

VISTAS

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ELDORADO COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 • 505 466-4248 • www.eldoradosf.org

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Cowboys & Cattle on Eldorado Range

The days of cowboys and cattle in Eldorado seems like stories from our bygone past. But ranching is alive and well in Santa Fe County, where “free range” is still the law. That means cattle are free to roam wherever they please, and it’s up to property owners to fence them out. In the 400 area of the Eldorado Community Preserve, several neighbors still run cattle. Beginning in late 2019, reports started to come in that cattle had been spotted in the Preserve by hikers and mountain bikers.



That’s why I found myself riding one gray, blustery morning in January in the Preserve with the local New Mexico Livestock Board Brand Inspector, Donald Maestas, and his assistant, looking for cattle. Just past where the powerline crosses the 403 trail, the horses’ ears went up. Sure enough, up ahead, there they were: several small, red and white cows and calves, of no particular breed, grazing and making themselves at home on what used to be the Lamy Ranch.

We fanned out to gather the herd and hold them so Donald could get a look at their brands. Once he saw what brand they carried, he would contact their owner and require the owner to come round up his or her livestock. But as we cantered closer to the now concerned and mooing cows, the mystery deepened: none of the cattle were branded.

We counted 30 head of cattle that cold afternoon, including pregnant cows and cows with young calves at their sides, older calves and some large steers (fortunately, we didn’t

spot any bulls). It was clear from their tracks and dung that they’d been pasturing on Eldorado land for some time.

Donald had a plan and knows this area well. After the ride, he called a rancher whose family has lived on Glorieta Mesa for generations. Hearing Donald’s description of the unusual cattle, the rancher knew who they belonged to: an eccentric local with a reputation for letting his cattle graze on property that doesn’t belong to him. Donald called the owner and gave him 10 days to remove his cattle from the Preserve or else the State would impound them.

Two weeks later, on a slightly warmer day in February, James A. Mason (chair of the Eldorado Road Committee) and I rode into the Preserve again to check the fence line, and find out if the cattle were gone. Again, we had special permission from the Conservation Committee and the ECIA, since horses are not allowed in the 400 area of the Eldorado Preserve.

Following the cattle tracks from the area around the 403 trail, past the Hidden Canyon trail, we didn’t find any cattle. We did find that the fence had been cut in the far southeast corner of the 400 area. Sure enough, a very well-beaten cattle path led through the gap in the fence and onto land owned by the State of New Mexico (the owner of the cattle does not own property adjoining the Eldorado Preserve). James and I repaired the fence and reported back to the Conservation Committee.

Problem solved? Not quite yet: on March 25 hikers reported another small herd of cattle in the 400 area of the Preserve, this time wandering in from the west, Galisteo Creek, side. The Conservation Committee plans to do a more substantial repair in the area where the fence was cut, and patrol the area regularly. They urge all hikers and cyclists in the Preserve to report any cattle sightings to **Mike Rogers**, ECIA Operations Manager, 505 466-4248, MRogers@hoamco.com. Hopefully, the excitement of cattle drives, cowboys and cut fences won’t continue to trouble the Eldorado Preserve in the future.

—Article and Photos, Amelia Adair,
Chair, Eldorado Stable Committee



Board Actions and Summary April 20

As was announced, the April ECIA Board of Directors Meeting was held via Zoom. HOAMCO staff including General Manager Julie Navarro, Facilities Manager Mike Rogers, Pool Manager Jessica Collins and Executive Assistant Rachel Turnbough provided updates on personnel changes; the new truck purchase and sale of the old truck to John Gervers for use when trimming trees throughout the community; parking lot lighting; hike and bike path maintenance; the ECIA entrance wall damage; the dog park annex and the pool. For a full report on the HOAMCO update, please go to the minutes which can be found on the ECIA website.

President Nancy Sulzberg, Vice President Melicent D'Amore, Secretary Carol Sanguinetti, Director David Sorkin, and Treasurer Sal Monaco, reviewed and approved the following motions:

- to affirm motions 1–12 presented at the March Board Session (see April *Vistas*)
- to affirm 57 Encantado Loop fence variance and 2 Cerrado Way chicken coop variance presented at the March Board Session (see April *Vistas*)
- to appoint Barb Kastner to HOAMCO Review Task Group
- to affirm electronic vote to install a water softener at pool; the purchase is under \$5000 and therefore can be handled by ECIA's preferred vendor, Matt Topp. The purchase and work will be expedited so that it can be completed without need for schedule adjustment.
- to appoint Amelia Adair to Finance Committee
- to appoint Sandra Young to the Ad Hoc Welcome Committee
- to appoint Paul Ingraham to the Roads Committee
- to accept the resignation of Steve Taratula from the Architecture Committee

Variances were approved:

- for a small accessory structure that is more than 15 feet from the home and more than 9 feet tall; the 19 Encantada Loop structure is at a distance of 25 feet from the home and 10 feet tall
- for a detached office structure that is 29 feet from the home at 1 Mimosa Road

Variance was not approved:

- for a post and wire fence built without ECIA approval at 9 Herrado Court that exceeds the 4000-foot limit by 1604 feet

Melicent D'Amore updated the community on the Policy Review Task Group. Her report is attached to the minutes. Monty VanderMay reported on the HOAMCO Review Task Group which is finalizing a resident survey, an RFP to management associations and contract. David Sorkin announced that the Website Task Group will be put on hold until ECIA determines the choice of management companies. And finally, Debra Denker let the community know about the resources and focus of the Safety Education Task Group.

The **annual meeting** will still be held on **May 4**. The meeting will be through Zoom and will be abbreviated to include the election outcomes, the confirmation of quorum and the acceptance of last year's meeting minutes. The July 4th community celebration will include some of the annual meeting's traditional awards. The president also announced that the Board of Directors is currently doing a search for legal counsel. Paul Butt, Chair of the Conservation Committee presented a report on their purpose and priorities, along with an update on the preserve violations. His report is attached to the meeting minutes.

Thirty-two members of the community signed into the meeting and were able to ask questions and express their concerns about ECIA roads, equipment purchases, HOAMCO personnel changes and dog park expectations. To allow for community viewing, the meeting was recorded; the staff are currently working to make the tape available. If you have expertise with this, please contact **Jessica Collins** at **505 466-4248**.

Thank you to all who participated and we hope to see you at the next meeting which will be held
Monday, May 18 at 5 PM.

ECIA Board meetings are open to the public. Complete minutes and agendas are available at the ECIA office or on the website: **www.eldoradosf.org**.

—Nancy Sulzberg,
ECIA Board President

ECIA BOARD & MANAGEMENT

Board: President Nancy Sulzberg, Vice President Melicent D'Amore, Treasurer Sal Monaco, Secretary Carol Sanguinetti, Director David Sorkin. There are two Board vacancies at this time.

Management: The ECIA is managed by HOAMCO. General Manager Julie Navarro, jnavarro@hoamco.com
Monthly report available at **www.eldoradosf.org** under Resident Resources.

Watching Our Community Rise Above

Optimism ... the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the good parts of a situation, or a belief that something good will happen. [Cambridge Dictionary].

Though it has clearly been difficult to maintain such a perspective in these times, for that reason alone it is most important to have some optimism. Watching our community rise to this unprecedented situation affirms



Eldorado residents as generous and caring. We are extremely fortunate to live among such compassionate and kind neighbors.

It is for those neighbors that the Board of Directors, HOAMCO staff and committee volunteers have diligently worked to keep the business of ECIA moving forward. Until we are instructed otherwise from our state government, the pool

is scheduled to open **Memorial Day weekend**. Jessica Collins, Pool Manager, has been adjusting time tables and venues for lifeguard training and testing. The Mechanical Room work is completed and shade structures will be installed. If the pool's opening date must change, residents will be notified through e-blasts, marquees, staff voice mail messages and ECIA website home page.

As you read this in the May issue of *Vistas*, the election of Board Candidate David Sorkin and the vote to approve/disapprove of the Revised Bylaws has been completed. On **May 4**, there will be an abbreviated **virtual Annual Meeting** to announce the election results, to accept the minutes from last year's annual meeting and to verify a quorum was reached. Though we thought it might be possible to hold a more festive Annual Meeting on May 21, that will not happen. The revised plan is to celebrate with our neighbors and friends at the July 4th event when we can gather for fun and comradery.

Please remember that there is a **Board of Directors Meeting** every month, with the May meeting broadcast via Zoom on **May 18th at 5 PM**.

In the meantime, take care of yourselves and each other. Stay informed ... stay healthy. Show your optimism by sending rainbow photos to phenline@comcast.net.

—Nancy Sulzberg, ECIA Board President;
Photo by Melicent D'Amore

Resident Survey on HOAMCO Coming Soon

The members of the HOAMCO Review Task Group (Monty VanderMay, Amelia Adair, Ami Jaeger, Robert Christie and Barbara Kastner) are preparing a Resident Survey pertaining to HOAMCO that will be posted on the ECIA Website Home page in early May. ECIA e-blasts and Better Eldorado BE-blasts will announce the posting. The Resident Survey will be available for responses for two weeks.

The Task Group has reviewed the existing HOAMCO contract and will make recommendations to the Board of Directors that will help them negotiate with whichever management company is chosen.

The Board of Directors have been and are continuing to interview property management companies, including HOAMCO, and will be issuing a Request For Proposal [RFP].



Please watch for the date of the Town Hall Meeting in June. If you have questions about the review process only, send them to hoamcoreview@gmail.com.

—Monty K. VanderMay

Eldorado Mask Makers Distribute Free Face Masks

Eldorado Mask Makers (EMM) exists to coordinate the design, creation, and distribution of face masks in order to equip Eldorado residents with enhanced protection during the Coronavirus Pandemic of 2020.

EMM believes that supplying the community with handmade face masks can reduce vulnerability of Eldorado residents against the Coronavirus.

To order your free face mask, (available in men's, women's, and children's sizes) contact EMM via the EMM website: eldoradomaskmakers.weebly.com, or email: eldoradomaskmakers@gmail.com, or call Jenn Warren at 252 646-5671 or Jeanne Brown at 307 683-6066.

Eldorado residents are encouraged to donate time, funds, and/or supplies to help with manufacturing the masks.

Dogs Learn Social Distancing from Rattlesnakes

On Saturday, March 21, 70 new dogs came to the Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic for Dogs, along with a couple dozen returning alumni dogs. (Alumni dogs had their first training a year or more ago.) Seventy was a remarkable number. Unfortunately, some 35 dogs and handlers dropped out, not surprisingly given the advance of the COVID-19 virus and voluntary self-distancing.

Everyone did a great job of spreading out for each phase of the training. Self-registration on-site involved participants dropping off sealed envelopes with their info on the outside into a clean cooler enabling everyone to keep their distance. While the physical distance may have been greater than in past six years, the success of the dogs' avoidance behaviors was on full display.

Knowing that rattlers, along with other snakes, are due to come out in Eldorado in March and April, the timing of

this training was very important. With safety at a premium, knowing that dogs and handlers will be safe on their own in the environs of Eldorado is very reassuring.



First time dog goes nose-to-nose with a Diamondback Rattler.

The volunteer members of the Central New Mexico Brittany Club along with Terry Chandler and his granddaughter Athena, the clinicians, are grateful for the support of ECIA making the Community Center grounds again available for this clinic.

—Photo by Tom Mauter

In Our Troubled World—From the Heart

Swiss psychoanalyst Carl Jung, who founded analytical psychology, visited New Mexico in 1925 when he was 49 years old. He was deeply impressed by his encounter with the Taos Pueblo chief Ochwiay Biano. In Jung's later life memoir "Memories, Dreams, Reflections," he described the puzzlement the chief expressed at the Anglos and their restlessness. Never satisfied and always wanting something more, they appeared mad to the Pueblos. When Jung inquired as to what Chief Biano thought was causing this discontent he replied, "They say they think with their heads."

"Why of course. What do you think with?" Jung asked.

"We think here," the chief replied, pointing to his heart.

Jung was profoundly affected by this experience and wrote, "This Native man struck our vulnerable spot, unveiling a truth to which we are blind."

When we let the intelligence of the whole body, head, heart, and gut inform our thinking we see the world whole and we are wholly in the world.

—Lee Chiacos

RESOURCES IN ELDORADO

The ECIA Community Center Buildings are closed but staff may be reached at **505 466-4248**

To receive e-blasts with latest information, call or go to **www.eldoradosf.org**

TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT
for Democratic or Republican primary June 2:
NMvote.org

All information is subject to rapid change, please call to verify

CLOSURES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Ken and Patty Adam Senior Center

Home-delivered meals: Contact 505 992-3069

Max Coll Community Center

Vista Grande Public Library

El Dorado Community School

Many shops in the Agora and La Tienda

BUSINESSES WHICH ARE OPEN

(call for hours and options; this list is not complete)

El Dorado Supermarket 505 466-2602

Open 6 AM to 9 PM, Sunday 6 to 8 AM Seniors only

El Dorado Country Pet 505 466-1270

QuikSend 505 466-4604

Eldorado True Value Hardware 505 466-6502

Del Norte Pharmacy 505 216-0665

RESTAURANTS WHICH OFFER TAKEOUT

Arable 505 303-3816

Café Fina 505 466-3886

Pizza Centro 505 466-3161

La Plancha 505 466-2060

Thai Bistro 505 466-6760

Upper Crust Pizza 505 471-1111

If you think you have COVID-19: **1-855-600-3453**

Questions and NM help: **1-833-551-0518**

The Road Committee—Helping Improve Your Roads

Meetings of the Road Committee have been extremely productive and conducted in a cordial environment. The committee consists of Chair: James A. Mason; Secretary: Amelia Adair (Chair of the Stables Committee); Mel D'Amore (ECIA Vice President and committee liaison), Mike Rogers (HOAMCO staff representative), and Joseph Gutierrez (volunteering as County Liaison).

The first three meetings focused on researching road soil types, road slopes, and natural drainage systems within Eldorado. Soil types throughout Eldorado were assessed using the USDA National Soil Survey, <https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm>. Joel Pearson provided GIS mapping, working directly with SF County staff to generate maps covering Eldorado. Paul Ingraham worked on additional mapping. Road slopes and natural drainage systems were investigated using Google Earth Pro, which can plot cross-sections along specified paths like roads and greenways. Information about soil types and natural low points along a road can help pinpoint potential drainage problems.

Due to plummeting gas prices, the \$500,000 allocated for road work by the County has been reduced to \$150,000 carried over from last fiscal year.

The County's plan is to process, grade and re-compact the RAP prior to the placement of chipseal. This will result

in a much better road surface requiring little maintenance and will function just like a paved road. Due to temperature requirements, the County only chipseals during June through August. Funding will come from the County Road Maintenance Fund. Therefore, the work must be completed by June 30, 2020 due to the County's fiscal year ending July 1, 2020.

The Santa Fe County has listed five roads for work this year:

- Encantado Road (top priority)
- Camerada Loop
- Camerada Road East
- Cerrado Loop
- Encantado Circle

The Road Committee agrees with their list, with the additions of Mimosa Road (for gravel) and Espira Road, Dovela Court, Balsa Court and Domingo Road having drainage issues. The Road Committee is working with the County in prioritizing these roads.

The Road Committee, working with the Conservation Committee, hopes to find ways to utilize road surface rain run-off to water small eco-system basins at end runs of drainage ditches. Additionally, it is hoped Los Alamos National Laboratory can assist with a program to assess dust coming off the roads of Eldorado. The committee is looking for several motivated Eldorado neighbors who can help with analyzing road issues in our community. Please contact us at: roadchair1@gmail.com.

School is Still in Session

Just before Spring as teachers learned that the El Dorado Community School would be closed for the rest of the year, a teacher took some photos of a recent art project and study which involved mythical and magical creatures. Distance learning for all students has been active during all of April and continues until the school year ends. The website eldorado.sfps.info shows the busy schedules which are used to keep kids actively learning.



This creature was created by sixth grader Chloe Gessler using pieces cut from magazines and catalogues.



COST-EFFECTIVE WAYS TO SECURE YOUR RESIDENCE

MAY TIP: LOCK YOUR LOCKS

You need to actually use your locks, including doors that lead outside, as well as all windows. Burglars look for a home with easy access; most break-ins happen through the front door or a first-floor window. Even when you're home, keep your doors and windows locked. Though you consider your neighborhood safe, you never know when an outsider will come looking for easy targets.

Successful Coexistence with Eldorado's Snakes

Note that all presentations may be canceled—please check websites and e-blasts for latest status.

Tom Wyant, snake guru, educator, mentor and advocate, will be at **La Tienda's Performance Space May 2 from 9 to 11 AM** to discuss characteristics, coexistence, how we can deal with indigenous snakes in Eldorado, and why they are truly our friends and deserve our help.



Tom Wyant, left, and assistant Alex Patia, right

“When overnight temperatures are consistently above 45°F, snakes will be out and about,” he says. Snakes are cold-blooded—the scientific term is ectotherms—and rely on external sources for heating and cooling, he explains.

“They like warm road surfaces, where they routinely become fatalities. Snakes cross roads at all hours, but you’ll often see them—or, not see them, actually—at night and in the mornings.” Eldorado has posted WATCH FOR WILDLIFE signs at several wildlife-active locations but snakes will cross roads anywhere.

Like us, snakes are attracted to food, water, and shelter. Food and water intended for birds will attract rodents as well as snakes and other predators. Snakes are valuable because they manage our rodent populations by eating them. When we put out rodenticides, poison for mice and rats, snakes become secondary victims. Several non-toxic options available for rodent control will not harm our native snake and predator populations.

“Avoid glue traps,” Tom cautions, “Snakes captured on glue traps cannot get free. They often tear away their own skins while trying to free themselves.” Similarly, he cautions against garden netting and chicken wire. “These can entangle snakes; they often die from exposure. If you use any screening, it should be ¼” or smaller mesh.”

If you prefer that a snake in your yard moves someplace else, Eldorado Snake Relocation Volunteers can help. They are specifically trained, with special attention to rattlesnakes, and are the best choice to respond quickly to snake concerns. The snake needs to be alive and kept under observation until a volunteer arrives. You can contact **Lyn deMartin** at **505 603-0250** for this snake relocation service. Donations in any amount will help the New Mexico Wildlife Center. Tom will also host a presentation at the **Wildlife Center** in Santa Fe on **May 16, from 10 AM to noon**.

—Photo by J E Newman

EACA FALL AND WINTER—HOPEFULLY THE SHOW WILL GO ON

Eldorado Artists Still Creating Beauty



Stephanie Levy creates unique jewelry in her Eldorado studio.

The Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association (EACA) has scheduled their **Fall Show** for **October 23rd and 24th** at **St. Johns Church**. The EACA is sincerely hoping to host this show, but without a crystal ball to tell us how the pandemic will be doing, we will have to wait and see. Everyone is on “hold mode”,

and probably no one can yet predict one way or another. Needless to say, EACA will be keeping you posted via Vistas and our website, www.eldoradoarts.org. This also relates to the Winter Show, so look for information about that on the website as well. It was a heartbreaking decision to cancel the Studio Tour in May. The brochure is on our website as well as videos of a few of our artists advertising that Tour. It’s just sad that the 2020 Studio Tour was not a reality. However, via the arts website and the brochure, individual artists may be contacted.

So, Eldorado, stay safe and at home. EACA will let you know our schedules as soon as they can be determined, and don’t forget to check our website.

—Kim Crickard,
Eldorado Arts and Crafts Association President;
Photo by Lisa Leonard

May 2020 Meetings

Community Center closed indefinitely. Meetings may be canceled or held via Zoom.

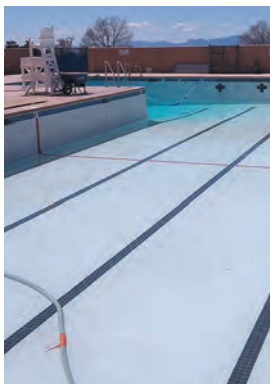
ECIA Committee	Architecture Committee	Tuesday	12, 26	3–5 PM	Katherine Mortimer	architecturechair@gmail.com
	Board Meeting	Monday	18	5 PM	ECIA Board	505 466-4248
	Conservation Committee	Tuesday	5	7–9 PM	Paul Butt	conservationchair@gmail.com
	Election Committee	Wednesday	13	3–5 PM	Bette Knight	electionchair1@gmail.com
	Facilities & Grounds	Wednesday	6	10 AM–12:30 PM	Nolan Zisman	fandgchair@gmail.com
	Finance Committee	Tuesday	12	9:30 AM–12 Noon	Dan Drobnis	financechair1@gmail.com
	Information Committee	No Meeting. Business conducted via email.			Pam Henline	informationchair@gmail.com
	Road Committee	Wednesday	6	5:30–7 PM	James Mason	roadchair1@gmail.com
	Stable Committee	Tuesday	19	7–9 PM	Amelia Adair	stablechair1@gmail.com
Monthly/Semi-Monthly	Bridge	1st/3rd Fridays	1, 15	1–4:30 PM	DiAna Gutierrez	505 699-3555
	EACA	CANCELED			Kim Crickard	VP@eldoradoarts.org
	Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wednesday	20	3–5 PM	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net
	El Dorado School Community Garden	3rd Tuesday	19	6–7 PM	Carol Robles	info@eldoradoschoolcommunitygarden.com
	Healing Arts Practitioners	2nd Tuesday	12	4–5:30 PM	Laurie Sandman	lsandman9@comcast.net
	Life Drawing	Alt. Mondays	4, 18	10 AM–12 Noon	Mavis Murphy	505 466-8189
	MELT	Thursdays	7, 14, 21, 28	11 AM–12 Noon	Maureena Bivins	info@maureenabivinsacupuncture.com
	Neighbors Helping Neighbors	1st Tuesday	5	6–7 PM	Michael Landen	505 466-8896
	Santa Fe Model Railroad Club	CANCELED			Bob 505 466-4970	santafemodelrailroadclub.org
	Spinning Group (Fiber)	1st/3rd Thursdays	7, 21	10 AM–12 Noon	Ellen Higgins	casaladerabe@gmail.com
Weekly	AA	Tuesdays		5:45–6:45 PM	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA (Women Only)	Thursdays		6–7 PM	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	AA	Fridays		6–7 PM	505 982-8932	santafeaa.org
	Al Anon	Saturdays		11 AM–12 Noon	505 473-0101	nmal-anon.com
	Breathing Meditation	Tuesdays		1:45–2:45 PM	505 466-3137	sprussel@sjc.edu
	Eldorado Hikers	Tuesdays		8:30 AM–12 Noon	Terry Gibbs	505 466-6914
	Group Meditation	Saturdays		1–3 PM	Ann Maes	amaesnm@gmail.com
	Knitting Club	Tuesdays		10 AM–12 Noon	Joyce Hanmer	505 466-3018 joycehan@msn.com
	Overeaters Anonymous	Mondays		7–8 PM	Barb	505 954-1533
	Ukulele Class	Wednesdays		2–4 PM	Hazel Jordon	ukehazel@gmail.com
	Yin Yoga	Mondays		5:30–6:45 PM	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Vinyasa Flow	Tuesdays & Fridays		9–10:15 AM	Julia Cairns	505 466-1935
	Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Wednesdays & Thursdays		9–10:15 AM	Mary Horst	505 490-2790

Send calendar event information to GM@eldoradosf.org.

Events are verified as of April 21, please sign up for ECIA Newsbriefs by emailing rturnbough@hoamco.com to be notified of changes.

Pool Should be Ready—When Opening is Allowed

Happy spring, swimmers! With all that is going on in our world—including being closed off to activities—it seems the opening of the pool cannot come soon enough! Though we will continue to monitor what is going on



in society and plan accordingly, we continue to move forward with Phase Two pool renovations. The mechanical room has new equipment installed and the plaster patches on the bottom of the pool are complete. As this article is being written, the pool is filling with water. The shade structures are in the process of being installed and they will tie the aesthetics of the pool area together.



Online lifeguard training has begun and when able, we will hold the pre-course skills assessment and begin in-person training. Our pool will be available for use when Federal and State restrictions are lifted.

—Article and Photos, Jessica Collins,
Pool Manager

*We fight the virus:
all together, kill it now!
also, greed and hate.*

Mission Statement The mission of the monthly newsletter, *Vistas*, is to inform members of the ECIA about issues before the Board of Directors, various committees, and the office staff. Also, any events happening in Eldorado or the surrounding areas that may be of interest may be included. The publication seeks to foster increased neighborhood pride and community participation in the decision-making process.

Editorial Policy *Vistas* welcomes factual and objective submissions, which will be selected and edited at the discretion of the Information Committee and Board of Directors. Community announcements and articles of interest to homeowners are welcome, along with photos. Submissions are due on the fifth of the month preceding publication. For help with any article, see the *Vistas* Style Guide posted on ECIA website, www.eldoradosf.org.

Small Storage Structures in Eldorado

Over the past five years many residents have placed Small Storage Structures (SSS) on their lots, which vary in size from large chests to taller sheds that are frequently made of resin. Due to their visibility to neighbors and proliferation in Eldorado, the ECIA in 2017 decided to address these structures in the Guidelines.

The 2017 updated version of the Eldorado Guidelines for Protective Covenants classified buildings as Small Storage Structures, provided they are less than 75 square feet in size and 8 feet in height. Structures larger than 75 square feet in size are classified as a true Small or Large Accessory Buildings and subject to the requirements in Section 8 and 9 of the Guidelines.

Under these updated Guidelines all such SSS are required to be earth toned in color (similar to the home's stucco color) and must be adequately screened by a fence, wall, vegetation or the home itself and located within 15 feet of the home. SSS, usually made of resin, wood or metal, can be painted to match the color of the home, and should be located where they are least visible to neighbors. This can be seen in the two photos.

All homeowners should be aware that storage structures larger than 75 square feet in size are classified as a Small or Large Accessory building, subject to Section 8 and 9 of the Guidelines. The requirements for these structures can be found on the Eldorado website at this link: <https://www.eldoradosf.org/document/2017%20Guidelines%20for%20Protective%20Covenants%20Board%20Approved%20FINAL.pdf>.

Please call Mark Young at the ECIA at 505 466-4248 with any questions or e-mail him at: myoung@hoamco.com.



Unpainted Small Storage Structure.



Properly painted Small Storage Structure.

—Article and photos, Mark Young



NEWSBRIEFS: For the latest information from ECIA, please sign up for newsbriefs, (ECIA's electronic mailing system) by contacting rturnbough@hoamco.com.



RECYCLE: Help ECIA go green! Save on paper and mailing costs by opting out of receiving a mailed copy of *Vistas*. To sign up, email rturnbough@hoamco.com. You will be sent an email once a month with a link to the next issue of *Vistas* on the ECIA website, in pdf format, ready to view and print at home. Past issues are also available online. This paper is recyclable. Please recycle after use.