Chair's Message

Thank you for your patience as Fair 2009 approaches. Please read this special edition of the newsletter and share it with your family and friends.

This edition of the newsletter is mailed to every home within the jurisdictional boundaries of KWA.

If you live in the Fair Zone, you’ll also receive two parking/entry passes (explained more fully in this edition). If you live in the neighborhood or are a member of KWA, you’ll also receive two free admission wristbands for the Fair. If you’re not already a member, maybe it’s time to consider becoming one. Members may purchase discounted admission wristbands at the KWA office.

We’re constantly trying to ensure that this neighborhood event is fun and family-oriented, but also safe and efficiently run. The event is both our primary fundraiser and main opportunity to showcase who we are. None of it is possible without YOU, your understanding, your time, and your support.

The Fair allows us to have what some traditional homeowners’ associations don’t have: an office to meet others and conduct our business, employees to help us, and sufficient funds to support the arts, education, and our larger community.

Rose Kanusky
Fair Chair 2007-2009

Go Green

Last year, the Fair launched its first recycling program, and with the help of our volunteers, we were able to recycle an amazing 700 pounds of trash. We can and will do better this year!

Our goal to become the “greenest” Fiesta event means small changes in the Fair’s layout. It also means we need more volunteers. Finally, it means that we need your help in urging your guests and friends to recycle!

Read more about Keeping KW Clean on page 5

Timelines

Thursday, April 23, 2009
evening
All restricted parking signs installed.
Fair Zone booth marking begins.

Friday, April 24, 2009
8:00 a.m. Fair Zone travel and parking restrictions begin.
Fair South parking restrictions begin.
9:00 p.m. Fair Zone closed to residential traffic; park at H E B.

Saturday, April 25, 2009
6:00 a.m. Fair Zone opens for setup only.
8:00 a.m. Admissions go on sale.
10:00 a.m. Fair opens as the parade starts.
6:00 p.m. Fair closes.
8:00 p.m. Fair Zone opens for off-street parking only.

Sunday, April 26, 2009
12:00 p.m. Fair Zone street parking permitted.
Fair South parking restrictions lifted when signs removed.

Kids Parade Entry

Neighborhood kids are needed to join in the Parade fun! The Kids Parade Entry will be on foot, bikes, and wagons.

Meet by 9:15 a.m. on Fair Day at the Parade lineup on Eagleland. Call 212-9373 for more info.

Saturday, April 25
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
www.KWFair.org

Our mission is to support the arts, education, and community improvements with family fun in the state’s first residential historic district.
Fair South

Fair South includes all streets south and east of S. Alamo Street. Residents of Fair South will not receive a vehicle entry or parking pass with this newsletter unless you live in the 100 blocks of Adams or Wickes.

Follow these rules:
• Park in the direction of the traffic flow.
• Park 20 feet away from an intersection or 15 feet from a fire hydrant.
• Do not remove or block “no parking” signs.
• Do not move street barricades.
• Do not park on the grass.
• Do not park at the high school.

Parking Restrictions

On Thursday night, April 23, SAPD will install signs indicating parking restrictions that take effect at 8 a.m. Friday and will remain in effect until the signs are removed, as late as mid-day on Sunday, April 26. If the signs are removed earlier, then you can park on both sides of the streets. SAPD will ticket or tow violators.

Guenther: parking is limited to the west (river) side after the parade passes.
Crofton: parking is permitted on both sides.
Wickes: parking is limited to the west (river) side after the 100 block after the parade passes. No parking is permitted in the 100 block.
Adams: parking is permitted on both sides after the 100 block after the parade passes. No parking is permitted in the 100 block.
Mission: parking is limited to the west (river) side after the 100-200 block. No parking is permitted between S. Alamo and Pereida.
Cedar: parking is limited to the west (river) side.
Constance: parking is limited to the south (high school) side.
Forcke: parking is limited to the south (high school) side.
Stieren: parking is limited to the south (high school) side.
Barbe: parking is limited to the south (high school) side.
Eagleland: parking is permitted after the parade passes.

Closures

Eagleland, Guenther, AND Wickes will be closed to all through-traffic on Saturday, April 25, from 7 a.m. until the parade passes (approximately 11:30 a.m.). No exceptions. Please refrain from parking on the west (river) side of Guenther and Wickes, and either side of Eagleland, until the parade has ended.

Viva Fiesta!
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Fair Zone

The Fair Zone is defined as those streets north and west of S. Alamo St. – between S. Alamo and Durango Blvd., and between the River and S. St. Mary’s Street – including Arsenal from the bridge to Main. Residents of the Fair Zone will receive two vehicle passes with this newsletter.

Restricted Traffic Friday, April 24
- Access passes are required for everyone.
- There is NO through-traffic Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., although you may travel to a specific destination with your pass.
- Entry points are limited to Pancoast, King William, and Madison.
- The streets will be treated as one way, flowing basically north to south.
- Street parking is not available.
- Park at H-E-B Headquarters (646 S. Main Ave.) starting on Friday at 5 p.m. through Sunday at noon. The parking lot at H-E-B Headquarters is a secured lot; you will need to show your pass to the attendant. The KWA office will issue passes to Fair Zone residents, employees, or B&B guests before Friday only.

No Traffic Saturday, April 25
The streets will be closed to all vehicular traffic from 9 p.m. Friday until 8:00 p.m. Saturday. Park at the H-E-B Headquarters (646 S. Main Ave.).

Vehicular traffic is reopened to residents at 8 p.m. Saturday. However, off-street parking is prohibited until Sunday at noon.

Parties
Everyone entering the Fair Zone needs an admission wristband, and coolers will not be allowed at all. Admission at the gate will be $5/adult. Children 12 and under are free.

Most guests will be happy to pay the fee when you tell them how the Fair raises money for scholarships, arts programs, libraries, graffiti abatement, tree plantings, and other community-based programs. Encourage your guests to visit our website at KWFair.org, where they can learn more about our event.

You might consider purchasing wristbands for your guests. As a special benefit to KWA members only, you may purchase additional admission wristbands in the KWA office during regular office hours (Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; closed Friday, April 24) at the discounted price of $4/adult.

Please remind your guests about the street closures. Help us become the #1 green Fiesta event by recycling all you can.

Guest Parking
Fair visitors can park in the free parking lot at 1901 S. Alamo (corner of S. Alamo and S. Flores). Parking at the Alamodome will be available for $5 and is on VIA's Yellow Streetcar route. Parking information for the public is located on the Fair’s website (www.KWFair.org).

King William neighbors congratulate Sandra Cisneros on the 25th anniversary of the publication of The House on Mango Street.
Special Sites at the Fair

Ilse’s Attic

The Fair’s “store,” now relocated in the Queen’s Alley along Washington Street, is named for Ilse Griffith, who lived at 422 East Guenther from 1973 until she died in 1999 at age 89. Ilse attended Bonham Elementary and graduated from Brackenridge High School in 1916 with the school’s very first graduating class. Her interests were varied and far-flung but history and politics were her two main passions. Ilse was incredibly active as a community volunteer, serving two years as KWA board president and another two years as Fair Chair.

Pat’s Pub

The stage area at Johnson and Madison honors Pat Sodke, a long-term chair of beer sales and avid dart player. After serving as a medical technician in the Air Force, Pat went into building construction. He began his love affair with the King William area in the 1970s when he bought and restored a house at the end of Crofton Street. He and Lou Terwey also restored the triplex at 311 Mission Street. Pat worked on about 40 homes in the area. In 1995, he died at the young age of 44 with his saw in hand. Have a drink in his honor!

Julia’s Veranda

If you’ve stopped at the shady performance area at Sheridan and King William, you should know it honors Julia Cauthorn, often referred to as “The Duchess of King William.” Julia is said to have sold old jewelry and gold coins to buy her house in 1973 at 217 King William. She was a passionate supporter of the local performing arts, and on many Sunday afternoons would host musicales in her home, with cake and punch served on her veranda. Julia died in 2000 at age 82.

Lost and Found

During the Fair, the Lost & Found items will be located at the Information Booth in Queen’s Alley (between the Masonic Lodge and St. Joe’s on Washington Street). After the Fair, any items will be returned to the KWA office.
This year the King William Parade has two Co-Grand Marshals. The loose theme of this year’s Parade is “Live Theater in San Antonio.” Serendipitously, the King William neighborhood is cradled by two outstanding and powerful theater groups, and we are indeed fortunate that both entities have graciously agreed to serve as Co-Grand Marshals.

Jump-Start Performance Co. is located at 108 Blue Star in the Blue Star Arts Complex, immediately southwest of King William. Jump-Start is celebrating its 24th anniversary of community entertainment and involvement. Jump-Start’s original productions, guest artist series, and community education have reached over a million people, and they have worked with more than 90 schools and community groups, sharing their talents with a highly diverse audience.

The Magik Theatre is located at 420 South Alamo, in HemisFair Park, just northwest of King William. Magik Theatre is celebrating its 15th anniversary of entertainment and community outreach focused at children and the child in all of us. Magik’s “decision to only produce plays that were based on books children were reading in schools” marks them as unique in the San Antonio theater community. In addition to Magik’s community work with area children, they are also instrumental in continuing Shakespeare in the Park in San Antonio.

These two outstanding theater entities will be presenting visually stimulating and intellectually entertaining entries in this year’s King William Parade, and I invite you to join us when the Parade passes throughout the neighborhood this year.

Sue Duffy, 2009 Chief Parade Wrangler
Vendor Spotlight

It may come as no surprise that the food served at the Fair is one of its biggest draws. From traditional festival fare and regional favorites to more exotic cuisine, everyone can find something to nosh on. The Texas Bach Choir has participated as a food vendor at the Fair for the last 15 years, and this year is no exception. They will be serving the ever popular half avocado brimming with chicken salad for only $5. The funds raised will allow the Choir to continue performing music of the great Baroque composers on instruments that are authentic period reproductions. You are invited to enjoy one of their acclaimed performances on May 2 at 5 p.m. at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church or May 3 at 3 p.m. at Woodland Baptist Church (visit www.texasbachchoir.org for more details). And if you want to try one of their delicious stuffed avocados, make sure to visit Food booth W204 on the 200 block of Washington Street early because they sell out every year. Bon Appétit!

If you have been looking for handmade goods to beautify your home, office, or wardrobe, look no further. The Art & Craft vendors at the Fair are renowned for their dynamic and diverse creations. Larissa Ottinger, who grew up on City Street and graduated from Brackenridge High School, has been attending the Fair since childhood. This year, her third time participating as an Art & Craft vendor, she will be selling clothing from her Handmades Children’s Collection. Larissa uses heirloom sewing techniques, such as wide hems, French seams, and hand smocking. She is deeply influenced by her love of the traditional Southern style of dressing children. Her materials include cotton laces imported from the Netherlands, 100% cotton imported from Switzerland, and high quality Imperial Batistes. These clothes are both beautiful and made to last and will be found at Art & Craft booth 11 on the 200 block of Washington Street.

Elizabeth Flynn

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Dealing with Vendors

Sometimes the Fair committee may need your help to make the event happen. Usually, we need access to your property, but we may need other things, like access to your water for our beverage booths. Please consider saying “yes” to our requests.

On the other hand, please do not make special arrangements with individual vendors to use property or for access to resources such as water or electricity. We require the vendors to work directly through the Fair’s planning committee to avoid problems with the Health Department, Fire Marshal, etc.
**Kids Kingdom**

The Kids Kingdom will be filled with fun activities for children of all ages, from free crafts and games to favorite commercial rides. This year’s special free activity will be a “Create a Crown” area where kids and adults can craft their very own personal King William Crown out of paper bags and paper plates, embellished with feathers, sequins, and magical stuff.

The Kids Kingdom will again be managed by Mission Trail Rotary Club, on behalf of KWA. The 2009 Kids Kingdom chairman is long-time King William resident Richard Contreras.

Proceeds from the Kingdom are shared between KWA and Mission Trail Rotary. Mission Trail Rotary uses its funds to support joint community activities, such as Basura Bash and the Tree Planting project, as well as supporting service clubs at Brackenridge High School. Mission Trail Rotary also sponsors the literacy program “I Like Me,” which creates and distributes personalized books for all kindergarten students at Bonham, Briscoe, and Green elementary schools. In addition, Mission Trail Rotary funds the production of “Los Pastores” at Mission San Jose each Christmas, as well as the Rotary Youth Exchange Program at Brackenridge, and donates funds toward worldwide relief projects through Rotary International.

Mission Trail Rotary meets every Tuesday morning at 7:30 a.m. at MadHatters, 320 Beauregard, and welcomes anyone interested in service above self to join us.

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**Volunteer Spotlight**

Bexar County Sheriff Deputy Chief Daniel L. Gabehart is one of our longest, continuously serving volunteers. This year marks his 30th as our lead security officer. He likes to say, he’s “King William Chief of Police” for one day, but that’s a simplification of all he does.

Chief Gabehart’s force now includes more than 60 officers, but it started in 1980 with only five, who were invited to participate by assistant district attorney and Fair organizer, Michael Hodge (who now lives in New Mexico, but is still a KWA member). One of the Chief’s favorite Fair memories involves the eviction of squatters from the Joske House, then owned by Julia Cauthorn.

The Chief has family ties to the neighborhood. His father, Joe Gabehart, worked many jobs in the building trade and used his fine carving and carpentry talents restoring King William homes. Like his father, Dan is an active member of the Chickasaw Nation.

Dan has worked hard to keep our Fair quiet, safe, and family-oriented. He’s also weathered the sometimes political and dangerous job as a county sheriff. We congratulate the Chief on his recent promotion, we honor him for his 30 years of service, and we join him in mourning the loss of his father.

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**Friends & Sponsors**

The King William Association extends a great, big Fiesta “thank you” to our corporate sponsors and many supporters and friends!

Our “headliner” stage in King William Park is sponsored by a long-time Fair supporter and local energy icon, Valero Energy Corporation. A neighborhood star, H-E-B, will sponsor the stage in the Kids Kingdom, across the river from their corporate headquarters. Other financial sponsors include Aetna, Frost Bank, GLI Distributing, and Halo Distributing.

This year will bring an unprecedented level of corporate support in the way of people power. ACCD, AT&T, Frost Bank, IBC, USAA, and Valero Energy Corporation will be sending volunteers to our event to show their community spirit.

Look for the Alamo City Rollergirls during the parade and UTSA’s American Institute of Architecture Students during setup.

Our grant recipients will also show their support of the Fair by helping us in a variety of ways. It’s wonderful to see ACCD, SAISD, and SAY Sí students work side by side with us.

Generous gifts in kind will be provided by our neighbors: Alamo Segway, Half Price Books, H-E-B, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Mission Restaurant Supply, National Trust for Historic Preservation, San Antonio River Authority, San Antonio Conservation Society, SAISD (Bonham Academy and Brackenridge High School), Starbucks Coffee Company, and many individual property owners. Thanks also go to the Brackenridge Football Team, who will clean up during the Fair.
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St. Joseph’s Roman Catholic Benevolent Association

Located at 420 E. Durango, St. Joseph’s Society has been a presence in the King William neighborhood since the 1960s. Although their hall is just across the street from the King William Park, many neighbors hardly know they are there except at Fair time when their location comes alive with activity.

The Society was actually chartered in 1885 and met first in the old St. Joseph’s rectory downtown on Commerce Street. In 1892, they built their own hall across the street from the church. In 1929, they moved into the historic Friedrich Groos House a few doors west on Commerce. The Society existed happily at this location until the mid-1960s when they suddenly came head on with urban renewal brought on by HemisFair construction.

The limestone Greek Revival house was considered to be the finest in the Fair area, but it sat directly in the path of the planned river extension, so it had to be “moved.” It was actually carefully taken down stone by stone, each one numbered and stacked on the corner of expanded La Villita with plans to eventually be reassembled on that site.

That, of course, never happened. Instead, according to local historian Maria Pfeiffer, also a descendent of the Groos family, many of the stones went missing and the rest were eventually used to build the wall around Plaza Nueva (later renamed Maury Maverick Plaza) and also the wall around the Wulff House at the foot of King William Street, now the headquarters of the San Antonio Conservation Society.

Like the KWA, St. Joseph’s uses the Fair as a primary fundraiser. St. Joseph's works closely with the Fair committee to present a seamless experience for our guests. We look forward to continuing our partnership with St. Joseph’s for many years to come.

Bill Cogburn
New Admission Policy
Children 12 & under are free. Adults are $5 each.
No coolers allowed. No exceptions!

KWA Office Hours & Fair Merchandise
During Fiesta week, the KWA office will be open Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., only.
The office will be closed on Friday, April 24.
Fair pins, medals, admission wristbands, and KW history books are available to purchase at the office during office hours only. Fair merchandise and history books will also be sold at Ilse’s Attic (in Queen’s Alley, between the Masonic Lodge and St. Joe’s on Washington Street) on Fair Day while supplies last.

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 King William Association.

Printed on 30% post consumer recycled paper.