

Estates Gardeners Report to HOA Board 5/20/13

Prepared by: Bill Berdine

The Esperanza Gardeners have curtailed their planting activities around the HOA's common areas due to temperature and available individuals to volunteer for work details. All of the various water monitors have been assigned and are already in action.

We have received three donations from current and former residents. Jane and Eric Ellingson (Holgado) have donated several boulders and three small (12" to 15") saguaros. Due to the temperature and time of year, the saguaro will not be moved until mid-October. Mary Beth Wallace (Napa) has donated several large volcanic boulders. The boulders will be moved as soon as we either have a permanent site for them or a place to store them until sites are determined. Carollee Robertson's (Napa) daughters, Kristi and Monica, donated in memory of their Mother, two 22" tall cobalt blue pots with two healthy Lady Banks rose plants (aka Tombstone Rose). The rose plants will be transferred to the wall alongside the front park area of the Sunset Ramada (adjacent to the fountain). Water is available at this site and the roses should do well climbing and covering the wall. The pots will be placed as soon as there is a determination of a site. The pots and roses will be identified as being in memory of Carollee Robertson.

In conjunction with Dean Hess, Bill Berdine has had discussions with Bob Velasco (1st Choice Saguaro and Desert Nursery) regarding the feasibility of moving/repositioning of the tall saguaro at the corner of Portillo and Esperanza. Mr. Velasco has been asked to provide a written estimate of the cost for moving and repositioning the saguaro. Due the cactus's age (approx. 25+ years), height (approx. 18') and time of year, we may need to wait until late Fall to do this work without harming the plant.

The Gardeners will resume their activities on or around October 15, 2013.