



Photo Benn Isaacman

## Happy New Year, Cimarron

Dear Homeowners –

Another year has come to a close. For the Cimarron Foothills it was, fortunately, a quiet one, with no major events disrupting our community. This is due to the diligent work of the board members as well as our 24-hour guard service. As we enter the new year, I hope you will find time to reflect on the year past and enjoy our beautiful environment.

Earlier this month, you received ballots for the election of board members. The board fulfills an important part of keeping our neighborhood safe and beautiful. If you are interested in serving on the board please let any of your board members know. The results of the election will be announced at the annual HOA meeting which will be held on January 25, 2014 at the Catalina Foothills High School. Fortunately this year, the meeting will not interfere with any UofA sporting events.

We also hope that you find the topics covered in this newsletter interesting and informative and are looking forward to feedback and ideas for topics that should be covered in future newsletters or the short e-mail updates that we send out throughout the year.

With the best wishes for 2014,

*Peter Nestler, President*  
[peter@cimarronfoothillshoa.org](mailto:peter@cimarronfoothillshoa.org)

# CIMARRON AMBIANCE

## Roles & Changes to The Board

Last year was a year of stability in the board, more common than the high turn-over that we experienced the year before. I would like to quickly summarize the current roles of the board members which may help you to contact the most suitable board member for your concerns and ideas; although all board members will be happy to discuss the topics with you.

- **Peter Nestler** continues to serve as President of the Board
- **John (Jac) Carlson** is the Vice President of the Board and also serves as the Chair for Safety & Security
- **Karen Lincowski** serves as Treasurer and the Chair for CR&Rs
- **Tom Peckham** serves as the Chair for Architectural Review
- **Andrew Deeb** serves as the Chair for Roads & Medians
- **Ann Smiley** serves as the Chair for Community Relations and Environmental Affairs
- **Francis Morgan** serves as Webmaster, produces the Directory and maintains the mailing list.
- The board will be supported by **Cornelia Nestler** as Executive Secretary and **EIDonna Eckhart** as bookkeeper.

I would like to use the opportunity to thank **Sherry Weiss** for her efforts and support as Executive Secretary over the past six years. Sherry's contributions allowed all board members to fulfill their roles effectively and it has been a pleasure to work with her. Unfortunately for our board, Sherry decided

# Community Relations

to accept another board membership and feels that the workload will prevent her from fulfilling her role in the board of our HOA. We wish her all the best and are glad that she will remain a resident of the Cimarron Foothills. Sherry's role was transferred to Cornelia Nestler in November 2013. Please join me in welcoming Cornelia, we are looking forward to a successful collaboration and Cornelia's contributions.

As we fortunately did not experience a high turnover of board members, the transitions of the roles should occur smoothly and without disruptions of the board's operations.

## Annual Meeting: January 2014

We will hold our Cimarron Annual Meeting at Catalina Foothills High School—House 1—Seminar Room. The room has a pleasant atmosphere, warm environment, and a permanent projection screen. The meeting will take place on Saturday, January 25, 2014, from 9:00 – 11:00 AM.

## Rural Metro Information

Due to Cimarron's location in the county, it is suggested that we purchase extra fire insurance in addition to our homeowners insurance. If you subscribe to Rural Metro, you can receive four non-emergency services. You get free first aid for a medical condition—if you do not subscribe and call for help, you will get a bill for \$600. They will change your smoke detector batteries, but you must furnish the batteries. Rural Metro will remove snakes or Gila monsters from your property and they will do a free Fire Safety Inspection, which includes informing you of fire hazards in and around your home and creating a plan for children's escape in case of a fire. If you need any of these services do not call 911, but call 624-9913.

If you have questions about your bill, call their office at 297-3600. They can explain your cost based on the size of your home, garage, and other structures on the property. Rural Metro does not refill fire extinguishers, and they do not have any discounts. However, if you contact their office you can pay your bill in four installments without interest.

Anytime Rural Metro is called on the 911 line to respond they will send out two trucks—a fire truck

and an ambulance. If the ambulance just administers first aid and you subscribe, you will not receive a bill. If you must be taken to a hospital in the ambulance, your fee will depend upon the mileage, supplies, and level of care administered. Most health insurance companies cover some sort of ambulance care. Call your insurance to see if you are covered 100% or just partially with an ambulance medical emergency. If you do not have fire insurance, the average bill for putting out a fire is \$37,000.

Rural Metro is in 20 states. They are the second largest ambulance service in the country. And Rural Metro is the first largest private fire department in the U.S.

## Trash Cans

Cimarron residents appreciate our neighborhood looking lovely. To keep the neighborhood neat and clean please store your trash and recycle cans inside your garage or behind a wall when not in use. Our CR&Rs state that these items should not be visible from the street or your neighbor's home. This keeps our streets looking neat and helps prevent the cans from rolling out in the street and potentially hitting cars. Furthermore, trash cans left street-side could potentially indicate to criminals that your house is currently empty and encourage them to attempt breaking in. Trash bins have to be removed from the street side by noon on the day following trash pick-up. We appreciate your help in this matter!

You may have noticed that Saguaro Environment Services, our trash services provider, has recently changed name and logo on their trucks. They have been owned for about 10 years by Republic Services but only recently updated their logo. Our service terms with Saguaro are not affected by the change.

## Board Meetings

The Board usually meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at Catalina Foothills High School, House I Seminar Room at 6 PM. Meetings usually last 90 minutes. All Cimarron residents are welcome. Please check the Cimarron Website or contact one of the board members before attending a meeting to confirm that the meeting takes place as sometimes meeting times and locations are changing.

*Ann Smiley, 577-1214*  
Environmental and Community Relations Chair  
ann@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

## CR&Rs Update

We hope this New Year will find you well. Thank you for supporting our CR&Rs as they were put in place to keep Cimarron the wonderful and peaceful place it is today. We have not seen any major issues regarding our covenants over the past year. We want to remind everyone that our CR&Rs can be found on our website at:

### [Cimarron Documents](#)

You agreed to the CR&Rs when you purchased your home. Last year, garbage cans, barking dogs and lamppost/light replacement have been the major issues. Please make sure you are following all guidelines in these areas.

- Garbage cans should be removed from the street-side by noon of the day after garbage collection. If you are out of town, please make arrangements with your neighbors or friends to have the bins moved to their storage place. (see also Community Relations-page 2)
- Our regulations require that you have a functioning light on your mailbox post. Over the past year more and more homeowners have replaced their existing lights with solar lights. If you are planning to replace your lights please contact Andrew Deeb for permissible lights. (see also Road and Medians-page 6)
- We had a couple of issues with continuously barking dogs in the neighborhood. If you are a dog owner, you might not be aware of the issue as you might be away from your home. Thus our first step, when we receive complaints, is to contact the respective homeowners, to make them aware of the issue. Fortunately, response by the homeowners has been really good and we did not have to file reports with Pima Animal Care last year.

If you have any questions or need to speak about a particular problem, please contact us. We are always here to help.

*Karen Lincowski, CR&R's*  
karen@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

## CR&Rs and Treasurer

### Treasurer's Report: 2013

I am happy to report the following as our January to November report. We started this year with a cash balance of \$134,484. Our January – November 2013 revenues were \$201,077 and our expenses were \$179,011, creating a *projected* gain for the year of \$4,626, leaving us with a projected balance of \$154,709. Please take notice that not all expenses for the year have been registered, however, due to a great effort by Ann Smiley in collecting the dues, we have been able to achieve an above expected gain in revenue.

We will be voting on the HOA's budget for 2014 at our next Board meeting and have no expectations of raising homeowner's dues from our previous dues of 2013. Thank you for your continued support.

YTD	Revenue	Expenses	Net Income
Actual	\$ 201,077	\$ 179,011	\$ 22,066
Budget	\$ 199,355	\$ 183,637	\$ 15,718
Variance	\$ 1,722	\$ ( 4,626)	\$ 6348

Cash Balances	
Wells Fargo Checking	\$ 1,840
Wells Fargo Money Mkt	\$ 154,709
Total Cash @ 11/30/2013	\$ 156,549

*Karen C. Lincowski, Treasurer*  
karen@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

## 2014 Annual Meeting

The meeting will take place on Saturday, January 25, 2014, from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Catalina Foothills High School—House 1—  
Seminar Room.  
Sunrise west of Swan.

### Energy Efficiency Kits

Get your free Energy Efficiency Kit at the meeting. Some kit highlights include: six CFL light bulbs, a low-flow shower head, a LED night light, and much more.



# Security & Architecture

Safety & security in Cimarron Estates is alive and well. I have included a summary to date of all incidents in the 2013 to show again the very impressive absence of significant problems in the past year. As you can see, there was one reported break-in and some false alarm responses (but fewer than in past years), many uses of the vacation check system (see how many times guards have visited homes of vacationing neighbors), and just three other minor incidents. Lucky you live in Cimarron Estates!

	2013
Alarm Responses	13
Disturbances	1
Vacation checks (3/day)	137
Lost/found animals	0
Vandalism	1
Reported Break-ins	1
Solicitations	0
Suspicious people/vehicles	2

In other news regarding safety in Cimarron, thanks to Andrew Deeb, our Roads & Medians chair, a lot of trimming of medians and shoulders was undertaken by the County to make it easier for drivers to see and for walkers to spot oncoming cars. We have also begun replacing the solar lamps that light our entrance signs, lighting up our entrances and alerting drivers who have turned into the wrong subdivision. The County also has been good once again in cleaning up after storms, including trees fallen from medians.

Mainly, though, our guards have undoubtedly helped reduce security problems and foster safety in our beautiful community. The 24/7 presence of their trucks, the guards' quick response to calls to the Central Alarm truck (phone 404-0966), their watchful presence when school buses unload, and their reassurance to homeowners who report an incident, all contribute to the quality of life here in Cimarron. Tip your hat and give a wave to a guard as he drives by you.

A summary of our safety & security operations will be presented at the annual homeowners meeting in January. Please attend to express your support for this invaluable arm of your neighborhood homeowners' association.

Thank you for your own contribution to making Cimarron a safe and secure community, and a huge expression of gratitude to our team of 5 guards—Bill King, Ernie Erlbeck, Chris Cross, John Eppley, and Scott Forney.

To all, happy new year from your Safety & Security Chair! See you at the January homeowners' meeting!

*John (Jac) Carlson*, Security Chairman  
jac@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

## Architectural Review

Architectural Review has experienced another busy year. Many homeowners have made very nice improvements to their homes, including new driveways, painting, remodels, and roof coatings to name a few of the items reviewed and approved.

However, there have been multiple instances where homeowners have not asked for approvals. Unfortunately, action had to be taken in these cases by the HOA to have items corrected or reviewed by the board involving additional hassle and costs (fines for violations) to the respective homeowners. While we don't patrol the neighborhood for construction, we frequently get phone calls asking whether construction projects have been approved or not. So don't expect to fly under the radar and please remember it is much easier to plan ahead and submit any planned improvements to the board. The saying "*It is easier to ask for forgiveness than for permission*" does not apply, so when in doubt, just inquire whether you need a review.

*Tom Peckham*, Architectural Chairman  
tom@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

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**Phase 1**

**Phase 2**

**Phase 3**

**Phase 4**

**Phase 5**



## Roads & Medians FAQ

I would like to address the most frequently asked questions that have been presented to me over the last year.

The roads and medians are owned and maintained by Pima County, therefore it is unlawful for residents to alter the roads and medians. Residents should call Pima County Transportation with concerns and repair issues. The pothole repair number for the county is: (520) 740-2639.

This number can also be called for vegetation issues and street sweeping. In the past, we experienced more diligent responses of the County when we had multiple reports of the same issue. So please do not hesitate to contact the county on your own. But please keep in mind that it is your responsibility to maintain landscaping on your property that is adjacent to the street.

Please pick up after your pets. One way to discourage animals "using" your yard is to clean up the dropping, and then sprinkle crushed red hot peppers in the area. If you follow through with this method for a couple of weeks the dogs will find a new spot to go.

Mailbox lights should be maintained in working order. Working lights make our neighborhood brighter and safer. Often all that is needed is a new bulb. Day/Night sensors can be purchased at hardware stores. New lights, solar and electric, can be purchased at Home Depot and Lowes. Please email me with your approval requests when planning to install a new fixture. Fixtures should be black, with clear or frosted yellow or white glass. Other neighborhoods have observed an increased number of mail thefts. You may want to consider exchanging your mailbox for a lockable one and several of our homeowners have done so already. Please contact me with any questions whether a particular model that you chose is within the guidelines for our neighborhood.

Finally, please stay within the traffic regulations. We have experienced some neighbors speeding through our neighborhood streets or taking short cuts by going against the traffic direction. Especially with our curving roads with limited sight distances it causes danger to pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers. The seconds you save by breaking the traffic laws definitely don't justify the risks and consequences for you and your neighbors.

*Andrew Deeb, Chairman, Roads & Medians*  
andrew@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

# Roads & Medians

## Website & Directory

Important and interesting information that occurs during the year will be emailed to homeowners and posted on the Cimarron homeowners website: <http://www.cimarronfoothillshoa.org>

If you have not already done so, please go to the homeowners website to register your email address.

The new 2014 Directory is now on the website. We have discontinued the printing of the Directory of Homeowners in favor of the online version. If you would like a printed version of the Directory, let a Board member know, at the Annual Meeting, and we'll get one to you.

Here's the link to the new Directory: [Cimarron 2014 Directory](#)

At this year's Annual Meeting, we are fortunate to have a representative of the Environmental Education Exchange speak to us about saving money on our energy and water bills.

He will be bringing comprehensive free Energy Efficiency Kits. Some kit highlights include: six CFL light bulbs, a low-flow shower head, a LED night light, a caulking gun and tube of caulking, and much more. You will get your free kit at the end of the meeting.

His talk will focus on simple low and no-cost efficiency measures that homeowners can undertake to immediately begin saving energy (and, therefore, money). Much of the talk is devoted to learning about the free devices you will receive in the Energy Efficiency Kits.

*Francis Morgan, Webmaster*  
webmaster@cimarronfoothillshoa.org

## WANTED-Your email address

If you have not supplied us with your email address, please sign-up now and join the mailing list. Rather than send out frequent newsletters, we are now providing important information via email. Please go to the website and wait 20 seconds for the sign-up form to appear.

Sign-up here:  
[www.cimarronfoothillshoa.org](http://www.cimarronfoothillshoa.org)