

Periodico de Esperanza



April 2012

Volunteer of the Year: Tom Cooke

Each year our HOA recognizes one individual whose long-term, outstanding service to our community has contributed to making Esperanza Estates a premier subdivision.

The recipient of this year's Volunteer of the Year Award is Tom Cooke, and it's hard to imagine anyone more deserving of this honor.

Since moving to EE in September 2000, Tom has been a doer. And the amount of work he has done for our community in those twelve years is rather astounding.

Early on, as a member of the Concerned Volunteers, Tom helped break up the old cement putting green and replace it with the Ramada garden. He later helped with the creation of Mountain View Park, identifying and labeling every cactus in the garden. His interest in keeping our landscaping attractive has continued,

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Photo of the Month

Congratulations to Sue Reiser, April winner for her "Embracing the Moon." (This is Sue's second win: she tied for first place in December.)

To enter the monthly contest, submit up to three digital photos taken around EE during the past year. There's no limit on subject matter: flora, fauna, mountains, sunsets, etc. Deadline for the next contest: May 18th. You may submit your entry/ies to Denise Roessle (droessle@mac.com) as an email attachment, or save them on a CD and deliver it to 801 Napa.

In June, we will run all the winning photos from Sept. 2011 through May, and announce the Photo of the Year in the September issue of the Periodico.



President's Message

By Eric Ellingson

The April 16th Board meeting was well attended and the use of the new projector provided by the Enhancement Team, gave us the ability to communicate the essence of past, present and future projects to both the Board and homeowners. We will begin sewer and water connections for the tennis court restrooms about April 18. Clearing work needed to accommodate water and sewer trenches and the new concrete access walkway has already taken place. Construction of the restroom structures will follow as soon as the necessary utilities are in place. The repair of 2 Quad driveways and improvements to the Esperanza park entrance will also begin soon.

Jane and I will be leaving for the summer in early May and Vice President Tom Cooke will step in to conduct board meetings and other Presidential duties. Given Tom's extensive experience as President I am sure the transition will be seamless. We will return in time to prepare for the October Board meeting which promises to be interesting as the paint trim committee plans to submit their proposal for new trim colors for our homes at that time.

The degree of homeowner interest and participation in our community and the interaction among our members continues to increase. Our Enhancement Team has been a mainstay of support for so many of our activities, most recently our new projector and two additional tables and 12 chairs for the Ramada. We also have groups interested in long-range planning, gardening, and art, as well as volunteers just willing to help out where needed. Twenty-three volunteers showed up to help spread decorative gravel at a recent del Norte project. These activities contribute to improving our overall quality of life in many different ways and have made our HOA one of the finest in Arizona. Keep up the good work!

Board Meetings

May 21, June 18

1:00 p.m.

Sunset Ramada

*No board meetings in
July & August*

Board member list &
meeting minutes available
at <http://esperanzaestates.net>

Esperanza Estates
Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 181
Green Valley, AZ 85622-0181

From the Board: Procedures for CC&R Changes

Any homeowner may propose changes to the HOA CC&Rs in accordance with our by-laws, CC&Rs and current Arizona statutes. There are no formal procedures for accomplishing this beyond the requirement that the proposal and associated ballots be mailed to the homeowners and that the ballots be returned and processed in the approved manner. A majority of the 351 homeowners must approve a proposition for it to pass. In the past there has been no formal role for the Board with regard to these actions. The board now proposes to make a formal recommendation to the homeowners on each proposed change to the CC&Rs. The most efficient and cost-effective way for this process to occur is for the proposals to be sent out with the HOA funded mailing that occurs prior to the annual meeting. The HOA Board is responsible for compiling and executing this

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CC&R Changes

Continued

mailing and the following procedures will be followed prior to including any proposed change into the HOA mailing. The proposed procedure has been tailored to the fall of 2012 but can be generalized to following years if successful. The objective of this proposal is to stimulate the exchange of ideas among interested parties and to encourage homeowner input.

1. The deadline for submitting proposals is October 15. The proposals will be presented and discussed at the regular board meeting on that date. Proposals may be modified by the submitter as a result of homeowner and Board input but before the changes are incorporated in the mailing the Board must certify that the changes have resulted from adequate review and discussion among the homeowners, the proponents and the Board. The Board will retain the authority to introduce CC&R changes after the deadline if they are deemed to be non-controversial e.g., changes required to comply with Arizona law.
2. The proposed CC&R changes including any submitter proposed modifications coming out of the October 15 meeting shall be distributed electronically and posted at the Ramada no later than October 22.
3. On October 29 a special Board meeting will be convened for the express purpose of discussing the proposed changes, soliciting homeowner input, and making appropriate additional changes. This special meeting will be dedicated to the CC&R changes and will not be encumbered by other Board business.
4. The changes resulting from the October 29 meeting, if any, shall be distributed electronically and posted at the Ramada no later than November 5.

The final review will occur at the regular Board meeting on November 19. At that time the Board will vote to recommend approval or disapproval of each proposed CC&R change. The proposed changes as amended by the submitter and their respective ballots will then be sent out in the annual mailing together with the Board recommended action.

GVC Report

By Joe McCalpin

At the March meeting Chuck Huckleberry, Pima County Administrator, addressed the issue of the condition of the streets in the unincorporated areas of the county. Subsequent to that address, he sent a 24 page memorandum to the Board of Supervisors. In this memorandum, Administrator Huckleberry provided a detailed history of how funds were diverted from road maintenance starting in 2002 by funding the Department of Public Safety with Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) monies. This problem was exacerbated in 2008 by taking HURF money to other agencies to balance the budget. The total funding loss is \$34,672,293. This loss of revenue was accompanied by a reduction in revenue due to increased mileage in newer cars and increases in the cost of petroleum products.

The memorandum suggested some immediate action to repair vital conduit streets. The only street in Green Valley identified for attention was Abrego from Duval Mine Road to Esperanza Boulevard. There were eighteen options listed for sources of revenue along with pro/con discussions for each option. Five revenue sources were recommended by the Administrator. I won't list them for brevity's sake.

The Administrator suggested that the DOT undertake a complete analysis of the condition of all the streets and highways in the county. The GVC has started a survey of the streets in all of the subdivisions in Green Valley. As a member of the Streets and Arroyos Committee, I volunteered to assist in that survey. I will keep you posted.

Upcoming Events



Cinco de Mayo Potluck Saturday, May 5th • 4:30 Sunset Ramada

Bring your favorite Mexican dish to share and join your neighbors for this annual fiesta! Soda, water, and margaritas will be provided.

Memorial Day Potluck Monday, May 28th 4:30 • Dinner served at 5:00 Sunset Ramada



Bring a main dish, salad, side dish or dessert to share. Hospitality will provide soft drinks, water, beer, wine and mixes. BYOB if you want a cocktail.



By popular demand!

Coffee and Donuts at the Ramada...

will continue into May and June, the third Wednesday of each month, 8 a.m. This event is a freebie for residents to gather, have some time to chat and enjoy a cup of java and a donut. No agenda, no meeting, no axe to grind--just some social time with one another.

Welcome New Owners

Michael Landolt & Amy Zehrer
753 W Circulo Napa

Jim & Cheryl Martin
743 W Circulo Napa

Stephen & Kathleen Normand
830 W. Vereda Calma

John & Debra Klis
830 W. Circulo Napa

EE Art Club

A group of EE residents has established an organization dedicated to EE community enrichment through Public Art Projects. Their goal is to complete one to three major projects each year, primarily through dues, donations, fundraising, art classes and sale of small art projects. The club will continue to meet during the summer: the first Monday of each month, 2:00 p.m., at the Ramada. If you are interested in learning more, please attend or contact chairperson, Kevin Welsh at (231) 838-6851.



Vounteer of the Year

Continued

and he is a member of the Gardeners and the Volunteer Landscaping Crew.

Tom joined the HOA Board in 2001, and has served as a Director ever since. Tom first came to the Board's attention when as a new EE resident he started attending all the Board meetings to complain that the landscape maintenance company was not doing a proper job controlling the weeds in the common areas. As soon as there was a vacancy on the Board, Tom was appointed and put in charge of Common Area Maintenance. He's been fighting our weeds with a vengeance ever since, and we greatly appreciate his efforts. At least now he can use the Gator when he goes out on weed patrol. Previously he walked around all the common areas and shot weed killer with a hand held sprayer.

Recreational Facilities was later added to Tom's list of duties, and he continues to have this responsibility today. He puts in a great many hours making sure the pool, spa, tennis/pickleball courts and Ramada are in good order. You can often find him over at the Ramada tinkering with whatever needs fixing, sweeping the floor or restocking the restroom toilet tissue.

Tom served as HOA President for five and one half years, and he can look back with pride at many Board accomplishments during that time: the construction of the Ramada, the conversion to the salt-water pool, the resurfacing of the pickleball courts, and the implementation of the Wifi hot spot in the Ramada.

Recognizing the importance of keeping residents informed about important community issues and events, Tom wrote the Monday Morning Memo from October 2006 through January 2012. His informative and often witty newsletter was eagerly awaited each week, and readership greatly increased during his time as editor.

As busy as he is with the myriad of tasks his multiple roles entail, Tom always finds time to listen to homeowners, to let volunteers know he appreciates their efforts and to be the "go to guy" for many of us. His dedication and the amount of personal time he has devoted to the betterment of Esperanza Estates are admirable, and have earned him the respect of the community.

Thank you, Tom, for your extraordinary efforts on behalf of Esperanza Estates. We are fortunate to have you as a member of our community.



Kay Miller presents Tom with his award at the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.



In Memoriam

*Leo Zehrer
753 Circulo Napa
March 27, 2012*



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Bienvenidos Committee

By Cynthia Surprise

The Bienvenidos Committee recently held a reception for new EE residents to welcome them to our community. We look forward to seeing them out and about in the neighborhood and at our larger social functions.

Please join us in welcoming these new residents.

Richard and Janice Craig purchased their home on Circulo Napa in 2005, but they rented it out until this year, when they became full-time residents. The Craigs lived many place during Rich's career in the U.S. Army, most recently in Texas. After his retirement from the Army, Rich was a fleet manager in the concrete industry. Janice's career was in the accounting field. Both Rich and Janice enjoy playing golf. With one daughter living in Green Valley, they hope more family will be here soon.

Jerry and Lillian Sako moved to AZ 22 years ago from Colorado. Jerry worked in water and land rights for FreePort MacMoRan in AZ. He is also a broker who specializes in the sale of ranches and open land. Lillian is a realtor for Tierra Antigua Realty out of Tucson. The Sakos owned a bowling center for 7 years in Canyon City, CO, and Jerry is currently working at the local bowling center here in Green Valley. He enjoys bowling, hunting elk (and has some antlers on the wall to prove his skill), and would like to learn stained glass art. Lillian is interested in genealogy, quilting and stained glass, besides being very busy with all her real estate clients.

Mauri and Dianne Walker are from Southern California, but have been traveling as full-time RVers for the last 15 years. During their travels, they met Rich and Barb Thompson and came to visit them in EE for two weeks this winter. After spending a few days here, they loved the place so much they decided to buy a home on Napa. They'll continue to spend time RVing, but they will call EE home. Prior to retirement, Mauri was a sales supervisor for Kraft Foods and also managed a supermarket. Dianne was a legal secretary. The Walkers enjoy traveling and will continue to do so in the summers. Dianne would like to start a bridge club and wants to learn to play pickleball.

Kevin and Linda Welsh bought their home on Circulo del Sur earlier this year, but came to know EE well while renting Kevin's sister's place on Placita Nueva last year. Before that, they rented in the Villas for a number of years in order to escape the Michigan winters. Linda loves Nascar and enjoys gardening. Kevin is an avid pickleball player. He is also a craftsman, and does stained glass art. Eager to become involved in EE, Kevin became a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain the same day they closed on their EE home. He is also heading the new EE Art Club.

Fascinating Neighbors

Esperanza Estates is populated by many folks with interesting backgrounds and brushes with fame. If you know someone who would make an interesting profile — or maybe it's YOU — please contact Cynthia Surprise, 205-2742, or Mary Hess, 398-4829.



Chef Lorraine filled in for Sam Bernard at the last hamburger night, hosted by our fantastic Hospitality Committee.



Fifteen yards of gravel, delivered to improve the common area on del Norte, was spread by a team of volunteers. The gravel will help alleviate the dust problem in that area on windy days.

Enhancement Team Report

By Barb McCalpin

The Home and Garden Tour Committee, headed by Jackie Rautio, met earlier this month to make preliminary plans for next year's tour. Chairpersons and committee members were assigned to the subcommittees. The Tour is scheduled for Sunday, March 24, 2013, and for the first time will feature attractive gardens in addition to homes. As in the past, the Tour will conclude with wine and cheese at the Ramada. There may be some additional new fun features as well. Mark your calendars for this popular event.

We have made two new additions recently. We purchased a projector which was used very effectively at this month's Board meeting. It will be very handy for future meetings and presentations. We have also purchased two oval wrought iron tables and twelve matching chairs. After a long search, we had almost given up on finding appropriate tables and chairs for the Ramada. But, thanks to the vigilance of Lorna Kitchak, we finally found them, and at an excellent price. We were able to buy two sets for what we expected to pay for one! We shouldn't run out of seating capacity any time soon.

We've held our last meeting until fall, but some of us will be researching potential fundraising ideas for next year. Others will be continuing to work on additional enhancement projects during the summer.

EE Hikers

Marian Mundale remembers her first hiking experience in 1995 as a miserable outing. It was a seven mile hike with a 1800 foot elevation, without water or proper attire. But it sparked her love of hiking, which she decided to share with other EE residents when she started the EE Hikers in February 2011.



Marian had been a hiker with GVR and missed hiking when she was no longer a GVR member. So, she decided to start a group here in Esperanza Estates. The purpose of the group is to have safe, enjoyable hikes at a pace that allows time to take photographs for those so inclined.

As Hikemaster, Marian selects the hikes and provides hikers with the mileage, trail conditions and elevations for each hike. Marian uses some of the hikes she had done in the past, but some hikes are new to her and she and the hikers learn together. "Occasionally we do lose our trail, but that's the fun of it," she says.

Four of the current members are experienced hikers and they have given the group many good suggestions. The others are new to hiking but are becoming more experienced with each hike they take.

Trying to accommodate the different levels of experience is challenging. Marian announces information about future hikes in the Monday Morning Memo, and hikers decide for themselves if they feel capable of handling the hike. She tries to alternate an easy hike with a more difficult one, and so far that system has worked out well. The group is careful to make several rest stops when they hike elevation.

Each hike has a leader and a sweep. The leader's role is to set a comfort pace for all hikers, and the sweep is responsible for watching for any hikers who may be having trouble.

The group's first hike was to the crested saguaro in the desert behind Esperanza Estates. The temperature was 35 degrees, but the hikers had a wonderful time. Since then, the group has completed 16 hikes ranging from two to six miles and from 200 to 800 feet in elevation. They hike in the Santa Ritas, Rincons and Tucson Mountains and the DeAnza Trail. The group has grown over the past year and in January it had the largest number of participants when 20 hikers enjoyed an easy hike to the Indian Kitchen on Mission Road.

Hikers meet at the Ramada at 8:30 on Monday mornings, and car pool to the hikes. Marian recommends wearing hiking shoes, and bringing snacks and water. Some hikers use hiking poles. Marian lists hiking conditions as Trail 1, a well defined dirt trail or road, or Trail 2, a trail or road with some rocky or loose footing.

Marian's own most challenging hike was to the telescopes on Mt. Hopkins, an eight mile hike with a 1500 foot elevation. The misty rain and fog, combined with the elevation made breathing difficult. Until recently, her hiking goal was to hike Mt. Wrightson, but she now no longer enjoys a hike over five to six miles and over a 1000 foot elevation.

If you are interested in joining, contact Marian or show up at the Ramada on a Monday morning when the group resumes hiking next fall. The Hikers are a great example of the group activities we have here in EE.

From the Board: Weed Notice to All EE Owners

Section 12.3 of the CC&R's requires every homeowner keep his yard in an attractive condition and free of weeds. This requirement has imposed a significant hardship on owners who are here part-time. During the monsoon season, weed growth is rampant and those homeowners not here are not aware that their yards have been overgrown. To prevent this situation, arrangements have been made to have a local gardening service offer a volume discount. Details are below. The contractor does a lot of work in EE and his reputation depends on performing and guaranteeing his work. And unlike most in this field of work, he is Arizona state licensed. This service is available to all homeowners, but is particularly applicable to part-time residents giving them peace of mind that the property will be weed free, and that they will not have problems with the HOA about the condition of their property.

This article will constitute notice to all owners. There will be no written notices sent to owners who fail to make arrangements. If your yard becomes an issue while you are away, the HOA will take care of it at your expense plus a surcharge.

Unfortunately, there is a secondary aspect to this problem. Several people have told us, when they were sent a letter from the Board telling them their yard needed attention, that they had hired a landscape firm to take care of their yard while they are away. Thus, we learned, some landscape firms do nothing until a few days before your return date. If you hire such a firm, it is still your responsibility to make sure it is doing the job.

Failure to have your yard taken care of is not only a violation of our CC&Rs, but it is also highly unfair to our year-around residents, who have to put up with an unkempt neighborhood for months at a time.

This year, with the acquisition of our own equipment, the Board intends to deal with our common area weed issue much more aggressively than in past years. And we are asking all of our residents to be pro-active, rather than re-active, in keeping their own property weed free and in an attractive condition. The Board has the authority to enter onto a lot and do any required maintenance at the expense of the owner; however we do not wish to do this. Instead, we want each owner to commit to a high level of care for his own property. Please remember, this is a requirement of our CC&Rs, which all owners must comply with. If the Board does have to take corrective action on a yard, the cost will be significantly higher than paying for the work yourself.

In order to make compliance as simple as possible, arrangements have been made with a local landscape maintenance company to provide yard care at a level guaranteed to keep your property in compliance with HOA requirements, at a nominal cost of only \$30.00 per month. This fee will cover what work is necessary to keep your front yard (outside your patio wall) in an attractive condition. Beyond your front yard, you may separately contract with the firm to do any other work you wish, at whatever rate you negotiate. The front yard fee is payable in advance for the number of months you will be away--or for whatever period you wish to use the service. Also, this service is available at the same cost even if you are a year-around resident.

In order to make this program work, we will need as many people to sign up as we can. Please email boydmorse1@gmail.com to make arrangements to sign up, or call 419-2489 if you have questions.

Genealogy Basics: How to Start Researching Your Family History

By Cynthia Surprise

Genealogy has become an extremely popular hobby. Two television shows focusing on tracing family history, “Who Do You Think You Are” on NBC and “Faces of America” on PBS, reflect its growing popularity.

Genealogy is a wonderful hobby for people who like puzzles or mysteries. There are many fascinating twists and turns within every family’s story and you never know what you are going to find while doing your research.



Passing along your family’s history and stories to younger family members is also a good way to connect the generations and make history come alive for children.

Genealogy can become addictive. Just ask EE resident Claire Smith. Claire started researching her family history thirty years ago, and she still gets excited when she finds an elusive ancestor. One of the unexpected side benefits of her online research was making connections with several cousins she had not previously known. They keep in touch and share their discoveries.

Claire believes some of the appeal of genealogy lies with the desire of people living in our highly mobile society where families are scattered throughout the globe to find their roots and feel connected to others who share a common lineage.

If you are interested in researching your family history, here are some very basic steps to get you started. As you progress, there are a number of books and websites that can give you more in-depth information. EE residents and genealogy addicts Joan Moreaux, Joleen Hartje and Lillian Sako can probably give you some other great tips.

1. *Start with what you know. Diagram a basic family tree filling in names you know. Start with yourself and work backwards to your parents, grandparents and great-grandparents as far back as you can go. Include spouses and siblings on the tree.*
2. *For each individual listed, write down facts you know about that person, including: name (and maiden name); date and place of birth, marriage and death; where they lived; if they immigrated to the U.S., when and from what country and town.*
3. *Look for clues in documents and pictures you have in your possession: old letters and their envelopes, newspaper clippings, greeting cards and postcards, family bibles, school yearbooks, and old matchbooks from wedding receptions.*
4. *Write or talk to your relatives. They may be able to fill in some gaps in your information. Long-time family friends can also be a surprising source for family stories.*
5. *Check public and church records for birth, marriage and death records. Some states have websites that allow you to search for these online. The Federal Census from 1790 -1940 is available at many libraries. If your ancestors immigrated through the Port of New York between 1892 and 1954, you can search for their passenger records at Ellis Island (ellisland.org) or for prior years at the Castle Garden website (castlegarden.org).*
6. *Here’s an important hint. Spelling doesn’t count when looking for names in old records. Having a firm spelling of one’s surname is a relatively recent occurrence.*

Happy searching!

How Green is Our Valley

By Sandy Reed

Most Esperanza residents proudly consider themselves non-polluting, green-oriented citizens by getting their paper, tin, plastic, cardboard, and glass recyclables to proper waste management companies and/or the Lion's Club trash facility near the Green Valley library. And many especially save their plastic bags and wraps to drop off at Safeway or Fry's. It is interesting to think that a hundred years ago people in this valley had none of these concerns. Consider:

CARDBOARD BOXES - A century ago bulk shipments of consumer products went in light wooden containers, probably returned or used as fire wood. Heavier items moved in strong wood boxes, many of which have been carefully preserved to this day as collectables, especially those with company and/or product names printed on them.

Today - We regularly have piles of ugly cardboard cluttering our sidewalks, for pickup and eventual sale in bulk to businesses in Japan, which love good plant fiber in our boxes.

MILK- At the start of the last century a farmer with a few cows might carry his excess milk around in large milk cans hanging on the sides of his mule. He would ladle his product into household jugs or other receptacles left on doorsteps. An improvement came with glass bottles with thick paper caps, and the bottles were reused until broken.

Today - We contend with heavy paper or plastic containers for recycling.

TIN CANS - They were slowly coming into use in our country at the turn of the 20th century, when a part native Bolivian Indian named Simon Patino became perhaps the wealthiest man on the planet, with his monopoly of the world's tin mines and refineries. But at the same time, glass was the container of choice for food products and practically everything else. All reusable if not broken.

Today - Tin cans for food products, sold by the billions, pollute our landfills if not recycled.

PAPER TOWELS, NAPKINS, DIAPERS, ETC.- Do you still keep some napkin rings around for special occasions? A hundred years ago they were in pretty steady use to identify the owners of the cloth napkins. Of course the napkins were washed periodically for reuse. And all kitchen towels and diapers were washable cloth. No pollution except dirty water.

Today - Paper products are the rage for these purposes, wasting our forests and going to landfills if not recycled.

PLASTIC - A hundred years ago a material like plastic was probably in the minds of a few inventors and entrepreneurs, but it took many decades for the product's development. It now appears in thousands of products around the world.

Today - Those marvelous products will fill our landfills for millenniums if not recycled.

What can we do to keep our valley green? Recycle, recycle, recycle. Please read the first paragraph once again.



Plants of the Month

Two gorgeous plants were seen around EE in the last few weeks. If you wondered about them, here's some information.

The beautiful yellow or white roses you saw blooming in several courtyards and the Ramada garden in EE this month are Lady Banks' Rose (*Rosa Banksiae*). One of the easiest roses to grow in Southern Arizona, Lady Banks is relatively tolerant of our hot, arid conditions.

Lady Banks' Rose grows naturally into a fountain like shrub (like the one in the Ramada garden), but it is often grown up a trellis or other support. It is a vigorous climber and its height ranges from 10 to 20 feet. If you want to prune it, keep in mind that it grows on old wood.

Lady Banks' Rose grows best in full sun and produces miniature, double yellow or white blooms with a slight fragrance.

Lady Banks' Rose is popularly known as the Tombstone Rose, after the sensational one found in Tombstone Arizona. It was planted there in 1885 as a gift of love to a new and homesick bride from Scotland. The town celebrates the Tombstone Rose during its Rose Festival in April.

For sheer flower power, nothing beats *Trichocereus Grandiflorus*, and there are several around EE. The flowers are huge -- about five to six inches across and the colors are absolutely neon-electric in fuchsia or pink.



While most of the blooms grow from the top of an elongated cactus, "Big Bertha" is a shorter, rotund variant that has enormous white flowers edged in creamy buttermilk or pale pink. One of the best examples around can be found on lower Napa.

Day & Night

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A Photo Essay by Denise Roessle and Robin DeWan



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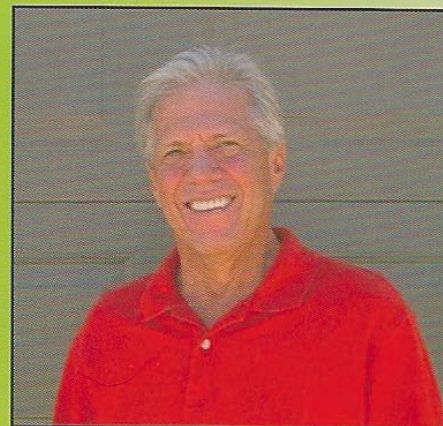
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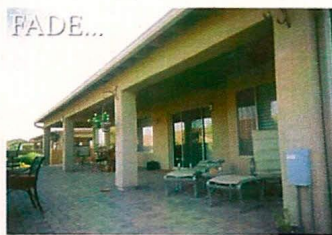
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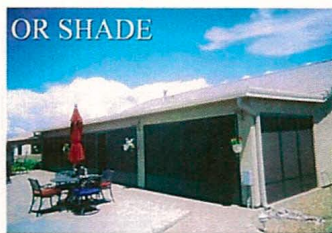
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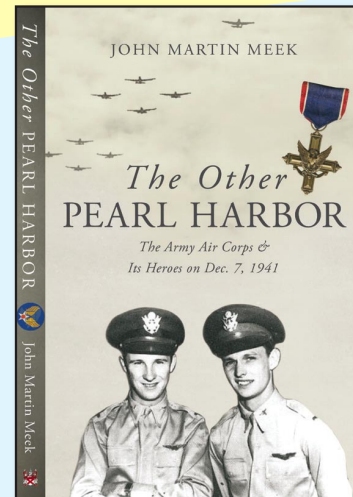
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FREE FLAT ROOF INSPECTION

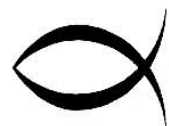


AVOID THE ONE COAT ROOFERS
(I apply a three coat process every time)

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