

N.S.N.C.

# Trolley Times

Vol. 11

• News of the North Slope Neighborhood Coalition •

October 1998

## Good News!

We have a new Citizen's Patrol Coordinator. In response to a plea contained in the last issue of Trolley Times, Thomas Hudson, a new member of our neighborhood, has volunteered to take on the responsibilities of Coordinator of the North Slope Citizen's Patrol and is off to a running start.

Thomas, a real estate agent, comes to us from California where he has had experience in gang control and graffiti suppression activities as well as in other aspects of community involvement. He and his wife, Carla, are looking forward to being involved in the community.

His address is 906 North Sheridan Avenue; a fine old Victorian home. The telephone number for Patrol reports and citizen concerns related to neighborhood public safety issues is the North Slope Coalition number: 274-0839. His home phone number for personal calls is 272-8699.

Welcome to the neighborhood, Thomas and Carla! And a great big thank you, Thomas, for your quick and gracious response to our community request for help with our Citizen's Patrol.

## Fall Clean Up

Tacoma's twice yearly free clean up will take place October 2-18. This is your opportunity to get rid of all the junk you may have in the yard and alley. City



trucks will pick up what is placed on the parking strip, however, there are some regulations about how items may be stacked and some "no" items, such as tires.

Large things like stoves and mattresses need a phone call three days prior to pick up. You will be receiving a flyer in the mail soon, notifying you of the exact day.

If you are not able to carry items from the alley to the parking strip, perhaps a neighborhood youngster would like to earn money doing the job for you.

Our North Slope neighborhood will look so much better if we all take part in keeping our yards and alley areas neat and litter-free.

Thank you, Tacoma for the free pick up!

## National "Make A Difference" Day

October 24<sup>th</sup> is the eighth annual national "Make a Differ-

The North Slope Neighborhood Coalition is made up of the people living between "I" and Grant Streets from Division to Steele Streets. If you live in this area as a property owner or tenant, please join us on Saturday morning, **October 3** at St. Patrick Church, North 12<sup>th</sup> and J Street. Coffee and doughnuts are provided.

ence Day", when Americans volunteer to help others. How can our North Slope community become more socially connected? How can we each be a contributing member of our neighborhood?

It used to be that entertainment came from being with other people, not from a TV set. The "good old days" had church potlucks, neighborhood school functions, community work parties. What are some things each of us can do to show kindness to a neighbor? Mowing an elderly neighbor's yard, organizing a

## October 3 Coalition Meeting at

### St. Patrick Church

North 12 & North J Streets

The meeting will be held in the basement hall. Please park in the parking lot (handicap spaces are available in the alley near the garden and grotto).

**See back page for Coalition meeting agenda**



litter pick up, welcoming newcomers, hosting a barbecue picnic, encouraging children's activities that involve cooperation and problem solving are just a few examples of how we can make a difference.

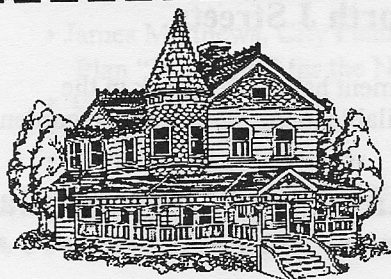
Perhaps we could sponsor an "Adopt A Spot" clean up of our perimeter streets: Division, I & Steele. Maybe on October 24 we can each do something for others that will make a difference. It can be a start.

## Volunteers Needed for 1998 Progressive Dinner

The 4th Annual Progressive Dinner and Walking Tour is scheduled for Saturday, November 7. In order for this to be a success, it requires lots of behind-the-scenes help. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS to assist in a number of ways: posting flyers in the Stadium and Proctor areas; helping the host homes prepare and/or serve the food; "leaders" who are willing to guide participants from home to home; and general gophers that are available to jump into action on a moment's notice.

These are just a few of the different activities. Contact Judy Martin (272-0609) or Angie Klein (272-0938) if working behind the scenes is appealing to you or if you have any questions about how you can help.

There will also be Progressive Dinner Volunteer sign up sheets at the October 3 Coalition meeting.



## Citizens' Patrol Update

I first want to thank "Tom" Tomberg for serving this past year as our Citizen's Patrol Coordinator. We appreciate your commitment and dedication. "Tom" will still be involved in the neighborhood by continuing to serve on the North Slope Steering Committee and also the North End Neighborhood Council.

**Change in Community Liaison Officer:** We want to say thank you to Stefanie Gill for her dedication



Left to right: CLO Stark, Thomas Hudson, and outgoing CLO Gill

and service to our community as one of our Community Liaison Officers. Stefanie has been transferred back to patrol. Though we are losing her as a CLO, we have gained her as a patrol officer. Keep an eye out for her on patrol and wave or say hello.

Our new CLO is officer Eric Kothstein. He will be working with officer Stark. Welcome, Officer Kothstein - we look forward to meeting you soon.

**Crime Report:** There's some good news for this area (Sector 2/ North End). There has been a significant decrease in both residential and commercial burglary (20%). Car theft and prowls continue to be the number one problem in the North Slope. My own car was almost stolen! Deterrents do work. Get an alarm or Club for your car. Keep an eye on your street and take note of any suspicious persons or vehicles. Let's not be easy



victims.

**Tacoma Police Department Community meeting:** A community meeting was held this past September 3 at the

Christ Episcopal Church. We had a great turn out! Over 40 people from the community came to ask questions and hear about the latest activity and programs that working to make our neighborhood healthier. The Tacoma Police Department hosted the meeting and there were five officers in attendance that represented our area - Lt. Fisk, CLO officers Gill and Stark, and two bicycle patrol officers.

Problems at the Red Maple Apartments are being addressed, there was talk of a grant to address the car thief, and Safe Streets is working with Jason Lee Middle School. Many thoughts were expressed and answers about future action were given.

**Scam of the Month Alert:** The following is a scam going on around the country right now. A person calls your house and says they are an AT&T Technician conducting a test on your telephone line. He/she says that to complete the test, you should touch "9", "zero", "pound sign" (#) and then hang up.

According to the phone company, if you push 90#, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which allows them to place a long distance call billed to your home phone number. Apparently this scam has been emanating from local jails. The scam artist will not always say they are calling from AT&T. It could be any number of different phone companies. If you get such a call, hang up immediately and report it to your phone company.

For more information, contact the North Slope Coalition Office at 274-0839.

Thomas Hudson



## Safe Streets Update

A locally owned house at 506 North L has been closed. Residents have been evicted, the power turned off and "no trespassing" signs posted. The city will board the windows and doors soon. Question-

### SAFE ST

able activity has been suspected there for months.

Safe Streets is vigorously pursuing abatement of another apartment complex, with a King County owner. Suspicious activities have been observed over a period of time, even with a resident manager living in the complex.

For further information on how Safe Streets can help you with a neighborhood problem, contact Ed Aviles at 272-6824.

## Tacoma Cares News

There will be a study session about the minimum building and structure code on Tuesday, November 3, 12:00 p.m. in Municipal Building North (Room 16).

New owners of the Annobee Apartment at North 4<sup>th</sup> and I are researching funds for repair. For more information, you may call Mike at 584-6919.

## A Kinder, Gentler Era

Our neighborhood is the only residential historic district in the city of Tacoma. The requirements and procedures for getting historic status are long and demanding. This ensures that a majority of property owners are truly in favor of our special status and it is not just an act of whimsy.

The North Slope Historic District is a fascinating mix of homes from many eras and economic classes. The wealthy capitalists are represented by large, showy mansions; the bottom end laborer by small, simple cottages. Most homes in the district are rooted in Tacoma's industrial past: the working class. From street to street, house to house, the history of Tacoma and the history of the Northwest is told.

Some people seem to think of the historic district as an area where time is standing still, where nothing new is allowed. That is not correct. As long as humans are involved, there will be change. New construction is allowed, as is remodeling and renovation. All the historic district asks is that the new construction and changes respect the style and aesthetics of the neighborhood. New construction does not have to look Victorian.

What is the purpose of all this hard work and self regulation? Why bother?

Roots, compass, authenticity.

Roots: A place where we belong,

a home. A place where the family prospers. After all, the family is the first and basic human institution.

Compass: The historic district is a record of where we have been as a society. The neighborhood is a form of social record keeping. You have to know where you've been to know where you want to end up.

Authenticity: American society is getting faster, louder, dumber. Our lives are bombarded by synthetic stimulus of fast food, violent entertainment, sports and news, architecture without human scale, and the media - all at warp speed.

Our historic neighborhood was created in a gentle time. The neighborhood invited a walk to visit the neighbors, to relax, to stroll. We need the historic neighborhood now as a place to fall back, relax, charge our batteries in the authenticity of human contact, scale and rhythm.

Roger Johnson

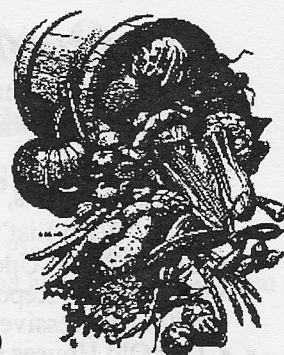
Do you enjoy reading the "Trolley Times"? Would you be willing to help us in our communication efforts?

The paper is delivered six times a year, usually the week before our bi-monthly meetings. There are nine streets, each with about 12 blocks. If we have 18 volunteers doing half a street, it would take about one hour. Under the current system, we have a few people really stretched trying to cover the whole area.

If you could help deliver, please call Angie Klein at 272-0938.

## Fall Activities in and around Tacoma

- October 3-4, Greek Festival, 1523 S. Yakima (272-0466)
- October 4, 1:00 p.m., Bonsai Lecture, Weyerhaeuser Headquarters in Federal Way (924-5206)
- October 11, Steilacoom Apple Squeeze (584-4133)
- October 9-11, Scandinavian Days, Puyallup (845-5446)
- October 17, Pt. Defiance Hike (5 miles), 9:00 a.m. at Pagoda (752-2333)
- October 21-November 1, Pumpkin Patch at Seymour Conservatory (591-5330)
- October 31-November 1, October Country Fair, Puyallup (admission) (536-2885)
- November 14, Living History Days, Ft. Nisqually, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (591-5339)





## Committee Contacts

Coalition Office @ 274-0839

**Historic District Expansion** (Sheridan through Ainsworth/Grant):  
Velda McDonald @ 627-4192

**North End Neighborhood Council:** Dan Klein @ 272-0938  
"Tom" Tomberg @ 572-1532  
Maggie Kelly @ 272-7102  
Walter Evanishyn @ 272-2425

**Crime Patrol:** Thomad Hudson @

**Newsletter:** Angie Klein @ 272-0938  
Marilyn Torgerson @ 627-4537  
Patty LeBlanc @ 272-2884  
Tom Hubbell @ 593-0749

**North Slope Coalition Steering Committee:**

Nick Kristensen @ 272-2884  
Tom & Barbara Tomberg @ 572-1532  
Julie Turner @ 383-2329  
Dan & Angie Klein @ 272-0938  
Velda McDonald @ 627-4192  
Judy Martin @ 272-0609  
Don & Chris Brosnan @ 272-4290  
Marie & Will Dudley @ 383-2116

**North Slope History Project** (temporarily on hold) Kim Moreland @  
593-4319

**1998 Progressive Dinner:** Judy Martin @ 272-0609  
Angie Klein @ 272-0938

Ed Aviles, **Safe Streets:** 272-6824  
Lisa Wojtanowicz, **Tacoma Cares:** 591-5267

## December Edition Article Deadline

If you have an item to submit for the December edition of Trolley Times, please get it to:

Angie Klein, 272-0938  
Marilyn Torgerson, 627-4537  
Patty LeBlanc, 272-2884

no later than Monday, November 16. This allows adequate time to get the newsletter ready to go, get it printed, and then get it delivered. It would really help and make things go a lot smoother if articles are submitted by the requested date.

Thanks!

Newsletter Article Collector Committee

---

*Holidays should be like this,  
Free from overemphasis,  
Time for soul to stretch and spit  
Before the world comes back on  
it.*

*Epilogue, for W. H. Auden*

## *Next Coalition Meeting @ St. Patrick Church: October 3, 9:00 a.m.*

Join us for an informative hour! Meeting begins at 9:00 and promptly ends at 10:00. On this month's agenda:

- James Matthews, City Planner, Open Forum on the Long Range Plan "Wish List" for the North Slope area
- Crime Patrol Update
- Treasurer's Report
- 1998 Progressive Dinner
- Our Old Houses Cookbook Project
- New business from floor

Happy  
Thanksgiving!

November 26

## 1998 Coalition Meeting dates:

Saturday, October 3  
Saturday, December 5