



TROLLEY TIMES

Volume 43

Tacoma's North Slope Historic District

Oct / Nov 2006

Progressive Dinner Tickets

Would you like to:

- a) Take a peaceful stroll through the North Slope Historic District?
- b) Socialize with friends and neighbors?
- c) Tour stunning older homes?
- d) Enjoy a tasty four-course meal?



You can do it all during the North Slope Historic District's Progressive Dinner & Walking Tour. The event will be held Nov. 4 with four seatings of 26 people each (at 4 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 5:30 p.m., and 6:15 p.m.) Only 104 tickets are available at \$35 each. In the past, this event has sold out **EARLY**.

To make reservations:

Contact Judy Martin at 572-3059.

To volunteer:

[We need hosts, kitchen help, greeters, etc.]

Contact Angie Klein at 272-0938 or email angieklein@harbornet.com

Put it on your calendar:

**NSHD Progressive Dinner & Walking Tour
Saturday, Nov. 4, 2006
Ticketed guests only**

Plaques Make Great Gifts

Another order of North Slope plaques is on its way from the foundry. [Yes, they'll be ready in plenty of time for the holidays!] The 5x7-inch brass plaques are available for purchase for \$75 each. Plaque text indicates your home is a contributing property in the North Slope Historic District which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

To reserve your plaque, call/email Mitch at boonrob@msn.com or 272-0165 ... Hurry, they won't last long!

Learn to Kill the Chill

If you live in an older home, you probably have drafts. An expert from Tacoma Power's Energy Services staff is coming to the North Slope's next general meeting to share information to help all residents keep out the cold this fall and winter season. From windows and doors to attics and crawl spaces, we'll learn about products and techniques that will make our homes more energy efficient. Bring your questions!

Put it on your calendar:

NSHD General Meeting

Program: Weatherizing Your Home

Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2006

**6:30 p.m. social time / 7 p.m. program begins
Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 N. J St.
Free babysitting available**

Create a Better Neighborhood

The North Slope Historic District relies on its residents to create programs, host events, and improve the overall quality of life within the neighborhood. If you live in or own property within the North Slope, you are eligible to serve on the North Slope Historic District Board of Directors or any of the group's many committees (such as public safety, programming, communication and public works). The board meets bimonthly; board members also attend committee meetings and general NSHD meetings.

Eight two-year board positions come up for election in January. All NSHD residents and property owners are invited to vote in this election. Putting your name on the ballot is easy: just email the nominating committee at postmaster@northslope.com. Questions about board responsibilities? Contact NSHD board President Marshall McClintock at 572-5474.

2006 NSHD Programs/Dates

- 10/18 Weatherizing Your Home (7 p.m.) * #
- 11/4 Progressive Dinner (tickets \$35 per person)
- 12/13 Cocoa and Carols (6 p.m.)
- 12/18 Judging for NSHD Holiday Home Decorating Contest

* Indicates these programs will include a short business meeting to update residents on relevant issues/concerns. Social time begins 30 minutes prior to scheduled start for these events. # Indicates free babysitting will be provided at these events.

Unless otherwise noted, programs will be held at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 901 N. J Street. Check the website (www.tacomnorthslope.com) and watch future editions of this newsletter for updates.

Protect Yourself, Belongings

Tacoma Police Community Liaison Officer Eric Kothstein warns that unattended, running cars are easy targets for thieves.

"With the cooler weather, people are already having cars stolen when they leave them unattended to warm up and defrost," says Kothstein. "It sounds simple, but people need to stay with the car while it's running in the driveway or on the street because car thieves are looking for unattended cars."

Kothstein is one of 11 Tacoma police officers designated as Community Liaison Officers; he and other Sector Two officers can be reached at:

Lt. Alan Roberts 591-5697
CLO Eric Kothstein 591-5290
CLO Steve Thornton 594-7837

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Deck Your Halls

Get out the greenery and untangle the strings of lights – it's time to decorate your home for the holidays ... well, almost.



North Slope Historic District residents are invited to compete with their neighbors for "Best Decked" honors this holiday season. Everyone is eligible, but to be absolutely certain we make it past your home, please drop us a note (postmaster@northslope.com) or give a call (272-0165) with your address. Judging (by members of your NSHD Board of Directors) will take place on Sunday, Dec. 18.

In addition to the sheer honor, those who create the most beautiful holiday displays will receive prize packs from contest sponsors including Espresso By The Cup,

NSHD Board of Directors

Mark Bardwil	759-3878
Mary Boone	272-0165
Deborah Cade, secretary	593-4569
Tim Chen	272-9281
Jason Gordon	238-9145
Patty LeBlanc	272-2884
Kathryn Longwell	627-0423
Judy Martin	572-3059
Marshall McClintock, president	572-5474
Velda McDonald, treasurer	627-4192
Kyle Price	396-9047
Mitch Robinson	272-0165
Barbara Tomberg	572-1532
Ralph Tomberg	572-1532
Marty Webb	274-9667

The North Slope Board of Directors meets on the fourth Wednesday of odd numbered months at 7 p.m. at Immanuel Presbyterian Church. The meetings are open to all district residents and/or property owners.

If you have an item you'd like included on the board's agenda, phone President Marshall McClintock.

Fa la la la la

Yes, it's a little early to start humming "Jingle Bells" or "Deck the Halls" – but it's not too early to start planning the route for this year's NSHD evening of caroling.



Neighbors will gather at 6 p.m. Dec. 13 at Immanuel Presbyterian Church. We'll warm up our voices before heading out to serenade neighbors and unsuspecting strangers. Everyone is welcome, Song sheets will be provided and absolutely no musical ability is required.

If you or someone you know would like to have these spirited and occasionally off-tune minstrels stop by (between 6:15 and 7 p.m.) for a song or two, let us know. Organizers will plan a route that takes carolers past as many "special request" homes as possible. Contact Mary Boone at 272-0165 or (mary@boonewrites.com) and let us bring some holiday cheer your way.

www.tacomanorthslope.com

Want information about the next North Slope program? Wonder how to get in contact with the Landmarks Commission? This information and much more is available on our website at www.tacomanorthslope.com. To receive electronic reminders about events, just drop an email to postmaster@tacomanorthslope.com. You won't be bombarded with junk mail and your email address will not be shared with other groups/businesses.

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Debi Braulik / Windermere Real Estate

Call Before You Hammer

Some NSHD property owners recently have faced fines or "stop work" orders from the city for inappropriate work on their houses.

To avoid this on your next project, remember that almost any change to the exterior of your house or garage (other than painting and minor repair) requires a building permit and design review by the Landmarks Commission. This includes changing or replacing windows, changing siding (such as re-shingling), or adding, replacing or changing a porch. Contractors often do not know the rules that apply in NSHD. Before starting any exterior work, it's a good idea to contact Tacoma's Historic Preservation Officer Reuben McKnight at Reuben.McKnight@ci.tacoma.wa.us or 591-5220. He can quickly tell you if your project will require permits and design review.

The North Slope is protected by its designated historic status only as long as we follow the rules that maintain its integrity.

Sidewalk Replacement

In Tacoma, property owners are responsible for maintaining the public sidewalks along their property. Our collective taxes through the city pay for half of the replacement of damaged sidewalks, but individual property owners pay the rest, which at \$4.50/SF can still be a sizeable fee. That cost is greater if the homeowner wants the "historic" option: lampblack added to the concrete for a dull gray look and scoring in a checkerboard pattern. The historic option is not required in the North Slope, but many residents prefer it and are surprised at its cost mentioned in city mailings.

Asst. Public Works Director Craig Sivley says the cost quoted in mailings is a conservative estimate provided by the city. The city no longer provides the historic option but allows homeowners in historic districts to negotiate independently with its contractor for this option. That negotiated price may be substantially less than the city's estimate. If you want the historic option when your sidewalk is replaced, select that option on the provided form and then expect to negotiate its price. You can always opt for the standard option if you don't like the price the contractor offers.

Tacoma North Slope Historic District
1102 N. Fifth Street
Tacoma, WA 98403

City Not Picking Up Leaves

The City of Tacoma is no longer picking up piles of leaves. Instead, property owners must dispose of leaves by:

- Composting them to use as mulch.
- Disposing of them in your brown yard waste container, or
- Taking them to the landfill.



According to www.compostguide.com, you can make compost out of leaves in as little as 14 days by doing these things:

1. Shred or grind the leaves.
2. Mix four parts ground leaves with one part manure or other nitrogen-rich material.
3. Turn the heap every three days.

The leaves of one large tree can be worth as much as \$50 of plant food and humus. Pound for pound, the leaves of most trees contain twice as many minerals as manure.

Remember: fallen leaves can clog up city storm drains and cause neighborhood streets to flood. Please do your part to prevent flooding by raking or sweeping leaves out of storm drains near your home. For more information, visit www.cityoftacoma.org/flood. To report street flooding, call 591-5585.

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