

WILLIAM ASSOCIATION

07/19

COMMUNITY + HISTORY + CULTURE

Celebrating the 35th Annual King William Regatta and Social



Regatta participants celebrate at the finish line



Kathleen and Isabel Laborde take the style award.



King William (aka Chris Cristal) paddles with history on his side.





Brad Toland and son Alec take the grand prize for the



Peter Galbraith wins in the kayak category.



(Continued on pg.7)

What's Happening In & Around King William

AUGUST 7- GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Blue Star Contemporary, 116 Blue Star *Wednesday* 7:00 pm

AUGUST 11- CONCERT IN THE PARK

The Abbi Walker Band, Upper Mill Park Sunday 5:30pm

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Columnist: Bill Cogburn

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.

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LET'S BE FRIENDS



President's Message, John Doski

The Mission of the National Park Service is to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. Deb and I took the girls to the Pacific Northwest with the end of school, visiting Olympic and Mt. Rainier National Parks. It is difficult to come away from such beauty without a profound appreciation for its preservation by prior generations, and intense desire to protect it for future generations.

The girls have been trained by Deb's father to always look for things that don't belong, and to come out of a park with more than you go in with. Upon returning to King William, I found myself walking our neighborhood doing the same thing, periodically bending down to pick something up. (Still scenic, but way hotter than Mt Rainier.)

As residents of the inner city and with the amount of activity and events in our neighborhood it is easy to become accepting of certain levels of litter while still maintaining anger at its presence. And yes, if we pick up some trash from someone else one day, there may only be more the next day. Getting past the blame and anger, I would suggest that we focus on our collective ability to influence change.

We live in a beautiful neighborhood along the San Antonio River. Small efforts to get our neighborhood cleaner and maintain this effort for the long run, are beneficial to our neighborhood, and to us. Bring a small bag with you on the next walk and play a game of seek and find to get the world a little cleaner.

"Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul." John Muir

Board Briefs

ED Lisa Lynde will begin work on Monday, July 8th and she is expected to attend the KWA 4th of July celebration. The KWA budget will be discussed and finalized during the July board meeting. The Alamo Colleges Foundation provided the KWA Endowed Scholarship Report. By a KWA board vote the events to occur on the weekend of October 12th & 13th have been changed. The KWA Garage Sale will occur on Saturday, Oct. 12th and the Concerts in the Park event will be held on Sunday, Oct. 13th. The Cultural Arts Committee will be tasked with coming up with an activity or exhibit to be King William's

part of the "Southtown" event that is to occur on that Saturday the 12th, which includes our close neighbors, Lone Star, Lavaca, etc. Also, some research needs to be done on who is responsible regarding liability and upkeep of the new benches installed by the Cultural Arts Committee. The board nominating committee has met. The neighborhood survey is being compiled. The KWA grant application has been updated, approved by the board and is to be distributed. Brad Shaw encourages all to come the the 4th of July event at Upper Mill Park.



New ED Lisa Lynde with Brad Shaw

King William Hero: The Honorable Olin Strauss

Shelley Galbraith



Last month, our neighbor Olin Strauss was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award by the St. Mary's University Alumni Association. The Hon. Strauss was appointed as Presiding Judge for the Fourth Administrative Judicial Region of Texas by then Gov. Ann Richards, who also appointed him to the Texas Judicial Council. The award is dedicated to "people of such integrity, stature, and demonstrated ability that the alumni, faculty, staff, and students

will take pride in and be inspired by his or her recognition."

Olin and his wife Erin moved to 334 King William from Jourdanton in 2004. In a past KWA newsletter, Henry Rayburn recounts how they found the house. In November of 2003, while driving through the KW District on the way to take Olin back to the Bexar County Courthouse after lunch, they noticed a for sale sign in the front yard of 334 King William that hadn't been there that morning. Excitedly, they called the realtor, saw the house that evening after work, and bought it the next day. They learned that the sign had only been up twenty minutes when they first saw it. After a little renovation, they moved in on April 16, 2004.

When asked about what keeps them in King William, Olin and Erin say they treasure their neighbors as much as the historic homes.

"We love walking along the river, talking to neighbors, and knowing each other's children and pets by name. We love living in the heart of the city where everyone is involved and interested in

the neighborhood, the city, and state and national elections. We love the eclectic, diverse community of artists, doctors, teachers, business owners, professionals and non-professionals. We love the inclusion this neighborhood offers to young and old, LGBTQ and all ethnic groups. We love the gatherings the King William Association offers to bring our neighbors together to meet, share, and make new friends. We love that our neighborhood actively supports education through scholarships. We love the tourists who walk our streets from all parts of the world.

"We would never live anywhere else and have brought our daughter Maureen and her husband Dr. Camilo Gonima and family; our son Patrick; Camilo's parents Consuelo and Alberto; and Erin's sister Trish and her husband Rudy Zinsmeister to the neighborhood to join us!

"Living here truly is a dream come true." Congratulations, Your Honor, for such an acclaimed recognition of a lifetime of achievements. We are privileged to have you as our neighbor and friend.

Buying, Renovating, Staging, Selling - We Do it All! A portion of all commissions are donated to local non-profits.



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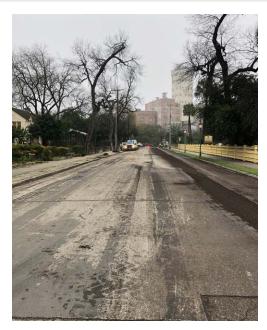
Question: "King William, why does one side of the neighborhood area seem to get the attention, when the other areas gets nothing? For example, Washington/King William/Madison were all resurfaced this year, while the Guenther, Wickes, Adams, Mission, and Cedar desperately need it."

Answer: The KWA area encompasses a large and diverse area of downtown, with lots of activity and change at any one time in a particular section. We also appreciate the importance of balancing resources. It is our intention to keep city officials aware of the need for further road and infrastructure work in our neighborhood, making sure that all streets with issues are addressed in a timely manner.

With completion of the recent road resurfacing, we received notification that there would be a major reconstruction, including curbing and sidewalks, of Forcke, in the next 3-6 months. We met with city council, city planning, Department of Transportation and Capital Improvements, (TCI) and contracted engineers to get more information.

These city departments determine priorities city-wide for road resurfacing through the Infrastructure Management Program. This is a rolling 5 year program which takes into account opinions and complaints from citizens and drivers, district input, city services input, site surveys, and the availability of funds. Washington, King William, and Madison along with surrounding streets had been placed into this IMP, and executed following funding in 2018. The assigned resurfacing task was mill and overlay, where a thin layer of road surface is removed, followed by resurfacing. A separate and more substantive restoration in this time period occurred with Alamo from Cesar Chavez to Pereida.

We discussed the extent of the upcoming Forcke reconstruction, with significant impact to those homeowners with curbing, sidewalk and issues of right of way. This did not seem to be an obvious initial undertaking for this side of KWA, but city officials believe it an appropriate next project, and its already funded. Homeowners along this street will be included in the process. TCI officials also confirmed completion of work on the recently resurfaced Adams and Guenther. Related to the neighborhood



concerns about remaining areas in need of resurfacing, Wickes, Mission, Cedar and surrounding streets, TCI said this area has been included in the next 5 year plan ending in 2024. They were uncertain of the timing or extent. Then, while preparing this information, we were contacted by TCI about the immediate mill and overlay for

Arsenal from the river to S. Flores. (It can be challenging keeping up with everything.)

City officials recommend civic engagement, including opinions and complaints of street problems reported to 311, and awareness of planned projects with a lot of information available on the TCI section of the city web site, https:// www.sanantonio. gov/TCI/Projects/ Infrastructure-Management-Program. If you have an issue with a pothole, drainage, or



other street or infrastructure issue, the best way to get the city's attention is through reporting to 311. The city uses 311 data to set priorities for future projects.

If you have a question, please send it to the King William Association, info@ourkwa. org, and we will attempt to inform the discussion.



REPORT POTHOLES!!

From the City of San Antonio's Transportation & Capital Improvements: We are counting on you to help us SPOT and REPORT potholes on your City streets. It's very easy!

- 1: Call 3-1-1
- 2: Download and use the San Antonio 311 app on your smartphone
- 3: Tweet @SanAntonio311 on Twitter
- 4: Visit www.sanantonio.gov/311

The Transportation & Capital Improvements's (TCI) Pothole Patrol will fix 3 feet by 3 feet or smaller potholes within 2 business days.

Good Will Dining

Wm. Charles



"Beauty Charm" - I had not thought about that phrase until recently. It is so cool to have The Liberty Bar in our neighborhood since 2010. It is both beauty and charm.

For its humble beginnings off Josephine Street in the "leaning" building, which back in college in the 80's it was particularly difficult to navigate after a few cold ones!

While we almost always stay in and cook during the week, on a recent Monday evening, feeling beat from what seemed like a month of Mondays, we decided to grab dinner close by. My wife suggested Liberty Bar. I quickly pulled the menu up on my smartphone to find the daily specials. I was all in when I saw, "Half Price Wine Night!"

With the weather in the high 90s, I chose Famille Perrin Réserve Côtes du Rhône Rosé - 2018! This perfect summer wine is great with light foods, Mediterranean dishes or as an aperitif. She had her mind set on the "Ensalada de Pollo con Chile Ancho" featuring a perfectly grilled chicken achiote, bell peppers, cherry tomatoes, chili ancho strips & feta over salad greens. This light salad was cool and refreshing.

I decided to try something off the "daily special" list - Baby Lamb Chops. These lamb lollipops were exquisite, served with grilled green apples, stilton cheese, dried cherries, walnuts and their housemade lamb dipping sauce with chili morita.

This place has always had a very cool vibe: eclectic and sometimes a bit funky - my kind of place. Whether it's the daily specials, basic menu, late night or brunch offerings, I know you will find something to talk about. The meal made the rest of the week look a whole lot better after all. Eat, Drink, Live!



Out In The Garden

Alan Cash

Here we are in the hot Texas summer. It is a time to relax and not work too hard in the garden. Plants grown in containers should be fed with a liquid organic fertilizer about every 2 weeks. To save water, it may be time to put those less hardy in the compost pile. Lawns and flower beds should also be fed with an organic fertilizer if it has been 3 months or more since the last application. After it is spread it is alright to wait a few days to water if rain is predicted. Organic fertilizers do not burn lawns as do chemical brands. Both liquid and granular organic fertilizers

can be obtained nearby at Moore's Feed and Seed Store at 3721 S. Flores St.

It is wise to limit gardening and other outside activities during the cool of the day if possible. Stay hydrated, and use sun screen.

Now is a good time to check the garden for unwanted plants that have sprouted. The most invasive are trees. Pecans, palms, and hackberries are the most common. If left to grow, they can become problems as they crowd desirable plants.

Although King William is an easy walk to the center

Rules of the Garden: play in the dirt, wish for rain, feed the birds, pull weeds, butterflies and bees always welcome, fertilize, sip a drink, relax and enjoy the view.

of town, we share it with an abundance of wildlife that can make gardening a challenge as they roam throughout the area. For example, one night recently

as I was driving down Mission St., I had to stop to let a mother raccoon

> and 5 little ones cross the street. On Sunday morning a few days ago, while feeding Miss Kitty, the resident cat at Villa Finale Museum, I noticed I was

> > being watched

by a fox just a few

yards away. It was

probably waiting to finish any leftover food. Possums and skunks also abound.

2019 King William Fair Parade Awards

Alicia Spence-Schlesinger

Thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered their time to make the 2019 King William Parade a sensational success! This year's Parade theme, "Who Is King William • A Story About Community," honored Texas' first historic residential neighborhood by encouraging entries to tell their version of "Who is King William?" Each entry coordinated their theme to a storyline

banner. These banners included quick facts on the history of the land, the people who settled in King William, the man behind the name, the businesses that support the neighborhood, and, most importantly, the many characters who have created the King William community we all have grown to love.

Parade participants were either entertaining, hilarious, and/or breathtaking. Our neighborhood Parade judges certainly had their work cut out for them as they selected the following entries to receive special distinction for their participation this year. And now, the moment you've all been waiting for...



Best Interpretation of the Parade's Theme: The "Who Is King William?" Krewe

This group of funloving neighborhood

artists stepped up to the challenge of carrying a Parade storyline banner that read "Who Is King William? King of Prussia who united Germany." Cruising down the Parade route in and surrounding a vintage black 1946 Studebaker bus, this grand krewe was led by an eight-foot purple dragon puppet. Neighborhood friend and sculptor Jeremiah Teutsch proudly wore his handmade cabeza gigante Kaiser Wilhelm head. The "Who Is King William?" Krewe beautifully captured the true essence of what it's like to be a neighborhood artist who strives in the King William community.



What the Heck, but It Worked: Mermaid Society of Texas

Rumor has it the freshwater mermaids that once populated the San Antonio

River swam upstream to San Marcos. The Mermaid Society of Texas helped the Parade recreate a San Antonio folklore that originated from the natives. The story is about a Blue Panther spirit who protects the sacred Blue Hole, the spring that feeds the San Antonio River. When the anhinga birds of the area would stop to drink from the spring, the Blue Panther would pounce to scare away the birds. This would create a shower of spring water droplets that would fall from the large wings of the anhinga birds, thus creating the flora and fauna of San Antonio. Their float instantly made you feel cool, calm, and think for a guick second your lawn chair was an innertube floating on our own San Antonio River.



Their Spirit Made You Have Spirit: Brotherhood of the Coast

The Coast has been participating in the King William

Parade for at least a decade. Each year, this group of tough sea dogs bring their A-game by engaging the Parade's audience to holler out their best pirate "Arr!" The Parade's story touches on why the European Germans left their homes to settle abroad in San Antonio, so the Brotherhood of the Coast represented the voyage across the pond in the mid-1800s. The pirates floated down the Parade route in a handcrafted, faux wood finish pirate ship loaded with cannons and proudly flying their Black Jacks. These high-spirited pirates were quick to share their colorful strands of jeweled booty with the Parade's audience.



Best Show of Creativity: **URBAN-15**

The story of the Blue Panther that kicked off the Parade incorporated several

entries. URBAN-15 played their part by providing a delight for your eyes and ears! This South Presa dance and drum ensemble created monarch butterfly costumes specifically for our Parade. The dancers led their swirling and twirling entry by wearing oversize butterfly wings that fluttered in conjunction with the movements of their arms. Sprinkled amongst the flock of monarchs were pink dancing flowers and hovering monarch butterflies fixed on top of long poles. The drum corps wore red and

white Hawaiian shirts topped with white safari hats as they created rhythmic beats on their drums.



Best Comedic Relief: Miss Southtown

During today's revolution in the fight for equality it's no surprise

our Southtown community all-gender beauty pageant would dominate this award category. Hands down, Miss Southtown stole our hearts by making us laugh. In addition to their attire, every year they update their float's theme by painting a "header" on the front end of their float. This year the pageant contestants swung from their float's rafters dancing and rocking out as various cross-dressing members of the Queen William court.



Most Memorable **Entry: Texas 1st Division Horse** Cavalry

The Texas 1st **Division Horse** Cavalry are no

strangers to marching in the King William Parade as we know they participated in the 1980s. Eleven mounted horses marching down the Parade route took everyone's breath away. The detachment is organized and equipped to represent the division as an 1870s era "horse Soldier" troop, complete with cavalry uniforms with government issue blouses, trousers, hats, belts and boots, authentic firearms, sabers, saddles, and work details of the period. The days of mounted troops and squadrons may be behind us, but the spirit and traditions of the old cavalry lives on in today's modern 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood.

Connect in King William: Women In the Hood In Touch (WITH IT) and King William Area Kids (KWAKs)

Deb Mueller



In 2004 Diana Cano and her family moved to Guenther Street in King William. She was busy working full time and had two young boys but wanted to create connections in her new neighborhood. She started a neighborhood Easter egg hunt and organized a monthly gathering for the neighborhood's women.

These two events continue, and neighbors are invited to join in. WITH IT is now coordinated by Joan Whiteley. Volunteer hostesses pick the date, and the time is always 7 pm. The main purpose is iust to connect with other women in the

neighborhood. Everyone brings a snack or bottle of wine to share; Joan still uses Diana's parting line in her email, "remember chips and salsa are always good." If you would like to be included at these casual social events please contact Joan at joanw23@gmail.com, or give her a call if you have questions at (210) 445-5447.

The Easter egg hunt was passed

on to Deb Mueller and has continued to grow over the years. It started with about 20 families coordinated by email, and in 2010 became a Facebook group, KWAKs, with the help of Michael Taylor and Shandelle Girdley. Their goal is to have an easy way to connect young families. The KWAKs page helps parents find local kid friendly events and other resources such as babysitters, summer camp options, and to share unused and outgrown children's items, toys, and furniture. Find KWAKS on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/ groups/kwaks/.

(The 35th Annual King William Regatta and Social continued from pg.1)

Participants in the 35th annual King William Regatta

Canoes: Bradley and Alec Toland (First Place), Jim Campbell and his brother Fred, John Hartman and Laura Powell, Alicia Spence-Schlesinger and Marty Schlesinger, Kathleen and Isabel Laborde (Style Award), and Mike Casey (the only paddler who was a member of the original King William Yacht Club). Kayaks: Peter Galbraith (First Place), Tom Roth, Thomas Roth and Frankie, Kaiser Wilhelm (Chris Cristal), Sarah Cristal, Oscar Alvarado and Shimi, and Alexandra ("Sasha") Nelipa. Paddleboards: Juan Fernandez and his son Andres.







New King Willam 100 Flags Coming Soon!

You have probably seen the King William 100 flags flying on a number of the old houses in our neighborhood. Mike Schroeder, KW resident and architect, designed the flag in 1991, which was the 100th year of San Antonio's Fiesta® celebration.

Since 1968, the King William Fair has been a part of the annual Fiesta celebration each April, and Dee Dee Polk, the 1991 Fair Chair, thought it would be a good idea for KWA to honor the 100-year tradition of Fiesta. The colors of the flag depict the San Antonio River and the number 100, along with an embedded K and W in the design. After the Fair, the flags were to be hung on homes that were 100 or more years old. However, the flag was popular, and it was suggested that if your home did not qualify, you could hang the flag backwards! The flag continued to be made in the years since with occasional small changes in the design. It will be available again for purchase at the KWA office for \$85.



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