



# SOMERSET ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Maximizing Home Values, Quality of Life, Positioning as Premier Community

## What's Up #28: July 1, 2019

### Local Cloud Spotting

Somerset Estates is situated 5,300 feet above sea level just a few miles east of the Rockies. As a result, **we often have the opportunity to see beautiful clouds**. Clouds come in a wide variety. Some appear frequently, others more rarely. We were recently treated to especially beautiful skies during the ten days between June 14th and 24th.

Perhaps the most common are 'cumulus' clouds over the foothills. These often form early in the day by warmth from the rising sun hitting the front range, warming the air and causing it to rise and cool at higher altitude. **This rising air condenses and forms the puffy white cumulus clouds like the ones seen June 20th**. These clouds appear throughout the spring, summer and fall.



*Cumulus over the Front Range*

Because of our location adjacent to high mountains, we occasionally witness more unusual phenomena. For example, light from the setting sun is sometimes partially blocked by the Continental Divide or thunderstorms to the west. On June 14th, a powerful thunderstorm grew to 56,000 feet over Granby. Although 35 miles west, **the tops of these towering clouds cast dramatic shadows producing picture perfect "crepuscular rays" or "God rays"** visible from Somerset Estates.



*Crepuscular Rays Over Somerset Estates*

On very rare occasions, crepuscular rays from the west illuminate mist and high clouds to the east. These "**anti-crepuscular rays**" are seen with the sun at **your back**. Nature gave us the remarkable display of this unusual phenomenon on June 19th.



*Rare Anti-Crepuscular Rays*

Our ideal location also means we have the opportunity to witness some of the strangest and most awe inspiring clouds. **"Lenticular" clouds are named for their lens shape and form downwind of large mountain ranges when high speed wind undulates up and down creating waves in the upper atmosphere.** Air flowing over the Rockies can create these oddities of the sky and we are in the perfect place to see the resulting cloud formations. Lenticular clouds formed over Somerset Estates on June 24th. They can occur day or night, but are especially memorable at sunset.



*Lenticular Clouds at Sunset*

Aside from creating lenticular clouds, **mountain waves can also affect aircraft.** Next time you are at cruising altitude on a commercial airplane and notice the engines periodically surging and falling quiet, look out the window. If you see these unusual clouds, you are hearing the engines keep the plane at a fixed altitude by alternately increasing power (loud) in downdrafts and decreasing power (quiet) in updrafts.

By staying in powerful mountain wave updrafts, **two pilots recently flew an unpowered glider above 76,000 feet**, a truly amazing feat.

We are truly fortunate to live in an area that affords us such beautiful sky views!

## **Culture of Cooperation Building**

As described in previous issues of What's Up, members of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) are available to help homeowners resolve matters among neighbors. In a recent situation, **the ACC helped two homeowners find a mutually acceptable solution** regarding the trimming and removal of landscaping to restore views. Once agreed upon, the terms of the arrangement were documented and the work performed.

If you would like the ACC to help you address a matter that involves landscaping or other improvements, please contact Larry Becker (LarryB@SomersetEstates-HOA.com). **Cultivating a "Culture of Cooperation" among Somerset Estates neighbors will enhance our community and serve all our best interests.**

# Summer Social: July 27!

We hope all Somerset Estates adult residents will join us for a Summer Social on July 27 from 6 to 9 pm at the home of Kamla and Kiran Chopra, 8449 Firethorn Court. Please plan to bring either an appetizer or dessert to share. **Watch your email for an electronic invitation and respond so we know you are coming!** Please contact Paula Hemenway at [p.hemenway@comcast.net](mailto:p.hemenway@comcast.net) with any questions or if you don't receive the invitation.

## ACC Courtesy Notice Update

As previously discussed in recent What's Up issues, members of the ACC surveyed the community by observing homes and landscaping from the street and from open spaces. Courtesy notices are being sent to note deviations from standards. **Thank you for your cooperation as we all work to improve the appearance of our community.**

## Welcome to Our New Neighbors



SEHOA's Welcome Committee is comprised of Richelle Burnett, Beth Ryan, Kamla Chopra and Anita Harris. The committee are now delivering welcome wishes and a gift basket comprised of locally procured items to our newest neighbors.

**To our new neighbors: WELCOME!**

## Upcoming Events at a Glance

There is a lot going on here in Somerset Estates! Make a note of the following preliminary dates and join in. These are all subject to change, so monitor the SEHOA website for any last minute schedule changes.

July 9, 6:30 pm - Regular **Board Meeting** at Niwot Fire Station

July 23, 6:30 pm - Regular **Board Meeting** at Niwot Fire Station

July 27, 6:00 pm - **Summer Social** at Kamla and Kiran Chopra's

August 13, 6:30 pm - **Regular Board Meeting** at Niwot Fire Station

August 27, 7:30 pm - **Board Meeting** at Hemenway home, 8428 Strawberry Lane

August 30, 11:15 am - **Book Club** at Nancy Mercer's - contact [p.hemenway@comcast.net](mailto:p.hemenway@comcast.net) for more information

## Phishing Scam: Be Careful

SEHOA was the target of a phishing scam recently. In this case, instructions to pay a bogus bill arrived disguised as a valid SEHOA email. Our financial controls and prudent care defeated the attempt, so there was no financial loss. In this time of fraudulent on-line risks, however, it bears repeating that we all need to be careful. **Information delivered by internet or by email can still be false... Always exercise reasonable prudence.**

## Contact SEHOA

Association Name and Address

Somerset Estates Homeowners Association  
P.O. Box 621  
Niwot CO 80544

#### Website

[SomersetEstates-HOA.com](http://SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

#### Property Management

[TrioProperty@comcast.net](mailto:TrioProperty@comcast.net)

#### Inquiries via email

[Info@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:Info@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

#### Board Members

Marc Arnold, President  
[Marc@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:Marc@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Bill Harris, Vice President  
[BillH@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:BillH@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Paula Hemenway, Secretary  
[Paula@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:Paula@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Herb McPherson, Treasurer  
[HerbM@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:HerbM@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Mark Jensen, At Large  
[MarkJ@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:MarkJ@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

## Committee Contacts

#### Architectural Control Committee

Larry Becker, Chairman  
[LarryB@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:LarryB@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Scott Abrahamson, Secretary  
[ScottA@SomersetEstates-HOA.com](mailto:ScottA@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

Barbara Stager  
BarbS@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Bob Uhler  
BobU@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

(send ACC requests to LarryB@SomersetEstates-HOA.com)

#### Social Committee

Richelle Burnett  
richelleburnett@gmail.com  
202-494-0961

#### Welcome Committee

Anita Harris, coloradoanita@gmail.com  
Richelle Burnett  
Kamla Chopra  
Beth Ryan

#### Water Committee

John Ryan, Chairman  
JohnR@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Bob Uhler  
BobU@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Marc Arnold  
Marc@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

Paula Hemenway  
Paula@SomersetEstates-HOA.com

## Anonymous Survey

Go ahead... tell us what you really think!

[Click to send an anonymous message to the board](#)

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