



NEIGHBORHOOD

COMMUNICATOR

July 2005

CONGRATULATIONS!

*To The New BelAir Board
Association Members*



PRESIDENT

Susan Thompson-McHugh
602-604-8629
camus01@earthlink.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

Steve Armenta
earmenta@cox.net

SECRETARY

Virginia Anders
602-265-8498
vanders@cox.net

TREASURER

Mark Day
602-791-4003
markdday@cox.net

BOARD MEMBERS

Jaime Canedo
jcanedo1@cox.net

Jonathan Massey
jmassey@asualumni.org

Boyd Puffer
boyd_puffer@hotmail.com

Chris Sheedy
602-540-0328

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

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 6/1/05:

BelAir General Acct - \$999.54

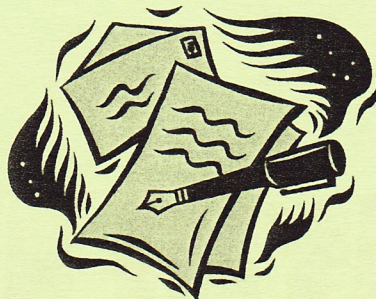
BelAir & Am. Ev. Lutheran Church

Grant #62 - \$395.59

BelAir Grant #50 - \$176.46

\$

Message From the President...



Dear BelAir Neighbor,

As your new president I would like to continue Hugh Lander's tradition of writing a brief letter to the neighborhood. As many of you know he is stepping down as president because of a work mandated move. This new year brings a new set of accomplishments and challenges. Neighbors' input from our May General Meeting provided much of the focus for the coming year. Our 301 Block Watch Grant was approved for the coming year so we will have funds for association administrative costs like the news letter, GYM rent for meetings etc. as well as the new project of providing and installing 10 security doors to homes within the neighborhood. This project was chosen as it would provide a visible deterrent to crime. We would also like to increase participation in the neighborhood Block Watch which can entail as little as

simply filling out the BelAir Resident information sheet to acquaint yourself with your immediate neighbors to as much attending the Neighbors on Patrol training offered by the city for a full scale roving block watch. Please join us creating a safer environment for our families and neighbors.

From June to August of last year there were 6 burglaries, 12 thefts, 10 auto thefts in our grid area, for a total of 28 Property crimes as well as 2 aggravated assaults and 6 Drug crimes. These stats come from the Phoenix Police Crime Statistics website at www.faxnet1.org.

Our grid is BH25 between Indian School and Campbell, 15th Avenue to 19th Avenue. Those wanting to get involved call, or email one of the Board members or go to the BelAir Website at:
belairblockwatch@hotmail.com

Thank you,

Susan Thompson-McHugh

DATES TO REMEMBER

Mon 7/4

Independence Day

Celebrate the freedoms we enjoy in the United States the month of July!

August 2005

General Meeting...

details in next month's issue

In closing, a BelAir WARNING, on 06/23/05 at approximately 4:00Am the resident of 4213 N. 15th Dr had their Dodge van stolen. The resident stated that the car was locked.

If you have any questions, please contact the BelAir Block Watch Committee at belairblockwatch@hotmail.com. Someone will be monitoring the email weekly.

Remember to report any suspicious activity. Call 911 for emergencies, or call Crime-Stop at 262-6151 for all other police matters.

10 Security Doors for BelAir

Congratulations BelAir! The City of Phoenix approved our 301 Grant Proposal and awarded us a grant. This grant funds the basic operating costs of the BelAir Neighborhood Association such as this newsletter, the rent for our board meetings and the general meetings, the event insurance for our general meetings and supplies for our neighborhood clean-ups. In addition, it funds this year's special project of purchasing and installing 10 security doors. If you are interested in obtaining one of these doors, please call or email one the Board Members. If more than ten neighbors

express interest in the doors, they will be entered into a drawing. The winners will be notified and officially announced in a newsletter and at a General Meeting.

Criteria:

1. You must be a BelAir resident
2. Only one entry per household.
3. Can only be installed on the front of your house.
4. Entry deadline is October 1, 2005.
5. If you win, you can only cancel installation once.

If You Are Going on Vacation, Help the Burglars Take One Too!

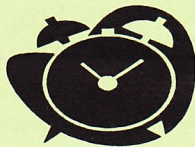
This information is provided by the Phoenix Police Department.

An empty house is a tempting target for a burglar. Use this checklist of tips to help safeguard your home while you're away.

- Have good locks on all doors and USE THEM!
- Ask a neighbor to watch the house while you are away. It's a good idea to leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Never leave your house key hidden outside your home.

- Stop all deliveries, or arrange for a neighbor to pick up your mail, newspapers, and packages.
- Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, rake leaves and maintain the yard to give the home a lived-in look.
- Plug in timers to turn lights and a radio or television on and off at appropriate times. This helps to disguise the fact that you are away.
- Turn the bell or ringer on your telephone down low. If a burglar is around, he won't be alerted to your absence by a ringing phone.
- Don't announce your absence on answering machine messages.
- Leave your blinds, shades, and curtains in a normal position. Don't close them unless that is what you do when you are home.
- Close and lock garage doors and windows. Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway. If you leave your car at home, park it as you normally would. Vehicles parked outside should be moved occasionally to appear that they are being used.
- Secure storage sheds, attic entrances and gates.

MINUT E BY MINUTE



BelAir Board Minutes
June 9, 2005

The meeting began at 7:15 pm.

In Attendance:

Body Puffer, Susan Thompson-McHugh, Anna Blevins, Steve Armenta, Jonathan Massey, Betty Dales, Chris Sheedy, Sherri Gallagher, Virginia Anders.

Treasurer's Report: We got the 2005-2006 City of Phoenix grant for \$6,000 to be used for printing the Neighborhood Communicator, purchasing ten security doors, renting space for the board and quarterly meetings, and public event insurance.

Grant Projects Status Update: Grant #62: The church playground fence project is finished.

Committee Reports:

Preservation: Jonathan has discovered a post WWII reconnaissance survey that may provide useful information for the special planning district project. Due to the current housing market fever, there is a growing concern about real estate speculators buying properties for rentals. He is researching how we can establish a residency ownership of at least two years before allowing a property to be used

for a rental. Anyone who knows someone at the city who might help us understand this issue, please call Jonathan.

Block Watch: There has been a recent problem with the noise of electric and gas scooters in BelAir. There is a city ordinance regarding this issue. Information on the ordinance will be made available at the next quarterly meeting.

Newsletter: Susan is going to track crime statistics in the neighborhood.

Old Business: Sherri is working on establishing the neighborhood telephone contact tree. Steve will find the information for City Services in Spanish for the newsletter.

New Business: The City of Phoenix plans to start renovating the bridge over the canal at 19th Avenue and Glenrosa soon. Steve is going to contact the City for clarification on when to call Crime Stop, 911, and Silent Witness.

We need to update and distribute new resident packets. The next alley clean up will be in October.

Discussion began on the October 15th GAIN event and the agenda for the August 11th quarterly meeting. We are inviting the September City Council candidates to speak briefly at the August meeting and be available to answer residents' questions.

The next Board meeting will be July 7th at 7pm at Virginia's house.



In Partnership With

Phoenix Police Department

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.
by Jaime Canedo

Hello BelAir! First I would like to thank all of you for voting and allowing me to serve as one of your new board members. I have been assigned the task of taking on the Block Watch program. With the help of Sherri Gallagher and Steve Armenta, I know we will be able to fill the shoes of the previous and continuing members of the program who have done a great job! But we can't do it alone, we need all of you to help us to make Block Watch as safe and effective as it can be. In other words, GET INVOLVED!

I am setting a few goals that I hope will be achieved during my time on the board. I'll talk about them down the road. Quick safety tip! Night-lights in our front yards and back if needed help deter criminals. And remember to keep dry weeds and oleanders cut preventing possible fire hazards outside.

(Continued on page 4.)

- Tell your local police you plan to be away. Patrol officers may have the opportunity to periodically check your home.
- Engrave your valuables as recommended in **Operation I D.** This simple step will allow your stolen property to be identified and returned to you if recovered by the police.



YARD ART

By Virginia
Clifford Anders

If you grew up in Arizona as I did, then you are familiar with the question "Hot enough for you yet?" Perhaps it's hot enough to think about planning your gardening projects for the fall from the comfort of an air-conditioned (or swamp-cooled) room. If you have a computer with Internet access, you can have a terrific time searching websites for a wealth of information on gardening, water conservation, types of plants, classes on gardening, sources for answering your questions, and worlds of photographs. My favorite sites include:

<http://www.greenbuilder.com/sourcbook/Xeriscape> The site is known as Greenbuilder, and is primarily aimed at commercial builders and planners, but provides great insights on what to plant where and why.
<http://cals.arizona.edu/extension>
The University of Arizona

Cooperative Extension for Maricopa County has provided in-depth, practical information on what they call family and consumer sciences. This translates as information on classes, food and home safety, nutrition and health, consumer and home. They also have hundreds of volunteers available to answer questions. This is a wonderful source for information on what they describe as "Living Well."
<http://dbg.org> The Desert Botanical Garden site has a Desert Landscaper School and a program they call Life Long Learning. Both of these are workshops and classes. The garden also has a research function that includes a library, collections and other information. They also have several types of summer camps!

If you insist on doing any serious gardening this summer, keep several things in mind, please. Wear a hat with a wide brim. Use a wet bandana around your neck. Wear loose-fitting clothes, including long sleeves. Have you ever thought about people who live across the world in the Arabian deserts? They wear long, loose-fitting cotton clothes for practical reasons. **DRINK WATER THE ENTIRE TIME YOU ARE OUTSIDE.** Coke, coffee, tea is not water.

Actually these drinks hasten the loss of potassium from the body, which means you get tired much faster than if you simply drank lots of WATER.

A good source of long-lasting tools, by the way, may be your local pawnshop. Different pawnshops specialize in certain kinds of items. For

instance, one may have a lot of estate jewelry. Another will feature sporting equipment or bicycles. Another will have a lot of entertainment systems, recording equipment, and musical instruments. There is one at 3rd Avenue and Indian School that has a lot of tools. Nothing is more satisfying than a basic set of tools that fit the job to be done and the person.

Consider doing your gardening chores either at night (my favorite time to garden) or in the early morning or evening. When you water your plants, trees, flowers, and lawn at night it allows the yard to absorb and retain the water longer. No matter the details, remember to enjoy yourself! After all, if you aren't enjoying yourself, what's the point?

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)

David L. Brown
Owner

alphaGraphics®
DESIGN, COPY, PRINT, MIRACLES!

702 West Camelback
Suite 6
Phoenix, AZ 85013
p 602/234/2944
f 602/274/8037
m 602/909/3253
dlbrown@alphagraphics.com
www.phoenix106.alphagraphics.com



*Best in the
West
Builders*

**GENERAL
CONTRACTORS**
*Residential &
Commercial*

Remodeling and Additions

602-418-6100 or 602-739-0000

Ephraim Maor
C.E.O.

www.BestintheWestBuilders.com
Lic. ROC171764



Midtown Primary School

Recipe for a Happy School

- 1 small, family-like campus
- Mix in eager K-4th graders
- Add lots of Phonetic Reading
- Provide plenty of Hands-On Learning
- Ensure solid foundation
- Add plenty of fun and humor
- Toss with Caring, Committed Staff
- Garnish with personal security
- Serve bright and alert!

***Come to our Open House Enrollment
Saturday, July 9 & 16 at 10:30a.m.***

4735 N. 19th Avenue

(Behind Westminster Presbyterian Church)

www.midtownprimaryschool.com

602-265-5133

The BelAir Neighborhood Board
Association welcomes your
feedback on the *Neighborhood
Communicator*. Please email your
comments and suggestions to
Roshelle Johnson at
crkjohanson@yahoo.com.
Thank you!