



King William Association

Volume 9, No. 4

May 2013

# Concerts on the River Season Opens

**W**e are pleased to announce a particularly wonderful King William Association River Concert series for 2013, featuring six concerts - one more than usual - with two new groups that promise to be very popular.

A nostalgic look back to 2007, the year the concerts began, will find us in King William Park with tall oak trees rustling and beautiful sunsets providing a perfect setting. Sadly, those lovely oaks succumbed to old age and disease, leaving very little shade in the park.

We were able to move the concert venue to the grassy slopes of the San Antonio River Authority at the Guenther Street bend in the river, (Thanks SARA!). At this site there is a wonderful natural acoustic reverberation as the music bounces off the concrete retaining wall.

Now, six years later, we are presenting wonderful music with plenty of shade and beautiful breezes. The ducks love the concerts too!

All are invited to bring picnics, chairs, blankets, family and friends to enjoy our King William Association River Concerts. We look forward to seeing you there!

- Janis de Lara

## 2013 Concert Schedule



- May 5** Katchie Cartwright
- May 19** Henry Brun  
& the Latin Jazz Players
- June 2** Mission City Hot Rhythm Cats
- June 16** Olivia Chacon Flamenco  
Dancers
- July 7** Austin Piazzolla Quintet
- July 21** Daniel Monserrat

## KWA and Neighbors Win Downtown's BEST Awards

**S**an Antonio's Downtown Alliance presented its annual awards at a luncheon at the Westin Riverwalk on April 11, 2013. Each year, Downtown Alliance recognizes those who have made a significant contribution to downtown with the "Downtown's BEST" Awards. Initiated in 2001, the awards are divided among multiple categories that celebrate people, organizations and places that support downtown San Antonio, and is a juried event. This year, two King William neighbors and the King William Association and were recognized.

Irby Hightower received the coveted Downtowner of the Year award. Irby bought his house in King William in 1986 and has been involved with the KWA and downtown activities ever since. A founding principal of Alamo Architects, Irby is well known for his involvement in urban design and adaptive reuse projects. Through both his professional talents and civic engagement his contributions include design guidelines for River North, Midtown, Mission Trails and Market Square, plus 14 years as co-chair of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee. *continued on page 4*

# MY PERSPECTIVE

by Deb Mueller, President

As I write this article the King William Fair is looming large, but by the time you read this, it will have come and gone. For most of us the Fair is a really big, but short-lived event: Thursday parking restrictions followed by Friday closing of the Fair Zone and set up, and then the Saturday main event. When we wake up Sunday, it has mostly disappeared, save for some confetti, temporary street markings, and equipment waiting to be picked up.

For the King William Association Staff, though, the Fair is a year-round event. As soon as one Fair is over, preparation for the next begins. Zet Baer and Susan Rothman work all year to keep our major fundraising event successful. This year they were joined by a new seasonal employee, Carol Jackson, during the home stretch. In addition, our Executive Director Cherise Bell and Neighborhood Association Coordinator Monika Perez-Moad pitched in as needed. I want to thank them all on behalf of the Board of Directors and all of our members for their hard work and commitment to our organization!

In addition, I want to thank our volunteers and neighbors for a tremendous effort each year. They fill numerous roles before, during and after the Fair. Many return year after year, and I had the pleasure of meeting some of them at the Fair Kickoff Party in March. I want to especially thank Michael Girdley for his service as Fair Chair. His energy and enthusiasm made him a perfect fit. The KWA is very fortunate to have so many friends!

Many of our neighbors enjoy the Fair as a favorite Fiesta event, but I recognize that some neighbors are less enthusiastic about the size and/or impact of the Fair. To everyone, I thank you for your support of the Fair, as it provides the funds we use to support our organization and fulfill the goals of our charter and mission statement.



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**COORDINATORS** Susan Athené, Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn

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Masthead design by Roland Rodriguez  
Masthead concept by Cherise Bell

*Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion(s) of the Board of Directors of the KWA.*

Editorial guidelines are available online at [kingwilliamassociation.org](http://kingwilliamassociation.org).

### KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION

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### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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# May is Preservation Month



**NATIONAL TRUST**  
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In 1973 the National Trust for Historic Preservation sponsored "Preservation Week" to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts in America. Since then, observation has grown to a complete month. This year's theme is "See! Save! Celebrate!" Here are some ways you can celebrate in King William and surrounding areas:

- Invite your friends to take the King William self-guided Walking Tour.
- Visit the Steves Homestead and the Guenther House.
- Visit the Alamo.
- Rent a Bicycle and ride the historic Mission Trails.
- Villa Finale Tours -

May 11 – Mathis and Ford Homes: A grand tour for the historic preservation enthusiast. Join Villa Finale's curator, Meg Nowack, for a tour of preservationist Walter Mathis's and architect O'Neil Ford's homes.

May 30 - The Architecture of Villa Finale Tour. There is a cost for both tours; call 223-9800 for details.

- San Antonio Conservation Society's 2013 Historic Preservation

Seminar: Historic House Museums in the 21st Century - May 18. Details at [www.saconservation.org](http://www.saconservation.org).

## Preservation Month 2013 Calendar Office of Historic Preservation:

- May 7 - Brackenridge Park Conservancy's Historic Preservation Tour: Water in San Antonio's History. Meet at Joske Pavilion, 5:30 p.m.
- May 10 - The Amazing Preservation Race
- May 18 - The Amazing Preservation Race for Kids in King William
- May 21 - Brackenridge Park Conservancy's Historic Preservation Tour: Japanese Tea Garden area; meet at Garden entry gate, 5:30 p.m.
- May 21 - AIA's Adapting Our Historic Buildings: Sustainability and Building Envelope Performance, AIA Center for Architecture at the Pearl, 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

## Texas Historic Commission Historic Sites Free Day

May 12 - 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Casa Navarro Site, 228 S. Laredo Street
  - Landmark Inn, 402 E. Florence Street in Castroville
- Details at [www.thc.state.tx.us/news-events/events/thc-historic-sites-free-day](http://www.thc.state.tx.us/news-events/events/thc-historic-sites-free-day)

- Cherise Bell

## Hettie C. Cash

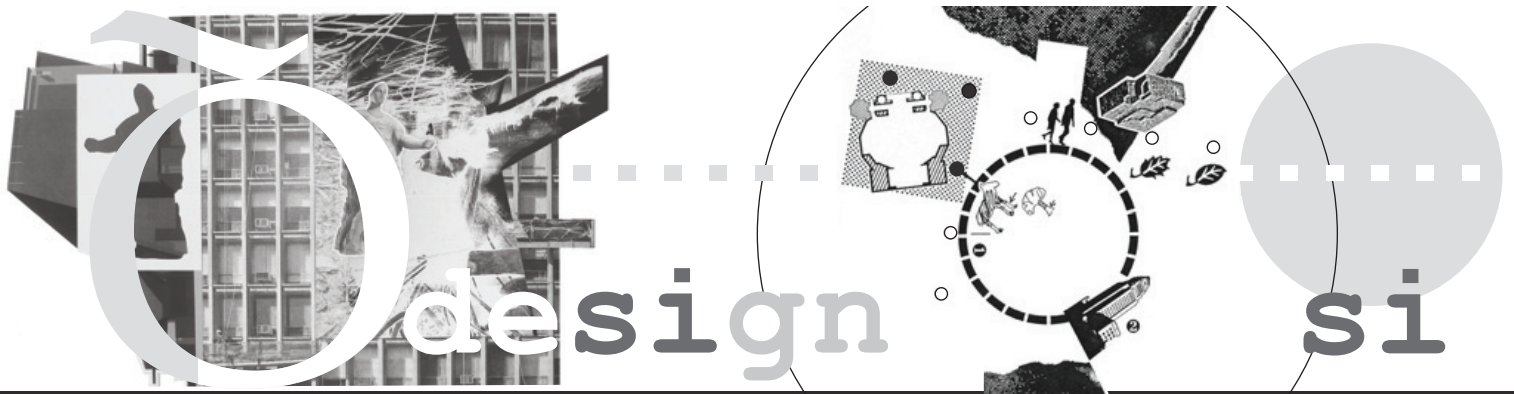
July 21, 1922 ~  
February 16, 2013

We join Alan Cash in mourning the loss of his mother, Hettie C. Cash. Hettie died February 21, 2013 at age ninety. She had lived just down the road from Mission Concepcion for the last forty-seven years. Hettie and her husband Samuel T. Cash were high school sweethearts, both graduating from Brackenridge High School in 1940.

- Bill Cogburn



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# KWA and Neighbors Win Downtown's BEST Awards

*continued from page 1*



King William neighbors attended the Downtown BEST Awards on April 11, sponsored by the Downtown Alliance San Antonio: (left to right) Ed Day, José De Lara, Janet Williams, Downtowner of the Year Irby Hightower and Ben Brewer, Downtown Alliance Director. The annual awards recognize people, organizations and places that have made significant contributions to San Antonio's center city. The award for best Public/Private Partnership-Outdoor Space went to Constance & Crofton Pocket Park.

thank you to our volunteers who made the park a reality: Edward Day, José De Lara, Johnny Heidelberg, Irby Hightower, Barbara Jackson and Janet Williams.

Long-time neighbor Caroline Matthews both lives and has her business in King William. Established in 1987, Dos Carolinas offers a beautiful selection of guayaberas in cotton, linen, silk and wool, and specializes in bespoke guayaberas and dresses. Caroline has opened a fabulous new store at the Pearl, which was named BEST New Retail Space.

The King William Association received the BEST Public/Private Partnership - Outdoor Space for the Constance & Crofton Pocket Park. It was the idea of the San Antonio River Oversight Committee to create a pocket park at this strategic point. To provide a neighborhood connection to the river, the streets were realigned, the ground was raised, an ADA-compliant access path was created, and lighting, native plantings, irrigation and trash receptacles were installed. In addition, local artist and King William resident Carlos Cortez donated two of his trabajo rustico benches for seating.

Designed by Bender Wells Clark Design, the project was managed by the San Antonio River Authority and funded by Bexar County, the City of San Antonio, Mission Trails Rotary Club, the San Antonio River Foundation and the King William Association from funds raised through the annual King William Fair. A big

*- Cherise Bell*

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# KWAKS - King William Area Kids



KWAKs' most recent event took place on March 30 at the Upper Mill Park, when over 50 children and their parents gathered for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.

In 2010, two neighborhood families created a group on Facebook known as the King William Area Kids, or KWAKs. The goal was to connect families living in the King William, Lavaca, Southtown and SoFlo neighborhoods. Its inaugural event was a get-together at Chris Park for splash and play time.

Since then, the KWAKs group has grown to include over 120 folks. We have enjoyed many activities, including pumpkin carving, a pool party, a book swap, hiking and biking on the riverwalk, a campout, Christmas cookie decorating, and coordinating the kids' float for the King William Fair Parade.

KWAKs' most recent event took place on March 30 at the Upper Mill Park, when over 50 children and their parents gathered for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Kids scrambled for over 1,000 eggs, cuddled three live bunnies and enjoyed snacks and drinks.

In addition to coordinating activities geared around children, KWAKs shares information on other kid-friendly events around town and swaps strollers, car seats and play equipment when kids outgrow them. It has become a wonderful resource for our neighborhood.

A common misconception is that KWAKs is part of the King William Association. While the two share some members, KWAKs is independent of the KWA, and is free and open to any and all families in the area. Check out the KWAKs Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/kwaks](http://www.facebook.com/groups/kwaks).

If that doesn't work, please send an email to Michael Taylor at [mtaylor0331@hotmail.com](mailto:mtaylor0331@hotmail.com), and he will invite you via email! And, if you have an idea for a KWAKs activity, just post an event on the KWAKs Facebook page. Many of your neighbors are sure to join you!

- Deb Mueller

## King William Area Kids - Join us!

Come join us on May 18 for our egg drop and book exchange at 107 Crofton!  
Contact Barbara Taylor at [bs2026@gmail.com](mailto:bs2026@gmail.com) or find us on Facebook.

## Mark Your Calendars

### WILLA MCDONALD

is graduating & heading to  
*Rhode Island School of Design!*

View a selection of her artwork

May 22<sup>nd</sup> – May 30<sup>th</sup>

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# 2013-14 King William Grants Program

**W**e are happy to announce the 13th year of the King William Grants Program. Over \$300,000 has been awarded since its inception, and we look forward to continuing the legacy this year.

The King William Community Cultural Development Fund is the fulfillment of the King William Association Charter, Article VIII Section 5, which states: "At the discretion of the King William Association Board, grants and donations of King William Association funds shall be made to schools and other organizations serving the neighborhood, as defined in Article III Sec. 1, and its residents."

Grants from the King William Community Cultural Development Fund are available to organizations located within the general King William area of San Antonio, as defined by the KWA by-laws, or whose project will serve an organization located in the area. Grants may be used for a variety of purposes, including program support, physical projects, or program development proposals, and should first and foremost meet the purpose(s) of the charter of the Association. Grants are not given for political activities, lobbying efforts, support for deficit financing or repayment of debt, non-charitable purposes, efforts without beneficial impact to the King William Area of San Antonio, or directly to an individual or private enterprise.

The application contains all the instructions needed to apply for a grant, and will be available beginning April 26, 2013 on the KWA website ([www.kingwilliamassociation.org](http://www.kingwilliamassociation.org)) or at the KWA office, Monday through Friday. The due date for applications is Friday May 24, 2013.

- Beth Davis

## State Representative Mike Villarreal House District 123

### Property Appraisals - How to Ensure that Your Home is Fairly Appraised



In the past few weeks, many homeowners received an appraisal notice of their property for tax purposes. While most homeowners are willing to pay their fair share in order to maintain our local schools, roads and infrastructure, folks want to ensure that their property value is assessed fairly. You will have received an appraisal notice if you are a new owner of the property or if your appraisal has been increased by \$1000 or more. If you feel the appraisal is inaccurate, there is an appeals process to make sure that your property has been fairly evaluated. In

order to start the process, simply follow the directions included with your appraisal. It is important to note that you must submit your dispute in a hard copy via fax, mail, or in person.

There are two ways in which you can evaluate whether your property has been fairly assessed: 1) whether the market of your property is accurate, and 2) whether your property was equally or uniformly taxed in comparison to other similar properties. First you should verify that the information the Appraisal District has for your property is correct. Take note of things like size, year built, and the presence of a swimming pool or a garage. It is also important to make sure that any aerial pictures used are accurate. Taking your own pictures will also be helpful during the protest process.

Next, you can research the market value of your property. Though Texas law does not require the disclosure of the sale prices of properties, websites such as [www.realtor.com](http://www.realtor.com) and [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com) provide home listings in your area. A local realtor may also be able to help advise you.

Finally, you should determine whether the appraisal of your property meets the "Equal and Uniform" standard. You can find other houses in your neighborhood at the Appraisal District's website located at [www.bcad.org](http://www.bcad.org). When conducting your search, make sure to look at houses with similar property age and size, and similar features. Making a note of the median level of appraised value per square foot will make your meeting with the appraiser more productive.

I hope that this information is useful to you. If my office can ever be of assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me at [michael.villarreal@house.state.tx.us](mailto:michael.villarreal@house.state.tx.us) or (210) 734-8937.

- Mike

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**City Councilman  
Diego Bernal  
District 1**



Dear King William Neighbors,

In an effort to stay in touch and inform constituents, I try to be as accessible as possible and contribute to neighborhood newsletters. In the last couple of months, I've been talking to individuals and groups of people who work, play and live in the Center City. The Center City is thriving, and I am enthusiastic about the projects underway to improve the infrastructure and the opportunities for increased living

spaces for local residents. Below is a brief recap of a recent presentation on the State of the Center City outlining some of the exciting changes on the horizon we are working toward:

- Construction of a Downtown grocery store;
- Re-visioning and renovating River Center;
- Implementing a Downtown street car project;
- Establishing the region's first and only free standing children's hospital;
- Erecting an 8,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art medical campus;
- Expansion of the Southwest School of Art to begin offering a Bachelor of Arts program;
- Completing construction of the Tobin Center, a state-of-the-art fine arts venue on the site of the former Municipal Auditorium;
- Increasing Center City housing opportunities, with 11 housing projects in the Inner City Reinvestment/ Infill Policy (ICRIP) amounting to 2,250 new housing units;
- Proposed expansion, improvements and modernization of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center; and
- Renovation of HemisFair Park to draw locals back Downtown for recreation and special events.

The highlights are part of a much longer list of accomplishments and of planned activity in the area. If you would like to receive more information, you are welcome to call my office and get details.

*Sincerely,  
Diego*

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Fax: 207-0908

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San Antonio, TX 78283-3966  
207-7279 Fax: 207-7027  
district1@sanantonio.gov

A black and white advertisement for the 7th Annual King's Feast. The background shows a large, full moon over a body of water. In the foreground, a large beer glass is filled with beer and topped with a crown-shaped paper hat. The glass has the Blue Star Brewing Company logo on it, which includes a star and the text "BLUE STAR", "finest quality", "est. 1996", "BREWING COMPANY", "RESTAURANT & BAR", and "SAN ANTONIO".

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# OUT IN THE GARDEN

## with Alan Cash



**B**y the time you receive this the King William Fair will be just over. Now we can get back to our normal routines.

That means planting things becoming available at your favorite nursery. A popular vine usually available now because they have been blooming for the past couple of weeks, is the Confederate Jasmine, sometimes called Star Jasmine. It is a dark green, generally evergreen vine, covered with very fragrant white flowers. You normally find them in one gallon containers at reasonable prices. They tolerate sun but do equally well in partial shade.

There are many types of crepe myrtles and they start their prolonged blooming season at different times. As they begin blooming is a good time to select the ones best suited for your garden space and desired color. Early bloomers begin in June. There is a free list of several dozen types in the bulletin board box on the front porch of the King William office. The list shows characteristics of each type. Although most are suited for our south Texas soil, those with an Indian name are generally better.

If you have porch and patio pots, here is a tip on watering that can reduce how often each pot needs to be watered as the temperature rises. Get a bucket-type container that is 4 to 6 inches wider than the pot and about 8 inches deep. Fill it with water and put the pot in it for about two hours. The soil will become saturated as the water goes up through the hole in the bottom of the pot. The water will usually sustain the plant for several days unless the temps really take off. To be sure, stick your finger in the soil a couple of inches each day to be sure the soil is moist. This type of watering is especially good for hanging baskets, using the hook on which they hang to put them in the bucket.

Continue to conserve water. We are still in Stage 2 restrictions. As of this writing on April 10, we just missed going to Stage 3 after receiving 2 1/2 inches of rain in early April. Many of us may not remember the severe drought in the 1950s, but there are many more of us now than then, using much more water. So be careful in your water usage. Recommendations for drought-tolerant plants and information on SAWS water conservation programs can be found at [www.saws.org](http://www.saws.org).

*Garden Note: Gardening requires lots of water. Most of it in the form of perspiration. - Lou Erickson*

## A Mission Reach

### Resident:

## The Red-Eared Slider

**W**hile enjoying the San Antonio River, you might come upon a distinctive looking turtle sitting on a rock or log. The red-eared slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) is a native Texas turtle that cannot be confused with anything else. The distinctive red stripes that can be found along both sides of its head, for which the turtle is named, separate this species of turtle from any other. While these red stripes are not actually ears, red-eared sliders can hear using something called an "inner ear." Along with their distinctive red "ears," these turtles have yellow stripes on their green legs. Their shell is dark green and is often covered with algae on older turtles. The shell can get up to 13 inches long on females and 11 inches on males. This relatively large, omnivorous turtle grows quickly on a diet of meat and vegetation. These turtles can meet all their diet and habitat needs in most healthy mud-bottomed, slow moving water bodies from Indiana to the Gulf of Mexico. Red-eared sliders used to make popular pets due their distinctive looks and relative abundance. Now, it is illegal to capture a red-eared slider and keep it as a pet due to its proclivity to carry diseases such as salmonella. It might be a challenge to catch one anyway because these turtles are so quick to slide into the water if frightened. The Mission Reach of the San Antonio River offers plenty of views of this unique looking turtle, so come and check them out!

- Josef Kaul





# Hot Tin Roof, Part 2

We had decided to invest in solar panels for our hot tin roof—although with the rebate that CPS gives and the federal tax deduction, our "investment" was substantially reduced. The question was, what solar company to engage?

We attended a Solar Tour San Antonio event and visited a number of residential solar installations in town, collecting business cards as we went. We followed up with the companies represented there. Most of the salesmen we talked to rejected our desire to install solar because we didn't fit the profile of their clients—in other words, we didn't fit their rubric of profitable. We didn't have a true south-facing roof

(our back roof faces southeast and southwest), plus our roof is very high and steep—read that "a pain to install." In addition, the roof is partially shaded by century-old pecan and cypress trees. On top of that, our energy consumption is low, meaning that we didn't need many panels to cover our needs, anyway.

Undaunted, we kept calling solar companies, making online inquiries, and wading through sales spiels. Finally, we struck gold when we called Solar Tech Technologies. Owner Mauricio McNish-Jay came in person to our door in answer to our call: a slim, gentle, Caribbean man wearing a broad-brimmed hat.

Mauricio was not put off by our low consumption—no TV, no AC, line-dried clothes, solar oven—and in fact made suggestions of other ways we could conserve energy. And instead of being scared away by our towering roof, situated to minimize solar gain, he rose to the challenge. He is, after all, an engineer first and a solar installer second.

Mauricio asked to borrow our ladder, the 40-foot tall spindly tower that we reluctantly use to clean the gutters. He ascended fearlessly—unfazed by the height, the gentle but daunting breeze, and the brilliant sun instantly heating the aluminum rungs while casting a large round shadow from his silhouetted hat. He was familiar with the position of the house from a Bing mapping study (see link

below!). Studying the standing seam height and roof slope and calculating annual shade patterns, he figured that we could fit the requisite number of panels on our southeast and southwest roof surfaces to cover our consumption and then some.

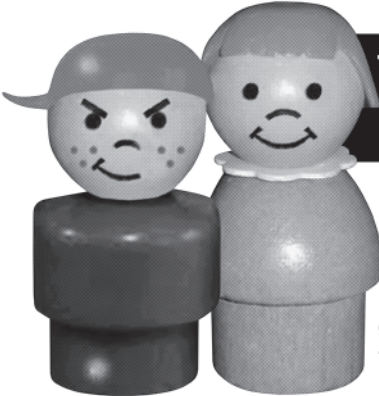
To compensate for the shade trees that we refuse to trim, he suggested that we use mini-inverters, one

for each panel, so that a bit of shade on the panel would not compromise the whole system, but only knock out the panel currently in shade. Efficient, targeted, and sustainable: that is the beauty of our system. The panels are rated to last 35–40 years. In addition, they shade the roof, keeping it a little cooler inside. We now look at the overzealous sun with admiration. We

also get to look at all the energy we're harnessing from this point on, for free.

To see your house as the sun sees it, check out Bing maps which allow you to see your home from from the north, east, west, and if you're considering solar, the hot, sunny south. You can try it here: <http://www.bing.com/maps/> Type in your address. Use the bird's-eye view and zoom in until you can see the detail. Then, click on the arrows next to the compass and watch as your home is viewed from every possible direction, including—and most important for solar study—the south.

- Patrick McMillan



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# “Year of the Window” Part 2: Eyes Wide Open

I forget who said it: if eyes are the windows of the soul, then windows are the eyes of a house. And like our own eyes, windows reveal the character and personality of the homes they illuminate... and they need to be treated with care and respect.

The Architectural Advisory Committee of the King William Association has declared 2013 “The Year of the Window” to focus on this important component of historic design. In the February KWA newsletter I noted the temptation for an owner of an historic house to replace old windows with allegedly energy-efficient units, despite the serious threat that this poses to the historical integrity and character of the home. (And that character is why we choose to live in King William, right?) It’s worth remembering:

Replacing windows is expensive, and existing windows can often be brought back to good performance for a comparable cost.

Substantial energy savings can be achieved by addressing other components of the house – especially insulation in attics and roofs – often at a cost less than or comparable to extensive window replacement.

Infiltration (drafts), the major thermal issue for windows in our relatively temperate climate, can be controlled by repairing glazing putty, adjusting poorly-fitting sash, installing storm windows ... or just closing the drapes.

Historic homes were designed to ventilate well – and that’s a good thing. Although it can be hard to remember when we’re suffering through a Texas August, about half the time a well-ventilated house in San Antonio needs no artificial climate control except for ceiling fans.

Historic windows do require maintenance and, after decades of service, may need substantial repair. A useful guide to repairing wooden windows – the most common type in King William – is available from the US Department of the Interior at [www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief09.htm](http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief09.htm) .

- Jack Kent, Jr.

## CALLING ALL NEIGHBORHOOD ARTISTS!



Artists living in the Southtown area are invited to apply to exhibit their work at the KWA office. Exhibits run for two months. Email [king.william@sbcglobal.net](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net) or drop by the office for an application.

## Did You Know?

The King William Association Charter, asserting the organization’s purpose and intent, was submitted to the State of Texas on July 28, 1967. Seven purposes are listed in the KWA Charter; this article concerns the third.

3. *The corporation shall systematically collect and preserve articles, documents, pictures, books, tools of agriculture, art, home furnishings, and other items representing the heritage and culture of home life, education, religion, government, and work (industry) in order to preserve same and make them available for study and use by writers and others and viewing by the general public. In this regard, special attention shall be devoted to the Pioneer-Residents of the King William Area.*

This is perhaps the most ambitious purpose proposed by the founders because the intent appears to establish a museum and research library. Collection and maintenance of historical items is costly. Currently the San Antonio Conservation Society has a research library with access to City Directories, Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps and architect biographies, plus a librarian to maintain the collection and assist in research.

One way KWA does fulfill this purpose is to collect history and stories about “Pioneer-Residents” and individuals and families who reside in our neighborhood. Do you have a history about your house or photos you would like to share in the Newsletter? Let us know by emailing [king.william@sbcglobal.net](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net) or call our Executive Director, Cherise Bell at 227-8786.

- Cherise Bell

# Welcome to Bonham Neighbors!

**W**e are thrilled to be a part of this vibrant neighborhood. Whether or not you have children in our school, we welcome each of you to come and visit to discover for yourself all of the amazing feats our students are accomplishing with your support.

For those new to the neighborhood and those who are not aware of our award-winning program, I want to give you an introduction to Bonham. Bonham is a tuition-free internal charter school within the San Antonio Independent School District that serves students in kindergarten through eighth grades. The school offers a curriculum that allows students to develop high levels of language proficiency and literacy in both English and Spanish under its two-way immersion dual-language program. Through the support of the King William Association, Friends of Bonham and the Bonham PTA, Bonham also offers all of its students a thriving fine arts program and an award-winning outdoor science curriculum.

Under the two-way immersion model, the school strives to place equal numbers of native Spanish speakers and English speakers in the same classroom, allowing students to serve as role models for one another and to promote conversational Spanish in the classroom through work and play. The majority of instruction is in Spanish in the early grades with a transition to English as the predominant language of instruction by the eighth grade. However, the goal of the dual-language program is to maintain students in at least one Spanish class in middle school to maintain proficiency in Spanish.

Parent Karla Treviño de Davila's two daughters have been attending Bonham since they started school and are now in the second and sixth grades. Her daughters' first language is Spanish, and she likes that every day they are required to speak in both languages, allowing them to build their English skills while strengthening and preserving their native language. But there's another aspect that drew Treviño de Davila to the program.

"Bonham promotes knowledge of [my children's] culture, not just knowledge in Spanish grammar, but also knowledge surrounding their culture, in my case, Mexican culture. It's a very, very good system."

The school's curriculum is infused with culture as students participate in Cinco de Mayo, Dieciséis de Septiembre, Día de los Muertos activities and other cultural events.

The fine arts are nurtured through partnerships with Blue Star Arts Space, Jump Start Theater, Magik Children's Theatre, SAY Si Media Arts Studio, and area art galleries, dance studios, museums and theaters. The school has a strong theater program with the subject taught at all grade levels, and two major performances held each year.

Students also develop an appreciation for the environment through the school's outdoor education science curriculum, which has made the campus a haven for nature and greenery. Students participate in field trips to area nature centers or preserves.

Bonham has a traditional campus with a progressive academic program and strong parental involvement that contributes to its success.

In the past few years, Bonham's Dual Language Program has gained wide popularity, and last year, there



was a wait list of 50 kindergartners wanting to enroll. Any child living in Bexar County is eligible to apply – they do not have to live in the school district, though enrollment priority is given to students living within the neighborhood boundaries. If you have a child that you would like to enroll in kindergarten for the fall of 2013, you are strongly encouraged to visit the school and complete a commitment form to hold a space for your child before May 15.

Come on over, neighbors, and give us a visit. Tours of the school are provided every Friday from 2:15 - 3:00 p.m. For more information, please call 228-3300. Los Esperamos!

- Principal Patricia Ortiz

**Newsletter**  
**Submissions Wanted!**  
Do you have a story to tell? A neighbor to praise? News to share? A general interest column to launch? Submissions and contributions to the KWA Newsletter are welcome! Please send to [king.william@sbcglobal.net](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net).



1032 S. Alamo St.  
San Antonio, Texas 78210

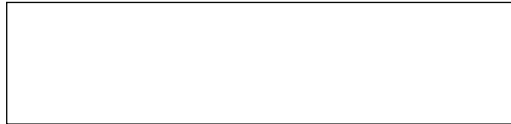
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**POSTMASTER**

Please deliver by May 1, 2013.



Henry Brun & the Latin Jazz Players perform at Concerts on the River on May 19



*Rescheduled*  
**Spring Social**

Wednesday, May 1 - 6:30 p.m.  
Home of Curtis Johnson &  
Leland Stone  
403 Madison Street  
Special performance by  
Youth Orchestra San Antonio  
String Quartet

*Please bring a dish to share!*

**May Calendar**

- 3 Farmers Market - C. Chavez Blvd. & Labor St. - 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Concert on the River - Katchie Cartwright - 6:30 p.m.
- 15 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 19 Concert on the River - Henry Brun & the Latin Jazz Players - 6:30 p.m.