



Neighborhood Communicator

www.neighborhoodlink.com/phoenix/belair

January 2004

Message from the President...

New Year's Greetings to all of my BelAir Neighbors!



With a fresh new year before us, we all have many things on our minds. Are we going to make resolutions that never seem to be kept? Paint the house? Re-landscape? Look for a new job? So many things to think about. It is my hope that all of you WILL find the time to spend time with your friends in the neighborhood to help keep it a safe and great place to live.

We have many new young people moving in and new babies are showing up. We need to be mindful of these little ones and make sure that we each do our part in keeping our neighborhood and their environment safe and happy. Our theme this year is going to be, "The Year of the Child". There are several things that the Board has been talking about in relation to this. As these ideas come up, we sincerely hope that we have your support and help. We simply can't do these things without you.

New Board Members are needed. We need pro-active individuals to fill these positions. The current Board Members---well, I just can't seem to say enough about their enthusiasm! And it rubs off! Think about it.

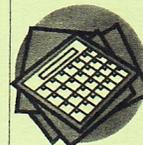
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BelAir Rummage Sale

In with the New, out with the Old! Have you cleaned out your closets for the New Year and made room for the new items Santa bought?

Our next Rummage Sale will be Saturday, January 31, 2004, at 7:00 am at Todd Shealy's house, 1628 West Monterosa. You may drop items off at Todd's house any time the week before the rummage sale. If you need to have your old treasures picked up we are having a pick up day, *Saturday, January 24, 2004*, for any neighbor wishing to contribute items. Please call Boyd Puffer, 602-266-6260 to schedule a pick up time or to help us out on the day of the sale.



Dates To Remember

- 2nd Saturday of each month - BelAir Board Meeting
- 1st Wednesday of each month - BelAir Litter Free Day
- 2nd Tuesday each month - Planning Committee Mtg

January 31, 2004
Rummage Sale

2004 General Meeting Calendar

March 11, 2004 - 7:30PM
June 19, 2004 - 10AM
October - GAIN event
December - Holiday Event

(CONTINUED FROM COLUMN 1)

The Holiday Event seemed to be enjoyed by all and many of us were able to meet new neighbors and get to know others better. The food was great and plenty of it. Next year we will look at a date that doesn't compete with other events. We hope to have enjoyable and informational meetings for the next four quarters and hope that you will all take part.

Keep up the good work!

Catch you over the back fence....

Shar

Email: jemathew@cox.net



**BelAir
Neighborhood Association**

Financial Status

Balance as of 11/30/2003

GENERAL FUND: \$909.36

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

ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT

Sharon Bushouse 602 222 8718
slbush1943@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

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

TREASURER

Mark Day 602 791 4003
markdday@cox.net

SECRETARY

Todd Shealy 602 285 0995
wodddco5@aol.com

Board Members

Virginia Anders 602 265 8498
vcanders8@aol.com

Roshelle Johnson 602 437 0734
crkjohnson@aol.com

Jim Mathew 602 263 0548
jemathew@cox.net

Boyd Puffer 602 266 6260
boyd_puffer@hotmail.com

Faye E. Robbins 602 285 1902

Pastor Charles Wilfong 602-266-9342
cwilfong@aol.com

Vacant

Vacant

Minute by Minute

The December 13, 2003 BelAir Neighborhood Association Board Meeting was called to order at 8:30 am, at Dick and Sharon Bushouse's house, 1739 West Montecito.

The November Minutes and Treasurers Report was approved as presented. There is \$909.36 in the General Fund.

The next General Meeting Planning Committee Meeting is January 13, 2004, at 7:00 pm, at Jim and Judi Mathew's house, 1642 West Monterosa.

Our next General Meeting is March 11, 2004, at 7:30 pm, at the Martin Luther School Gym.

Look to the monthly Communicator for information on our next Preservation Meeting. The last meeting was on November 24, 2003, at Jim and Judi Mathew's house. The Preservation Committee is still working on our "Welcome to BelAir" street signs, we are getting spec information from the City of Phoenix. Look for them on our corners early in 2004. The Preservation Committee also needs pictures of our BelAir Neighborhood in its early years. Please call a Board Member if you have pictures you

would like to share, they will be returned immediately.

Feedback on our newsletter has been excellent. The January issue will have an insert. All articles and ads are still due the 20th of every month. Our Classified Ads Section is up and running, it costs ten cents a word.

The Community Update Committee would like to complement all our BelAir Neighbors for keeping their homes and lawns so nice for the holidays. Please remember, don't park on our sidewalks and please take your garbage cans in right away. Also, please dispose of your holiday trees properly. We are sending a letter to Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon, about the great work our Neighborhood Specialist, Gabe Ramirez is doing. Thank you Gabe.

Volunteer Hours for November 2003 were; Sharon Bushouse (20), Hugh Lander (18), Mark Day (10), Todd Shealy (12), Jim and Judi Mathew (40), Roshelle Johnson (8), Boyd Puffer (6), Faye Robbins (2) and Lynda Dahl (2).

The 2004 301 Block Watch Grant Writing Committee reported that 2004 301 Block Watch Grant Appli-

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cations will be available on line January 4, 2004. 2004 Grant Applications are due February 6, 2004. The Grant Writing Committee will have our application in on time.

Our Holiday Meeting on December 6, 2003, was a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped out and thanks to everyone who attended.

The beautiful Christmas crafts made by Jim and Judi Mathew, Debbie Dumone and Sharon Bushouse brought over \$190 into our general fund. Thanks again.

Our new Litter Free Wednesdays Signs are now in use. They are put out on our BelAir corners every first Wednesday to remind every neighbor not to litter. We are making a difference, the neighborhood looks great.

Hugh Lander was appointed as our BelAir Neighborhood Block Watch Chair person, please report all BelAir Neighborhood crime to him. The next Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol Meeting is January 17, 2004 at the Washington Police Precinct. Call Hugh if you want to attend.

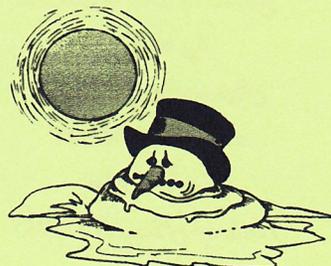
Hugh Lander was also appointed as our new Vice President. Congratulations Hugh. Pas-

tor Wilfong was also appointed to the Board. Thank you Pastor Wilfong. We still needs Board Members, call a Board Member if you want to help out.

Our Fundraising Committee would like to remind all BelAir Neighbors of our next Rummage Sale. It will be Saturday, January 31, 2004, at 7:00 am at Todd Shealy's house, 1628 West Monterosa. We are having a pick up day Saturday, January 24, 2004, for any neighbor wishing to contribute items. Please call Board Member Boyd Puffer to schedule a pick up time or help out.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am. Our next BelAir Neighborhood Association Board Meeting will be Saturday, January 10, 2004, at 8:30 am at Dick and Sharon Bushouse's house, 1739 West Montecito.

We have 2 Board vacancies to fill and need your help now! Please call Sharon Bushouse at 602-222-8718 and volunteer for one of these positions.



THE THREE MUST-HAVES FOR A SAFER NEIGHBORHOOD

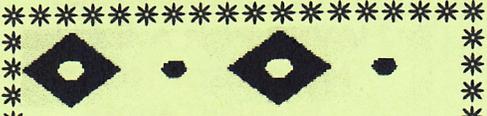
BY HUGH LANDER

Jan 1st - I just returned home from my first "trash walk" of the New Year, and as I took my extended cruise about BelAir, grabber and trash bag in hand, I had the chance to think about what we can do to make BelAir safer.

Don't get me wrong! We're blessed with one of the lowest crime rates in the Squaw Peak precinct and the police department knows it. *However*, there is still room for improvement. We've got a core group of concerned neighbors who keep a lookout for suspicious activity and report it promptly, but we need more people in the neighborhood to be aware and take action.

So what are the three must-haves for a safer neighborhood? Quite simply, they are your *eyes, ears and fingers!* Your *eyes*, to be aware of suspicious vehicles or people, graffiti, abandoned cars, intoxicated homeless people and of course, for fires. Your *ears*, to report loud music past the 11 PM city curfew, for the unattended cries of children, the breaking of glass or even barking dogs. Finally, your *fingers*, to note license plates, suspect descriptions and addresses and to dial the appropriate authorities if needed. Your fingers can also come in handy to notify your neighbors on your street of any suspicious behavior, to keep an eye out on your house while traveling or for help. We have forms available to help you create a "phone tree" for your street

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Yard Art

By Virginia Clifford Anders

We have had some gorgeous weather this fall, haven't we? Some of the time it doesn't seem warm enough to be out in the yard. However, as veteran gardeners know, now is the time to plan for spring planting. Perhaps you've had little experience digging in the dirt since you were a child. Fortunately there is a wealth of resources for a small investment of time and money to spark your creativity and answer your questions.

Sunset magazine has published the classic *New Western Garden Book*, which has been a veritable encyclopedia of advice on southwestern gardening for decades. Among the classes offered at The Herb Stop in Town & Country (20th Street and Highland) is one on Low Water/High Yield Organic Gardening. The University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Program, offers free materials on xeriscape landscaping and may even be able to answer your questions over the phone. Xeriscape, which means low water use, is encouraged by the cities around the Valley. All the cities have a Water Conservation Office that periodically offer low water use classes and materials. The Glendale Public Library has one of the Valley's Demonstration Xeriscape Gardens. There are others around the Valley, but this is considered the best. The Desert Botanical Garden in Scottsdale has a full schedule of classes about desert flora and fauna. The Garden is an excellent source of information and opportunities to see what various plants

look like. There are volunteer guides and a research center for more information.

An online search of "tightwad gardener" brings up an article on three separate periodicals for those who don't want to bury all of their money in the back yard. One of those is *The Tightwad Gardener*, which is produced four times a year by Joan Burgis, for a small annual subscription.

Two years ago Renaissance Books produced *Guerilla Gardening*, by Barbara Pallenberg, which teaches people how to find and harvest plants in unnoticed places such as back alleys and abandoned lots.

Ketzel Levine's Talking Plants website is a full-service site, with photos, botanical names, ideas, and an e-mail address for questions. Ketzel is also a regular contributor to National Public Radio, which can be heard locally on KJZZ, 91.5 FM. She is extremely knowledgeable and the website is fascinating.

Remember too the neighbors whose yards you admire. I'm sure they would love to talk to you about your yard. OK, neighbors, happy planning!



*Vote for the
Yard of the Quarter
by calling
Roshelle Johnson
at 602-437-0434
before the
15th of March 2004.*

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or corner so you can readily contact your neighbors. Call or email me or any of the board members and we'll get the form to you. As a reminder, some of the important numbers you may need (other than 911, of course) are:

**Police Non-Emergency
(Crime Stop)
(602) 262-6151**

**Neighborhood Services
(602) 262-4644**

**Graffiti Removal
(602) 495-7014**

**Grocery Cart Removal
1 800 THE CART**

**City Human Services
(Seniors in need)
(602) 262-6666**

In my new role as Association Vice-President, I'll also be taking a leadership role in our Block Watch and Crime Prevention programs. If you are interested in participating, the Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol is a great way to be active in Block Watch. Again, see any BelAir board member for more information. I'm also hoping to publish a quarterly update on crimes that have occurred within the BelAir boundaries, as well as providing any details that may prevent future crimes from occurring. If you would like more information on crime prevention, I invite you to visit the Phoenix Police Department website at www.phoenix.gov/POLICE.

I wish you and yours a happy, prosperous and safe New Year.



COMMUNITY UPDATE

By Pastor Charles Wilfong

ATTENTION SRP IRRIGATION USERS

There are many problems that need fixing in the irrigation system in our neighborhood. If they are not corrected, SRP will discontinue providing irrigation water. A special meeting has been scheduled for all users, for January 22nd, 2004, at 7 PM, in the Fireside Room of the gym at American Lutheran Church. If you wish to continue irrigating, be sure to be present.

The following items are from the November Update but there wasn't room in the Communicator.

"Garage or yard sales may be conducted twice every twelve (12) months on any residentially zoned property occupied by a dwelling unit. Any sales shall not exceed the time period of three consecutive days." Phoenix City Code 41, section 6028-C-8-h.

The above refers to both private residences and apartment complexes.

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC)

The following information was

shared by Wayne Tormala, Human Services Dept., City of Phoenix: Did you earn less than \$34,692 in 2003? The EITC could pay you as much as \$4,204, based on your earnings and family situation. File taxes to receive your credit." You may verify this with your local tax preparer or attend a free tax preparation cite to be offered late in January, 2004. It is estimated that in the Zip Code area 85015, \$3,500,000.00 was unclaimed in 2002. Tax payers may file retroactive for 3 years. Call 602-262-4520 for further information.

Spectrum Mall News

The Walmart Supercenter officially opened October 15th. It will be open 24 hours a day.

Famous Footwear finished it's remodeling and opened October 3rd.

Toys 4 Less will open October 25th.

Cato Fashions will open October 31st.

Krispy Kreme has broken ground. They will open in April, 2004.

Please don't continue breaking the law?

Parking on the sidewalk is illegal. Phoenix Code of Ordinances, Section 36-134.01, states parking on the sidewalk is illegal. We've noticed a number of vehicles continue to park on the sidewalks of the BelAir Neighborhood. This forces children and adults into the road to get around the vehicle. Please don't break the law!!

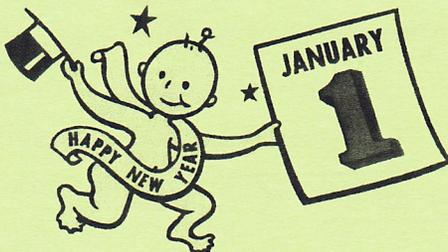
Help us keep BelAir a pleasant place to live!

Are you a

"Trash Can Violator"?

Phoenix Code of Ordinances, Section 27-19 J, states that trash and recycle containers can be placed at the curb after 6 PM the day before the collection date and must be removed by 5:30 AM the day after the collection date.

Please help us keep BelAir a pleasant place to live!



HAPPY NEW YEAR

702 W. Camelback Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85013

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phoenix106@alphagraphics.com

alphagraphics®

Heidi Van Camp
Key Operator

office: 602-234-2944
fax: 602-274-8037

ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT...

I CAN HELP.

My family and I live in the
BelAir Neighborhood.

I have a vested interest in seeing my
neighbors prosper.

CALL ME FOR A FREE
CONSULTATION!

Chris Johnson
Mortgage Consultant
Office: (602) 870-5522
Cell: (602) 660-0093

Classified Ads

WANTED

Cotton or cotton blend fabric scraps for
quilt. (including denim)

Pre-1960 Christmas Ornaments

Anna Blevins - 226-6340

FOR SALE

Have aches & pains? Try my Flax Seed
Bags. Various sizes run from \$2-\$16. Heat
in Microwave or put in freezer. Makes
great Christmas or anytime presents.

Sharon Bushouse - 222-8718

Flamenco

Zambras

Arabic



Flame Thrower

BAILES GITANOS
ENTERTAINMENT

Victoria

602-277-1595

Ruby

623-561-8161

Georgie

480-990-2574

Janna's

Pinnacle Gardens

Fresh from our good earth
to your dinner table

Wednesdays

10am - 2pm

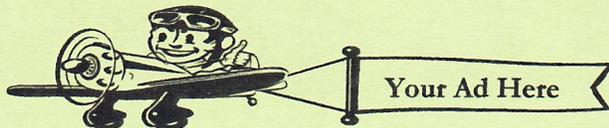
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ADVERTISING

**PROCEDURE FOR
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Two easy Steps:

1. Submit the ad, by e-mail or on diskette, as you want it to appear in the newsletter, to Mark Day.
2. Submit, with your ad, a check or cash to Mark Day, 4238 North 15th Drive on or before the 20th of the month.

(A check or cash **MUST** be received before the ad will appear in the newsletter.)

Small Ad - \$7.00
(Business Card Size)

Large Ad - \$14.00
(Double Business Card Size)