

Desert Dwellers

Volume 8, Issue 2

September 2005

What's Happening??

There's a lot going on in the old neighborhood, and here's where you can read about it in the Desert Dwellers

ANNUAL ALL-NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

DATE: September 17
DAY: Saturday
TIME: 9:30 am
PLACE: St. Philips Episcopal Church, River & Campbell, West Gallery

For more information, check out page 2

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

DATE: September 21
DAY: Wednesday
TIME: 6:30 PM
PLACE: Nanini Library, Lg. Conference Rm. 7300 N. Shannon Rd.

For Details on this very important meeting, please see page 5

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC

DATE: October 29
DAY: Saturday
TIME: 1-6 PM
PLACE: 220 E. Yvon Dr., In the wash next to the "Chocolate House"



*Always a Great Party!
Go to page 3 to read all about it!*

SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR NEXT YEAR'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

15 of your neighbors are dedicating some of their time to make Oracle Foothills a better place to live.

Find out who they are on pages 6 and 7.

Criminal Activity

There's been a rash of it lately, including home burglaries. Learn what types of crimes are being committed and how you can get involved to make this a safer neighborhood.

See page 4 for the clues.

BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

Some residents were busy this summer making one corner of the neighborhood more attractive.

See "A Positive Change" on Page 4

**Oracle Foothills
Neighborhood Association**

ANNUAL MEETING

**Saturday, September 17th
9:30 am to Noon
St. Philips in the Hills Episcopal Church
River Road at Campbell Ave.
West Gallery**

There has been a lot of activity in the neighborhood this past year, not all of it good. A recent rash of burglaries and attempted break-ins has led to the formation of a formal **Neighborhood Watch** program. You will hear all about this and all the other neighborhood happenings at the Annual Meeting.

EVERY resident of Oracle Foothills is invited and encouraged to attend. We need your help to make this a better place to live.

Also on the agenda is the **election** of the Board of Directors for 2005-2006.

Once again you will have the opportunity to see and purchase the **artwork** of some of our talented neighbors, who will be showing their work before and after the meeting.

Every member in good standing who is in attendance will receive a drawing ticket for some terrific prizes.

Coffee, sweets, registration, conversation and art show start at 8:30.

Hope to see you there! Call 690-1107 for information or directions.



We're celebrating Halloween, so wear your best costume!

Come Party with your Neighbors At the 7th Annual

OFNA Picnic!

EVERY NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT IS INVITED!

Saturday, October 29th, 1- 6 pm

In the wash on the south side of Yvon Drive, next to 220 E. Yvon (The Chocolate House), it will be an afternoon of food, fun, music, games, and friendly conversation

Bring a dish to share

Jay and his crew of chefs will be serving up yummy barbequed **chicken** and **dogs**

Utensils, Paper Products and Soft Drinks will be provided
You may bring your own beer or wine

There'll be lots of fun activities for the kids, including a piñata and a jumping castle

Local neighborhood musicians will be performing, and you can try your talents at Karaoke



For more information, or to volunteer to help, contact the chairmen,
Jay & Carole DeAngeli, 690-1107

WWW.OFNA.ORG

Crime Comes to Oracle Foothills

In the last few months, it seems that the criminals have 'discovered' Oracle Foothills. Several thefts from vehicles by, four home burglaries, several attempted burglaries, and several incidents of suspicious persons and behavior.

The vehicle break-ins generally have occurred at night. Always lock your vehicles and do not leave valuables inside.

In contrast, the majority of the home invasion incidents have occurred during the day, generally early afternoon, when the chance of finding no one home is the greatest. The suspects knock on the door, and, if someone answers, make up a phony reason for being there, such as wanting to seal your driveway, or clean your yard. Should someone suspicious come to your door, do not hesitate to call 911! If there is no answer, the criminals feel free to break in. In one instance, after a resident did not answer the door, the criminal shot a pellet gun through the window, almost hitting the homeowner who was inside. In more than one case, a sliding glass door was broken to gain entry to the home. Thieves are looking for relatively small items that can be easily sold.

In any situation, if you see a suspicious vehicle or persons, please call 911 immediately. It also helps to notify the neighborhood e-mail coordinators so the rest of the neighbors can be alerted.

Security bars are a good preventative, but if you don't wish to go to that length, the next best insurance is an alarm system, with glass break and motion sensors. An alarm might not keep a criminal from breaking into the house, but it will definitely

hasten his departure and/or capture. Alarm company signs may even deter a criminal.

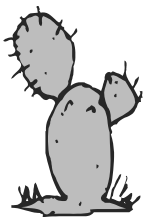
Most people believe that dogs are a deterrent. However, if you are away for any length of time, your dogs will probably not be left home to guard the house.

As a response to the latest outbreak of crime, a formal **Neighborhood Watch** is being formed in Oracle Foothills. One of the requirements of establishing this program is to have an initial organizational meeting, with a large enough representation from the neighborhood to demonstrate sincere interest and participation.

Our homes are widely separated and often not visible from the street, making us ideal targets. Knowing our neighbors and watching out for each other is the best way to prevent us from becoming victims.

Please take the time to become involved in this important effort. Come to the Neighborhood Watch meeting on Wednesday, September 21st, 6:30pm, at the Nanini Library's large conference room, 7300 N. Shannon Rd.

Remember that the very best protection is neighbors watching out for neighbors!



A Positive Change

From a crumbling old eyesore overrun with nasty bunny's ears cactus to a neat and tidy planter filled with an attractive variety of new desert life, the circular planter at the intersection of Nina and Yvon Drives has begun a new life and demonstrates the value of neighbors working together for the benefit of all.

Special thanks to Jay DeAngeli, Brian Hagen, Jesse Wood, and Hal and Miriam Fritts for their invaluable and very appreciated contributions to the planter project:

Jay, Brian—cactus removal & clean-up
Brian, Jesse, Becky—masonry renovation
Jesse, Hal, Miriam, Jacki—plant contributions
Jesse, Jacki, Becky—planting
Pima County Transportation Dept—new area paving

*Becky Spencer and Jacki Elder
 Project Coordinators*

Newsletter Notes ~ For any suggestions or contributions to this newsletter, please contact:

Carole DeAngeli, 690-1107, ejdeangeli@earthlink.net

WWW.OFNA.ORG

NEIGHBORHOOD ALERT!

ARE YOU AWARE THAT IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS OUR NEIGHBORHOOD HAS HAD SEVERAL BREAK-INS AND ATTEMPTED BREAK-INS?

One involved a gunshot through a window when the homeowner was standing near the window! Many are concerned about this outbreak of crime, and have begun working together to make our neighborhood safer. Representatives from the Pima County Sheriff's Department tell us that key elements in accomplishing this are knowing your neighbors, caring about what happens to them, and being ready to report suspicious activity on both their property and your own.

THERE WILL BE AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ABOUT ESTABLISHING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 6:30 PM, IN THE LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM AT NANINI LIBRARY (7300 N. Shannon Rd., behind the driver's license bureau).

- Representatives from the Pima Co. Sheriff's Department will present a lecture and video, outlining steps all can take to make our neighborhoods safer and less attractive to criminals.
- We need 30-35% of Oracle Foothills neighbors to attend this meeting and be willing to sign on as supporters of the program. Attendance does not obligate you to join, but it may inspire you to do so!

WHAT DOES SIGNING ON AS A SUPPORTER OF THIS PROGRAM MEAN?

- Just providing your name and address on a signup sheet will indicate you support the idea that we can work together to make our neighborhoods safer.
- There are no dues or obligations and you do not need to be a member of the Oracle Foothills Neighborhood Association.
- You have the option to provide your email address (or a stamped, self-addressed envelope) to receive speedy neighborhood crime updates.

WHICH OF YOUR NEIGHBORS ARE ALREADY SUPPORTING THIS PROGRAM?

- Our local Oracle Foothills Neighborhood Association (OFNA) held a special meeting in July to discuss safety concerns with Pima County Sheriff's Department representatives, and voted to support the reactivation of an independent **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH** program.



HELP US MAKE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFER BY ATTENDING THE 9/21 MEETING!

Liz Sherwood, Area Leader, 888-9279

JOIN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!

CANDIDATES FOR 2005-2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay DeAngeli: (Incumbent Board Member, current president) During my 33-year career with AT&T, I worked as project manager on numerous large telecommunications projects, both in the U.S. and overseas. Our travels and working assignments took us to Asia, Africa and Europe. After retiring, I was active in home building and remodeling in Reno.

My wife Carole and I moved to Oracle Foothills in 1995, coming from the high desert foothills of Reno, Nevada (my birthplace). We have been very active in our neighborhood association and plan to continue our efforts. Some of the activities with which I have been involved include: publication of the quarterly newsletter; continuation of our annual picnic; the ongoing maintenance of a safe, clean and attractive neighborhood; promotion of open communication among the neighbors.

I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors for another year.

Sig Eisner: (Incumbent Board Member, current Vice President) Sig has been a resident of the Oracle Foothills neighborhood since 1995. He was educated at the Universities of Arizona, California (Berkeley) and Columbia and spent over 30 years as a member of the English Department at the University of Arizona. For over 55 years he has been married to Nan Eisner. He and Nan are the parents of six and the grandparents of 12.

Ron Foreman:

Matthew Freedman: My wife Dr. Rebecca Freedman, our two daughters, Hillary and Natalie, and I decided that Tucson would be a natural place for our family to continue our western adventure. The Oracle Foothills Estates is a lovely, bucolic setting to raise a family that has deep concerns for the environment and wildlife. After spending several decades as an entrepreneur in the Boston area I changed careers and moved into software technology, business to business sales management. It was this change that helped us to relocate to the West Coast. If elected to the board I will bring a clear sense of thoughtful leadership and consensus building that will hopefully benefit the collective community that we are all so fortunate to share.

Gene Isaak: (Incumbent Board Member) I am a 37 year resident of the neighborhood. I have degrees from the U of N. Dakota and NYU Law Schools. I have practiced law all those years in Tucson and am still practicing. We raised two children here and although they are now on their own they visit us often, each with one grandchild. We enjoy the neighborhood because it is relatively close in but the lots are big enough to allow privacy. I am interested in keeping this a safe neighborhood and in getting the streets repaved.

Richmond Johnson: A native of Madison, Wisconsin and a second-year resident of Oracle Foothills, Richmond is a veteran of the performing arts - singing, acting, dancing, producing, directing, designing, writing and teaching. Now semi-retired, Richmond moved to Tucson last year from California and has already become active in neighborhood activities.

Sharon Laird: (Incumbent Board Member)

Scott Odom: (Incumbent Board Member, current Treasurer) I

was born and raised in Phoenix, where I learned to tolerate and even enjoy the extremes of the desert. My fondness for Tucson grew during undergraduate studies at the University of Arizona. In addition to providing a fun academic environment, the University is the venue in which I first met my lovely wife, Ashley. In May of 2000, I received a bachelor's degree from the college of business with majors in Finance, Accounting, and Entrepreneurship. After graduation, I worked as an auditor in the Phoenix office of KPMG, a large public accounting firm. In August 2001, I was able to break away from work just long enough to marry sweet little Ashley. And after two years with KPMG and the attainment of my CPA certificate, I made the surprisingly easy decision to leave public accounting. With Ashley working as a technology consultant, our options were wide open in regard to geographic location. After mulling things over, we narrowed our choice down to either Denver or Tucson. Of course, you all know which town won out in the end. A large part of our decision was based on this wonderful neighborhood. The characteristics of (1) natural desert and (2) heterogeneity of homes were both present here, and we were supremely excited that a home fitting our needs and our budget was actually available in such a setting. The rest, as they say, is history. Since moving to Tucson, Ashley has shifted careers and is now a 7th grade math teacher at Flowing Wells Junior High. I am currently the Assistant Vice President of Finance at DM Federal Credit Union. Ashley and I have sincerely enjoyed our first few years in the 'hood. Most of all, we love the wildlife sightings and the peaceful surroundings. As a board member, conserving and protecting the special habitat within our neighborhood would be at the top of my agenda.

Kim Peterson: (Incumbent Board Member) Kim has been an Arizona resident for over 20 years, which means she is finally approaching semi-native status. She and her husband Merrill moved to Oracle Foothills in 1999, one of the smartest things they have ever done. They both love the neighborhood's natural desert landscape and quiet charm. Even more delightful are the neighbors whom they find to be consistently bright, open-minded, and just plain fun to be with. There is in the Oracle Foothills a wonderful old-fashioned neighborly feeling which Kim loves and hopes to help develop even more in the coming year.

Carolyn Denison Redmore: (Incumbent Board Member) After making the decision to locate full time to Tucson from St. Louis, Mo., my husband, Derek, and I were pleased to find this neighborhood with its low key eclectic ambiance, amazing desert habitat, and awesome views. As a newcomer, I especially would enjoy serving on the OFNA board for the opportunity it would give me to become acquainted with our neighbors. But, also, it would be satisfying to work with others in identifying and serving the needs of the neighborhood. If elected to the board I would draw on my experience as a psychologist in assessing issues and developing/implementing/evaluating action plans. More specifically, I am interested in outreach to newcomers and ongoing neighborhood assistance. I hail originally from the Cajun and rice lands of south Louisiana; Derek, a chemist, from the Wolds of Lincolnshire, England. We have two treasured grown children, a son in St. Louis and daughter in Arlington, Va. It will be a pleasure to serve on the OFNA board another year.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Tom Scarborough: (Incumbent Board Member, Current Secretary) My wife Harriet and I moved into the Oracle Foothills neighborhood in November of 1988. I was teaching high school biology and physical science at the time. Since then, I have completed a thirty year career in public education, including seventeen years as a classroom teacher and thirteen as a building administrator, the last ten of which were spent as principal of Cholla High School.

I completed my B.S. in Wildlife Biology in 1969, and after a couple of years of military service I returned to Tucson and the University of Arizona to obtain my teaching certificate. I completed my M.Ed. in 1979 and my Ph.D. in 1986. I retired from TUSD in 2002. I continue to work part-time for TUSD in administrator training. I have served as a volunteer facilitator in the YWCA's "Time to Talk" anti-racism program for the past three years.

I have very much enjoyed living in our neighborhood, and I appreciate the work that former and current board members have done to make this such a nice place to live. One of my goals upon retirement was to become more involved in community service, and what better place to begin than in our own neighborhood? If elected, I will be proud to continue serving on the board, and will work hard to contribute to the good of our neighborhood.

Barbara Schuessler: (Incumbent Board Member) I moved to this wonderful neighborhood four years ago and have a strong interest in the preservation of the natural desert landscape and its wildlife. The beauty of our desert and the integrity that has been maintained in our neighborhood is something I would like to continue to focus on and would love to contribute to our sense of community by serving on the OFNA board of directors. Being involved with Reaters has allowed me to meet many wonderful neighbors and to participate in great discussions and to get to know my neighborhood better. I teach flamenco dance at Creative Dance Arts and have my own video business. Growing up in El Paso, I first came to Tucson in 1968 to go to school at the U. of A. Leaving in 1974, but returning to the magnificent Catalina mountains in 1980, Tucson has been my home ever since. I have a B. A. from the U. of A.

Richard Schwartz: I am a 51-year-old native Tucsonan and a gemologist.

Liz Sherwood: (Incumbent Board Member) For 25 years I worked as a librarian, my last position as a cataloger at the University of Arizona Library. I have also worked in other university libraries, in public libraries, and in several government and technical research libraries. Glenn and I moved into this neighborhood in 1996. We love its combination of closeness to urban activities and its almost daily encounters with desert wildlife. Now that we're retired I make and sell jewelry, and Glenn makes and sells sculpture. I recently volunteered to serve as Area Leader to help OFNA re-establish an active Neighborhood Watch program, which we all hope will be another encouragement for our neighbors and ourselves to get to know each other better and be more pro-active in neighborhood security.

OFNA Financial Statement

4/1/05—7/31/05

Beginning Cash	\$7239
Total Income	382
Total Expense	477
Ending Cash	\$7144

Complete details are available to all members from the Treasurer, Scott Odom.

Special Thanks

- ◆ Kitty Schwartz for handling the voluminous e-mail notifications and correspondence this summer
- ◆ Liz and Glenn Sherwood for taking on the job of organizing the Neighborhood Watch, and to all those who have agreed to be Block Captains
- ◆ Richard & Kitty Schwartz, Don Peters and David Brown for their assistance when our home was burglarized this summer

E-MAIL LIST

OFNA maintains a neighborhood e-mail list to keep neighbors informed of events in a timely manner. If you have an item of general interest that you would like sent out, or for any change to your e-mail address, please contact **the list administrators:**

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ejdeangeli@earthlink.net
690-1107

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k3952s@aol.com
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