WARM SANDS PRESS

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WSNO

FIRST FUNDRAISER A SUCCESS

The first fundraiser for the WSNO was held on May 26, 2007. A special thank you goes to the homeowners of 674 S Grenfall for the use of their home for the day.

The social committee, chaired by Marcy Wolfs, put together a sure proof plan and implemented it. We want to thank all the members who donated their time and effort.

Each committee member was designated a certain section of the neighborhood, and a flyer was hand carried to all the homes and businesses explaining the event and the need for donations.

The donations kept rolling in, and by the day before the event, there was enough merchandise to fill the back of a moving truck. Michael Wolfs supplied the moving truck as his donation and several other members let us borrow the much needed tables to set up the sale.

Warm Sands Yard Sale May 2007

There was a nice crowd of shoppers all morning long. 75% of the merchandise was sold by noon and the rest will be used in our next yard sale scheduled for August 2007.

The WSNO netted $685.00 plus 2 new memberships. The organization will continue to have these yard sales through out the year to help defray costs involved with running an organization.

Any homeowner interested in donating items for a future sale, can contact us at pswarmsands@yahoo.com for details. Your help in this effort is appreciated.

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Special points of interest:

- Interested in joining the Yacht Club?
- Curious about our WSNO Midnight Walk?
- Do you know the history of Warm Sands?
- Interested in donating yard sale items?

TAHQUITZ CREEK PARKWAY

Mediterranean Gecko

Has anyone noticed that our section of town is without a park? The closest area for outdoor recreation is the Tahquitz Creek Wash where you can find Mediterranean Gecko's with fan shaped feet. The Wash has been neglected over the years and a group of citizens have been working together to clean up the area. They have also been developing plans to better utilize and beautify the Tahquitz Creek Wash. The group involved with this project is the "Yacht Club".

TAHQUITZ CREEK PARKWAY (FROM PG 1)

Obviously a pun on words since the wash area is often void of water, the Yacht Club is comprised of members from the following neighborhood organizations: Deepwell Estates, Historic Tennis Club, Tahquitz River Estates, and Warm Sands. This project has been supported by Warm Sands since October 2, 2006, the date of the formation meeting of the Yacht Club.

"To make a greenway is to make a community."

–Charles E. Little, Author of Greenways for America

Yacht Club members are seen cleaning up the wash every other Saturday morning. They meet on the South side of the Camino Real pedestrian bridge on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. The group not only cleans up debris, but also has been involved with removing the dead plants. The Yacht Club's continued efforts to educate others as to the potential of the area has finally paid off.

This group submitted a proposal to the City Council requesting $25,000 in funds to develop a landscape design for the Tahquitz Creek Parkway Project. A local developer had committed to match the funds if this project was approved by the City Council.

On June 6, 2007, the City Council finally approved $25,000 in funding for the Tahquitz Creek Parkway Project. The City's $25,000 was matched by a local developer and the County of Riverside has also contributed $10,000 to this project. Once the landscape designs are completed, they will be submitted to the City Council and the public for review.

The Yacht Club will now be expanding beyond the four neighborhoods. Business owners, a city official, and a member of the tribe will be invited to the Club. Sharon Heider, director of Park and Recreation for the City of Palm Springs, will continue to offer her expertise. Yacht Club members are interested in finding grants available in California that would help with the much needed funds to complete the work.

This project has also gotten the interest of a local architectural class that has been focusing on the Tahquitz Creek Wash and they will be presenting their creative ideas and concepts to beautify the area, at a scheduled meeting of the Yacht Club in July. (cont. page 4)

WILD BIRD RESCUE

Two good hearted Warm Sands members rescued an aquatic bird from being run over in the middle of East Camino Parocela the other day. It landed right in front of them and seemed disoriented.

Come to find out, this bird is a Western

Western Grebe

Grebe. A grebe is a water bird that normally nests in colonies of hundreds on large inland lakes. The bird was black-and-white, with a long, slender, swan-like neck and red eyes.

Often called a dabchick or swan grebe, this bird dines by diving for carp, herring, crabs, and often salamanders.

They immediately took the bird home and got some help. They contacted the Wild Bird Center in Indio. A representative at the Bird Center told the members that sometimes these birds are fooled into thinking the sand is water due to the reflection of the sun. They land and can not regain flight unless they have a full length of water.

To keep the bird comfortable they placed him in a full bathtub, where the small grebe was right at home until time for a road trip.

After a short drive, they arrived at the Wild Bird Center, located in Indio on Van Buren Street. They watched as the Western Grebe was fed and then released into a large pond next door.

This bird sanctuary takes care of a large variety of injured birds including eagles, hawks, owls, roadrunners and more. They care for full grown animals and they also foster the babies so they can be raised to adulthood and then released back to the wild.

Our members were quite impressed with the "Tiny Office Owl" and the small "Friendly Roadrunner" that would jump on your hand. They encourage all of us to take a trip to see the beautiful animals there.

Friendly Roadrunner

The Coachella Valley Wild Bird Center does a wonderful service rehabilitating injured birds and it is a perfect place to learn more about wild life. For more information visit them on the web at:

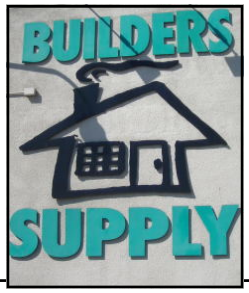
www.coachellavalleywildbirdcenter.org

HISTORICAL LANDMARKS IN WARM SANDS

Warm Sands was one of the first areas to be developed back in the early days of Palm Springs.

Did you ever fill up at the Texaco Station on Palm Canyon and Sunny Dunes? Did anyone you know ever stay overnight at the Mira Monte Hotel off of Ramon Road?

The Historic Committee had it first meeting at the end of June. The chair of the committee, John Williams, shared several maps, post cards and brochures that he acquired from the Historical Society. One was dated as far back as 1936. Committee members have been given the task of documenting the date each building within our boundaries was built. Our research so far indicates that our neighborhood began at the south east corner of Indian Canyon and Ramon. At the current site of the Union Bank, there once stood the Mira Monte Hotel and Apartments. Also, one of the very first subdivisions built by developer Raymond Cree was the Vista Santa Rosa Tract. This tract is now the streets South of Ramon named Calle Ajo, Calle Encilia, Calle Santa Rosa and Calle Abronia. We know that several homes on these streets date back to 1927.



Builders Supply Logo

To the south on Sunny Dunes, the first hardware store to be built in Palm Springs in 1926 was Builders Supply. The store has historical significance and we are working to acquire exclusive photos and information about the store in those early days to share with all of you. To the east bordering Sunrise Way, Ramon Trailer Park was also in existence around that same time and memorabilia is being collected for that location as well.

The Committee is always looking for members who have old pictures and stories about the neighborhood that we can document, make copies of, and archive. This historical data needs to be preserved so it can be shared with residents now and in the future. Contact the Historical Committee at pswarmsands@yahoo.com

with any information.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Our new custom Neighborhood Watch signs have been ordered. The signs should arrive by August and will be placed on the streets by the City of Palm Springs. Our signs are similar to the one pictured here. The difference is that the Warm Sands Neighborhood Watch signs will feature the Palm Springs Police Department and phone number. The number listed will forward straight to an officer that can help you if you see any indication of a crime or suspicious activity.

Style of Neighborhood Watch Sign

The Neighborhood Watch committee meetings are held the first Sunday of each month and all members are encouraged to attend. One of the first innovative and preventative measures this group has put in place is a monthly Midnight Walk. The Walk begins at one side of the neighborhood and does not end until the other side is reached.

At the June 2007 NW meeting it was determined that the immediate focus is to acquire more Block Captains, so each street in the neighborhood is being watched. The Neighborhood Watch can not be effective without leaders. Block Captains are needed on the streets that frequently experience burglaries, car break-ins, and loitering. The list includes: 500 and 600 block of Calle Palo Fierro, 500 and 600 block of Indian Trial, 500 and 600 block of Vista Oro, 500 and 600 block of Camino Real, 500 block of Grenfall, Calle Roca, Camino Primrose, Calle Amapola and the 900 block of East Parocela.

If your block is not listed above then there is a Block Captain in place. Ideally, the leader for each block should be accessible by e-mail. The group is looking for neighbors that know the other neighbors on his/her block and he/she must be willing to meet another neighbor or two in order to expand the watch. The Block Captain must commit to e-mailing the Neighborhood Watch Committee once a month to report the activity on the respective block.

Participation from the entire neighborhood is vital to the success of this program. It all comes down to maintaining the quality of life in Warm Sands.

Watch groups create a sense of community and pride by forming a unified group of citizens dedicated to improving their neighborhood. Partnering with law enforcement, citizens become their eyes and ears.

BENEFITS OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:

1. Deters criminal activity;
2. Creates a greater sense of security and reduces fear of crime;
3. Builds bonds with neighbors; people look out for one another; it stimulates neighborhood awareness;
4. Reduces the risk of becoming a crime victim; it reduces the physical, financial and psychological costs of crime;
5. Instructs residents on how to observe and report suspicious activities in your community; and
6. Addresses quality of life issues and mutual interests in your community.

WSNO

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neighborhood
Warm Sands
organization

www.pswarmsands.com

CANDIDATE FORUM

SPONSORED BY: OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

LOCATION: MIZELL CENTER

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2007

TIME: 6:30—8:30 PM

Individuals and Neighborhood Organizations are encouraged to submit questions they would like answered by the Mayoral and City Council candidates.

Email your questions to: candidateforumquestions@yahoo.com or mail them to: Ask The Candidate, P.O. Box 252, Palm Springs 92263, no later than September 10, 2007.

The Office of Neighborhood Involvement will *not* be endorsing candidates. This forum is an opportunity for City residents to hear answers to their questions and to learn more about the candidates for Mayor and City Council.

More details are available at: www.palmspringsneighborhoods.com, the official Office of Neighborhood Involvement web site. Please mark your calendar and support this event.

TAHQUITZ CREEK PARKWAY (FROM PG 2)

Greenways are corridors of protected open space managed for conservation and recreation. Trails and greenways provide countless opportunities for economic renewal and growth.

Increased property value, tourism and recreation-related spending are just a few of the ways trails and greenways positively impact community economies.

Stay tuned for more updates on this wonderful project.. Our WSNO contact concerning the Yacht Club is Bill Post. He can be reached at pswarmsands@yahoo.com for more details.

WSNO will continue to support the Tahquitz Creek Parkway Project. Learn how you can help do your part to make this beautiful natural resource a better place for people and animals.

Tahquitz Creek