



September 2014
Message from the NMHOA President

Welcome to our NMHOA website, which has recently been revamped and upgraded with new content and features. We hope you find it helpful and interesting!

NMHOA is governed by people like you, who also own homes in manufactured home communities. We understand the precarious nature of owning a home on someone else's land and the value of solidarity in protecting our rights, whether in an individual community or in uniting homeowners from across the country. We maintain a direct communication network among state homeowner advocacy groups and serve as your voice at the national level, with the help of several powerful partner organizations who support our mission.

Our Board of Directors recently adopted a new slogan, "**Fighting For Home/Land Security and Equity For All**", which we feel encapsulates the challenges we often face in manufactured home communities. Using the term "*Home/Land Security*" refers to our goal of ensuring that conditions don't dramatically change for vulnerable homeowners after investing in their communities. Whether due to threat of unfair conversion from "senior" status to all-age, unfair eviction or loss of homes due to closure of communities, homeowners deserve peace of mind and security in knowing they will have the opportunity to "age in place" rather than being displaced. In some respects, there is also a parallel meaning to the better-known term "homeland security" in that many of our counterparts are unfairly subjected to insidious forms of economic and psychological terrorism by community owners and managers, which can take a devastating toll on one's health and well-being. "*Equity For All*" reflects our feeling that a partnership exists between homeowners and land owners in manufactured home communities and homeowners deserve to have the equity in their investments protected and to be treated equitably.

I'm pleased to report that NMHOA recently launched a new educational tool via E-mail entitled, "**i'mPOWERED!**", which is a continuing series of informational messages that aims to better educate homeowners so they will feel empowered to stand up for their rights when necessary. This series is largely intended for those homeowners who are willing to "draw and line in the sand" rather than "bury their head in the sand" when faced with adversity. As they say, "Knowledge is Power" and "**i'mPOWERED!**" will help homeowners become more empowered through greater knowledge, confidence and the opportunity to network with others. We also intend to include features on a wide range of topics, from how to operate effective homeowner associations to reducing safety hazards in your home. Look for the link to "**i'mPOWERED!**" elsewhere on this website.

One of the priorities set by our Board is to renew its commitment of outreach and support of state manufactured home owner associations. Strong connections with state associations is part of NMHOA's "DNA" and will continue to be a vital means of serving individual homeowners. We are offering many "scholarships/stipends" to enable representatives from state associations across the country to join us at our November NMHOA convention being held in Seattle, Washington and hope your state association will be represented. More information on the convention can be found elsewhere on this website.

Finally, I want to express my sincere appreciation to Francisca Blanc, a longtime friend of NMHOA, for her patience and tireless efforts in making our website a more effective means communication and education. Thank you Francisca!

Yours in solidarity,

Tim Sheahan,
NMHOA President