

Sun & Stars Trailer Port
1151 Riverfront Drive
Bullhead City, AZ 86442

July 2009
Volume 1, Issue 3

Sun and Stars Neighborhood
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Fourth of July

A little history

Everyone knows that July 4, 1776 marks a special day in American history. However, it is not the day we earned our independence from England as many believe. It is the day that the Founding Fathers signed the last draft of the Declaration of Independence.

What most people don't realize is that the 56 men who signed the declaration risked their lives by doing so: it was considered an act of treason and was punishable by death! John Hancock was the first to sign and that is where we get the saying, "give us your John Hancock" as it represents a signature of the most serious kind.

After the men signed the document, the War of Independence continued and it wasn't until 1783 that the war ended. That was the first years we could truly celebrate independence from England. Finally, in 1941, Congress declared July 4 a federal holiday and we have continued to celebrate with fireworks, parades, and picnics.

But remember, what we are celebrating is the Declaration of Independence, a document known throughout the world as a landmark in human rights. It states that since all people are creatures of God, or nature, they have certain natural rights, or liberties, that cannot be violated. A good reminder for these modern times: the freedom our Founding Fathers risked their lives for belongs to everyone.

July Park Pride

Drawing: July 4

July's winner of the Park Pride Contest will be selected at the Fourth of July potluck. Note that you must have maintained your spot and parked your vehicle properly all month in order to be eligible for the drawing.

Good Neighbor Recognition

This month's Good Neighbor drawing will be on July 4 at the potluck. A name will be pulled from the box of past submissions. Once you are nominated by a neighbor, your name is eligible every month until you win.

If you have a compliment to pass or if someone goes out of their way to do something nice for you, we will include that neighbor in our next Good Neighbor feature. Give your nominations to Sandy in #1 before July 1 to get into this month's drawing. Thanks for being a good neighbor!

July Park Pride: Decorating Contest

Several park residents are already showing their pride with flags and flowers! Looking good, everyone! Be sure to come to the potluck so you can vote for the winner of this year's contest. The week of June 28 - July 4 is the week to be at your best! Door prizes will be awarded!



Cooking with Kat

By Kat, Space #25

This recipe is a family favorite and makes for a different kind of multicultural treat... a little Mexican, a little Irish, and a lot American! We call it **Irish Tacos**.

Taco Meat

2 cans of corned beef, cooked in a skillet until evenly browned. Pull out the small pieces of white

gristle as you cook.

Salad Filling

- 1/2 head of lettuce, sliced thin
- 2 sticks of celery, cubed
- 1 tomato, cubed
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise

Toppings

- Salsa
- Grated cheese



That's it! Just buy the pre-made corn tortilla shells (or small flour tortillas for a soft taco) and fill 'em up as you wish. A quick and easy summer meal for kids and adults alike!

June Potluck a Success!

In case you missed it, the June Neighborhood Potluck was a great success!



Loren (#18) was busy on the BBQ cooking up burgers, brauts, and hotdogs while everyone chatted and got to know each other.



Loren also brought a great selection of fresh fruit and veggies that sadly got overlooked when all the fancy salads arrived!

Ellen (#17) brought corn on the cob and chicken wings enough to feed a crowd five times the number we had there and



Phyllis (#13) made a fabulous Frog Eye Salad that was more like dessert than salad. Kat (#25) made a four-bean salad but it was Celia's (#28) pasta salad that



really wowed the crowd. Sandy (#1) brought her famous deviled eggs and Jean (#2) brought a variety of chips, dips, and buns that kept the kids busy and happy.



Skee brought a huge selection of his famous nuts including Cajun peanuts and a very special garlic

pecan that had everyone looking for to-go bags!

We also celebrated Ellen's birthday with a chocolate cake and a song. Hope we didn't embarrass our longest-time resident of the park!



I know I am forgetting some of the goodies everyone brought - there was so much food that it was hard to keep track! Thank you, everyone, for celebrating with us



and taking the time to get to know your neighbors!



Places to go! Lake Mead

By Sandy, Space #1

Hi! I'm baaack! This month, we took a trip to Lake Mead where I did some fishing. It was so quiet and relaxing, it didn't matter if I didn't catch anything (but I did have a few bites!).

Lake Mead is the largest reservoir in the United States. It is on the Colorado River about 30 miles southeast of Las Vegas. It extends 110 miles behind Hoover Dam, holding about 28.5 million acre feet of water.

So if you enjoy the outdoors, fishing, and the quiet, it's a good place to go and have a nice relaxing day!

Boater's Corner

By Loren, Space #18

Well, it's that time of the year when you day is going great and suddenly you loose a prop in what some would describe as a form of torture!! Well Kat and I thought a little monthly article discussing some common problems in the boating world would be helpful. Each month I will share a web site and any local info I can glean from the boating web sites that I visit.

The first topic needs to be the levels of the river. The following web site posts daily release volumes and helps with a better understanding on what's going on. <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/hourly/rivops.html>

First, it's important to understand that from here to Topock Gorge the levels fluctuate at different times of the day. If you plan on taking a trip to Lake Havasu you need to understand that the peak daily flow does not hit the Topock area until late afternoon. At Park Moabi, the levels are highest early evening through overnight till the morning. If you head down river around 2 in the afternoon, then you need to wait until just before dark or the next morning to head back. I have a deep draft boat so I have to take extra care, but these tips will help any boater.

The levels along the river in most areas maintain an open channel and depth allowing most boats the ability to travel, but there are still a few bad areas that can get you real easy.

The first one is just south of us. You need to travel at a 45 degree angle from the point to the house with all the palm trees around it. Do not try to hug the Nevada side or you will ground out. From there you just need to watch what you are doing until you get just north of the Needles Bridge.

There is also a gas line crossing that presents a problem. (That one got a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from me a few years ago!)

Last thought for the month is to remember safety. The worse ticket is the one for forgetting your throw-able ring or having a burned out light. Always check your boat before leaving and designate a driver.

Dear Gary

Q: Hey Gary. The fire ants are back! What do you suggest we do when we find a hill of those mean suckers? Bit Again!

A: Dear Bit. There is a website that provides several ideas for getting rid of them naturally and without hurting the environment or your plants. See <http://www.fireant.net/Control/> for some great ideas. But the best one I have heard yet is boiling water. Apparently you can't drown 'em but you can cook 'em to death. You have to kill the queen or the nasty little workers keep on coming back. If you need help with a mound in your yard, let the managers know. Do NOT use bait of any kind as it's poisonous to our animals!

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**Q:** Gary, what's the story on the water boxes? I have seen some work being done near my place and was wondering what was up. Your Nosey Neighbor

**A:** Dear Nosey, the water boxes are being installed to allow us to turn off the water individually. Before this, if any one spot had a water issue, the entire park had to be turned off. Once we are done with this conversion, you will be able to turn off your own water as well as use a spigot in the box to water your gardens. Please water your trees – they get awfully thirsty during these hot months! The shade they give in return will be a lasting gift in the form of a lower electric bill!



## Don't Make Me Laugh!

The Reverend Billy Graham tells of a time early in his career when he arrived in a small town to preach a sermon. Wanting to mail a letter, he asked a little boy where the post office was.

When the boy had told him, Dr. Graham thanked him and said, "If you'll come to the Baptist Church this evening, you can hear me telling everyone how to get to Heaven."

"I don't think I'll be there," the boy said, "You don't even know your way to the post office."

## Calendar Events

**July 4**

**11 am - 2 pm, Space #1**

***Fourth of July celebration***

Join us between spaces #1 and #2 for this month's potluck, Bring your favorite side dish, some meat to BBQ, and your own lawn chairs. Potluck Contest winner will be selected by those in attendance! The winner of the Fourth of July Decorating Contest will also be selected! Door prizes will be awarded!

**July 20**

***Deadline for August newsletter***

We are accepting Good Neighbor nominations, Dear Gary notes, Calendar events, and articles written by residents. We reserve the right to edit and/or exclude all submissions.

## Bulletin Board

WANTED

**New Neighbors Referrals.** Last month we announced a new incentive for bringing in new neighbors. If you refer someone to the park, you will get a one-time award of \$50 off your rent after they have been here four months!

### *August 2009 - Good Neighbor Nomination*

**Name of good neighbor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Space #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for nomination:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please place nominations in Sandy and Craig's mailbox (Space #1). Thanks!**