

San Ignacio Heights Newsletter

November 2008 **Volume V, No. 2**

San Ignacio Heights, Inc.
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**ARE YOU READY FOR THIS
HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON?**



WE GIVE OUR THANKS . . .

To all the volunteer homeowners on the Roads Committee who worked diligently with Bates Paving & Sealing, Inc. to arrange the seal coating process completed in September; to all the Block Captains who distributed newsletters and notices announcing the schedules for each road during that time; to volunteers on the Common Ground Maintenance Committee who amicably resolved numerous complaints, especially during our Monsoon season; to those hosting the September and October coffee klatches at the Ramada; and to the many volunteers who organized the very successful "Neighbors Night Out Pot Luck" dinner held on October 23. Volunteers work quietly behind the scenes in our Association for the good of all homeowners and we applaud their enthusiasm and selfless efforts.



Happy Holidays!



Now is the time to make plans to attend our Holiday Party on Thursday, December 4 at 5:00 p.m. at the Canoa Hills Recreation Center. This event is being organized by members of the SIH HOA Hand & Foot Card Group. You may be sure to experience fine food and music in a festive atmosphere. Look soon for the announcement to be delivered to your home with all the details. **Enter the date, time, and place now on your calendar for an event you won't want to miss!**



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

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COMMITTEES

Architectural

Bud Gregory, Chair
648-2125

Audit

Bob Blair, Co-Chair
625-5044
John Prudhoe, Co-Chair
625-7072

Common Ground

Maintenance/Residential Landscape

Chuck McAninch, Co-Chair
648-2538
Jess Stokes, Co-Chair
399-3663

Nomination

Jan Paulsen, Chair
625-5448

Roads

Gil LeClair, Chair
648-5590

Block Captains

Howard Zirkle, Chair
648-5148

Activities Scheduler

Lou English, Chair
648-5414



Reminders About



BIRD FEEDERS

All bird feeders must be kept within the walls or fences of property owners. Seeds from bird feeders fall to the Common Ground or onto other homeowners' property and in time grow into plants and weeds. The seeds attract rodents and other creatures that thrive on seeds. As rodents increase in numbers, the appearance of birds of prey and snakes increases as a natural control. However, pack rats and field mice do not always stay in the Common Ground after feasting on seeds. They frequently inhabit garages and make nests in roof vents. If you currently have a bird feeder placed on the Common Ground, it must be removed. Every homeowner's cooperation is strongly urged in the use and placement of bird feeders.

WIND PROBLEMS

San Ignacio Heights was built on a ridge overlooking the Santa Cruz Valley. Due to the topography of our area, winds and breezes are a natural event many days of the year. It is a rare occasion when we don't have some sort of breeze. The breeze is fine, but brisk winds present problems. This is when each individual homeowner's help is needed, especially when organizing trash containers and recycle bins to be picked up by our Sanitation Service.

Make sure that everything you put out for collection is secure and will not be blown away from your property area. If you are using a plastic bin for recycling aluminum, plastic and paper items, make sure that a cover is snugly placed over the top of the bin. You might consider placing a heavy rock on top the lid of the bin. If you have large pieces of cardboard or other paper products, be sure to tie them neatly and securely.

During events of high wind, plastic recycle bins and trash containers have been known to blow down the street and into neighbors' yards and adjoining golf areas. Some containers appear to be lost forever because the owners don't know where these have been blown! Each owner is encouraged to use permanent marker to write their street address on the recycle bin and its lid and on the trash container and its lid, so that these can be returned to you later.

Association members complain about the appearance of litter on their roads during and after wind events. Everyone is urged to take measures to prevent littering on trash or recycle pickup days. Of course, littering should be avoided on any day.



PASSINGS

Joseph A. Hasek from Circulo de la Pinata and Stephen Semans from W. Mariquita Street passed earlier this year. We regret the omission of their names from our previous newsletter. James Specht of Campina Court passed in late September. Lester Feldman of Constanca Court passed in late October.

We miss them all.

WEBSITE NEWS

How many times have you gone to our San Ignacio Heights website this year?

A large percentage of homeowners in our Association have access to the Internet using their Dial-up, Broadband or DSL Internet Service Providers.

It is very easy to visit our website. Simply input www.sihhoa.org at the Internet anytime 24/7.

Or you could use your Yahoo or Google search engine and enter San Ignacio Heights. When a list of entities pops up, make sure you click on the Arizona site for San Ignacio Heights

You may access information found on our website for:

- Newsletters
- Board Minutes
- Social Events
- Ramada Calendar
- Committee Information
- Documents
- Timely Tips
- Contacts

All information on our Website can be printed for personal use. We submit files in PDF format to Bob Dahms, our webmaster, who then places them in their appropriate categories.

All you need on your computer to print out items from our Website is Acrobat Reader, 6.0 or higher.

We have made our Website user friendly, so why not access it today?

If you have any comments or questions about our Website, feel free to contact Marilyn McClellan at: cmcmsoon@earthlink.net.

Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Date/Time Set

Household hazardous waste products will be collected on Saturday, November 8, 2008 from 8:00 AM to Noon at the Valley Presbyterian Church Parking lot, 2800 S. Camino del Sol. Now is the time to clean up and clear out paint products, chemicals, computer products, solvents, household cleaners, etc.



READ CAREFULLY: Your Association has a contract with Terminix for termite control. It amounts to about \$48.00 per home. If you went out on your own, the cost of coverage may range from about \$125 to \$250 per year. There is no need to call any other company.

If you see termite tunnels call Terminix (882-7250.) Tell Terminix that you are a member of San Ignacio Heights and we have an annual contract for the homes in our Association. Terminix will send out a certified technician to treat the problem. If there is structural damage, Terminix is not responsible for the repair.

We recently had Terminix do our house. They treated the termite problem in the house as well as in the soil on the outside wall. We also had a termite problem at the Ramada. The technician treated the planter on the south entrance, drilled holes in the grout in the kitchen area, treated the area and replaced the grout, and drilled holes in the ceiling where there were about 10-12 spots that needed treatment. All at NO COST TO US! JMP

We want YOU to run for election to the 2009 Board of Directors!

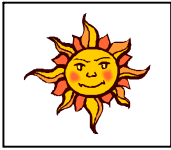


Seriously, we invite anyone from our Association to run for election to fill the two available seats on the San Ignacio Heights Board of Directors. When elected, your three year term will begin in February 2009. Simply turn in your résumé to Jan Paulsen, Chair of the Nominations Committee, by January 10, 2009. You may phone her at 625-5448 for more information.

As an elected member of our Board of Directors, you are the key to the success of the San Ignacio Heights Homeowners Association. You have the opportunity to become involved and participate in the on-going affairs of our SIH HOA.

As a concerned volunteer acting in the best interests of our Association, you will carry out your duties within the formal confines of our governing documents, the rules of parliamentary procedure and applicable law. These formal standards assure fairness and uniformity for all homeowners. You will be in the unique position of not only participating in Board of Directors meetings, but also in communicating concerns of individual homeowners to the appropriate committees that act on their behalf.

Becoming a member of our SIH HOA Board of Directors is a rewarding experience. As an individual you can use your many talents to ensure that we maintain an active, cooperative, informed, and friendly Association. We welcome your willingness to participate as a member of the San Ignacio Heights Homeowners Association and encourage you to turn in your résumé.



DOUBLE TROUBLE ON OUR COMMON GROUND!
 News from Chuck McAninch, Common Ground Maintenance Committee Co-Chair

Nothing sparks debate and interest in our Association more than the 25 acres of our COMMON GROUND! It's a healthy situation, nonetheless, because it stimulates splendid dialogue and lots of suggestions. Here are two subjects for homeowners to study and debate:

The **WHITE THORN ACACIA** trees and bushes are the second most challenging problem in our Common Ground. To obtain a better understanding of the white thorn acacia bush, check out the arroyo on W. Mariquita Street directly across from the painted retaining wall and next to the yellow fireplug. The growth in this drainage ditch was trimmed to the ground in late 2007. It gives us a perspective on how rapidly this bush can regenerate itself. Fortunately we can control the acacia shrub and tree. The trees can be removed or trimmed; the shrubs can be cut and treated with an industrial strength stump killer. The best method of control, however, is to dig the shrub and root system from the ground. Both the tree and shrub deposit black seed pods on the ground that guarantee regeneration of this invasive plant life which has its origin in Australia.

BUFFEL GRASS is the primary challenge to homeowners and landscape maintenance personnel this year in our Association! The heavy rainfall from our Summer Monsoon season stimulated the rapid growth of this very invasive grass. Unfortunately, buffel grass is destined to spread throughout our Common Ground and will force out most of the other grasses, weeds and wildflowers. Controlling buffel grass is difficult unless the entire plant, roots and all, are dug from the ground. Landscapers prefer using a weed cutting machine or professional weed killers to control the grass, but only removing the grass clump entirely solves the problem. Buffel grass began appearing in Green Valley over the last five years. The seeds are carried by the winds in our area. These seeds fall into areas of native or adaptive grass areas or on bare ground and begin a swift process of germination and growth. This hardy invasive grass originated in Africa. Volunteers in the Saguaro National Park in East Tucson spent many hours earlier this year pulling out clumps of buffel grass. If left alone this grass could quickly overcome the protected saguaro cacti and other native plants. Think what it could do in a short time in our Association!

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CARING FOR OUR COMMON GROUND AND ROADS: When homeowners trim trees, plants and bushes along their walls or along perimeters that border the Common Ground, they need to take care that no clippings are dumped on the Common Ground or on adjoining properties. All clippings need to be picked up and disposed of properly. Never place rocks, sand, gravel or building material debris on any portion of our Common Ground.

Some people have been observed dumping ashtrays from their vehicles in parking areas within our Association. This presents a very negative appearance to other homeowners and to visitors in San Ignacio Heights. When trash needs to be removed from vehicles, homeowners are urged to be aware of the environmental concerns of their neighbors.



UPDATE ON SPECIAL ASSESSMENT



So far your Association has collected \$45,000. There are about 60 homeowners who have not paid all of the Special Assessment. **The deadline for payment of the Special Assessment is November 10, 2008.**

There will be a \$7.50 charge each month until the Special Assessment is paid. If the payment is not received by January 10, 2009, the Board of Directors may bring action against the homeowner.

We encourage you to be on time with your payment. The Board of Directors does not want to become involved with liens or legal action. Thank you. JMP