



Quintessence Neighborhood News

Quintessence Neighborhood Association
Annual Issue: April 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

What does a “perfect neighborhood” look like?

Some might envision a desert landscape with wide, open spaces and lots of room. Others might picture a tidy space with green lawns and matching fences. One person might like a neighborhood where everyone knows each other and chats all the time. Another might appreciate having quiet neighbors.

There is no one “perfect neighborhood”. But the things good neighborhoods have in common are things we can all agree on – considerate neighbors, welcoming common spaces, and a safe environment.

I hope we can make Quintessence that kind of neighborhood!

On page 3, find a quick summary of QNA’s 2021 and upcoming events of 2022.

In this newsletter, you’ll find articles about new developments from the City of Albuquerque in our area, a great article on our local bees by a Quintessence beekeeper, and photos from some of our 2021 events.

We also need one of YOU to become our newest Board member, as we say thank you to Board member Alyson Jones who will no longer be serving on the Board. We would love to hear your voice! Email qna.abq@gmail.com if you are interested.

Everyone is welcome at our **annual meeting** on **April 21st at 7pm** at Grace Lutheran church (7550 Eubank)! I hope to see many of you there!

Sincerely, Andrea Landaker, QNA President

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QNA COMMUNICATIONS

Receive email updates about once a month by sending an email to

qna.abq@gmail.com. You can also send us your ideas and feedback!

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues are \$20 per household per year. You can send payment with the enclosed envelope or pay online:



www.paypal.me/qnaabq/20



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Hear more about the Academy from our students at aa.edu/curious.

Are you ready to

Think Summer?



Think Summer is back, June 6 to July 15, with a full slate of courses designed to fit everyone's schedule.

Online registration is now open and ends on May 16!

Learn more at aa.edu/thinksummer.



QNA Annual General Meeting

Thursday, April 21st at 7pm at Grace Lutheran Church (7550 Eubank Blvd.)

Featured Speaker: Jill Holbert, Assoc. Director of CABQ Solid Waste Department.

We'll elect board members and officers, review finances, and meet our neighbors!

We will also have "Slow Down, Albuquerque" signs for pickup.

What's a Neighborhood Association?

QNA was formed to improve our neighborhood and help us have a stronger voice together. Unlike a Homeowner's Association (HOA), QNA is a neighborhood association and membership is optional. However, we do have official recognition with the City of Albuquerque.

2022 QNA Calendar

April 16th Neighborhood Cleanup
April 21st Annual Meeting
May 21st QNA Yard Sale
July 2nd Popsicles at the Park
August 2nd National Night Out
Oct. 29th Fall Festival

QNA Yard Sale, May 21

We'll advertise the sale and post signs bringing people to the neighborhood. Host your own yard sale and add your own signs directing people to your sale!

The sale will go from 8am-12pm.

Neighborhood Cleanup

Saturday, April 16

Meet at Quintessence park
between 8-11am or just bring trash
to Domingo Baca park before noon.

2021 Accomplishments

- Social events: Fall Festival, 4th of July social, and National Night Out.
- Maintaining dog waste stations on walking paths
- Working with the City on traffic calming measures
- Helping neighbors resolve disputes
- Neighborhood Cleanup initiatives
- Collecting donations of food and clothing for local nonprofits

Where does dues money go?

In 2021, our expenses were:

- 38% social events
- 23% newsletter
- 19% dog waste stations
- 12% storage unit
- 8% website/registration/fees/etc.

Our newsletter ads cover the cost of the newsletter; other expenses are paid for by dues. We discontinued the storage unit so those funds can more directly benefit the neighborhood.

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QNA Q & A

By Barbara Cohen

Question: I have a camping trailer. Where can I store it?

Answer: Storage or permanent parking of trailers, motor homes, campers and the like on lots or in the street is prohibited in all areas. They are allowed in an enclosed garage.

It is the Architectural Control Committee's policy to allow these vehicles to be parked on a lot or on the street only for a period of several days while loading or unloading for a trip. For specifics, see www.qna-abq.org.

Question: Whatever happened to PNM's proposed new high voltage power line down Eubank and proposed new substation on Paseo del Norte? I haven't heard anything about it for some time.

Answer: PNM planned to construct a new electric substation at the corner of Browning and Paseo, with high voltage lines running along Eubank from its substation on San Antonio. However, this plan was heavily contested by North Albuquerque Acres, and was denied by the Bernalillo County Planning Commission. PNM appealed that decision to the Bernalillo County Commission, which unanimously voted on June 15, 2021 to uphold the decision by the Planning Commission, rejecting PNM's appeal. PNM has not announced any other plans for a substation nearby.

Question: When will we get a swimming pool at North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center?

Answer: In August of 2021, the City announced it is moving forward and held a meeting where the community chose "Design C" – the largest and most comprehensive of the aquatic center plans. This plan includes an indoor competition pool with separate warm-up and cool-down areas, spectator seating for 900+ people, and an outdoor leisure pool with slides and lap lanes.

Some funds have been secured but more are needed for this \$30.5 million project, so it may be a while still.

In the meantime, construction of a new splash pad is set to begin soon. Two vault toilets, improved bocce courts, and a new outdoor stage were added in 2021. There is a new indoor gym and a beautiful new climbing wall and bouldering area. Go check it out at 7521 Carmel Avenue!

Question: My wall backs up to a neighborhood street. Beyond my wall is sidewalk and some rocks. Who takes care of those weeds?

Answer: Actually, under Albuquerque city code and the Quintessence covenants, you are responsible for those weeds! Your property includes the entire area from your house out to the curb, even if there is a wall inbetween.



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Buzzing Around Our Neighborhood

By Justin Griffin, Quintessence Beekeeper

For bees, early spring always ushers in pollen and nectar sources like Dandelions and Henbit. In the hive, the Queen begins expanding her egg-laying and swelling the hive population. They begin to replenish honey they consumed over the winter.

Honey, this marvelously sweet food, has been available for about fourteen million years, according to fossil records? What an astounding survival timeline for the *Apis Mellifica* (honey bees)! To ensure their survival, we must protect them from deadly pesticides such as Roundup.

Quintessence neighborhood can be grateful for the efforts of thousands of these little flying insects who spend their daylight hours pollinating fruit trees and vegetables. Bees produce honey from every edible fruit tree variety, as well as Lavender, Russian Sage, Rosemary, Desert Willow, Honey Locust, Catalpa, Autumn Sage, and Prickly Pear.

A well-tended hive can expand to as large as 50-60 thousand bees at the peak of summer. However, honeybees in the summer live on average only 45 days. To build the hive to this size, the queen can lay as many as 1,000-1,500 eggs a day! Worker bees might serve as a nurse, housekeeper, guard, scout, court member, pollen forager, nectar forager, or negotiator.

Their innate discerning abilities ensure hive harmony; it's all for one and



The author's hive in winter

one for all, with no fussing, fighting, judging, bullying, cheating or criticizing. Honeybee Democracy, a book by Thomas D. Seeley, provides a remarkable study of the democratic and collaborative ways bees live.

In August 2016, the Albuquerque City Council unanimously approved a resolution designating Albuquerque A Bee Friendly City. Becoming the first city in the Southwest to receive this bipartisan designation means it's okay to raise honeybees in the city; just ensure the hive/hives are appropriately located. See beecityusa.org for more info.



Bees swarm when their hive is too crowded. If you see a swarm, call 311 for help relocating it.



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Albuquerque's Newest First Responders

Many 911 calls don't require a gun and a badge; they require individuals like social workers and community health workers who can assess a situation and connect someone to services that can potentially save their life. Albuquerque Community Safety (ACS) is an independent first responder department that operates in collaboration with Albuquerque Police Department and Albuquerque Fire Rescue. What makes ACS different is its use of a public health model with a non-law enforcement-led response. ACS allows 911 dispatch to send trained professionals with backgrounds in behavioral and mental health and social services to non-violent and non-medical calls.

ACS's vision is to make Albuquerque a city in which any person can call for help and get a purposeful, humane, and appropriate response. If you think ACS could assist in a situation that you witness, they can be reached 24/7:

- For emergencies and crises, call 911 for an ACS response.
- For non-emergencies or next-day follow-ups, call 311.

4 Amazing Hikes Within 30 minutes

By Andrea Landaker

We are lucky to live in a beautiful area with many different habitats! Explore them with these easy, scenic hikes.

- 1) Piedra Lisa Canyon Trail** (2 miles) – Not to be confused with the Piedra Lisa trail a bit farther north, this has you zig zag up among boulders and past a granite cliff. Take Tramway south, turn east on Candelaria, then south on Camino de la Sierra until you reach the trailhead on the left.
- 2) Travertine Falls** (1.1 miles) – Hike through several different biomes, ending at a series of shallow caves, rocks full of fossils, and a waterfall (or at least a trickle!). Take I-40 east and take exit 175. Turn left to go under the freeway, then turn right and follow Arrowhead Trail to the end.
- 3) Embudito Canyon Loop** (4 miles) – Dry desert turns into a delightful canyon with seasonal water, trees, and butterflies. Then climb the cliffs for great views on the return trip. Take Tramway south, turn east on Montgomery, then left on Glenwood Hills Rd. Turn right on Trailhead Rd and follow to the end.
- 4) Cedro Creek Nature Trail** (1.7 miles) – This green trail runs next to a stream and passes cattails, wild roses, and huge rock cliffs. Take I-40 east to exit 175. Turn right take 337 south until the road turns east. Watch for the parking lot on the right with signs for Otero Canyon.



SCAN ME



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*We look forward to seeing
you in the neighborhood!*

As a real estate broker and resident of Quintessence, I know the value our neighborhood offers. Whether you're looking to buy or sell a home, I'd love to make my services and resources available to you.

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Quintessence Photos

4th of July
Popsicle Party



Fall Festival
Costume Contest and
Carnival Games





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QUINTESSENCE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (QNA) MEMBERSHIP FORM

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First Name(s) _____

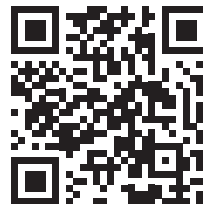
Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Email allows us to keep you informed about neighborhood activities and news that affects our neighborhood. We will not share your information.

Membership dues are \$20 per household per year.
Please make check or money order payable to QNA,
PO Box 22033, Albuquerque, NM 87154-2033
To pay online, you can send money to
qna.abq@gmail.com or scan this QR code.



New Member

Membership Renewal

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

QNA needs you! Can you help with any of these committees?

- QNA Board
- Neighborhood Watch
- Architectural Control
- Beautification
- Membership
- Dogi-Pot Maintenance
- Outreach/Events
- Other _____