




Neighborhood


Communicator

April 2005

Mark Your Calendar for these Key Upcoming Events:



Support the
Neighborhood




Donate Items
or Buy Items!


Saturday, April 2nd
BELAIR NEIGHBORHOOD
RUMMAGE SALE

7:00AM @ the 16th Avenue cul-de-sac

Call Hugh Landers at (602) 302-2097 for more information.



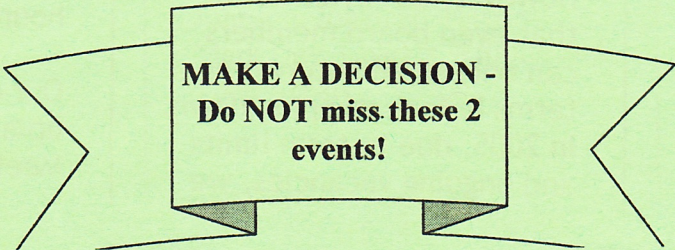
Be a Star!
Volunteer for
the Board



Show concern
for your
neighborhood!

Thursday, April 14th
BELAIR GENERAL MEETING &
ELECTION NIGHT

6:30PM @ the Martin Luther School Gymnasium
19th Avenue & Glenrosa



MAKE A DECISION -
Do NOT miss these 2
events!



PRESIDENT

Hugh R. Lander
602-264-4366
rednail64@hotmail.com

TREASURER

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

SECRETARY

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

Board Members

Roshelle Johnson
602-437-0734
crkjohnson@yahoo.com

Jonathan Massey
602-266-4309
jmassey@asualumni.org

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

Boyd Puffer
602-218-6588
boyd_puffer@hotmail.com

Marney Redmond
(602) 241-1633
mredmond@tmail.com

Todd Shealy
602-285-0995
wodddco5@aol.com

Pastor 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.

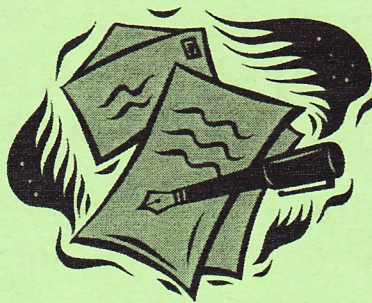
\$

Balances as of 4/1/05:

BelAir General Acct - \$1,172.18
BelAir & Am. Ev. Lutheran Church
Grant #62 - \$175.46
BelAir Grant #50 - \$560.41

\$

Message From the President...



We need your help now more than ever!!

Dear BelAir residents, I hope that you have noticed all the work your Neighborhood Association does for BelAir. Whether it is the four General Meetings each year, neighborhood cleanups, Block Watch activities, rummage sales, and countless other little projects, your association works with the neighborhood in mind.

However, our bylaws state that even board members can only serve two two-year terms before stepping down. In 2005, due to term limits and ongoing vacancies, we

need five people to join the neighborhood board to keep it active.

Being a member of the BelAir board is a fulfilling and fun. It's not a huge time commitment either - the average board member puts in about an average of an hour per week - that's it.

Required duties include a monthly board meeting, which is usually two hours, plus any other activities that might be going on, like a rummage sale or clean-up. All of the current (and many former) members of the board will tell you it is a great thing to be involved with.

It doesn't matter if you have been a BelAir resident for years or for months. We're looking for people who want to make BelAir better for everyone. Remember that we don't have CCRs or HOA rules here in BelAir - we are simply focused on improving the quality of life in BelAir.

You can be retired, a student, a homemaker, or even an executive, like me. You can be an owner or a renter; it doesn't matter (for those of you in Corporate America, volunteerism looks very good on your resume). All we ask is the average one hour a week.

Our election will be coming up at our next General Meeting, which is **Thursday**,

April 14th, at 6:30pm at the church gymnasium. We need you there! I would hope that we would have enough to people to have an actual election, but if not, I pray that we have exactly the five we need.

This election is only an appointment to the board - for a two-year term. Officers (president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary) will be elected at the next Board Meeting in May.

In May I will vacate my role as president of the association. One of the bad things about working in Corporate America is frequent job transfers. Karen, Matilda and I will be relocating to California in July or August.

I'm very proud of all the great work that the association has accomplished, all of which is due to the dedication of the board and to other committed BelAir residents. There is a fantastic tradition of volunteerism in BelAir that goes back many years to those who originally started the association (maybe some of you are ready to come back for a term????!!)

I look forward to seeing you on April 14th at the General Meeting. Remember that the association is YOURS, and

WE NEED YOU TO CONTINUE THIS GREAT WORK.

Yours in commitment,

Hugh Lander

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat 4/2 @ 7am

BelAir Neighborhood Wide Rummage Sale

Sun 4/3 - 4/9

BelAir Litter Free Week

Keep BelAir Beautiful by keeping the area around your home free of trash and debris.

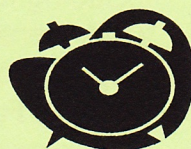
Thu 4/7 @ 7:00pm

BelAir Board Meeting
4311 N. 16th Avenue

Thu 4/14 @ 6:30pm

General BelAir Meeting & Board Elections
School Gymnasium

MINUTE BY MINUTE



BelAir Board Minutes
March 3, 2005

The meeting began at 7:00 pm.

In Attendance:

Hugh Lander, Roshelle Johnson, Jonathan Massey, Mark Day, Charles Wilfong and Todd Shealy

Approval of the February 10, 2005 BelAir Board Meeting Minutes were tabled until the next Board Meeting.

Newsletter:

Current BelAir Neighborhood events will always be on the cover. The newsletter needs more ads. Next Months April 2, 2005 BelAir Rummage Sale will be on the cover.

Block Watch:

A recycle can was stolen but returned. Pranksters have been switching For Sale signs in the neighborhood. The next Block Watch meeting is March 10, 2005 at 7:00 pm at the church.

Old Business:

Hugh has sent out an e-mail form to Board Members for recording their volunteer hours. Lighting at the church has been installed. The Block Watch Signage issue is ongoing. BelAir Neighborhood Association Bylaws were reviewed.

Rummage Sale:

The next BelAir Neighborhood Rummage sale is April 2, 2005 (7:00 am to noon) at the end of the 16th Avenue cul-de-sac. BelAir Neighbors can drop off items at the Lander House the week before. Call Hugh at 602 309 2097 for more information. An ad will be placed in the Arizona Republic.

Next General Meeting:

The next BelAir Neighborhood Association General Meeting is Thursday, April 14, 2005 at 6:30 pm., in the Martin Luther School Gym. It will be a
(continued on Page 4)

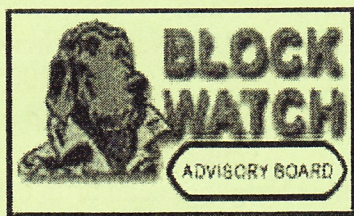
BelAir Neighborhood Association Board Member Election Night. We need five new Board Members. Every BelAir Neighbor is welcome. A representative from the Fire Department will be talking about weed fire hazards.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next BelAir Neighborhood Association Board Meeting will be Thursday, April 7, 2005 at 7:00 pm at the Lander House.

April's Crime Prevention Tip:

Warmer spring winter means the homeless will be moving back into the area, especially around the canal and irrigation ditches. If you see evidence of a homeless encampment, please call CrimeStop at 262-6151.



In Partnership With

Phoenix Police Department

by Hugh Lander

Due to administrative delays at the Phoenix Police Department, January & February 2005 stats are not available. Next month I'll try to report these stats.

I did happen to get the statistics from the ongoing VIP (Violence Impact Area Program) that is running from 19th to 35th and Indian School to Glendale Avenues. From July 2004, when the program started, until February this year, Phoenix Police have arrested 2,417 people, charging them with a total of 5,521 crimes. This includes 288 arrests for prostitution, 235 counts of possession, sale or manufacturing of drugs, 208 counts of assault, and 265 probation violations. VIP has also arrested 150 juveniles during this period.

We commend Chief Harris and the Phoenix Police Department for reducing crime in the areas next to BelAir.

We had a Block Watch Organizational Meeting on Thursday, March 10th. The turnout was disappointing (5, including me), but those who were there committed to helping move the program forward. For those of you who expressed interest at the Crime Meeting in September, or if you'd like to get involved, please join on Tuesday, April 12th at 7PM. 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.



YARD ART

By Virginia Clifford Anders

Larry Rustien, a New Yorker born and bred, lived as a happy location-hunter for the movie industry for years. Crossing the 59th Street Bridge, a defining landmark of his hometown one morning, he realized he couldn't see Manhattan for all the pollution. He'd nurtured his \$75 cactus plant in his basement apartment with a grow light, watering it regularly. When it died a few weeks later, the 'autopsy' told him he'd drowned it. So, nineteen years ago, Larry packed up his python, his cat, and other worldly belongings, heading west to join his mother and sister, already living in Arizona. He and his wife Melanie share the round-cornered property on Glenrosa where he tends lovingly to his desert oasis.

His sculpted pool and river of smooth grey rocks 'wander' among the saguaro and other Arizona native cacti. Did you know, he would ask, that there are varieties of Arizona native cactus with no spines? According to Larry, inch for inch, these are the most expensive plants of all.

When he wants a new saguaro, he sign forms at a state agency because they are considered a protected species. I called the City of Phoenix, by the way, and they laughed when I asked who to call for those

forms. They said you can buy a saguaro anywhere. Really? I asked. Oh sure, they said. Silly me. My word to the wise is: talk to Larry. He also told me that you are prohibited from giving away a saguaro. You can cut your own down in your own yard, though. Don't you just love governmental logic?

Larry has cultivated his desert landscape with great care. Desert planting can be higher maintenance than might be imagined. Keeping a close eye on those sneaky, ever-present weeds takes time and patience. They show up more obviously than in greener environments, which surprises and disappoints some gardeners. But when done well, the results are a joy to see and a great source of pride for the gardener, perhaps especially for a transplanted New Yorker.

The 8 Most Common

Blight Violations

Upon reading this information, if you have questions about your own property or have identified a property in BelAir that is in violation, please call the City of Phoenix **Neighborhood Services at (602) 262-7844**. Keep in mind that blight conditions in neighborhoods can negatively impact property values, encourage crime and discourage other homeowners, business owners, and tenants from maintaining their properties.

Vegetation :

Property owners are responsible for maintaining their properties

and the adjacent right-of-way free of dead or dried vegetation (weeds, tall grass, tumbleweeds, shrubs, trees, palm fronds, etc). All dead or dried vegetation must be disposed of properly. Property owners are also responsible for assuring that weeds/tumbleweeds on their property and in the adjacent right-of-way do not exceed six inches in height, and that lawn grass is maintained at six inches or shorter.

Inoperable Vehicles:

Inoperable vehicles must not be seen from beyond the bounds of the property line. An inoperable vehicle is a vehicle that is not equipped with all parts that are required to legally and safely operate it on public streets and/or cannot be driven under its own power. Car covers, tarps, bamboo, shades and other similar types of materials are not acceptable screening.

Junk, Litter and Debris:

Junk, litter and debris cannot be left on the property. This includes junk auto parts, appliances, furniture, building and/or landscaping material, tires; litter such as discarded paper, cardboard, plastics, etc.; debris such as tree trimmings and fallen tree limbs; or any other items that have been discarded.

Open and Vacant Buildings and Structures:

The property owner is responsible for maintaining buildings, structures and grounds of property. Windows, doors, and other openings must be kept secure so they cannot be

opened from the outside. A property owner may be required to board up a building/structure to city specifications if it becomes vacant and is not secure. Boarding up a building/structure is a one-time, temporary securement option, for a period not to exceed one year. Demolition or rehabilitation may be required. To obtain specifications for securing vacant structures, call **(602) 262-7844**.

Outside Storage:

Outside storage on residentially zoned properties that can be seen from beyond the bounds of the property line is NOT allowed. You may store boats, campers and other similar personal items in a limited area of the rear yard. There are specific regulations that apply to outdoor storage and use on properties zoned for other than residential use. For more information on these regulations, call **(602) 262-7844**.

Fences in disrepair:

Fencing and screening walls must be sound and made from the same materials. They also must be structurally sound and free from deterioration and blight. Fences in residential zones cannot be higher than 3 feet in the required front yard and 6 feet in the required rear yard.

Parking:

There are limits to the amount of residential yard area that can be used for a driveway or parking. Parking vehicles anywhere other than these
(continued on Page 6)

designated areas may be a violation. Designated parking areas must be dust-proofed according to City of Phoenix specifications. For further information, please call (602) 262-7844.

Graffiti:

Graffiti must be removed from all sidewalks, walls, fences, signs and other structures or surfaces visible from beyond the bounds of the property. This is the responsibility of the property owner. Paint and graffiti removal supplies are available from the Graffiti Busters Program at (602) 495-0323.

Important Phone Numbers

APS
602-371-7171
(power outages)

CrimeStop
602-262-6151

Graffiti Busters
602-495-7014

Neighborhood Services
602-262-7844
(zoning violations)

Poison Control
602-253-3334

Voter Registration
602-261-VOTE (8683)

City Councilman, Dist. 4
Tom Simplot
602-262-7447


Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon
602-262-7111

David L. Brown
Owner

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

alphaGraphics®
DESIGN, COPY, PRINT, MIRACLES®





GENERAL CONTRACTORS
Residential & Commercial

Remodeling and Additions

602-418-6100 or 602-739-0000

Ephraim Maor www.BestintheWestBuilders.com
C.E.O. Lic. ROC171764

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)