

POKING AROUND PENDARIES



October 26, 2025



Autumn Days in Pendaries

The park is nearly empty and the aspens have lost their leaves. The days are getting shorter and, in the evening, darkness settles over the park sooner than we like. At night, we feel like we're living in a spooky little cabin in the woods. Then, the daytime comes and the sunshine fills the forest with light and warmth and we savor the beauty of autumn.



Autumn Photos

Just a few scenes of autumn in Pendaries. This fall, the aspens went through their color change somewhat differently than is typical. The earliest of the aspen leaves started changing mid-September and gradually changed in waves over the next few weeks. Then, one day in early October, the wind was so fierce it blew most of the leaves off and also dumped a ton of pine needles on the ground. That was pretty much it for autumn leaves.

Pictured below:

Line 1: Coffman's lot with the one red aspen in the park —so vivid! Arellano's aspens always put on a lovely display thanks to plenty of TLC from Gil & Janice.

Line 2: The Simmons' aspens grew a lot this year and put on a colorful display. Cuaron's trees are always gorgeous, but they changed in waves this fall, so some were bare while others still had golden leaves.

Line 3: The strong wind totally covered all the game courts in pine needles and even blew over the benches. BTW, you can see the new pickleball court fence in the bottom left photo. The fence is to protect players from accidentally running off the steep edge of the court. A bonus benefit is keeping the balls from rolling down the hill.



Activities

October brings the annual “Soup Supper” and this year didn’t disappoint. About 20 folks enjoyed a dozen varieties of soup along with cornbread, crackers and dessert. It was a chilly, drizzly Friday, but then Saturday brought sunny weather, so a round of Shuffleboard ensued.

Top: Soup Supper participants — Tim Isom, Chuck Harbit, Charla Yost, Laura Lee Isom, Wayne Whipkey, Virginia Whipkey, Johnnie Strouse, Lee Gann, Wanda Smith, Arael Christall, Gene Strouse, Marty Isom, Kathy Fehlberg, Tim Isom, Jr., Art Smith and Art & Wanda’s family (daughter Shanna Thomas, grandson Kyle & great-grand-baby.) Thanks to DJ Sword for the group photo.

Bottom: Shuffleboard players — Shanna Thomas, Wanda Smith, Arael Christall, Kathy Fehlberg, Leslie Conrad, DJ Sword and the Smith’s grandson, Kyle & great-grandson.



Changes

Several additions/modifications have happened the past couple of months.

Line 1: Lee Gann (2 Blue Jay) bought a new park model and it was made at the factory with a porch that was ready to enclose once delivered. It only took a day to enclose — amazing!

Line 2: Chuck Harbit (76 Clubhouse) had his park model skirting completed and added a ramp & stairs.

Melanie Sweet (77 Clubhouse) had a deck and ramp built.

Line 3: Ernie & Joyce Cuaron (11 Magpie) added a carport.

Marty Isom (2 Magpie) is enclosing his front porch.



More Changes

Line 1: Anthony & Corina Chavez (53 Blue Sky) had a new covered deck added.
Garry & Carley Snider (46 Blue Sky) had a new pavilion built.

Line 2: New owners, David & Yolanda Anaya (53 Clubhouse) had Gerard Garcia build up the back of the lot to give it more usable space.

Line 3: Clark & Rhetta Riley (41 Clubhouse), doing all the work themselves (with a few helpers) added a new covered deck.



A Trip Down Memory Lane: Snow Day Fun!

The weather has been so warm this fall that it is hard to believe that October usually brings the first snowstorm of the season. Here is a photo from October 23, 2019 when Pendaries got 5" of snow. There were about 30 people in the park, including a couple of folks who came from Texas just to see the snow. Many of them showed up for the group picture that was taken in the parking lot of the Clubhouse.

Pictured below are: Glen McCullough, Mary Davis, Cindy McCullough, Marsha Ankeney, Connie & Lee Gann, Judith Decerbo (and yes, that New England girl was wearing shorts), Bobby Yost, John Garcia, Mimi Ott, Charla Yost, Debra Underwood, Frank Williams, David Ankeney, Ling Abell, Slim & Linda Evans, Tom Berry, Wanda Smith, Ron Abell and Art Smith.





Thanksgiving Potluck

Thanksgiving is on Thursday, Nov. 27 and there will be a Thanksgiving potluck meal to be held in the Pendaries RV Clubhouse. The time is usually around 2pm (TBD). If you plan to attend, please **RSVP by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7th** so a menu can be organized. **Text** your RSVP to TC Haynes at (505) 681-9003 or Jerri Hudson at (505) 681-9053.



Grrr...

Yes, those wild cosmos flowers (on left) are ever so pretty as they dot the forest floor with delicate blooms of pink and purple. But, in the fall, as most pet owners know, their seeds (shown at right) become double-pointed, needles from hell. Those devil seeds are excellent hitchhikers and grab onto pants, shoes, socks and pet fur and hang on for dear life — only releasing when they get inside your house and on your carpet, rugs and in your bed.



About the Writer/Editor/Publisher/Photographer

Chris Williams is the writer/editor/publisher of the Pendaries Newsletter (PAP). She and her husband, Frank, have lived full-time in Pendaries since 2011. In addition to the Newsletter, she shares Pendaries photos on the PLOA website and takes portrait photos for the Pendaries Photo Directory.

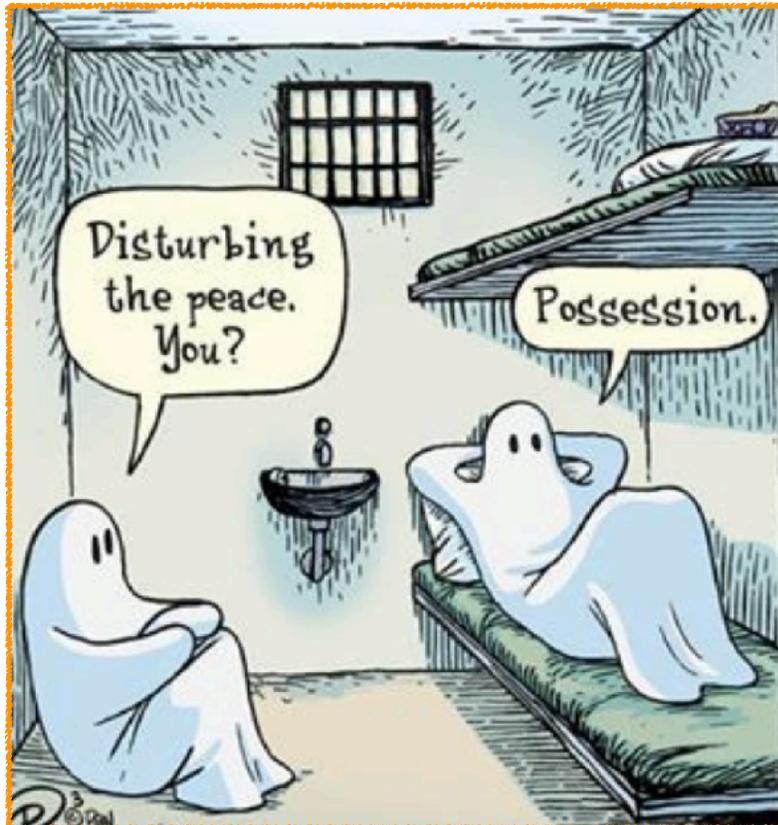
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PLOA Youtube link: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLfm5OjIV49PIOUtpBTfJm3FQxh8yH5LXQ>



To Brighten Your Day



Exercise should be more like Trick-or-Treating: Walk 20 feet, get a piece of candy, walk 30 feet, get another piece of candy, walk 15 feet, get a piece of candy...



SNARKECARDS

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER SEEN A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AUTUMN



IT IS TRULY STUNNING!

It's finally October, which means all of the cobwebs and dust in my house just became Halloween decorations.

