



# Sherwood Forest Estates Newsletter

*Fall 2012*

***<http://sherwoodforestestates.org>***

## **From the President**

Notes from the SFEPOA President:

Greetings to all from the tall pine country. As most of you know I am one of the newest members of the POA Board and I am now the President.

Sue and I purchased our first lot in SFE in 1968. We started on a cabin shortly thereafter. Twelve years ago we moved up here full time. We are both very involved in volunteer work and I figured it was time I served on our Board before I got too old to remember things. (Sue will tell you I am already there!).

I have been reviewing Jim's previous newsletter and I have to agree we are very fortunate to live either full or part time in such a wonderful place as SFE.

We have a really active Board and I want to welcome Frank Honer, not a newcomer to SFE, but new to our Board.

This year's Fall Event has been called off due to our planning committee, Debi and Cathy, having prior commitments, but instead we will treat you all to a free dinner and spring fling.

Later in this newsletter you will see a article by Marcy Aldacushion about Block Watch. Marcy and her husband David moved to SFE about a year ago and since then they have added another resident, Matthew. (Just about the best looking baby I have ever seen.) Both David and Marcy have also joined the fire department.

I have met several other residents new to SFE. No one should be a stranger so, when you see a new face, reach out, and say hello.

There are still 12 trained CERT volunteers in SFE. For those of you not familiar with CERT it stands for Community Emergency Response Team and we are trained to act when all else fails. We are always looking for new volunteers and training goes on in Flagstaff about every other month. If you are interested please call me.

Let us remember that we are all neighbors and so let the Golden Rule prevail. Have a safe fall, a wonderful winter, and we will see you all next spring.

Jack

### 2012 SFE POA Board

President:	Jack Hadley	<a href="mailto:jshadley@q.com">jshadley@q.com</a>	928-635-2055
Vice President:	Frank Honer	<a href="mailto:fhoner@cox.net">fhoner@cox.net</a>	602-882-1923
Secretary:	Debi Switzer	<a href="mailto:mettes@aol.com">mettes@aol.com</a>	
Treasurer:	Betty Ferrier	<a href="mailto:jfebf@gmail.com">jfebf@gmail.com</a>	928-607-2911
Member:	Mike Kowren	<a href="mailto:mkowren@q.com">mkowren@q.com</a>	480-560-2648
Member:	Cathy Cook	<a href="mailto:haveagud1@yahoo.com">haveagud1@yahoo.com</a>	
Newsletter:	Judson Swearingen Jr.	<a href="mailto:mrnet@ix.netcom.com">mrnet@ix.netcom.com</a>	818-621-1865

### Mountain Rose Ranch

Some of us met with the Board of Mountain Rose Ranch. It was a very nice meeting. We all agreed that they should join us for our Spring Fling. There are still problems with ATV riders from SFE, (mostly youth), riding very fast and doing donuts on their private roads. We must remember that their roads are not part of the public road system nor are they maintained by the County. Please let us all respect each other and our neighbors.

A note of caution to all ATV and UTV riders: Due to the many fatal accidents involving youth and ATVs the Sheriff's Department is cracking down and will no longer issue warnings. The fines are steep, so please obey the law and save your money for fun things, not paying the Judge!

### SFE Entrance Sign

As some of you saw, the entrance sign was falling apart. The wood was cracking. Bob and Penny Mills salvaged the redwood from the original sign, which was put up in 1964, and planed it down smooth. Penny then cut new letters out of steel, ground off the edges to give them contrast and had them powder coated, hence we have a brand new, really great looking sign. BIG Thanks go out to the Mills.



## Annual Meeting Minutes

Sherwood Forest Estates Property Owner's Association  
ANNUAL MEETING JUNE 30, 2012  
SFE FIREHOUSE

Board in Attendance:

President - Jim Poley; Secretary - Deb Switzer; Treasurer- Betty Ferrier; - Newsletter editor - Jud Swearingen;  
Member at Large - Mike Kowren & Cathy Cook. Absent/resigned, Vice President- Rusty Rothman

Call to Order 9:01

President's Welcome - Jim Poley greeted the members and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Secretary's Report: Deb Switzer. Last year's annual minutes were handed out during the pre-meeting sign-in for the members to review. Jim Shipley moved to accept; Jack Hadley Seconded. A voice vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's Report: Betty Ferrier. The annual financial report was also passed out for review. Current balance is \$4088.10 Dave Jones moved to accept. Mike Kowren Seconded. A voice vote was unanimous.

Election of officers: - Three positions were up for election. The Nomination Committee presented Jack Hadley and Frank Honer. Judson Swearingen was returning to the board as newspaper editor. Rick Switzer moved to close nomination. Jim Shipman Seconded. There was a unanimous vote to accept and install the nominations to the POA board.

Speakers:

Coconino County Sheriff - Bill Pribil - Spoke on low crime rates in the neighborhood. Fire hazards and evacuation is a primary concern. Burglaries hit harder in winter when fewer residents are around. He stressed the importance of securing & identifying property well. It was encouraged that if anyone saw anything suspicious to be a good witness. Get photos, license plates, etc. Also, to let neighbors know when you're going to be away.

ATVs: 5% of ATV drivers abuse laws. It is advised to contact authorities if witnessing abuses. 800 338-7888. Wayne Marx commented on neighbors "advertising" homes being vacant by chaining the front of drive, phone books left on drive, etc. Timers on lights may be helpful.

Jason Babcock offered that his business provides service to plow drives in winter - to help a property look occupied.

Sergeant for Williams District Jon Jamison let the neighborhood know that a Radar Awareness Trailer was available. The department's biggest concerns are safety violations. Call dispatch number to report issues or call him directly.

Coconino County Supervisor - Matt Ryan

Supervisor Matt shared that the Williams Community Clean-Up went well. Fire waste was reduced in coordination with Moonset Pit. The Parks fuel reduction program has been helpful. He shared that County Fair is coming up.

Matt encourages anyone to call his office when needed. He introduced Lindsey who works in his office and handles or directs most issues.

Block Watch - Jack Hadley reported that Rusty Rothman had resigned upon moving out of SFE and in the interim passed the paperwork on to Jack. A new Block Watch chair person is being sought out to take responsibility for it.

CERT- Jack Hadley & Cathy Cook. CERT has monthly meetings in Flagstaff. Training is the last Tuesday every Month.

FD - Cathy Cook spoke about the team effort regarding the recent house fire in Mountain Rose Ranch. The department was able to prevent the fire from spreading into the forest and the surrounding area.

Coconino Community College - Jack Hadley stated that the college has 7 campuses throughout community. Jack is on the Board.

SFEFD Chief: Wayne Marx - Also spoke about the recent house fire in Mountain Rose Ranch. He offered a Q&A meeting after the annual meeting for those that were interested.

A new check list is available for preparing property for fire safety.

SFEFD will not have medically trained personnel on staff. There are volunteers that are EMR certified and can administer first aid.

The FD would still like to see all SFE properties display the green address signs with the iridescent numbers that are easier to see in the dark and smoke.

New members to the FD would be welcomed and encouraged to attend a training day. It requires 32 hours of training for reserve status & 48 hours for active status.

The Auxiliary had refrigerator magnets made with emergency phone numbers and are now available.

Fire Dept Auxiliary - Sue Hadley - Offered that the SFE-FD Auxiliary is open to anyone, more help is needed. The biggest fundraisers are the Breakfasts. A small questionnaire was passed out with many areas of opportunity for someone to get involved. Aluminum cans are collected for recycled and sold as an additional fund raiser. Tee-shirts were available after meeting for purchase.

Kaibab Forest Service - Punky Moore, Fire Information Officer reported that Fire Restrictions were put into effect early due to the dry conditions. So far there has been good compliance. No more closures are expected at this point. Moonset Pit is having problems with people dumping non-burning materials. If the inappropriate dumping continues the pit will have to be closed.

Forest Ranger Travel Management - Deirdre McLaughlin

Many forest roads have been closed. Maps and brochures are available with info on closures, laws and rules. An OHV sticker is required annually for off road vehicles to travel on any public lands. OHV is sold by MVD of AZ. Licensing taxes are reduced when purchased together. A downloadable forest map is available for GPS devices.

Sherwood Forest Welcome Sign:

Bob and Penny Mills refurbished original sign and brought it to the annual meeting. The POA Board recommended that the sign be accepted and approved by the members. Jim moved to accept, Rick Switzer seconded. Voice vote was unanimous. The sign will be installed soon.

A weather proof bulletin board was given to the Fire Department and was subsequently offered to be attached to the back of the entry sign for additional neighborhood information to be posted.

Drawing for Door Prizes. Drawings for five \$50 gift certificates were given out. Rosa's Cantina; Pancho McGillicuddy's; Red Raven and Bearizona. A Segway tour and SFE Tee-Shirts were also given away.

Jim Poley adjourned the meeting at 10:57

## Neighborhood Watch

The Sherwood Forest Estates Neighborhood Watch group was established in 2008 in order to provide a forum for learning how to prevent rural crime in the community. The Neighborhood Watch resumed meeting this summer with the goal of updating its security action plan for the neighborhood.

If you would like to attend, the Neighborhood Watch is open to all residents (full-time and part-time). Meetings are typically at the fire station on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. Meeting topics consist of presentations or discussions about various programs available to the neighborhood, such as; crime/burglary prevention, fire preparedness, inventorying personal property, and other topics regarding home and personal security. Please check the SFE website calendar for dates. <http://sherwoodforestestates.org/POA/index-files/calendar.html>

Several residents have volunteered to be Block Watch Captains on each stretch of the east-to-west streets, (Block Captains and their contact information are located on the Neighborhood Watch website: <http://sherwoodforestestates.org/POA/index-files/Neighborhood-Watch.html>). These captains will note suspicious activities and report them to the Coconino County Sheriff as necessary. Examples of suspicious activities include:

- Property being taken out of houses where no one is at home
- Slow moving vehicles cruising the block
- Someone screaming or shouting for help
- Sounds of breaking glass or shattering wood
- Beam from flashlight in neighbor's home
- Someone looking into windows and parked cars

Block Captains may also note and report unsafe conditions or emergencies, such as a tree that fell onto your house, or a downed power line.

The Neighborhood Watch group needs to have accurate information regarding your property in SFE. We've created a survey to help update our records. Please take a few moments to complete the survey (if you did not complete the form at the pancake breakfast or during the door to door survey conducted by your Block Captain). You may have completed the form during a previous year, but we would appreciate it if you would complete it again in order to verify that we have up-to-date information. The survey can be found on-line at <http://sherwoodforestestates.org/POA/index-files/Neighborhood-Watch.html> and mailed or emailed to Marcy Aldacushion, the Neighborhood Watch coordinator. The information that you provide is confidential, and will be available to only the Block Captains and the Sheriff's Department. This will allow us to contact you or the Sheriff's office regarding suspicious activities or unsafe conditions in the neighborhood or on your property.

A successful Neighborhood Watch depends on the help and vigilance of all community members. If you are interested in learning more about the Neighborhood Watch Program, or becoming a Block Watch Captain, please attend the next meeting.

\*\* The meeting on September 13th will include a potluck with hot dogs and hamburgers provided by the Coconino County Sheriff's Department. \*\*

## SFEFD Auxiliary

The SFEFD Auxiliary has been active during the summer, but we did not sponsor any neighborhood events other than the pancake breakfasts during the Memorial and Labor Day weekends. We did have a brunch at Denny's in June to which all residents of our fire district were invited, and it is planned to be an annual event. Come join us next year!

Our fund raising efforts through the breakfasts, t-shirt sales, and aluminum can recycling have permitted us this fall to provide a new electronic water fill gauge for one of the fire engines, send a new fireman to AZ State Fire School and also buy new shirts for the fire fighters. These are significant accomplishments for just a few of your neighbors who form the Auxiliary, but all property owners in the fire district are welcome to be a part of the Auxiliary and we'd welcome you.

The Auxiliary will be inactive during the winter unless we are needed in a service capacity by the fire department. Notices of our meetings in the spring will be posted at the entrance. We can use your help!

## Address Signs

Our neighborhood's homes have a lot of the green reflective address signs that the POA has sponsored for several years, but not nearly enough have participated! It makes your home so much easier to find, so why not avail yourself of this service? Our fire chief would like every residence to have one and mounted so that it is visible from both directions. If you have need for emergency services, you'll be glad you did. Visiting friends and relatives will appreciate it, too.

To have one made please contact:

Anne Dudley (928) 635-0417, [adcabinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:adcabinaz@yahoo.com) or

Sue Hadley (928) 635-2055, [isjhadley@hotmail.com](mailto:isjhadley@hotmail.com)

There is no charge.

## Moonset Pit

WILLIAMS, Ariz. – Moonset Pit is to allow residents to deposit forest debris from their private property. The pit is located on National Forest land west of Parks and east of Spitz Springs on the north side of Old Route 66.

The pit will be open on the following dates: Sept. 24 and tentatively Oct. 8 and Oct. 22.

Fire personnel and community volunteers will staff the pit from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to ensure access and prevent disposal of unauthorized materials. Only natural, woody debris from private property can be deposited.

You can take steps to reduce the risk of wildfire damage to your home. Clearing flammable material away from your home reduces the risk of a wildfire from starting or spreading on your property. It also gives firefighters an area to work in.

Illegal dumping at Moonset Pit has been a major problem. Pit abuses include dumping items other than natural, woody debris and dumping outside of the pit when the gate is closed. Please help us continue to offer this community service by using the pit appropriately.

For more information please call Ray Raetzel at (928) 635-0059 or Anne Dudley at (928) 635-0417.

## Property Watch Program

The Coconino County Sheriff's Office has a Property Watch Program that is a free service to all county residents.

Uniformed volunteers who drive marked patrol vehicles will conduct security checks on your property if you are going to be gone or even if you would like extra security when you are home. A form to request this service is now available on the [sherwoodforestestates.org](http://sherwoodforestestates.org) web site or you may call the Williams Substation of the Sheriff's Office at (928) 635-4487 to have a form mailed to you. The volunteer who services our area is Greg Rebis. Many of you have met him at the annual meeting.

Our best security for our homes when we're away is having neighbors and our Neighborhood Watch program watching out for us, but this service adds another dimension.

## From Your Fire Department

Greetings from the Fire Department,

As many of you already know, there was a home in our district that was recently lost to fire. While it is a tragedy for the property owners, having had personal effects and family mementos lost forever, many good things came from the experience. Given the set of circumstances that existed at the time, there is no way the house could have been saved. However, many valuable lessons were learned from this event and I would like to share just a few.

1. Even a catastrophic building fire such as this can be kept from spreading rapidly if the property is properly prepared and maintained using guidelines recommended by the Fire Department.
2. Serious glitches were detected in the system we had been using for dispatching and corrective measures are already in place that should mitigate future problems.
3. The professionalism of our department personnel and the training they have received were put to the test as was the type and quality of equipment provided for their use. You may rest assured that the trust and hard earned tax dollars you have invested in this organization is well placed.
4. Even though there was no loss of life and the fire was quickly contained, we should all consider this a wakeup call. Contact the Fire Department for suggestions on how to protect your property, learn the proper procedures for reporting an emergency and have an evacuation plan ready just in case things get out of hand.
5. As often happens, a tragedy such as this brings neighbors closer together. In this case it has lead to closer ties between the two communities that make up our fire district. As an example, this newsletter will be shared with the property owners in Mountain Rose Ranch and they will be invited to participate in both our social and educational functions. This is long overdue and a welcome change of policy.
6. In the near future you will be given an opportunity to participate in a survey that will help keep your property and our firefighters safe. It will include detailing the locations of utility shut-offs, hidden hazards and special needs to be considered when responding to a call on your property. You will also be given firsthand information on local programs such as Neighborhood Watch, CERT and Firewise to name a few.

While the recent fire is still fresh in everyone's mind, it would be a good time to consider becoming an official "Firewise" community. We already meet most of the criteria but would need to organize and apply to the state for acceptance. For those of you who want to learn more about this program and how it would benefit our district, log on to [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org), [www.azfs.az.gov](http://www.azfs.az.gov) or [www.firewise.org/usa](http://www.firewise.org/usa).

At this point I would like to sincerely thank the SFEPOA, the MRRHOA, the SFEFD Auxiliary, all our volunteer firefighters, and the private citizens who have given generously to the fire district. Because of the time, talent and money they have donated, we have a safer, stronger and more viable agency.

Please be safe out there,  
Wayne Marx  
Chief, SFEFD

### **Announcements from your Fire Department**

Please contact us at [sherwoodfire@qwestoffice.net](mailto:sherwoodfire@qwestoffice.net) or call (928)-635-9837

**Firewood donations:** Those of you who have had tree thinning done on your property, and have an overabundance of pine firewood piled up, I encourage you to donate any excess you may have. Not only will this help reduce area fire danger and discourage the colonizing of the dreaded bark beetles, it also helps warm the homes of folks less fortunate. Simply contact the fire department if you wish to have any fuel wood picked up.

**Note:** You should be aware that burning an excess of pine in your fireplace can build up a combustible residue in your chimney. The department can recommend chemical devices that every household should have on hand in the event of a chimney fire.

**Excess building material donations:** If you find yourself tripping over building materials left over from new construction or a remodeling project, and you want to put them to good use, you can donate them to the Fire Department for projects, recycling or to be passed on to needy agencies or individuals.

**Scrap metal drive:** From time to time the SFEFD conducts a scrap metal drive to help raise project funds. If you have metal items such as a storm damaged shed panels, old car parts, metal siding or roofing, wood stoves, culvert pipes, window frames, etc. and you wish to donate these items, please contact the department so a pickup time and date can be arranged.

**Dumping burnable items at the firehouse:** Due to the overwhelming amount of contaminated materials that have been left at the firehouse by well meaning individuals thinking they were contributing to one of our Live Burn exercises, we can no longer allow unsupervised drops. We will also limit the drop dates in consideration of the residents living near the firehouse who have these piles visible from their back porches. A notice will be posted when clean, burnable materials will be accepted.

**Volunteer projects:** The Fire Department needs help with the following tasks or projects. In some cases an individual may possess needed skills or perhaps a group may wish to simply fund a larger project.

- All FD garage and walk doors need to be resealed and serviced. We are losing an unacceptable amount of heat in the winter due to gaps and leaks. The first estimate was in excess of \$2,500.
- All building walk doors and the garage doors on building #1 need to be prepped and repainted.
- The Type-6 pickup truck we use for wildfire fighting and snow plowing desperately needs transmission work. Estimates range from \$1,200 to \$2,500 depending on how much of the work is done in-house.
- The department parking lot and/or building entrance ramps need proper excavating and resurfacing. The vehicle ramps alone for building #2 are quoted in excess of \$5,000.
- An addition on building #1. This has been discussed as a place for training and exercise or where the kitchen could be moved to help insure sanitation and proper protection for supplies. No estimates as yet.
- Routinely scheduled engine and equipment inspections and maintenance.
- Inventorying and/or rehabbing engines after an incident.
- Research and letter writing dealing with programs, supplies and equipment.

If you have special skills you think might be useful to the department or the community in general, please give us a call and we can try to find a suitable project for you.

**Classes:** Just so you don't get the impression that this is all take and no give, the department will be hosting a number of classes that will be open to the public at little or no charge. These include, but are not limited to:

- Prepping and protecting your home. (aka Being Firewise)
- Living in the WUI (Wildland Urban Interface).
- CPR and AED use.
- CERT training
- Self Defense

### \*Important Phone Numbers

- Call 911 first with your emergency. This will reduce delays and get the proper resources responding.
- Emergency ..... 911
- SFE Fire Dept ..... 928 635-9837
- Chief, Wayne Marx ... 928 607-3005
- SFE Fire Board Chairman  
Beth Dormady ..... 928 635-9761
- SFE Auxiliary President  
Sue Hadley ..... 928 635-2055
- SFE POA President  
Jack Hadley ..... 928 635-2055
- Coconino Sheriff ..... 928 635-4487
- Forestry Service ..... 928 635-5600
- Coconino Animal Management ..... 928 228-2717

### \*Mail or Email, a choice you can make now!

If you are ready to go paperless, please send an email ([SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEstates.org](mailto:SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEstates.org)) or a message using our website's guest book (found in the website's *Contacts* section) and tell us "yes, email please." Provide the following information:

- your full name
- lot number or full SFE address
- your email address

We will send you an email notice whenever a key event or the latest Newsletter is posted on the SFEPOA Website.

Remember, the web's guestbook is the perfect place to share your thoughts and concerns with your POA board and the SFE community. Check it out!

Just in case you missed us at the meeting; here is a form you can use for the dues.... Thank you

# **Sherwood Forest Estates Property Owners Association**

## **SFEPOA 2012 Annual Membership Dues Form**

**Please PRINT, fill out and mail this form along with \$20 to:**

**SFE POA, P.O. Box 211, Williams, AZ 86046-0211**

**Make checks payable to: SFEPOA**

**Please fill out the entire form. Providing all information allows us to properly update and maintain our data base and is very much appreciated.**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Lot Number(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**SFE Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone (s)** \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Preferred Contact info:** \_\_\_\_\_

**If you are not already receiving your newsletter via email, would you like to?**

**Leave name and email info at [SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEstates.org](mailto:SFEPOA@SherwoodForestEstates.org)**

## Thinking about alternative energy?

Alternative power is often misunderstood as to how it's works, what is expected of it, and what happens when the power goes out. The most common is solar, converting energy from the sun into usable electricity with solar panels and an inverter. Behind solar is wind and then hydro (for those with a stream). There are 3 typical installation configurations.

The most common is the "Sell Back". As the energy is generated, the system "pushes" the electricity back into the electric grid. As this occurs it offsets your power meter by slowing it down or spinning it backwards if it's generating more than your house is using. In this system there are no storage batteries, when the utility power goes out, this "Sell Back" system will shutoff instantly and by design. This is an anti-islanding feature. This is to prevent the possibility of electrocuting someone like a utility worker repairing the lines. You are in the dark at this point. When the utility power is restored the solar system will again sync up with the utility and go back online to generate "Sell Back" power.

The second type is the "Stand Alone" system. This system is typically where there isn't utility power. It consists of the same solar panels, now we add a set of batteries and a slightly different inverter. During the day the sun charges the batteries with the extra power as it runs the house. This typically charges for about 6 hours a day. As the sun sets, the house is now running solely on the batteries. If you have a string of cloudy days and the batteries aren't charging up, starting a generator to run the house while charging the batteries will be necessary.

The third type of system is the "Backup" system. This is the combination of both the "Sell Back" and the "Stand Alone" system. This system will run the house, charge the batteries, and sell back what's left over, better yet, if there is a power outage and the sun isn't shining these systems can auto start a generator when the batteries run low and when the power is restored the utility will charge the batteries if it's still dark so it's ready for the next outage before sun up without your intervention.

Wind systems are sometimes integrated with solar as a "Hybrid" System in areas where wind is more available. This adds to the available generation of power day and night and during storms.

Hydro systems typically referred to as "Micro Hydro" are "Stand Alone" type systems where water is flowing year around. Battery and grid interrogation is rarely incorporated as these systems are typically in very remote areas.

The Electrical Code and others Codes address the requirement for an alternative energy system installations. Other consideration must be address such as, is your roof strong enough to withstand the weight of the panels or will the wind lift your roof and panels up and away like an airplane wing. Please seek a qualified licensed alternative energy installer before making any decisions. A site survey will address these issues and others. The average investment recovery is between 8 to 15 years at the current power rates. If you are in the tier 2 or tier 3 charges for power, your payoff may be sooner.

I hope this takes some of the mystery out of the alternative energy world,

Judson Swearingen Jr.

Sherwood Forest Estates  
Property Owners Association  
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Address Label  
Here