



Neighborhood

Communicator

November/December 2004





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The BelAir Neighborhood Association publishes the *Neighborhood Communicator* monthly. Many thanks to all of the volunteers in BelAir who make this project possible.

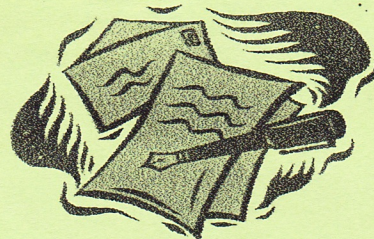
Balances as of 11/1/04:

BelAir General Acct -
\$1,159.18

BelAir & Am. Ev. Lutheran
Church Grant #62 - \$1,740.00

BelAir Grant #50 - \$1,158.10

Message From the President...



Some random thoughts....

You have to love the cooler weather. I've seen many more of you, our BelAir residents, as I walk about the neighborhood, usually pushing my daughter in her stroller. It's like a new neighborhood when the temperatures drop....

As you can see, this is a combined newsletter. As the holidays get closer, and we all get busier, getting out that December newsletter just gets tougher and tougher. We'll be back to the monthly schedule in the New Year....

I hope you take the time to complete the BelAir Neighborhood Pride Quiz inside. Even more, if you

don't answer all True, I hope you'll do something about it...

I hope everyone who was eligible voted in the election this month. They say that you if don't vote, you shouldn't be able to complain when you're unhappy with the ways things are going. I don't know about that as complaining is the American Way.

Lots of winter lawns going in this month, which always makes BelAir look great. There's also nothing wrong with choosing to conserve water, like we do at the Lander house.

Is it just me, or are there more cars racing through the neighborhood? Please slow down, or if you see someone speeding, give 'em a hand up - the international symbol to slow down and be safe!

Many of you beautifully decorate your homes for the holidays with lights and wreaths. It would be fantastic if we could all show some holiday spirit by dressing up our front yards and showing others what a great neighborhood we have.

Your BelAir Neighborhood Association wishes you and yours a happy, healthy and safe holiday season.

As always, if you are interested in the Neighborhood Association, discussing ways to make things better, or just venting your frustrations, please contact me.

Yours in commitment,

Hugh Lander

Dates to Remember

Sat 11/13
Neighborhood
Cleanup

Mon 11/15
Bulk Trash
Pickup

Thu 11/25
Thanksgiving

Sun 12/5 12/11

BelAir Litter Free Week

MINUTE
BY
MINUTE



Bel Air Board Meeting on
10/14/04

Meeting called to order at
7:06 p.m.

In attendance: Hugh Lander,
Mark Day, Virginia Anders,
Jonathan Massey, Susan
Thompson-McHugh, Boyd
Puffer, Todd Shealy. Guests:
Marnie Redmond and Bryan
Vincent.

Meeting minutes for August and
September 2004 were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Sav-on Fence has ordered the
slats for the church
privacy/safety fence. The board
has paid \$714 for the slats.
Mark is going to contact Bob
Grey, neighborhood lighting
contact at APS about the status
of the current lighting. Before
new ones can be installed there
must be an audit of our existing
dusk-to-dawn lighting.
Mark has kept in contact with
the City regarding the grants,
especially to notify them that
the objectives of our two grants
are on target.

General Discussion:

The Block Watch signs have
arrived and Hugh will install
them over the weekend.
The board has completed an
inventory of BelAir board
supplies and materials
There will be one newsletter for
November and December, due
to holiday distractions.
The City has reminded us to
urge our neighbors to be patient
with the Crime Stop operators
because they also are charged
with answering the 911 calls.
If you are still interested in
participating in BlockWatch,
contact Hugh Lander.
A website worth monitoring is
Azsexoffender.com

Preservation Committee Report:

On Saturday there will be a
series of code compliance
workshops. Jonathan reminded
the board that the City's
preferred approach for
suspected code violations is to
keep the issue in the

neighborhood if at all possible.
Contact the homeowner and
discuss what has been observed.
Offer to help him or her find a
good solution, such as offering
to trim branches hanging over
sidewalks or help remove alley
trash rather than calling the City
first. The strength of any
neighborhood "begins at home,"
meaning helping one another,
not pointing fingers.
Neighborhood Blight Issues:
Junk cars, junk in yards, and
houses that need to be painted,
alleys that need to be cleaned
up, and roofs in need of repair.
We also still have a problem
with wildcat dumpers in the
alleys along Bel Air.

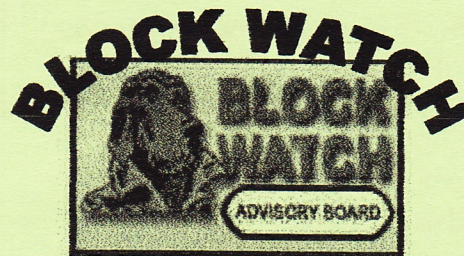
Neighborhood Clean Up:

Saturday November 13, 2004
8am Neighbors are encouraged
to join the clean-up crew along
the avenue alleys and canal in
Bel Air to be ready for the bulk
trash pick up next Monday.

Next General

Meeting: January
22nd at 10 am

Meeting adjourned 8:47pm



In Partnership With
Phoenix Police Department

By Hugh Lander
*All stats come from the Phoenix
Police Crime Statistics website
at www.faxnet1.org.
(Continued on page 4)*

Our grid is "BH25". "BH25" covers 15th Ave. to 19th Ave., Indian School up to Campbell north of the canal, which means it covers all of BelAir and a little north of the canal.

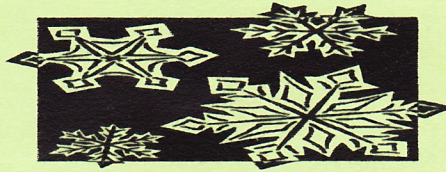
Due to delays at the Phoenix Police Department, August & September 2004 stats are not be made available. Next month I'll try to report stats October.

Crimes reported to me this month include two acts of vandalism, a break-in of a truck on 17th Avenue and a burglary on Glenrosa Ave. adjoining the canal. I also received a report of a neighbor walking along the canal who saw two youths brandishing a gun. The resident did the correct thing and called Crimestop as soon as possible, and did not confront the persons.

We will be having a Block Watch Organizational Meeting at the Fireside Room in the AELC Church Gym on Thursday, November 4th at 6:30PM. For those of you who expressed interest at the Crime Meeting in September, or if you'd like to get involved, please join us there. If you have any questions, please contact me at belairblockwatch@hotmail.com or call me at 602.309.2097.

Remember to report any suspicious activity. Call 911 for emergencies, or call

CrimeStop at 262-6151 for all other police matters.



HOLIDAY SAFETY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Protect your home

- Lock all doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Even though it is tempting, don't leave your windows open or unlocked in the cooler weather. Burglars look for opportunities like this.
- Keep lights and a radio or TV on.
- don't leave valuables/gifts where they can be seen from the outside or through windows.
- If you will be leaving town, ask a neighbor to watch your home and gather the mail and newspaper.
- Take a holiday and home inventory. Identify your property.

Protect your vehicle

- Take all valuables or gifts out of the vehicle.
- Lock all doors and secure all windows. Use a locking device on your steering wheel.
- Try to park in well-lit and visible spaces, especially at the malls, which are car thieves number one target.

Protect yourself and your family

- Stay alert and be aware of your surroundings and the people around you
- Especially when you are out shopping and in parking lots.
- Be cautious of your purse and/or wallet. Carry them close to your body.
- Avoid carrying or displaying large amounts of cash.

BOARD MEMBER BIO

Hello, I am you neighbor, Susan Thompson-McHugh. I am a graduate student at ASU East and work part-time for Arizona Game and Fish. I enjoy gardening, hiking and camping. My husband, Max, and I are proud parents of a very active toddler, Eleanor "Ellie". Our family also consists of two dogs; an eight-year-old Great Dane, RyeLee, and a seven year old German Shorthair, Cleopatra. Our 2 cats refuse to be owned by anyone bur frequently haunt Georgia Thomas' garage. They are convinced mooching food from the neighbors is adequate pay for defending the neighborhood from invading rats from Arcadia. We really enjoy the friendly atmosphere of this neighborhood and wanted to get involved immediately. We initially started by delivering newsletters and soon I joined the board. Now I am back again to help out. I have learned so much about our neighborhood and the city of Phoenix through this opportunity, and urge anyone

that wishes to contribute to your community to join the board.



YARD ART

By Virginia
Clifford Ander

By now, most of us have noticed the replica of the *General Lee*, the 1969 Charger from the old TV show, the Dukes of Hazard, parked on 16th Drive at 16th Avenue. What is just as interesting to me as I watch our new neighbors prepare to move in is the character they are planning and planting all across their new home. Their daughter Bryn seems to share her parents' enthusiasm for dressing up the yard. I watched as she placed pumpkins for Halloween among the new fall color plants that border their yard along the walkway.

Chad and Jeanette Layton are a resourceful couple. For the last several years, they have taken advantage of the plant sale on the last day of the State Fair. This year's 'find' of decorative plants includes a Chinese Pistach, an Angel Trumpet tree, and a large Bird of Paradise bush.

Jeanette said Home Depot knows them well, due to the number and variety of projects they have undertaken to make the house just right before they officially move in. Chad has already removed the aluminum siding from the exterior walls. There are electrical and other projects happening inside the house as

well. Chad described their plan to transform the garage into a new room, which will include a bay window and an extension of the front porch in front of it.

Jeanette obviously loves gardening. As we talked, she was quite happily sitting on the cement, digging and turning the dark, damp soil in front of the porch, a multihued collection of plants gathered around her, ready to become part of the new look on 16th Drive. Jeanette's sister supervised from the front porch, cradling Bryn's baby sister Sage.

Chad enlisted in the National Guard three years ago, right after September 11th, 2001. His unit was on the first transport plane to Iraq, by way of Jordan and Kuwait. He still proudly serves in the Guard. Bryn's memory of her daddy coming home was the celebration, "When he came back he got popcorn!" Jeanette has been teaching at the Mesa Art Center. Though she enjoys all the different ages of her students there, she is most comfortable with the teenagers. She is currently at ASU West, pursuing her goal, which is to teach at the high school level. Welcome to BelAir, Chad, Jeanette, Bryn, and little Sage!

BEST HOLIDAY HOUSE

Vote by calling
Roshelle
Johnson @
602-437-0734

Procedure for Submitting Ads:

1. Submit the ad by e-mail or on diskette to Mark Day. It must be exactly as you want it to appear in the newsletter.

2. Submit, with your ad, a check or cash to Mark Day at 4238 N. 15th Drive on or before the 20th of the month.

Small Ad - \$7.00

(Business Card Size)

Large Ad - \$14.00

(Double Business Card
Size)

Important Phone Numbers

APS 602-371-7171

CrimeStop 602-262-6151

Graffiti
Busters 602-495-7014

Neighborhood
Services 602-262-7844

Poison
Control 602-253-3334

City Councilman, Dist. 4
Tom Simplot 602-262-7447
E-mail:
council.district.4@phoenix.gov

Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon
602-262-7111

E-mail:
phil.gordon@phoenix.gov

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- Family Counseling
- Post-Adoption Counseling
- Adoption and infant adoption
- Birth
- Adoption with parent's consent
- All services

TAKE THE BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE QUIZ

To preserve and protect the character of our neighborhoods, we all need to do our part. Take the Neighborhood Pride Quiz to find out if your home is safe and well-maintained.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | There is no litter or trash around my home, including my yard, near the curb or alley. |
| T | F | I mow my lawn regularly. |
| T | F | My neighbors can safely walk on my sidewalk because there are no holes in the concrete and the bushes are trimmed. |
| T | F | I always put my trash container away at the end of trash collection day. |
| T | F | My car is parked in my driveway, garage, or on the street. |
| T | F | The shingles on my house and garage cover my entire roof. |
| T | F | I always repair any broken window as soon as I can. |
| T | F | The doors to my home are securely attached. |
| T | F | While it may not be perfect, the paint on my house looks pretty good. |
| T | F | I store my gas grill safely. |
| T | F | An emergency squad can find my home to help me or my family because my address is clearly marked. |

HOW DID YOU SCORE? IF YOU DID NOT ANSWER EVERY QUESTION "TRUE" AND WOULD LIKE SOME ASSISTANCE, PLEASE TALK TO A BEL AIR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARDMEMBER.

Do you **CARE** about **BEL AIR??**

If you do, please show it by helping us in a
NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

On Saturday, November 13th @ 8AM

**Meet at the Martin Luther Church School Gymnasium on West
Glenrosa between 18th and 19th Avenues**

**Your Neighborhood Association will provide trash
bags, weed whacker, hedge trimmers and water. You
need to bring gloves, a rake or shovel.**

**Last quarter we had 10 people show up to help. That's just
1% of the residents in BelAir! Please give a couple hours of
your time to make BelAir shine for the holidays.**