

The Wildwood Highlander

Issue No. 3

PO Box 87 Datil, New Mexico 87821

January- February 1999

WINTER WONDERLAND

Winter is a special time to visit Wildwood Highlands. The air is crisp and clear. The canopy of night jewels flashing brilliantly from the heavens are something to be pressed into memory and recalled for later enjoyment. Let the children experience the Milky Way as something more than a candy bar. When it has finished snowing, the crystals reflect the morning light as a field of diamonds. If the hassles of gearing up for a cold weather camping trip seem overwhelming, there are two lodging facilities in Datil to make your visit simple and pleasurable. Pack a picnic and hike to your heart's content. Roam your land, drink in the view, pick up a set of antlers or an arrowhead to take home. When your day is done, you can have a hot shower and sleep in a real bed.

BUZZARDS ROOST LODGE

(505-772-5954) 201 Main St. in Datil offers a wonderful converted house that sleeps eight. There are two bedrooms with a bathroom, kitchen, and family room. The rate from October 1 thru February is \$26 for one and \$7 for each additional person. What a great place for grandparents to relax while the more active members of the family adventure out into the area. It also allows people not used to the high elevation to take it easy.

March 1st thru September 30th *The Buzzards Roost* is a registered hostel. The rate is \$12 per person with shared facilities. Arrangements can be made for groups at the hostel rates.

The Buzzards Roost also offers a drop-off laundry and a gift shop. The gift shop has many Native American items including, but not limited to, jewelry and Acoma Pottery. There are candles, souvenir items, alien babies, toys for kids, and Watkins products among other things.

Mitzi Chevalier, the proprietress, also is the creative force behind the *Datil Sign Shop* adjacent to the lodge. Spend some time with her and custom design a western-style sign for your Wildwood Highlands hideaway.

EAGLE GUEST RANCH

(505-772-5612) owned and operated by the Coker family, is located in Datil at the junction of Highways 12 and 60. They offer motel style rooms.

All but one room have two double beds. Their rates run \$32.50 for a single and \$5 per extra person.

If you want to visit in your home away from home RV, Eagle Guest Ranch can put you up. Spreading trees shade the grass of the RV park. Eagle Guest Ranch offers full hook-ups for \$12 per night.

A hop, skip, and half a jump away from your room or the RV park is the Eagle Guest Ranch Cafe. The rustic dining area is decorated with ranching memorabilia, mounted game heads and a large stone fireplace. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are available, as well as a small bar. Closed Sundays.

Attached to the cafe is a store that locals fondly call "The Mall" or "Coker's." Small, but much more inclusive than the usual gas station convenience store, it offers fresh meat cut to your order. The



store and gas station are also closed on Sundays.

There is no excuse now not to spend some off-season time on your land. Valentine's weekend is approaching, time for a tryst without the kids. Presidents' Day offers a 3-day getaway. Later on comes Memorial Day weekend and the annual landowners association general meeting before the summer season starts.

TIME TO DO DUES

January is here. Along with those holiday bills in your mailbox, you're also going to find one from the Wildwood Highlands Landowners Association. Annual assessments of \$50.00 per lot are due January 31st of each year. Getting your fees paid on time will allow the board to budget for necessary projects (road work). It will also avoid the \$3.00 per month late charge. From here in Wildwood Highlands, we wish you and your families a very Happy New Year.

Kathy Kanely, treasurer

(If you have any question regarding your membership dues, Kathy can be reached at tewa@gilanet.com or at 505-772-5120)

If you let other people do it for you, they will do it to you.

Robert Anthony

The general membership meeting and election of the next Board of Directors will be in May. It is not too early to start thinking about taking your turn on the BOD. You don't need to live in Datil to participate. There needs to be two people available to sign a check in

an emergency and that is all. Making the drive here for a meeting or two during the year is a wonderful excuse to take time to enjoy your property, and to make personal connections with some other landowners. A BOD position also looks great on a resume under community activities or volunteer work.

There are several interesting items that will be discussed at the next general meeting.

* Roads are an issue. Do we just maintain the roads "as is," or do we embark on a long-term plan for road improvements?

*What about the new Sugarloaf subdivision? How do we handle the traffic from the four roads cut into Wildwood Highlands by the developer? Lots 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 73, 77, and 78 are now corner lots. Landowners in Sugarloaf and the developments southwest of WH plan on using our roads as a shortcut. Should we gate those roads? Do we leave them open and ask that other associations help pay for maintenance? Is this a good opportunity to connect with neighbors in other developments and the four new roads are no big deal?

*How pro-active should the BOD be?

Should the board take action only for emergencies and covenant infringements, or should it be more pro-active and set policies on its own? Let your opinions be heard at the annual general meeting.

Horse Mountain Round-Up

This is the name of the new column in the *Magdalena Mountain Mail* dedicated to the subdivisions around Datil. It is written by Ann Boulden of Boondocks Ranch in Old Thomas Place I. Ann, husband Lucky, and daughter Annette raise Arabian horses. Ann is an artist whose paintings have been shown in juried exhibits around the Southwest. Ann hopes that her column will help foster a sense of community between Datil and the subdivisions that surround it. If you have any news or special occasions that you would like to share, give Ann a call at 505-772-5634.

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR YEAR OF THE RABBIT

People born in 1927, '39, '51, '63, '75, '87, and '99 are rabbits. Have a great year.

Gail Stubbs, WHLA secretary



A spectacular sunset at Wildwood Highlands !