

Las Palmas Grand Residents Association

LPGRA Observer

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

February 2022

Vol 2 Edition 1

Resident Association Meeting Dates

CLUBHOUSE BALL ROOM

MARCH 3, 2022, 9:30

APRIL 7, 2022, 9:30

MAY 5, 2022, 9:30

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The annual election of two new board members was held on November 4, 2021.

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

Donna Mueller and Dee Hamman were voted onto the board for a two-year term each. On Nov 11, 2021, the board members determined the following positions for the members: Peggy Marcone, President; Sue Smith, 1st Vice President; Donna Mueller, 2nd Vice President, Dee Hammann, Secretary; Pam Williams, Treasurer. To view minutes of meetings, go to lpgra@org.

Note: In the last edition, the phone numbers for Pam Williams and Dee Hammann were incorrectly listed.



LPG RECYCLING NEWS



We started our LPG recycling program with Aluminum Beverage Containers last April and expanded to Plastic Beverage Containers last August. As of January 31, 2022, we have recycled over 1,500 pounds. About $\frac{1}{3}$ was aluminum and $\frac{2}{3}$ plastics. We are now making two runs per week to Junior's Recycling with full pickup truck loads. Thank you, Bob Williams, for making some runs. Thank you, LPG, for supporting recycling!!! Recycling is a win, win, win; less goes to the landfill, the aluminum and plastics are reused AND the money collected from the recycling goes to our LPG Residents Association LPGRA. Thru January 2022 we have collected over \$650 in recycling revenues. LPGRA has donated \$200 each to Sunshine Acres and Phoenix Veterans Home. The project started with funds provided by Thesman Communities to purchase the barrels, elastic bag holders and bags.

This project is supported by our volunteer residents: Tom Carr, Sally Glynn, John

Latson, Tom Puckett, Dan Shanahan, Sue Smith & Bob Williams. The blue recycle barrels are located by the Green Waste dumpster on Juniper Hills inside the gate. Questions?? call Alan Smith 515-943-1415

**Happy Valentine's
Day**

LPG NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

Many topics have come up at our last few monthly meetings, which I will share information about in this article. All residents are always welcome to attend any or all meetings, which are scheduled in the Clubhouse on the 2nd Tuesday at 3pm each month. We need your input to stay on top of any current safety and security issues.

2020-2021 LPG Police Service Calls

Serious crimes have dropped, while calls to Mesa Police to report suspicious activity/person have increased this year. This is good in the sense that we are more engaged with and communicate this to the police. It is these phone calls that help deter and reduce serious property crimes. There are on average 2 police incident calls/month. Neighborhood Watch is having a positive impact on our community.

Home Security System Information The Mesa Police Alarm Unit has an online Alarm

Permit Application at mesaaz.gov then click on “residents” then “alarm permits”. Alarm permits are \$10/year, False Alarm assessments are \$50 for the first and goes up \$50 for each subsequent false alarm. Not having a permit is a \$100 fee.

Mesa Fire Dept. Free Home Safety Checks

Free Home Safety education visits are available from the Mesa Fire Dept. Call Jean Destories in their Social Services Division at 480-644-3664 to schedule a free Home Safety Check which includes Fall Prevention Assessments, Installation of Grab Bars, Fire Extinguisher Safety, Installation of Smoke Alarms, Community Resources, and Home Escape Plans.

Neighborhood Get Togethers

This is a great time of year for streets to have Neighborhood Get Togethers. These patio coffee and happy hours are ideal for getting to know your neighbors, which police encourage, to help improve neighborhood communication. If you have a Street Captain, they can help get the word out and help you organize it.

Maricopa County Dog Leash and Licensing Laws

Maricopa County dog leash and licensing ordinances require a rabies vaccination certificate, and all dogs must be kept on a leash when out of the home. For more information about Maricopa County: [Licensing Your Dog | Maricopa County, AZ ; P-13 \(maricopa.gov\)](#). The cost of a dog

license is \$19, and the dog licensing fee for senior residents is \$10.

Submitted by Sally Nostrand –
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

There are currently 26 Street Captains, and more are needed to cover all the streets of LPG. It's easy and you can learn about this role in about 30 minutes at your convenience. Just email Sally Nostrand at lpgnwp@gmail.com or call 253-228-1790 .



This issue is dedicated to Valentine's Day. Several couples have sent in their story on how they met which follows.

How I Met my Spouse

December 1984, I was asked by a co-worker if I was dating. Her husband's boss was recently separated, and she thought we would make a good match. Next thing I knew I was going on a blind date - to meet at a motel! Well, we actually met at a Best Western – well, hang on, it was in their

attached Coffee Shop. It was there John and I had our first date; talked for hours and hours . . . and fell in love. Now, 37 years later, we are still talking and more in love than ever.

Submitted by Patti & John Latson

Half Blind Date

Bob and his brother were shopping in the department store where I worked, I was helping them choose a gift for his sister-in-law for Mother's Day. Bob's buddy's sister Robi worked at the store and asked her about me; he was interested in asking me out. They talked; he liked the things she said about me. A couple of weeks later Bob came back into the store, he didn't approach me to ask me out. Bob went into the hallway that had a pay phone and called me while I was on a break. He and Robi were watching me the whole time as he was asking me out for a date on June 6th. They were laughing during the whole conversation. My mother told me I couldn't go on a date on the 6th, I had to attend a wedding that night. I had to have Robi get in touch with Bob to have him call me to change the date to the 5th. I still didn't know who he was.

Bob knew a lot about me; I didn't even know what he looked like until he arrived at my parent's front door. I asked Robi about Bob as she mentioned he had asked her about me. Robi told me he was "very nice and a gentleman." Bob and I had our first ½ blind date on June 5, 1970. We went to the

show to see M A S H. We dated for 12 months, got engaged and married 18 months after our first date.

We have been married 50 years this month. We lived our lives together in our hometown of Visalia, CA, until moving to LPG in June 2013. We moved here to be closer to our only son and only grandson.

Submitted by Pam & Bob Williams

How I Met the Man of My Dreams

My best friend and her new husband decided that it was time I met a man! She and I had enjoyed several single years of friendship before she met her "now" husband. She wanted me to be as happy as she was. Of course, she was 77 and he was 81 when they got married so I figured I had plenty of time. But eventually persuasion won out. Now that I decided to move forward where was I going to meet this "man of my dreams?" My friend's husband was retired military, so he suggested we go to the VFW for a Friday night fish fry. Okay, even if I didn't meet the man of my dreams, I would get a good fish dinner out of it.

A couple of weeks later we decided to try the VFW. We came strolling in and not one person was there except for the bartender. I don't know if any of you have ever been to a VFW before, but this is extremely unusual. We ordered a drink and discovered from the bartender that this particular Friday was not

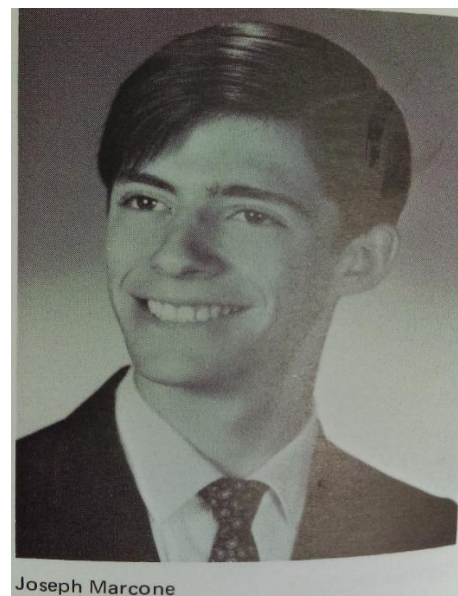
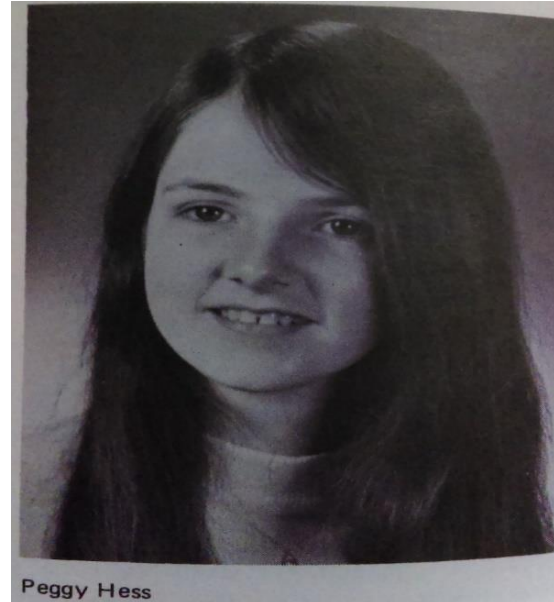
the fish fry Friday. While we were sitting in the desolate VFW, a man in uniform walked through the door. It wasn't a military uniform, but still, a uniform. He came over to our table since he knew my friend's husband and introduced himself. I looked at him and he had the bluest eyes I had ever seen. I fell for those blue eyes. He kept stopping by our table to chat for a minute or two. We finished our drinks and left.

My friend's husband asked this nice man if he would like to go out with the lady he met at the VFW that night. He said sure, although he didn't remember my name or what I looked like. We went on a double date with our friends. After a year of dating, we were married by the Captain on a Thanksgiving Dinner Cruise in San Diego and as "they" say - the rest is history.

Submitted by Dee & Fred Hammann

Was it Just Friendship?

Joe and I met in 10th grade when Joe was dating my best friend and I was dating his best friend. Those relationships didn't last through high school, but, the friendships did. After graduation we went our separate ways. We both got married, raised our families and then both got divorced. Then one night, 29 years after graduation, we met again at a wake at a funeral home. We talked for about 20 minutes and learned that we were both divorced, so we decided to meet for coffee and "catch up". For the



next 4 years (since my children were still young enough to be at home) we kept our relationship as "dating". Thankfully, we only lived about a mile and half from each other. We married 4 1/2 years after our first "coffee to catch up" date. We will celebrate our 20th anniversary this April.

Submitted by Peggy & Joe Marccone

“Love is an irresistible desire to be irresistibly desired” – By Robert Frost

“You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams.” — Dr. Seuss

“Love is like the wind, you can't see it but you can feel it.” — Nicholas Sparks

“The real lover is the man who can thrill you by kissing your forehead or smiling into your eyes.” — Marilyn Monroe

“Be careful of love. It'll twist your brain around and leave you thinking up is down and right is wrong.” — Rick Riordan



“Love is a symbol of eternity. It wipes out all sense of time, destroying all memory of a beginning and all fear of an end.” – Author Unknown

“Love is blind. That is why he always proceeds by touch.” – French Proverb

Valentine's Day - Just another created holiday for Hallmark and chocolate companies to make money?

No one knows the exact origin of the holiday, but ladies, if you're disappointed by only receiving a heart-shaped box of chocolates or flowers and not that expensive piece of jewelry you had your eye on, then consider this: In ancient Roman times mid-February was spent celebrating the Feast of Lupercalia, where Roman priests would sacrifice a goat for fertility and a dog for purification then smack women with the hides of the animals to stimulate fertility. Young women would line up to be hit with the bloody pelts. Then the men would draw names of the women from a jar and be paired with that person for a year. A precursor of online dating?

The ancient Romans could be responsible for the name Valentine's Day. In the 3rd century A.D., Emperor Claudius II executed two men named Valentine on February 14th in two different years. One was said to have healed a jailer's daughter's blindness and left her a note signed, “From Your Valentine.” The other, Saint Valentine of Terni, had been secretly officiating weddings for Roman soldiers against the emperor's wishes. The Catholic Church commemorated St. Valentine's Day in honor of their martyrdom. It was decided to keep the tamer “love” and “fertility” aspects but without the nudity, violence, and drunkenness.

Valentine's Day greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, although written valentines didn't begin to appear until after 1400. Handmade valentines were exchanged in the early 1700s. Sending greeting cards (known as "valentines"), offering candy and sending flowers started in early modern England in the 19th century and spread throughout the English-speaking world. Mass-produced valentines were sold by Esther A. Howland in the 1840s. She became known as the "Mother of the Valentine." In 1913, Hallmark began offering Valentine's Day cards. According to Hallmark, approximately 145 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged each year, not counting those cute kid's valentines exchanged in the classroom. Richard Cadbury, son of founder John Cadbury, produced the first heart-shaped box of chocolates for V. Day in 1861. And the rest is history, with more than 58 million pounds of chocolate in more than 36 million heart-shaped boxes sold each year. Americans spend \$21.9 billion on Valentine's Day activities each year, with \$2.4 billion on candy alone. 152 million roses, especially red ones, will be sold for Valentine's Day with the 2nd most popular flower being red carnations. Men will spend more than twice as much, on average than women. Americans spent 45.8 billion on jewelry in 2020. They also spend an estimated \$751.3 million on gifts for their pets. Kids are the real winners on Valentine's Day. Typically, Valentine's Day has been associated with romantic love, but

a survey of 1,500 people polled only 59% of spouses planned on giving their partners a gift while 85% of parents planned to give their children something. So, whether you are a kid or just a kid at heart, here's hoping you receive a very special Valentine on February 14.

Submitted by Dee Hammann

"Love is not finding someone to live with;
it's finding someone you can't live without."

– By Rafael Ortiz

UNSOLICITED UNAPOLOGETIC UNBIASED OPINIONS for East Mesa

- Best Pork Chops: Texas Roadhouse (S 202/Power) (really!)
- Best Patty Melt: Two Seasons Café (Main St/63rd)
- Best Tuna Melt: Red Mountain Café (University/Greenfield) (get extra napkins)
- Best Breakfast: Cozy Corner Café: (McKellips/Recker)
- Best Club Sandwich: Fat Willy's Grill (Baseline/Crismon) (*The Pub Club*)
 - 2nd: Cozy Corner Café (McKellips/Recker)
- Best Pork Enchiladas : Rancho de Tia Rosa's (Guadalupe/Higley)
- Best Pork Tenderloin: Midwestern Meats (Main St/Greenfield)
 - 2nd: Cozy Corner Café (McKellips/Recker)
- Best Spinach Pie: Wild Berry Diner (Main St/48th) (aka Spanakopita)

- Best Shrimp Fried Rice: Chen's (Ellsworth/Baseline)
- Best Friday Fish Fry: Red Mountain Café (University/Greenfield) (AUCA, baked or fried, Cod)
- Best Breakfast Burrito: (any) Filiberto's

Submitted by John Latson

"And when the future hinges on the next words, don't let logic interfere; believe your heart instead." – By Philip Robinson

Coyotes at LPG

Coyotes have caused many safety concerns here in recent months. On January 19th, LPG residents enjoyed an excellent and very informative virtual Zoom talk by Amy Burnett of AZ Game and Fish Dept. on Living with Urban Wildlife. The session was recorded and can be viewed at "Wildlife Seminar Zoom Jan 2022" on You Tube. The recording is 1hr and 5 minutes in length.

What should I do if I see wildlife like a coyote or bobcat in my yard?

Arizona Game & Fish recommends that you:

- Make loud noises; shout, bang pots and pans, or rattle an empty soda can with pennies in it
- Wave your hands or objects like sticks and brooms
- Throw small stones



- Spray the animal with a hose or a super-soaker loaded with a 10% household ammonia solution and 90% water
- Use pepper spray or bear spray, if necessary, on bold animals that refuse to leave or that follow too closely when you're out walking your dog.

Don't let small pets roam unsupervised and always keep dogs on a short leash.

What can I do to help wildlife AND keep our community safe?

How can you avoid habituating wildlife in the first place? Look around your backyard. Are you providing one or more of these for wildlife?

- If you feed birds, is extra seed falling on the ground that attracts birds by day, but other wildlife by night?

(See Coyotes on page 11)



St. Valentine's Day

by www.mes-english.com

crossword puzzle



Across:

1. Before we send a valentine
3. Small hearts are made of this.
5. Something you don't like is _____.
8. These are beautiful flowers.
11. It's given away.
14. Someone who gets a lot of valentines is _____.
15. After we write a valentine
16. On Valentine's Day we _____ a valentine.

Down:

2. Giving a valentine is _____.
4. The card we write
6. A flower with thorns
7. The reason we celebrate Valentine's Day.
9. Cupid's weapon
10. It's in the box.
12. He brings love.
13. Two people going out

(See **Puzzles** on Page 11 for answers)

Lemon Icebox Pie

Ingredients:

9 whole graham crackers crushed (food processor helps)
 3 Tbs sugar
 5 Tbs butter melted
 2 (14 oz) cans sweetened condensed milk
 3 large egg yolks
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup plus 2 Tbs lemon juice (LPG lemons make the best juice)
 1 cup heavy cream
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 325°

Add melted butter and sugar to crushed graham crackers; press into a 9" pie plate, bottom and sides. Bake 15 minutes. Let cool at least 35 minutes.

Turn oven to 375°

Reserve 3 Tbs condensed milk and set aside. Whisk remaining condensed milk and egg yolks together until smooth. Slowly whisk in lemon juice. Pour into cooled crust, bake 15 minutes. Refrigerate 3 to 24 hours. Using mixer whip heavy cream, condensed milk, and vanilla together. Beat until stiff peaks form BUT, over beating will turn mixture into butter. Spread whipped cream over pie and serve.

Submitted by Sue Smith

CHERRY CHOCOLATE CAKE

Ingredients:

1 Box of any Chocolate Cake mix
 1 21 oz can Duncan Hines/Comstock Original Country Cherry Pie filling
 2 Eggs

Pour all ingredients into mixing bowl, beat according to the cake mix box instructions. Pour batter into a lightly sprayed (Pam) baking pan, 13 x 9 oblong pan. The batter is very thick.

Bake 350° for 30 minutes or until tester comes out clean.

Cool completely.

May sprinkle with powder sugar or frost if desired. This cake is very RICH, I never use powder sugar or frosting.

Very easy and super delicious.

Submitted by Pam Williams/Lloydean Gholson 1973

Stock photo not of actual cake



(Puzzle Continued from page 9)**Answers:**

heart - it's given away

valentine - the card we write

chocolate - it's in the box

candy - small hearts are made of this

cupid – He brings love

arrow - Cupid's weapon

date - two people going out

write - before we send a valentine

send - after we write a valentine

get - on Valentine's Day we ____ a valentine

popular - someone who gets a lot of
valentines is

gross - something you don't like is

embarrassing - giving a valentine is

carnations - these are beautiful flowers

love - reason we celebrate Valentine's Day

rose - a flower with thorns

(Coyotes Continued from Page 8)

- Do you have slow irrigation leaks the provide a source of water for everything from rabbits to coyotes?
- Is your garbage unsecured so that it can be easily knocked over by a javelina?
- Do you have overgrown bushes near your patio that provides cover or even a nursery for a bobcat and kittens?

Submitted by Sally Nostrand

“Love is like an hourglass, with the heart filling up as the brain empties.” – By Jules Renord

“In the arithmetic of love, one plus one equals everything, and two minus one equals nothing.” – By Mignon McLaughlin

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

**Next Newsletter
May 15, 2022**

**Deadline for submissions is
May 1, 2022**

Please limit articles to 1 page

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