



NEWSLETTER

Canoa Preserve Park

If you haven't been out to the new park yet, you're really missing out on a really good vibe. The softball fields are absolutely gorgeous!

BAJA has been meeting with the Pima Co folks and the contractor on a regular basis at the site. At the last meeting on 11/30/12, the contractor declared that the project to be "on schedule". The permanent outfield fencing is up, the infield mix and sod laid, with the dug outs and backstop fencing being completed.

For the first time in the history of Pima Co Parks & Recreation, the infield has its own irrigation system with sprinkler heads covering the entire infield surface! This will greatly improve the compaction of the surface and reduce maintenance time.

In addition to finishing the park construction, BAJA's next big step is finalizing the contract with Pima County for BAJA's scheduled use of the park. We expect to complete the contract prior to year end.

Andy Lynch



Photo by Dave Hyslop

Softball Teams Drafted!

Draft update: The Allison draft took place on November 28 and will include the following teams & managers:

- Premier Properties - Steve Heath
- 3 - 1/2 Happy Barbers - Dennis Dion
- 2 Girls Pizza - Dick Purdy
- Hickey Auto - Gale VanHoorn.

The draft comprised 13 rounds and took tooooooo long.



The Recreation League draft was on December 5th and was very exciting (not) and each manager took 14 players. The teams & managers are:

- Quail Creek Country Club - Dick Fryan
- Animal Care Center of Green Valley -
Dwayne Schmidt & Bill Land (sounds like a law firm)
- Edward Jones - Steve Terrell
- Twist and Shout - Jim Reedy
- Insurance Center of Green Valley - Ron Klopf

Look for some surprises in team colors and design.

Opening day is just around the corner January 2, 2013. Lets hope the weather holds.

John Brassell - The Commish

WELCOME BACK!

The migratory season is in full swing as our membership returns from the cooler climes. It's a real treat for me to head out to the ball fields these days. The weather is fabulous, but more importantly, every new day gives me the opportunity to say "Hello" and reconnect with our returning members!

It's a real joy catching up on things, e.g. travels, family doings, health, etc. It's just like getting the whole family together for the Holidays!

Thanks to each and everyone of you for being a member of the BAJA Family!

Andy Lynch

BAJA NEWBIES

Jim Sears is from upstate New York. He has been in AZ for two years. Jim has been involved with softball for over 50 years.



Jim Sears - photo by Wally Towne



Photo by Bill O'Malley

BAJA Board of Directors

ANDY LYNCH

President

WALLY TOWNE

Vice President

STEVE TERRELL

Treasurer

NICK CHARLES

Membership Chair

BILL O'MALLEY

Secretary

BOB HOYLER

Field of Dreams

JIM HILL

Social Chair

Coordinators

JOHN BRASSELL

Softball

ROGER HINTERTHUER, BOB MALKOVICH, JIM CZECH

Golf

LUANN MEIER

Bowling

DORIS NAUGHTON

Sunshine Lady

BAJA Board Openings - The BAJA Board of Directors will have two vacancies beginning in April of 2013. President Andy Lynch and Jim Hill's 3 year terms will expire in March. We all owe a thanks to Andy and Jim for their service to our club. The BAJA Board supervises and guides our organization and we encourage all members to consider running for these two Board positions.

So far Bob Barry, Gale Van Hoorn and Jim Welch have tossed their name into the hat. Candidates will have a chance to make a short presentation at the January Annual Meeting., January 22, 4:30 p.m. at Triple Play. If you decide to step up to the call and give back to our club in the form of running for the Board please give your name to Vice President Wally Towne before the January 22 meeting.

Free Hot Dog!

BAJA's Annual Meeting is January 22 at 4:30 at Triple Play. Candidates for BAJA's Board positions will be invited to speak.

BAJA will subsidize a meal of hot dog, soft drink & chips so come get a free hot dog!

BAJA ADDS BICYCLING!

The BAJA board has officially added bicycling as the fourth activity of our sporting club!

Cycling is a very popular and healthy activity in our area. We have at least a dozen members of BAJA that ride bikes regularly and perhaps another dozen that have shown interest in riding.



The goal is to introduce and increase the participation of biking to BAJA members and their spouses by; organizing and supervising regular road bike rides, providing access for advice and mentoring (types of bikes, equipment, basic up keep), provide

encouragement through club organized rides.

We would like to help members increase riding opportunities, improve their skills and knowledge, and promote the healthy activity of bicycling.



BOBBY EPSTEIN VOLUNTEERS TO BE BAJA'S FIRST BIKING COMMISSIONER

Our first BAJA biking commissioner is Bobby Epstein.

Bobby has been a biker for over forty years and currently rides his bike about 150 miles each week; a schedule he has maintained for the past 12 years that he has lived in Green Valley.

Biker Bobby will be organizing the first regular BAJA rides very soon. We

want to have rides that start with short distances and longer rides that have multiple join in spots so that riders can begin with distances that they feel comfortable with.

Bobby wants to design the rides around the skill level of interested members.

If you have questions he can be emailed at: rye37@cox.net.



All photos by Wally Towne

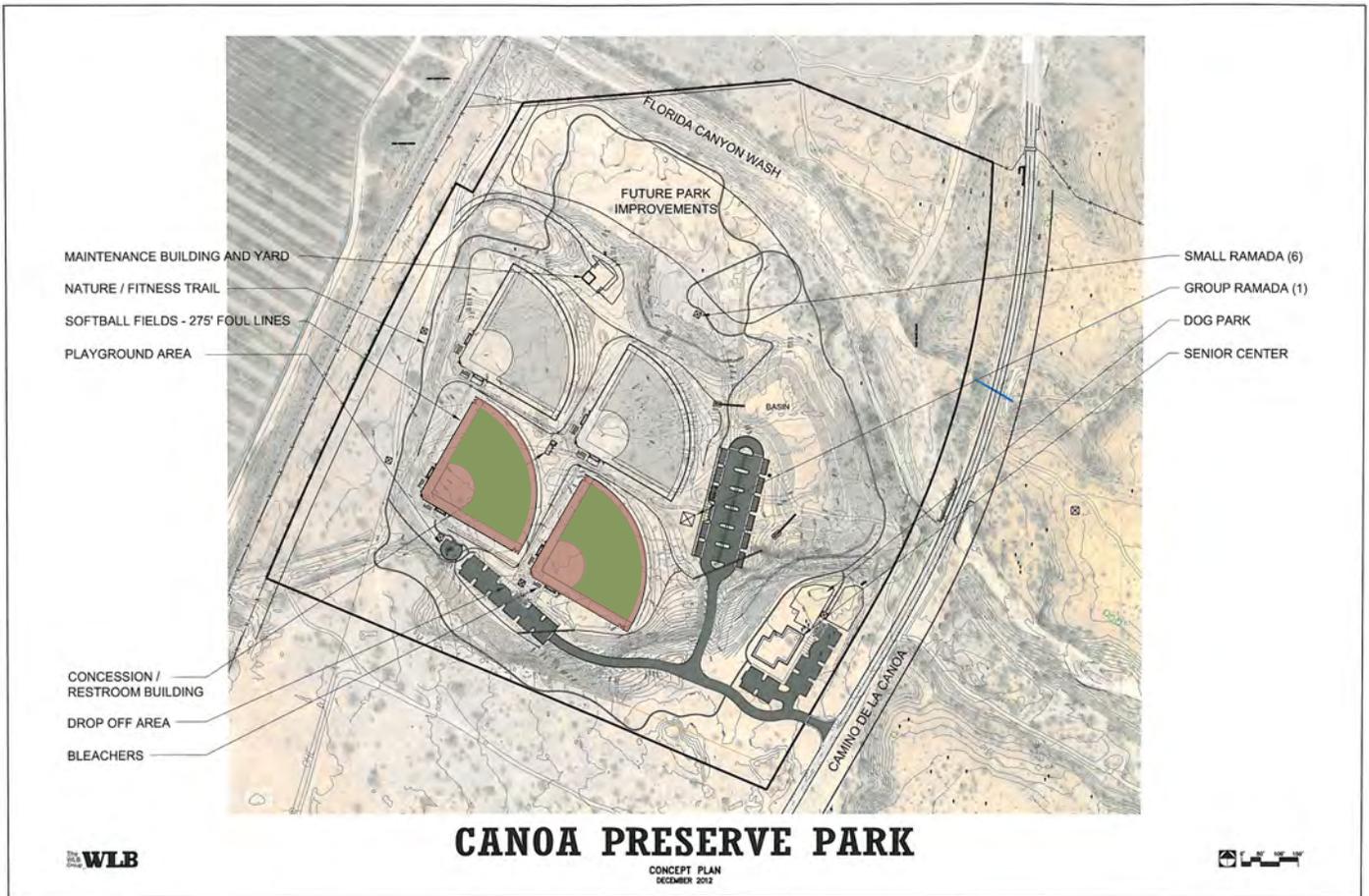
SOFTBALL FIELDS ALMOST READY

Finishing touches are being put on the first two softball fields at Canoa Preserve Park so they will be ready for the start of the season on January 2.

The second dugout has been installed and crews are working on the backstops. Sod on one of the fields has been mowed already and the second field is also ready.

Gravel has been placed for a temporary parking area until funding is available for permanent paving.

BAJA has purchased mats that will be used for the batting box/home plate area. Mats like these are used on fields to prevent the inevitable holes in the batters boxes.



Calendar

January 13, 2013
Welcome Back Party

January 22, 2013
BAJA Annual Meeting
4:30 p.m. at Triple Play

February
Hazardous Waste Collection

February 24
BAJA Night at the Gaslight

March 5, 2013
Miniature Golf Party

March 17, 2013
Bye-Bye Birdie Party

BAJA BOWLING LEAGUE

We will start the new season of BAJA Bowling on Thursday, January 3rd. We would like to have all teams there by 5:30 pm that night as we have to go over the rules and things before we start at 6:00pm.

We are very excited this year as we have 11 teams. We are still looking for anyone that would like to bowl with us as we have room for two more people to fill the last team.

So give me a call at 399-0785 and come out and have some fun.

Thanks,
Lu Meier



BAJA GOLF

Canoa Hills and San Ignacio, have now re-opened as San Ignacio North and South.

BAJA is still negotiating with the courses - stay tuned for more news!

BAJA GASLIGHT THEATER

Please join us for a wonderful evening of fun at the Gaslight Theater on Sunday, February 24, 2013. This is the first time that BAJA has reserved the entire Theater.

All BAJA members and guests are invited. Tickets will be \$13.00 each. So if you are inviting a group of guests to the Theater this year sign up for BAJA night, February 24, 2013. Reservations are available. Please complete the reservation form in this Newsletter. Remember - reservations are on a first-come, first assigned basis.

Any questions? Call Jim Hill at 520 625 9577

Old Goats

A Group from Green Valley was traveling by tour bus through Wisconsin. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used. She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing.

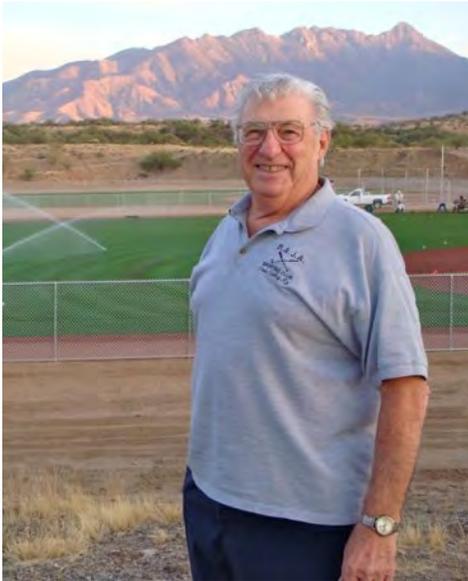
'These' she explained, 'Are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce.'

She then asked, 'What do you do in Green Valley with your old goats?'

A spry old gentleman answered, 'They send us out to play BAJA softball!'



Photo by Dave Hyslop



*Chuck Catino - The father of our new fields.
photo by Wendy Towne*

Support the Field of Dreams

Funding is still necessary for the BAJA priorities at the softball complex.

Approximately \$50,000 will cover it for now. Lets see how much we can get done by the end of this tax year and in 2013.

In regard to the dog park, which will be addressed next, the cost will be about \$110,000. We are looking for funds donated for the dog park. All you dog owners, please help. There will be a section for each - large dogs and small dogs.

I am an eternal optimist -- I'm hoping to get this completed by May!

Please make tax-deductible donations to

Pima County Parklands Foundation,

BAJA Project #137

c/o Gregoria Tucker,

3500 West River Road

Tucson AZ, 85741

Please pass the word about the new Park to increase awareness so the community will continue to fund the other park amenities.

Thank you! Chuck Catino

BAJA Sporting Club
PO Box 1341
Green Valley, AZ 85622