



Rancho del Cerro The Rattler



Where friends and neighbors come together

The Community Association of Rancho del Cerro
P.O. Box 85074 • Tucson, Arizona 85704-5074
www.RanchoDelCerro.org

September 2024

HOA Annual Meeting Recap

The HOA Board of Directors convened their annual meeting on June 24th, with all six members present and past president, Ken Cooper.

The primary focus of the meeting was enhancing our community. Discussions centered around streamlining website forms for homeowners, extending a warm welcome to new residents, and addressing the challenges our newer neighbors are facing with construction projects and wildlife interactions.

Treasurer Joyce Wood reported a healthy HOA checking account balance of approximately \$15,000. The Board unanimously approved a strategic decision to invest a portion of these funds in CDs offering favorable interest rates.

The Board conducted a thorough review of annual operating expenses, including mandatory Arizona state fees, professional services like accounting and legal counsel, communication costs, website maintenance, and community upkeep, such as the Rancho del Cerro signboard and coordination with Pima County for street repairs.

The next scheduled Board meeting is set for September 16th.



Family of Mule Deer, courtesy of J. Vargas

Community Yard Sale!

Saturday, Oct 26.
Sell extras, get help!
10+ homes needed.
Signs & promotion.

Email:

contact@ranchodelcerro.org

Subject: HOA Yard Sale



Volunteers - we love them!

The Association is seeking volunteers to assist with various community activities, including running the Yard Sale, capturing nature photos for The Rattler, reviewing architectural plans, and contributing articles to our newsletter.



Join the HOA Board and Shape our Community

Qualifications:

- Be a homeowner residing in the neighborhood, lots 1 - 179.
- Possess a strong sense of fair-

ness and objectivity.

- Be a team player with excellent communication skills.
- Demonstrate a willingness to tackle challenges that impact our community.

Interested in Making a Difference?

Join the HOA Board and enhance the quality of life for all Rancho del Cerro residents.

Email:

contact@ranchodelcerro.org

Subject: HOA Board Service Inquiry

Architectural Review

Since all work outside the home requires architectural approval prior to starting the work, please complete the Architectural Review Committee Request Form found on our website: ranchodelcerro.org/documents. Kindly give the



Architectural Committee, and Director Jeff Coffeen, time to review your project. One of our

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Mission Statement -- Friends and neighbors coming together to improve their neighborhood community through sharing and cooperation, keeping in touch, and communicating their needs, wants, abilities and available services.

The Association Board meets quarterly, and the meetings are open to all residents. Contact any Board member for the specific date and time if you would like to attend and or have a specific issue to discuss.

BOARD MEMBERS

President
Vice-President
Treasurer
Secretary
Architectural Director
Newsletter Director
Member at Large

Role under review
Dick Zeiner dick@ranchodelcerro.org
Joyce Woods joyce@ranchodelcerro.org
Sue Sirkus sue@ranchodelcerro.org
Jeff Coffeen jeff@ranchodelcerro.org
Pete Adamcin pete@ranchodelcerro.org
Jack Walsh jack@ranchodelcerro.org

Contact us at contact@ranchodelcerro.org

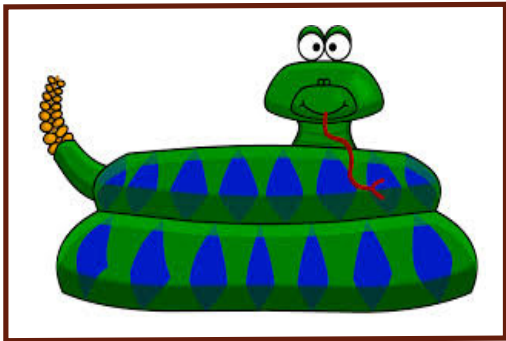
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duties is to maintain the standards as set by our CC&Rs.

As a Board, we are generally very amenable to most requests, and will make every effort to work with homeowners. Jeff is a retired landscape architect, and thus can help out in many ways.

Snakes! *By Jeff Coffeen*

For those who are new to our neighborhood: Because we live in a rich, desert environment, we have lots of critters, including snakes. At my house, I usually come across three or four during the warmer months each year. Of these, about half are venomous and half are not. The snakes I have seen are listed below:



Venomous Snakes

Diamondback Rattlesnake Wide head, skinny neck, large girth compared to other local snakes. Not a very long snake, usually 2 ½ to 3 ½ feet. Comprise 95% of the venomous snakes in this area. Very well camouflaged but usually give off a frightening, buzzing rattle when they sense that you are close. Beware, however, because there are a few of them who will not use their rattle, even when provoked.

Tiger Rattlesnake Slightly smaller head than a Diamondback with orange/rust coloring. Tiger Rattlesnakes are much less common in our neighborhood.

Coral Snake Small, red-yellow-black banded snake.

It's about as big around as your pinky finger and about 12 to 18 inches long. Although venomous, it isn't very aggressive. Coral Snakes are rare.

Sidewinder It's a small rattlesnake, usually tan with brown markings. As the name implies, the snake always appears to be moving sideways. These snakes are also rare in our area.

Non-venomous Snakes

Western Shovelnose Snake These snakes are banded, red-cream-black, or red-gray. They are larger than coral snakes but sometimes similar in color and banding.

Common Kingsnake It's a black snake, small head, white or cream banding, two to three feet in length. This snake can and often will kill rattlesnakes. If you find them on your property, you should encourage them; they are your friends.

Bull Snake Similar in marking to a Diamondback Rattlesnake but lighter in color (more cream with brown). The head is pointed at the nose instead of flat. When a Bull Snake is threatened, it will mimic a rattlesnake, hissing and vibrating its tail. It is frequently longer than a rattlesnake but not as thick.

Coachwhip This is a very slender, usually long, 2 1/2 to 6 feet, snake. Its skin resembles tightly woven leather. Coachwhips are black, red, or pink in color. They are extremely fast moving. They are also good climbers and can be seen exploring palo verde trees in search of eggs or chicks.

Sonoran Gopher Snake Similar to Bull Snake in coloring, large girth, frequently 5 to 6 feet

in length. This snake is a good hunter and feeds mostly on rodents. They are our friends.

All of the snakes described above are part of the environment we live in. If you are concerned about your safety or that of your children or pets you can consider relocating the snake or having someone else relocate it. If you choose to do this, find an appropriate undisturbed habitat. Do not release the snake near someone's residence or a busy street.

If you are considering relocating snakes, I suggest that you get snake tongs. They're available from amazon.com (G2go2gether, size 60 inch, aluminum alloy, 4.3 stars, \$37.99). This website also has other brands.



Changes

If you update your email address, phone number or other contact information, please notify the HOA at:

contact@ranchodelcerro.org



Blanket Flower, courtesy of S. Sirkus



FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

- Please pick up after your dog.
- Help us keep our Neighborhood clean!
- The speed limit is 25 M.P.H. throughout our Community.

