



King William Association

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August 2013

## Window Conservation: Old Pane, More Gain

The Architectural Advisory Committee of the King William Association has declared 2013 “The Year of the Window” ... and in previous issues of the Newsletter we have discussed the City’s historic guidelines that call for appropriate, energy-conserving restoration of historic windows over replacement. In this installment we visit with neighbors whose home and guest house exemplify best practices for residential window restoration (and much else besides!).

Photographer Scott Martin and poet Jenny Browne have restored two homes in the Lavaca neighborhood using a variety of strategies for energy conservation and recycling of building materials. (Many King William residents rely on “Scott’s List” of historic contractors and suppliers, [www.scottslist.org](http://www.scottslist.org).) One of their projects, a guest house at 215 Vance, won the City of San Antonio’s Green Building Award for historic retrofit in 2012. Interestingly, this house was built during the Great Depression using reclaimed building materials from demolished structures, making it a “green building” of its own era!

Window restoration was a major part of the energy-saving strategy in both houses. Martin described the steps

involved in reclaiming each double-hung window: removal of the interior trim, removal of old glazing putty and paint (using a citrus-based solvent and carefully disposing of the old lead-based paint), and re-hanging the original counterweights. Removal of layers of old paint and, where necessary,

replacement of damaged window stops ensured that the repaired and repainted sash fit tightly, but without binding.

All windows originally had wood-framed screens. A few windows, carefully chosen to maximize natural ventilation in good weather, received cypress-framed screens newly fabricated with stainless steel screening that is resistant to damage by children or would-be vandals. However, most of the screen windows were fitted with tempered glass instead of screens. These

were installed with weatherstripping, and coupled with the original windows, provide thermal performance comparable to modern double-glazed windows while maintaining the original character of the house. An added benefit: the tight windows cut out a lot of exterior noise, including the endless clatter of nearby rail lines.

Martin said that he was impressed both by how quickly the steps of window restoration proceeded and by the modest



Street view of the Vance Street guest house showing storm windows configured like historic wooden screens. (Photo © Scott Martin)

# MY PERSPECTIVE

by Deb Mueller, President

**B**ehind the scenes, it is a busy summer for the KWA. In the last issue I mentioned the Board of Directors will work on and approve a 2014 budget which will include funding for many of the activities we support throughout the year: concerts at SARA, artists at the office, graffiti clean-up, tree planting, the home tour program, sidewalks, socials and scholarships. The budget also includes general operating expenses from salaries to staples. In addition, we budget for building maintenance of our office on S. Alamo. After accounting for what the KWA needs to operate and complete programs or approved projects we look to the remainder of the KW Fair income to award grants to organizations throughout our community.

Beth Davis, now serving her third year on the Board, has worked hard to improve our grant making process. The application requires the applicant to tell us how the request fits with the charter and mission of the KWA. The applications are judged independently and scored by volunteers. The results are tabulated and analyzed for validity, and the results are presented first to the Finance Committee for a recommendation and then to the Board, which votes on which grants to approve.

Meanwhile, Deb Field, also serving her third year on the Board, led the nominating committee to find a slate of candidates to serve on the Board of Directors. Thanks to all the members who have stepped up to serve! If you're interested in serving on the Board, I can assure you it's worthwhile and you are sure to learn some interesting things about the organization, the neighborhood and the neighbors. You must be a KWA member for one year prior to service to be eligible, so tear out the membership form from this newsletter and send it in or drop it by the office.

In addition to working on the budget, grants and nominees for the Board, the KWA is striving to have a presence at all public meetings regarding development around us, from streetcars to HemisFair to Victoria Commons to downtown grocery store propositions. If you have a particular interest in one of these topics and would like to be more involved, please call the office and let us know so we can keep you in the loop.



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

**LAYOUT** Angela Martinez  
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).

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[kingwilliamculturalartsdistrict.com](http://kingwilliamculturalartsdistrict.com)

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## Notice - Change of Email Addresses

The KWA office recently changed Internet and telephone service, so email addresses have changed:

- KWA - [info@ourkwa.org](mailto:info@ourkwa.org)
- Cherise Bell – [director@ourkwa.org](mailto:director@ourkwa.org)
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# New Board Nominees

**P**er the King William Association By-Laws, each September at the General Membership Meeting, members vote for the Board of Directors. Directors are elected for one-year terms and can serve up to three years, unless they become president and serve an additional year. Nominees must reside within the boundaries of the Association and have paid their dues the previous year.

A slate of 15 candidates, with one designated as President, will be presented at the August General Meeting. At that time a call for nominations from the floor will also take place. Persons nominated from the floor must meet the eligibility requirements. No person who has not previously agreed to serve will be nominated.

The nominating committee, consisting of two board directors and three members, worked diligently and received consent from the following members. Returning Board members: Susan Athené, Jim Johnson, Jr., Chris Price, George Reihner, Fidel Santamaria, Andrew Sherwood, Joe VanMeter, Max Martinez (President-Elect), and Deb Mueller (Past President). New nominees are: Anne Alexander, Paula Cantrell, Pat Conroy, Annice Hill, Curtis Johnson, Nora Peterson and Jessie Simpson.

**Anne Alexander** actually moved to King William when she married Jack Pancoast in 2002. King William was

her adopted neighborhood for 20 years before marrying Jack, so she feels like she has been here for a very long time. Anne hopes to help make decisions for the Association that will cause us to continue to respond, “Yes. It’s the best!” when someone says, “Oh, you live in King William.”

**Paula Cantrell** has enjoyed living in the neighborhood for 12 years, periodically volunteering in various roles, including the 2010 Fair Chair. Paula plans to work with the other Board members to represent our neighborhood’s goals and needs regarding the evolution of the area, and to identify opportunities to increase the participation and enjoyment of our neighbors.

**Patrick Conroy** and his wife moved to San Antonio from Chicago in 1999, and began looking for a home. Once they were introduced to King William, they knew that they wanted to live here. They renovated and moved into their home on Madison in 2001. They have twin sons and a daughter. Patrick hopes that his experience as an attorney, engineer and manager will be useful on the board.

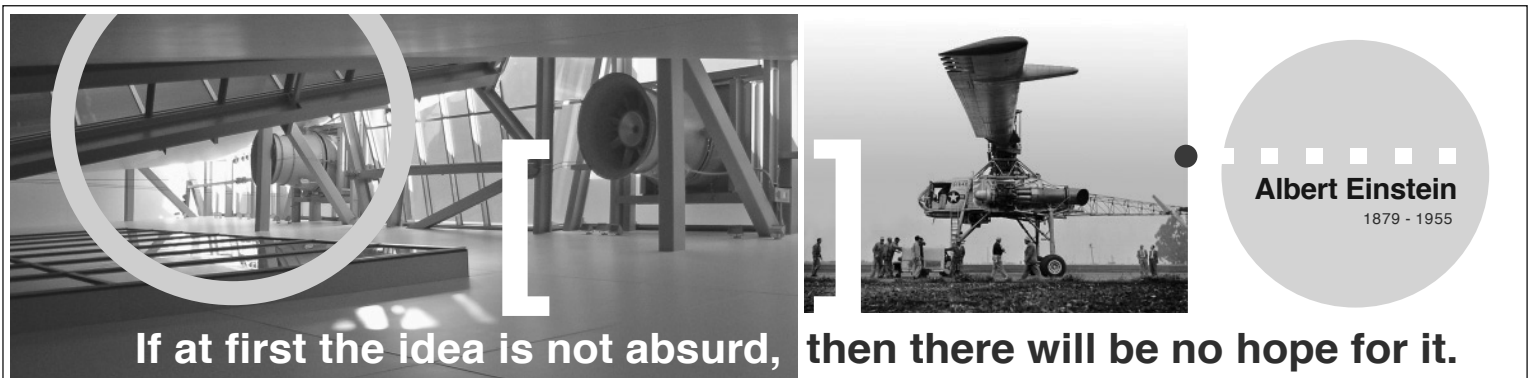
**Annice Hill** has lived in the neighborhood since 2009 and resides in the St. Benedict condos with her husband Keith. After moving in she volunteered as the KW Fair food co-manager, and has served in that capacity for three years. Her goals are to get more renters involved in the Association and let them

know how membership will benefit them; to resurrect the “welcome to the neighborhood basket” program; and to represent the organization as indicated in the by-laws.

**Curtis Johnson** moved to the neighborhood in 2006 from Monte Vista because of the architecture, the flavor of the neighborhood and connection to downtown. His great grandparents owned a wholesale produce business in the 1920s located at today’s Blue Star complex, and their home was on Washington Street. Curtis would like to work on improving the streetscape and infrastructure of S. Alamo Street, including the aesthetics of the bump-outs, and Pedro Huizar Park.

**Nora Peterson** moved to the neighborhood with her husband Richard Green in 1997. They purchased the Adams House Bed & Breakfast Inn and operated it until 2006. In the meantime, they moved Nora’s parents here from the Chicago area. They restored the house next to the inn and moved into it post-B&B. Nora’s first goal is to learn to be a member of the board, then to continue to help make the Association a positive link to our diverse population and continue its philanthropic efforts.

**Jessie Simpson** has lived in King William since 1996 and is married to Bill Hoover. They have opened their home, the Joske House, to visitors on the home tour several times.



**If at first the idea is not absurd, then there will be no hope for it.**

**Albert Einstein**  
1879 - 1955

# Did You Know?

The King William Association Charter was submitted to the State of Texas on July 28, 1967. The purpose of a charter is to proclaim an organization's purpose and intent. Seven purposes are listed in the King William Charter. This article is about the sixth purpose.

*6. In further pursuance of this purpose, the corporation shall plan, promote, and conduct activities and special events designed to attract people to the King William Area for educational and cultural pursuits and to promote the arts and crafts.*

In 2010, the KWA Board approved the creation of a Public Arts Committee to encourage endeavors supporting the charter in promoting arts and crafts. This resulted in KWA applying for and receiving the first Cultural Arts District designation in San Antonio from the Texas Commission on the Arts. This was recognized by a Downtown's BEST award from the Downtown Alliance. Other regularly scheduled cultural pursuits include the summer concerts in the park and artist's shows at the KWA office.

To celebrate Preservation Month this past May, the KWA and the San Antonio Conservation Society hosted a guest lecture by faux bois artists Donald Tucker and Carlos Cortes. We received positive feedback on the lecture and are working to offer more such events in our neighborhood. Let us know what topics of conversation about art, craft, architecture and historic preservation you would like to attend or to be highlighted in our newsletter.

- Cherise Bell



## Kevin Saunders Photography Exhibit

The KWA Public Art Committee is pleased to announce an exhibit of photographs by Kevin Saunders to open in September. Kevin uses a camera with a Schneider lens that allows him to take an 80 megapixel image every 2.5 degrees. He manually sets each shot and combines the final images into a very large panorama with incredible detail. He will be showing prints from his orchid series and his landscapes of the King William area.

Kevin has been working with this camera and technique for the last six years. He originally intended to work in the fashion industry, but found it to be "nonexistent" in San Antonio. So he turned to shooting flowers, and his sister, a high-end florist, suggested orchids. Kevin found orchid growers Liz and Don O'Toole of E.D. Huntington Orchids and Tropicals in north San Antonio. The couple has a wonderful collection of very old, luxurious orchids that Kevin has photographed with sensitivity and respect. The prints are quite large and the detail is astonishing.

In his bright studio in Blue Star, Saunders has gigantic orchid prints on three walls. He is obviously proud of these jeweled glories, but he

points out the architectural aspects of orchids and likens them to his architectural prints in another part of the studio. These are cityscape panoramas. As you step nearer to the print you realize that no matter how close you get, all of the detail - people, buildings, grass and trees - remain crystal clear. This is the magic of his camera and his photographic process. If you go to his website ([kevingsaundersphotography.com](http://kevingsaundersphotography.com)) look for the section named "gigapan" it will take you to orchid and cityscape prints that you can zoom in on and be amazed at the detail. There is hardly a limit to how close you can get. I even saw jewelry on people at ground level who had been photographed from the top of a tall building!

As much as I enjoyed his work on my visit to Kevin's studio, visiting with him was even more delightful. He absolutely overflows with enthusiasm for his craft. He patiently explained his photographic process until I understood. It is amazing. Please join us for an opening reception for this gifted artist on Thursday, September 5, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the KWA office.

- Sherry Hess

# Eminent Domain – At What Cost?

For many years, there was a corner of the King William neighborhood that was made up mostly of families of Italian decent. Many were first generation immigrants from Italy. The four square blocks bounded by S. Main, W. Guenther, Sheridan and Flores was a quiet, peaceful neighborhood where families like the Granatos, Pantusos, Martinos and Scarnatos would gather on one front porch or another after a day's labor to exchange news and gossip.

All that changed in 1970. The U.S. Postal Service needed a new Central Post Office in San Antonio and decided it should be located where this tranquil neighborhood had existed since the early 1900's. The properties were condemned, homeowners were offered market value for their homes, and before they had time to sort out their future plans, the bulldozers arrived. Even the church at the corner of Nathan and W. Johnson had to go "for the greater good."

In a 1970's interview, Rose Granato Whittington recalled how she was personally impacted by the decision. Several of her close-knit family members owned houses in the neighborhood, mostly on W. Johnson Street. The news that their homes would be razed created great concern among her family. The

older family members in particular were devastated to realize that they would no longer be able to putter around in their yards and walk across the street to talk to life-long



317 Johnson, where the Granato family gathered for special occasions and no particular reason. (destroyed in 1973)



Lucia Granato and a neighbor on West Johnson Street

neighbors. One of the favorite front porches was that of Rose's uncle, Joseph Granato, who lived at 317 W. Johnson (see photo). Rose could remember countless evenings spent on that porch listening to the grownups talk about the old country.

Rose's father, Frank Granato, who lived at 403 W. Johnson, was a well-known and respected dealer in fresh produce. In his earlier years, he made his living selling fresh fruits and vegetables from his horse-drawn cart throughout the inner city neighborhoods.

By 1973, the USPS had changed its mind and decided not to locate the central post office at this

# Potential Main Avenue Closure

At the KWA General Meeting on June 5, 2013, H-E-B spokesperson Dya Campos announced that H-E-B had submitted a proposal to the City to build a grocery store at the corner of S. Flores St. and Cesar Chavez Blvd. In addition, Ms. Campos stated that H-E-B would be asking the City's permission to close S. Main Avenue between Arsenal St. and Chavez Blvd. at an undetermined future date, regardless of whether or not a grocery store is built.

There is a process for any entity that wants to permanently close a city street, the "Closure, Vacation and Abandonment Process." This is available for review online at the City Of San Antonio website under the CIMS department: [www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/pdf/DPM/CIMS\\_closure.pdf](http://www.sanantonio.gov/dsd/pdf/DPM/CIMS_closure.pdf).

Here is an overview of the basic procedure:

1. Entity completes application and submits it to the CIMS real estate division.
2. Application is sent to other COSA departments such as SAPD, SAFD, Office of Historic Preservation and Public Works (traffic). Review takes about 30 days.
3. A survey and appraisal of the street will be completed.
4. Public notice signs are posted, if deemed necessary.
5. Public letter notices are mailed to property owners within a 500-foot radius providing the date of the Planning Commission and City Council meetings where citizens can provide their input on the proposed street closure.

The King William Association has met with Councilman Bernal on this issue and he understands the neighborhood's concerns. Mr. Bernal stated that a Comprehensive Traffic Study and Plan would be completed before any approval was given. KWA's task force will continue to work on this issue with the Councilman and H-E-B.

- Cherise Bell

*continued on page 13*

# KWA By-Laws Revision

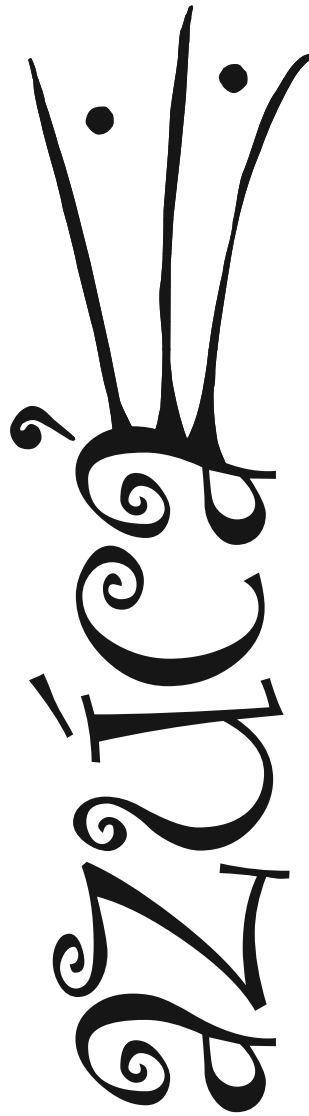
The King William Association By-Laws have gone through a lengthy review process, culminating with a set of proposed amendments that were presented to the membership at the June general meeting. At the direction of the KWA Board, the proposed amendments are scheduled for approval by the members eligible to vote at the annual meeting in September, in accordance with the current by-laws.

In the June KWA newsletter, Board President Deb Mueller gave some of her reasoning for initiating the by-laws review process: standing committees with no members, ambiguous provisions, etc. In leading the review process, I discovered a few additional reasons to recommend revisions to the By-Laws, namely, to conform the By-Laws to changes in law; to conform the By-Laws to changes in the organization (such as the addition of the Executive Director); to incorporate current best practices in corporate governance; and to align certain provisions to the current practices of the organization. With these changes, the King William Association will run more efficiently and effectively and, perhaps most importantly, the Board will have more clarity to ensure that it is operating in accordance with the By-Laws.

What will not change if the amendments are adopted are the purpose and mission of the King William Association. In my view, by-laws work most effectively as procedural documents, and the focus in drafting or revising an organization's by-laws should be on achieving a proper balance of direction and flexibility for the board and the organization. When by-laws and amendments to by-laws address the organization's mission, a large part of the focus naturally becomes the mission statement. The proposed amendments to the KWA By-Laws do not include any revisions to the mission or purpose of the King William Association as established by the KWA Charter or as further described in prior amendments to the KWA By-Laws. The focus in this process has been on improving the procedural aspects of the KWA By-Laws through greater clarity, more current provisions and better practices. I believe we have achieved this aim and I hope you will join me in voting for the proposed amendments at our annual meeting in September.

If you have not read the proposed by-laws, you may call the KWA office at 227-8786 or email [info@ourkwa.org](mailto:info@ourkwa.org) to request a copy.

- Andrew Sherwood



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# Window Conservation: Old Pane, More Gain

*cont. from page 1*

cost. With custom-fabricated screens and storm windows, each window cost a few hundred dollars in materials and labor – comparable to mid-range new windows and substantially less than high quality new wood windows. And most importantly, they are original – maintaining the historic and aesthetic integrity of these houses while improving their energy efficiency.

Martin and Browne use their guest house as a teaching tool for principles of green design. Besides the window restoration, other strategies included extensive use of reclaimed lumber, doors, and cabinetry; foam insulation in walls, attic, and crawlspace; and, energy- and water-conserving heat pump HVAC, appliances, and plumbing fixtures. Thanks to these conservation measures, both houses have seen their modest energy bills offset for months with CPS rebates. An independent energy audit showed that one house's HERS rating fell from 240 to 72 (lower is better, 100 is considered average for a new home).

Window restoration to this level of performance takes a little extra effort and time, and plenty of love – but that love is why most of us live in King William and Lavaca. It also takes knowledge. More information on 215 Vance is available at [greenguesthouse.net](http://greenguesthouse.net).

- Jack Kent Jr.



**Passing the hat:** 2014 King William Fair Chair Jeremy Nelson (left) receives the official crown from Michael Girdley, 2013 Chair, bravely witnessed by Fair staff Zet Baer and Susan Rothman at the volunteer appreciation party in June.

## Savory Summer Recipes from Tim the Girl

Summer is the time to savor the farmer's markets delights and bask in the fresh veggies that color our plates. My favorite meals come from the pick of season, a refreshing saba noodle salad meets the light airy flavors of creamy feta dip, perfect for carrot immersion. Grab your groceries from Uncommon Fare and bring these two fabulous flavors to your next summer soiree.

### Siren's Song Soba Noodle Salad (makes 2 servings)

- 1 pkg Annie Chun's Buckwheat Soba Noodles (pkg has 2 bags - use them both)
- 3 Tb soy sauce
- 3 Tb toasted sesame oil
- 2 tsp rice vinegar
- 1 Tb minced ginger
- 1/4 c. chopped green onion
- 1/4 c. chopped cilantro
- 1/8 c. julienne carrots
- 1/4 c. chopped blanched green beans
- 1/4 c. Tamari toasted pumpkin seeds (see recipe below)

Bring 2 cups of water to a boil. Remove from stove and add both pkg of noodles. Soak for 1 minute and drain; rinse in cold water.

Pour noodles in a large bowl, add the liquid ingredients to coat noodles then add ginger and all vegetables and pumpkin seeds. Toss gently and enjoy!

### Tamari Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

Sprinkle 2 Tb of tamari over 1/4 c. pumpkin seeds. Mix well. Place on small baking sheet; broil for 2 minutes or until lightly toasted.

### Yogurt Feta Dip

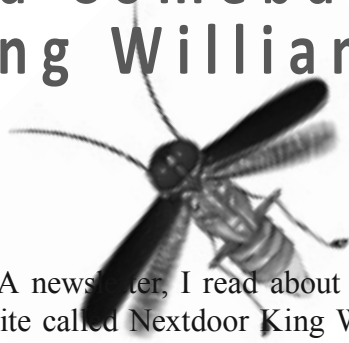
- 1 container Greek yogurt (17.6 oz)
- 1 c. feta cheese (crumbled)
- 1/2 c. finely chopped parsley
- 2 finely minced cloves of garlic

In a large bowl combine yogurt, feta, parsley and garlic until well mixed (feta will be lumpy).

Serve with pita, veggies, fruit, crackers, crostini or on sandwiches. Healthy and delicious!

Tim the Girl / Uncommon Fare Groceries in Cevallos Lofts  
301 E. Cevallos, Unit 169; 210-687-6036

# Help Fireflies Make a Comeback to King William



In last month's KWA newsletter, I read about a nifty private social website called Nextdoor King William ([kingwilliamsatx.nextdoor.com](http://kingwilliamsatx.nextdoor.com)). No sooner had I signed up than I saw an intriguing post from neighbor Rhoda Hockett:

*We have lived here 29 years and tonight was the first time we've seen fireflies on the river banks!!! We started seeing the first one from the bridge by Brackenridge HS then saw two more as we walked back toward Blue Star. Imagine if there were fifty or a hundred? The magic begins!*

The magic begins, indeed! I strongly suspect that the returning fireflies were attracted back to the area by the recent environmental restoration completed along the Eagleland Reach of the San Antonio River. However, we still have a bit of work ahead of us if we want to see the fairylike cloud of fireflies that Hockett, as well as I, yearn for.

Besides habitat loss, there are two other primary culprits that we can blame for the destruction of firefly populations across the United States. The first one is obvious: the overuse of pesticides. The second culprit is more subtle but just as destructive to fireflies: light pollution. Fireflies use light to communicate with each other. They flash signals to defend territory, warn predators, and, most importantly, attract a mate. So, that 60-W bulb lighting up your front porch is putting a bit of a damper on firefly romance.

Beyond disrupting firefly life cycles, light pollution jeopardizes many other aspects of an ecosystem, wastes money in needless energy costs, obscures our view of the stars, and reduces our neighborhood safety. This is anti-thetical to what most people think about outdoor lighting and security. The more lights, the better, right? Actually, this is quite wrong. Criminals need light, too. Lighting can facilitate criminal activity by drawing attention to a property and permitting easy access. Criminals can hide when obscured by glare projecting into the eyes of a neighbor or passersby.

The U.S. Department of Justice's National Institute of

Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice conducted a large study on the impact of street lighting and crime. The study determined that there is no statistically significant evidence that street lighting impacts the level of crime. However, there is a strong indication that increased lighting decreases the fear of crime. In other words, lights can make us feel more secure, but improper outdoor lighting can actually reduce safety by producing glare. Glare can blind you because the human eye adjusts itself to the brightest object in sight, which then limits its ability to see other things. If there's a big difference in light intensity between the lit area and its surroundings, you won't be able to see either very well.

Shielding lights so that they don't produce glare is an effective way to decrease light pollution, which will have a positive impact on the environment (think about those passionate fireflies!) and on our neighborhood's security. So, how do you know if your outdoor lights are producing glare? There is a very simple test: If you can see the source of the light or the light reflector, it's producing glare. There are a few quick steps you can take to help diminish or even fix the problem:

1. Redirect light to the area to be illuminated, and avoid lighting neighboring properties.
2. Add shields to existing fixtures to prevent glare and light spill, or replace with shielded fixtures.
3. Replace existing bulbs with ones having lower lumens, ideally less than 750.
4. Turn off lights when you are not using them.

For more information, visit the International Dark-Sky Association's web site ([www.darksky.org](http://www.darksky.org)). There, you can read about the importance of stopping light pollution and steps you can take on your own by consulting the IDA's Residential Lighting Good Neighbor Guide brochure (<http://www.darksky.org/assets/documents/PG3-residential-lighting.pdf>).



- Charlotte Luongo

**Free Outdoor Movies at La Villita**

**Tuesday, 8/6: Elvis Presley's Blue Hawaii**

**Tuesday, 8/20: Cat on a Hot Tin Roof**

**Thursday, September 19: Moonstruck**

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# OUT IN THE GARDEN

with Alan Cash

Most of us have probably heard the term heirloom plants, but do not know what they really are. The following is taken from *The Southern Heirloom Garden* by William C. Welch and Greg Grant.

Heirloom plants are living antiques and belong in the garden because they are tough, adapted and pretty. They evoke nostalgia by their sight and smell because they are plants that Grandmother grew or we grew up with as children. The use of heirloom plants should be considered in establishing the garden to complement the restoration of any older home.

Some heirloom plants include: camellia, gladiolus, common boxwood, Japanese boxwood, coxcomb, roses, crinum, Carolina jessamine, flowering quince, honeysuckle, gardenia and trumpet creeper. There is a copy of this book in the KWA office to help you identify them.

## Gardening tips and things to do

- August is a good time to trim and shape evergreen shrubs that have gotten a little out of hand.
- Trim roses by one-third to encourage branching, which will provide more fall blooms.
- To conserve water, determine if your lawn needs watering by walking across it in the early morning. If the blades do not bounce back and you can see your footprint, it needs water.
- A good organic weed killer is two ounces of orange oil to one gallon of nine percent vinegar and a squirt of kitchen dish soap (not dishwasher detergent).
- A red Radio Flyer wagon adds an interesting touch to the garden, and is ideal for hauling bags of mulch, fertilizer and potting soil around and for

moving heavy pots.

Many of us have large trees that provide shade and cool the garden. However, shade also limits what we can plant. The front gardens at 509 and 610 Mission St. are good examples of what can be done under such conditions. Walk by and take a look to get ideas for your own garden.



*Garden Note: To garden is to keep faith with the past - and create a beautiful present.*



camellia flower



photo by Roger Stephens

## Hit and Run on Carolina Street

About 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 19, a car careening off S. Presa on to Carolina St. ran into the back of a parked truck. The driver quickly backed up, jumped the curb and ran into his victim. He abandoned the car and ran away. A nearby neighbor saw the incident and has provided these details. There was no fatality, but the victim was only four years old.

This was not a typical hit and run. The four-year-old victim was a cedar elm tree planted as part of the King William/Lavaca Tree Project. The tree was pushed over almost parallel to the ground. The picture shows project volunteers pulling it back to an upright position. At the time of this writing the prognosis is good for the tree's survival.

There have been three other such occurrences since the tree project started in 2002. In two, the trees died and were replaced. The one that survived has had a slow recovery. Since the tree project was started by the two neighborhood associations, over 500 trees have been planted, and about 95 percent are thriving despite the perils of dry weather, thefts, and hit-and-runs.

- Alan Cash

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## A Fish That Protects You From Mosquitoes

Summer in South Texas is one of the best times of the year to be outside along the San Antonio River. On some days, though, if the heat doesn't keep you inside, the mosquitoes will. Luckily, the San Antonio River Watershed is home to a native fish that helps us with those pesky insects. The Western Mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) is a small (1 to 2 inch) fish that lives in ponds, lakes, creeks and rivers. This fish, along with its close cousin, the more localized Largespring *Gambusia* (*Gambusia geiseri*), eats mosquitoes. While these fish might be considered pests in some parts of the country where they have been introduced, they are native to our watershed and therefore provide a natural form of pest control. Incredibly common and numerous, these hardy fish are not hard to find.



These small fish are olive in color and their mouths are located on the top of their heads. The position of its mouth allows the Mosquitofish to feed on prey at the top of the water column, like mosquitos and other insects. Unlike many other fish, the Mosquitofish give live birth to their young. Sometimes it is very easy to spot a pregnant mother because of her large belly and translucent skin. Mothers, as well as their young, can eat 50 to 150 percent of their body weight daily. That is a lot of mosquitoes! So next time you decide to go outside and enjoy the beautiful San Antonio River, make sure you thank the Mosquitofish for a job well done. Without these natural predators swimming in our creeks and rivers, the pest problem could be much worse.

For more information about the San Antonio River Watershed, please visit the San Antonio River Authority's website at: [www.sara-tx.org](http://www.sara-tx.org).

- Josef Kaul

### Newsletter Improvement Plan

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 [info@ourkwa.org](mailto:info@ourkwa.org).

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# July 4 Regatta on the River

Thanks to all who participated in the July 4th King William Regatta. It was particularly fun this year!

The event began dramatically. In the thrill of a break-neck start, the Cogburn canoe (Scott and Barry) collided with the Hartman canoe (John and Michael), and both canoes capsized, allowing the paddlers to learn that the water was about two feet deep there. All four guys stood up in the river, emptied the canoes and overcame the mishap with aplomb. The paddlers (and eventual winners) in the one canoe not involved in the crash displayed great sportsmanship as they waited for their competitors to regain their canoe composure. The Commodore declared a do-over start to the race which was won, fair and square, by Bryce Milligan and Richard Contreras, in a near photo-finish. The fellows in all three racing canoes showed style and grace under pressure.



Commodore Emmett presents kayak race trophy to winner Michael Taylor and his daughters. (photo by Susan Athené)

Speaking of stylish sports, the elegant combo of S.T. Shimi and Oscar Alvarado set the standard for both imagination and good nature. Who else would have provided the bubbles and fireworks? But alas, another unplanned contact with the water dampened the sparklers. Although all participants made it a hard call with the decorations, dogs and witticisms, Lisa and Tim Cabrera and family won the Style Award with their paddle boat. Everyone was a winner for style, but regrettably we only have one trophy.

Before we put away the canoes and kayaks, I want to thank those who made special contributions. Gloria Arcchi was our line judge on duty at the Johnson Street Bridge (maybe next year we'll get her a whistle). This was also the first year for an official kayak race. The Guys' Poker Club envisioned the kayak race and contributed the clever trophy, fittingly now held by Michael Taylor.

Special thanks to Mark Reyna of Rep. Lloyd Doggett's staff for arranging Congressman and Mrs. Doggett's regatta participation. It was a pleasure to see our congressman in action!

Finally, warmest appreciation to Dina Toland, who choreographed the KWA's social following our regatta event, and to Laura Powell, who organized the children's activities that were a big hit.

- Commodore Marita Emmett



photo by Mark Reyna



Bryce Milligan (center) and Richard Contreras claim yet another canoe race trophy. (photo by Susan Athené)



Esteemed neighborhood representatives Lloyd Doggett and Mike Villarreal congratulate Commodore Emmett on another spectacular regatta. (photo by Mark Reyna)



photo by John Hartman



## **ROOFING & RENOVATIONS**

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WE ARE OFFERING A FREE INSPECTION TO QUALIFY YOUR ROOF FOR REPLACEMENT COVERAGE BY YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY. WE ARE CURRENTLY SERVICING THE **KING WILLIAM AREA** DUE TO THE HAIL STORM LAST FEBRUARY 2012. WE ARE WORKING WITH MANY OF YOUR NEIGHBORS AND THEIR INSURANCE COMPANIES.

**ITS NOT TOO LATE TOO FILE A CLAIM!!!!**

***\* DEDUCTIBLE DISCOUNT\****

WE CAN HELP HANDLE YOUR INSURANCE CLAIM FROM START TO FINISH

HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF YOUR NEIGHBORS WHO HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF OUR SERVICE:

### **REFERENCES:**

Michael Taylor – 107 Crofton.

Jessica Rose – 531 Mission St.

Nancy Diehl – 320 Adams St.

Gene Kaufmann – Wickes St

**Scott Martin – Vance St. Scott's list website creator**

**\*\*\*\*\*Scott's list preferred roofing contractor\*\*\*\*\***

# 2013 King William Parade – A Winner



Cornyation twinkies (photo by Alana Campbell)



St. Anthony Blessing of the Animals (photo by Alana Campbell)



Dignowity Pushcart Derby (photo by Alana Campbell)



Ukulele Ladies & Gents (photo by Zet Baer)

**B**ack in 2007 and for a couple of years thereafter, the King William Fair Parade gave awards for different categories, but this practice eventually fell off. This year we decided to re-instate these awards.

We thank the members of “The End” (the Parade’s final group), Doris & Bennie Regner, their son Travis, their friend Dr. Thornton and Syeira Budd, who served as the Awards Team. The award categories are fluid and creative, like the parade participants. We are proud to announce the 2013 King William Parade Award Winners:

- Best in Show:** Blue Star Brewing & the Longhorns
- Best Live Music - tie:** Brackenridge High School Eagle Band & Brackenridge Purple Jackets and The Ukulele Ladies & Gents
- Best in the 'Hood:** South Texas Memorials
- Best History:** Order of Granaderos y Damas de Galvez
- Best Kid Entry:** St. Anthony Catholic School Blessing of the Animals
- Best Vehicles:** Dignowity Pushcart Derby
- Best Visuals - tie:** Artist Foundation of SA and Cornyation
- Best Dressed Animals:** Fiesta 4 Paws

This year the Parade was exceptionally entertaining and well paced. We hope y’all enjoyed viewing it as much as we enjoyed working on it.

- Sue Duffy

## Eminent Domain – At What Cost?

*cont. from page 5*

site, but by that time, the damage was already done. Nothing could bring back the homes, the neighborhood or the people. Several ideas were proposed for the now-vacant land. One was a motor pool and later a SAISD cafeteria warehouse and commissary. The surrounding neighborhood, bitterly opposed to commercial use of the property, mobilized and with the support of the King William Association led by board president Justin Arecchi the plan was successfully blocked.

In the early 1980’s, the U.S. Dept. of the Interior donated the property to San Antonio Housing Authority with the stipulation that it would be for public use. The SAHA offices were built on the Flores Street side of the property and the O.P. Schnabel apartments and the expansive Beautify San Antonio Park occupies the S. Main Avenue side. Large shade trees are the only reminder that it was once a vibrant historic neighborhood.

- Bill Cogburn

*Sources: June 1979 River City Press; Richard Garza archives; SAPL archives; Granato family archives*



**Green Building Award:** Congratulations to KWA members and neighbors Michael and Cynthia Conrad for receiving a Green Building Award, Residential Category, from the City of San Antonio's Office of Sustainability for their house located at 310 Madison Street. The award recognizes their commitment to environmentally conscious design.

**Free Outdoor Movie at the Alamo**  
featuring: **The Alamo** (2004)  
**August 17, 7:30 p.m.**

Visit [slabcinema.com](http://slabcinema.com) or call 210.212.9373 for info.

## KWA 2013-2014 Membership

King William Association membership dues are minimal, probably less than any other organization you belong to. But, small as they are, they are important and tell us who our members are.

It is also important to pay dues on time. This year's nominating committee was disheartened to find that some candidates for the board, who were willing to serve, were ineligible because they paid their dues late last year or missed paying altogether (By-Laws Article IV, Sec. 3).

The KWA needs your leadership, intelligence, energy, neighborhood loyalty - and your dues.

The deadline for payment of dues is at or before the September 4 general meeting, at which the president and board of directors for the coming year will be elected. Only active KWA members may vote (By-Laws Article III, Sec. 6).

Business and Associate members also need to pay dues on or before September 4 to be included in the KWA Directory.

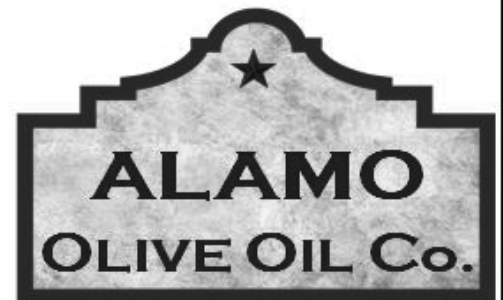
Dues may be paid in person or by mail to the KWA office, 1032 S. Alamo St, 78210. Thank you for your support!

- Roslyn Cogburn

**Alamo Olive Oil Co. would like to announce the opening of two locations in San Antonio.**

 ***The Shops at La Cantera, just outside of Nordstrom's***

 ***The River Center Mall, street level on Blum Street.***



**Makes great gifts!**

**Please come visit us!**

**We have a great variety of Gourmet Extra Virgin Olive Oil and Aged Modena, Italian Balsamic vinegars. Flavors like: Rosemary, Lime, Lemon, Fig, Coconut, Chocolate and so much more...**



**Additionally, we carry Olive oil skin care products, Gourmet Natural Salts, Martini mixes and Handmade Organic Italian Pasta.**

**JUST TRY IT!**





# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

September 2013 – August 2014

The King William Association invites you to renew your membership today! Your membership enables us to support local art, education, and community programs and to further our mission to preserve and maintain our historic, diverse, and residential neighborhood. Membership includes two wristbands to the King William Fair, currently a \$20 value.

Annual dues for the 2013-2014 membership year must be paid ***before September 1 to vote at the Annual Meeting for the Board of Directors*** and by October 1, 2013, in order for you to be listed in the annual KWA Directory. Contact the KWA office at (210) 227-8786 or king.william@sbcglobal.net if you have questions about membership.

- New Membership**
- Renewal Membership**

***I/We would like to activate/renew my/our King William Association membership at the level indicated below:***

- Individual (\$10)
- Associate – *not a KW resident or property owner* (\$10)
- Family (\$15)
- Friend (\$25)
- Patron (\$50)
- Benefactor (\$100)
- Sustaining (\$250)
- Business – *ALL CAPS directory listing* (\$50)

***I/We would like to be listed in the KWA Membership Directory as:***

Business Name (for Business level): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Directory (under 18, list name): \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ home cell work (please circle one)

***Additional information for KWA database, KWA Eblast, and/or Business listings only:***

Additional Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Website Address (for Business level): \_\_\_\_\_

***Let us know if you are interested in our KWA volunteer and committee opportunities:***

- Architectural Advisory
- Board Member
- Finance
- Graffiti
- Home Tour
- King William Fair
- National Night Out
- Newsletter
- Planning
- Public Arts
- Scholarship/Mentor
- Socials

***Please mail or drop off this completed form with a check made payable to:***

King William Association, 1032 S. Alamo, San Antonio, TX 78210

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**OFFICE USE ONLY:**

Date Rec'd \_\_\_\_\_ Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ BCAD/CC/MT \_\_\_\_\_ Directory \_\_\_\_\_



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Please deliver by August 1, 2013.



July 4 Regatta on the River (see page 11)

## August Calendar

- 7 KWA General Meeting -  
Blue Star Brewing Co. - 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Deadline for submissions for KWA  
Sept. newsletter
- 21 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 26 First day of school!