

Las Palmas Grand Residents Association

LPGRA Observer

LPGRA
2550 S. Ellsworth Rd. #666
Mesa, AZ 85209
lpgraboard@gmail.com
Editor: Sue Smith

August 2022

Vol 3 Edition 1

Resident Association Meetings

CLUBHOUSE BALL ROOM

SEPTEMBER 1, 2022, 9:30

OCTOBER 6, 2022, 9:30

NOVEMBER 3, 2022, 9:30

To view minutes of meetings, go to
lpgra@org.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Peggy Marcone #418 President
585-752-8279

Sue Smith #110 1st Vice President
801-628-0025

Donna Mueller #456 2nd Vice President
480-433-2347

Dee Hammann #282 Secretary
480-226-3470

Pam Williams #429 Treasurer
559-259-2559

LPG RECYCLING NEWS

Recycling profits have seen a drop with winter visitors gone. The recycling volunteers are not making as many trips to Juniors Recycling Center as they did during the winter months. With that said LPGRA took in \$409.15 for March-June.



For those that utilize the pool, a recycling container will soon be at both gates. Remember though, it is for clear plastic drinking containers – not glass. Bob Williams has been finding glass containers at

the pool which is not allowed as it is a big safety hazard. Bob Williams, the lead for our recycling program, is also picking up aluminum cans at the clubhouse. That too has slowed down in the amount collected as compared to the winter months. As of recently, the container in the clubhouse is marked for plastic and aluminum.



The blue recycle barrels are located by the Green Waste dumpster on Juniper Hills inside the gate. The gate is open during normal business hours and locked at all other times. Questions?? call Bob Williams 559-269-3022.

The big green dumpster is for **lawn clippings** only. It is not for anything else such as old couches, barbeque grills, water heaters, and other household items or for renovation waste. You may see these items in the dumpster or alongside of it, but that is not what the green dumpster or area is for. Please don't be one of those "I don't care about the rules" people. LPG has installed a camera for the area. If you see items that shouldn't be there, for management to do anything, they will need to know about what time the item was dropped off. You can't say, "Well, it wasn't there yesterday."

That's too many hours of footage to go through. Talk to your friends and neighbors and let them know not to take their household items here. Call the main office, they can help you get rid of your items. Donate. A couch was recently set next to the dumpster and could have been donated to Sunshine Acres, or Goodwill to just name a few organizations that take these types of items.

LPG Neighbors to the South

As a results of a job transfer, I began my career at General Motors' Desert Proving Ground (**The DPG**, 13303 South Ellsworth Rd, Mesa 85213) in 1987. The area around the current Las Palmas Grand was, then, to say the least, VERY different: no strip malls of any kind, just vacant desert, dairy farms, and cotton fields. Driving down the 2-lane Ellsworth Road there was hardly a STOP sign, and NO traffic lights, all the way to Queen Creek. The US 60 (then called AZ 360) ended at Power Road, and, of course, there was no 202.



So, well over 20 years ago, when we noticed some activity along Ellsworth, between

Baseline and Guadalupe, it caught everyone's attention - heavy machinery and dust flying everywhere. When it became common knowledge that someone was putting in a 'trailer park', we all said, "WHY? Who would want to live way out here, in the middle of no-where? Crazy!" Well, by-gosh by-golly, Patti & I live here now!



This part of East Mesa was quite beautiful, bucolic, and serene back then – SO DIFFERENT (sadly) from the endless array of strip malls we're surrounded by now.

For those interested in more info, especially on activities today at the former **DPG**, go to: https://www.themesatribune.com/business/projects-slated-for-last-of-gm-proving-grounds/article_1cabedc6-e3b1-11ec-b7fa-0b1ec56d1659.html .

(Submitted by John Latson)

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

The **new Neighborhood Watch (NW) Coordinator, Bob Crouse**, has been diligently working on the new process for NW. At this time, we have canceled all



NW Captain meetings until the fall. After meeting with Dawn Blake, on June 7, it was determined that there needs to be some changes. That is what the coordinator is working on now. We all learned a lot from Dawn and we're so grateful for her expertise. Attending this meeting with Dawn were Peggy Marcone, Bob Crouse, Dan Shannahan, Donna Mueller and of course Dawn Blake from the Mesa Police Department. I want to thank Dan Shannahan who is currently a "Street Captain", for joining us and sharing information and suggestions. It was greatly appreciated. The one change that I know of is "Street Captains" will now be called **Block Captains**.

Other changes will be announced as they become available. Mike Jerecki has graciously accepted my invitation to join Bob as his assistant in getting the new Neighborhood Watch up and running. Mike, has been a "Street Captain" since the beginning, and I am confident his knowledge and input will be a great asset to NW.

Thank you so much Mike.

Bob, Mike and I will meet early in September to finalize the NW program and

The goal of the Neighborhood Watch Program is to reduce crime; this is achieved by creating 3 layers of defense . . Home Level, Street Level and Participant Level

plan the Block Captain meetings. Emails will be sent out to all Captains with meeting notifications.

OK residents, we need **YOU!** We need more **VOLUNTEERS** to become Block Captains.

LPG is a good size community with approximately 830 homes. Out of 830 homes, which house at least one resident, we have only 20 volunteer Block Captains. I'm asking you all to get involved. This is an opportunity to volunteer and work towards increasing the security of our homes. Our goal is to keep our neighborhood safe by working together and in conjunction with

the Mesa Police Department. I promise, this is not a job, not time consuming (quarterly meetings and chatting with your neighbors), easy and fun. If you decide to help us out, or you have questions, please send an email to LPGNW@gmail.com. You will get a response as soon as possible.

Thank you and have a wonderful August!

(Submitted by Donna Mueller)

Stay Secure

- Lock all your doors (even screen doors)
- Lock your shed
- Lock your car
- Lock up your bicycle
- Take the keys out of the golf cart
- Lock the door to the garage

Like the Band?

Did you know that you can make your voice and opinion known about bands that are booked at LPG? All you have to do is let Nancy or Lois know or slip a piece of paper under the Activities door about your opinion if it is after hours.

AAMHO -- Arizona Association of Manufactured Home and RV Owners

Email www.aamho.org

Only through membership and donations does AAMHO exist to help protect homeowners and RV owners with the Landlord Tenant Act (LTA); the laws that govern manufactured homeowners. They are our advocates for fair landlord/tenant regulations. They introduce and support regulations in Arizona to protect and strengthen your rights as a manufactured homeowner and oppose legislation unfavorable to community residents. Membership is per household and is \$35 per year or \$60 for 2 years. Go online to aamho.org and you can join there by debit, credit card or pay pal. Las Palmas Grand Residents' Association stands with AAMHO. Their work benefits all of us, let's get behind them and support AAMHO.

Locked in Our Hotel Room

My husband Larry and I have been on several trips this year; grandson's high school graduation, seeing friends in Utah – trips, not real vacation time. We spent 5 nights in a Holiday Inn Express in St. Louis, MO. The night before we were to leave, we discussed what time we would depart in the morning. We agreed that whatever time we woke up, we would leave then. 4 am rolled around and we both woke up so, we proceeded to get ready to leave. 4:55 am, I

tried to open the door and I heard a clang, and I couldn't open it. I stepped back and sat down on the couch in the room and decided I needed to leave opening the door to Larry. 5:00 am and Larry tries to open the door. The doorknob moved up and down, but it wasn't engaging the locks. 5:03 am, Larry calls the front desk. No answer. Larry looks out the window to confirm that we are on the third floor with no way out. 5:06 am Larry calls front desk again and after 10 rings, a young girl answers. He tries to describe the issue of the locks and she says she'll be right up. 5:10 am young girl arrives with master card to unlock the door. In his outdoor voice, Larry tries to explain what broke, how the locks are stuck in the locked position, and we are sure the explanation is going over her head. "But sir, the master card is not working." Larry replies, "Do you have anyone else here at the hotel that can get us out?" She leaves to get the General Manager (GM) on the problem. 5:30 am, GM arrives with master card. Once again Larry explains what is broke and the card to get in is not the issue. He gets it. He states he will have to call his maintenance people to help with the problem.

6 am maintenance man arrives in the hallway by our door and talks with Larry. The maintenance man then talks to the rest of the crew. They are going to come through the window. Seems they drove to the property in a truck that had a lift basket on it. We hear the motor running and see

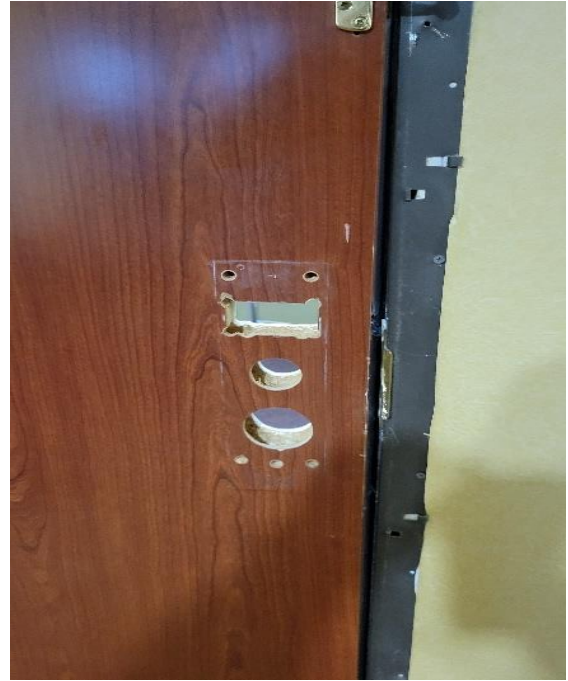
two men in a basket coming up to our window. Yay!! We are saved! Larry tries



to open the window, but it won't open more than 3 inches for safety reasons. Now what?! Instead of unlatching the screen on the window, one of the maintenance men whips out a box cutter and that screen was history. Then he slips Larry a screwdriver through the small opening for Larry to take the safety piece off the window. Wah La the window was fully open and in came the 2 maintenance men with electric power tools and a toolbox. 6:45 am, power tools are running at full blast, and I stay on the couch as far away as I could get from the noise. 7:30 am, door has every lock sawed off. Door swings open!

As we walked past the front desk to leave, the GM said "Mr. Smith, what can I do to make your stay better?" Larry relied, "Nothing, it was great until we tried to leave. Great room, great staff." And I'm thinking, yes, offer us something. "Well, how would 20,000 points

on your Holiday Inn card make this better" the GM replied. I've remained silent so far



and then I hear myself instantly saying, "We'll take that!" 20,000 points got us the next night free with points left over. We also made sure we were on the first floor, and we had TWO doors to our room: one leading to the indoor hallway and one leading outside. You can never tell when you might need a second door to escape.

(Submitted by Sue Smith)

The old man was sitting on the examining table in the doctor's office having his hearing checked. The doctor poked his light scope in the old man's ear and said, "Hey, you have a suppository in your ear!" "Rats," said the old man. "Now I know where my hearing aid went." -

(Submitted by Ron Ashland)

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Veterans Day is not that far off. In fact, on Friday, November 11, we will honor and pay tribute to all those who have honorably served in the United States Armed Forces. But, prior to this important military holiday we need your help.

If you are a veteran, we would like to share your story about your military experience in

VIDEO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hello folks, Larry Smith here, and I am looking for some help. Lee Huls and I are looking for volunteers from time to time to run the video cameras from the back of the ballroom. You may have seen us putting close up shots on the TV's during concerts and other events. No experience is required as training will be provided. This is a fun time, and it provides a nice service to the audience as they get a closer look at what is happening on stage.

If you are interested, you can call me at 1-801-628-2032 or email me at larrysmith1958@yahoo.com! If you email me, please put Video Volunteer in the subject line as I don't open emails with an empty subject line.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

Larry & Lee

the November edition of *Thesman Communities* monthly magazine. Regardless of your military occupation, whether you served in a time of war or peace, on active-duty or reserves, for six months or sixteen years, stateside or abroad, or you enlisted, were drafted, or commissioned, your military experience deserves to be documented and shared. And we would like to assist you in documenting your service to our great nation.

LPG is a veteran-friendly community where many veterans reside. Over the past two years, numerous LPG vets offered their stories for publication in our November *Thesman Communities* magazine. Included were stories from all ranks, both junior and senior enlisted, and junior and senior commissioned officers. Represented were numerous jobs to include a Navy cook, Army transportation officer, USAF pilot, Army Armor crewman, USAF photo-journalist, USAF aircraft instructor, Army Infantry NCO, Army light weapons Infantryman, USMC officer, and a Coastguardsman to name just a few. Their stories were enlightening and gave us a unique insight into their military experience



and life lessons learned from military service.

If you wish to share your story for publication, please type or print a rough draft and we will assist you with the editing. Or we can meet with you at your home or at the clubhouse. Provide us with the details of your military experience and we will type it and have you proof the document well before publication. Whichever means you may prefer; we need to start the process as soon as possible in order to assemble these stories for publication in November.

Some of our LPG residents may not review the monthly *Thesman Communities* Publications or our LPG Facebook site. If you are aware of any of your friends or neighbors who are vets and may not receive this communication, please let us know and we will reach out to them.

Please contact Dick Nations 512-809-8899, or you may drop off or email your story to Nancy Markell in the Activities Office nmarkell@thesman.com.

Submitted by Dick Nations, CSM, US Army (Retired)

DECEMBER MEETING

At the December meeting it will be announced the non-profit organizations that people have requested that LPGRA donate money to. Please submit your suggestions between now and Nov 28th. Send all suggestions to lpgraboard@gmail.com or give to any board member.

Next Newsletter

Nov 15, 2022

Deadline for submissions is

Nov 1, 2022

Please submit an article. Don't like to write? Call me and tell me your story, your recipe, or a joke.

Next quarter issue will be about embarrassing moments you or a friend has had at work.

Please limit articles to 1 page

**Submit: to
suesmithpc@yahoo.com**

A senior citizen was chatting with his 80-year-old buddy.

"So I hear you're getting married?"

"Yep!" "Do I know her?" "Nope!"

"This woman, is she good looking?"

"Not really." "Is she a good cook?"

"Nah, she can't cook too well."

"Does she have lots of money?"

"Nope! Poor as a church mouse."

"Why in the world do you want to marry her then?" "Because she can still drive!"

(Submitted by George O'Brian)