

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NOVEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER

By Ruth Werfel

“KNOW WHO & WHAT’S AVAILABLE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY” was the topic for the Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, October 6, sponsored by the Sun City Lincoln Hills Association through the Communications and Community Relations Committee (CCRC). Wolf Oplesch, Speakers Town Hall Series Chair, moderated the well-attended session which included the following key panelists.

Lincoln Police Chief Brian Vizzusi and Lincoln Fire Chief Dave Whitt talked about the work of the City of Lincoln’s Emergency Alert System and Citizens on Patrol. Lincoln Hills Community Association Facilities Director Chris O’Keefe discussed the neighborhood security patrol; and Nicki Koch, from the Radio Amateur Group, explained “Who and What is the ERT.” Ken Sheehan, Neighborhood Watch Executive Director, presented an account of Neighborhood Watch news and resources.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: This year the meeting, followed by a dessert potluck, will be held from 6:00 until 8:30 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room of Kilaga Springs Lodge. The quorum for the meeting will be 30% of the total number of village coordinators, village co-coordinators and Board members as of the date of the meeting. A majority of those voting members present is required for passage of a motion to elect the new Board members; hence, it is important for all village coordinators to attend since they are the voting members.

The Neighborhood Watch Website now has a Help Menu, and the colored village maps and mail stations are now back online on the website, along with pictures of the 10th anniversary celebration.

VILLAGE 10 now has two new co-coordinators: Larry Ridley and Gary Crets. Linda Butler will remain and will train the new folks this month. We were able to catch up with one of the three.

LARRY RIDLEY, moved to Sun City just last June, but he has already become very active in the community. He and his wife Kathi helped deliver the green bags prior to the 10th anniversary celebration, and this was their introduction to Neighborhood Watch. The Ridleys moved here from San Jose, where Larry was the director of Youth Build, a non-profit organization designed to teach construction skills to a group of students who alternate a week of work with a week of school. Larry himself has a background in construction. In addition to his new work with NW, Larry is an active member of the Cycling Club, the Motorcycle Club and the Veterans group. His next endeavor, he says, will be golfing.

VILLAGE 29’S NEW COORDINATOR LYNN RODE LAMUTH moved here in 2006. She was introduced to Neighborhood Watch by Director Suzette Yuill, who took her to a neighborhood meeting where she met her neighbors and learned what’s involved in NW and, she explains that since she likes being a social organizer, it “seemed like it was just up my alley.” The village is small, just 81 houses, so she felt comfortable in taking on the job.

During her first year here, she wasn’t convinced that the move was a wise one. “Sun City takes a little getting used to,” she explained, “but I really like it now.” She’s involved in Paper Arts, and she has a group of friends with whom she plays cards and “do dinner.” The Paper Arts group, which used to be known as the Rubber Stamp Club, makes cards, scrapbooks, and gifts, anything one can do with paper, an activity she’s been involved in for over 20 years. (She confesses to being a frustrated kindergartner.)

Before moving here she was an escrow officer in Sonoma, and now she's engaged in teaching her paper skills, as evidenced by her dining room table, which is covered with colored paper, completed cards, glue and scissors, all the tools of her art.

VILLAGE 40, one of the larger villages, has been divided into 40-A and 40-B, and Jill Klein volunteered to be the new coordinator of 40-B. Here she is gearing up for her Thursday exercise class and showing off her new orange-and-black shirt.

Boston was her home for 32 years, and, shortly after she moved to California in search of adventure, she met her husband, and they lived in San Jose until his death in 2000. In 2002, looking for a more active life, she moved to Sun City, where she has found plenty to keep her busy. She is the Coordinator of Volunteers, which means that she has a hand in most of the activities around here; she and her group were responsible for many of the details that made the 10th anniversary celebration such a success. One of her most recognizable duties is making sure that The Compass gets out on the fifteenth of each month, which we all appreciate.

BRIEFLY, RECENT SCAMS: 1) A caller identifies him/herself as an officer of the court to notify the victim that an arrest warrant has been issued for a failure to report for jury duty. If the victim protests that he has never received a summons, the scammer asks for a social security number and date of birth to verify the victim's identity and cancel the arrest warrant. To verify, contact the court in question. It is best never to provide sensitive information to unsolicited callers. 2) An e-mail from UPS/Fed Ex Service along with a packet number asks you to print out the invoice copy attached because they were unable to deliver a package sent to you. Printing this launches a virus! 3) A person identifying him/herself as an employee of the "ABC Security Co." says that the company had information about a burglar alarm going off in your kitchen and asked for the password. If someone obtains your password, it would compromise the security system. 4) Finally do not dial the following area codes for any reason; example, someone calls and asks you to call back and gives one of the following area codes: 809, 284, or 876.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: Not a scam, but a warning: Apparently our reliable Corning Ware Pyrex was made with borosilicate glass, considered to be practically indestructible. Around 1996 the rights to the Pyrex logo were sold to World Kitchen, which uses soda lime glass in its Pyrex products, an ingredient which has been known to shatter in the oven, in one's hands on a counter, etc. sending sharp shards of glass over a wide area. To read an article about Pyrex products, go to:

<http://www.consumeraffairs.com/news04/2008/08/pyrex.html>

ALL BUT THREE VILLAGES NOW HAVE COORDINATORS!