



King William Association

Volume 11, No. 1

February 2015

Love in King William

Locked in Love on O. Henry's Bridge

Watching "Bart + Mimi" for several years on morning walks, I've been waiting to see if their public proclamation of love in Portuguese would multiply as love locks on bridges have around the world.

Multiplication is not desirable. A solitary lock is much more romantic, and cities where historic bridges are targeted struggle to cope with the weight of the demonstrations of love. Padlocked proclamations on such sites as Via dell' Amore in the Cinque Terre and the narrow 1828 Pont de l'Archevêché in Paris endanger the structures. A few years ago, Parisian officials took action, removing the locks in the middle of the night. The bridge quickly was reconquered by determined lovers.

The narrow pedestrian bridge in the King William Historic District that Bart and Mimi selected to share their *beijos* certainly looks the part. Some call the Johnson Street Bridge the O. Henry Bridge. Built in 1983, it replicates an earlier one removed from this spot during inartistic flood-control work

completed in the 1960s. The 1880 bridge had been moved to Johnson Street from its original location on Commerce Street, where it served as an inspirational setting for writer Sidney Porter, or O. Henry.

While the moniker O. Henry might sound romantic, his morbid short story of suicidal consumptives set on the former Commerce Street Bridge was not. But Bart and Mimi's lock has triumphed over the inherited gloom, assuming its role as one of San Antonio's quills:

"If peculiarities were quills, San Antonio de Bexar would be a rare porcupine. Over all the round of aspects in which a thoughtful mind may view a city, it bristles with striking idiosyncrasies and *bizarre* contrasts."

(*Retrospects and Prospects*, William Sydney Porter (O. Henry))

Hopefully, their *en amo voce* will remain a single quill and not inspire a wave of others to turn the little footbridge into an obese bristling porcupine.

- Gayle Brennan Spencer

Love in King William continued on page 14



photo by GB Spencer

President's Report

by Harry Shafer

The 2015 fiscal year has started, and like any new year we have some resolutions for the KWA. This promises to be a busy and productive year towards our goals. Here are some of the 2015 resolutions:

1. Continue to implement the Strategic Plan. One new exciting development is taking place with regards to one of the Strategic Plan initiatives. KWA has teamed up with the Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) to participate in the S.T.A.R program. S.T.A.R stands for Students Together Achieving Revitalization. What this means is that architecture students from UTSA, working with local contractors, will help eligible property owners with repairs and maintenance of historic properties. The OHP, not the King William Association, will make the selection of properties to receive assistance. The Board has approved a contribution in the amount of \$6,500 for the S.T.A.R. program, an action that was legally vetted.
2. Have a very successful fair. We have a fantastic team heading our fair: Fair Manager Zet Baer, Fair Coordinator Carol Jackson and Fair Chair Jeremy Nelson. The team is experienced and in place, and we anticipate a great event in 2015.
3. Improve our capital investments. KWA accounts are receiving virtually no interest income. The Finance Committee is looking into possible investment alternatives to increase our revenue.
4. Resolve the office space issue and hopefully find a new home for the KWA. We have outgrown our space at 1032 S. Alamo. If you have attended any of our Board meetings or been around during the Fair, you know it gets very crowded, and there are always maintenance issues with an old house, too.
5. Make progress on the transportation and parking issue. Trish Wallace (COSA Transportation & Capital Improvement Department) and her team have made good progress on the transportation study for King William and Lavaca, and our Parking and Transportation Committee will be reviewing this report later this month.
6. Make progress on First Friday. Winter weather curtailed First Friday in January. Gathering information on the impact of First Friday is continuing. Our hope is to eventually get the businesses, the City and KWA to return the event to its original art walk intention.



COORDINATORS Susan Athené,
Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn

LAYOUT Angela Martinez
MASTHEAD DESIGN
Roland Rodriguez
MASTHEAD CONCEPT 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 on-line at kingwilliamassociation.org.

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION
1032 S. Alamo
San Antonio, TX 78210
210-227-8786
info@ourkwa.org

OFFICE HOURS
Monday through Friday,
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

kingwilliamassociation.org
kwfair.org
kingwilliamculturalartsdistrict.com

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Cherise Bell
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Monika Perez-Moad
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Opinion: Towards a Peaceable Kingdom

What a noisy neighborhood we live in. Some are noises over which we have no control: trains, helicopters, police and fire sirens, the flour mill and protective dogs. Other noises are those produced by residents and the people they employ. Foremost in this category: the new habit of locating TVs and stereo speakers outdoors (sans neighborly consideration) and the use of the loudest leaf blowers of modern manufacturing.

The City of San Antonio Noise Ordinance enumerates many sources of noise nuisances and states it is "The making of noise which exceeds 63 decibels on residential zoned property as defined by City Code Chapter 35 (Unified Development Code), when measured from property under separate ownership."

On the decibel scale, near silence is measured 0 (zero) dB. A sound ten times more powerful is 10 dB. A sound 100 times more powerful is 20 dB. A sound 1,000 times more powerful than near total silence is 30 dB. A lawnmower generally creates 90 dB of noise nuisance.

I have a decibel meter on my smart phone, and it registers 80 dB or above when leaf blowers are going full blast nearby. One day, leaf-blowing yardmen were on each side of my house, creating 85 dB of noise nuisance in my kitchen with all of the windows closed.

Many municipalities have enacted leaf blower laws ranging from noise restriction to all-out bans. Husqvarna® has introduced a low-noise leaf blower that reduces the dB level to 64. That's better than the usual 80 to 85 decibels, but still one dB above that allowed by our City Ordinance. Code Compliance can issue an order to anyone having possession or control over noise-generating property to immediately stop any sound that exposes any person at a private residence to continuous or impulsive noise levels.



I'm sure we've all watched a yardman herding twelve leaves around for twenty minutes with his leaf blower, and thought, "If he had a rake it would be done in five minutes." Yes, despite the argument for higher efficiency with loud motorized blowers, the rake and broom are wonderful devices and can get the job done... without disturbing anyone or deafening the worker.

Our neighborhood has long maintained a special identity as a community united in promoting livability and shared well-being. Our attention to noise abatement would further its future as a model for progressive and sensible urban living.

- Anne Alexander, with contributions from Roland Rodriguez

The following is excerpted from Noise Ordinance of the City of San Antonio:

Noise nuisance (definition): any loud, irritating, vexing or disturbing sound originating from a nearby property under separate ownership that causes injury, discomfort or distress of a person of reasonable nervous sensibilities.

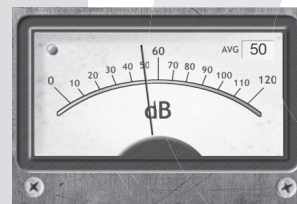
• • • a quest spanning centuries and cultures • • •

"keep your soul always in peace and quiet."

[Ignatius of Loyola, Spanish founder of the Jesuits, 1491 - 1556]

"I just want to live in peace and quiet."

[Agnetha Fältskog, Swedish co-founder of ABBA, born 1950]



Out in the Garden

with Alan Cash

The holidays are behind us, and with February we can plan and begin working on our warm weather gardens.

Valentine's Day, February 14, is when we can usually safely begin trimming trees, shrubs and roses (except climbers). Trimming causes plants to begin putting out new growth that will appear about mid-March, after the average latest frost.

As always, there are exceptions to every rule. Some plants should not be trimmed until after their blush of early spring flowers.

This group includes mountain laurel, flowering quince, bridal wreath and climbing roses. These plants bloom on "old wood" from the prior season, and trimming them now will eliminate this year's flowers.

Shrub roses can be cut back by half. Nandia that are getting too tall can be trimmed by cutting back about one-fourth of the tallest canes to ground level. This process should be repeated each year as necessary. Perennials such as thryallis, plumbago, fire bush, shrimp and Mexican honeysuckle can be cut back to six inches high.

Apply mulch as needed to maintain levels in flowerbeds and around trees and shrubs at about 3 to 5 inches deep to keep roots cool and maintain soil moisture. Mulching should be complimented with a regular feeding program. In this regard apply an organic fertilizer about every three months. Organic fertilizers will not burn plants or lawn grass if not immediately watered in, so spread them a day or so before rain is predicted and maybe Mother Nature will do it for you.

Nurseries will soon be offering plants at sale prices. It is a chance to get bargains and a selection of better plants for the coming growing season. However, delay planting tender annuals such as caladiums, periwinkles, impatiens and zinnas until mid-March, after the danger of killing frost is past.

Whether you are a seasoned gardener or starting your first garden, good luck in the months ahead. You might go to the website plantanswers.com where you can find a wealth of information on plant selection and how to create and maintain a garden.

Garden Note: If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need. (Cicero)



Fundraiser for Bonham Academy

The Bonham Academy PTA would like to invite everyone to participate in our fundraiser! We are hosting a raffle to raise money for the children at Bonham to have the opportunity to participate in activities not funded by SAISD, including art, folklorico dance, field trips, theater and a variety of student clubs. This year our funding is significantly lower than in past years, as we were unable to host our fall carnival due to construction.

For every \$5 donated to Bonham, one raffle ticket will be entered under the donor's name for a chance to win a gift certificate to one of the many wonderful restaurants in the neighborhood surrounding Bonham. All of the profits from the raffle will fund student activities. You can make donations from Saturday, January 31 until Thursday, February 19. The raffle will be held on February 20 in Bonham's main office. PTA members will contact the winners via email or phone.

Please send your donation to: Bonham School PTA, 925 S. St. Mary's St., 78205. Include your name, phone number and e-mail address (optional).

You will be helping the children at Bonham Academy AND entering to win a gift certificate to these delicious and generous neighborhood restaurants: Azúca, B&D Icehouse and Restaurant, China Garden, Feast, Liberty Bar, Madhatters Teahouse, The Monterey, Rosario's, Señor Veggie, The Friendly Spot and Titos'.

If you have a question, please contact me at (210) 995-7270 or at anahital@yahoo.com.

- Ana Lorestani

City Lights

I was rummaging in my massively disorganized bookcases and a battered sketchbook fell out, and opened, on the floor. It was the sketchbook I carried as a 21 year old art history student at the University of Siena. The page was dated February 22, the day of Carnevale, the Italian answer to Mardi Gras. On that long-ago night I was at the art student's ball at the Palazzo Chigi-Saracini, the seat of Siena's famous music school. I'd been trying to catch the eye of a reddish-blond with almond shaped green eyes, to little avail. Most of the crowd was in the Palazzo's grand ballroom, a rococo confection of crème and gilt plaster swirls and mirrored doors catching the flickering light of its enormous chandeliers. In the courtyard just outside was a clock on a tall platform, about to play its part in the evening's ritual of turning its hands back from midnight to postpone the arrival of the first day of Lent.

One of my pals dragged me over to a squirming human pyramid and indicated it was my turn to climb up and delay the arrival of the new day a little longer. I managed to step on several fingers and collarbones on the way up, and, having accomplished the task, fell to the bottom of the pile as the would-be acrobats came tumbling down onto the very hard, very cold bricks that paved the court. As a frequently sacked high school football player, the sensation was entirely too familiar. When I opened my eyes the first thing I saw was an inverted face, almond shaped green eyes framed by reddish gold hair. "*Cretino!*" (imbecile) she exclaimed. "Mi Chiamo Michele," I replied.

We danced every dance for the rest of the night until the student orchestra had finally had enough. It was five in the morning, no more re-setting the clock.

The apprentice conductor tapped his bow on his violin drawing all eyes in his direction. "Un altro di piu, e, poi, vai a letto" (One more and then let's go to bed). The entendre of the double entendre wasn't lost on any of the guests.

Thanks to being forced to take dancing lessons at the age of 12, I was the possessor of a completely archaic skill: I remembered how to waltz.

The conductor turned to his orchestra and struck up Johann Strauss' "Roses from the South." All of the European students began to twirl around the candle-lit parquet. My partner was a little surprised that I could do it too, and, for the first time, gave me a wide smile and a laugh.

No one wanted to leave, but eventually we all did. We were walking home as couples, drawing



A view of the Via Porrone, Siena, Italy - M. Guarino

close for warmth under the icy cobalt sky of the Tuscan night. As we passed a bakery, the baker emerged and started handing out steaming rolls to the famished party-goers who made a circle around his door. We looked up past the arcs of the swinging street lamps and saw what seemed to be fluttering silver stars. It was starting to snow.

- Michael Guarino

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.

21st Annual Basura Bash to be held February 21

Basura Bash is a one-day, all-volunteer event to clean the San Antonio Watershed. The 20th Annual Basura Bash Waterways Cleanup was a huge success! Last February, 1,954 volunteers cleaned up 22 tons of trash and collected 5 tons of metal and 177 tires for recycling!

This year, I registered the King William Neighborhood Team early to get a choice cleanup location. We will work on the River Road tributary adjacent to Brackenridge Park.

For 15 years, King William volunteers took care of our stretch of the river, from the S. Alamo Street Bridge to Brackenridge High School. Going back to early days it was difficult in the extreme. As we worked year after year, slowly the river came back to life. Then the terrific San Antonio River Mission Reach project came to fruition. Now the river is maintained and cleaned by SARA.

For the last five years we have pitched in at 3-Mile Creek at Mission Espada and at the Headwaters between University of the Incarnate Word and Brackenridge Park. This year will be unique because we will be giving a sister neighborhood, River Road, a helping hand.

We will meet at Allison Park, at River Road and S. Mulberry, downstream from Brackenridge Park (right off 281N). Signup is at 8:00 a.m., cleaning will commence at 9:00 a.m. Required gear includes sturdy shoes, jeans and, preferably, long sleeves. If it is sunny, hats and sunscreen are encouraged. Work gloves will be provided. All participants will be served a breakfast snack. The work only takes about three hours max and is fun and rewarding. For more information, please contact me at rockin-robinr@sbcglobal.net or at (210) 224-4541.

Come help us bash some trash! You'll be glad you did.

- Robin Raquet

Comprehensive information is available at basurabash.org.



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Savoring Southtown

with Kristin and Patrick

Sitting at Liberty Bar for our official review visit recently (as the restaurant closest to our house, we've made...many visits), we tried to decide what kind of restaurant it is. American? The puntas norteñas contradicts that. New American? The pot roast sandwich disagrees. Well, it's a bar, right? Part of it.

Our answer came from the omniscient Google on the iPhone: "Eclectic Restaurant." Ah, bingo.

"Eclectic" implies perhaps a little more excitement than Liberty Bar's menu provides. But for a restaurant that offers chiles rellenos, cheeseburgers, four fettuccine dishes, and something called the "Magic Salad," eclectic about sums it up. This is to say nothing of the decor - a map of Egypt, ample neon, a painting of white birds, and a drawing of a beaver pond (or something).

All this is to say, after more than a dozen visits, we really don't have this place pegged down, and odds are you don't either. So, let this be less of a review and more of an advice column for how to dine at Liberty Bar.

- Liberty Bar serves breakfast on the weekend. This is probably the least eclectic thing they do, but they do it well. We are egg snobs, and have never been let down.
- Check the chalkboard with the specials. Whether it's the entree-, quiche-, pasta-, or salad-of-the-day, the chalkboard mixes things up. Always con-

sider the specials.

- Sometimes they serve d o w n - s t a i r s , sometimes they serve upstairs. Just do what the sign says when you walk in.



- The bar is upstairs, to the right. One day we shall accumulate that many bottles for our home bar.
- Monday night is 50% off wine bottles, bringing wine prices down to near what you'd spend at the grocery store anyway.

Sprawling, (okay, maybe even eclectic) menus are a pet peeve of one half of your reviewers, but we do agree that Liberty Bar almost never produces a bad dish.

As our neighboring table departed on the evening of our official visit, we overheard one of the party say, "... I was expecting it to be more of a pub." But that's the thing with Liberty Bar. Leave your expectations and labels at the door.



SAPD Central SAFFE

Unit Contact Info
Main office: 207-7413

KW SAFFE Officers
on patrol:

Officer Robert Esquivel
Tel: 207-7413

Officer David McCall
Tel: 207-7413

Spring into Entrepreneurship with VentureLab!

We hear about entrepreneurs and innovators – Sheryl Sandberg, Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg – but sometimes it can be difficult to imagine how they got there. Did you know that there’s a hub for entrepreneurship education right in your neighborhood? It’s VentureLab, an entrepreneurship and tech academy for students ages K-12 located right on S. St. Mary’s Street.

Founded by Dr. Cristal Glangchai, an engineer and university professor (and King William neighbor who lives on Washington St.), VentureLab’s mission is to provide an environment of creativity and fun that teaches young people to be next generation innovators and entrepreneurs through inspiration, experiential learning and mentorship.

VentureLab hosts weekend and summer STEAM camps with themes such as Entrepreneurship 101, which puts kids through a “boot camp” of starting a business, to Gamer, where kids create a game from scratch and learn how

to sell and market it. Students gain confidence in their abilities and learn skills that they can apply to any passion they have. We love teaching and watching as our students discover that they can transform their dreams and ideas into reality. That’s why each STEAM camp has an entrepreneurial focus, bringing our vision of E + STEAM to life.

We are offering three Saturday camps this spring for students ages 5-13:

- Gamer Camp - February 21
- Musicpreneur – March 7
- Filmpreneur – April 11

We’re so glad to be in the neighborhood, and hope to see your student at one of our programs this spring! Visit venturelab.org for more information or to sign up for a class. Happy innovating!

- Hetali Lodaya



S.T.A.R.

Students Together Achieving Revitalization (STAR) is a program organized in the City’s Office of Historic Preservation (OHP) in partnership with the University of Texas at San Antonio. Graduate and undergraduate architecture and construction students from UTSA and San Antonio College learn from local contractors how to repair windows and screens, replace rotted wood of siding and porches and do exterior painting. This is a free service provided to property owners chosen by an application process.

With donations from sponsorships and fundraisers, different historic districts are chosen to benefit from this program. After completion of the KWA Strategic Plan and based on the comments from neighbors, in October 2014, the KWA Board voted to donate \$6,500 to the STAR program specifically for an event in the local King William historic district. Our donation will sponsor five houses.

Stay tuned for information on how to apply for the program which will be administered by the OHP. We hope this program is successful so we can have more STAR events in the future to help with maintaining the historic architectural integrity of our neighborhood buildings.

- Cherise Bell



Remembering Mike Wiederhold

The King William neighborhood lost a long-time resident and vigilant defender when Mike Wiederhold died on January 6. Mike and Penny moved to San Antonio in 1980 when he became the Director of Research at the University of Texas' Health Science Center's Otolaryngology Department. Overruling their realtor's cautions, they purchased the house in King William where Mike lived happily for thirty-four years.

In spite of his busy work schedule, Mike became involved in King William activities and made long-time friends here. He was a neighbor in the old-fashioned sense - an M.I.T. graduate who sharpened our knives and helped light hot water heaters. Soon after moving here, Mike and Penny opened their home for the KWA's Christmas party and home tour, and became charter members of the King William Yacht Club.

Known for his sense of humor - described variously as "wonderfully weird" and "savage" - Mike could be counted on for a droll observation that made us smile. Women could always expect a kiss from Mike, and to our amusement and curiosity, he proudly displayed a Playboy Bunny sticker on his car.

Neighbors remember Mike as a "brilliant silver collector" who generously shared his nationally-respected expertise. Mike patiently studied with interest each item spread out on his kitchen table, no matter how modest, identifying and valuing pieces, educating us on preferred silver polishing techniques, and making repairs when needed.

Of course Mike's real job amazed us all. He was an expert on newts, bringing at least one bemused neighbor to ask, "What's a newt?" Another remarked, "Mike raised the newt to a high level!" But in spite of our good-natured ribbing, we knew that Mike's work relating to newts and hearing was world-renowned and we were all proud when NASA launched his experiments into space. It was a first for King William.

Mike observed and participated in the neighborhood's renaissance for over three decades, never hesitating to speak up on neighborhood issues. He asked pointed questions at KWA meetings and took strong stands on matters he felt impacted our quality of life - from bed and breakfast establishments to the environmental impact of horse and carriages (more specifically what the horses left behind), and foremost, tour buses. Mike never hesitated to stop an errant bus cruising down King William Street!

Renowned as a devoted patron of El Mirador, Mike enjoyed Saturday lunch and celebrated many



special occasions there - rituals that he passed on to his son Ted and daughter-in-law Nicole who married in the King William Street house. Now Ted and Nicole are passing Mike's El Mirador rituals on to their two beautiful children, Mike's beloved granddaughters.

Mike was a unique neighbor in the best sense - a scientist, collector, music lover, humorist, raconteur and friend to many. He will be greatly missed.

Compiled by Maria Pfeiffer from many reminiscences, including those of Chris and Gerry Goldstein, Rusty Guyer, Eddie Polk, Ralph Wells and Gates Whiteley

Director Receives Certification

The King William Association Executive Director Cherise Bell has received the "State Arts Advocate" certification from the Texans for the Arts organization.

In order to achieve this designation, Cherise had to meet several criteria: to advocate for historic preservation in a public meeting/public record environment; apply for arts funding at the city, state or national level; and make at least one office visit or write a letter to an elected official at the local, county, statewide or national level to tell an arts story or advocate for an issue of choice.

Congratulations to Cherise - the only person in San Antonio to have this certification! We appreciate her advocating for the arts.

- Molly Shafer

Home Tour 2014 Report

The weather was predicted to be damp and drab but we woke to beautiful temperatures and a bright, sunny sky. What a grand day for a tour! We had such a good time showing our homes and the neighborhood to all those who came. I love the look of people as they enter our homes heads tilted back, eyes all curious about what they are going to see and their rapt interest in the information being conveyed by the docent. But my favorite view was Nico, age 12, at the front door of my house being co-docent with his grandmother Erin Strauss - a perfect picture of what our neighborhood strives to be.



Jessie Simpson enjoying a pedicab.

were full of smiling tourists all day.

Those pedicabs certainly saved my feet! What fun to whiz, albeit slowly, thru our streets between the homes delivering brochures here, grabbing a cookie there. Strong, friendly peddlers and people to wave at along the way, what more could one ask for? All made possible by Alamo Architects, Blue Star Arts Complex, CD Exchange, El Mirador and San Antonio Pedicabs.

Thanks to the more than 150 people volunteering their time, and the generosity of the home owners: David Almendari and Marisol Perez, Len Ambrosio and Tim Ziegel, Paula Cox, David Gude, Bill Hoover (and Jessie Simpson). At least 600 ticket-holders toured one or more homes, and we cleared just a little over \$8,000.

Let's do it again, the first Saturday in December 2016!

This year, especially, our houses seemed all dressed up for the show, beautiful flower arrangements donated by neighborhood florist John Romo providing just a touch of eye shadow for our lovely old ladies.

Everyone pitched in to make this was an especially wonderful day. Neighborhood restaurants sponsored houses and offered discounts to ticket holders. El Mirador, The Friendly Spot, The Guenther House, Hot Joy, Mad Hatters and Tito's

- Jessie Simpson

2015 is the Year of the Volunteer

The King William Association could not exist or function smoothly if not for our volunteers. We are dedicating 2015 as Volunteer Appreciation Year. There are many neighbors to highlight and thank for years of volunteering. Please do not hesitate to send your volunteer story to the KWA office.

In no specific order of appreciation, here is our first volunteer spotlight.

Alan Cash has been a member of the King William Association since he moved into the neighborhood in 1970. He has served on the KWA board, served as Treasurer, volunteered on multiple committees and the Fair, chaired and organized the Hidden Garden Tours, written the "Out in the Garden" news column since 2000, and spearheaded the King William/Lavaca Tree project with Mary Ann Ohlenbusch for over a dozen years. And he is unofficial gardener and "postman" for the KWA office.

For over 40 years, Alan has been instrumental in helping the KWA meet its mission and goals. Because of Alan's volunteer hours: 489 trees have been planted, 150+ news articles written, two successful "Hidden Gardens" Tours completed, and countless newsletters/invites/notices have been delivered. All these volunteer hours are given with wisdom and humor. Thank you, Alan, for your volunteer service. The King William neighborhood is a much "greener" place because of your contributions and dedication.

- Harry Shafer

December Holiday Social

The 2014 KWA Holiday Social was held at El Mirador's Garden House. It was a convivial packed house, with folks enjoying the delicious potluck fare and good company of neighbors and friends.



KW Fair Chair Jeremy Nelson, right, introduced Joe Rogers and his preliminary design for the 2015 Fair logo.



Chris Price (far left), Michael Guarino, Nancy Price and Anne Alexander



Tina Garza (left), Rick Ybañez, Josephine Arredondo and Christopher Ybañez



New KWA members Naema and Sergio Vides (left) and Walt and Lizzy Wilson. Welcome!



Naomi Shihab Nye brought her mother, Miriam Shihab.



An unidentified miscreant attempted to steal the table decorations, but was tackled at the door by Patrick Conroy. The would-be thief escaped into the night, but the decorations were recovered more or less unharmed. Thanks, Patrick!

KWA Submits UDC Amendment Proposal

KWA submitted an amendment proposal on the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) regarding external sound systems for commercially zoned properties. Every five years the public can submit UDC amendment proposals and comments as part of a public process. City staff reviews the requests and makes recommendation to various City Commissions, which make recommendation to the City Council. City Council then votes on which changes to incorporate into the UDC. The process takes over a year to complete, so any changes adopted at the end of the current 2015 update program would not become code until 2016. Furthermore, the new codes only affect those projects started in or after adoption of the changes. Established properties or projects started in 2015 retain their previous "rights" and are considered "grandfathered."

Currently the UDC zoning districts "C-1" and "NC" restrict external sound systems and live music. Most of the properties along S. Alamo, S. Presa and S. St. Mary's Streets are zoned "C-2" and "C-3" which allow external sound systems and live music. Whenever KWA receives notification of a commercial zoning case, it is our practice to ask for "C-1" to help reduce the potential for outdoor noise and allow for a better quality of life for residents. In 2014, staff informed the Board that the City would be reviewing the UDC in 2015. The Board authorized staff to work with the City and an attorney to propose wording to address options for Commercial zoning and outdoor sound systems. KWA submitted a proposed UDC amendment in January 2015.

- Cherise Bell

Downtown Grocery Store Update

The downtown grocery store public improvements are almost complete. Phase II traffic signal installations have been completed at Arsenal and Flores; Flores and Whitely; Cesar Chavez and Flores; and Cesar Chavez and Dwyer. There has been a change to the original scope of work for this phase. The signal and the pedestrian crossing at S. Main Ave. and Cesar Chavez will remain for safety reasons, since H-E-B owns additional parking on the northeastern portion of the intersection of S. Main and Cesar Chavez.

Bike lanes and pedestrian improvements are complete along Arsenal Street. The bike path and pedestrian improvements along S. Flores between Arsenal and Cesar Chavez were anticipated to be completed by the end of January. Additional improvements near the Commander's House include new lighting and a guardhouse at the new entrance at Flores and Whitely, also scheduled to be completed by the end of January.

All traffic signal, bike path and pedestrian improvements must be completed before S. Main Avenue can be closed. Once a date for the closure has been confirmed, the City will inform the public through the King William Association, Commander's House staff and visitors, and electronically for those subscribed to the Grocery Store E-Newsletter. Once S. Main Avenue is closed, VIA metropolitan Transit will also change the 46 bus route. Instead of proceeding down S. Main Avenue, the route will turn onto Sheridan and use S. Flores.

A construction timeline for the grocery store has not been finalized; however, the conceptual design of the store was presented to the Historic Design and Review Commission on January 21. As soon as the timeline is finalized we will update the public. One change to note is the relocation of the gas station to the northeastern edge of the property, which will require an adjustment to the special use authorization for which H-E-B received prior approval. The item was scheduled for Zoning Commission consideration on January 20 and is scheduled for City Council consideration on February 19.

- Cynthia Martinez, Special Project Manager
COSA City Center Development Office

For weekly project updates, email Cynthia Martinez at cynthia.martinez@sanantonio.gov to sign up for the grocery store e-newsletter.

Joe Pearson Carr, Jr.

Joe Pearson Carr, Jr., 72, died on January 1, 2015 at MD Anderson in Houston. He was born November 11, 1942 in Childress, Texas. A King William resident since 2009, Carr was at the forefront of the Mexican design movement for over 30 years, and was dedicated to the preservation and celebration of both Native American Indian art and Mexican antiques and textiles.

Joe was introduced to the beauty of Native American art, weavings and pottery as a young boy traveling throughout New Mexico with his family. Continuing his explorations of the Southwest and Mexico, Carr moved to Santa Fe and had a prominent career as museum consultant, author, gallery owner, designer, antiques authority and restoration expert.

Together with his wife Karen Carr, Joe authored an eight-book series on Mexican design and architecture. Their second book, *The New Hacienda*, was awarded The Silver Pen by former Mexican president Ernesto Zedillo in 1999. These books were a labor of love as they spent years together documenting the nuances of Mexican design and hacienda architecture. The series has been an influential source for architects, designers and homeowners and recently

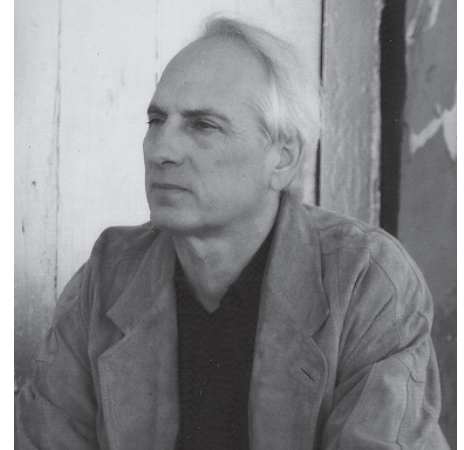
spawned a line of Mexican paint colors with Pittsburgh Paints.

His career as gallery owner continued in King William through his design gallery at 711 S. St. Mary's Street, where he enjoyed talking with friends and clients about the origins

of the hacienda artifacts, textiles and architectural treasures that he so loved. The gallery business will continue to showcase his iron lighting designs and antiques online (haciendastyle.com).

Joe was a happy, friendly face in the neighborhood, meeting up with others while walking his dog, Sirius, and playing soccer with his beloved, nine-year-old daughter Ava at Upper Mill Park.

- Karen Carr



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Stephen W. Yndo - Owner/Broker

Love in King William

continued from page 1

He/She/We

“**Y**ou both have diabetic cats! You must have a lot to talk about!”

Thus He met She, their orbits intersected by a mutual friend, King William neighbor, and – as He would soon realize – serial matchmaker.

He does not actually recall if there was much more talk about diabetic cats that evening. (As time would reveal, He and She did indeed both have diabetic cats, and black female bobtails (O mystery! O coincidence!), and several other cats besides – a shared obsession then and now.)

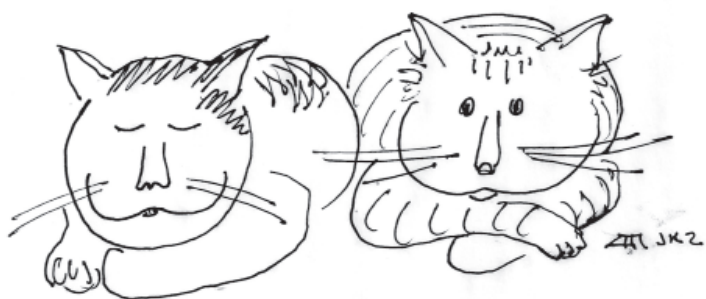
He: raised in King William, recently returned to reclaim his childhood home. She: a dozen-year resident of Blue Star and King William, a spunky single mom. Both (besides the cat thing): earnest toilers in the nonprofit vineyards, science for Him, social services for Her.

He was glad to meet Her, since She seemed a pleasant neighbor, fellow cat lover, and all. He somehow missed the detail that She was, um, available (there were reasons He was still a bachelor at 48). Until He got a message from the mutual friend: “Don’t mean to pry, but ... well ... I mean, what the hell??”

And so He saw the light ... and resolved to see more of Her. He found the courage to ask Her on a roadtrip to Goliad, one beautiful and memorable Memorial Day. (If She regarded the site of an infamous massacre as an eccentric choice of dating venue, She was a good sport about it.)

And before too very long He and She became We – with cats, a teenage son, nonprofit salaries, King William house repairs, King William politics, and more: the sustenance of good friends and a beautiful, storied, quirky corner of the world. It is a joy to be We, and to be Here.

- Jack Kent, Jr.



Brushed by Cupid’s Touch

It was 1979, and I was a 27-year-old singer-guitarist who’d recently lost my recording contract in London, moved back to San Antonio feeling defeated, divorced my high-school sweetheart, and gone through some semi-serious binging on “sex, drugs and rock-n-roll.” I’d hit bottom and needed to try a different strategy.

So when a fan named Craig offered me a job with his house painting company, it seemed worth a try, even though I’d never painted before. But when I showed up for work at a stately Victorian home on King William Street, Craig took one look at the thick leather gloves I wore to protect my guitar-playing fingers, accurately assessed my level of inexperience, and assigned me an unobtrusive spot on the second floor where I could safely practice painting, with only one caveat: “Whatever you do, don’t spill any paint on that antique cedar-shingle roof,” he said, gesturing to the covered porch beneath me.

Within minutes, a whole quart of paint slipped through my gloved hands and landed on the shingles with a loud splat that brought the crew leader scrambling up the scaffolding lickety-split. She could have fired me on the spot, but instead she graciously and cheerfully spent the morning helping me clean up the mess. When noon finally arrived, it only seemed fair to buy her lunch around the corner at El Mirador.

Before the meal was over Zet and I had become good friends; within two months we became constant companions and business partners, too. We



Rudi Harst and Zet Baer

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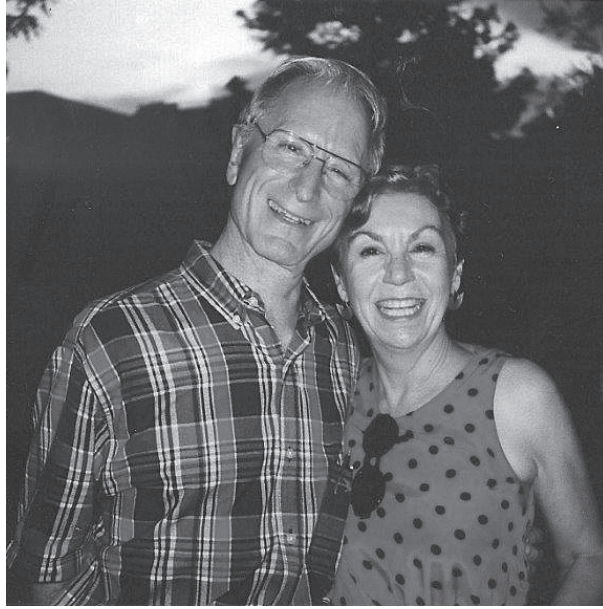
There's No Place Like Home Tour

When Robin Raquet called to ask me to be a docent at the 1999 KW Home Tour, I said, "Sure." King William had been my adopted neighborhood for twenty years, and I had worked on the Home Tour since the 1980s.

At an early orientation, I noticed an elegant, buff little man had his eyes on me. After we finished our shift on Tour day, he slipped out the back door and into the bushes, from which he popped when I walked out the door and said, "Would you like to see the rest of the houses with me?" Why not, I thought. We went from house to house, talked and talked, and learned we were both invited to a party on Guenther that evening, so why not go together?

He was Jack Pancoast, who was originally from San Antonio, but had lived in New York for about 40 years, working on Wall Street. Now he was back here restoring a derelict house on Washington St. At the party I introduced him to his KW neighbors. From that day on, we were inseparable, although I told him I wouldn't marry him until he finished the house.

When we finally did get married, we had a beautiful wedding



Anne and Jack Pancoast at their wedding party in the Upper Mill Park, 2002

party in the Upper Mill Park. The Home Tour became our "thing" and we worked on it every year – and drank a toast to Robin Raquet often. We lived in bliss until he developed leukemia and died in his lovingly restored house in 2006. I took charge of the Home Tour so I could show how he saved the house, and named it "The Jack Pancoast House" on the theory that if it's in writing it makes it true. I call it The House That Jack Built.

This is the short version. The long story includes a walking tour!!

- Anne Alexander

Cupid's Touch

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got married in 1981, and despite the fact that she's had to help me clean up several more messes over the years, we've remained best friends ever since, thanks to our personal Cupid: the late, much-missed, Wicked Wit of Wickes Street, Craig Pennel. We love you, Craig!

- Rudi Harst

Meeting Mike

I first met Mike Wiederhold in the mid-1980s. Roz and I lived in Houston at the time and had just recently discovered the King William neighborhood. It was a cool, misty fall Saturday and I believe the occasion was a home tour combined with a quilt show. Of course, we didn't know anyone in the neighborhood at the time. We were walking up King William Street when it suddenly began to rain. We noticed that several people had congregated under a carport at the corner house across from the King William Park to get out of the rain.

Just as we got undercover, the host, Mike Wiederhold walked up, stuck out his hand and introduced himself. It was then that Roz and I realized we'd crashed a party. Before we could graciously exit, we were each handed a glass of wine and drawn into conversation. After the rain stopped, we made our way back to Carolyn Cole's Brackenridge House B&B on Madison where we were staying.

As we were having a glass of wine on her upstairs verandah that evening, we were discussing that serendipitous event and agreed that we had never before been taken in by such a gracious group of strangers. I think it was then and there that we decided that we'd found our next home.

It took another five years or so to extricate ourselves from Houston, but we got here as fast as we could.

- Bill Cogburn





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21st Annual Basura Bash
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Details on page 6

February Calendar

- 4 KWA General Meeting - Blue Star Brewery - 7:00 p.m.
- 10 Deadline for March newsletter
- 18 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.