a small island in the Yellow Sea (West of the Korean Peninsula) to intercept communications from Korean, Chinese and Russian air forces.

A veterans' role call was held; each participant told of his branch of service and theater of operations. Once again, this year's group had service experiences that spanned the globe. All veterans joined in singing patriotic songs and each stood as the song of their service branch was sung.

Jim Lynch conducted the celebration.

*Jim Lynch*



*Photos by Jim Lynch*

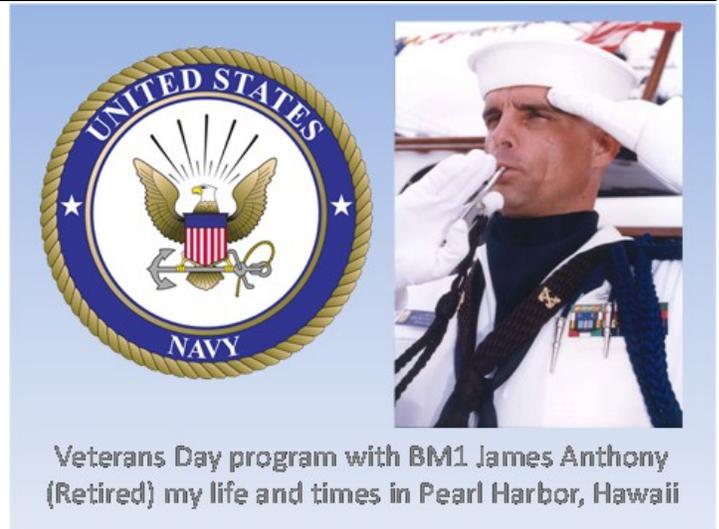
## Veteran's Day Celebration, 2017

Veteran's Day was celebrated at La Joya on Friday afternoon, November 10, with a program presented by BM1 (SW) James Anthony, retired. He told about his life and times from 1982 to 2003 while serving his whole military career as a sailor stationed in Pearl Harbor. Twice he was honored as "Sailor of the Year", chosen from all the sailors serving in the Pacific fleet.

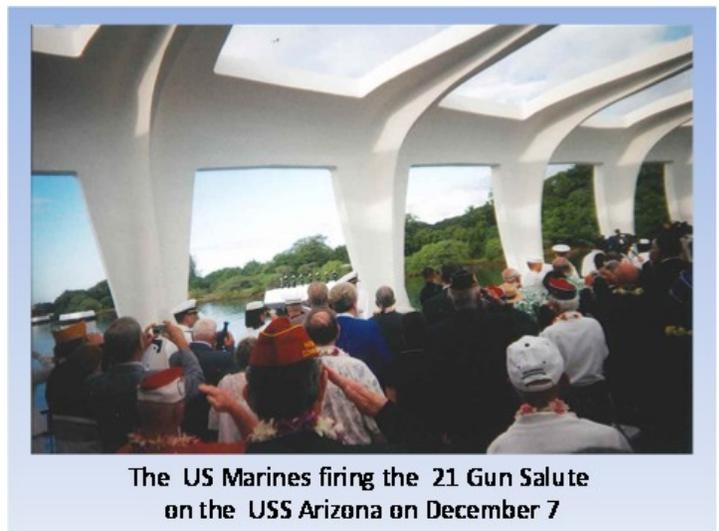
During his career, Jim initiated the "Presidential Honor Guard" for Pearl Harbor. One of his duties was as Honor Boatswain and he, along with his staff, arranged a Remembrance Ceremony every December 7 to honor the fallen sailors who had been on board the USS Arizona. He escorted many United States officials (including United States presidents) and diplomats, as well as many foreign leaders. Joanne Anthony, activity director for the cul-de-sac, showed slides of many events during these years. She also served as the Ombudsman for three of Jim's sea based commands, chosen by the commanding officer to be the direct liaison between the command and family members of those serving on board.

In addition to the slides, there was a display of memorabilia that Jim collected over the years, including his uniform, medal display, an engraved piece of wooden plank and a bolt from the USS Missouri, and an autographed GI Joe from Col. Michael Page, Medal of Honor recipient.

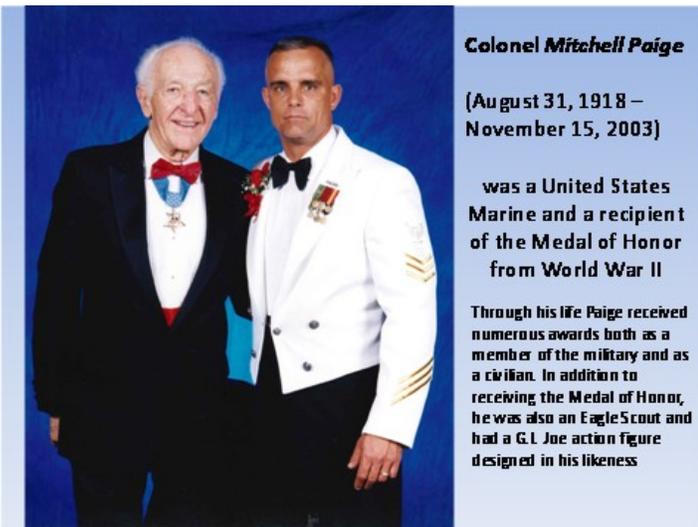
*Ann Slagter*



Veterans Day program with BM1 James Anthony (Retired) my life and times in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii



The US Marines firing the 21 Gun Salute on the USS Arizona on December 7



**Colonel Mitchell Paige**

(August 31, 1918 – November 15, 2003)

was a United States Marine and a recipient of the Medal of Honor from World War II

Through his life Paige received numerous awards both as a member of the military and as a civilian. In addition to receiving the Medal of Honor, he was also an Eagle Scout and had a G.I. Joe action figure designed in his likeness



American flag, in the Shrine Room ,inside the USS Arizona Memorial.

*Slides created by Joanne Anthony*

## La Vista Library New Books



Each time you visit the La Vista library I urge you to check the New Books cart located in front and slightly to the right as you enter. On the top shelf of that cart are books that are “new releases” (books just published) and also a loose-leaf notebook listing all the books that have been acquired within the current year. There’s something about a new book. Perhaps it’s new to you, or it might be just published and new to everyone. Either way, it’s the start of a journey. It’s more time spent with a favorite author, the discovery of another voice, or a visit to another time or place. Did you look forward to it being released, have it recommended by a friend or stumble upon it accidentally? You might have done all three, but did you ever ponder just how those new books arrive at the library?

It happens under the aegis of Leah Bohor, another amazing library volunteer. Leah has been volunteering for about four years and “worked her way up” to Reviewing, Recommending and Purchasing. (Whew). Her new book acquisitions are so impressive that I wanted residents to know her method.

Each month the first consideration is budget and the second is shelf space. Since the La Vista library is resident-driven, your requests are the main consideration. I hope you are aware of the Book Purchase Request box on the desk. You only need to take a form, fill it out and place your request in the red box. During the month Leah and other staff members research the requests. Final selections are based on what will appeal to many library visitors. If your book is selected for purchase, you will be notified when it is available. When the various book groups request a book, that book is ordered and eventually placed in the library.

We are very fortunate to have a staff of volunteers that not only keep current on best sellers, but also continually read reviews in publications and online. They know our reading interests from the book requests and from the circulation cards. When they find a book that is a match it is put into purchase consideration. A book may be ordered in regular or large print. It will be large print, if requested on the form; otherwise that decision is left to Leah’s observant judgment.

When the monthly purchase list is finally compiled, Leah begins to place the orders. Though she places the orders through Amazon, all the books aren’t necessarily available as a straight order. Often, she must “search them out” and buy from other vendors. Some are new, and some are “in new condition”. Prices and shipping vary and that’s where the budget comes in. The libraries are financially dependent on donations from our residents in the form of book and non-book donations, or in the monetary form of a check made out to Posada Life Foundation with a notation “La Vista Library” (or La Perla or La Joya). These donations are greatly appreciated! But every month new books arrive; book club requests are filled and the very book you are looking for might just be waiting on the New Books shelf.

While we are awaiting next month’s new books, here are three that recently arrived:

“Killer of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI” by David Grann

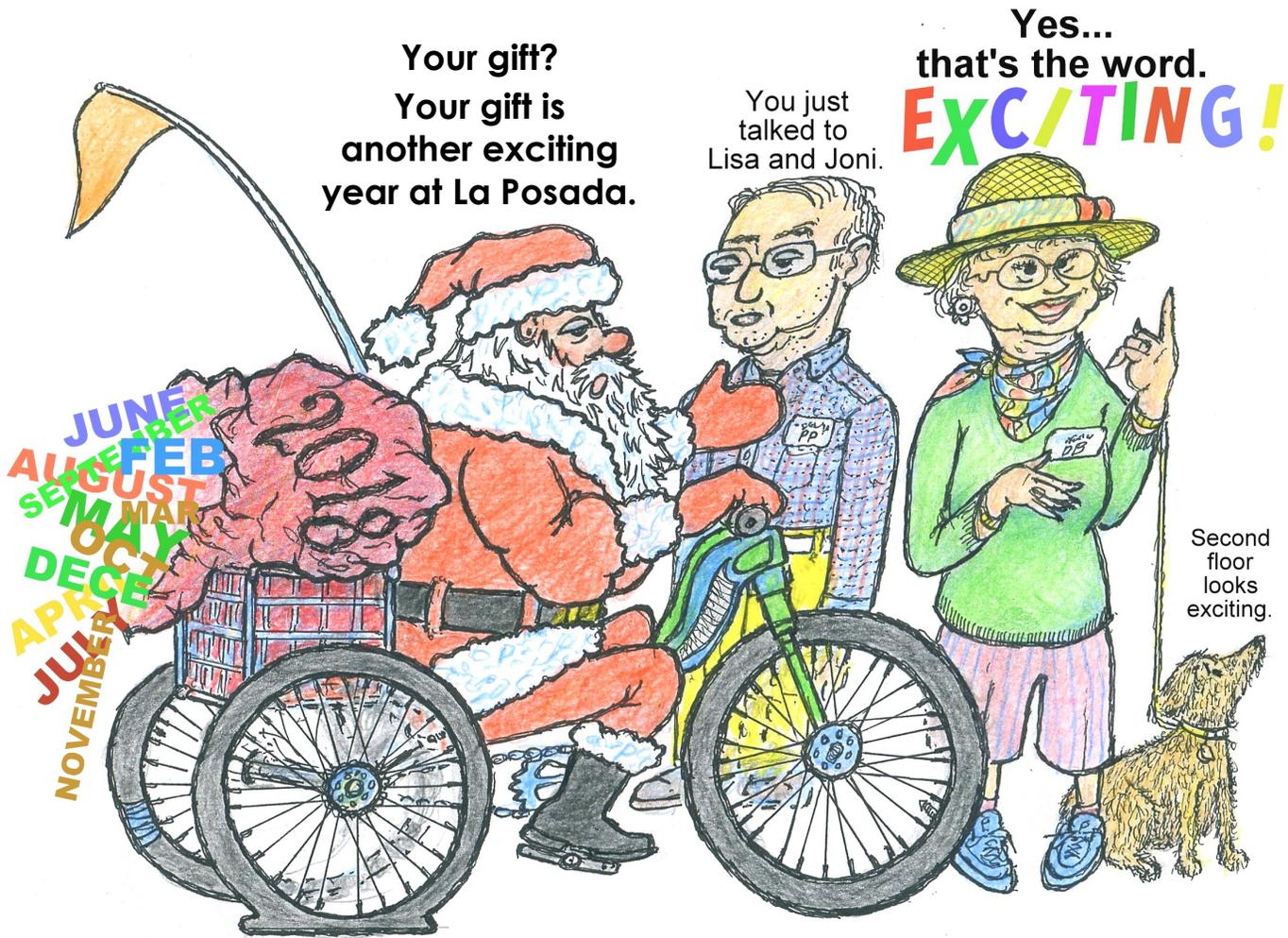
“Legacy of Spies” by John LeCarré - (First Smiley novel in more than 25 years)

“Glass Houses” by Louise Penny - (Chief Inspector Gamache novel)

When taking out a book, please be sure to fill out the card in the pocket in the front of the book and leave it in the circulation card box on the library desk. That is the only way staff knows what books have been checked out and approximately when they will be returned. Any Reserve Book Requests are attached to the card and when you return the book the next person requesting that book is notified. This might be especially important if it’s a new book.

*Barbara DeBeer*

Berard Cartoon



Cartoon by Don Berard

Ah – Mysteries!

I love to read mysteries, and there are a lot in the La Perla Library! I love trying to figure out the twists and turns and, ultimately, the answer. BUT then there are the mysteries IN the library. Like books that are taken out, but not checked out (even occasionally brand-new ones that many are waiting for) and like books in the office waiting for cataloging which disappear (and sometimes never return)! So, please, to save my sanity ..... check out the items before you leave the library! Please!!

For new residents, please know that all three libraries accept donations of books. Often, when

one moves we find that not everything fits in the new place. You can leave the ones for La Perla in my office in the library. If we already have that title, then it's shared with La Vista or La Joya.

On that note, although not a library project, jigsaw puzzles are enjoyed a lot by many residents, so donations of those are also acceptable (preferably under 1000 pieces). Because they are stored in various places at La Perla, you may also leave them in the library and I will see that they get distributed to the various places where they are used.

Thanks for using all three libraries, for we are proud of them!

Kay Kennard

## What Is EVS – Environmental Services? (Better Known as Housekeeping and Laundry)

The Environmental Services Department (EVS) provides both Housekeeping and Laundry services for the vast majority of the La Posada campus. Michael Okurily has been running the Housekeeping/Laundry operations since 2003 and currently has 85 people on staff. He is aided in this task with the help of three Supervisors and 3 Lead Housekeepers who assist the Supervisors. EVS personnel can be easily identified by their green uniforms that bear the La Posada logo and the EVS acronym.

Housekeeping services are provided at La Vista, La Perla, the Park Centre and Garden Homes, the Recreation Center, the cul-de-sac buildings, Administration, the Pavilion, the Shoppes and Posada Life Community Services (formerly Casa). This represents the cleaning of nearly one-million square feet of interior space that is done largely on the day shift. There is a small contingent of employees that continue cleaning (and laundering) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> shift.

All EVS employees receive standardized training in order to provide uniform delivery of services throughout the campus. Supervisors and Leads check routinely to see that all tasks are done according to established procedures. Cleaning chemicals that are used are based on hydrogen peroxide and are considered to be friendly for the customer, the end user (the employee) and the environment. In 2008, the EVS department won a “Best Practice” award for its “green cleaning” program by what was then known as Arizona Association Homes and Housing for the Aged, now known as Leading Age.

The Laundry department resides in a building that is located behind La Via. Laundry attendants pick up, sort, spot for stains, weigh, process (wash), dry, fold,

package and deliver an average of 500,000 pounds of laundry every year. The attendants also process tablecloths and napkins from Dining Services, towels from the Fitness Center, Pavilion, and Wellness Department, La Hacienda linens, and the mops and rags from the EVS Department. In addition, resident personal laundry and larger or bulkier items (bedspreads) can also be laundered for a small charge.

Ecolab, which is known worldwide for its laundry services and products, provides laundry products. The Ecolab technician creates a variety of formulas and wash/rinse temperatures to handle the different types of linens that are processed. The Laundry attendant merely presses a button on the washer to begin the wash process. There is never any “free-pouring” of wash product. Everything in the wash process is measured and monitored by computer.

When laundry is returned to residents, it is advisable to open your package and check to make sure that what you sent is what was delivered back to you. If it is discovered that an item is missing or that you have an item that may belong to someone else, please dial extension 8128 to correct the issue.

That number is checked multiple times per day for messages. You may also call the Laundry Supervisor, Ana Ballesteros at 4035, but the 8128 number is monitored every day and is preferred for ALL calls.

Would you like to see how the Laundry operates? Please call Michael Okurily at 7855 and arrangements can be made for a tour. You can also call Michael for any Housekeeping or Laundry issues that were not resolved by the Supervisors.

*Lillian Monson*



*Photos by Lillian Monson*

## A Self-contained Community

is where I am fortunate to live  
 the last segment of my life—  
 a community of seven hundred residents  
 and five hundred employees, like a little town  
 on this one hundred fifty acres of property,  
 with all the food and shelter services provided  
 three libraries, an observatory a little store,  
 along with online shopping for personal needs,  
 and if I want to go outside my little town  
 to shop and see doctors or the larger library  
 I can ride the bus or the van provided  
 for those purposes.  
 I can walk or ride on the tram around  
 the grounds of my little town  
 for they are some of the most compelling features,  
 containing pecan trees and green grass  
 and multi-colored flowers,  
 walking trails for visiting, meditation and poetry  
 and butterfly gardens, and even a coffee shop  
 for meeting friends from the larger communities,  
 ramadas and benches for sitting to rest,  
 and changing views from mountains to a river,  
 usually a dry river bed where one could study earth science  
 or wait for the excitement of water running in rainy weather.  
 And then the levels of care available if and when I need them –  
 I am grateful.

*Margaret Ann Adams*  
 Copyright 2017

### Love: Defined

Love, Heterosexual or same sex, begins with chemistry or physical attraction. Hormonal in its early stages, it becomes more emotional and cerebral with time. Love matures upon discovery of common beliefs, values, and ideals and discovery of a compatible but not necessarily common life style. When love has progressed, one takes great pride in the other's accomplishments and shares despair at their misfortunes and failures. At its best, love is a state of mind that brings constant joy to what otherwise could be a rather dull life.

*Ted Walden*

### Winter

Soot-colored sparrows  
 Peck at piles of sodden leaves.  
 Branches hang starkly.

Peaks black silhouettes  
 Artfully frosted with snow  
 Neath sinister clouds.

A touch of orange lifts  
 An overwhelming darkness  
 No comfort in cold.

*Carol Richardson*

## Social Action Committee

La Posada's Residents' Council has a new committee this year called the Social Action Committee. Co-chaired by Sally Ruschmeier and Babs Phillips, the committee has defined two areas of action: 1) to help La Posada residents find volunteer positions that will benefit the community AND benefit the volunteer and 2) to identify and distribute knowledge about legislative proposals that may impact La Posada or its residents.

Residents who want to volunteer here at La Posada should contact Barbara Salazar, Volunteer Manager (phone 520-648-7999). To volunteer off campus you can call the Volunteer Clearinghouse, phone 520-625-1150. The Volunteer Clearing House is a project of the Pima Council on Aging. Last year, La Posada residents volunteered 75,566 hours both on and off campus.

To model some volunteering behavior, the Social Action Committee helped Posada Java with a benefit concert for YOTO. \$1,263.75 was raised for the Tucson Chapter of Youth on Their Own.

Volunteering offers vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community. But the benefits can be even greater for the volunteer. The right match can help you reduce stress, find friends, reach out to the community, and learn new skills. Volunteering also connects you to others and contributes to your mental and physical wellbeing. It helps counteract the effects of stress, anger, and anxiety. Even a small amount can have an impact, and once you start to volunteer, it often gives you the momentum to do more.

Studies have shown that helping others often increases happiness. The more people volunteer, the happier they become. Researchers at the London School of Economics found that compared with people who never volunteer, the odds of being "very happy" rose 7% among those who volunteered monthly and 12% among people who volunteered every two to four weeks. Among weekly volunteers, 16% felt very happy – a hike in happiness comparable to having income of \$75,000 - \$100,000 versus \$20,000.

So what are you waiting for? Call and volunteer now!

*Sally Ayres*

## Cini the Miniature Therapy Horse Visits La Joya



*Photos by Boone Owens*

## Totems – Talent - Taff



A beautiful large pot sits in my living room; it is in shades of brown with lighter "paintings" of Indian pottery enhancing the shape. The artist, Tim Taff, is the clay instructor here at La Posada. He teaches classes in the studio (Artist's Inn) on the second floor at La Vista South, and at La Joya and La Via as well.

The Taffs moved to Green Valley from Washington State searching a retirement destination in the southwest. Tim had worked at a college in Port Angeles, Washington, and took classes in continuing education, engineering and art as often as his job allowed. He won awards at the college in drawing and painting, ("Best of Show") and received awards in his high school art classes as well. I asked Tim if he drew or painted now, and he said "no", but I've had a "sneak peek" at design plans and drawings for his pots.

Soon after arriving in Green Valley, Tim stopped at the clay studio in the Springs center, run by Green Valley Recreation. A monitor showed him around, noted his interest, and encouraged him to take beginning classes. From the classes, Tim "fell in love" with clay! He continued to study and has devoted his time to learning all there is to know about the medium, becoming adept at all phases of the art, including hand and wheel building, use of glazes and firing temperatures, and utilizing a variety of kilns. He enjoyed teaching and taught GVR clay classes until spring of 2016, when he was asked to teach at La Posada. (His wife, Cindy, is one of our lovely front desk hostesses.)



His group at La Vista in the "Artist's Inn" number between eight and ten, at La Joya, six, and at La Via, ten

### "Jester in the Park"



to twelve students. Taff says the class at La Via is very enthusiastic and can hardly wait for their latest pieces to be fired! I saw owls produced by the La Via group and they were fun and attractive! Folks at La Joya and La Via are very proud of their work!

The La Vista clay studio members have just produced an intriguing black and white "totem" recently installed in Central park. (A "totem" is an artistic symbol or an emblem; in this case, a decorative art object made for our Park.) This totem consists of black and white balls in a variety of sizes. It is lit for a short time after dark by a "spray" of solar ball-shape lights on top.

The La Posada activities persons conducted a "name the totem" contest with the prize being a gift certificate to Posada Java. Twenty-nine names were suggested! Posada Life Foundation recently announced the winner. The winning name is "Jester in the Park" and was submitted by Peggy Schloff.

The next totem the La Vista clay class has ready awaits installation, probably near the Los Ninos school. This totem is a mix of colorful cubes and shapes. Installation requires a hole dug by service staff filled with concrete - quite an operation!

Taff and the group have other designs ready and plan to make as many totems as La Posada desires!

Aren't we fortunate to have Tim Taff's expertise!

*Photos by Bill Liebson*

*Georgia P. Doubler*

## Media Services by Our Own Media Moguls

*It is the photographer not the camera that is the instrument.*

Eve Arnold

Throughout history one can recognize names of those who define an era. In this case Harold and Marjory Margulies, Doug Sherwin, Barb and Warren Steurer, and Steve Auslander immediately recall the building and growth of the Good Friends Network initiated in 2001 as the first La Posada TV Channel featuring residents and relevant activities.

Currently, the Media Services Team volunteer innumerable hours to record, edit, and add presentations to the archives of the Good Friends Network. In coordination with IT Director, Jerry Wygint who oversees policy decisions, and IT Specialist, Donny Lupkes, who assists with audio and set up for each event, the team tirelessly works to bring us recordings of campus events that interest the residents, who for one reason or another were unable to attend the presentation. Within days, it will become available for viewing on the Good Friends Network.

The current group of volunteers consists of six men, Dick Andrews, Bob Doss, Don Flood, Larry Randall, Ted Steinke and Jim Wulliman. Ted and Jim came from the broadcast industry, but not as cameramen. The team is self-taught and has learned by watching other programs and the camera work of producers. Their assignments include the various tasks involved in recording and

### Camera No. 1—Don Flood



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producing a video presentation of the event.

Don Flood's job as scheduler is to organize all the scheduled events at the proper time, and make sure that adequate equipment and personnel are available to record. Currently, the team has been able to accommodate all requests generated from Activities and various sources on campus.

### Memory Card



*Screenshot by Don Flood*

Recording an event: The team meets in the studio at 354 La Vista. The cameras are prepped with charged batteries, memory cards, and set up for use. Every time the camera is turned on, it creates a scene. The first is the clap board, which identifies the camera and memory card. Scene two is the camera test at the site of the presentation along with an audio test. After the presentation, the team returns all equipment to the studio to recharge batteries and begin the routine of editing the event.

### Camera No. 2—Bob Doss



*Photos by Virginia Crook*

## Editing Software



Screenshot by Don Flood

Editing the event: Since editing is tedious and time-consuming (two to three hours of labor for one hour of presentation), Don Flood using a PC program, or Bob Doss using a MAC program share editing duties. Both computer programs are compatible with the cameras' digital format. Each camera has a memory card that records audio and video. The editor takes the memory card from both Camera No. 1 (head-on shots of the presenter) and Camera No. 2 (audience participation) and builds the program to be presented using editing software.

The lead in to the presentation is produced separately. It generally consists of an opening picture showing La Posada's front gate, followed

by succeeding screens showing Good Friends Connection, Title of the Presentation, Presenter's name and an appropriate bleed out with another picture that is already on file.

Next the program is trimmed and details finalized. This entails the editor stopping Camera No. 1 filming at the proper spot to insert the question and answer from Camera No. 2. The challenge is to succeed with proper timing (making sure the lips match the speaker's mouth movement). The main program resumes using the main camera until the next question, etc. At the end, the editor adds an appropriate closing scene.

Once the project has been completed, it is archived in case the production copy gets misplaced or damaged. The production copy now goes into what is called "The Tank" to be shown on one of the La Posada TVs "on demand" channels, 68-71. (A new feature is a daily program menu on Channel 67, which shows the broadcast time and program name being shown from 7:00 AM through 9:00 PM.)

The team shares a special camaraderie and enjoy their pre-and-post time in the studio at La Vista. They're actively seeking new volunteers to join their group and help alleviate the increasing work load enabling even more programs to be added to the Good Friends Network.

*The digital camera is a great invention because it allows us to reminisce. Instantly.*

Demetri Martin

Virginia Crook

### Our Volunteer Media Moguls

*From left to right: Jim Wulliman, Dick Andrews, Ted Steinke, Don Flood, Larry Randall, Bob Doss*



Photo by Bob Doss

## Do You Remember????



The year was 2011. We welcomed a new addition to our gardens – a Zen Garden. Mark Dugan called a meeting to ask for volunteers to design a Zen pattern and rake it into the sand.

Recently I found the list of teams. We called ourselves the Zen Master Volunteers.

Team #1: Mary Kidnocker, John Page

Team #2: Elinor Rose, Barbara Salazar

Team #3: Punky Griggs, Joan Kessel

Team #4: Marge Hurst, Kit Humphries

Team #5: Lou Gilbert, Jim Robbins

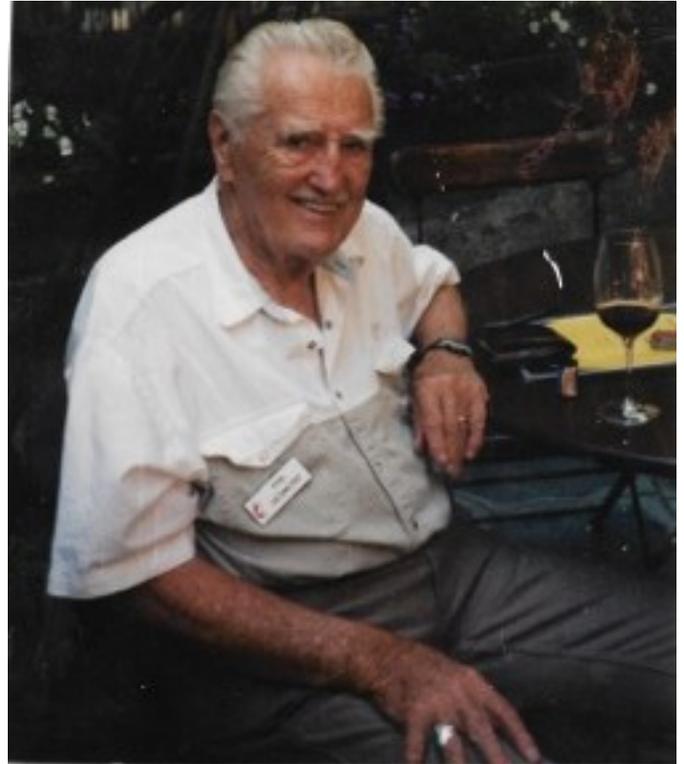
Team #6: Bob Venuti, Bob James

We were told that Zen patterns were in library books and online and to be artistic in our raking; John Page fashioned a large fish. Rakes were huge and were made by Doug Webster. After a year of artistic raking, we left our Zen garden to “Big Foot.”

The rakes are still available if any volunteer would like to play in the sand.

*Punky Griggs*

## What a Wonderful Life!



*Photo provided by Phil Desmond*

How many of us remember those La Posada resident talent shows of yesteryear? There was a comedy act where a delightful man entertained us so well with accent and costume that we were convinced he had recently arrived from a foreign land. That man was Phillip Desmond, a native of the Chicago area for fifty years. What we didn't know was his interest in oil painting. His only formal training in art was from an unusually highly sophisticated art department in his high school. Phil's professional years were spent in advertising.

This artist, his wife and two daughters all shared a love for downhill skiing. Where do avid skiers spend their winter months? Of course, the world-renowned Aspen, Colorado! When the family moved there permanently, they enlisted an architect friend to help them design their three-story dream home. A room in the basement was dedicated to the continuation of Phil's oil painting.

And now to his artistic skill over the years! This pencil sketch is one of his favorites. It is their dream home with attached garage and it still stands in that magnificent Aspen setting. Phil proudly tells us that his house has 105 windows to capture that glorious Colorado sunshine.



Not wanting to completely retire, he opened a one-man store using his past experience in advertising to design commercial signs. These included a variety of offerings from hand-painted lettering, typeface printing, woodcarving and gold leafing, to name a few. At that time there were many restrictions about signs in the Aspen area. However, this man's creations were artfully unique, were in great demand, and some are still proudly displayed today. When Phil wanted to spend the day with his family on the slopes he just locked the front door of his shop.

Notice the picture frames. One of his creative touches is to have an eye for picture frames. In a local store he was attracted to a display of picture frames. He purchased several. Then he stretched his canvases to fit the frames and painted his pictures. This is not the usual sequence of events, but it worked beautifully.

The second picture is the very favorite of our artist entitled "Prairie View." -- an Illinois farm scene with the prairie, a wheat field and a welcoming home.

Is it difficult to imagine being totally involved in the work you love, filling the winter months with skiing and painting, the summers with fishing and golf and the fall seasons with hunting deer and antelope?

Thank you, Phil Desmond, for sharing your wonderful life with us.

*Marya Dalrymple and Doris Steffy*



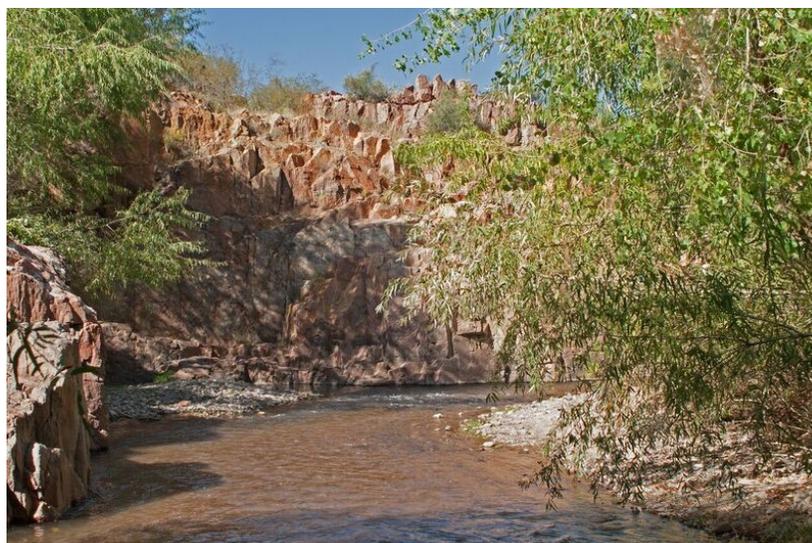
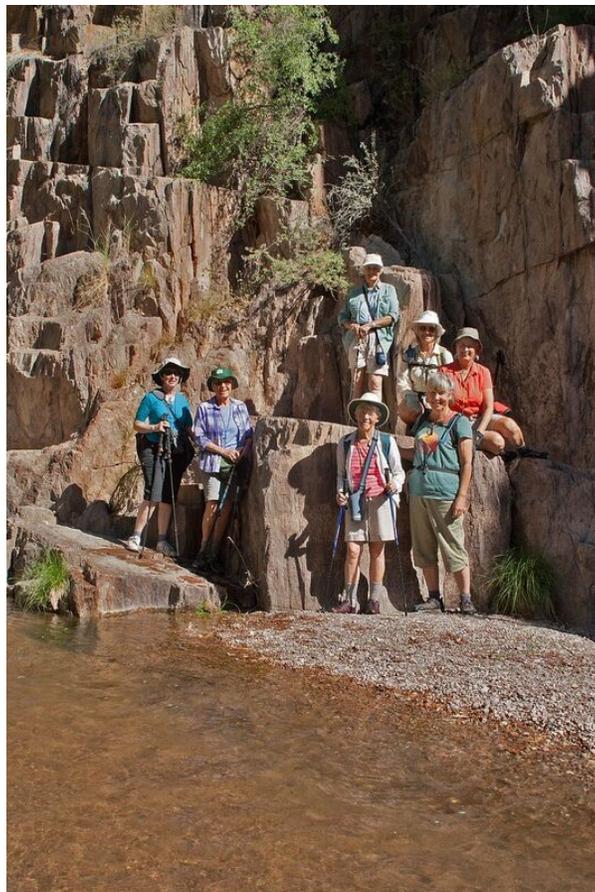
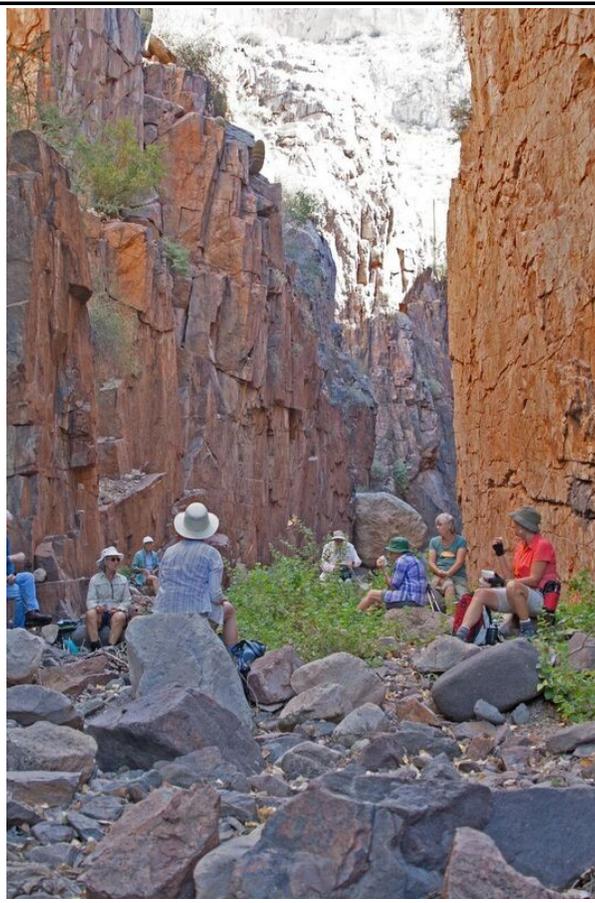
*Photos of Phil Desmond's Paintings by Boone Owens*

## A “Crown Jewel” Hike

In October the La Posada Hiking Group ventured into the hike that is considered one of the “Crown Jewels” in the world of hiking: “Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness.” The hike is a spectacular canyon hike with wondrously carved walls exceeding 1,000 feet in some places. Aravaipa Canyon has few if any to equal its beauty. The hike is also unique in that the hike is a “Wet Hike,” crisscrossing streams often, through water too deep to stop to remove and replace footwear. The hike is by permit ONLY. There are only 30 hikers/backpackers allowed in the 12-mile length canyon at any given time and any group size is restricted to 10, a rule that is strictly enforced.

Aravaipa Canyon is but one of the nine hikes that the La Posada Hiking Group has planned for the 2017/2018 season.

*Joseph Mac Isaac*



*Photos provided by Joseph Mac Isaac*

## Tale of an Elderly Ewe

One evening in July this year my family and I took a refreshing twilight stroll through the neighborhood park, the two dogs trotting along on leashes. Afterwards we planned to watch a documentary on TV. I was visiting my daughter, Joanne, and son-in-law, Rich at their home in a town about 30 miles north of Austin, Texas. Joanne planned the time I was there to be filled with fun activities including a reunion we were excited to attend in Little Rock, and hikes in the Austin area through a different park each day. But, as you know, unplanned things do happen...

So, one day we would follow a trail leading to a reservoir lake, the following day walk in an old park shaded by live oaks, another day hike a trail beside a lively creek, which would be classified as a healthy river in my neck-of-the-woods. Later in the week we walked in a town park flanked by apartment buildings. We drove to a couple of parks in downtown Austin: one to stroll the lakeside boardwalk, and the other to wander in a huge park with different kinds of gardens including a butterfly garden. All walks were very satisfying. Little Chaco, their part Chihuahua and part Dachshund, always accompanied us, trotting along on short but fast legs. He is the sort that would melt the heart of the most ardent dog-disliker. Looking up at me with bright, pleading eyes and wagging tail, Chaco won me over immediately, helping me to understand why people feel so close to their dogs.

Then Wynne arrived. I had been warned. Youngest granddaughter, Brooke, was going to be out-of-town for a few days, leaving Wynne, whom she adored, with her parents. Joanne suggested that I meet Wynne while sitting down. "I don't want her to knock you over," she explained. "She is big, very big, part Australian shepherd and maybe Swiss mountain dog??? But she is very friendly, like a big puppy. She and Chaco love to frolic together."

Wynne and I soon became friends. As I petted her, she responded with generous licks and whole-body exuberance. I quickly noticed and had to admire her long, pearly-white fangs.

Back at the house after our evening stroll, I lagged behind the others as we headed into the

family room to watch TV. Wynne followed me. Without warning, I received two quick nips on my ankles followed immediately by a huge bite on my lower hip. "Ouch!" I shouted, "Wynne bit me! I wasn't doing anything to cause this." It really hurt.

"But Wynne doesn't bite," was the immediate response, as though the bite had been a part of my imagination. After inquiring about my well-being, everyone speculated as to why Wynne had bitten me. Amy, Brooke's sister, felt she knew the reason. "She is only two, Grandma, still a puppy, and you were very slow. She had never seen an old person before." (Well, that put me squarely into a certain category, in case I hadn't already realized this.) The following day, Amy tried an experiment. She asked me to poke along in front of Wynne while Amy held her back with the leash. Sure enough, she lunged, ready to bite, but was restrained by the leash.

One evening we watched a documentary on the British royal family. The film stated that the Queen's domestic help did not like her corgis because they were bred to be shepherders and therefore would nip at the workers' legs. This strengthened Amy's speculation as to why Wynne bit me. She probably had some shepherd genes in her make-up, and when an old ewe ambled behind the flock, she did what came naturally.

*Natalie Barber*

### Wynne and Little Chaco



*Photo by Joanne Piskator*

## Resident Council Highlights

### OCTOBER

- Pat Graffweg reported a total of \$86,608.18 in the Holiday Gift Fund (HGF). The HGF is now at 40% of the annual goal and the council appreciates all those who are contributing.
- The East Side Dog Park is moving forward.
- The Raised Gardens have been a success this season.
- Please use comment cards because they do make a difference. Complaints were received about slow service and Management has agreed to answer comment card questions.
- A total of \$10,275 was collected for hurricane relief.
- A trip was taken to the Headquarters of Youth on Their Own (YOTO). YOTO spoke at a forum Oct. 13. Fundraiser for YOTO at Posada Java on Nov. 4.
- A well-attended program on women's heart health was held Nov. 8.
- A bridge group for those with low vision has been started.
- Fitness packets were delivered to 9 new residents.
- The Hospitality Committee hosted 13 new residents in the restaurants and at the socials. Four get-well cards were sent.
- Candidates for the 2018 Resident Council will be introduced at the Nov. meeting.
- The Technology Committee held a presentation on caption phones at La Joya.
- Major impact on the 2018 budget will be the required upward adjustment in the minimum wage.
- New china has been ordered for La Vista. More affordable takeout food containers will be used since they cannot be recycled.
- La Via is being refurbished.
- Available meal credits can be checked online.
- Lisa Israel reported that the Industrial Development Authority approved issuing of bonds for Nakoma Sky on Oct. 6. Land at Nakoma Sky is being prepared with La Posada funding, which will be repaid later from bond funds.
- More than 20 move-ins at La Posada are expected by the end of the year.
- Joni, Paul, and two board members attended a strategic conference.
- La Posada has placed ads in Arizona Highways.
- La Posada is not willing to pay what is being asked for the 23 acres bordering La Posada.
- Judy Harsch gave a report on the Service Center, including the buddy system, maintenance requests,

guest rooms, transportation requests, IT help, monitoring of alarms, and transportation schedules.

### NOVEMBER

- Pat Graffweg reported a total of \$210,107.39 in the HGF, which is at 70% of the annual goal.
- Steps are being taken to combat mosquito infestation from the pecan grove.
- Please be careful when exiting a garage because the resident does not have a clear vision of the road and bikes or vehicles that may be passing in front of the garage.
- Policies concerning wheel chairs in dining rooms are being studied.
- Servers have magnifiers to assist in reading menus. Please ask for one if you are having trouble reading the print.
- The YOTO fundraiser on Nov. 4 raised \$1,247.75. Java food sales raised \$444 of the total.
- A brochure was sent to residents to encourage our legislators to vote NO on the proposed tax bill. Copies were also sent to The Peaks, Silver Springs, Arroyo Gardens, and Prestige.
- Classes on chair yoga and positive posture have been well received. Residents should sign up for their annual fitness assessment.
- 54 employees have utilized \$65,064 in resident scholarship funds. The budget for 2017-18 is \$105,000.
- Connie Conklin, Pat VanVeen and Kay Kennard reported for the three libraries. Libraries never close and are open to all residents. They are operated with volunteers. Thanks to residents for donations received. The website has an integrated catalog. Please use the checkout procedure when you take a book. Residents may recommend books for purchase.
- Ads to the community are being used to fill assisted-living vacancies, primarily for studio units.
- Hurricane relief raised \$13,075 from residents plus the La Posada contribution from foundation funds. The fund is being used to assist seniors.
- Please write your legislators concerning the negative impact of the proposed tax bill in eliminating medical deductions.
- In a comment from the floor, a complaint was raised about employees parking along the streets and directly in front of La Vista. Supervisors will look into that.

*Pat Cramer*

### Super Moon



*Photos by Boone Owens*

### Judy Bischoff Garden Home 3201



*Photo by Pat Cramer*

Judy Bischoff hails from Cincinnati, Ohio and was the only child in her family. Her extensive educational background includes a B.A. from the University of Cincinnati, an M.A. in Recreation from Indiana University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. She also earned minors in Sociology and Psychology. This led to a long career that started with high school teaching in Battle Creek, Michigan before she went on to Drake University in Des Moines. Judy coached field hockey, basketball, volleyball, badminton, and track/field in addition to her teaching there. She developed the first Women’s Relay Team at Drake and created a title-winning volleyball team.

When Judy next moved to Northern Illinois University at DeKalb, she added administrative duties to her resume when she became the Executive Secretary and then Chair of the University Council, assistant basketball coach, and a department chair for 13 years.

Judy had spent spring breaks in the southwest playing golf and after retiring in 2002, decided Green Valley was the place to be, moving here in 2004. Judy is still a dedicated “twice a week golfer” and volunteers for both the Sahuarita Food Bank and a Back Pack program that fills bags for needy children. She has also worked with a program to earn free books for children and did a Spanish immersion program in Guatemala with her church.

*Pat Cramer*

**Jan Hall**

LP 2213

*Photo by Nicole Raymond*

Jan Hall was born in Keokuk, Iowa but raised in Omaha as the middle child of three sisters, "... with the personality to match that!" she says with a smile. Jan attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, where she met Bob Hall as a freshman. She graduated from the University at Omaha as Bob became a doctor of Academic Medicine and practiced as a neonatologist at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri for the next 40 years. His great passion was treating babies and researching ways to improve their care. Sadly, Jan lost Bob in November 2016. They had been married 56 years and raised three daughters and have seven grandchildren.

Jan's training in education led to a career as a kindergarten teacher and a Montessori teacher where she worked for eight years in a program that included special needs children. Later, she spent time as an aide in an environment for severely handicapped children. This was very rewarding for Jan because "The families appreciated so much what we did for their kids! They knew that their children were very well cared for.

Bob and Jan were both golfers and found Green Valley by way of a Christmas Holiday package in 1995. They loved the area and became snowbirds from 2001-2016. In addition to her ongoing love of golf, Jan does quilting (totally by hand stitching!) and needlepoint.

*Pat Cramer***Ron and Kathy Hull**

GH 1603

*Photo by Nicole Raymond*

Ron Hull is an Ohio native who met Kathy in Wichita Falls, TX when they were both stationed there as members of the Air Force. Kathy traveled a circuitous path to Wichita Falls; she was born in South Carolina but spent early years in Panama due to the work of her government official father. This patriotic couple married 56 years ago in Oklahoma on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July—a fitting date for people who had given so much time to military service. They have three children and six grandkids, and one of their daughters is now also an Army vet of 23 years. The second daughter has a 33-year career with the airlines and their son is a retired police officer.

Ron flew 23 different types of aircraft during his Air Force career (and someday hopes to finish building models of every one of them), while Kathy received a nursing education and spent her career in that field. Ron had stations in Libya and Vietnam but likes the Southwest the best. His retirement found the couple traveling from Canada to Mexico as members of the Escapees RV organization. They checked out CCRCs from FL to AZ and finally picked La Posada, moving here from an RV/casita in Benson. Ron's advice to all of us: "Learn to travel lightly!" For hobbies, Kathy enjoys needlework and ceramics while Ron works on his model-building.

*Pat Cramer*

**Nancy Hungate**  
GH 3201



*Photo by Pat Cramer*

Nancy Hungate is an Ohio native from Oberlin, home of Oberlin College and Conservatory. She earned a BA there in Physical Education and later completed an MA from New York University. Of her time in New York, Nancy says "Being a small-town kid, I was very happy to escape the city after finishing my degree!" She taught at Downer College in Milwaukee before it joined Lawrence College in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Her career took her to Northern Illinois University, where Nancy focused on teaching large activity classes in the required program. Once activities became elective with an enrichment emphasis, Nancy taught scuba, white-water canoeing and camping. She says "We got great feedback about how exciting the outdoors could be in Illinois from kids who were only acquainted with Chicago city streets!"

Nancy, with her friend Judy Bischoff, found Green Valley during a spring break trip with a golfing group. She has lived here since 2004 spending summers at her cabin in northern Idaho. After 27 summers she sold the cabin and made the move to La Posada.

Music has been a consistent part of Nancy's life (her father taught piano at the Oberlin Conservatory), and she continues to sing in a church choir and is a member of their bell choir. When not golfing, she enjoys reading, Pilates, Sudoku and volunteering at the Good Shepherd UCC.

*Pat Cramer*

**Kate Hutson**  
LV 106



*Photo by Pat Cramer*

Kate Hutson hails from Linden, New Jersey and grew up in a family of three children with twin siblings--a boy and a girl. She graduated from school in South River, NJ, married her high school sweetheart, and immediately traveled the world when new husband Donald joined the Army Air Corps as a pilot just as Pearl Harbor occurred. Says Kate, "I then followed my husband to a new living location every 13 weeks, so my mother always called me the gypsy of the family. But my mother understood about following the man you love—she herself came from Germany in 1923 to marry the Army PFC she had fallen in love with during WWI." Donald spent 21 years as a military pilot before joining the FAA for another 17 years. Together they raised two children and have four grandchildren.

Kate and her husband moved to Rio Rico and built a house in 2003 at the urging of their daughter. When Donald died in 2008, Kate married a retired naval commander but also lost him in 2011. She came to La Posada to find a place "...where you can participate in a lot of activities if you want, or relax and do nothing if you choose." She volunteers at the White Elephant, reads, plays mah jongg, and enjoys her affectionate rescue cat Todi, who is great company.

*Pat Cramer*

**Bob and Jean Lieg**

La Vista 241

*Photo by Pat Cramer***Mary Maier**

GH 1502

*Photo by Pat Cramer*

Bob was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, attended school there and earned his Engineering Degree from Marquette University. Jean hails from East Liverpool, Ohio, about 40 miles from Pittsburgh. They met while working at RCA Corporation in Colorado Springs, and together they have four children and have been married 44 years.

Bob's education was interrupted by service in the Korean War. He finished his degree, and followed that with an extensive career at RCA as a long-distance Communications Engineer and Contracts Negotiator. Fairchild Industries then recruited him as Corporate Director of Contracts and he oversaw most of the negotiations for the A-10 aircraft. This position presented him the opportunity to acquire an Executive MBA from Loyola. Bob also refereed ice hockey for 32 years at all levels – amateur, college, international and professional. Jean was working at that time as an Executive Assistant for a major defense contractor. She played tennis with a retired Rockette, who interested her in tap dancing which she still enjoys.

The couple came to Green Valley, discovered the great weather and golfing in Green Valley and bought a house in 1992. Bob was president of the Canoa Seca Estates II HOA for one term and served as Block Captain for 25 years. Jean was the CSE II Secretary for seven years. She currently volunteers two times a week at the La Via Memory Center. They are both enjoying their retirement at La Posada.

*Pat Cramer*

Mary Maier was born in Iowa but moved to Colorado to attend the University of Colorado, obtaining a degree in Medical Technology. While living in Denver she met her husband, Bob, a resident in Pathology at Penrose Hospital in Colorado Springs. After marrying, the couple moved to Twin Falls, Idaho for Bob's career, and in 1980 had an opportunity to start a Hospital lab in Ontario, Oregon. By that time, they had four children and today there are nine grandchildren.

Mary worked in the histology lab until she and Bob retired to McCall, Idaho. The McCall winters were beautiful but long, so they enjoyed trips to Mexico. During that time, friends told them about Green Valley and the avid golfer in Bob had to check this community out. Of course, the ambience was just right and Mary and Bob became snowbirds for two years until they purchased a house 12 years ago.

In addition to his love for golf, Bob enjoyed woodworking and running. Mary and Bob had been married for 50 years when Mary unexpectedly lost him earlier this year. Mary played golf as well, but her favorite pastime has been swimming with the Aquabelles for the last five years. The team swims from April until their show in September. She enjoys working with clay, learning about Bonsai here and participating in the exercise classes at the Pavilion.

*Pat Cramer*

**Rosemary Stoltenberg**

La Vista 314

*Photo by Nicole Raymond*

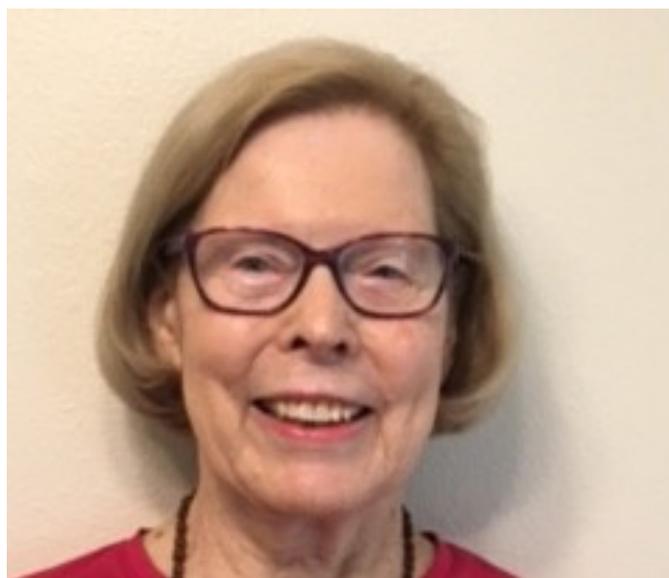
Rosemary Stoltenberg was born and grew up in Tillamook on the Oregon coast. She earned a B.Ed. from the University of Oregon and M.Ed. in School Counseling from Oregon State, which “makes me both a Duck and a Beaver,” she laughs. She taught Elementary school while her first husband was in dental school, had a son during that time and a daughter after returning to Corvallis, Oregon after two years in Guam during the 1960s. Her travel during the Guam years led to a lifelong passion for other cultures.

Rosemary later met and married Carl Stoltenberg, a forest economist, who taught at the University of Minnesota, Duke, and Iowa State before becoming Dean of Forestry at Oregon State. During their years in Corvallis Rosemary founded a conversational English school for the wives of international students which still operates today.

Carl and Rosemary traveled in Europe, Asia, South America, Russia, New Zealand and Israel. They moved to Tucson for Carl’s health in 1992 and Rosemary continued her ESL work with primarily male international students through Literacy Connects. After Carl passed away in 2001, Rosemary moved to Tubac and continued her travels, visiting South Africa, Ukraine, Australia and, most recently, Cuba. She now spends time reading and attending three book groups, being part of PEO, being active in the Good Shepherd church and its food bank, and enjoying her collected art and artifacts.

*Pat Cramer***Donna Worland**

LP 1218

*Photo by Pat Cramer*

Donna Worland was raised in Milwaukee, WI, one of three children (a brother and a sister) whose parents were health professionals—her father was a doctor and her mother was a nurse. She attended school there before heading to the Univ. of WI at Madison, majoring in Home Economics and Child Development. “I didn’t plan on a teaching career,” she says, “but the Child Development studies sort of pushed me in that direction.” Her career was spent in Arlington Heights, IL working at various schools for 30 years. During that time, Donna met and married Philip, a principal in that same school district, and they spent 40 years together before Philip passed away in 2005.

Donna and Philip had checked out various warmer climates when he retired: Florida, Arkansas, California, and finally a trip to southern AZ to see friends. Once they found Green Valley, these two golfers loved the ambience and bought a house in 1993, after renting for a month to make sure it was the right fit. For years afterward, summers were at a northern WI cottage, and winters were in GV.

Donna and Philip had wonderful travels to Greece, Ireland, Alaska, Hawaii and camping trips around the U.S. After Philip was gone, Donna continued to travel, visiting Antarctica, Africa, Machu Pichu, and cruising to Greek Islands and the Baltic. Today, Donna enjoys concerts and plays, Pilates, and reading.

*Pat Cramer*

## Boone's Southern Arizona "Safari" Pictures



*Photos by Boone Owens*

LA POSADA AT PARK CENTRE, GREEN VALLEY, AZ

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