

SUN MESA at GLENEAGLE

September 2007 Newsletter

Ron Pierce, President Sun Mesa HOA 481-0258
Z&R Management 594-0506

Bye Bill and Hi Kathy! The Board recently accepted Bill Frier's resignation. Bill was consumed with work obligations and needed a little relief. Bill was a great Board member and we all thank him for his contributions to our community. At our 14 September Board meeting we appointed Kathy Ouellette to the Board to complete Bill's remaining term. Many of you will remember her as Kathy Polomba. Not too long ago Kathy married and relocated with her husband Mark away from Sun Mesa. We welcome them back and are super pleased that Kathy agreed to rejoin the Board!

It's been a busy time for your Board members! We've been acting on the usual landscape issues: sprinkler heads, dry spots, as well as tree and bush maintenance. We've also fixed street lights, replaced downspouts, reacted to oil spills, monitored concrete, repaired more stucco cracks (many thanks to Dick Ove), kept watch on our contractors, attended to other Board business, and continued our water conservation study.

Seamless segue to Water Conservation. Coleen Abeyta and Phil Book attended the Donala Water Board meeting on September 17th. Coleen reports that new sources of water are still a long way out. Water rationing will almost certainly remain in effect for years to come. Donala's General Manager, Mr. Duthie, provided water conservation results for the summer. Sun Mesa achieved a 16% water consumption reduction over 2006. Our reduction was the 2nd lowest achieved by townhomes in Gleneagle. Mr. Duthie announced an across-the-board rate increase for 2008. However, in recognition that townhomes are multi-family units, Donala has proposed that the rate charged for townhome irrigation water will only increase from \$6.00/1000 to \$6.50/1000. That is good news for us.

But the price of water and the availability of water are two separate issues, and water availability remains a major concern for everyone in Sun Mesa. We know that water rationing will be reinstated in 2008. It's hard to remember now, but July was a very dry month. We were complying with water rationing, and Sun Mesa soon began to brown out in areas. To preserve grass inside the fence the Board cut off water to the ditch area along Gleneagle Drive. *Even with that action*, many areas inside the fence were browning out at the end of July. Fortunately, the rains in August saved our grass. But what are the chances that we'll get August rains next year and the year thereafter? You'd get better odds at Cripple Creek. The Board believes that Sun Mesa must reduce our irrigated acreage. **We simply have more grass than the water available to us will sustain.** The Board is preparing a sod reduction proposal to put before the owners. I'll keep everyone advised!

This is the story of Pox. My youngest daughter is an actress in Denver (donations accepted). Two years ago she bought a 24 year old Toyota Tercel wagon for \$100. It is rust colored and rust consumed. So much of the side panels are rusted out that she calls it Pox. Pox is also a leaker. So, whenever she visits she calls ahead and we open the garage door for her. She shoots in the garage and I deal with the leaking oil. Moral of the story is that if you, your kids or your friends have a leaker; don't expect a whole lot of sympathy if it leaks on our concrete.

Reminder: All exterior pots must be moved inside by October 31st. And if your plants croak before then you are encouraged to remove them even sooner.

Special thanks to Phil Book for all the time invested carefully measuring the area of our grass and checking our concrete!!

We're still looking good!
Cheers, Ron