

This newsletter is
Published seasonally
By the Santa Fe
Homeowner's
Association

Santa Fe News

Fall 2009

News from the Board

If you have any items that you would like to see printed in our next issue of the Santa Fe news, please submit them to the HOA office. The next issue will be sent out in the late winter of 2010. Our anticipated publication date will be February 2010. Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

The 2010 annual meeting has been set for Saturday, March 27, at 1:00 p.m.

A Holiday Pot-Luck, hosted by the San Felipe Homeowner's Association, will be held at the Santa Rosa Rec Center on Saturday, December 5, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. BYOB and a dish to share.

The Boards of the various associations anticipate that the pot-lucks can be held on a monthly basis, and hosted by a different HOA each time. We look forward to any input you may have regarding Santa Fe hosting.

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|| Please let us know if
|| you would like to re-
|| ceive this newsletter
|| by e-mail rather than
|| snail mail. It does
|| save the association
|| money in postage.
|| Also, make sure that
|| you have our e-mail,
|| rhca@cableusa.com in
|| your contact list.
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REMINDER

* Be sure to let the kiosk know when
* you have workers or guests arriving.
* This will eliminate hold ups or an embarrasing situation for kiosk personnel as well as your guests or worker.
* Kiosk number is 760-767-4259.

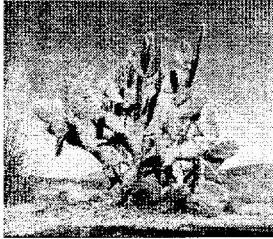


Important*

All pets must be kept on a leash!

Please pick up after your pets!

Grass areas have been over-run with dog waste.



Healthy Prickly Pear

*The only man
who never makes
a mistake is
the man who
never does
anything.*

- Theodore
Roosevelt



COCHINEAL INSECT OR BEETLE INFECTION

Today with the use of Prickly Pear Cactus in many of our gardens, homeowners complain of a white wool like substance all over their cacti. This "infection" seems to affect only Prickly Pears, but can affect others.

Therefore, we thought we would explain what this wool like or web like substance is. It comes from the female Cochineal Insect. She inserts her proboscis into the pad of the Prickly Pear for nourishment, and secretes a white, web-like, wax-based material over the area for camouflage and to prevent desiccation. These insects are farmed for the bright red dye that can be obtained from drying their bodies and extracting the brilliant red pigment.

The carmine dye is used in microbiology, and to produce a wide variety of pigments, including paints, food coloring, clothing dyes, rouge, and lipsticks.

If you find your prickly pear covered with this white material, homeowner/board member Kathy McHenry advises a mixture of 1/3 denatured alcohol to 2/3 water and spraying it directly onto the affected area of the plant. This should help alleviate the problem.



Landscape

The landscape project is nearing completion, and we have had many positive comments from homeowners. The board and the landscaper are working together with association management to make the Santa Fe neighborhood have an overall consistent look that will be pleasing to all homeowners.

Rockwork has been placed with careful thought and planning to avoid areas where trees are especially messy in order to streamline maintenance work.

It has been a long process and we appreciate your patience, and together with you, look forward to a beautiful new Santa Fe.

Recreation Area

Per the American Red Cross guidelines, our pools, when heated are kept at 82°. Currently, only the lap pool is heated. The family pool is heated during heavy use holiday periods.

We now have timers for the recreation area lights. This has been done to act in accordance with the dark skies community program. You will find the box directly beneath the bulletin board. The top timer is for the lap pool, and the bottom timer is for the family pool.

It has been brought to our attention that the gas on all the barbecues was left on. Please—remember to turn them off when you have finished using them. A big thanks to the owner that reported smelling the gas!!

Please refrain from feeding wild animals. This includes feeding wild birds, other than hummingbirds. Bird seed dropped on the ground from bird feeders attracts rodents. Rodents can cause major damage to irrigation lines, house wiring and other problems, including carrying diseases.

Remember, never feed the coyotes!!

A fed coyote is a dead coyote.

**Rams Hill Patio Homes II
Homeowners Association**

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**Please report irrigation leaks
to the HOA management office.**

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