November/December 2008

We are a Fight Back Neighborhood!

Neighborhood Web Site http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/ phoenix/belair/

CALENDAR

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

COMMUNICATOR

Board Meeting	1/12
METRO Light Rail Begins	12/27
Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol & Block Watch Leaders Training. 7:30am-11:30am at the FOP Lodge #2, 12851 N. 19th Avenue, Phoenix. To RSVP call Mary Roestenberg at 602-495-6896. Any neighbor is welcome.	
Squaw Peak Block Watch Training	12/06
Board Meeting	12/01
Holiday Decorating (street posts)	11/29
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event at North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave. (SE corner Central/Bethany)	11/13 11/14 & 11/15
Neighborhood Walk Around (lighting) <i>See Page 3 for details!</i>	11/14
General Meeting 6:30 pm—8:00 pm	11/13
Bulk Trash Collection Begins	11/10
Placement Begins for Bulk Trash Pickup	11/01

You are invited to the

BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, November 13, 2008

6:30pm-8:00pm

American Evangelical Lutheran Church Gym (18th Avenue & Glenrosa)

Theme: Keeping Your Home Safe During the Holidays

Guest Speaker: Our Community Action Officer, Aaron Stevens

FREE Dinner Will Be Served

Hear the Latest Updates on the Fight Back Grant

New Bel Air Neighborhood Logo Will Be Revealed

FREE Giveaways for All Households Who Bring a Completed Phone Tree

Request Bel Air Residents Who Own a Business to Bring Brochures/Business Cards for a Bel Air Vendor Table

Do You Need A Large Print Copy? Call 602-647-2832

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BEL AIR BOARD

PRESIDENT Roshelle Johnson (602) 377-7304 crkjohnson@yahoo.com

VICE-PRESIDENT Virginia Anders (602) 265-8498 vcanders@cox.net

SECRETARY Carrie Frazer carriefraz@aol.com

TREASURER Don Hilton Masterdonaldhilton @yahoo.com

BOARD MEMBERS

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Charles Wilfong (602) 266-9342 uwilfong@aol.com



Editor: Carrie Frazer Articles and ads are due by the 20th of every other month to the editor by email, carriefraz@aol.com Bel Air Communicator is a bi-monthly publication.

General Fund Account:

Balance 8/31/08 No activity	\$1,277.20 \$0.00	Balance 8/31/08 - Insurance	\$5,209.38 \$877.20
Ending Balance 9/30/08	\$1,277.20	- Alley Lighting (APS)	\$749.93
_		- Alley Lighting (SRP)	\$820.80
Balance 9/30/08	\$1,277.20	- Alley Lighting (SRP)	\$368.27
+ Gain Raffle Proceeds	\$61.00	- Sep. Board Mtg. Rental	\$15.00
- Gain Expense	\$89.54	- Sep/Oct Newsletter	\$168.62
End Balance 10/31/08	\$1,248.66	- Oct. Board Mtg. Rental	\$15.00
		End Balance 10/31/08	\$2,194.56
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BelAir Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 8th, 2008

Location: Martin Luther School, Fireside Room

The meeting began at 8:05 pm.

In Attendance: Beverly Brown, Charles Wilfong, Robert McBane, Marney Redmond, Carolyn McBane, Roshelle Johnson, Theresa Martinez, Virginia Anders, and Carrie Frazer.

Roshelle Johnson presided over the meeting. She reported that Don Hilton was unable to attend due to a recent surgery.

Meeting Minutes

All present confirmed they received and reviewed the August Board Meeting Minutes. The August Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Roshelle read the following accounts' details from an e-mail she received since Don was unable to attend this meeting. They were: **General Fund Account** -Beginning Balance on 6/30/08 of \$1,249.20. No activity in July. Ad revenue of \$28 received in August. Ending Balance on 8/31/08 of \$1,277.20. **Block Watch Grant Account** – Beginning Balance on 6/30/08 of \$5,408.00. No activity in July. Expenditures of \$168.62 for July/ Aug. Newsletter, \$15 for July Board Mtg. Rental, and \$15 for Aug. Board Mtg. Rental in August. Ending Balance on 8/31/08 of \$5,209.38.

Fight Back

Lisa will be mailing the Fight Back update letter this week.

Block Watch Grant Account:

The overview of Fight Back Academy – final phase. This Fight Back Meeting was attended by Roshelle Johnson on 8/23/08, 8 a.m.-noon. A very strong emphasis was put on getting the youth involved.

Traffic Committee - Roshelle

The Speed Hump Installation Petition has been submitted to the City for Heatherbrae Drive. Petitioners are needed to contact neighbors within the petition boundaries for the Speed Hump Installation Petitions for Monterosa and 18th Avenue. Marney volunteered for the Monterosa petition. Virginia volunteered for the 18th Ave petition. Carrie volunteered as a backup. Roshelle passed out signage she received for our neighborhood at the Fight Back Meeting. They included "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" vard signs and stickers for placement on refuse containers. A Neighborhood Walk Around Event would require both city planning & police to attend. Due to current financial constraints, they would need to be invited during their "off duty" hours. November Saturdays (except for Thanksgiving week) may still be considered.

Community Enhancement - Theresa

GAIN Oct 18^{th} – The American Lutheran Church will allow the use of the kitchen and will also have an event at the same time. Starbucks may be asked to donate coffee. Beverly Brown suggested possibly seeking Food City donations. A 50/50 raffle was also discussed.

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BelAir Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Neighborhood Logo for Sign Toppers - A graphic artist designed lots of different logos. Four logos were presented. Two had a vintage "era" porch chair in the logos with two different fonts. The others had a "Jetsons"-style cluster-star with the same different fonts.

Community report – no report at this time.

Newsletter - Carrie

Marney Redmond will write her bio for this newsletter.

Virginia Anders will have an updated article for Yard Art tomorrow.

The next BelAir Board Meeting will be on:

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6th at 8 P.M. at the Fireside Room at Martin Luther School.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.



Hi Everyone,

Did you know that the Phoenix Police Department has a website? I bet most of you did, but for those that don't know about this it is a very valuable tool to keep you in the loop of what is going on. Crime suppression efforts are a top priority for the Police Department, as well as Budget, and other issues. You can view the website 24/7 and get updates on crimes and court cases. You can view the web site at http:// www.phoenix.gov/police/. Take a few minutes and view the site, surf around and read about what the Police Department is doing and what they are involved in. Check crime stats for your area. Listen to MP3 files of Chief Harris being interviewed by Jamie West on KTAR radio. Did you know that the Phoenix Police Department is on youtube? Check it out at http:// www.youtube.com/watch?v=Np3Argc-GFg. Or go to the website and read the Silent Witness area and follow the prompts to the youtube site. There is tons of information on the Phoenix Police Department website and it is updated often so add it to your favorites, and

FIGHT BACK COMMITTEE UPDATES

- <u>Community Enhancement Committee</u> Regarding the Bel Air GAIN Pancake Breakfast on Oct. 18th, a special THANK YOU to all of the cooks from the Enhancement committee for all of your help and donations for the breakfast. It was a great turnout and the food was really delicious! - Theresa Martinez
- Crime Committee The Phone Tree • One of the Crime Prevention Committee's goals is to establish a phone tree for each block in the BelAir neighborhood. City planners and the police departments around the country know that neighbors who know one another create safer neighborhoods. To accomplish this, we need to identify a work and/or home phone number, how many people and pets live in the household, and any other information that would be important in an emergency. For example, if the next door neighbor knows one of the people living next door uses oxygen or a wheelchair, that information can help the police or firemen focus a search for all family members. We want to have someone on each block to be responsible for gathering the information. We will tell you who on each block is going to participate in this project as we gather the names. If a neighbor comes by to ask for this information, you can contact me, Virginia Clifford Anders, at 602.265.8498, to verify that this person is your contact for your block.
- Preservation Committee

We are beginning a Quarterly Neighborhood Front Yard Award. Look for more details in the January/February newsletter.

<u>Traffic Committee</u>

Neighborhood WalkAbout -ALL neighbors are invited to a BelAir Neighborhood WalkAbout on November 14th at 7 p.m. Together we will pinpoint specific areas that may be enabling crime and need more lighting. We will meet at the American Ev. Lutheran Church's parking lot at 1830 W. Glenrosa Ave. Cookies & cocoa afterwards!

Ay, Chihuahua! by Virginia Clifford - Anders

Disney dog movies have always been fun. The current small dog film on the big screen, "Beverly Hills Chihuahua," even shows wonderful views of Mexico I hadn't ever seen. The happy ending has a serious tag line, which shows up also on the official website for the movie:

"Owning a pet is a major responsibility. Dogs require daily care and constant attention. Before bringing a dog into your family, research the specific breed to make sure it is suitable for your particular situation. Learn about and be willing to undertake the serious responsibilities of dog care. Always consider adoption from a reputable shelter or rescue program." Pets are not people. They cannot take care of themselves, nor are they meant to. When we bring them into our lives, too often we treat them like part of the furniture or exile them to the back yard on a chain. Fortunately, we can be trained to pay better attention to our companions. Here are some points to ponder. Allergies – Did you know that 15% of the human population is allergic to dogs or cats? There are **no** non-allergenic breeds, by the way. Even the hairless versions can cause severe allergic reactions. The amazing part is that about a third of those with allergies to cats, for instance, still own at least one cat. **Microchips** – In the past decade we have been able to get special microchips imbedded just under our pet's skin for quick identification in case they end up in the local pound. If the chip was produced before 2003, almost any scanner will read it. However, those made after 2003 only respond to scanners made by the chip's manufacturer. So if your dog has a chip, the local pound may not be able to read it, which means they don't know you are looking for this dog. That doesn't mean your dog isn't there, so don't wait for a call.

Chains – The U.S. Department of Agriculture published a warning that continuous or long-term chaining of a pet is inhumane. Dogs are social creatures. When isolated by the restriction of a chain, they become anxious and unhappy. Dogs, as with humans, have a fight-or-flight response. A domestic breed won't attack, normally. However, a dog may react aggressively to someone walking too near because the chain prevents them from fleeing. According to the Humane Society website, a chain can cause skin sores or even become imbedded in a dog's skin.

Training – Dogs do not automatically know the house rules. They need to learn some basic manners for living with you. Responding well to commands to sit, stay, stop, heel, settle down, and leave a person, another dog or a cat or object alone takes practice by the owner and the pet. The pet owner is legally responsible for whatever the pet does to someone or something inside and outside the home.

Pet in trouble – In Arizona, the owner is legally liable for whatever happens to an unattended pet shut up in a closed car for any amount of time. Just as with a person, if a dog develops heat stroke, for instance, she needs to be moved to an air-conditioned or at least shaded place. Pouring some cool water over his head or an ice pack or a wet cloth on the back of his neck helps him recover. Avoid really cold water as too much of a shock to his system, just as you would for a human. Let her lick an ice cube or drink a small amount of water and take her to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

In our city, when we bring home a dog, cat, or some other pet we bring home a new family member. Beyond the legal realities, a pet gives us an opportunity to share the best of ourselves with him or her. Just as we need daily care and constant attention, so do our fourfooted friends.

Keep Tabs On State Legislative Activities

Phoenix neighborhood leaders and other residents have an easy way to keep informed of state legislative activities that might affect them.

The Phoenix Office of Government Relations offers them the P.L.A.N. - Phoenix Legislative Action Network.

People who sign up for the internet-based program can use their personal computers to view the city's legislative agenda and receive regular e-mails on legislation and other activities that affect them and their neighborhoods.

You can join P.L.A.N. at phoenix.gov/plan.



Looking To Purchase A Bel Air Style Metal Chair?

Check the following web-sites:

www.retrometallawnfurniture.com

www.torransmfgco.com

www.target.com

www.backyardcity.com

www.stacksandstacks.com

www.adirondack.net

www.patiostore.com

www.4seasongreenhouse.com

Help our neighborhood establish a unique identity by placing the Bel Air style metal lawn chair on your front porch!

Attention: Neighborhood Irrigation Users

A meeting was held on Saturday, August 23, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room of American Lutheran Church. During that meeting, a discussion was held about maintenance of the ditches and irrigation boxes and other matters.

A decision was made to continue the annual tradition of collecting funds from each irrigation user.

The customary amounts are: Large lots contribute \$40.00 Small lots contribute \$30.00

Please make checks out to: **Kearnie Estates Irrigation** Drop off or mail to: Kearnie Estates Irrigation c/o Charles Wilfong, 1747 W. Glenrosa Ave., Phx, AZ 85015-4737

These funds will be used for current and future maintenance of the ditches and irrigation boxes within our neighborhood.

Questions? Call Charles Wilfong at 602-266-9342

Resources Are Available to Help With Blight Due To Foreclosures and Vacancies

There is a new City of Phoenix Web site that homeowners, residents and prospective home buyers now can turn to for help finding answers to many of their foreclosure questions and concerns. It is:

phoenix.gov/nsd

Included on this Web site is information that can help neighborhoods deal with the blight that often follows foreclosed properties, including homes in disrepair and yards with overgrown weeds.

"As a realtor, I know that it is extremely URGENT for neighbors to keep an eye on all properties current for sale or vacated due to foreclosure. This is lowering their own property values and if they see an unkempt house, they need to notify the realtor, lender/owner, and Neighborhood Services." - Beverly Brown

Important Phone Numbers			
Emergency	911		
Crime Stop	602-262-6151		
Community Action Officer, Aaron Stephens	602-361-0043		
Abandoned Vehicles Private Property Streets, Alleys	262-7844 262-6151		
Child Safety Seat Info.	602-495-5007		
Gang Hotline	602-534-4264		
Graffiti Busters	602-495-7014		
Graffiti Reward Hotline	602-262-7327		
Impounded Property	602-261-8371		
Silent Witness	602-948-6377		
Traffic Complaint Hotline	602-534-7733		
Water Safety Hotline	602-534-7665		
Zoning Enforcement	602-262-7344		

METRO Light Rail Begins Saturday, December 27th With Free METRO Train Rides Through Wednesday, December 31st!

The METRO celebration will begin at 10 a.m. with Mayor Phil Gordon arriving by train downtown at the train station at Third and Jefferson streets followed by a large party with live entertainment and vendors inside the nearby Convention Center.

Phoenix will also host a second large party with live entertainment, vendors and other activities at the METRO station at 19th and Montebello avenues where the light rail line begins.

At the same time, medium-sized celebrations sponsored by businesses and neighborhoods will be held at five other stations and smaller neighborhood parties will be held at other stops. All of the parties will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday.

METRO will offer free rides between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 27th. METRO also will offer free rides between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday, December 28th. And, rides will be free through Wednesday, December 31st.

Fares beginning Thursday, January 1st will be \$1.25

one way and \$2.50 for all day, the same as regular bus fare.

Please keep safety in mind this holiday season. Be alert near the METRO Light Rail route as we all adjust to these practically silent trains.

ADVERTISE IN THE BELAIR NEWSLETTER

Small Ad: \$7.00 (Business Card Size) Large Ad: \$14.00 (Double Business Card Size) Announcements: \$7.00 (Births, Anniversaries, Birthdays, Neighborhood Events)

Procedures for Submitting Ads:

- Submit the ad by email, diskette, or printed form to the Communicator editor at carriefraz@aol.com. It must be exactly as you want it to appear in the newsletter.
- 2. Contact the editor about how to submit payment.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS:

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(602) 437 9520 Fax us at:

E-mail us at: order@kwikkopyaz.com Find us at: www.kwikkopyaz.com



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