

Message from the President Dave Sielken

We look forward to seeing as many of our neighbors as possible at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Mark you calendars for January 21st, 1pm at CPAC on West Continental Road. A major feature of the meeting will be the announcement of election results for the board members for the coming year. Following the official meeting the board gathers for the selection of officers and committee responsibilities. Everyone is welcome to stay for these proceedings.

While there is no official business conducted at the meeting other than the officer selections, there will be a review of HOA activities. Each committee will present and overview of activities in 2018 and general plans for 2019. This will be a good opportunity to learn - if you are new - and get caught up if you are a regular.

Of course, this will also be an open invitation to sign up! So much of what we accomplish in EE is the result of volunteerism and we hope that these presentations will trigger that response in our membership for the coming year!

See you there!

Board Candidates

Ken Lindeman - Kathy and I have been residents of Esperanza Estates since 2014. We became full time residents this July when we sold our home in Colorado. During our time in Colorado, I served on the HOA board for 10 years as secretary/treasurer; Road committee board for 8 years and the Water committee board for 9 years. I have served as secretary of the HOA Board this year when I was recruited to fill a position vacated at the last annual meeting. Since I filled a position with one year remaining, I have the privilege of running again this year. I really feel obligated to serve a community that gives freely of friendship and generosity. I have never been part of a community that volunteers so liberally to make an exciting environment for everyone in the neighborhood. Esperanza Estates does this. I would like to continue as a volunteer on the HOA Board with your votes. My ambition is to continue to

work at making this community an exciting and friendly place to live while retaining the structure of our environment.

Dean Lockwood - My wife, Robin, and I have been owners in Esperanza Estates since 2005 and this is our third full Winter season here. We spend the other six months in Ortonville, Minnesota. I am running for the EE Board because I would like to help keep this neighborhood great and hopefully make it an even better place to live. Robin and I have been volunteering on both the Hospitality and Enhancement Committees, and have also helped lead afternoon Water Aerobics the last few seasons. I am active in the Green Valley Optimist Club, helping raise money for local kids. I love playing Pickleball, and Robin and I are looking forward to being part of the local hiking group. We frequently volunteer at Crossroads Mission in Nogales, Arizona. I served on the board of the Minnesota MS Society for 5 years in several positions including Treasurer. I held several positions on the board of the Minneapolis Viking Chapter of the National Association of Accountants including Newsletter Editor, Special Events Coordinator and President. I retired in 2017 from a 37 year career in various positions in accounting and financial management. I have a Bachelors Degree in accounting, a C.M.A. and a Six Sigma certification in Process Excellence. My goal is to bring a spirit of cooperation, helpfulness and analytical thinking, and to promote community involvement to help Esperanza Estates stay one of the premier neighborhoods in Green Valley.

Hugh Rhine - My wife and I purchased our home in EE early in July of this year after living in the Denver area for the past 30+ years. As a newcomer to this subdivision I look forward to learning more about why EE was so highly recommended to as the "Best and most friendly HOA" in Green Valley. Our experience since being here supports that opinion.

My thinking is that serving on the board should be a good way to meet and get to know others in this community. Hopefully, putting myself forward as a candidate is a first step in being supportive of the openness we have received here.

In so far as my suitability for this task is concerned, My work background is largely in Finance and Operations Management. I retired from AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE (AMR) in 2012. I have also served in leadership positions in our church, United Way and Chamber of Commerce.

Anyone interested in more info on my background can look me up on LinkedIn, although my info there has not been updated since I retired.

Howland Swift - My wife, Robbi, and I first came to Green Valley 15 or more years ago and bought our place on Regalo in January 2014. I attended Williams College, earned a BS from Cornell and a MBA from UCLA. I've had three careers: first in the hotel, restaurant, & club management business, then as a real estate developer and finally as a college and university fund raiser and then fund raising consultant to NPO's. I'm on the board of the Greater Green Valley Community Foundation among several other and look forward to serving our HOA in all

ways possible.

Douglas Syme - I was born in Dublin Ireland in 1950. After graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Trinity College I worked in that field in Europe for 10 years. I have also been an avid rugby player and referee. After migrating to the US for my work in 1983 with my wife of 46 years, Linda, and our three children I became a US Citizen and continued my engineering design and maintenance career in New Jersey and the surrounding area. A significant portion of my responsibilities involved swimming pool equipment and maintenance. I retired and we moved to Esperanza Estates as full time residents on Circulo Napa in 2016. Since arriving I have continued my interest in rugby. I have also become a member of the Good Shepherd United Church of Christ where I sing in the choir and make deliveries for the Sahuarita Food Bank. Linda and I have come to enjoy the life as full-time EE residents and I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to our neighborhood by serving on the EE Board.

Two Men - A Long War - A Shared Story Mary Ferland

At first glance it would appear that Tom Buinicky, a 70 year-old native New Englander and Walter Ram, a 94 year-old from Tucson, would not have much in common, let alone B-17 aircraft and the infamous Stalag 17B prisoner of war camp experiences. How could a man born in 1948, some three years after WWII ended, share these two things with a World War II vet? The answer is through Tom's father, Alfred Buinicky, whose B-17 was shot down over France which led to a 15-month imprisonment at the POW camp in Krems, Austria. Among the allied prisoners at Stalag 17B during Alfred's stay was Walter Ram who spent 19 months behind the barbed wire encampment. Al Buinicky passed away in 1983 but left behind a war log and diary that he created during his time as a POW. The log features sketches, cartoons, poems, and stories created by other American prisoners during their captivity.



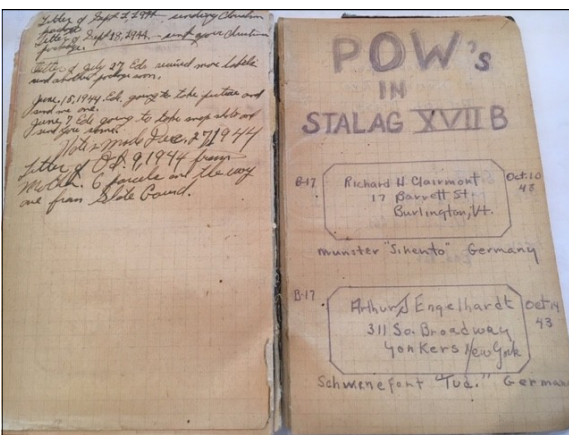
Walter and Tom met in Tucson after Tom read an article in the Arizona Daily Star about Walter's war service and imprisonment. They met so Tom could show him the war log and diary. As Walter reviewed the items over the next couple of weeks they brought back many memories of his fellow prisoners and the experiences they shared. The next time they met Walter brought some original photographs of the camp Tom had never seen. The photographs were taken with a camera that was smuggled in by bribing some guards; had it been found it surely would have led to punishment or death. When the camera wasn't being used it was buried in a canister underneath their barracks. To think that it still functioned after that sort of treatment is a miracle in itself. When the war ended, the film was dug up by a former German

guard who had made friends with one of the prisoners. The guard sent him the film which was forgotten about and developed 20 years after it was retrieved.

So how did Walter and Al come to find themselves in Stalag 17B? Walter's journey began in Nogales, Arizona. In 1940 at the age of 16 he altered his birth certificate in order to join the army. After completing his training he reported for duty in England. "I flew five missions before being shot down over Kiel, Germany in 1943 on the sixth. The ball turret gunner pushed me out of the plane and saved my life. Four of our 10-man crew made it—the ball turret gunner did not."

While being treated for his injuries Walter was moved four times to various hospitals in Germany and Poland. When he was transported to the camp he was in a box car so full of other prisoners he couldn't move. Walter was among one of the first groups of American Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) to be sent to Stalag 17B which swelled to over 4,300 American Airmen as the war drew to a close. The camp also housed separate compounds for English, Russian, French and Italian soldiers.

Al Buinicky's path to Stalag 17B started in Claremont, New Hampshire. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942, and upon completion of his training, was sent to the Royal Air Force base in Molesworth, England as part of the 303rd Bombardment Group, also known as the "Hell's Angels." On August 30, 1943, his 13th mission, Al was shot down over France. He survived for over three months in the French underground but was captured at the Spanish border—just a few hundred feet from safety. His forged papers said he was a French butcher but when questioned by the German border guards, it was obvious he couldn't speak French.



After being interrogated by the Gestapo he was ultimately sent to Stalag 17B in January 1944. In case you are wondering what Al did on the B17, he was the ball turret gunner.

Like many WWII vets of the Greatest Generation, Al didn't talk a lot about his imprisonment. Meeting Walter has helped Tom learn a great deal about what his dad went through. Daily life was dreadful. Each day the Germans gave them bread made from a small amount of grain, leaves and sawdust plus watered down soup made from rutabagas full of maggots. "We ate the maggots knowing that this was our only source of protein," Walter said. I spent two weeks in solitary confinement where I was given nothing but hard bread and water. I was punished because I hid when it was announced that everyone had to have their head shaved. I knew that my hair would help keep me warm during the frigid winter temperatures but after I was let out I had to have it shaved anyway."

If it wasn't for the U.S. Red Cross parcels that sporadically arrived at camp, the men would have suffered even more than they did. The parcels normally contained cigarettes (which were often used to bribe the guards), chocolate, Spam, powdered milk, and other edibles. "I weighed 160 pounds when I arrived," Walter recalled, "and when I left I weighed 97 pounds."

Some American prisoners tried to dig escape tunnels but they were always discovered. After the war they found out that two Russians, who had been allowed to live in the American compound, informed on them. The Germans hated Russians, and these men probably knew they would be killed unless they gave the authorities information that would save them.

As the war drew to a close, Al's bunk mate was too sick to leave when the others were force marched out, so the war log was given to him for safe keeping. Somehow he managed to get it out and returned it to Al when they both returned to the U.S. When the war ended Walter was twenty-one years old and returned to his home in Nogales. He promised his mother that he would finish high school but he soon realized that he couldn't fit in with the other students after all he had been through. He moved to Los Angeles, found a high school that would let him attend classes from 7 -1 and then leave in order to work. After graduation, he attended Woodbury College graduating with a BA degree. He returned to Nogales, married and began a business hauling produce from Mexico to Los Angeles. Al returned to Claremont, married his high school sweetheart, and got on with life eventually starting his own plumbing and electrical business.

Tom has often wished he could have asked his dad more about his war experiences and especially his 15-month ordeal in Stalag 17B. He says talking to Walter is like talking to his dad. Incredibly a war log, diary and coincidence has joined these two men in a friendship 73 years since Walter and Al were force marched from prison to freedom.

What's Happening at the Ramada?

HAPPY HOUR, Fri, Jan 11th, 4PM - Here's how it works:

1. No one is in charge
2. Bring your own beverage (and ice if you need it)
3. Bring an appetizer to share .
4. Bring your own cups/glasses, plates, napkins, utensils.
5. No reservations required



DINNER THEATER (Soup (three varieties), Salad, Dessert and a Movie)

Wed, Jan 16th, 4:30 Happy Hour, 5PM Dinner, 6PM Movie \$7

HAPPY HOUR, Fri, Jan 25th, 4PM (same rules as above)

OPTIMIAST CLUB ITALIAN SAUSAGE, Tuesday, Feb 12th

PINGO!. Pizza and Bingo, Tuesday, Feb 21st

This not-to-be-missed event is an "appreciation to the community" sponsored by the Enhancement Committee. Your pizza, salad, dessert, and soft drinks will be available at no cost! BYOB your own beer/wine, etc. More details coming soon! BYOB

Serendipitous Moments Marla Ries

I've had two very wonderful things occur in my life this December.

First, I was ringing the Salvation Army bell at Walgreen's on Esperanza on Dec. 5th. A woman was coming out of the WA Fed bank and we were drawn to one another. She came over and told me she was from New Jersey, was a musician, composer, and writer, and that she was an "Artist in Residence" at the Howe House in Tubac. She's a retired teacher and pianist and I shared with her about the initial meeting of Esperanza Jams scheduled for the following day and invited her to join us. To my delight, she showed up! In turn, Donna Dailey (plays guitar in Esperanza Jams) and I went to her one-woman show in Tubac on Dec. 9th and were both moved by her insight of life. It was truly a "kindred spirit" few days. This marvelous woman's name is Sharman Nittoli. Her website is worth a visit; www.sharmannittoli.com.

Secondly, my neighbor, Patty Adler and I decided to have a "Regalo Christmas Street Party". We hand delivered invitations to all residents on Regalo for the party scheduled for Dec. 21st. It was a rip-roaring success and it was so wonderful seeing neighbors walking back and forth between our homes, meeting neighbors for the first time! WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND OTHER EE STREETS TRY THE SAME THING!

I had another serendipitous moment that night. Preparing for the party, I walked down the street from my in-laws house and saw a man working in his garage. I didn't remember having given them an invitation and told him about the party. Happily he and his wife showed up. I was in the driveway as they approached, his wife was a little bit behind him, I didn't see her right way. He introduced her, but I didn't really hear her name right away because I was struck by her appearance. She's tall, blonde, and looks like she could be my best friend Mary Ann's (my dearest friend who died in July) twin sister; I got chills. He introduced me to her, and her name is Mary Ann. Of course, I did tear up, apologized, did a little spin, and recovered. I cannot help to think it was a little Merry Christmas from my Mary Ann.

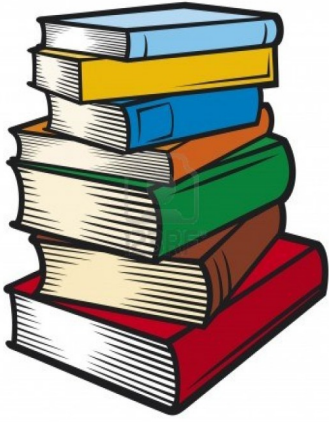
Ramada Sale

The annual Ramada Sale, co-chaired by Kay Bonham and Patty Tracy, is scheduled for March 2, 2019. For those of you new to Esperanza Estates (EE), the Ramada Sale is similar to a huge garage sale/rummage sale and is the primary fundraising source of the Enhancement Committee. The items sold are items contributed by your EE neighbors.

And, what does the Enhancement Committee do for you? In the past they have bought new lounges for the pool area, new standing heaters for the Ramada, landscaping improvements, items to support the Hospitality Committee (kitchen needs), have developed a lending closet (medical equipment, high chairs, portable beds, etc. This is just a small list of what the Committee has contributed.

Something new this year is that Committee members will be up at the building just West of the pickleball courts (1189 del Sur) every Wednesday from 9AM - 11AM, making it a convenient way to drop off your donations. If you have something big or awkward to donate, you can call event co-chair Patty Tracy at 520-444-4472, after January 5th.

The Enhancement Committee always welcome new members. The next meeting is at 9:30, Jan 14th at the home of Jane Ellingson, 160 Holgado.



Book Discussion Group

The EE Book Discussion Group meets at 1pm on the second Tuesday of each month at the Sunset Ramada. Meeting times are occasionally changed due to unforeseen circumstances. New group members are always welcome.

This is a great opportunity to meet new friends, discuss some great books, learn about other good reads, and go away feeling good about time well-spent.

Here are the "reads" for the coming season:

Jan. 8th: *A Man called Ove* - Frederick Backman

Feb 12th: *Locally Laid*: Lucie Amundsen

March 11th: *Unbroken* - Laura Hillenbrand

April 9th: *News of the World* - Paulette Jiles

May 14th: *Before We Were Yours* - Lisa Wingate

Questions? Contact Linda Sielken at 908-240-1887

EE Gardeners Need Your Help Jim Copeland

The EE Gardeners have been helping improve the public space in EE for many years. They have been behind the transformation of public spaces such as Esperanza Park, Mountain View Park and Shade Tree Park. This work was complete by donations and volunteer work as well as support from the EE HOA. This year Wishing Well Park will be a focus for the gardeners.

It is the public space and the volunteers that make EE what it is today. The public walking trails, know as the EE trail, is now in the need for a major refreshing. This trail which winds through EE is used daily by many of us. The clean up will be a major under taking which will require more volunteers than normal this year so your support will be needed.

(Continued on page 8)

Heater Reminder:

If you are using the portable heaters at the Ramada PLEASE TURN THE PROPANE BOTTLE VALVE CLOSED WHEN YOU ARE DONE. The propane leaks out if the valve is not closed.



DOG WALKERS!

YOU ARE REMINDED TO PICK UP YOUR POOCH'S POOP AND PACK IT HOME!

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Submitting news, articles, photos, reviews, stories, etc. would be greatly appreciated.

Do you have something to sell? Send in your information. Deadline for submission: the 25th of each month.

**To receive your Periodico electronically (and/or Monday Morning Memo), please send your email address to Craig Surprise at ee-webmaster@msn.com*

Printed copies of the Periodico are available at the Ramada. If you are home-bound and would like to receive a printed copy of the Periodico, contact Marla at 360-708-0855

I EXPECT YOUR HELP FILLING THESE PAGES FOR THE NEXT EDITION....

Name Badges

Name badges for Ramada gatherings are available for \$6.00 each. If you would like to order a badge, contact Melody Cooke: (520)336-8844

Coffee & Doughnuts

Join your neighbors at 8:30am on the 3rd Wed of each month for complimentary coffee & donuts.

Next date: Jan. 16th

Hosted by the Cookes & the Surprises

Food Bank donations are always welcome.

Board Meetings

Board Meetings are held at 1pm on the 3rd Monday of each month at the Ramada, except for the months of July and August.

Next REGULAR meeting: Feb 18, 2019

Esperanza Jams

Esperanza Jams, a new EE acoustical music group got together twice in December.

They all seem to be having so much fun that they want to continue! So far, musicians have included a violin player, a couple guitar players, a banjo player, piano player and a stand-up bass player.

At this point, no one is in charge and we all work together as a group to make decisions regarding genre, schedule, etc.

If you're interested in joining the fun, please contact Marla at the email address below.

Thursday, January 3rd, 3pm

852 W Calle del Regalo

Questions: gvmarlaries@gmail.com

360-708-0855



(Continued from page 7)

Hot Desert which handles the common area maintenance will be available to help, but volunteers will be needed. The work involves general cleaning of the area and moving the trimmings to areas that Hot Desert can collect them.

Our next meeting will be the 23rd of January at 9:00am at the Ramada. We normally meet at least once per month on the Wednesday following the EE board meeting. After a discussion we go to a specified area for a couple of hours of work. Everyone is welcome and your help will be appreciated.

Follow up announcements are in the Monday Morning Memo. I am looking forward to see you on the 23rd.

Jim Copeland

952-250-5399