

From the President

Board Updates by Donna Burns

Well, the crocuses are bravely peeking through the cold ground and the forsythia are looking like they want to pop their blooms and even the summer birds are beginning to make an appearance. All signs point toward to long-awaited. Your MNA Board is also springing into action after taking it easy over the winter months.

Our 2009 calendar of events is in place and projects are being organized. Please see related articles in this news letter. We hope that you will participate in all the activities, either as a volunteer or as a partaker of the fun and sharing.

First on the list is the Annual Community Meeting, April 16. We are required by city codes, to call all members of the Mesa Neighborhood Association to an annual meeting. And if you are a permanent resident of the Mesa, you are a member of the Association, unlike the various Home Owners Associations, where membership is determined by subdivision residence. This is your opportunity to let us know how we are doing, what you would like the Board to take on. And it is the Board's time to keep you informed of issues related to the Mesa.

Mesa Neighborhood Calendar 2009

- April 16: Annual Meeting (7 pm, Adams School Gym)
- May 16: Spring Community Clean Up
- May 16: Spring Gathering (NEW) this year
- August 4: Neighborhood Night Out
- September 19: Annual Community Yard Sale
- September 20: Annual Community Picnic
- October 10: Fall Community Clean Up

The Big Dig

By Heinrich Weibe

Many of you may not be aware of why our streets were being torn up. Your Mesa Board investigated: Idaho Power has identified the Mesa for cable injection, and cable

Board members are often called upon by residents seeking information about who to call for help with questions/problems. We have discovered a great resource for you at www.cityofboise.org/pds. This A-Z list contains information on dozens of Ordinances and agencies. A copy is attached for your home file.

City of Boise's Spring Clean Boise is an opportunity to help those in need tidy up their properties. We're asking neighborhoods to identify elderly, disabled, or others needing assistance. If needed, the City can supplement your neighborhood's efforts with additional volunteers. Contact Jerry Todd at 384-4428 by April 15. Do we have neighbors needing assistance? See warmspringmesa.org website for more information.

Please send comments to president@warmspringmesa.org Hope to see you at our events and activities. Happy spring all.

MNA BOARD MEMBERS

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

Dan Arnhols Mike Chaption
Becky Crum Doug Erdman
Bill Morse Tom Burns
Jeff Enrico Greg Leber
By-Laws: Mike Lechner
Clean-up: Richard Carter
Comprehensive Plan: Valerie Loge

PROJECTS / COMMITTEES

Firewise: Dan Amhols
Tom Burns
Neighborhood Watch: Aaron Hassemer

Power has identified the Mesa for cable injection and cable replacement to improve the system's reliability. Idaho Power has a contractor that Injects the 7200 volt underground cables. The cable is injected with a dielectric fluid that rejuvenates the cable. If for some reason the cable is unable to be injected, the cable is then scheduled for replacement.

The project is a two year process to fix decay of lines, now in year two.. ID Power uses subcontractor "Tracks Utilities". First line of questions is handled by foreman John Hilton 573-1274. Second line to ID Power Craig Rome 388-2899. They'll be back in the spring, when it's warm to make everything pretty.

Newsletter/Flyer:
Picnic:
Signage:
Website:
Yard Sale:

Teneale Chapton
Debbie Amhols
Heinrich Weibe
Nancy Barrera
Donna Burns

FREE T-Shirt

The MNA Board is offering a Free "Meet You on the Mesa" T when annual dues , \$35, is paid. Please send your check in the attached envelope to treasurer Mike Lechner today. Your dues fund Mesa activities and newsletters. Thank you!

Home Safety

By Charlene Miller

As many of you know from recent articles in the Idaho Statesman our area has suffered from an increase in residential burglaries. Some of these have been forced entries, not just crimes of opportunity like we normally experience. Here are some tips to help keep your home and property secure:

Doors: Install solid core wood or metal doors (that lead to the outside). Install (and use) good quality deadbolt locks with 2 - 3 inch screws in the Strikeplate. Reinforce the strikeplate. If you have a window near where the lock can be reached if the window is broken, then consider adding a latch-type lock higher up on the door. Lock and Door Reinforcer (this is installed on the door).

Windows: If you do not already have locks on your windows, and/or you leave windows open a bit, there are various locking devices for sliding windows and double hung sash windows.

MNA Annual Community Meeting

April 16 7 pm Adams Gym
TENTATIVE AGENDA

- Business Meeting
- Introduction of Fire Safety/Clean-up Plan
- ACHD - Bridge Update. Mesa impact
- Other Mesa related updates (Pool, etc.)
- Public Works and new trash/recycling changes

Lighting: Appropriately positioned outside lighting is very important. Consider motion sensor lighting. Some will turn on an inside lamp and/or sound alerts as well as light up the outside of the home when the sensor is activated. Photo cell (dusk-to-dawn) attachments to outside lights is an alternative to motion sensor.

Additional helps: Remember to contact police dispatch (377-6790 or 911) if you see or hear suspicious or criminal activity. Dogs can be an effective deterrent. If you are going to be away from your home, make sure your home appears lived in. Place lights and a radio on timers to simulate your normal activity. Ask a neighbor to bring in your newspaper and mail, and to bring out/take in your garbage cans. Ask them to park their car in your driveway periodically, and give them your emergency contact information.

We all know that if someone really wants to get in our homes, they will. But, we want to make it so difficult and time consuming that they will go elsewhere or just give up and get a real job.

Last but not least: If you want to know if your home is as secure as it can be, our Crime Prevention Unit has a service available (at no cost) for you. To take advantage of a security inspection of your home, please contact me at 577-3851 or cmiller@cityofboise.org.

Thank you for all your efforts in keeping your neighborhoods safe!

What Makes a Great Neighborhood?

By Bill Morse

Location? Low crime rate? Access to good schools? Well maintained properties? A variety of home styles and sizes? Proximity to parks and recreation? A mix of residents that offers new buyers, such as those with children, the opportunity to be close to other families with children? High resale values of homes?

These are just some of the things that play a part in the make-up of a great neighborhood. But a neighborhood could have all the above features and not be a place where

thing to do. You may not agree with some of the codes, but they were implemented because some violations are safety issues or have a negative impact on your neighbor or the neighborhood in general. If you go to neighborhoods where city code violations are exceptionally high, you will find that property values are lower, crime is higher, and the neighborhoods are not great places to live.

Since being annexed into the City of Boise, the Mesa is subject to Boise City's codes. The following items included in these codes have been raised to the MNA

many of us would want to live. Why? Because people make a neighborhood great--people who watch out for their neighbor's home; are active in neighborhood schools; maintain their property; respect their neighbor's rights as much as their own; take pride in how their community looks (refrain from throwing trash, keep dogs leashed/pick up after them on walks,etc.) . When you have the combination of the above and people who care about these things, you have a great neighborhood.

Let's keep the Mesa a great place to live and one of Boise's great neighborhoods by complying with Boise City codes. Not only are they the law, but it's the neighborly

included in these codes have been raised to the MINA Board as issues in the Mesa.

- 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, see attached flyer or www.cityofboise.org/citycode