



Green Valley Council

# Council's View

# June

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## THE COUNCIL IS GROWING

This year four new HOAs joined the Council, more than in past years. There are also several more HOAs asking for information about being a Council member and the benefits. We welcome our new HOAs and are committed to providing all of our members new and better services.

New services were offered in response to member's needs. The HOA Presidents' Round Tables were so popular we had to start a second Round Table. We do limit each Round Table to no more than 15 Presidents so that conversation and debate can include each President. While the Council President presides, topics and the flow of conversation are controlled by the Round Table members.

Trash service was a major issues at both Round Tables. It seems nobody pays the same amount to one major company. That company is also not honoring its contracts with the HOAs who have contracts by adding fees that are not permissible under the contract. When the HOA tries to enforce the contract, the company, in large part, just ignores them or, as some HOAs reported, says "tough". All of us were interested to hear what others thought of their trash service and whether they have one contract service or each homeowner selects their trash service provider.

Other Round Tables issues were concerns with HOA Architectural Committees, insurance and reserves, unruly dogs, unruly people, abandoned or neglected homes, and homeowner apathy. In response, this coming year the Council will offer a Round Table for Architectural Committee Chairs to share their concerns and brainstorm solutions. In addition, the Council will have an attorney present a seminar on dealing with abandoned or neglected properties.

This last year, the Council also added a new standing Committee, the Park Advisory Committee, to bring Community concerns and suggestions to Pima County's attention. Now that Green Valley has the Canoa Hills Park (name still



not confirmed!). The Historic Canoa Ranch and the Canoa Preserve, the County says it has reached "critical mass" and will now have a County Park Office South at Canoa Ranch plus three full time people attending to our parks. Right now, Canoa Hills is under renovation after almost 10 years of neglect. It will take at least a year of mowing, reseeding, concrete repair, erosion repair and other heavy duty work before the Park is ready for any amenities. Reclamation is a slow process and the County is committed to doing it right!

The Council is also doing more at its main office. With the addition of the Park Service Requests to our usual Service Requests, our staff is handling more than one Service Request every business day. We have increased the number of Community Forums and seminars, all of which

take staff time and effort. The Council is blessed with one of the best team of staffers around, but their workload is getting very heavy.

If there are other programs or services you would like the Council to provide, let us know. We are there to serve the entire community but in particular our member HOAs. We are open to all suggestions.



## A GVC PLANNING & ARCHITECTURE COMMITTEE....Why ?

Because Green Valley is not a town, it cannot run its own zoning/building department or set its own zoning/building rules. However, early in its history the Green Valley Council persuaded the County to enter into an agreement that called for the Council to review all new construction planned in the Green Valley Specific Area. The Council's Planning & Architecture(P & A) Committee reviews all projects within the Specific Area and sends its recommendations to the Pima County Development Services Office prior to any action is taken by the County Planning & Zoning Commission and by the Board of Supervisors. The P & A Committee reviews the same areas as the County but also reviews issues that the County does not—for example, safety concerns, conformance with Green Valley's ambiance and architectural theme, and unwarranted interference with views. All meetings of the P & A Committee are open to the public. Call our office to get on the list of people notified when P & A will meet.

The success of the Council enables Green Valley to function as a volunteer-managed community and to respond quickly to community concerns and needs. However, success translates into the need for more volunteers and additional staff. With no tax base, the need for financial support increases every year! Our costs are also increasing to meet the growing demands of our community. This issue will be addressed in the fall, during the development of the Council's budget for 2020.



San Ignacio Cell Tower, approved by the Planning & Architecture Committee in 2017

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## THE AZ19 REGIONAL TOURISM ALLIANCE VISITAZ19.COM

**OUR HUMBLE BEGINNINGS:** The Az19 Tourism Taskforce has been meeting since January, 2017. It grew out of the 2016 Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center (GVSCC) retreat as a way to promote tourism.

In June of 2018 the taskforce submitted the paperwork to be recognized as the Az19 Regional Tourism Alliance, a nonprofit in Arizona. We secured our Federal EIN, and we received our official Federal 501(c) [3] status on March 20<sup>th</sup> 2019.

Az19 Regional Tourism Alliance is a group of Chambers, Tourism Groups, Associations and other like businesses who have joined together to promote the educational, historical, cultural

heritage and economic attributes of southern Arizona. Our focus is on sharing the unique beauty and inspirational sites along this 100 kilometer drive from South Tucson to Nogales, as well as highlighting (birding; hiking; camping; cycling; culinary, cultural and historical sites). Our goal is to transform the Az19 Region from a seasonal economy to a year-round economy through increased tourism. Based on a strong body of evidence, tourism is a major economic driver that yields high benefits for people living and working in economically challenged areas.

It is a well-known fact that as you proceed south on Az19, the income and quality of life is reduced for residents during the summer and it is difficult to recover the losses during the high season. Therefore our focus on transforming the Az19 economy to a year-round economy through increased revenues from recreational tourism would improve the quality of life for most residents as well as business owners along Az19.



Az19 Regional Tourism Alliance members staffed the booth and talked with a variety of participants. We also had a table at the So. AZ Culture Fest in Tubac on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and one at the Southern Arizona Arts and Culture Alliance (SAACA) sponsored SABROSITA Sahuarita; Culture; Tequila event on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Recently, Az19 Regional Tourism

In order to assist in transforming the Region into a premier tourism destination point, Az19 has participated in a series of events to promote tourism. Beginning in January, with the Green Valley Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center Business Expo,



Alliance Chair, Dr. Kathleen Wishnick gave a presentation to the Green Valley Rotary Club.

Next steps for Az Regional

Tourism Alliance, include working with the Tucson Audubon Society; Historic Canoa Ranch; Friends of Madera Canyon and other groups to develop a series of Virtual Tours showcasing the abundant unique birding sites along Az19. When completed, these promotional tours will be stored on the Az19 Regional Tourism Alliance website [www.visitaz19.com](http://www.visitaz19.com). The goal of these Virtual Tours is to entice birding enthusiasts to visit our area year round.

If you would like information on how to help Az19 Regional Tourism Alliance or would like a presentation at your association, club or other event. Please contact Dr. Kathleen Wishnick, at [tkwishnick@gmail.com](mailto:tkwishnick@gmail.com).



## HOAs, DO YOU MEET YOUR NEWCOMERS?

Does your HOA have a program or Committee to meet with new homeowners? Doing so can integrate newcomers into your neighborhood more successfully. A warm welcome tells the new neighbor they are moving into a friendly neighborhood. It also helps those who have never lived in an HOA before to become accustomed to the CC & R's and the need to go through channels rather than acting on their own to remodel/landscape/paint their residence. The CC & R's is the glue that allows HOA members to live together harmoniously, for the benefit of all. It can help prevent those "I AM DOING IT MY WAY, NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY" newcomers from becoming a lasting problem. Orienting

newcomers is crucial to getting them involved and realizing the fact Green Valley is a unique, volunteer-managed community. Let the newcomers know about the Green Valley Council and its role as the volunteer-managed community of Green Valley. Through its Executive Committee, Board of Representatives and over 200 volunteers, Green Valley Council serves residents the same as a town or city council. Acquaint them with the services the Council offers to residents and HOAs and what each member HOA household pays, currently \$9.50 per year.

*You can brag that membership in the Green Valley Council is key to a tax-free, volunteer-managed community!*

