



King William Association

Volume 10, No. 2

March 2014

Síclovia Comes to Southtown

San Antonio's "largest health and wellness event" heads to Mission Concepción this year

On Sunday, March 30 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Síclovia will begin at the intersection of S. St. Mary's Street and E. Cesar Chavez Boulevard, and travel south along E. Mitchell Street and Mission Road to Mission Concepción, for a total of about 2.5 miles.

Síclovia is San Antonio's version of an event called Ciclovía that originated in Bogotá, Colombia about 30 years ago. It is a free family event that temporarily makes selected streets available to residents for recreational and sport activities. Car-free streets allow participants to bike, run, skateboard or exercise without worrying about cars. Anything that involves physical activity and fun is encouraged. The route will include Reclavía stations, with free group exercise classes, live music, places to eat, water stations and rest areas.

It is expected that the roads will be completely closed two hours before the event, and cars will be allowed back on the route about 90 minutes after the event is over. For more information visit www.ymcasatx.org/siclovia.

SÍCLOVÍA



SAN ANTONIO'S FAMILY ADVENTURE

The KWA Home Tour Committee is organizing a free walking tour in conjunction with Síclovia featuring houses on the 100 block of Cedar Street (exterior only). The tour will focus on historic preservation issues and the history of the houses. If you would like to volunteer for a shift please contact Anne Alexander at annealexander@satx.rr.com to discuss times and details.

Reformation of the KW Neighborhood - A Partial History

My wife, Luz Elena Solis Day, and I bought our "ruin" on E. Guenther St. in August, 1977, partially restored it, and moved into the house in June, 1978. We had unknowingly located across the street from Ilse Griffith, age 78, former president of the San Antonio Conservation Society and former president of the King William Association (1974-1976). Within a short period of time we were introduced into activist circles that

were resolving issues confronted by a historical neighborhood adjacent to the city center.

Sometime in 1979, I was chatting with Ilse when Dorteia Phillips, a neighbor and Ilse's friend, pulled up and started discussing the battle Justin Arcchi, then KWA president (1978-1979), was leading. It concerned the surplus federal government property on S. Main and E. Guenther. KWA had just arranged a grant with the

continued on page 6

Pilot Residential Permit Parking Program to Début in King William

Many streets of King William are used during the week by downtown commuters looking for free parking. However, nowhere is the problem worse than on Arsenal Street and City Street next to H-E-B's headquarters. Despite H-E-B discouraging its employees and vendors from parking on these residential streets, many of them continue to do so. In addition, employees of other nearby businesses and city offices also park on Arsenal and City during the day.

With the impending closure of S. Main Avenue, the Center City Development Office (CCDO) conducted a two-day traffic study of S. Main, S. Flores and Arsenal. The CCDO reported that, according to their study, the closure of S. Main will result in less commuter traffic on Arsenal. Paradoxically, however, the CCDO believes that the commuter parking situation on Arsenal will worsen. Because of this, the CCDO is proposing a year-long pilot Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Program for the residents of Arsenal as well as a portion of City Street.



Quick facts about the residential pilot parking program:

- Annual cost: \$10 per permit
- 4 permits allowed per address
- Up to 20 guest passes allowed per day (at additional cost)
- Parking space not assigned or guaranteed with permit
- Permit parking effective Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

The pilot RPP program must first be approved by City Council. If it is approved and proves successful, the program could be extended to other areas. For this to occur, first a petition for the RPP must be filed with 60% of the adjacent properties supporting the designation. Once support for the RPP is established through the petition, the City will conduct an on-street parking survey to determine whether a commuter parking problem exists. Should the City find a problem, the City Council will have the opportunity to adopt the new RPP zone.

Before signing an RPP petition, consider some of the consequences that could result from establishing an RPP zone on your street. For example:

- Do you have unexpected visitors coming by your home during the week? How would the RPP affect them?
- Are you willing to purchase guest passes in advance for service people or guests arriving before 7 p.m.?
- Lori Houston, the director of the CCDO, says that the annual cost will likely increase if the City must deal with multiple parking violations in an RPP zone. How much are you willing to spend to park on your own street?
- Do you have neighbors that might not be able to afford the program?
- Are there local businesses around you that might be affected? Where would their customers and employees park?
- RPP zones do not solve a city's parking problems but instead push them out to surrounding streets, causing a snowball effect. If your street becomes an RPP zone, how will it affect your neighbors on surrounding streets?

It is important that we take into account all of these considerations so that we can make the right decision for our community.

- Charlotte Luongo



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.

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Historic Building Inventory Begun

In 1984, the southern portion of the King William area was listed on the National Register of Historic Places and named the S. Alamo Street – S. Saint Mary’s Street National Register Historic District. Part of the nomination process was a historic structure survey, which consisted of photographing buildings and houses, identifying architectural styles and determining if they were “contributing” to the historic district.

The National Park Service’s National Register criteria for historic districts states, “For a district to retain integrity as a whole, the majority of the components that make up the district’s historic character must possess integrity even if they are individually undistinguished. In addition the relationships among the district’s components must be substantially unchanged since the period of significance.” When a building has retained its “integrity” it is labeled as “contributing” to the overall integrity of the historic district.

The KWA Board voted last year to update the data as a way to start archive files on the houses and to compare today’s conditions to 1984. To collect this data, KWA hired Mary Minor, a graduate student in architecture at UTSA, to take photographs and document the exterior materials of the buildings. Mary, who is also working on a certificate in Historic Preservation, said, “Thank you for this opportunity. I’m passionate about place and I love San Antonio.”

If you see Mary on your street with her camera, be sure to say hello!

- Cherise Bell



Mary Minor, accompanied by her daughter Lizzie, documenting houses on E. Guenther St.



2014 Fair View - Special Thanks To Our Volunteers!

The individuals listed here are the heart and soul of the King William Fair. Please shout out a big thank you to them for sharing their time, talent and treasures. The Fair would not be possible without their enthusiasm and dedication. There are many more not listed here who make everything happen on Fair Day. If you would like to help out and volunteer, please contact the Fair office at 271-3247 or zet@kwfair.org. We’d love to have you as part of our team!

- 2014 Fair Chair:** Jeremy Nelson
- Admissions:** Ruben Cuero, Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn
- Ambassador:** Brad Shaw
- Art & Craft:** Angela Garcia, Martin Saenz
- Beverages:** George Reihner
- Compliance:** Joe & Mary Helen Mansbach
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- Ilse’s Attic:** Gretchen Garceau-Kragh
- Kids Kingdom:** Richard Warren, Richard Contreras
- Marking:** John Hartman
- Parade:** Sue Duffy, John Doski, Ryan Orsinger
- Signage:** Ed Day, Mike Schroeder, Joachim Singelmann
- Transportation:** Rose Kanusky
- VIP Hosts:** Ed & Dana Haverlah
- Volunteers:** Sherry Hess

And thanks to our many corporate and organizational volunteers who serve thousands of hours on Fair day: Alamo City Roller Girls, Argo, AT&T, Bank of America, Children’s Hospital of San Antonio, Frost Bank, HEB, UPS, USAA, UTSA Historical Preservation Association and Valero. Thanks for being such great partners!

- Zet Baer

Friends of Bonham Shake It! Run/Walk

Come join us for the first Friends of Bonham Shake It! 1K/5K Run/Walk on March 22.

This family-friendly race will be held on a certified paved course with gentle hills along the Mission Reach of the San Antonio River, beginning and ending at the Blue Star Arts Complex.

Open to all ages, the top male and female finishers of the 5K will earn a \$100 cash prize.

The race is a great opportunity to encourage physical activity and a healthy lifestyle while promoting quality education and supporting our neighborhood school, Bonham Academy. Friends of Bonham hopes to make it an annual event.

The event sponsors to date include title sponsors H-E-B and the Herrera Law Firm. In addition, we are grateful for generous support from Chef Johnny Hernandez, Cibolo Films, El Machito and the San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department's Fitness in the Park initiative.

We are still seeking race sponsors, volunteers and in-kind donations. You can register for the race and find more details about sponsorship and volunteer opportunities on our website, www.friendsofbonham.org.

Registration fees: Ages 13 and up: \$25 until March 15, then \$30 from March 16 through race day, March 22. Kids under 13 are just \$1, but must be accompanied by a participating adult.

We look forward to seeing race enthusiasts from across the city, as well as friends and neighbors interested in supporting Friends of Bonham and the students of Bonham Academy.

Ready, Set, Shake it!

- Tracey Idell Hamilton



Did You Know?

When I first came to work for the KWA, one of the issues I was asked to address was the number of charity runs held in our neighborhood. "How many could there be?" I asked myself. So we started keeping a calendar of events. From May 2012 to December 2012 there were 21 charity runs in the neighborhood. After reviewing this information with the board and noting that KWA wanted to support our business partners such as HEB and City-sponsored runs such as the Rock-n-Roll Marathon, it was agreed to ask for a maximum of five charity runs and to encourage different routes so the same streets would not be impacted every time.

With this quantitative, factual data I requested a meeting with Councilman Bernal and city officials from departments including the police, parks and downtown operations. Purposes, logistics and locations of charity runs and their impact to the neighborhood and environment were discussed. It was agreed that 21 charity runs in seven months was excessive, and Councilman Bernal agreed to the requested five charity runs per year.

Due to advance scheduling, in 2013 there were eight events, three of which were "fun runs" of only 100 people and did not involve music or street closures.

For 2014, there are five scheduled events: the Cocoa Run (held in January and staged at La Villita instead of King William Park to help reduce noise and impact upon neighbors); Siclovía, which the board approved as it is a family event where neighbors can participate; the Great Turkey Challenge on Thanksgiving Day; the Rock-n-Roll marathon; and the AIDS Walk/Run at Blue Star. Other request for small events will be reviewed by staff and may be approved if they are determined to have no detrimental impact to residents. This allows KWA to show goodwill, support community efforts that support KWA Charter #6 ("to have special events design to attract people to the King William Area"), and continue to have factual data for future meetings and requests.

- Cherise Bell



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Reformation of the KW Neighborhood - A Partial History

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Bexar County Historical Commission, led by Gen. Bill Harris, to fund an archeological study on this property. The neighbors and KWA were trying to stop the conversion of the four-block property into the central food distribution warehouse of the San Antonio ISD, and leverage was needed. The San Antonio Housing Authority had been identified as the best government agency that could use the property, but SAISD had won the rights to develop. Lo and behold, the funded backhoe discovered a Spanish acequia on the northeast corner. This became the environmental issue that forced the City, SAISD and SAHA to the table to discuss alternative solutions.

A complex deal was worked out whereby SAHA could take available urban renewal land near the Robert B. Green Hospital and swap it with SAISD. The land impacted by the acequia was made into the present park on the northeast corner of Sheridan St. and S. Main Ave. SAHA was able to relocate its headquarters to the northwest corner, and, eventually, elderly housing was built on the southeast corner. SAISD built its food distribution warehouse with easy access to IH-10 and IH-35 on the land swapped with SAHA.

In the 1960s, using U.S. Corps of Engineer funds and direction, the City, Bexar County and the San Antonio River Authority transformed the San Antonio River from Johnson St. to below Mission Espada into a big drainage ditch. Margaret Gething, who lived at 409 E. Guenther, led the fight in the 1960s to preserve the few trees that remained below S. Alamo, including those beautiful bald cypress at S. Alamo

and at Constance.

In the 1980s when the COE came up with additional funds to do flood control work from the Johnson St. bridge into downtown, a better ethos about the benefits of the river had devel-



photo: Ramin Samindari
Cypress trees across from Blue Star.

oped. Walter Mathis, the KWA and cooperating neighbors worked with the City to obtain additional funds and better plans. The COE and SARA agreed to limit the flood control work to the Nueva Street Dam and the concrete pilot channel. The City then funded the linear park and the neighbors funded the enhanced uniform fence that we all enjoy when we walk from E. Guenther into the downtown area. It is my opinion that if this small section had not been enhanced into a linear park in the 1980s, the recently-completed San

Antonio River Improvements Project from Brackenridge Park to Mission Espada would not have been built. This project showed the potential and benefits of the river outside of the downtown area.

In 1990, the flood control agencies (COE, County, COSA and SARA) decided that instead of rebuilding 14 bridges through downtown to widen the flood control channel, the better solution was to drill a 25-foot diameter tunnel underneath the downtown area with the intake at Josephine St. (its current location) and the outfall across the river from the intersection of Constance and Crofton. Since the tunnel would be bored beneath or near our property and the construction activity would be on a 24-hour basis, I became concerned and wrote a lengthy questionnaire raising environmental and nuisance issues. Unrelated to this project, KWA had dedicated \$15,000 and hired Maria Watson (now Maria Watson Pfeiffer) to obtain National Register Historical District designation for the neighborhood south of S. Alamo.

One fine September afternoon, SARA conducted a public hearing officiated by the COE. The COE representative presented the plans as a done deal. Questions and objections were raised, and also suggestions for an alternative site at Lone Star Blvd. Near the end of the hearing, the COE representative was advised that the S. Alamo-S. St. Mary's Historical District was placed on the federal register about 15 days prior. Once he became aware that the COE would have to spend years determining whether the proposed tun-

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nel outlet at Blue Star would or would not have a substantial environmental impact upon a National Register Historical District, the meeting was adjourned. A year later, COE and SARA announced the new location for the tunnel outlet at Lone Star (its present site). There were no objections. The tunnel was built much to the benefit of our neighborhood. Without the tunnel, the recently completed San Antonio River Improvements would not have been possible and the flood of 1998 would have been disastrous.

The way these projects were managed provides several valuable lessons:

- Informed citizen involvement and activism is necessary to counter-balance large projects where the impact upon the surrounding neighborhood has been only partially considered or not considered at all.

- There has to be some issue that needs resolving before the proposed developer is forced or will listen to outside input. Leverage and/or benefit are important. Rage usually does not work.

- The opposer must recognize that the proposer has a legitimate project and propose viable alternatives that partially meet the needs of both parties. The ability to listen and compromise is essential.

- Sometimes it happens, sometimes it doesn't. After dozens of such conflict resolutions, we still have a great neighborhood.

- Ed Day

KWA President 1992-93

SAPD Central SAFFE

Unit Contact Info

Main office: 207-7413

KW Officers on patrol:

Officer Ron Strothman #0706

Tel: 207-5176

Officer Robert Esquivel

Office: 207-7413

OUT IN THE GARDEN

with Alan Cash

We have had some very cold weather this winter, although interspersed with some very warm days. The weather guessers have used the term "roller-coaster" weather. Thankfully, ours has not been anything like many parts of the country have experienced. By early March the last threat of frost is "usually" behind us and we can begin gardening in earnest.

Seeds for vegetables can be started and harvesting expected to begin in June and continue up to the first frost for many. These include tomatoes, peppers, okra and others. Below is a picture of neighbor Joyce Ritcher taken in October in her Leigh St. garden standing beside her okra. There are several types of okra and this is one of the larger. Okra is a great plant to get children interested in gardening. It grows fast, has large flowers, and can be harvested almost daily.



Most annuals will be off to a better start if not planted until late in the month. Annuals to plant in late March include impatiens, begonias and caladiums for bright shaded areas, and zinnias and periwinkles where you have full sun for at least half a day.



In our South Texas climate just about all plants do better if they have some shade in late afternoon.

It is still not too late to trim back

perennials. Lantana, plumbago, fire-bush, shrimp and esperanza should be cut back to about three to six inches in height.

Conserve water by mulching flowerbeds and shrubs and watering early in the morning. Remember that hand watering is allowed any day, anytime, but sprinklers can be used only between 7am to 11am, or 7pm to 11pm, based on the last number of your home address. Mornings are best to reduce lawn diseases.

And last of all, cross your fingers and hope for "normal" rains.

Garden Note: Gardening speaks a universal language, recognizes no race or culture, and is free to all. (Author unknown)

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S. Main Avenue Update Meetings to be Held

Dear King William Neighbors,

I would like to update you on a couple of items affecting your area.

Over several months, my staff and I facilitated a unique partnership between the King William Association and the City's Department of Public Works to share the cost of providing sidewalks along Eagleland Dr., across the street from Brackenridge High School. I am doing my best to find creative solutions to make our neighborhoods safer by initiating policies, such as the Safe Access to Schools ordinance, which City Council approved in 2013 and prioritizes City funding for sidewalks and lights around schools. This is certainly a step in the right direction. Thank you.

Based on community input, I will be hosting monthly evening meetings for updates on the progress of the closure of S. Main Avenue (from Cesar Chavez Blvd. to Arsenal St.). The purpose of the meetings are for City staff to update the community on what has happened so far and what will happen in the month moving forward. This way, all interested parties have a chance to listen, ask questions and be a part of the process.

We will meet every third Thursday of the month. The first meeting will be on March 20, 6:30 p.m., at Blue Star Brewing Company, 1414 S. Alamo, #105. These meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend.

If you have any questions, contact my office at 207-0900 or email district1@sanantonio.gov.

Sincerely,
Diego Bernal

Community Concerns

Active and Associate members are welcome and needed to identify neighborhood problems and recommend solutions to the KWA Board of Directors. If you would like to serve on the KWA Community Concerns Committee, please contact Roselyn Cogburn, Chair, at rcogburn@satx.rr.com.



Bonham Scouts Crossover

Scouts Arrow of Light Award

Webelos Scouts from Pack 765 have left behind Cub Scouting and joined the adventures of Boy Scouts. This is a proud moment for our Pack as four of our Webelos Scouts had an Arrow of Light Award and Crossover Ceremony on January 27 at Bonham Academy, crossing over a bridge to join Boy Scouts Troop 10. Members of the Order of the Arrow, who are also part of the troop, performed the ceremony in full American Indian regalia, reciting the Boy Scout Oath and lighting candles representing the Boy Scout Law. The Cub Master, Devyn Gonzales, and the Wolf Den Leader, Ernest Gonzales, painted American Indian and Scouting designs on the Scouts' faces and made them headbands decorated with colorful feathers for this special occasion. Troop Master Robert Elizondo sang Indian songs and beat the drum throughout the ceremony.

The Arrow of Light Award is the highest award in Cub Scouting and the only badge that can be worn on a Boy Scout uniform! It has been five years of hard work while having fun completing achievements to earn rank badges. The first upon entering Cub Scouts was the Bobcat Badge, followed by Tiger, Wolf, Bear and Webelos badges, earned each year.

In addition to the rank badges the boys also have earned numerous special awards and patches from attending camps and special events – too many to list here. A few notable ones are the Cub Scouting's Leave No Trace Awareness Award, which teaches scouts to be more concerned about the environment and learn to protect it for future generations, and the Cub Scout Conservation Award, which is a special international award.

In earning the Arrow of Light Award the boys have also completed all the requirements for the Boy Scout Badge. Our new Boy Scouts are already fundraising for camps and working on their next rank badge. Their goal is to continue together to earn the Eagle Scout Award, the highest award in Boy Scouts. Photos and video of this event can be seen on our Facebook page at Cub Scouts Pack 765-public page.

- Patricia Garcia Duarte, Cub Scouts Pack 765 Pack Trainer



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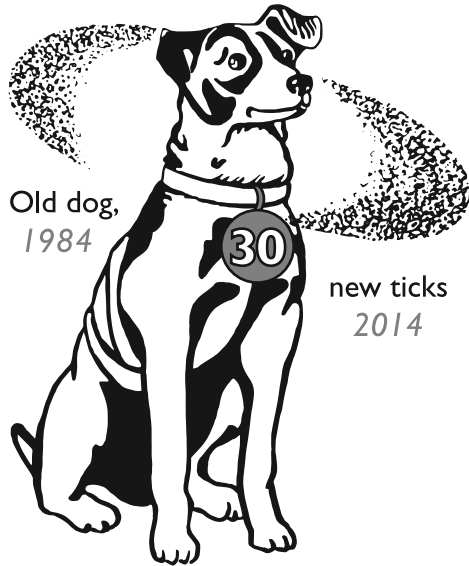
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Newsletter Improvement Plan

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Scholarship fund check presentation: At the February General Meeting, KWA Past President Deb Mueller and current President Max Martinez presented a gift in the amount of \$7,000 to Jim Eskin of Alamo Colleges Foundation, boosting the KWA Endowed Scholarship to \$145,000. Scholarships were awarded to two Brackenridge H.S. Students in 2013.



New KWA Board Member

Neighbor Bradley Toland has been appointed to the KWA board of directors to fill a vacancy.

Bradley has been a resident of the King William area since 1999 when he bought a house on Guenther Street, just one block up from the house his grandmother grew up in near Brackenridge High School. His parents are both Brackenridge graduates, and, while Bradley emigrated to the Northside to graduate from Churchill High School in 1987 and received a degree in Finance and Marketing from Texas Christian University, he made it back to Southtown as quickly as he could! Bradley and his wife Dina have two children, Alec and Madeleine, who have both attended/are attending Bonham Academy. He is the President of Delphic Software Inc, a payroll software developer, where he works with his parents.

Bradley enjoys biking the river and playing poker with the group who recently contributed the “kayak division trophy” to the annual King William Regatta. He looks forward to serving on the KWA Board as an advocate for area families with young children, and has a unique perspective as a small business owner on the challenges of melding an historic neighborhood with a modern-day lifestyle.

- Andrew Sherwood

Art Marketing Workshop a Success

They came together on a blustery, cold Saturday: a fiber artist, a couple opening a new theater, an artist opening a new gallery space, a SARA foundation member and several other artists. They gathered to learn how to market their art, their arts organization or their non-profit using the medium of video. Erik Bosse was the instructor, a video artist himself with years of experience creating videos, curating video performances and evaluating grant proposals in the arts. The KWA Public Art Committee sponsored this free workshop in response to feedback they received from artists when developing the proposal for the King William Cultural Arts District. Artists said that the single most important thing we could do to for them was to help them market their art.

The workshop was presented over three weekend days in February at SAY Sí. During the first afternoon Erik introduced his co-leaders, photographer and painter Deborah Keller-Rhin and filmmaker Pete Barnstrom. Participants were asked to introduce themselves and talk about what they hoped to learn in the workshop. Most had very modest video equipment and some were going to film with just their iPhone. Erik showed them footage of video he had shot for a variety of marketing projects, giving them examples of approaches to use. He helped them see that, even with a tool like an iPhone, they could produce a wonderful video to show off the events they wanted to showcase.

The second full day of the workshop got into the nuts and bolts of equipment possibilities, technical challenges, editing and a myriad of other issues. The final afternoon after a two-week break was a time for everyone to gather back at SAY Sí with their finished video projects for a

“show and tell.” They came to brag on what had gone well and to get help where needed. At the end of the afternoon Erik promised ongoing assistance to anyone who needed to complete their project. He proved to be a generous, approachable and very skilled teacher.

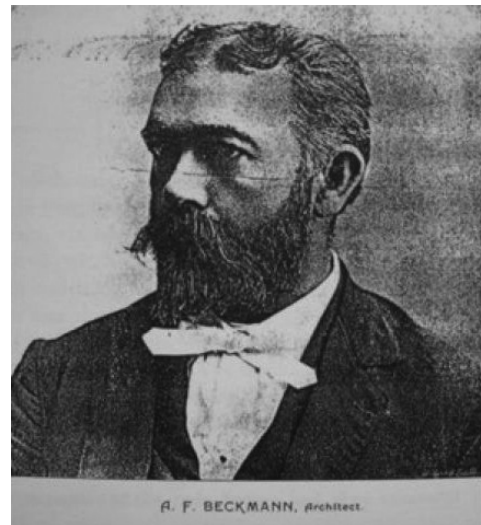
It was a joy to feel the excitement in the room as these professionals warmed to one another and their creativity was sparked as they imagined their video. The message from the three workshop leaders was clear: you need to find people to collaborate with in the community. You don't have to do this all by yourself.

We are pleased to have facilitated bringing these people together. Kudos to Nora Peterson for her press releases on this workshop! Some of you may have heard the announcement on TPR. This gives the KWA wide exposure for its generosity in the community. As workshop participants take what they have learned and market their projects, we all benefit as the cultural arts flourish.

- Sherry Hess

Home Tour Committee

In 2012 the KWA board elected to hold the Holiday Home Tour on a biennial basis, and the Home Tour Committee and staff are busy working on this year's event, to be held December 6.



Meanwhile, a virtual home tour has been created that highlights architect Albert Beckmann, a resident of King William who designed his house and several other houses in the neighborhood. This ten-slide virtual tour can be seen at www.kingwilliamassociation.org/kwa/index.php/links-resources/virtual-tour.

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The Johann William Schuwirth House

Longtime King William neighbors may remember the elderly lady who lived in the derelict two-story house at 203 Madison until the 1970s. A bit of research reveals that she was Anita McLean, granddaughter of Johann William Schuwirth, the original owner and builder of the house. As you can see from the before and after photos, one should never doubt that these old historic houses can be restored.

Johann William Schuwirth was born in Brachelm, Germany in 1829. Educated to be a teacher, he was 28 years old when he immigrated to San Antonio in 1857. Soon after his arrival, he joined the staff at the German-English School located on S. Alamo near La Villita (currently the Marriott Plaza). After a few years, he established his own private school where he taught arithmetic, singing, German and writing.

In 1863, Schuwirth married Anna Catherine (Katrina) Huppertz. Anna was born in Willich Germany in 1843. She was a teenager when she came to San Antonio with her family in 1856.

On November 15, 1870, Schuwirth purchased lots 11, 12 & 13, Blk 3; NCB 740, from Malvina A. Nelson

for \$1,150. These three lots are on the NW side of Madison Street at Turner. About 1878, he contracted for a two-story house to be built on the corner (lot 11, Blk 3, NCB 740) which was numbered 203 Madison. When Johann and Anna moved into their new home, they had three children, all born in San Antonio: Charles M. (1864), Amelia E. (1866) and William G. (1867).

After a long successful career as a leading educator, Schuwirth died in 1902 at age 73. Anna continued to live in their Madison St. house until she died in 1931 at age 87. City directories show that beginning in 1910, her daughter, Amelia, and her husband, John Zadich, were also living in the home. After John died in 1926, Amelia continued to live there, caring for her aging mother.

When Anna Schuwirth died, Amelia inherited the house and continued to live there until she died in 1940 at age 74. John and Amelia Zadich had no children, which may account for the ownership of the house being conveyed to Amelia's niece, Anita Schuwirth McLean, and nephew, W. C. Schuwirth (daughter and son of Charles M. Schuwirth and his

first wife, Louisa). The conveyance record reads, "From estate of Amelia Zadich to W. C. Schuwirth and Anita McLean, wife of Harold, \$10 and lot 11 and north half of lot 12, Blk 3, NCB 740 and all improvements thereon". Anita McLean bought her brother's half interest in order to have full ownership of the property so she and her husband Harold could make 203 Madison their home.

City directories show that Harold and Anita McLean began living at 203 Madison in 1942, the year after they inherited it. After Harold's death Anita continued to live in the house until she died in the mid-1970s.

The house, which leaned precariously, sat vacant and deteriorating for years until the neighbors began referring to it as "the haunted house." In the late 1990s it was purchased and restored by Marc Lunardon from France. The most recent owners were Douglas and Letty McCardle.

- Bill Cogburn

Sources: SAPL Archives, The King William Area – A Guide to the Houses by Mary Burkholder, City of SA Archives.

Very Old Paint

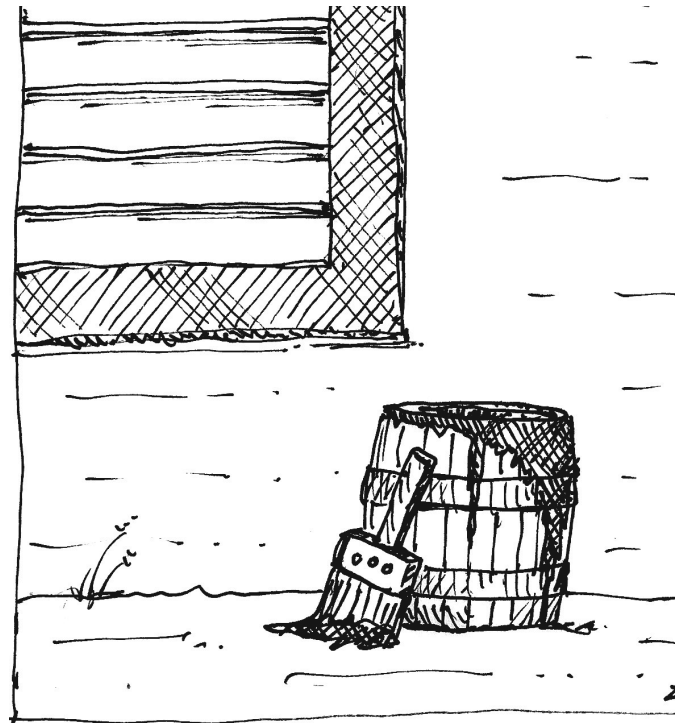
There is little question that it takes dedication to maintain a very old house in a very old neighborhood. The work seems to be constant, even though more time elapses between renewals than a conscientious homeowner would acknowledge. At some point you put down the brush, take a chair on the porch and watch the sun set.

It's time to go back to work at my house, however. The galleries need painting again, and the middle column on the second floor back porch seems determined to punch through the deck looking for a reunion with its mate on the floor below.

I'm fortunate to have a small collection of black and white views of the house from earlier eras. It is remarkably unchanged, only the ephemera of cars and passers-by, in the fashions of different decades, marks the passage of time. These pictures are a comfort and a challenge, their lack of color adds an aroma of mystery to the scenes. What did the former owners think was an appealing color for the shutters, the porch, the window sashes, the wide front door?

I've carefully scraped layers of paint and time to find what I imagine are the first colors applied to the house. They were a surprise, but then, so was the house. The form and plan of the place is more typical of the lower garden district in New Orleans, an unsolved mystery, how could that be? Maybe an itinerant house-wright or builder found his way to King William.

The colors would be familiar to anyone who loves the Crescent City, a vivid bright green for the shutters, popular there in the first decades of the 19th century, a cerulean color on the porch soffits – I've heard it called Creole blue – and a deeper blue on the window sashes. The roof



was surely red, a dark red. Traces of red paint remain on the chimneys, even visible from the street. The roofers found a single cedar shingle wedged in a gutter, with thick, dark red paint on it, a phantom's calling card from 1902. Archaeologists know that the past persists and is preserved in such very small things. They'll talk to us if we listen to their low voices.

I'm not sure if these were the colors I'd have chosen if I'd not discovered them, but since the house has let me find them, it seemed right to bring them back. I think of another tall house in my grandfather's adopted hometown of Natchez, Mississippi. It's often called Nutt's Folly, although its builder wanted it known as Longwood. When the first cannon fire of the Civil War was heard outside the unfinished house, the painters put down their cans and brushes and ran away. The brushes and tins are still there, covered in very old paint.

- Michael Guarino

A composite image featuring a modern building on the left, a winged figure in the center, and a circular graphic on the right. The text "The most courageous act is still to think for yourself." is overlaid across the bottom. The text "Coco Chanel 1883 - 1971" is inside the circular graphic. There are also two plus signs on the left side of the image.

The most courageous act is still to think for yourself.

Coco Chanel
1883 - 1971



Rain Gardens

As “Leaders in Watershed Solutions,” the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) is committed to advancing the health and safety of our waterways. SARA set a goal this fiscal year to “expand our role in the implementation of sustainable land use and stormwater best management practices (BMPs) in the San Antonio metropolitan area.” In support of this goal, SARA is constructing a demonstration rain garden for homeowners at its Environmental Center located at 600 E. Euclid near downtown San Antonio.

Rain gardens contribute to the health and safety of our waterways by slowing down rainwater, storing stormwater runoff and filtering out pollutants. Slowing down stormwater helps reduce the potential for stream bank erosion and scouring. Containing stormwater allows for the natural filtration of pollutants, thus protecting the water quality of our streams. In addition to filtering pollutants and slowing down the water, rain gardens support water conservation by naturally providing for plants within the garden. Ideally, these would be native plants, able to withstand the infrequency of our area’s annual rainfall.

SARA staff in the Watershed Engineering Department designed the rain garden at SARA’s Environmental Center, with native plant selection and landscape design assistance from other departments. SARA’s Watershed & Parks Operations Department staff are constructing and planting the rain garden.

The demonstration rain garden should be complete in spring 2014, with an online homeowner’s how-to guide and instructional videos to help you plan for and implement your own rain garden. For additional information on sustainable land use and low impact development, visit www.sara-tx.org.

- Rudy Farias, SARA Projects & Planning Supervisor

Southtown Quarterly Clean-up

Calling all good neighbors! Volunteers needed to help pick up trash in the ’hood. Call 212-9373 for more info or to suggest areas in need of clean-up attention.

**Meet at Bonham Academy
Saturday, March 29th
9 a.m.- noon**



Sidewalk Repair Matching Grant Funding Available!

**Call the KWA office
for details at 227-8786.**

S. Alamo St. & Drainage Project

Updates on this construction project can be found at the City’s website for the project: www.san-antonio.gov/publicworks/southal-amodrainageimprovements.aspx.

For questions or concerns, contact Dave Hook, Capital Projects Officer, Transportation & Capital Improvements Dept., at (210) 207-8036 or david.hook@sanantonio.gov.

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SAY Sí Celebrates 17th Annual Small Scale Works for a Larger Cause Silent Auction

For 20 years SAY Sí has helped students grow as learners, leaders and artists. The organization's reach has grown from 12 students from one high school in 1994 to over 200 students from all over San Antonio today – in addition to serving 3,000 youth in community programs. This month SAY Sí will celebrate with its annual Small Scale Work for a Larger Cause special event.

Small Scale began in 1997 as a way to help raise funds for SAY Sí's tuition-free programs. Initiated by local artists, the first event included only 26 participants who contributed a small piece of artwork for patrons to bid on. Today, the tradition and spirit of the original event endures, with more than 200 local, regional and national artist participants. Small Scale continues to be SAY Sí's single largest fund-raiser, with 100% of proceeds going to student programming.

Small Scale Private Preview & Awards Ceremony - Thursday, March 6, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. – tickets \$40 presale, \$50 at the door

SAY Sí will present its Third Annual Youth Arts Education Advocacy Awards to Rose Mary Fry and Insite Architects. The award is presented annually to noted

arts advocates with a track record of contributing to the advancement of the arts and arts education in San Antonio.

Free public preview - First Friday - March 7, 6 – 9

p.m. – Open for public viewing until Thursday, March 21. Gallery Hours: Mon. - Thu. 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Small Scale showcases the best artworks from our city's most esteemed artists. Walking through the gallery, patrons will find one-of-a-kind art pieces ranging from abstract sculptures to hyper-realistic portraits and photography.

Patrons can begin bidding on artwork at the awards ceremony and may purchase pieces at the "buy it now" price. The "buy it now" option ends at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19.

Small Scale Auction - Friday, March 21, 7 - 10 p.m. Bid closing times: 9:00 and 9:30 p.m. – tickets \$50 presale, \$65 at the door

At the exhibit and silent auction finale guests can enjoy live music, appetizing cuisine and cocktails from some of San Antonio's premier restaurants, chefs and mixologists.

Visit www.saysi.org for more information and to purchase tickets.

- Stephen Guzman



Reporting Potential Violations to the Historic Building Enforcement Officer

To help protect the City's historic resources, residents are encouraged to notify the Office of Historic Preservation's Historic Building Enforcement Officer of potential violations. To report a concern:

1. Gather information. Be prepared to provide the address of the property in question and a brief description of the potential violation or concern. Photographs are helpful but not necessary.
2. Call 210.219.2093 or email Ron Meyers, Historic Building Enforcement Officer, at ron.meyers@sanantonio.gov or OHP@sanantonio.gov during regular business hours (7:45 am to 4:30 pm) to report your concerns. After-hours complaints should be registered by phone through 311 or by email at OHP@sanantonio.gov.
3. You can report potential problems anonymously or provide contact information for follow-up.

- COSA Office of Historic Preservation, Preservation News, February 2014

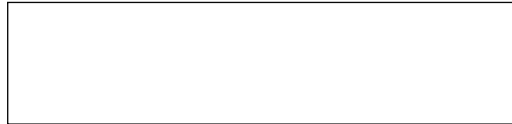


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March Calendar

- 5 KWA General Meeting - Blue Star Brewing Co. - 7:00 p.m.
- 10-14 Spring Break
- 19 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 20 S. Main Ave. Project Update Meeting -
Blue Star Brewing Co. - 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Friends of Bonham Run/Walk
- 29 District 1 Graffiti & Trash Clean-up Day
Southtown Quarterly Clean-up
- 30 Siclovía