



Medlock Place Historic District

Central & Camelback
Neighborhood Association
120 West Oregon, Phoenix, Az 85013

CCNA Street Representatives

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Vermont
John Ward: 206-9513
Georgia
Elke Tidwell: 287-9179
Oregon
Joan Welty: 274-6968
Colter
Jon Douglas: 234-0150
Medlock
Marilynne Ransom: 285-9779
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Carol Kawell: 230-9171

CCNA Officers

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Vice President
Kerry Moss: 266-2627
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Members at Large

Kerry Melcher: 230-9309
Lynn Morrow: 277-7445
JB Runyan: 264-5313

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127 West Georgia, Phoenix, Az 85013
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Rick DeGraw: 264-4396
Scheduling
Lynn Morrow: 277-7445
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Jim & Kate Crowder: 914-6902 (pager)

Medlock Homeowners Association

Colleen Ceton: 241-1202
Irrigators, Mark & Ruth Ferguson

The Medlock Pages

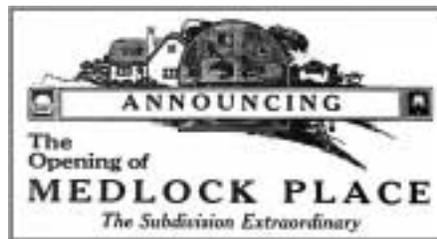
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Editors
Lynn Morrow / Kerry Moss

We're Historical!

by Kerry Moss
CCNA Historic District Chair

On April 2, 2003 Medlock Place was named as Phoenix's 28th Historic District. After nearly five years of effort that eventually involved almost everyone in our neighborhood, Mayor Skip Rimsa and the City Council approved the culmination of hundreds of hours of research, documentation, and a seemingly unending round of presentations and meetings.

There was a point, however, in March of 2002, when the project was in serious jeopardy. Because our time and effort was voluntary and any neighborhood budget for the professional help necessary to substantiate our research and documentation was nonexistent (more than \$15,000 was eventually needed), I turned to the Preservation Office for help.



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The response was negative: it would be some time, possibly years, before our neighborhood's place in their line of applicants could be funded for a professional assessment of the area's history and architectural significance.

Though our work was otherwise encouraged by the Preservation Office, we were by then aware that yet another home in the neighborhood was up for destruction. Whether we would be able to save that home or not, it was apparent that our unique and lovely neighborhood could continue to be pieced out for com-



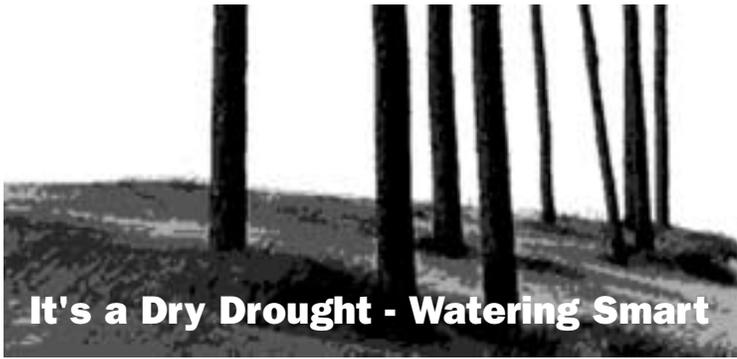
mercial development. Without the protective overlay only an historic designation could provide, win or lose that single home, we would likely have to fight the same kind of battle again.

Spurred forward by these concerns, we contacted then Councilman Phil Gordon. Already familiar with our neighborhood, he listened to our pleas, reviewed our body of material, then called an immediate Preservation Commission meeting. There, with Phil's insight into the workings of the Preservation Grant program and, as he would later say, a recognition of our determination, we were allocated funds enabling the Medlock Place historic designation effort to continue.

Today, as the Medlock Place Historic District, our neighborhood enjoys the distinction recognizing the area and its homes as historically significant. The majority of our homes will qualify – after more months of work are done at the State and National level – for property tax reductions. At the National Register of Historic Homes the process may even continue and eventually make it possible the further recognition of those few homes especially significant to the development of American architecture.

Available now to those homes which qualify, is a one time matching funds grant of up to \$10,000.

Continued on back page



It's a Dry Drought - Watering Smart *by JB Runyan*

It looks as though our weak El Niño this past winter wasn't quite enough to bring us out of the drought. In parts of Arizona and some neighboring states, some form of water rationing is already in place or will be this summer. SRP has had to cut our summer irrigation runs (every two weeks) from 18 to 16. The May 2003 *Sunset* Garden section tells us ways 'to make every drop of water count during dry times.'

My lawn needs a lot of help these days, and here are some ideas I hope to try this summer:

- Knowing what plants you want to save - established trees get top priority.
- Know where the roots are and how deep they go- use the outside 'drip line' for each plant as a guide to where to water.
- Know the soil moisture at a given time and water when it's dry on top.
- Build watering basins: Put an outer berm just outside the drip line and an inner berm 4 to 6 inches from the trunk to protect it from moisture.
- Irrigate slowly and deeply. Use soaker hoses.
- In irrigated areas such as Aldrich and Medlock, mow the grass higher (2 to 3 inches) to help shade the roots below.
- Don't overfertilize: it only spurs thirsty new growth.
- Use mulch: lay about 2 to 4 inches of straw, bark or hay over the root

zones from about 6 inches from the trunk out to the drip line. (I leave grass clippings out on the lawn, too.)

- Use deep root irrigators/aerators in a pattern around the drip line and in other critical spots.

In years past, I've had especially good luck with soaker hoses, deep irrigators, slow gentle irrigation in general and 'natural' mulching to shade the soil. At times I've left last winter's leaves in place until mulch is available.

Not mentioned in the article is what time of day to water. Watering in the bright midday or afternoon sunshine is not a good idea because of the water lost to evaporation, the minerals that evaporation leaves behind, and the burning caused by the lens effect of sun on water droplets. Watering overnight is safer, but could allow rot of one kind or another. The best time to water is in the early morning (which is not good news to me).

Learn irrigation basics from your neighbors or SRP. Take a few minutes with your irrigator and walk her or him through the next irrigation with you. (At 3 am this takes some motivation, but it's worth the trouble.) You should both know how the irrigation flows through your property. As with any watering process, slower is better. As the Romans said, *festina lente*: Hasten slowly.

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Plethora of Projects Press CCNA's Treasury

by Lynn Morrow

It would be no exaggeration to say that we've recently seen the fruit of years of some of our neighbor's labor.

Voluntarily, individuals and groups have spent hundreds of hours of their time in efforts to improve life and property values for all of us. Thanks to their determination and hard work, we've a firm foundation underlying our revitalized neighborhood association. The enthusiastic foresight of dozens of people has already provided our neighborhood with a City approved plan to mitigate unwanted traffic, the creation of the Medlock Place Historic District, stopped the destruction of the single family home at 10 West Oregon, aided both Medlock Place neighborhood irrigation associations with labor and material donations, and improved community communications with an oft published newsletter, a neighborhood wide email service, and a Website.

This year may prove to be an important one for our neighborhood. Our continued commitment to our local community and the judicious use of CCNA funds can continue to make a dif-



ference in not just the quality of our lives, but the value of our property.

Slated projects include continued efforts to work with the City to provide much needed traffic mitigation and prepare our neighborhood for the impact of a tri-city light rail system. A 98 car parking area for a major light rail station to be constructed at Central and Camelback and the addition of a traffic light on 3rd Avenue and Camelback can be counted on to add traffic and overflow parking to our streets.

A neighborhood patrol is planned. 91 burglaries last year are 91 too many. I'd guess more than a few of us will be willing to learn some new things to try and change that dismal figure and help quell the disturbing violations to our personal property. See David's article on the back page to learn more and how you can get involved.

Pictured above is a preliminary design study of an antique red brick street entry pillar. A CCNA proposal has been made to place similar structures on Central and Georgia, 5th Avenue and Missouri, and at Colter and 7th Avenue. With at least one home valued in Medlock Place at over half a million dollars and the codified recognition of the historic value of the neighborhood, perhaps we should embrace the idea of

presenting Medlock Place in a more visually cohesive and elegant way.

Some residents have spoken for years of their desire for not only street lamps in areas poorly lit, but recently, ideas have been spoken of to provide not only for those, but to 'retrograde' visually appropriate areas with period style poles and lamps. Again, perhaps an idea worth pursuing. The safety and value of our homes only stand to gain.

Addressing these needs has prompted our Board, and in particular, our newly appointed President, Jon Douglas, to act to increase the CCNA's Treasury. Just these last weeks, Jon has single handedly added some \$700 to the Treasury with donations from local area business people. We can not only appreciate Jon's vision, diligence and enthusiasm, but delight in the interest our commercial neighbors take in our neighborhood's well being.

Please consider, if you have not yet done so, adding your \$25 to the 2003 CCNA membership fund. If all of Medlock Place's 214 single family homes contributed this modest amount, and we continue gaining donations from local business, we can further the goals so many have worked so hard to add value to our lives and neighborhood.

Please review the CCNA dues form on the last page for how to add your financial participation to our neighborhood's future.

Cat Tales

Feral felines foment fertility. Neighborhood can benefit with TNR.

by JB Runyan

Sad but all too true in this neighborhood, some people use our attractive, tree-lined streets and alleys as a dropping point for their unwanted cats and kittens. These cats must compete for territory with both our already established feral cats and our own domestic cats – most of you have had a visit or two from these newcomers, especially in the summer months. In early spring (as well as other times) mother cats will go into heat, the noisy 'catfights' will break out and about every Easter many feral mother cats will queen new litters. By Memorial Day or thereabouts- perhaps earlier- the surviving weaned kittens will begin exploring and eventually looking for space of their own.

There is a humane – if gradual – solution to this tragedy in miniature-TNR. TNR stands for Trap, Neuter, Release. Most of us get the 'Trap' and 'Neuter' part, but the 'Release' part is baffling, involving as it does releasing neutered 'offenders' right back where they were first caught. Many would think that Trap and Kill or Trap and Transport (to the pound or anywhere but here) would be the more sensible and even humane solution, but it isn't. Here's why: the released neutered (and otherwise examined and inoculated) cats, once returned to their own territory, will continue to claim it for themselves and not leave a power vacuum for new (and still fertile) newcomers.

Humans must still play a part, as each TNR'd cat must have a human

'sponsor' willing to provide adequate food and water for the lifetime of the cat. The cat may become friendly but will likely remain feral and keep its distance until it dies. And it will help guard the neighborhood as only it can.



TNR takes some minimal neighborhood cooperation. To learn more, go to accats.org or call 602-840-9118.

From the President

Jon Douglas

Congratulations! We now officially live in Medlock Place – thanks to everyone’s work on our historic designation project.

I was elected Vice President on March 23rd and Bill Burghart was elected President. Due to personal matters, as of May 8th, Bill resigned. Our understanding & best wishes go to the Burghart family – they are good friends and active neighbors.

According to the CCNA By-Laws, I’ve been appointed President. Kerry Moss has stepped up to work as Vice President.

With your help we can continue to get a lot done. Volunteer organizations always need help and we encourage you to offer your voice, your time, and your neighborhood association dues.

To meet the needs of some of the various projects on the Association agenda, we aim to raise nearly \$9000. Traffic control, entry signage, a neighborhood patrol, and street lamps each, in their own way, should pay us back with greater security and residential value. Please add our time and your \$25 yearly dues to the effort.

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In Addition To Providing Us With More Security, A Neighborhood Patrol Can Help Fund Neighborhood Improvements.

By David Clark

According to the Phoenix Police Department, involved residents are the most effective crime prevention, as it's they who are most often in the best position to report suspicious activity. The City has set up a program to aid neighborhoods increase the level of their own safety and better protect their property.

In order to participate in the Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol (previously known as Block Watch) volunteers must first gain some specific skills. A special one day workshop includes:

- Observation Skills
- Patrol Procedures
- Safety Practices
- Courtroom Procedures
- Confrontation Avoidance
- Liability
- The 911 System
- Volunteer Response Teams

A few months ago I participated in the Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol training. I found the entire program interesting, well presented and helpful. Many areas were covered using innovative audio/visual and discussion techniques. At the end of the day all participants "graduate" and are ready to patrol their neighborhoods.

There are very definite guidelines to be followed. The first 100 hours of patrolling must be done by neighborhood patrol volunteers working in pairs.



After 100 hours have been logged, patrolling may be done individually.

Patrollers must wear an official polo or t-shirt as well as their identification badge. All patrolling must be done during daylight hours and any vehicles used must be identifiable using magnetic signage. The program also provides equipment to use during patrolling: i.e., communication devices such as cell phones and walkie talkies.

The Police Department also has an impressive list of continuing education programs which they can present in our neighborhood.

The benefits of this program can be enormous! Not only can we have a safer neighborhood in which to live, we can also become eligible for a grant of up to \$10,000 for neighborhood improvements of any nature – as long as they are clearly outlined in our grant application.

If you are among those interested in making our neighborhood safer for ourselves and our property, please contact your Street Representative.

We're Historical (continued from cover)

The road to historic designation proved, as might be expected, to be a long one. However, it has been a rewarding trip – one which enabled me to know many more of my neighbors and to wholeheartedly appreciate the members of our Historic Committee where week after week Bobbie Chinsky, Jon Douglas, David Clark, and Douglas Harter never gave up the dream of a protected neighborhood. Thanks to them and literally dozens of others working door to door and attending meetings during an interminably long period of time, I – and I hope everyone – can enjoy our little, but comfortably assured place in history.

To help with the Medlock Place Historic District celebration, contact:

Carol Kawell at 230-9171

Holly Lorka at 279-0358

Kerry Moss at 266-2627



We love our **pets**, so let's take good care of them. While outdoors, dogs must be kept on a leash.

Barking Dog Phone Line: 602-262-6466
County Animal Control: 602-506-7387

CCNA's next Board meeting will be **Tuesday, June 3, 2003**. All are welcome. Mount Calvary Lutheran Church 5105 North 7th Avenue West Wing Meeting Room **6:30 p.m.**

Meetings are regularly held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

medlockplace.com & Kerry Melcher graciously underwrote the printing cost of this issue of *The Medlock Pages*.

Central & Camelback Neighborhood Association
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Please feel encouraged to pay both last year's dues (if you've not already done so) and this year's dues. Your neighborhood association dues are \$25 per year and though voluntary, are a much needed part of funding neighborhood projects. Our dues recently funded the speed humps and will finance future safety and aesthetic improvements in Medlock Place. The purpose of these projects is to help ensure the safety and value of our lives and property.