

Cocopah Gazette

Spring 2018



Photo by Nancy Strahle

Notes from Gary Magrino:

Thank you all for a successful season. Our staff and I worked very hard to manage Cocopah RV and Golf Resort so that you, our guests, had an enjoyable season. We and the Cocopah Tribe appreciate your business and hope that you will recommend our resort to your (friendly) friends. As I said at the March Town Hall meeting, we have a new brochure – please take some with you and share them with your friendly friends. We’d like them to join us next season.

The results of the 2018 Resort Survey are “In” and I am thankful that many of you responded to our survey. I have read each and every response and summarize the results for you here. I cannot promise that we will be able to satisfy every wish, but I can promise you that we will thoughtfully consider each response. Some of your requests

require a capital improvement; some of your requests require someone to hit a button on a remote control; I will consider each of them. As I have said many times, our goal is to make the Cocopah RV & Golf Resort the premiere winter destination in southwestern Arizona. We want to hear from you. We never stop listening to you.

Survey Results

Golf Shop – Our residents find the Golf Shop valuable but wish that we stocked more items in larger sizes (we’ll work on that). Residents generally spend from \$20 - \$40 per item on golf apparel and would like the Golf Shop to stock items in that price range. Respondents indicated that it would be helpful if the Golf Shop was open later, especially on Fridays and that they really want to be able to spend “script” for payment of all items, both durable and nondurable. Customer service could be improved.

19th Hole Restaurant - Most residents report that they eat at the 19th Hole Restaurant 5 or so times per month. Residents are pleased with the improvements we’ve made in quality and service and encourage us to continue that path. Suggestions we received include adding healthier foods (fewer carbs) and adding “Special” evening meals such as Chinese, Roast Beef, and Mexican dinners. Respondents want better coffee and suggest that we really need a soft-serve ice cream machine! And,

please reduce the sound level on the TV.

Activities – Respondents told us that there is too much confusion in Activities. We need to hire a hospitality professional at least part-time and to stabilize employees (reduce turn-over). We need to provide better training both of employees and volunteers. Residents would prefer that we provide more modern music, specifically music from the 50's – 80's, and vary the bands that perform. Respondents told us that we need to re-felt the card tables and support the wood shop by updating and replacing tools.

Golf Course – Hire a professional golf pro and greens manager (separate). Enforce the dress code. Aerate and sand the golf course greens. Provide summer golf rates.

Security – Other than the Chief, Officers do not enforce speed limits.

Grounds Management – The grass around the pool is over watered.

Pickle Ball and Tennis Courts – Respondents requested that we keep the tennis courts even as we expand the available pickle ball courts. We believe we have found a solution so that the tennis courts can be converted for pickle ball play

WiFi and Cable TV – Respondents asked for improved WiFi that would be available throughout the resort and cable television for short-term guests.

Communications – Respondents' recommendations regarding communications issues crossed all departments. We hear and understand that we need to do better in communicating with you, our customers. Respondents requested a central listing of residents' names, phone numbers, site numbers, and email addresses so that you can more easily communicate with each other. We hope to be able to provide that next season. Our newsletter, "The

Cocopah Gazette" and the monthly calendar will be delivered to residents' mailboxes. Notices and blasts will be posted promptly on four specified bulletin boards throughout the resort. We hear that many of you are not receiving our email "blasts". We are working on that problem this summer. Look for another article in this Gazette on new procedures to subscribe to Cocopah RV email. We're working on our webpage at www.CocopahRV.com. While we work to communicate with you, we ask that you help us communicate with the larger RVing community. Please go to [RV Park Reviews](http://www.rvparkreviews.com) (www.rvparkreviews.com) and write a review that describes your current experience at Cocopah Bend RV & Golf Resort. "Like," "Follow" and write a review at Cocopah Bend RV & Golf Resort on Facebook. We appreciate your support.

Short-Term Rentals: September 1st begins Open Season for Short-Term Rentals. Anyone wishing to reserve a specific site for 1 month or less can make that reservation beginning September 1st. Please tell your friends.

Hello from the Golf Shop.

The winter season has drawn to an end. The last Resort Event was held Friday March 23rd and Saturday March 24th. I want to thank Deb and Rich Perreault for all their hard work, not only for this event, but all of the events throughout the season, including the Friday's Couples. Cocopah couldn't ask for any better event planners than Deb and Rich.

I want to thank Daren and all of his helpers for the great dinners served Friday and Saturday nights. Both dinners were outstanding and the service was excellent.

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For those of you that missed the sweepstake drawing, here are the lucky winners:

Annual site rent: Wally Jansen; Annual golf pass: Carolyn Kimbrel; Annual Trail Pass: Cec Foster; 18 Hole Punch Card: Robert Campbell, Ron Began, and Dave Flintoff; 9 Hole Punch Card: Bob Hawkins, Diana Carman, and Judy Eichman; \$100 Gift Certificate: Sharon Duncanand, Carolyn Kimbrel, Deb Perreault, and Mike Pierrard.



Gary Magrino congratulates Wally Jansen.

April Rates

We have lowered our green fee rates for April:

9 Holes w/cart: \$18

18 Holes w/cart: \$27

After 3pm w/cart: \$18

Walking anytime: \$15

From May 1st through September 30th our green fee rates are even lower. We've brought back our popular play & eat special as well. Enjoy a round of

golf and breakfast or lunch in the 19th Hole Restaurant.

Summer Rates:

9 holes/w cart: \$18

18 holes w/ cart (play and eat): \$27

18 holes w/ cart (play only): \$22

9/18 holes w/ cart after 2:00 pm: \$15

Walking anytime:

9/18 holes: \$10

We're also launching a summer punch card. A summer 10 punch card costs just \$250 including play, cart & eat. A summer 10 punch card for golf & cart costs merely \$200.

Range balls cost \$4 for a small bucket and \$6 for a large bucket.

The staff and I hope you had a wonderful stay at Cocopah RV and are planning to return next season. We wish you safe travels and a wonderful summer. We look forward to your return in the fall.

- Carol and Staff

<p>19th Hole Restaurant</p> <p>Summer Hours</p> <p>Wed. – Sun.</p> <p>7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.</p>
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Cocopah RV Email Blasts

In response to many concerns about residents not receiving the email Blasts sent by Activities this season, Cocopah has worked with a consultant to correct errors in the existing database and to establish set procedures for management of the email system going forward.

In the past, some email addresses had been entered into the database without the full names of the owners. This made it difficult to maintain the system. Of the more than 700 entries in the system, almost 400 could not be identified. Over a period of several weeks, emails were sent to all email addresses that were not associated with full names requesting that the recipients reply with the needed information. A series of three emails was sent out to the unidentified addresses and more than 100 people responded. The 300 email addresses that could not be identified were removed from the system. If those individuals wish to be added to the email blast system, they will need to provide the necessary information.

The old procedure for adding someone's email to the email blast system had been for an individual to sign-up on a handwritten sheet in Activities. This was often troublesome as the handwriting could be very difficult to read; complete information was often not provided; and typos introduced errors into the system. For this reason, the only method of signing up to receive Cocopah RV blast emails is for the individual to send an email **from the email account** where they wish to receive the blast emails to activities@cocopahrv.com providing their **First & Last Name, Site Number, Telephone Number**, and the **request to be added to the Blast email list**. The subject line of the email should say, "**Blast email request**".

There are some residents who have received emails from the email Blast system in the past but have

unsubscribed (either through their own action or perhaps due to a glitch in the system). If your email address was ever subscribed to the Blast email system and became unsubscribed, due to privacy regulations Activities cannot add that email address to the system. The individual owning the unsubscribed email must personally take action to reverse this action. Activities can provide you with the procedure to do this. Send an email to Activities@cocopahrv.com requesting instructions to "Re-subscribe" to the Blast emails.

From The Activities Office

The 19th Hole Restaurant and the Cantina hope that everyone had amazing adventures, happy experiences and made many lasting friendships throughout the 2017-2018 winter season at Cocopah Bend RV & Golf Resort. For year-round residents, there is a fantastic summer planned. There will be pot lucks for special holidays such as Memorial Day, 4th of July, Labor Day, etc. and Ice Cream Socials throughout the summer. Card games continue. The 19th Hole Restaurant is open Wednesdays thru Sundays from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you have any suggestions for summertime activities, please feel free to let Activities know! Thank you again for all your support.

- Judy Ratajczyk

Yuma Community Food Bank Food Drive

The Food Drive to benefit the Yuma Community Food Bank continues into May. Food collection boxes for non-perishable, unopened foods are located in the Administration Office and the Activities Lobby.

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Security

The Security Department reports that there was a significant decrease in the number of drivers cited for speeding over the course of the winter season. That's the good news! Officers made a total of 324 traffic stops during the winter season. Drivers are warned not to get complacent; the Security Office will be training additional officers over the summer to enable more officers to make traffic stops.

LOOKING BACK OVER THE PAST MONTH

Hawaiian Dancers

Some adventurous men of Cocopah performed a Hawaiian war chant for several year-end events.



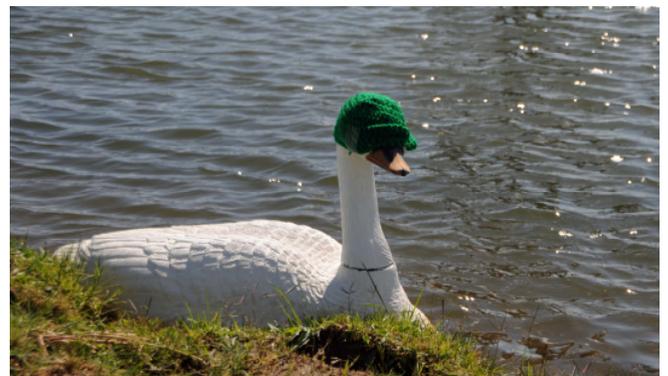
Cocopah's Jersey Boys

The Jersey Boys aka Richard Perreault, Tommy Webb, Bruce Clement, and Roy King performed "Who Loves You" and "Oh What A Night" for the Horseraces.



Cocopah Swans Celebrated

The swans that float in the pond outside the Administration Office celebrated St. Patrick's Day in fine style.



PERSONALITIES OF COCOPAH RV

Soaring Above Cocopah RV

Cocopah RV resident Nancy Strahle soared above Cocopah RV in a powered parachute on March 16. What's a powered parachute? A powered parachute is an airborne vehicle that consists of a parachute, a motor, seats, and wheels for landing. The powered parachute can be powered up to 27 mph and can stay airborne for 2 ½ hours. The pilot, who must have a sport pilot license, steers the vehicle with his or her feet.



Photo by Nancy Strahle

While the powered parachute is capable of flying up to 10,000 ft.; it is most fun at 200 feet where the passenger can wave at the mortals stuck on the ground! While those of us on the ground hear the noise of the engine, from the perspectives of the pilot and passenger, the ride is quiet. They wear helmets and mouthpieces for communications.

Cocopah RV thanks Nancy for her fantastic pictures of Cocopah RV & Golf Resort from the air.

The People Who Make Things Happen

There are magicians who work behind the scenes to maintain the golf course and the resort grounds. Some of those magicians work for Bradley Massey, the Maintenance Supervisor. Two of those anonymous magicians are Ramon Juarez and Uzi

Domigues. Both men have worked for Cocopah RV & Golf Resort for 3 years. Ramon has one daughter, three step-children, and five grandchildren. He reports that after a long career in retail management, he likes working outdoors and interacting with the Cocopah RV residents. Uzi is soon to be married. He and his fiancée are expecting their first child this summer. Uzi said that he came to Cocopah Bend RV & Golf Resort because he wanted to work outdoors and that he particularly likes helping residents.



Look for Uzi and Ramon cutting the grass on the golf course (at a very early hour of the morning), trimming trees throughout the resort, testing and maintaining the pool chemicals, and setting-up the Ballroom for events. Be sure to tell them “Thank You” for a job well done.

Quilters

Thirty-eight quilts have been completed and distributed to the Aqua de Vida Orphanage, the Cancer Resource Center and the Yuma Regional Medical Center. In addition to quilts for charity everyone created many lovely projects of their own. Twenty-five ladies participated in the group on Tuesdays and Fridays this season. We look forward to more associates next season as many other people have expressed an interest.

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As we finish another fun and successful season the quilting ladies wish to thank the management and employees of Cocopah RV resort for providing the facilities for us to use and for all the help and assistance this year. We really appreciate how pleasantly and promptly our requests were met.

- Nancy Shirley

Canadian Can Tabs Collection

For several years, Cocopah RV resident Don Cowan has collected can tabs and taken them to the Pasqua Hospital Auxiliary in Regina, Saskatchewan. The proceeds the auxiliary earns from the sale of the tabs have been used to purchase wheel chairs and medical equipment. Friends and acquaintances in both Canada and the United States have been very supportive by gathering and donating tabs to the cause. To date Don has delivered a total of 762 pounds of tabs. It doesn't take a whole lot of effort to remove the tabs from the cans and save them. A million tabs weigh about 800 lbs. It is truly amazing how something so small can turn into something much bigger. Don and Lyla Cowan wish to give a big hearty thank you to everyone who has helped over the years. It is hoped that residents of Cocopah RV will continue to help support this worthwhile cause.

-Nancy Shirley

Woodshop

Are you downsizing this summer? Do you have

unused tools in your home workshop? The Woodshop would greatly appreciate donations of woodworking tools to upgrade the existing tools (such as a wood lathe, router/table, saber saw, drill bits, claw hammers, hand saws, corded drills, and more.) If you happen to have power tools that are not being used back home or know of someone who has some, consider donating them to the WoodShop where they will be appreciated and maintained for years to come.

-John Smith

GOLF CLUBS

Cocopah Ladies 18 Hole Golf Club

It is hard to believe that another great year of fun and golf has come to a close for all the lovely members of the Cocopah Ladies Golf Club. Of course the year-end is always celebrated with one party after another. The year-end banquet on March 20 had the theme of a PJ Party and what a party it was! The Ladies enjoyed popcorn, candy, snacks of all sorts, appetizers, a delicious taco salad, and ice cream sundaes for dessert. Each lady was asked to bring a stuffed animal. The club is donating 93 stuffed animals for children in stressful situations at Amberly's Place, the Sheriff's Dept., and Child Protective Services.



The following ladies won awards for major achievements over the year: Net Ace of the Year - Deb Perreault, Gross Ace of the Year - Diane Plumb, President Cup Winner - Gina Brown, Club Championship Winner - Diane Plumb, and Most Improved Player of the Year - Bonnie Barlow.

-Marie Grumetza

9 Hole Ladies Golf Club

It seems we all just got here and now it's time to say Good-Bye! March always seems to go by so fast. The weather was a little chillier than usual but what awaits some of us at home is worst. The Ladies enjoyed the camaraderie of golf even when their games were a little off. Everyone golfed her best this year: 80 Chip-ins were awarded throughout the season but only 16 Birdies. Next year's challenge is to increase the number of Birdies. There were two Golfers of the Month for February: Linda Tuggle and Joan Smith – Way To Go Ladies! The Golfer of the Year should be no surprise – Debi Hale! She had a great season. The annual banquet was held on March 14th. The Hawaiian Vacation theme was well presented by Karen Beardsley, Karen Morris and all the committee volunteers. There were 116 members present plus Gary Magrino, acting Park Manager. The evening was a great success. The 19th Hole Restaurant did great job preparing the food. A big thank you to the Red Hats for helping

with the meal service. The entertainment was “hula - airus” and the Jersey Boys had us dancing in the aisles! Club members were awarded jackets as an end-of-season gift. The jackets look really good and will make quite the impression on the course next season.

-Michelle Chuchmuch



Ronay Hansen, Johanne Desaulniers, Judi Mahaffey, and LeeAnn Fitzpatrick enjoyed the party.

Summer Post Office Hours
Mon.- Fri.
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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GAZETTE SUBMISSIONS

The Gazette newsletter is a publication of the Cocopah Tribe. The Tribe has generously issued an independent email address to the Gazette for residents to submit news and potential articles. Contributors should submit materials in MS Word or text format, without any special characters or formatting, to gazette@cocopahrv.com. Pictures or graphics should be submitted in jpg format (medium size) as a separate attachment. Potential articles should be written in third person newspaper style. All articles are subject to approval and editing. Send an email to gazette@cocopahrv.com requesting a Writer's Guide for submissions.

During the winter season the Gazette is published monthly on the 1st of each month. Submissions must be received no later than the 25th of the prior month for consideration in the following month's Gazette.

Leslie Woodruff, Editor

Contact Information & Important Numbers

Security:

(928) 503-0676

Office:

(928) 343-9300

19th Hole Restaurant:

(928) 782-0807

Golf Shop:

(928) 343-1663

Activities:

(928) 343-1061

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