



TROLLEY TIMES

Volume #35

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

April / May / June 2004

SALUTE: Jay & Julie Turner

By Roger Johnson

Everyone should thank his lucky stars because Jay and Julie Turner live in the North Slope Historic District! Thanks to them we now live in a nationally recognized historic district!

Jay and Julie were the spark plugs, the fuel and the drivers of the machine that created and submitted the nomination forms to the Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The state office added our neighborhood to the Washington Heritage Register and recommended the NSHD to the federal government to be added to the National Historic Register in February 2003!

The whole process began over 10 years ago with the idea of a historic designation to help preserve our neighborhood. Some fine old homes had been torn down and replaced with ugly apartments. They add nothing to the neighborhood; in fact, they lower the property values and serve as a cancer on the neighborhood. For a while, the cancer made us all suffer with an increase in crime and drug activity. We have battled the sickness, and one of the cures is Historic Preservation which fosters pride!

In 1994, Julie seized upon the historic preservation "cure" and ran with it. The North Slope Historic District was officially created with the passage of a Tacoma city ordinance. Jay took up the mantle of Historic Preservation, the preservation for our neighborhood's quality of place and life. He never let up until the Federal Government declared our neighborhood a National Historic District!

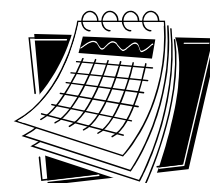
Now it is our turn! On May 6, the State Of Washington Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation is awarding Jay and Julie Turner a Special Achievement Award.

Everyone should come be a part of the ceremony and show our thanks to Jay and Julie. A bonus is that the event is being held at the Knights of Pythias Hall! The historic hall has to be seen to be believed. (*Finding the Pythias Hall can be a challenge: It is across the street from Tacoma Actor's Guild. The entrance is a worn wooden door and the hall is up a long set of stairs.*)

In addition to the award for the Turners, other awards of interest will be for saving and restoring Albers Mill, and the Valerie Sivinski Award for Outstanding Restoration goes to the Port Stanley Schoolhouse on Lopez Island and the O'Rear House at Port Townsend.

Put it on your calendar:
State Preservation Awards Ceremony
May 6, 2004

5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Knights of Pythias Hall
(in the Castle Room)
926 Broadway, Tacoma
Information, call 431-3959
<http://www.oahp.wa.gov/Awards04.htm>



Meth Lab Lowdown

Were you aware of the meth house on North 6th Street? In March, the police barricaded the rental property, and the owner has been having it cleaned. Because of neighborhood concern about this meth lab, it will be the center of discussion at our next North Slope meeting.

On Tuesday, May 11, Lt. Roberts and other community liaison officers, will be on hand to talk with us about meth houses, crime, group homes, and more. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the program will start at 7 - all at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 N J St. So that families with young children can attend, we will offer babysitting in the church school rooms during the meeting.

Landmarks Group Adds Another North Sloper

Timothy McDonald, a retired architect who owns a home on North M Street, was appointed to the Landmarks Commission on April 5, 2004. He joins long-time commissioner Roger Johnson, who lives on North J Street and who started out as the ex officio North Slope Historic District representative; Johnson is now a full commissioner.

Mr. McDonald has lived in the North Slope for about 15 years, and was most recently active as the designer and donor of the stone monument at the North Slope Historic District Park.

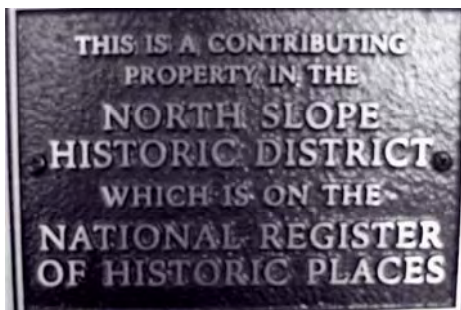
"I will be alert to be sure the NSHD is protected, but I will also be helping to further historic preservation throughout the City of Tacoma," says Mr. McDonald.

The Landmarks Commission is charged with the job of encouraging the preservation of historic properties in the city, and plays a major role in protecting the North Slope Historic District through oversight of the guidelines for remodeling and new construction. This oversight is designed to protect the architectural integrity of the historic structures in our historic district.

Plaques for Sale

An order for Historic District plaques was placed on April 15. The 13 homeowners participating in this order may expect their plaques to arrive in late May or early June.

If you ordered a plaque but haven't submitted payment, please send a check for \$75 made out to North Slope Historic District to: Ralph Tomberg, 510 North Sheridan, 98403, as soon as possible.



This is the last time the NSHD will offer pre-ordered plaques. The lack of demand to meet the minimum order level to obtain favorable pricing, coupled with the long wait for delivery, makes pre-ordering in bulk impractical.

Dates to Remember

April 30	Arbor Day
May 1	May Day
May 1 and 2	Tacoma Historical Society Grand Home Tour
May 3 to 9	National Historic Preservation Week
May 6	State Preservation Awards, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
May 9	Mother's Day
May 11	North Slope meeting, 7 p.m.
May 15	Armed Forces Day
May 31	Memorial Day
June 12	Adopt-a-Spot litter pick up, 10 a.m.
June 14	Flag Day
June 20	Father's Day
June 20	Summer Begins
July 4	Independence Day
July	Next newsletter

Looking for a Way to Bloom?

Wanted: Green thumbs in the 7th and Sheridan area! The NSHD is looking for a few good citizens to adopt the traffic circle at North 7th and Sheridan. We need someone to help make that traffic circle look as good as the others in the North Slope. Perhaps some neighbors can get together and beautify the spot!



Adopt-A-Spot

Thanks to the seven neighbors who picked up litter on North I Street in March for Tacoma CARES Adopt-a-Spot program.

The next pick up will be Saturday, June 12, at 10 a.m. Meet in the parking lot behind Immanuel Presbyterian Church. New volunteers are welcome to come join the "old regulars!"

From the Archives

This information comes from the Archives of the National Historic Register:

The American Foursquare style house at 1402 North 5th was built in 1903 for Ernest Lister, who was later Washington State Governor. The house, with a wrap around porch, faces both North 5th and Sheridan Streets.

Lister came to Tacoma from England in 1884. He was an iron molder, and then partnered with his brother in construction, real estate, insurance, and lumber. He served on Tacoma City Council at age 23.

While Governor in 1919 he suffered a collapse, and died at age 48 of heart and kidney disease. His wife died five years later, and both his children died young, at age 27 and 30.



Ernest Lister house, 1402 North 5th

Park Update

Our park's maintenance is back in the hands of Metro Parks! Their focus will be on the grass. Our focus will be maintaining the beds and plants that we installed to make "Valerie's Park" special.

Everything is growing well and looking good. Spring weeding of the beds was completed in early April. By the time you "weed" this, a new layer of wood chips will have been laid down by the Corps of Volunteers. To add your name to the Corps,

leave your name and number with Nick Kristensen (272-2884) or sign up at our meeting.

The sprinkler system expansion will be done soon by Blue Sky Landscaping. The funding for it is about to be released by Tacoma's Neighborhood Council coordinator, Elton Gatewood and Metro Parks director, Steve Knauer. It's gratifying to have their support. Thank you!

Thanks to all of you for picking up and helping keep our gem of a park tidy.

T-Shirts for Sale

North Slope T- Shirt Clearance Sale!!!

Blue or yellow T shirts, size XL—\$5
Blue polo shirts, size XL—\$10

Call Patty at 272-2884.



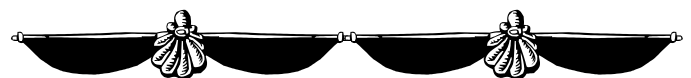
Meeting Neighbors

More than 40 neighbors attended the February 23 North Slope meeting. Tacoma City Council member Julie Anderson talked about Tacoma issues, and Historic Preservation Officer Reuben McKnight talked about historic concerns.

The meeting was preceded by a lively social hour—neighbors are becoming real friends. We are finding many common interests!



*The North Slope Historic District
is made up of the people living
between "I" and Grant Streets
from Division to Steele.*



North Slope Historic District Steering Committee

Victoria Hankwitz	404-1061
Jim Hoard	272-7222
Thomas Hudson	973-3700
Brian & Betsy Johnson	
Bill Johnson	627-6860
Dan & Angie Klein	272-0938
Chuck & Stacy Kahler	779-8757
Nick Kristensen & Patty LeBlanc	272-2884
Kathryn Longwell	627-0423
Velda McDonald	627-4192
Judy Martin	572-3059
Mitch Robinson	272-0165
Ralph & Barbara Tomberg	572-1532
Marilyn Torgerson	627-4537
Julie Turner	383-2329
NSHD Representative on Landmarks Commission	
Roger Johnson	431-3959

NORTH SLOPE HISTORIC DISTRICT MEETING

TUESDAY, MAY 11, 2004

IMMANUEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REFRESHMENTS AT 6:30 P.M.

PROGRAM AT 7 P.M.

AGENDA: POLICE/COMMUNITY ISSUES



Sector Police Officers

Tacoma Sector 2 Police staff are:

Lt. Roberts	591-5697
CLO Kothstein	591-5290
CLO Stark	594-1837
CLO Rush	594-7961

The sector office is now in the Community Center at Wright Park. Lieutenant Alan Roberts is a new addition to Sector 2 staff.

State Preservation Awards Ceremony

May 6, 2004

5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Knights of Pythias Hall, Castle Room

926 Broadway, Tacoma

Information, 431-3959

Would You Know a Drug Lab if You Saw One???

Equipment: including tubing, filters, cat litter, duct tape, aluminum foil, pill grinders, pyrex-style glassware, jars, hotplates, rubber gloves, gas masks, basters, PH strips

Chemicals: including Sudafed, iodine, phosphorous, lye, white fuels, rock salt, battery acid, acetone, antifreeze, rubbing alcohol

Other signs: including strong odors, numerous guests at all times, smoking outdoors, stains, cars coming and going for short times, fences, fierce dogs outside

Tacoma Drug line	475-2725
Police non-emergency	798-4721

Yard Help for the Asking

Take a look at your yard:

- Is your fence broken?
- Are your garbage cans overflowing?
- Is the grass too high?
- Is debris scattered around?

Never fear – help is available. Check for info at www.cityoftacoma.org or call:

Tacoma CARES	591-5001
Solid Waste	591-5543
Call-2-Haul	573-2468
Tree Cutting Permits	591-5538
Master Gardener Program	798-7170
Environmental Services	502-2150

Thanks to Tacoma CARES for the printing of the newsletter.