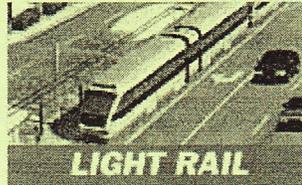


NEIGHBORHOOD

COMMUNICATOR

November/December 2005



**Attention Residents and Businesses
Are you concerned about
Light Rail and The BelAir Neighborhood ?**

**General Meeting
7:00pm November 10th
at the Evangelical Lutheran Church**

On West Glenrosa Between 18th and 19th Avenues.

We are hosting special speakers from Valley Metro Transit who will be discussing how BelAir will be impacted by Light Rail during construction and upon completion. There will also be an update from our Block Watch Meeting where we will address any concerns you may have about blight, crime and graffiti. Please join us to discuss these issues.



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

Anna Blevins
602-266-6340

Jaime Canedo
jcanedo1@cox.net

Betty Dales
602-265-4856

Sherri Gallagher
602-265-0304

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 10/1/05:
BelAir General Acct - \$1081.20
Block Watch Grant - \$4665.30
\$

Message From the President...



Dear BelAir Neighbor,

BelAir had a busy month starting with GAIN, the block watch meeting and ending with the Neighborhood clean up. Thank you for making G.A.I.N a success. The board's goal was to get neighbors outside walking and talking to each other. Open dialogue between neighbors is the first step to a healthy block watch. I would like to thank all who joined us for our G.A.I.N. Progressive Dinner. It was nice seeing so many new faces among the walkers. Anna Blevins and Betty Dales deserve special recognition for their efforts coordinating this event.

Also, thank you to the committed group of neighbors who take time from their busy schedules to join us in cleaning up the alleys. During our clean

up, we've noticed excessive garbage and vegetation in alleys that is a haven for vagrants and poses a significant fire risk to the homeowner. Keeping your alleys clean and trimmed protects you from crime and fire.

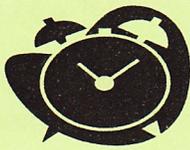
Next on the agenda is our General Meeting, 7pm November 10th, at the Evangelical Lutheran Church. We are hosting a special speaker from Valley Metro Transit who will be discussing how Light Rail will impact BelAir during construction and upon completion. There will also be an update from our Block Watch Meeting where we will address any concerns you may have about blight, crime and graffiti. Please join us to discuss these issues.

Did you know BelAir has a web site? Did you know you can post your own Web Page? Check it out.
www.neighborhoodlink.com/phoenix/belair/

Sincerely,
Susan Thompson-McHugh

DATES TO REMEMBER
Sun 11/6 – Sat 11/12
BelAir Litter Free Week
Thu 11/10
7:00PM BelAir
General Meeting @
Martin Luther School
Gymnasium

MINUTE BY MINUTE



BelAir Board Minutes
October 6, 2005

Called to order at 7:05 PM.

In Attendance: Anna Blevins, Jaime Canedo, Betty Dales, Sherri Gallagher, Jonathan Massey, Boyd Puffer, and Susan Thompson-McHugh. Absent: Virginia Anders, Steve Armenta, Mark Day, Chris Sheedy, and Pastor Charles Wilfong

Treasurer's report as of 09/30/2005:
General Fund
\$1,081.20
2005 BlockWatch Grant
\$4,665.30.

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Roshelle's last issue as the newsletter editor will be the November/December 2005 issue. Sherri Gallagher has volunteered to become the editor beginning with the January 2006 newsletter. Deadline for submission of articles remains the 20th of each month. Articles for the January newsletter need to reach Sherri by December 20th. *Volunteer Opportunity:* Boyd Puffer needs more neighbors to help deliver the newsletter. *Please* contact Boyd or any Board Member if you are interested. G.A.I.N: Anna Blevins reported that planning is almost completed

Block Watch Grant Projects
Committee is getting bids from licensed and bonded contractors to install the security doors. Drawing for the doors will be at a General Meeting for those residents who have submitted a request and meet the requirements. The first Spanish language translation appeared in the October newsletter thanks to the efforts of Jaime Canedo and Mark Day. Neighborhood Clean up is Saturday October 22nd at 8:00 AM, meeting in the Martin Luther Church parking lot. Jonathan Massey reports that the damaged or tagged Block Watch signs have been replaced, one new sign has been installed and they are waiting on Blue Stake before digging the other new sign's location. Susan and Mark will be surveying the neighborhood streets and alleys for nighttime lighting problem areas.

Block Watch

Jaime reports that Gioggi Chiapo, Community Action Officer for the Squaw Peak Precinct, will be at our Block Watch meeting October 18th. Let Jaime know if there are new residents in BelAir and he will see that they receive a New Neighbor Packet.

Old Business.

The next General Meeting is scheduled for Thursday November 10th, 7:00 PM at Martin Luther Church.

New Business.

Neighborhood Yard Sale – scheduling tabled until next Board Meeting.

November Board Meeting will be 7:00 PM Thursday, Nov 3. Location to be determined

Meeting adjourned 8:20 PM



In Partnership With

Phoenix Police Department

By Jaime Canedo

Hello BelAir,

I hope all of you are doing well and in good spirits. I'd like to thank those who attended are block watch meeting this last month and special thanks to officer Fowler of the Phoenix Police Dept. Who attended our meeting and gave us all very good information to continue our Block Watch program and taking all of our questions. I know many of us have work schedules and busy lives but it would be great to see more of our neighbors and friends attend the next general Block Watch meeting. I will let you know of the date and time of the next one in the upcoming newsletters. I know that most of us stay aware of our surroundings and what goes on in our community but attending the meetings would help give you all good information on specifics like what numbers to call in different circumstances, what to look for in a suspicious person or activity, and other programs and resources that are available will continue to
(Continued on page 4)

improve our neighborhood safety. I will say this again, the BelAir association can't do it alone! We must all be accountable for what goes on our streets and community. For those of you who don't know, the city awards us grant money to continue our improvements such as the new block watch signs that we just finished putting up and things such as lighting improvements and security doors etc... But we must show and prove to the city that we continue to be an active association by doing things such as the neighborhood gain event that we just had, Block Watch meetings etc... With that being said, block watch has two goals that it would like to meet. The first one is to try to increase block watch patrols by 20% and the other one is to have at least twenty households actively involved in block watch. The Phoenix Police offers the Neighborhood Patrol Program. I will have this information available for anyone who would be interested in participating in this volunteer program and information on what it means to be actively involved in block watch at our next general neighborhood meeting on November 10th. Or feel free to email me at jcanedo1@cox.net. For those of you who have an alley behind you. Please try to make every effort in keeping them clean. I know we get strangers who walk through them and litter and even stray cats or dogs tearing through garbage bags looking for food but if we ignore it, the alley begins to get cluttered with litter and makes them an unsightly blight. Also if you

notice graffiti on the walls of your alley or anywhere else for that matter please call graffiti busters at 602-495-7014. They will usually be out to remove the graffiti with in a few days. Well thank you for your time BelAir and I hope to see you at our general meeting Nov 10th! And a quick thank to those of you who made it to our neighborhood clean up. We got a lot of unwanted litter picked up in just two hours! Way to go guys! A special thank you to those landlords and tenants of our apartments in BelAir for keeping them up so nicely. We greatly appreciate it. And a friendly welcome to new residents in our community. Remember the holidays are approaching so please secure your homes and vehicles and keep your Christmas gifts and other valuables where they are not an attraction to thieves!

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS: CRIME STOP 602-262-6151 FOR NON-LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES ILLEGAL DUMPING 602-262-7251 WATER SAFETY HOTLINE 602-495-5555 911 FOR LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES!

A BIG THANK YOU!

Thanks to the effort of many of our neighbors, The BelAir Neighborhood G.A.I.N. (Getting Arizona Involved in

Neighborhoods) Progressive Dinner was a big success.

We would like to thank the local businesses for their generous contributions to our event: **Circle K** at 1502 West Indian School Road, **Food City** at 1940 West Indian School Road, **Fry's Food Store** at 1625 West Camelback Road, **My Mothers Restaurant** at 4130 North 19th Avenue, **Pizza Hut** at 1839 West Indian School Road, **Water & Ice Cream** at 1950 West Indian School Road and **Keep Phoenix Beautiful**. Your patronage of these merchants is appreciated.

A special thanks to the following neighbors who generously hosted a food station: Marilyn Rosko and Corrine Bales, Maxine, Michael & Nicholas Radke, Sharon & Dick Bushouse, Carol and Tom Adamson, and Virginia & Wayne Harmon. Thanks also to neighbors Fran Godwin, Karen Lander, and Georgia Thomas who helped with the night's festivities.

Another special thanks to Dorothy Thomas, Jack and Beverley Brown and Charles and Ute Wilforng for their generous financial contributions to this year's G.A.I.N. event.

Congratulations to Marilyn Rosko, the winner of our 50/50 raffle. The total of the \$162 was divided between

Marilyn and the BelAir Association general fund. Lastly, thanks to everyone who participated in our neighborhood celebration.



YARD ART

By Virginia Clifford Anders

Welcome to fall, everyone! As I drive or walk around the neighborhood I see many yards with decorations of fall colors. Here in Phoenix we have to bring in our seasonal markers. Not a lot of natural seasonal color changes. On my walks, though, besides how nicely most of us maintain our yards and gardens, I also notice a wealth of free-roaming cats.

I love cats, but not everyone does. Some people just don't trust them to stay out of their gardens, for instance. There are peaceful ways around this problem, for the cat lover as well as for the gardener. In researching this issue, I've found another website that promises to be a goldmine of information on over 50,000 topics. Called about.com, it began in 1997 as the Mining Company, but has since been acquired by the New York Times Company. There are 475 people who act as guides in their fields of expertise. The site address is <http://about.com> and I have already bookmarked it on my Favorites.

In the section on cats, I found specific help for managing the inevitable struggle between wandering pets and neighbors' gardens.

The Guide, Franny Syufy, has an article listing her ten best suggestions for cat repellants.

1. If it is your own yard, consider putting a cat box outside away from the garden, but near enough for the cat to get the point. They really are very smart, you know.
2. The Scarecrow Water Spraying Animal Repeller CRO-102, which costs \$79.99 online. This is a motion sensor device and attaches to a garden hose.
3. A recording of a barking dog, if you don't have one you feed and walk.
4. Commercial repellants. There is a website called PETmarket.com that sells pet supplies, but I'm sure the local pet supply store has sprays and such.
5. Roses are a good barrier for intruders of all kinds because of their thorns. So are cacti as well as other spiky plants.
6. Rough rocks in your garden help because animals don't want to walk on them. The other advantage over river rock is that the angles of the surfaces would break up the sunlight baking the surfaces, thus not adding as much heat to the ground.
7. Moth balls in covered cans with a few strategic holes in the can or lid placed around the garden will deter cats' and dogs' sensitive noses.
8. Orange peels can be distributed around the garden, either in pieces or ground up in a blender so you can spread them farther. Cats don't like the smell.
9. A vinegar-water solution sprayed around the base of

acid-loving plants deters animals.

10. Cayenne pepper is a simple, cheap solution when sprinkled on the soil. Cats find it unpleasant, yet it won't hurt them. One comment here: birds love hot pepper in any form, but spread on the soil may not attract them.

OK, there you are. And I found a new favorite website in the bargain to share with my neighbors!

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

Speeding Car/ Aggressive Driver?
602-534-7733

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

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
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1. Submit the ad by email or on diskette to Mark Day. His email address is markdday@cox.net.
2. Include with your ad a check or cash to Mark Day at 4238 N. 15th Drive on or before the 20th of the month. Checks can be made payable to BelAir Neighborhood.

Small Ad - \$7.00

(Business Card Size)

Large Ad - \$14.00

(Double Business Card Size)