

PIERSON PLACE TIMES

Volume 10 - Edition 8 - October 2007 - Fall is here!

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QUARTERLY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT!! SAVE THE DATE!

October 24, 6:30 P.M. Red Roof Inn. 502 W. Camelback. The Neighborhood Survey indicated that many people have concerns with the aesthetics and streets scapes of our neighborhood. We have invited Jerome Miller, Director of Neighborhood Services as our guest speaker for this meeting. He will explain blight ordinances and how they apply to issues concerning aesthetics in our neighborhood. We have tools to address areas of concern; Jerome Miller will help us learn to use them.

PIERSON PLACE ASSOCIATION GAIN EVENT

October 20, 3p.m. to 7p.m. at 3rd Avenue and Coolidge St.

RSVP Nancy McMillan 602-212-0111 or nancymcmillan@quest.net

October in Phoenix means Getting Arizona Involved in Neighborhoods. Our Mistress of Things Fun, Nancy McMillan is lining up music, food, fun, and bouncy house to highlight a wonderful October GAIN evening in our neighborhood. Thanks to her efforts, we can expect an opportunity to visit with each other, and surprise city guests. Bring a Potluck dish to share, your kids, freinds, pets and spouse. Come and see folks we have not seen since hot weather drove us indoors!

FREE!!!

Free!!! Get yours!!! The Pierson Place tee shirt and cap! Limited supply, be the first to sport the new look! Also, porch lights will be available. Evenings are earlier, light your way home!

Pierson Place Association

Neighbors Creating A Better Neighborhood

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, Oct 24, 2007, 6:30 pm
at The Red Roof Inn, 502 W. Camelback Road**



BUSY TIMES IN PIERSON PLACE

Thank you, Andris Mazulus for contributing your synopsis of the Pierson Place Association Quarterly Meeting, July 27, 2007. Andris wrote: "It was fun. We received dark blue 'T' shirts and caps. Bev was so busy bringing in all the stuff, but she was almost pre-empted by Robert Amaya, who did a great Q&A regarding recycling stuff. We received free pens, can cooler sleeves, and best of all, the new list of recyclable items. So word is getting out to us first before the 'general proletariat'."

Seventh Avenue Merchants Association, SAMA, reports 100% occupancy south of the canal. This group of entrepreneurs brings an eclectic mix of restaurants, nightlife, retail, and services to our neighborhood. They work to improve the western borders of our neighborhood. Whether you are looking for a meal, a special gift, pet care, or services you can find it without traveling far! We are fortunate to have so many alternatives to big box, mass-marketed, branded goods so close to home. They have also brought us a neighborhood connection to the First Fridays activities sponsored by Artlink with a trolley stop on the Melrose Curve.

Are you in a Flood Zone? The third annual meeting hosted by the Flood Control District of Maricopa County offered residents within the study area an update on the Metro Phoenix Area Master Plan. Contact www.fcd.maricopa.gov/ads/MetroPhxADMP.htm or call Afshin Ahouraiyan, P.E. at 602-506-4601 for your copy of the report.

City of Phoenix Historic Preservation Office conducted Stakeholder's Meetings in August soliciting contributions and concerns of residents who live in Historic Districts. People from most of the Historic Neighborhoods attended, sharing characteristics of historic neighborhoods to preserve that make living in Phoenix's urban core attractive. They shared the challenges and concerns for keeping this lifestyle relevant to the 21st century. This input will be taken under advisement as the Historic Preservation Office revises the General Design Guidelines for Historic Properties. Residents representing historic neighborhoods offered thoughtful, interesting observations characterizing the differences and similarities of historic neighborhoods. What a remarkable opportunity to contribute to historic preservation we were offered.

Tom Simplot continues monthly Breakfast Meetings after summer hiatus. The September agenda included presentations by City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services and Public Works and U of A Maricopa County Cooperative Extension addressing the problems affecting oleanders in the central core. Oleanders die when infected by a bacteria carried by a flying insect.

Neighborhood services explained that the dead plants must be removed as dictated by current codes. Public Works Department offered three roles they can play assisting with removal. U of A described the bacterial disease which is vectored, or carried, by sharpshooter insects, and how the bacteria kill the plants. They reviewed the history of the disease and the research currently conducted. They also explained limitations of pesticides available to control this insect or the disease.



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Summer is over and the cool weather has started, and we're picking up the pace with some new projects. We started building our website, organized our GAIN event, purchased permanent message boards and deadbolt door locks, and formed a committee to obtain a historic designation on the National Historic register. And, these projects are just part of what is happening in Pierson Place!

I want to personally thank the chairs for taking on these projects. Ray Muench is doing a super job building our website, Nancy McMillan is organizing our GAIN event perfectly, Beverley Bodiroga is keeping our grant projects moving forward, and Joey Muench is pursuing our designation on the National Historic Register (read, property tax break). These folks are taking the bull by the horns and moving the neighborhood in new directions, and I applaud them!

Our other great chairs are Elaine McLean, Zoning; Pam Perry, Newsletter; Trish Zemsch, New Cul-De-Sac on Mariposa; and Steve Bass, Treasurer. It's easy to see there's a good mix of talented people working on our projects, and their dedication is making great things happen in your neighborhood.

This summer I started working on *improving traffic along the light rail route* and helping our local business owners survive in the "war zone" (on two of our borders). Local activist Dan Abrams and I formed a group of business owners and named it BOMARC - Business Owners & Merchants Along the Rail Coalition. There are over 100 members, and Dan and I serve as co-chairs. We worked extensively with Councilman Simplot, Valley Metro Rail and the construction contractors, persuading them to contribute almost \$600,000 for new programs to pursue these goals. As a result, two new traffic managers are on the street to improve traffic flow, a website called "shoptheline.net" was created for merchants to promote their businesses, a huge marketing campaign with print, radio, billboards, and live remote broadcasts has been started, and the contractors are finding ways to speed up construction of the tracks. The initiatives I pursued in this group are a continuation of my longstanding commitment to light rail, and I hope this effort makes your local commuting and shopping a little easier.

We're looking forward to mingling with you at our GAIN event on October 20th at the park at 3rd Ave & Coolidge. And then, we hope to see you again at our general meeting on October 24th at the Red Roof Inn on Camelback. With the cooler weather upon us, there are lots of great things happening and lots of great comradery to share in our corner of the world.

BLOCK WATCH INFO, MEETINGS, AND CRIME STATISTICS

New this year! Dead bolt security for all of us! Many older homes may have poorly or nonworking deadbolts, or none at all. Worse yet, you may not know who has the keys! One more step for personal safety, deadbolts help secure your home. Pick yours up at the GAIN Party or at the Quarterly meeting!

Crime stats reporting period: 5/1-/07 to 7/31/07

1 robbery, 2 aggravated assaults, 11 burglaries, 6 theft, 5 auto theft for a total of 22 property crimes. Also reported: 7 drug crimes, 9 traffic crashes, 312 calls for service of which 5 were domestic violence.

Meetings of the Phoenix Block Watch Advisory Board are scheduled:

October 23, 6:30-8:30 p.m. At PLEA 1102 W. Adams St, Phoenix

November 27, 6:30-8:30 p.m. At Burton Barr Central Library 4th floor lecture room 1221 N. Central Ave.

Phoenix residents are welcomed at these meetings!

CALENDAR

REMEMBER!!! GAIN party Oct. 20th 3rd Ave and Coolidge, 3:00p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Quarterly PPA Meeting Oct. 24th! 6:30 p.m., Red Roof Inn, 502 W. Camelback Rd.

BULK TRASH --- make your dead stuff, debris and clutter go away!

November 3 -- place items for collection on **November 12**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT: Accepted materials listings at: www.phoenix.gov/publicworks or call 602-262-7251 if you have questions concerning everything you can dispose of!

October 11,12,13 Paradise Valley Comm. Center. 17648 N. 40th St.

November 15,16,17 North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Ave.

CORRARO CACTUS GARDEN TOURS give residents of Phoenix an opportunity to visit the grounds of Tovrea Castle. Register for tours online at 'Classes and Programs' link at phoenix.gov/parks or by calling 602-256-3220. Cost: \$15:00. Tours will be available selected weekends thru April.

FALL GARDEN FESTIVAL AND PLANT SALE Metro Tech High school, 1900 W. Thomas Rd. October 20th, 2007 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Free admission. Garden and landscape questions answered, booths by local garden clubs, vendors, Metro Tech students and artists.

December 26- January 6, 2008 Recycle your Christmas tree at sites listed on your city services bill.

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

scottsdaleaz.gov/listserve for a green building newsletter

shoptheline.net reach all your favorite places on the light rail line without the traffic challenges.

www.azcr.org information about supporting locally owned business

VOICE OF THE EDITOR

We surveyed the neighborhood! About one third of the replies were from tenants, demonstrating it is not just homeowners who feel they have a stake in where we live! We all like our location. We do know our neighbors, continue to hate the traffic situation, and were concerned enough about the following three areas to merit comment.

First, we are uncomfortable with the levels of upkeep reflected by the exterior appearances of some properties, residential or commercial. We have asked Jerome Miller, Director of Neighborhood Services to educate us about what we can do using zoning and blight ordinances effectively to address this issue at the Quarterly Meeting scheduled Oct 24, 2007 at Red Roof Inn 6:30 p.m. Being concerned is the first step. Fall is a great time for follow-up.

Secondly, we are not alone in our discomfort with increasing graffiti! Individual participation in control is essential. Photographing, recording, and most of all, **reporting** new and repeat sites are critical as Phoenix fights this citywide scourge. **Call it in**, do not leave this for someone else. In *addition*, make that call to report shopping carts as well!

Third was interest in our historic designation. We are not yet on the National Historic Register, but have initiated the process. And, for those of us who want to pursue renovations, the Historic Preservation Office makes matching grants available to help homeowners with our sometimes-challenging residences. Start your research, save your pennies and be prepared to apply for 2008 grants. Each year in August HPO holds workshops to help residents prepare a successful application! Additional information is available at phoenix.gov/historic. **You** can do this.

Fall is the time of year we open windows and doors. Close them anytime you leave the house and *always keep doors locked*! Old locks not working well? Lost your keys? This year's Block Watch Grant was written with you in mind! New deadbolts are now available for Pierson Place residents this month! *Secure* yours at the GAIN party or at the Quarterly meeting! Have a safe and happy fall!

BOARD MEETING REPORT

Pierson Place Association Board met Sept. 26, 2007. We reviewed the status of several Block Watch projects. We decided to order neighborhood message boards to be posted at 3rd Avenue sites and to begin work with a local website developer. Nancy McMillan has undertaken the necessary arrangements for the GAIN event. We are aware that research and documentation will have to be done to obtain a listing on the National Historic Register. Jo Ann Tunnell Muench volunteered to chair this committee. We decided to support initiatives and projects of the 7th Ave. Merchants Association on an item-by-item basis. Bob Adams raised concerns about zoning change notices posted only along Camelback Rd. related to newly erected billboards. Follow up concerning billboard zoning and related regulations will be researched.

PHONE NUMBERS TO PROGRAM INTO THE PHONE, OR KEEP NEAR-BY!

Storm Water Hotline:	602-256-3190
Shopping cart retrieval	1-800-843-2278
Graffiti busters	602-495-7014
Suspicious activity	602-262-6151
Vice	602-426-1231
Blight	602-262-7844



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**Next General Meeting: Wednesday Oct 24, 2007, 6:30 pm
at The Red Roof Inn, 502 W. Camelback Road**

**PARTY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!!!!!!
PIERSON PLACE ASSOCIATION GAIN EVENT
October 20, 3p.m. to 7p.m. at 3rd Avenue and Coolidge St.**



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