

Hidden Valley Homeowner Association Report to the Membership

July 2017

Communication/ Community Services

We publish a newsletter every other month and offer free advertising to members. The newsletter is emailed and also published on our website.

We publish a roster every two years which includes members' contact information as well as items of interest.

We assist with locating missing pets through our email communication service.

FireWise Program: Assessor, Penny Nickles Larkin

Director Penny Nickles Larkin became certified as a Firewise Assessor in 2016 and launched an effort to increase awareness in our community of fire prevention strategies.

To date she has assessed 26 homes using the "Wildfire Severity Index" providing helpful suggestions for keeping property FireWise". She developed good working relationships with The Rural Metro Fire Department and included the Battalion Chief John Walka in recent community events.

She has distributed information to residents on fire prevention actions homeowners can take. Members helped in the recent park cleanup reducing fire hazards and fuel load. She also has instructed neighbors in methods to track the hours they log performing cleanup on personal property for a total of 105.5 hours.

There are more FireWise assessments scheduled. The end result of the above actions means that HV can apply for national community accreditation so that interested residents can apply for reductions in property insurance with certain participating carriers. When we become accredited it also helps us receive grants to help with future FireWise projects.

Anyone interested in a Firewise Assessment should contact Penny at 760-7736 to schedule an assessment.

Social: Director Penny Nickles Larkin

See attached calendar of planned events.

Our Social events are an important way to get to know your neighbors. We try to have a variety of events which have proved popular over time. However, the neighborhood is always changing and recently there are more residents with school age children. We hope we can expand the social calendar to incorporate more family centered activities. Please contact the Social Director if you have ideas or want to join this committee.

Membership and Membership Development, Director Carole Fee

We currently have 146 paid members. This represents less than half the potential members in our community. Since we are a voluntary HOA we have tried to encourage membership through programming, communication and building a sense of community. Our membership director, personally contacts new residents, provides information and enrollment information.

We hope current members reach out to new and current residents further encouraging membership.

Financial Status: Treasurer, Tod Coy

The Association derives its primary income from membership dues. The financial statement as of March 31, 2017 showed total assets of \$41,817.30. We have an investment fund managed by Eaton Vance of \$19,814.16 and a checking account balance of \$22,003.22.

We currently have 146 paid members. This year over 50 of those members, slightly over 35%, donated \$2100 for use in Wes Miller Park. Last year Park donations were used for major tree limbing and removal in cooperation with the Arizona State Forest Service.

Under the Treasurer's direction the association files required income tax forms and maintains adequate levels of insurance. In addition each year the association files a mandatory report with the Arizona Corporate Commission identifying officers and certifying our non-profit status.

Wes Miller Park: Director Pete Cinquemani

Our 12.6-acre nature preserve on Sabino Creek is available to all members. To continue to ensure the continued health of the park we have developed excellent working relationships with the Arizona Forest Service, The Watershed Management Group and the Nature Conservancy. In collaboration with these organizations we have been able to make positive improvements in the park as follows:

- Erected small rock dams to reduce runoff during heavy rains.
- Removed non-native plants such as Arundo Donax, Bufflegrass and Johnson grass.
- Removed some trees and limbed others with the advice and cooperation of the Arizona Forest Service. Through this work we hope to enhance the flow in Sabino Creek.
- Existing trails received much needed grooming.
- Our work with the Forest Service and Rural Metro Fire Department helped raise community awareness of fire prevention techniques for the park and private property.
- The park and creek have provided a learning laboratory for local schools for the study of water quality, creek flow and the study of native flora and fauna. Interested schools should contact the park director.
- We are currently rebuilding several structures for use during events in the park.

The park is available for members' use for special events at no charge. The association can provide umbrellas and picnic tables for members' private parties. Contact Park Director Pete Cinquemani to reserve the park for a special event.

A few years ago we stopped locking the park gate because it was cumbersome for members to use. We have tried to identify additional ways to signify members who are using the park. One change is that we will provide stickers to affix to car inside mirrors or windshields. We are also considering providing a code that walkers can store in phones or elsewhere identifying them as members. Why is this important?

The Park is for members only. We have an agreement with the Nature Conservancy that we will maintain the park as a nature preserve. The association pays for insurance, taxes and also provides the resources for clean up efforts. It is not fair for people paying dues and otherwise contributing to the park, when non-members have free access. Recently, the Pima County Sheriff's department has increased patrols of the park as we have noticed signs of alcohol and drug use after hours. Please report suspicious activity by calling 911. Help us all keep the park safe and pristine.

To help keep the park free of pet waste we have erected "poop dispenser" bags to the left of the steps. There is also a garbage can to the right of the steps to dispose of the bags. We appreciate people cleaning up after their pets and others.

Wes Miller Park: ...continued

Historically the HOA has provided dumpsters in April for members to dispose of green waste. Because we have had strict observance of the limitation to green waste only, we will have an additional dumpster each October. The reason we eliminated one dumpster is that people were dumping hazardous waste, appliances and mattresses and it was cost prohibitive for the association to have it hauled away.

Please respect the boundaries for private property. No trespassing signs mark the boundary of Wes Miller Park and our adjoining neighbor.

The number of families making use of the park encourages us. We must rely on our members to respect this property, to use it as intended and to report suspicious activity.

Neighborhood Watch Area Leader, Bob Larkin

During 2016-17 significant improvements were made to this vital community program. Every block within our community was studied, new block leaders recruited and existing leaders reconfirmed. All blocks are now covered by a block leader.

Excellent working relationships have been developed between Hidden Valley NW leaders and the Rincon District Commander and staff. The March 25, 2017 Neighborhood Watch meeting held in Wes Miller Park was well attended by block leaders and neighbors.

The area map of the community has been redone.

While crime in our neighborhood is very low, the NW Area Leader and block leaders work quickly to report suspicious activity to the Pima County Sheriff's Department. Many residents take advantage of the Sheriff's service to check on residences when owners are away.

Alerts are sent out to residents whenever there is suspicious activity in the neighborhood.

We joined Next Door as yet another means to communicate with residents and the surrounding community.

Hidden Valley HOA Calendar of Events – July-December 2017

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|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7/29/17 | Saturday Social, Hosts Bill & Carole Fee |
| 7/31/17 | Board of Director Meeting, Hosts, Fees |
| 9/23/17 | Saturday Social, Hosts Needed |
| 9/25/17 | Board of Director Meeting, Hosts Bob & Penny Larkin |
| 10/17/17 | Park Cleanup |
| 10-11-14/17 | Dumpsters Available in Park Parking Lot |
| 10/21/17 | Octoberfest in Wes Miller Park – 3-6 pm |
| 11/2,3/4/17 | Neighborhood Garage Sale |
| 11/27/17 | Board of Director Meeting, Hosts Ben & Mary Ann Jacobs |
| 12/2/17 | Holiday Caroling, Hayride, After party hosts – Joan and Richard Jones |
| 12/9/17 | Progressive Dinner – Appetizer and Main Course at the Jacobs, Hosts needed for dessert course |

We hope this report has been informative. Your board of directors welcomes your comments and is always looking for ways to enhance our community.

Officers

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|----------------|--------------|
| President | Norie Nelson |
| Vice President | Bill Fee |
| Treasurer | Tod Coy |
| Secretary | Anne Catren |

Directors

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| Park | Pete Cinquemani |
| Database Management | Gary Catren |
| Membership | Carole Fee |
| Social | Penny Larkin |
| Neighborhood Watch | Bob Larkin |
| Communication | Rich Holladay |
| Architectural Liaison | Brian Baumer |
| Firewise | Penny Larkin |
| Directors at Large | Ben Jacobs |
| | Mary Ann Jacobs |