

Red Mountain Ranch Up Close

Bringing neighbors closer to their community

June 2010

Red Mountain Ranch Resident WINS DESIGN AWARD



By **Cheyl Bureson**

Red Mountain Ranch resident Karen Gregorio recently took home top honors in a regional kitchen design contest sponsored by Viking Appliances.

Karen was born in Arizona and graduated from Saguro High School and Arizona State University School of Business. She started at IBM, where she met her husband, Mike. In 1998, they built their own home, and Karen was bitten by the design bug! She enjoyed it so much she decided to learn kitchen design.

When Mike retired, the couple decided to move back to Arizona, and they settled in the Sienna Hills subdivision of Red Mountain Ranch. She went to work for a custom cabinetry shop, designing kitchens and cabinetry in high-end homes. After 4.5 years, she decided to take the plunge and strike out on her own. She never looked back.

In January, Karen entered a regional kitchen design contest sponsored by SunWest Appliance Distributing and TV show *Fine Wine and Design*. Each participant of the *Viking—Life of the Kitchen Design Contest* was required to enter three photos of a kitchen design featuring Viking appliances. Karen's entries were of varied styles, including the winner, a contemporary design featuring lots of stainless steel, sleek dark cabinetry and state-of-the-art appliances.

The night of the big event, five finalists displayed pictures of their work at a wine reception held at SunWest in Tempe. The finalists from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and California competed for prizes in two categories. Local celebrities and leaders in the kitchen design field judged the first award. Judges included Linda Barkman, editor of *Phoenix Home and Garden Magazine*; Chef Jon Paul Hutchins, from the Scottsdale Culinary Institute; Josie Jeward, president of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID); and

Denise Teichert, ASID designer and host of the TV show *Fine Wine and Design*.

The judges brought an arsenal of kitchen and design expertise to their task, naming Karen the grand prize winner! To add to her exciting evening, Karen also won the People's Choice award, which was voted on by the more than 200 reception attendees.

Prizes included a five-day, four-night trip to Capella Pedregal Resort in Cabo San Lucas, as well as one day on a private yacht and \$500. For the People's Choice, Karen won three days and two nights at The Inn on Oak Creek in Sedona and \$400. Of course, the prestige and recognition for her talent were the big prizes.

Karen specializes in cabinetry design and space planning. Besides the typical kitchens and bathrooms, her designs include offices, entertainment centers and outdoor kitchens. Her work has been featured in *Easy Chair Magazine*, *Kitchens.com*, *Arizona Foothills Magazine* and *Luxe Magazine*.

Designing and providing the cabinetry for Kurt Warner's guesthouse was a special assignment for her.

As an independent businesswoman, Karen likes to encourage others to find something they truly enjoy and make it a career. Finding it *later in life* only added to the enjoyment of her new venture.

If you would like to talk to Karen Gregorio about a new kitchen design, or renovating your old cabinets, call her at KG Cabinetry and Design, (480) 455-0072. ■

Red Mountain Ranch COUNTRY CLUB DEFIES DEFINITION

Submitted by **Marian McGill**

What is a club? According to Webster's dictionary, the definition is "A group of persons organized for a social, literary, athletic, political or other purpose."

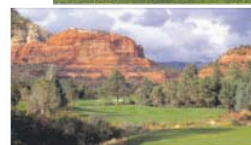
When describing a *country club*, some may go further and describe amenities, including golf course, pool, tennis courts, fitness center, dining options and clubhouse.

When members start talking about Red Mountain Ranch Country Club, however, definitions tend to go right out the window. You hear phrases like, *lifelong friendships, staff who care, friends who were there when I needed them, making memories everyday, camaraderie and the center of our social life.*

How do you put a definition on something so personal? More importantly, how can you live without it? Of course, Red Mountain Ranch Country Club boasts a pristine Pete Dye golf course, sparkling swimming pool, lighted tennis courts, fitness center and a Southwest-style casual clubhouse. However, these amenities merely provide the stage for the real heart of the club...its people.

The club is where you can get that same sense of community you had growing up in your old neighborhood, where life just seemed to happen, and you were all in it together. Life happens at Red Mountain Ranch Country Club. People gather to play golf, commemorate birthdays and anniversaries, take a yoga class, eat a steak dinner, get married, swim laps, teach their kids tennis, reminisce about the life of a departed loved one and dance the night away. This is the value of membership.

To become a part of the Red Mountain Ranch Country Club family, contact Marian McGill, membership director, at (480) 981-6501, or send an e-mail to mmcgill@rnrcc.com. ■



Above: The 18th hole at Red Mountain Ranch Country Club. Left: Seven Canyons golf course in Sedona.

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