



# Richland Heights East

Neighborhood  
Association  
Newsletter

Fall 2013

<http://www.rhenatucson.org/>

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Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm and last about 1½ hrs. If you would like to attend, contact any Board member to let us know you're coming and to find out the location for that month.

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(Because this issue is being sent by the COT, you have been mailed a copy even if you get it via email.)

## Note from a Board Member



Hi Neighbors,

My name is Barbara Soehnlen and I am on the Board of the Richland Heights East Neighborhood Association. I moved into my home at the corner of Olsen and Lind in August of 1973. I literally was the new kid on the block as most of my neighbors had bought or built their homes and raised families here. I was so impressed by the rustic nature of the neighborhood as well as its convenient location to all of Tucson. Coming from the Washington D.C. area I thought I had truly moved to the Wild West when my morning paper was delivered by a young woman on horseback. I believe her parents still live in the neighborhood. There were many times I heard horses' hooves on the street as the neighbor's horses had gotten loose and they were chasing them down the street.

In my 40 years I have seen many changes, but in many ways things have stayed much the same. My main reason for serving on the RHENA Board is to continue to preserve the atmosphere of our neighborhood. Currently I am the coordinator for Neighborhood Watch. We have only 5 watch groups made up of 2 blocks each. While there could be many more groups, these 5 have served the purpose of making the residents of RHE more aware of their surroundings and encouraging them to report suspicious activity. People look out for one another and this is the sort of thing that makes a good neighborhood great.

I would be glad to explain how to establish a Neighborhood Watch group to any interested parties. There is some initial work involved: a door to door walk to obtain your neighbors' names and contact information, and setting up the initial meeting with a TPD representative. After that, there is not much work except to meet once a year to get to know your neighbors and review the activity in your area with the TPD representative. A NW committee member will be happy to work with you on each of these steps. I can be reached at 323-1265 or [bsoehnlen@hotmail.com](mailto:bsoehnlen@hotmail.com).

- Barbara Soehnlen

## Richland Heights East Annual Meeting

The Annual Membership Meeting of RHENA is scheduled for **Monday, October 21st at 7:00 pm**. It will be held in the meeting hall of Peniel Church of Christ, located at 1990 E Prince Rd. The entrance to the meeting hall is on Olsen Ave.

This year we have three Board positions up for election. The Nominating Committee has recruited four people to run for the positions. See Page 2 for short BIOs of the candidates we have so far. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. If you want to join us to support your neighborhood, please attend the meeting. Also, consider running for the Board, or joining a committee.

The business portion of the meeting will last from 7:00 to approximately 8:30 pm. The meeting agenda is on page 4.

Light refreshments will be provided.

*Board candidate BIOs inside ►*

— Sandy Miller, RHENA Secretary



# Board candidate BIOs



The Nominating Committee has recruited four people who are interested in serving on the RHENA Board to run for three available positions. Two of them are running for new terms, and two are running for the first time. We asked them each for a short BIO, covering such things as how long they have lived in RHE and what their main goal is for the neighborhood. Here is what we learned:

## Bill Duffy

Bill Duffy has lived in Richland Heights for six years. He and his husband Ken Peoples moved here from Washington DC after retiring from the US Government. Bill worked for the US Department of State for more than 33 years, both in Washington and overseas. He volunteers at the Humane Society of Southern Arizona and serves as the secretary/treasurer of the Avia Ricca Homeowners' Association.

Ken and Bill walk their two dogs, Barney and Betty, through the neighborhood every day.

Bill is interested in seeing greater use of solar power generation and water harvesting in RHE, and xeriscape landscaping with native plants.

## Sandy Miller (incumbent)

Sandy has lived in Tucson for 36 years. Twenty-nine years ago she and Jon moved to RHE and got married in the house they have lived in ever since, in the 3400 block of Jackson Ave.

When the RHE neighborhood association was started in 1994, Sandy served on the original 5-member Board for 4 years, served as Treasurer for 8 years, and was editor of the newsletter for 3 years.

Sandy became Secretary of the Board in 2007, and she took over the newsletter again in 2009. In 2009, she was appointed by the Board to fill a vacant position. She is a Neighborhood Watch co-captain for north Jackson Ave and worked on the committee that got our lovely purple & green Neighborhood ID Signs designed, funded and installed. She also maintains the email list and the RHENA web site.

Sandy's priorities are to help residents feel safe & secure by reducing crime, and to encourage neighbors to get to know one another.

## Chris Schmidt

Chris's family is new to the neighborhood (they moved here from the Dunbar-Spring neighborhood in January) and would like to get more involved. They bought a house on Tucson Blvd between Kleindale and Greenlee.

Chris is 34, so he'd fill some of the gaps noted in the description of current board members. He is currently employed as Director of Conservation at Native Seeds/SEARCH, a local non-profit dedicated to strengthening food security in the Southwest. He is a biologist by training and holds a PhD in entomology and evolutionary biology, which he received from the University of Arizona in 2009. He grew up in southern and central California and has lived in Tucson since 2002.

Chris is particularly interested in contributing to neighborhood projects dealing with rainwater harvesting and other sustainability activities, habitat and wildlife restoration, traffic and flood abatement, heat island mitigation, and food production.

## Nando Zepeda (incumbent)

A native Tucsonan, Nando has lived in the 1900 block of Kleindale since 1997, and with Sandy Kennedy, his Senior Significant Other, since 2006. His resident Mom (born in AZ Territory in 1911) has lived in RHE for over fifty years.

Nando retired from the USAF and other careers, including university teaching. He completed four degree programs: a BA, an MAEd, an MBA and an MPA.

Among Nando's personal life highlights are lunch twice at the White House, visiting Easter Island, and driving to and from Panama.

Nando is a parent of one son and three daughters: two married with children, a Harvard Law daughter practicing in Houston, and his youngest daughter, a U of A doctoral student.

RHE's pleasant character is a projection of its large lots, mature vegetation, and streets (albeit potholed) free of parked vehicles. It also reflects the maturity of its residents, which is key to the pleasant tranquility one senses when walking about the neighborhood. That, and an underlying presence of camaraderie. Nando would like to help keep it, but upgrade it.

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## Did you know ...

... there is a **community garden in RHE**? It is located at 3331 N Wilson on the south side of the property. Currently the only person with a garden there is Gene Zonge, of Tucson Community Gardens (TCG). If you are interested in a plot of your own, you can contact Gene at 326-0458 or [zonge@aol.com](mailto:zonge@aol.com). The cost is \$15 per month, which is used to cover the cost of water.

... Pima County Public Library offers **drop-in job help sessions, individual job counseling, job clubs, one-on-one computer help and computer classes** for every level? Introductory classes teach participants the basics of using a computer, while classes in Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, and Publisher enhance workplace efficiency. Several branches have dedicated Job Help computers that anyone over the age of 16 can use. These computers don't have the same time limits as regular public computers in the library; customers have plenty of extra time to complete lengthy employment applications, take skill tests, or search for a job. Most importantly, the library has friendly instructors who offer free one-on-one support to anyone who needs it. Contact Michelle Simon, coordinator of the Job Help Hub for Pima County Public Library, at [michelle.simon@pima.gov](mailto:michelle.simon@pima.gov).

... Woods Memorial Library, at 3455 N First Ave, holds **free drop-in sessions for assistance in preparing for the GED**? All classes are taught in English by Pima County Public Library tutors with Adult Education Certification. Tutoring is available for those 16 and older on Sundays from 1:30-4:30

pm, Mondays from 4:30–7:30 pm., and Tuesdays from 3:00–6:00 pm. Parents must make child care arrangements for children under 8.

...**Monterey Court**, at 505 W Miracle Mile has a **Farmer's Market** Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 am to noon? For more info call 207-2429 ext 3.

...**HHW Collection is coming to a Neighborhood near you**. The Tucson/Pima County Household Hazardous Waste Program (HHW) made changes to provide residents with easier access to its services. HHW consists of waste that can harm people, animals, and contaminate groundwater if not properly disposed of, such as car batteries, solvents, paint, cleaners, antifreeze and other household products. Second Saturday Outreach Collection events are now held in a different neighborhood each month. The collection site on Irvington is now closed. For a list of future collection locations, see [cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/esd/HHW\\_Program\\_Changes.pdf](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/files/esd/HHW_Program_Changes.pdf). First Saturday collections will be held monthly at the Eastside Service Center, 7575 E Speedway Blvd, from 8:00 am to noon. Home Pickup Program is also available through HHW. Residents within Tucson City Limits who cannot reach one of our HHW Collection Sites may schedule a \$25 home pickup. To schedule a pickup date or for more information, call Environmental Services customer service at 791-3171.

Please **do not use tape** to attach things (for example yard sale signs or lost pet ads) to the **posts in the traffic circles**. When the tape is removed after being exposed to the elements, it pulls the paint off the post. It's hard work and expensive to remove, sand, repaint and replace the posts. The Traffic Circle Committee has refinished all the posts (20 posts) two times in the 15 years since the traffic circles were installed, so they know! (Plus nine posts have been reinstalled after being knocked down by passing motorists.) Please do **NOT** use tape on the posts. Try attaching notices with string or by some other method. The Traffic Circle Committee thanks you.

Thank you to the Streets & Traffic Maintenance Division of TDOT for repairing many of the **potholes** in our streets. And a very big THANK YOU to Barb Soehnlén for taking charge of reporting these problems and following up to get them addressed.

Jon Guenther was contacted about RHENA participating in "Team-up/Clean-up Day" sponsored by Ward 3 on October 12th from 8 am to noon. The idea is to weed and clean our neighborhood, and free dumpsters will be provided. There will be a **dumpster** (roll-off) in RHE, located at the corner of Kleindale and Wilson, on the street.

You may wonder why you received this issue of the **newsletter** in the mail, even if you received it via email. Once a year the City of Tucson will print and mail one newsletter for each neighborhood in Tucson, and this is the one they are doing for RHE. When the City mails the newsletter, they send to every address they have registered for the neighborhood.

If you have been following the emails about the formation of the

**Ward 3 Neighbors Alliance**, Inc, a 501(c)(3) organization established to benefit the people in Ward 3, you may be interested to know that RHE was the inaugural beneficiary of the non-profit status they provide. The business that sponsored the summer issue of the RHENA newsletter was able to take advantage of this benefit – they wrote a check to W3NA Inc (and will be able to claim a tax deduction), then W3NA wrote a check to RHENA to cover our costs. **THANK YOU W3NA!**

Are you a **business** in RHE? Do you have a **home business** in RHE? Do you live in RHE and own a **local business**? Do you want to be mentioned in our newsletter and on our website? Sponsor a newsletter! The cost of printing and mailing a newsletter to the over 300 addresses in RHE is approximately \$200 and the donation can be tax-deductible.

As I was walking in RHE just the other day, I was appalled at the piles of dog poop (which appeared to be from a large dog) along Lind Rd and elsewhere in the neighborhood. **PLEASE—PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS**. Nobody wants to step in their waste, and it can become a health risk as it ultimately ends up in the Rillito River via storm runoff. Animal Control Regulations for Pima County state: *"It shall be unlawful for the owner or person having custody of any dog to fail to immediately remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, any solid waste deposited by such dog on public property, or deposited on private property without the consent of the person in control of the property."*

## YARD SALE

To benefit the Lend A Hand Senior Assistance Program \*

\*A 501(c)(3) non-profit. Donations are tax-deductible!

Saturday, October 19, 2013

7:00 am — 1 pm

at 1545 E Water Street

Between Campbell & Mountain/Grant & Glenn



To donate items call Jane Hoffmann at 323-9299  
OR  
Deliver them into the courtyard at 1545 E Water St  
starting Oct 13<sup>th</sup>.

If the items are large, you can make arrangements for  
pickup with Jane.



Housing & Community Development Dept.  
P.O. Box 27210  
Tucson, AZ 85726-7210

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
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## *Richland Heights East Neighborhood*

### **Dated Material**

### **RHENA Annual Membership Meeting Agenda October 21, 2013**

Call meeting to order – 7:00 pm – Linda Wurzelbacher, President

A. Old Business

1. Good-bye to an old friend – Linda Wurzelbacher
2. Thank You to Committee Members – Linda Wurzelbacher
3. Neighborhood Watch – Barb Soehrlen
4. Printed RHENA directory – Maureen Pollack
5. Lend A Hand Senior Assistance – Sandy Miller
6. Welcome Packets – Barb Soehrlen
7. Misleading real estate listings – Maureen Pollack
8. RHE home sales – Maureen Pollack
9. Street repaving – Sandy Miller

B. New Business

1. Introduction of Board candidates – Brian Crowley
2. Treasurer's Report – Mima Falk
3. Financial Review Committee Report – Barb Soehrlen
4. Guest houses in residential zoning – Sandy Miller
5. Raising annual dues – Nando Zepeda
6. Announce election results – Brian Crowley

Question and Answer period

Adjourn meeting, 8:30 pm

(The Board will stay after for individual questions.)