

# The SILVERIDGE Sun

*The Friendliest Park in the West*

DECEMBER | 2017

**Business Office**

480-373-7000

**Hours**

8:30am-4:00pm

**Activities Office**

480-373-7700

**Director**

480-373-7725

**Hours**

8:30-3:30pm

**Activities Fax**

480-986-0052

**Front Gate**

480-373-7911

**Park Manager**

Rhonda Ciacco

**Business Office Manager**

Sue Isbell

**Assistant Office Manager**

Kay Kreun

Sheila Bishop

**Activities Director**

Sue Arneson

**Activities Assistant**

Sharon Beatty

**Kitchen Manager**

Jerry Colling

**Kitchen Volunteer Coordinator**

Tracy Gagnier

**Set-Ups**

William Shelton

**Maintenance Manager**

Kelly Haragan

**Mail Room**

Kim Gulvas

The latest in our series..

## THE PEOPLE OF THE PARK:

### Kelly Haragan

*"We Need You to Work for Us"*

by Dale Dauten

When Rhonda Ciacco became General Manager of Silveridge and The Resort, one of the first things she did was promote Kelly Haragan to take her old job as Maintenance Manager. "He was my lead person," Rhonda says, "and I knew he was the right one for the job. He's the kind of guy who, if he sees something that needs fixing, he just does it. And it doesn't matter if it's during regular work hours or not. I sometimes see him working so late that I tell him, 'If you don't go home, I'm going to have to fire you.' That's became our standard joke. Sometimes he objects and I'll say, 'Okay, you're fired.' Then I add, 'And I'll see you in the morning.'"

As for Kelly, he still remembers the day back in '05 when he first became an employee: Working for an electrical contractor, he'd been on a crew doing jobs around both Silveridge and The Resort. What he didn't know was that Rhonda, still Maintenance Manager at the time, had been noticing the quality of his work. "One day I was digging a trench for a new electrical cable," Kelly recalls. "It was a deep one where I was down to where just the top of my head was above ground, and I see someone up above me and it was Rhonda. She said, 'We need you to work for us.'" Kelly took the job. (Who can say no to Rhonda?) And eventually moved into The Resort.





# "An Arizona Christmas"

Sue Arneson, Activity Director

It was Christmas 2005 and we were about to experience our first Christmas in Arizona. How excited we were to hang Christmas decorations in balmy 70 degree weather! No more frozen hands trying to string Christmas lights! I still remember Christmas shopping and carrying packages to the car and thinking "I'm not wearing a jacket and I don't even have to let the car warm up!"

Then reality set in. My husband still has scars today from stringing lights on our saguaro. I sort of missed the snow (ha) - not to mention that I was homesick for our children. Luckily, just as a mild depression was setting in, we attended a Christmas show at the old Broadway Palms. The old familiar Christmas songs were sung, the cast was dressed in wooly clothes and everything was beautifully decorated for Christmas. I left with a lighter heart and different attitude. I realized that no matter where we are in our journey, whether at Silveridge celebrating Christmas with our family here or back at our homes, we carry the meaning and the memories of Christmas in our hearts. Since that time I have come to appreciate all our Christmases in Arizona. The desert has its own kind of beauty with its mountains and glorious sunsets. Let us all remember the beauty that lies within each of us. We need to share our blessings. Once again the Silveridge Santa decorators are sponsoring a toy drive. Please give generously so the children in our community will have toys under the tree. For all those who give in so many ways, thank you. Remember to thank all those behind the scenes who make our lives better. And no matter where we are in our journey let us remember to keep Christmas always in our hearts.

## Christmas in Arizona

The visitor sadly shook his head as he basked in the tropical sun...  
"Call this Christmas?" to us he said, "Well, not where I come from."

"Christmas needs snow, ice and cold. And the sound of sleigh bells ring.  
And as for me, I can't be sold on this Winter that feels like Spring."

We looked at him and then we smiled, as he scoffed aloud at our plight.  
And we felt pity and were not riled : cause he was far from right."

For no snow fell on Bethlehem on the night the first star shone.  
There was no blizzard nor howling gale that swept with a shriek and a moan.

The breeze was soft and what is more,, the night the Christ Child came  
Hibiscus bloomed near the stable door and Mary murmured His name

The Heavenly Host in the starry sky, Proclaimed the birth of the King  
And the rustling palms echoed the cry, as the whole world seemed to sing.

So we find here, in our sun drenched land, untouched by ice and snow..  
That the Spirit of Christmas is near at hand, and we feel God willed it so.



# December Boogies!

## Saguaro Sunset Band Tuesday, December 5th



Saguaro Sunset hails from local Arizona. This 5 piece band has been a popular band throughout the valley. This is their second time around here at Silveridge. So come and dance your heart out!  
[www.saguarosunsetband.com](http://www.saguarosunsetband.com)

## Exit 40 Tuesday, December 12th

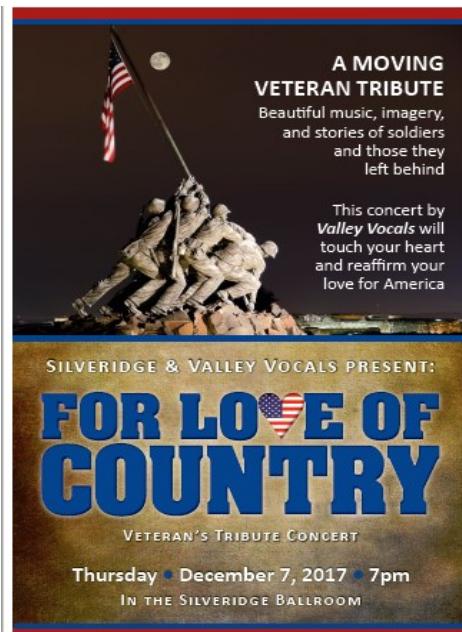


Exit 40 with Jay Ferris played for us last year. They do a great mix with some 70's music added to their Rock and Roll variety. This is our Christmas boogie so wear Christmas!  
[exit40band.com/](http://exit40band.com/)



shutterstock - 479368063

## Dinner Show Thursday, Dec.7th 5:00pm



"For Love of Country is our Christmas Show this year. It is a moving tribute to our veterans. I chose a different type of Christmas show this year because Dec. 7th is Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. The "Valley Vocals" are a talented local group that perform all over the valley. Tickets are still available! BYOB and Tableware.

## "A Star Studded" New Years Eve



Come Party the night away with Stan Foster and his star studded New Years Eve. Come dressed as any star or just come in your normal clothes. Prizes given for best Stars. Watch out—The Paparazzi might just be following you! BYOB, tableware and Appetizers. Only \$15.00! Get your tickets at the Activity Office.



## December Breakfasts

With all the holiday cooking why not treat yourself to a couple of breakfasts? Breakfast is everyone's favorite meal to eat out. Chef Jerry and many volunteers will be cooking you breakfast. Come to the Social Hall on Saturday, **December 2nd** and **December 16th** from 7:00-9:00 am and get breakfast for only \$5.00!

On December 16th Santa will join us and Christmas music will be played. You can enjoy a hot breakfast of sausage or ham, eggs, toast or pancakes, (plain or blueberry) or biscuits and gravy, coffee and juice. Come and share the holiday spirit with good food and friends. (Mark your calendars for January 13th for the Club Expo and Breakfast)

### Market Day, Dec 9th

Come and shop for Christmas gifts at our Christmas market! We will have over 70 vendors tempting you with unique treasures. There will be clubs offering raffle tickets, 50-50 drawing and chances for beautiful prizes! Starting at 10:45am take a break and enjoy a delicious lunch served by our kitchen volunteers.

### Christmas Dinner



If you love a feast you will want to join your Silveridge family for the potluck **Christmas Dinner on Monday, December 25th**.

Please note-There will be 2 serving times: 1:00 and 4:30pm. Sign up at the Activity Office for your table and dish. There must be a ham baker before a new table can be started. The Activity Office will reimburse the ham baker up to \$20.00.

### Christmas Light Parade

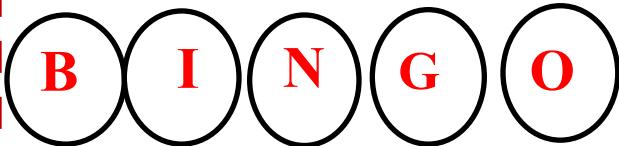
**Thursday,  
Dec. 14th,  
5:00 pm**



Decorate your golf carts, bicycles or any other moving vehicle with lights and a Christmas theme. Meet by the clubhouse at 5:00pm. Judging will take place when everyone arrives. There will be prizes awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place plus honorable mentions. The parade will start at 5:30pm. Spectators welcome! Watch for the parade routes on the activity board. All participants meet in the Social Hall following the parade where prizes will be awarded and a cup of chili will be served.

**Every Wednesday 6:30pm.**

*Merry Christmas  
from the Bingo Team*



**Food Served from 5:00-6:00pm. Open to all residents.**

**Do not have to play bingo to eat.**

**Dinner is \$7.00 / \$6.00 with Bingo Ticket**

**Sandwiches are \$3.50. Soda, water, popcorn, pies, and cookies sold.**

**Check with the Activity Desk for menu**

**Games include: Double Action, Odd/Even, Money Ball, Betty Boop**

**King and Queen Bingo Payouts- Door Prizes!!!**

**No Bingo on Dec. 20th and Dec. 27th**

**Exciting New Games!!! Reduced Costs!!!**





## Silveridge Christian Fellowship

Our service is every Sunday at 9:00am in the Ballroom. We invite you to join us for our non-denominational service. There will be only a Christmas morning service with special music on Sunday, Dec 24th at 9:00am.

## Celebration



Eugene Holford

November 9th

Harriet Duhn

November 14th

Duane Rosecrans

September 29th

## News from the Kitchen

### *Look What's New!*



Thanks to the generosity of club members and individuals, a new commercial refrigerator was purchased. The refrigerator is for the use of Clubs, other Activity events, or the Kitchen if needed.

\*\*\* Any request to use the Kitchen facilities or Appliances must be requested through Sue Arneson, Activity Director, Monday-Friday 8:30am -3:30pm

## Request Forms

\*\*\* Any group or individual planning an event (Club Social or any other event such as Anniversary or Birthday celebrations) need to check with Sue a minimum of 1 month in advance for dates and times. (Most large groups schedule their socials in the spring, 6 months before the following season) The calendar fills up quickly especially for the Ballroom and Social Hall.

The following forms can be picked up and submitted to the Activity Director.

*A Facility Request Form,  
Equipment Request Form and  
Kitchen Supply List Form*

Any expenses incurred for a social event are the responsibility of the group unless **prior approval** for funds has been given by the Activity Director.

## *The SilverScreen*



Movie Operator Don Beckett on the left. Sharon on right with popcorn volunteer Janyne Hoff

Thank you to Don and Sharon Beckett who are the lead volunteers for the movies at our theater. Don is scheduling the movie operators while Sharon schedules the movies and popcorn volunteers. Please see Sharon or Don if you have any suggestions for movies. At the time of this newsletter movies are shown on Friday and Saturdays at 7:00pm. Wednesday matinees will resume in January if there are enough operators. There still is a need for more operators. Please see Don Beckett if you can volunteer. Please be a team player and offer to stay after the movie to clean up. How about bringing your honey and calling it a date night!

How many of you know that the theater has ESPN? The theater is available to watch sports, but not on a movie day or night. Because of the valuable equipment **the theater is locked at all times unless there is a scheduled showing for movies, or sports. Only trained operators may run the equipment!** **Requests for theater sports need to be turned in at the activity desk by noon on Friday.** There must be a minimum of six people attending. When reserving the theater, please leave the building clean! If there is a game on Mondays the Social Hall television may be available. Thank you Randy Risdahl who is assisting in showing the sports games!

## Casino School

**Friday, December 8th**  
**11:30am**  
**Social Hall**



This extremely fun one hour class rewards those who attend with two Laughlin Fun

Books loaded with "Free" BOGO Buffets, Rooms, & more at all 9 Laughlin Casinos plus each will receive an Arizona Fun Book with 5 "Free" Bogo rounds of golf and other discounts in Mesa.

Learn how to Stingy Bet and win more!

Slots, Blackjack, Roulette, Video Poker and more. The class is \$10.00 per person at the door. Learn how to go with the class to Laughlin in February. Lots of fun and reasonably priced! Also a Carnival Cruise in March will be presented.

How could school be so much fun?? See you there!



## The "Silveridge Santas" Decorators The Toy Drive

The "Silveridge Santas" will once again be collecting toys for children in Mesa. Please bring your unwrapped new gift (boy or girl) to the big box located across from the Activity Office. Toys will be taken to the Mesa Fire Hall at Southern and Power. Thank you for your support in making many children happy! The last day to donate is December 17th.

### \*\* Note from a Volunteer

As you enter the ballroom on a Tuesday on your way to a boogie or a Thursday for a dinner show do you take a moment to look around and admire or appreciate the decorations? Or better yet how many check out the Christmas displays in the lobby and around the clubhouse?

No problem or so I thought, I can spare an hour on Tuesdays to set up the tables- never taking the time to think about how or when these things came together. Well since joining the volunteer decorating group I have discovered how much goes on behind the scenes. There are literally hours every week on planning, organizing and preparing for set up and take down at the end of every event. The leader, Yvonne Rowley and her volunteers do it all! Your help in clearing your tables at the end of the event is much appreciated! As the saying goes, many hands make for light work. If you are someone who enjoys seeing these decorations we could use your help. If you can spare an extra hour please sign up at the Activity Boards. Many Thanks!

## Club News

All the clubs and group activities are off and running. Mark your calendars for January 13th for the Club Expo. All the groups will be represented.

Certain clubs have web pages where you can also get information.

Computer Club: [www.silvercomctc.com](http://www.silvercomctc.com)

Tennis Club: [www.silveridgetennis.com](http://www.silveridgetennis.com)

Pickle ball Club : [www.usapa.org](http://www.usapa.org)

Hikers Club: [www. silveridgehikerswordpress.com](http://www.silveridgehikerswordpress.com)

Room 9 has a Facebook page : Silveridge RV Resort Room 9

Check out these sights and also the Activity boards for more information and sign up sheets.

\*\* The Pickleball club is collecting clear plastic bottles. Look for the blue containers with Pickleball written on them. They are no longer accepting milk bottles or food containers. Water or soda plastic bottles are perfect.

Tennis is still accepting aluminum cans. Look for these containers throughout the ballroom and the grounds.

Watch for different fundraisers at the craft fairs throughout the year. Thank you for contributing to all the clubs!

# A Memorable November

A special Veterans Day Ceremony was led by Veteran Candy Nash. World War II Vets were recognized. Cookies and coffee were served by kitchen volunteers. A delicious fish dinner was served that evening and the Mesa City Band performed patriotic music. Thank you to all the volunteers who made the day special.



**Mesa City Band Performing**



**All Veterans ate free  
at the Fish Fry!**



**A Thanksgiving Dinner Plate**



**A Fun Boogie night with Cool Vibrations**



**Fun on the putt putt golf course**



**A fun  
Pickleball  
Social was  
held on  
Nov. 11th**





At the time he started at the parks, he'd recently moved to Mesa from Southern California. Although he'd grown up in Eastern New Mexico, mostly around Clovis, he'd spent the past 30 years in Los Angeles. He'd grown tired of fighting the crowds and the traffic in the San Fernando Valley and was ready for a change.

I asked Kelly how he chose to move to Mesa and he said, "My ex-brother-in-law let me move into one of his rooms. And he offered me a job."

An EX-brother-in-law?

"Yeah, I'd gotten divorced but I stayed in touch with him. Still do. I don't know what happened to my ex-wife – I never talk to her."

(Something about that story makes me think of the country song, "My wife ran off with my best friend... and I sure do miss him.")

It was that same ex-bro that offered Kelly a job helping out with his electrical contracting accounts, including some work at the RV parks.

Kelly now has two year-round employees reporting to him at each park, as well as two "work campers" who are seasonal residents of each park. Every morning the teams go over their checklists and their work orders.

(Any resident who spots something amiss can report it to the office, and they generate the work orders.)

When asked what's the most common task, Kelly replied that it's the irrigation system with all the sprinklers and drip emitters. "There must be four or five hundred emitters at each park, and with the hard water out here, there's plenty to replace."

In addition to his full-time job, Kelly takes on plenty of additional work for residents. "Mostly it's plumbing," he explained. "Usually there's some kind of leak. I've gone out at all hours, sometimes the middle of the night. The people are grateful and I'm happy to help."

He smiled and added, "Just about everybody knows me."

And just about everybody would understand what Rhonda means when she said, "I remember when I first saw his work and I started thinking, 'We gotta have him.'"

**YOU CAN FIND OTHER ARTICLES IN "THE PEOPLE OF THE PARK" SERIES AT SILVERIDGE.COM UNDER THE "ABOUT US" TAB**



## MORE ON THE WEB

For more information on the park, and for back issues of The Silveridge Sun, please visit our website at [www.silveridge.com](http://www.silveridge.com).

Send your thoughts/comments or story suggestions to Dale -- [dale@dauten.com](mailto:dale@dauten.com).