Ask the Board

What Has Been Going on at the Pool?
(By Bill Hallyburton, Paula Benson and Suzee Zimmerman)

The "Great Bath" at the site of Mohenjo-Daro in modern-day Pakistan was most likely the first swimming pool. Dug during the 3rd millennium BC, the pool is 39 by 23 feet, lined with bricks, and was covered with a tar-based sealant. (source Wikipedia)

Amazingly, our pool is about the same size but formed by steel re-bar reinforced concrete and covered with a 1/4" plaster coating with embedded tiles (with this remodel, 4 plaster coats). Obviously pools have advanced significantly since the "Great Bath" (and ours isn't a bath so please remember to shower before entering the pool). In addition to modern construction we have a year-round pool with geothermal heat, chlorine cleansing, underground plumbed, and electrical lighting and plumbing systems.

In addition to the great new tile, top edge cap and overall look of our pool a lot of unseen needed improvements were and are being made. A significant change was moving from sanitizing the pool with gas chlorine generated from salt to liquid chlorine by injection. Multiple pool service providers had suggested we convert from gas to liquid chlorine to reduce expenses and preserve equipment life. Due to the corrosive nature of salt upon metal, concrete, all types of plumbing, valves and equipment, most pools using salt to generate chlorine have moved to chlorine injection. Their input was that liquid chlorine injection - monitored and managed correctly - will not add excessive chlorine which is the cause of eye/skin irritation.

Believing that the remodel would replace much of the salt-caused damage the Pool & Infrastructure committees were determined not to change because the salt feels good on our skin. Then we had the heat exchange tested and found it to be failing prematurely. Two plumbers and the exchange manufacturer informed us that salt attacks cupronickel (copper-nickel) and a test determined that pool water is escaping from the core into the geothermal loop. Cupronickel is recommended over copper as long lasting for our home's heat exchange and we expect them to last 20+ years. We know our pool exchange was manufactured less than 14 years ago. Cupronickel effectively resists our geothermal water but not salt. The cost to replace the heat exchange is $18,975, while a titanium exchange more resistant to salt would cost twice that.

This became the overwhelming factor in changing the sanitizing system to liquid chlorine injection, replacing with a like exchange and working with Pool Doctor to effectively monitor the system. A new heat exchange is on order and should be installed late April or early May. We hope to limp along with the existing heat exchange until then.

Still, the pool is beautiful, winter seems to be over and, although swimmers have noticed and commented it taking a few extra days for the water temperature to come up, no one has commented on the water feel - so let’s go swimming. As a side note, the communications committee will be planning a grand reopening pool party so stay tuned for some neighborly fun.
**Riverside Management**

**Contact Info:**

Phone: (208)376-1616 8-5 pm  
or (208) 869-6237 After hours  
Email: riversideboise@aol.com

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**Dues Reminder**

Effective March 1, the association dues are $288.50. If you haven’t adjusted your automated bill pay (or the neurotransmitters to your check-writing hand), please remember to do so to avoid being in arrears.

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**Landscape News**

You may have seen stories in the news about animals being poisoned by yew plants. While yews have not been included in the “Do Not Plant” section of the Landscape Guidelines, they will be in the future. You are encouraged to replace any yew plants you may have in your yard to protect pets or wildlife that may nibble on them. The Landscape Committee is happy to suggest replacement plants.

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**Architecture Update**

**Kitchen Pipes Freezing?**

(By Susan Burke)

Scott and Paula Benson at 1564 Lenz Lane have a beautiful kitchen with a sink and faucet located on a north facing outside wall under a window. They have had past issues with the water in their faucet freezing despite keeping their home well heated. They were told that when the ground freezes, cold is absorbed through their siding and the slab stem wall, adversely affecting the underground water pipes. Fortuitously, last summer they hired a contractor to put foam insulation down along the stem wall and up along their exterior siding in front of the kitchen sink. New siding was then added over the foam creating a small 3–4” bump out. This area was then painted to match the existing siding and trim and was sloped slightly at the top to allow rain and snow to flow off.

The Bensons are happy to report they did not experience any frozen pipes this winter despite the very cold temperatures. If you are interested in a similar project at your home feel free to contact the Bensons at paulainboise@gmail.com. Please remember to first present a request to the Architecture Committee before making any exterior changes to your home.

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**City Compost Program**

A board member has been in communication with a Curb-it representative—not to make any kind of neighborhood-wide decision—but to clarify our options. The decision to participate or not is up to each resident. Here is some additional information that may help you decide:

The city is looking into providing smaller containers, but if they are made available, it won’t be until later in the summer. A suggestion was to share a cart with a neighbor if one of you has room to store it and one does not. One would sign up for the cart and the other as a home composter and each would pay $3.40/month. Each resident still has to sign up by March 31 for an existing cart ($3.40/month), as a home composter ($3.40/month) or opt out of the program entirely ($8.40/month). If you do not contact Curb-it, a cart the size of your existing cart(s) will be delivered in June.

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**Can You Dig It?**

If you are planning to plant a tree or shrub (after you’ve obtained approval from the Landscape Committee) or redo your patio (after you’ve obtained approval from the Architecture Committee) or any other kind of excavation on your property, be sure to call Digline, Inc. to locate any utility lines that may be disrupted by your digging. The numbers to call are **811** or **342-1585**. Knowing ahead of time where the utility lines are will keep you safe without any disruption of service.