

Meet U On the Mesa

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invitation and suggested that one of my roles could be to attract other young spirited individuals and families to be more involved in our neighborhood.

This is what it takes. Grabbing those around you, making that effort, to see if they'd get involved. It's as simple as an invitation. Which takes me to the question of the article, "where'd those new MEET U ON THE MESA come from?"

On a chance meeting, I met Courtney and Adam (her husband) walking in the foothills. They fit the profile as outlined by Donna. They graciously invited me and Jennifer (my wife) over to their house for a couple of beverages. In doing so, we met their neighbors, Michael and Shannon to the south. During this visit I made the connection that these two families were experts in creativity and design.

So there it was, the entry. It seemed like I should

pull these creative people in. You see, during this same time period the Mesa Board was looking to create some new entry signs to better direct residents to events in the neighborhood. So I asked, "Would you be willing to help?" YES!

There you have it, a chance trail visit, which turned into a cocktail hour, which identified skills, which landed work that doesn't cost. PERFECT!

Here's a snippet of what the artists felt about the design creation of our new signs... "We wanted to create a look for the Warm Springs Mesa that felt energetic and fun. The color and illustration is representative of the rust-colored sandstone of the mesa, and the rays are symbolic of the beautiful sunsets we get to enjoy. But the primary idea behind the t-shirts and signs, "meet u on the mesa," is to capture the sense of community we already have and want to advance." **Michael and Courtney.**

Bottom line is this> Do our neighborhood a favor and get involved. It's fun! You never know what creative thing might come from it. Not to mention the new friends and an improved sense of MeetU on the Mesa.

Neighborhood Watch

By Aaron Hassemer

The Mesa is a relatively crime-free area, which is good news and bad news. The good news, of course, is that we can feel safe and comfortable. The bad news is, we have come to feel safe and comfortable – and that often leads to complacency – just what would-be thieves are looking for. Over the summer, the number of burglaries, damage to property, and drug related arrests rose.

The Neighborhood Watch Program has a goal of "Taking a Bite Out of Crime" by enlisting neighbors to watch out for neighbors and the neighborhood in general. The Mesa has an established Neighborhood Watch program, but several streets are "Captainless." These include Starcrest, Starlington, Rockridge, Starview, Windsong, Hardrock, Scyene and Toluka on both sides of StonePoint.

Block Captains relay information relayed from the Boise Police Department to the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator to the families in their chosen area of the neighborhood. The time commitment is small but the results can be huge. Please contact me at 869-8063 if you are able to cover one of the mentioned streets.

I also ask you to report any graffiti. I removed the markings on the Jersey barriers on Starview and plan to work with the city to remove other graffiti. Your assistance is very welcomed.

MNA NEWS

From the President

Board Updates by Donna Burns

Am I proud of this neighborhood!!! Do you realize all we have going for us? We have our own website www.warmspringmesa.org, our own newsletter, our own logo, an active neighborhood watch program, a children's play group network, a safe house program, a very active Board, and a very active community. Very few neighborhoods have as much.

Our first Neighborhood Night Out, held on August 5th turned out to be one, if not the best attended, in the city. Police Chief Michael Masterson and acting mayor (while Mayor Beiter was out of town) Council President David Eberle, stopped by for a brief visit and ended up staying for over an hour.

They kept commenting, as more and more people came, that they couldn't believe the turn out – and

neither could I. There were well over 140 people in attendance: the grills were fired up, the fire department was on hand, there were kittens to pet, and a great time was had by young and younger.

And what about the new "Meet U on the Mesa" logo? Thanks to our creators and Heinrich Weibe for his efforts in getting the signs done up. Thanks also to Debbie Arnhols and another super picnic. See the related articles. And thanks also to all the other Committee Chairs and the volunteer Board members. None of this would be possible without them.

The Board is charged with keeping the residents of the Mesa informed. From time to time we receive requests to enforce a city code. We are not able to slow neighbors down or enforce parking rules, but we can give you the information you need to reach the resources who can help you. We encourage you to call the specific agencies, a couple of whom are outlined in articles in this letter.

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Meet U On the Mesa

By Heinrich Weibe

In a variety of ways these new signs represent the essences of the Mesa. Let me elaborate. It's about the "We-thing".

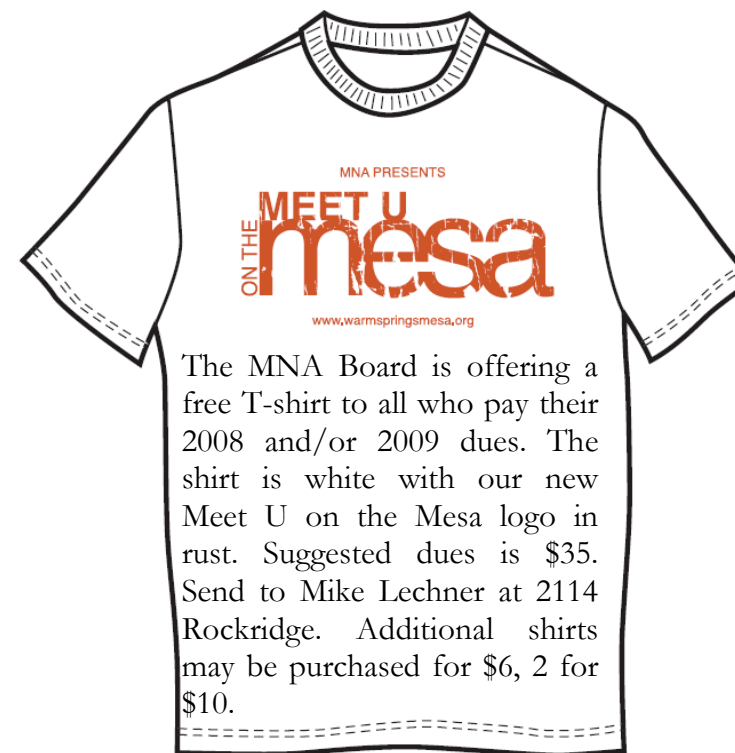
To have a strong neighborhood, you need people willing to step out and pull others in to take action. Sort of like someone screaming, "Hey you, get involved!"

What I mean is this. I'm the sort of person who's fairly outgoing and willing to jump in. I'm not special, lots of people have this demeanor. Our trouble is, we need an entry point to do so. That comes from leadership. Leadership taps those around to act.

In this case, Donna Burns (our fantastic President) tapped me on a chance meeting to see if I'd be willing to participate on the Board. She made this

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Want a FREE T-Shirt With the New Logo?



The MNA Board is offering a free T-shirt to all who pay their 2008 and/or 2009 dues. The shirt is white with our new Meet U on the Mesa logo in rust. Suggested dues is \$35. Send to Mike Lechner at 2114 Rockridge. Additional shirts may be purchased for \$6, 2 for \$10.

MNA BOARD MEMBERS

President: Donna Burns
Vice President: Debbie Amhols
Secretary: Richard Carter
Treasurer: Mike Lechner

Dan Arnhols Mike Chapton
 Becky Crum Doug Erdman
 Bill Morse Tom Burns
 Jeff Enrico Greg Leber

PROJECTS / COMMITTEES

By-Laws: Mike Lechner
Clean-up: Richard Carter
Comprehensive Plan: Valerie Loge
Firewise: Dan Amhols
 Tom Burns
Neighborhood Watch: Aaron Hassemer
Newsletter/Flyer: Teneale Chapton
Picnic: Debbie Amhols
Signage: Heinrich Weibe
Website: Nancy Barrera
Yard Sale: Donna Burns

Another Successful Mesa Yard Sale & Annual Picnic

By Debbie Ambols

We had over 40 Mesa families participating in our community wide yard sale this year. It was a beautiful day to have a sale, look for that special item, or just check things out. Thanks to Donna Burns for coordinating the registrations, providing maps, and advertisements that contributed to this successful undertaking. Remember, it's never too early to plan for next year's sale!



The weekend ended with our annual picnic--over 150 residents came by our park, had a burger, shared a dish, and either met or renewed friendships with other Mesa neighbors.

We had a little something for everyone beginning with Lulu the clown and her sidekick to entertain our little ones with face painting, balloon animals and games. We also had a visit from Smokey Bear and a tour of the Boise Fire Department's fire truck. For the older kids (and adults), we had a performance and hooping instructions from a local hoola hoop girl, Katie Deppe. All the while we had continuous DJ music from our own Mesa residents, Tony and Nancy Barrera.

Two boxes of food were donated to the Boise Food Bank and a check for \$100 each has been sent to Adams Elementary and East Junior High to support the "needy student" funds.

Thanks to all of our Board members who contributed in some way with the picnic, and especially our cooks, Bill Morse and Doug Erdman (who slaved over a hot fire for over 3 hours), our auctioneer, Becky Enrico-Crum, and those volunteers who helped with set up and clean up.

With each year, the yard sale and picnic get bigger and better. Looking forward to seeing you next fall. Watch for our new MeetUonTheMesa signs advertising the event.

Firewise Your Home

By Dan Ambols

Fire departments responding to wildfires often have to make decision as to which homes to save when an entire neighborhood is threatened. A firewise home has an increased chance of survival and therefore a better chance of being protected by the fire department while fighting a wildfire.

Preparation is the central key to protecting your home from a wildfire. Once a fire occurs, there will be little time to protect your home, family, and valuables. Plan now: 1) Obtain a firewise planner from the Red Cross, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), FEMA, Boise Fire Dept, US Forest Service, or from other local authorities. Start with www.firewise.org or just google "firewise". There is lots of information on this subject. 2) Develop an evacuation plan for your family. Your safety comes first. 3) Implement A Firewise Protection Plan For Your Home and Yard. Clean a defensible space of 30' - 100' around your home. Remove items that will fuel a fire. (Debris, mulch, tree branches, leaves in gutters, etc. Landscape a defensible space of 30"-100" around your home. Prune low hanging branches, remove combustible plants, Add less flammable plants. Maintain well-watered grass and plants around house (rock mulch alternatives). Maintain a fire-

resistant roof, eaves, and soffits Keep gutters free of debris. House attachments like decks, sheds, fences need to be fire resistant. 4) Convince your neighbor to implement a firewise plan for their home., they affect you. 5) Make sure nearest fire hydrant can be easily located by fire department. If hidden by grass or bushes, make sure that this area is cleared and hydrant is visible. Contact fire department if there is not a blue reflector in the road in front of the hydrant.

These are just a few of the preventive measures that you may wish to consider for your home's protection. Obtain a firewise planner to read about the others to be considered.

From the President

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The Board is looking at the next few months as a time to plan for 2009. Our major projects are to find a Neighborhood Watch Captain for every block on the Mesa, continue work on the Comprehensive Plan, and develop a Firewise Plan. We would also like to establish a Welcome Wagon. Volunteers are needed. Please contact us at president@warmspringmesa.org.

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful holiday season.

Speed Limits Are Useless Without Enforcement

by Ben Fried

If drivers don't acknowledge the risk of speeding, street designs and enforcement practices have to do it for them.

New research from Purdue University highlights the futility of controlling drivers' speed with signs. The 'Times' health blog [has the story](#):

When it comes to speeding, many American motorists don't worry about safety. They just worry about getting caught.

Those are the findings by researchers from Purdue University who surveyed nearly 1,000 motorists about speed limits and driving habits. They found that many drivers are cynical about the safety benefits of driving within speed limits, and many think they can drive safely while speeding as long as they won't get caught, according to the report.

"So the faster you think you can go before getting a ticket, the more likely you are to think safety's not compromised at higher speeds," said Fred Mannering, a professor of civil engineering at Purdue, in a press release. "For whatever reason, respect for speed limits seems to have deteriorated."

The Mesa Children's Group

by Susan Warnke

The Mesa Children's Group, a network of Mesa mothers and women interested in meeting Mesa neighbors, would like to have another play date and do some brainstorming on activities and networking. The kick-off meeting took place at Quarry View Park a few weeks ago. Sue Warnke is the organizer. Please contact Sue at susanwarnke@yahoo.com for more information.

Fall Clean Up Report

by Richard Carter

The record-setting early October snow and following morning fog had quite an effect on our traditional Autumn Mesa Cleanup, to the extent that only a handful of neighbors participated, and our focus was in cleaning and landscaping the Starcrest entrance.

Happily, ongoing cleanliness and neatness are consistently valued behaviors across the Mesa. Many of our neighbors continue to pick up trash as part of their regular walking activities throughout the Mesa.

A number of ACHD orange vests and heavy-duty trash bags and ties have been held aside if you'd like to arrange a clean-up effort of a particular location amongst yourselves. Please call Richard Carter at 424-0653 to obtain these supplies.

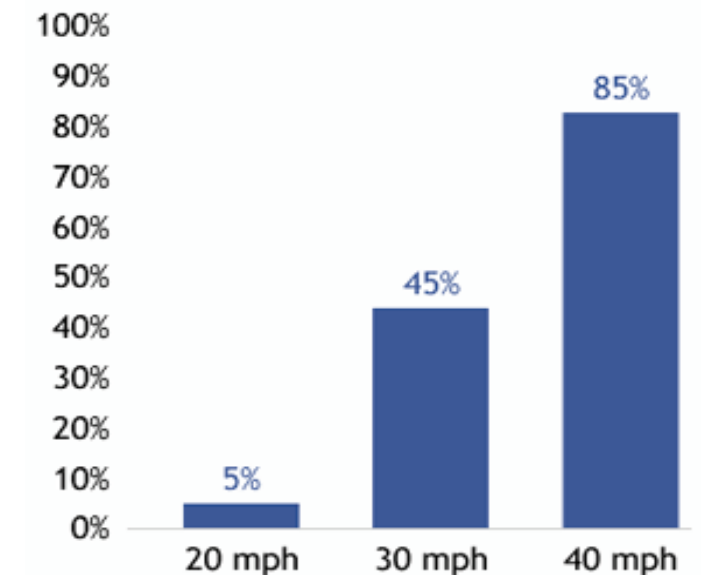
ALL ROADS ARE 20 MPH MAXIMUM SPEED LIMIT ON THE MESA. ONCE YOU TURN OFF HWY 21 ALL ROADS ON THE MESA ARE 20 MPH AND ARE CLEARLY POSTED AS REQUIRED BY LAW.

If you would like to see increased Boise Police patrols on the mesa please contact our BPD Neighborhood Contact Officer:

[Cameron Becker](mailto:cbecker@cityofboise.org) 331-0866

The 20 MPH Speed Limit on the Mesa is for SAFETY of pedestrians! Do not become part of a statistic!

Fatalities Based On Speed of Vehicle
A pedestrian's chance of death if hit by a motor vehicle



Killing Speed and Saving Lives. UK Department of Transportation

Boise City Codes

Since being annexed into the city of Boise, the Mesa is subject to Boise city's codes. Some of the items included in these codes have come up as issues in the Mesa.

Please note that dogs running at large are prohibited per section 6-07-17. Cut or uncut weeds, grass, vines and other vegetation over 10" in height are to be cut or removed per section 304.1.2.1. Cars, trucks, trailers, boats, boat trailers, and Recreational vehicles shall not be parked on: required yard areas, unimproved parking areas, the required side and rear yard setbacks, adjacent residential zoned streets for more than 48 hrs per section 11-10-04.02.

For additional information on Boise's codes go to CityofBoise.org/citycodes