

Las Palmas Grand Residents' Association

LPGRA Observer

LPGRA
2550 S. Ellsworth Rd. #666
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Editor: Sue Smith

May 2023

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Residents' Association Meetings

CLUBHOUSE BALL ROOM

JUNE 1, 2023, 9:30

JULY 6, 2023, 9:30

AUGUST 3, 2023, 9:30

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

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Peggy Marcone #418 President
585-752-8279

Sue Smith #110 First Vice President
801-628-0025

Donna Mueller #456 Second Vice President
480-433-2347

Dee Hammann #282 Treasurer
480-226-3470

Dennis Miller #525 Secretary
612-801-4299

Memorial Day May 29, 2023

Ending in the spring of 1865, the Civil War, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history. A battered United States was faced with the task of burying and honoring the 600,000 to 800,000 Union and Confederate soldiers who died. This war established the country's first national cemeteries. Memorial Day was born out of necessity. The "First Decoration Day," is believed to have been as early as 1865. It was held at the Washington Racecourse and Jockey Club in Charleston, South Carolina. The Confederate army transformed the firmly posh country club into a makeshift prison for Union captives. More than 260 Union soldiers died while being held in the racetrack's open-air infield. The bodies were buried in a mass grave behind the grandstands. Confederate troops evacuated the damaged city when Charleston fell but the freed enslaved remained. The emancipated men and women gave the fallen Union prisoners a proper burial by exhuming the mass grave and reinterred the bodies in a new cemetery with a tall, whitewashed fence inscribed with

the words: “Martyrs of the Racecourse.” On May 1, 1865, a crowd of 10,000 people,



“We do not know one promise these men made, one pledge they gave, one word they spoke; but we do know they summed up and perfected, by one supreme act, the highest virtues of men and citizens. For love of country, they accepted death, and thus resolved all doubts, and made immortal their patriotism and their virtue.”

***James A. Garfield, May 30, 1868,
Arlington National Cemetery***

mostly freed slaves with some white missionaries, staged a parade around the racetrack. The gathering at the Charleston racetrack would be the earliest Memorial Day commemoration on record. By the late 1860s, various towns and cities had begun to hold springtime tributes to these fallen soldiers, decorating the graves with flowers and reciting prayers. On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, a leader of Northern Civil War veterans decided a nationwide day of remembrance should be held later that month. He called it “Decoration Day”

because it wasn’t the anniversary of any particular battle. On the first Decoration Day of May 30, 1868, General James Garfield made a speech at Arlington National Cemetery where participants decorated graves of the 20,000 Civil war soldiers buried there. Memorial Day is an American holiday, honoring men and women who died serving in the U.S. military. For more than 50 years, the holiday known as “Decoration Day” only commemorated those killed in the Civil War. It wasn’t until World War I that the tradition included those killed in all wars. Memorial Day was not recognized nationwide until the 1970s when America was in the Vietnam War. As this holiday has become a summer rite of passage, remember that the American flag should be hung at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day, then raised to the top of the staff. All Americans are encouraged to pause for a National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time and wearing a red poppy as a symbol of tribute to all who died in war have all become traditions. The tradition of wearing a red poppy was because of a poem from Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae. In the battle-ravaged land in the spring of 1915, across northern France and Flanders (northern Belgium) bright red flowers began poking through the ground. The sight of the bright red flowers against the dreary backdrop of war inspired McCrae to pen the poem, “In Flanders Field,” in which he give the soldiers who have been killed in battle and lay beneath the poppy-covered grounds a voice. So, as you go about celebrating the “Memorial Day” sales and

celebrations and pass by a veteran asking for donations for a poppy, please take a moment to pause and remember ALL those who gave their lives for our free country.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row

That mark our place; and in the sky

The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago

We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,

Loved and were loved, and now we lie,

In Flanders fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw

The torch; be yours to hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die

We shall not sleep, though poppies grow

In Flanders fields.

Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae

Submitted by Dee Hammann



Scams are happening by phone, internet, and mail. There are lottery scams,

IRS/Government scams, Data Breach/Bank scams, tech support scams, and many more. The most common theme in all of these scams is:

Lottery Scams, the suspect will call you advising that you won the lottery while advising you have to send money to cover the taxes either through wiring it or by purchasing gift cards and calling back with the redemption codes. They will say that if you hang up you will lose your “winnings.”

FBI/IRS Scams, the suspect will call you pretending to be from the IRS or FBI while claiming that you either have an active warrant or owe back taxes. They will ask you to either wire money directly or purchase gift cards and call back with the redemption codes to satisfy the “tax debt” or “warrant.” They will often threaten you with arrest. Always hang up immediately and call the police if you are concerned for your safety.

Data Breach Scams, the suspect will call you while claiming to be from a computer company or may also pose as a police officer while claiming that your computer or IP address was hacked and that you are in danger of having your identity stolen. They will sometimes ask you to go to your computer to provide them with remote access, ask for bank account information, or will advise you to purchase gift cards and call back with the redemption codes to fix the matter.

Bank Scams, the suspect will call while pretending to be from your bank and will advise you that your account has been hacked. They will ask for your bank account or social security information to “verify” who you are. Hang up and call your bank with any concerns.

Never provide personal or bank information over the phone to people you do not know and never purchase gift cards for the purpose of reading redemption codes over the phone. Please call the Mesa Police Department by dialing 480.644.2211 if you ever are concerned that your identity has been stolen or for any other questions.

Submitted by Bob Crouse
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
 Send comments to:
newbee1622@gmail.com

Arizona Association of Manufactured Home,
 RV & Park Model Owners



Your LPG AAMHO contact is:
Arthur Hidde II (LPG 573)
 Associate Director District 1 (Mesa)
Web address: www.aamho.org
Email: info@aamho.org

AAMHO Meeting with the Arizona Department of Housing.

AAMHO's Board will be meeting with the D.O.H. Early May. This meeting will establish our relationship with the NEW Director of the Department of Housing and her Staff. AAMHO will address the Arizona Mobile Home Parks Residential Landlord and Tenant Act.

AAMHO District 1 (Mesa) Activities

I have been holding AAMHO “Meet & Greet”, meetings at Parks throughout Mesa. We're growing Park by Park. Remember, our “Strength-in-Numbers” with your memberships helps AAMHO represent you with a bigger voice at the table at our Arizona States Legislature. Watch for Meeting announcements in our Communities FB page, LPGRA emails, LPGRA Observer Newsletter and our Thesman News Paper.

Website Changes

I've been working on our Website Committee to ensure we review, update, and modernize the Websites capabilities. You may have noticed some of the changes with expanded menus drop-downs. We are currently testing a “Members Only” login where we will keep AAMHO Members only contentment.

Did you know?

Your Home purchases are recorded by default as a 4.2 (Part-Time resident). If you are a full-time resident, you should petition Maricopa County Assessor's Office to have

your home reclassified as a 3.1 which reduces your Tax Liability.

Tax basis Your Maricopa County Taxation of your Home is Property Classes 3.1 Primary residence 3.2 Qualifying family member (QFM)* 4.1 Non-primary residence 4.2 Rental property *QFM includes only: (1) a natural or adopted child or descendant of the owner's child; (2) a stepchild of the owner; (3) the owner's parent or an ancestor of the owner's parent; (4) a stepparent of the owner; (5) a child-in-law or parent-in-law of the owner or; (6) a natural or adopted sibling of the owner.

Remember

Our Sister Organization AEMPRO (Association for the Education of Manufactured, Park Model, and RV Home Owners) offers classes on the "Arizona Landlord Tenant Act" for Homeowners and a State Statue required "Park Manager Certification" class for Park Mangers with the goal of avoiding conflicts and misunderstandings.



Your membership enables AAMHO's Lobbyist with the help of AAMHO's Volunteer Legislative Committee to continue this important work.

Submitted by Art Hidde

VACATION TIME

Summer vacation with the family is always a mixed bag. Making memories to last a lifetime comes with its fair share of cost -- most of which involves whining, putting up with annoying siblings, and some degree of hauling ridiculous amounts of luggage. A small price to pay, right?

And those are the good vacations.

Of course, small, petty annoyances are one thing. For some, vacations end up being much worse. In fact, some trips turn out to be an absolute debacle. The irony is: it's sometimes those messy vacations -- the ones with stories that last a lifetime -- that create our most enduring memories.

Free Ride Anyone?

One of my friends and I went on a trip to Punta Cana, and we were staying at a resort there (I can't remember the name as this was quite a few years ago). Upon arriving at the resort, I noticed many of the staff working there had broken English or spoke no English at all and just smiled and waved as we walked by. We were approached by a man that said in his broken English that he would get our luggage and for us to get in the Gold Car. We were two single ladies who said we're not getting in any car with our luggage. So, we proceeded to our room destination walking outside with our luggage

across this beautiful resort with gorgeous blue skies, its swaying palm trees and huge pool with its tempting clean warm water. We settled in our room and went about having a fabulous time in Punta Cana. A few days later we noticed people NOT walking with their luggage however getting into a golf cart with staff members. We laughed so hard as we had figured out as a curtesy the resort escorts vacationers to their room in the golf cart so they wouldn't have to walk with their luggage all the way to their designated room, So the Gold Car he was talking about didn't even exist. It was the GOLF CART we rejected.

Submitted by Debbie Oriti

Flight insurance

I was looking forward to the trip to New Orleans my mother and I were taking until we reached the airport. Suddenly I had a panic attack at the thought of having to fly. Dad, bless his heart, did everything he could to calm my nerves. "You know, you're safer in a plane than you are in a car," he reminded me. That reassurance eventually worked. He gave me a loving kiss on the head, then asked my mother, "Did you buy flight insurance?" **Anonymous**

Baggage

I was buying airplane tickets when my eight-year-old asked, "Can a baby be considered a carry-on?" Before I could respond, my

husband mumbled, "Well, it can definitely be considered baggage." **Anonymous**

Some Vehicles Aren't Made for Trips

In 1995, I decided to take my three children, ages 15, 12 and 9, on a trip to the west coast. We were living in Rochester, NY so it would be a long drive, but I had a good car, a Dodge Dynasty, and the AAA triptik so off we went. I was homeschooling them, so this was going to be a "field trip". Shortly after we left the driveway, a panel on the side of the back seat where one of my sons was sitting fell off. No big deal. I just put it in the trunk for when we got back.

On the way, as I was driving down the highway, the rear-view mirror suddenly just fell off the window. It was hanging by a wire and swinging back and forth. I pulled over to fix it but there was nothing to attach it back to the window. So, I exited and found a repair shop. They said it wasn't a big issue and used some kind of special glue and



{Not a picture of the actual car in the story!}

attached the mirror. Off we went heading to California. No problem. A couple days later, as I was driving down the road, I had stopped for something and when I put my foot back on the gas pedal, I realized that there was no gas pedal. Just a piece of metal sticking out of the floor of the car. Next to it was the pedal. Just laying on the floor. So once again, we detoured to the nearest repair shop. Another quick fix.

So we made it to San Diego, California. We had a great time going to the beach and seeing the sights. We headed back to Rochester. We got to the California desert, and it seemed like it was getting awfully hot inside the car. I checked the vents and realized the air conditioner was shooting out hot air. So....once again, I found a repair shop and learned that the air conditioner in the car was shot. No good. Needed to be completely replaced but I didn't have the money for it and at this point, just didn't want to put any money into that car. The kids were rather upset that we were going to be going across the desert with no air conditioning in the car. I told them not to worry because we still had 5/70 air. Roll down the 4 windows, open the moonroof and drive at 70 miles an hour. They weren't very happy, but we made it across the desert and lived to talk about it.

We got somewhere in the Midwest and spent the night in a nice motel right across the street from Denny's. The kids loved Denny's, so I purposely picked that motel. Had a nice dinner and we all slept like

babies. Came out in the morning and we had a flat tire. Thankfully, I belonged to AAA so I just called them and they came and put the spare tire on for us.

There were no further problems with the car for the rest of our trip but for the next 2 years, we called the car the Die Nasty instead of the Dynasty. It just seemed like that car was giving us one problem after another. It was trying to die, and it was kind of a nasty way of doing it. We didn't let it ruin our trip though. Great memories of good times overshadowed all those problems along the way.

Submitted by Peggy Marcone

What's your name?

After a long drive to Canada, border patrol agents asked my father the name of us five kids in the back. Dad was so tired that he drew a blank. The brief lapse resulted in Dad being hauled in for questioning.

After convincing them that he hadn't kidnapped us, he was released—15 hours later. **Anonymous**

Eyes on the road

Driving across California, we stopped at a red light in a beautiful old western town. As I admired the elegant storefronts and beautiful scenery, I didn't notice that the light had turned green and back to red again. It was then that a police officer tapped on my

window and said, “That’s all the colors we got here.” **Anonymous**

Turn Around

On our way to go spelunking, we got lost on a country road. We stopped to ask a farmer, “Is this the road to Waynesville?”

“Yes, it is,” he replied. As we started to drive away, we barely heard him add, “But you’re going the wrong way. **Anonymous**

LPG Recycling News

Our plastic recycling program almost went away as the previous recycling business no longer takes plastics. Bob Williams, our volunteer recycling leader, searched throughout the area for a business that would take plastics. He found Harmon’s in Apache Junction that will take our plastic for recycling. Our aluminum beverage can recycling is going strong. Bob and his team are still finding items that can NOT be



placed in either of our recycling containers. The **non-recyclables** found are:

Pet food cans; especially **CAT** food cans
Wine bottles (We don’t recycle glass)

Tin cans

Plastic clamshell takeout containers

Starbucks and soft drink cups

Medicine bottles

Milk and distilled water jugs

Non beverage plastic containers

Diet supplement bottles - usually white

The LPGRA Recycling program only takes **CLEAR PLASTIC BEVERAGE BOTTLES** and **ALUMINUM BEVERAGE CANS**.

GREEN WASTE CONTAINER

The green waste container located where the recycling cans are, is only for YARD WASTE. Recently a couch and metal was found in the container, and they had to be removed before the green waste container could be emptied.

You, the homeowner, is responsible for getting rid of televisions, carpet, couches, and so forth, not LPG.

Questions?? call Bob Williams 559-269-3022



Paper Shredding

Free paper shredding will take place Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Farm Bureau located at 325 S Highly Road, Suite 100 in Gilbert. The event is from 10 to 1.

The Lady Had a Good Time

The lady had a good time
 All the while she dined
 As her date was so kind
 To keep filling her stein
 Not letting her fall behind.
 But the fruit of the vine
 Put him in a bind
 When into bed they did climb
 And not a sign of life did he find

"The Old Days"

Grandpa was telling his young grandson
 what life was like when he was a boy.

"In the winter we'd ice skate on our pond. In
 the summer we could swim in the pond and
 pick berries in the woods. We'd swing on an
 old tire my dad hung from a tree on a rope.
 And we had a pony we rode all over the
 farm."

The little boy was amazed and sat silently for
 a minute. Finally, he said, "Granddad, I wish
 I'd gotten to know you a lot sooner!"

May Tidbits

May is named after the Greek goddess Maia.

The weather becomes warmer and days start
 getting longer.

Cinco de mayo is a Mexican holiday that
 celebrates the country's victory over France.

The LPGRA Board is looking for
 anyone interested in serving on the
 board. It only requires a **couple** of
 hours a month. Call Sue Smith 801-
 628-0025 or Peggy Marcone 585-
 752-8279 or any board member for
 more information.

**Next Newsletter
 August 15, 2023**

**Deadline for articles
 is August 1**

**Don't like to write, call me,
 and tell me your story, joke,
 recipe or activity.**

**It takes a community to
 make a newsletter!**

**Sue Smith, Editor
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