

July 2014 Eblast

Welcome to the July 2014 Eblast from the National Manufactured Home Owners Association (NMHOA). Please share these monthly Eblasts with as many home owners and other interested individuals as you have on your email list. The Eblast is an important way for NMHOA to share exciting news from across the country.

Welcome and Thank You – NMHOA is very pleased to welcome the **Utah Housing Coalition** and **John Van Landingham** (OR) as renewing associate members. NMHOA also welcomes **Stacy Becker** from MN as a new associate member. Stacy was our fabulous facilitator at the NMHOA board retreat last month. Thank you also to the **Association of Manufactured Home Owners (AMHO)** in Washington for renewing your statewide association membership in NMHOA.

Ben & Jerry Foundation – NMHOA is pleased to announce that the Ben & Jerry Foundation recently awarded NMHOA \$20,000 for its Ambassador Program. This will allow NMHOA Regional Vice Presidents and staff the opportunity to support some of our existing state associations as well as outreach to states where we have few members or where there is not a state association representing the needs of manufactured home owners. This is the second grant that the Ben & Jerry's Foundation has awarded NMHOA. Please keep eating their ice cream – it helps support NMHOA!

Save The Date – NMHOA's Annual Convention will be held in Seattle, WA, from November 13 – 15. The Convention will kick off with a reception on the evening of November 13 and culminate with the NMHOA Annual Meeting on the afternoon of Saturday November 15. The Convention Committee is already beginning its work of putting together an exciting and inspirational program for manufactured home owners from all across the country. NMHOA hopes to be able to provide two stipends for each member state to send two representatives to the Convention. Of course, we hope that more than two from each state will attend! If there is anything special you would like NMHOA to consider including in the Convention Agenda, please contact Convention Committee Chair, Rita Loberger, at rloberger@comcast.net. The NMHOA Convention follows immediately on the heels of CFED's Conference and State Associations who are Lead Organizations can look forward to additional opportunities to participate in the CFED Conference as well as the NMHOA Convention.

Western Planner – Attached please see an article **by Shelby Sommer of Clarion Associates**, highlighting the work Clarion Associates and NMHOA did last year to help the City of Fort Collins develop a mitigation plan to address the possible closure of manufactured housing communities in Fort Collins. Please feel free to share this article with elected officials where you live to encourage them to look at the range of preservation options available to them.

Energy Standards Committee – NMHOA Executive Director was recently appointed to the Dept. of Energy's Energy Standards Work Group. This group, representing industry and consumer interests as well as energy efficiency experts, will be meeting in DC in early August and as needed until they have negotiated a set of energy standards for new manufactured homes. This is an exciting opportunity for NMHOA to have a seat at the table to ensure that future manufactured home purchasers have the best choices available to them in terms of energy efficiency and reduced energy costs.

Last words for July – Congratulations to **Community Frameworks** and **Habitat for Humanity (Seattle - King County)** – they have partnered to build a High Performance Manufactured Home in Bothell, WA. Recently NMHOA staff had the privilege of touring the home and meeting the new occupants. The home is part of a regional project designed to increase the energy efficiency of new manufactured homes built in the Pacific Northwest.

The project is part of the U.S. Department of Energy's "Building America Partnership for Improved Residential Construction" program. It is administered by Northwest Energy Works (NEW) and is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration and supported by the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, an alliance of more than 140 Northwest utilities and energy efficiency organizations. The energy modifications applied to this Next Step home are expected to increase its energy efficiency by 40% over Energy Star standards, which are already 20% more efficient than the standard manufactured home. Needless to say the lucky homeowners are going to be enjoying very minimal utility costs each month.

You can read about all about NMHOA at the NMHOA webpage: www.nmhoa.org and please check out our facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/NationalManufacturedHomeOwnersAssociation>

If there are stories from your state that you would like to share through the Eblast, please contact NMHOA Executive Director, Ishbel Dickens at: ishbel@nmhoa.org – your story will inspire others.