



SWGNA

SOUTHWEST GARDEN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Communicator



WINTER

Vol. 28, Issue 1

January 2006

A Quarterly Publication of the Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association

SWGNA MEMBERS MEETING

Everyone is welcome.

7 pm, Monday, January 23, 2006

Shaw VPA Elementary / CEC

Gymnasium / Auditorium

Macklind & Columbia

Bridge on Arsenal at Brannon to Close

February 1, 2006, construction will begin on the bridge in an effort to bring the structure into compliance with federal standards. The closure is scheduled February through October 2006. Representatives from the Department of Public Service will speak at our January 23 meeting about traffic detours and construction matters.

Neighbors Danced the Two Step

Bob and Bernie Buscher, of Tower Grove Place, served as hosts for this event held at the St. Louis Senior Center. The large dance floor proved essential for this SWGNA dance. Professional instruction and seasoned dancers assisted those inexperienced. Participants learned several community-oriented line dances, as well as two partner dances. Herb Krischke and the Trophy Room hosted the group to an *After Party*. The SWGNA Social Committee hopes to organize several events per year. If you would like to participate and/or help organize social events, let us know. Email: swgarden@stlouis.missouri.org

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

SWGNA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP: (quarterly)
Jan 23, 2006, 7 pm, Shaw VPA School /CEC
April 17, 2006, 7 pm, Shaw VPA School /CEC

SWGNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (monthly)
2nd Mondays, 7 pm at 4950 Southwest Ave.
January 9, February 13, March 13

SWG PROPERTY OWNERS: (quarterly)
7pm at the Botanical Garden's Beaumont Rm
Wednesday, February 8

SWG HOUSING CORPORATION: (monthly)
1st Wednesdays, 6:30 pm at 4950 Southwest
January 4, February 1

GARDENSIDE SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT:
3rd Mondays, 6:30pm at 4950 Southwest Ave.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Wed, Feb. 1, Job Fair 10 – 2 at Monsanto Center for jobs & volunteers MBG
- Tues, Feb 7, Symphony Concert 7 pm at Piper Palm House – Free
- Sat, Feb 18, Exhibit Opening @ Black World History Museum, 241-7057
- Sat-Sun, Feb 18-19, Orchid Show & Sale, MBG
- Sun, Feb 19, Soulard Mardi Gras Pet Parade
- Sat, Feb 25, Soulard Mardi Grand Parade
- Sun, March 12, Downtown St. Pat's Parade
- Fri, March 17, Dogtown St. Pat's Parade
- Sun, March 26, Concert Series Noon, MBG, Free
- Sun, April 2, Concert Series Noon, MBG, Free
- Tues, April 4, Global Warming lecture & book signing at MO Bot Garden (MBG)
- Tues, April 4, Symphony Concert 7 pm at Piper Palm House – Free
- Sun, April 9, Concert Series Noon, MBG, Free
- Sat-Sun, April 15-16, Daffodil Show, MBG
- Sun, May 21, SWGNA HOME TOUR

Operation Brightside to Beautify Lot

In January 2001, Operation Brightside moved into our neighborhood at 4646 Shenandoah. Southwest Bank donated the property and Brightside raised the funds for the necessary improvements. The only downside was an adjacent unsightly vacant lot.

For fifteen years the lot on the S.E corner of Kingshighway at Shenandoah has been an eyesore. The property changed hands three times. Limited access made this highly visible property challenging for the owners to develop.

In November 2005, Brightside's cash and donation offer to acquire the property was accepted. Brightside's board members, John Caruso, Ken Nuernberger, and Peter Noonan made significant contributions for the acquisition. Caruso and Nuernberger are also Southwest Garden residents.

Long range plans for the development of a community green space will be created in the next 3 – 6 months, though modest landscaping and improvements have already taken place.

Operation Brightside is a non-profit organization so the extent of improvements will depend on funding. To make a tax deductible contribution for the beautification of this property, or submit ideas for the design, please call May Lou Green, Executive Director at 772-4646.

HELPFUL NUMBERS

For Your Reference

SOUTHWEST GARDEN

Neighborhood Assoc., Ex. Director, Dana Gray	772-6082
Property Owners Assoc. Pres. Floyd Wright	771-3271
Gardenside Subdivision, Pres. John Nash	664-8177
Housing Corp, Pres. Jenny Benois	772-6082

CITY SERVICES

Citizens Service Bureau (to request City Service)	622-4800
Neighborhood Stabilization Office	622-4628
8th Ward NSO, Michelle Boston-David	622-4628
10th Ward NSO, Mike Flood	622-4628
Alderman 8th Ward, Stephen Conway	773-5576
Alderman 10th Ward, Joseph Vollmer	622-3287

POLICE

(2nd Dist– W of Kingshighway, 3rd Dist– E of Kingshighway)	
2nd Dist Public Affairs Officer Nancee Nocchiero	444-0168
2nd Dist Problem Properties Officer Paul Zwick	444-0177
3rd Dist Public Affairs Officer Don Re	444-0169
3rd Dist Problem Properties Tom McLaughlin	444-0100
Non-Emergency Requests for Police Response	231-1212
Suspected Gang/Drug Activity (anonymous)	241-COPS

THE TROPHY ROOM

5099 ARSENAL

CORNER of ARSENAL at BRANNON

**PROUDLY SUPPORTS
SOUTHWEST GARDEN
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.**



Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association

Communicator

Published Quarterly by

Southwest Garden Neighborhood Improvement Assoc.

4950 Southwest Ave

St. Louis, MO 63110

dba Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association a 501-C-3 non-profit organization whose mission is to improve the Southwest Garden Neighborhood.

Community Directory

Next time you need to hire an accountant, appraiser, engineer, or veterinarian – would it not be helpful to have access to those professionals right in your neighborhood? We think so.

To that end, the Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association is creating a Community Business Directory. If you have a business or offer a service you would like listed, let us know. All area businesses are welcome. A listing with your company name, address, phone and website is free of charge. Include a 20 to 50 word description or a display advertisement for a fee.

Virginia Publishing will handle graphic design services, display advertising, printing and publishing. They published our Home Tour catalog in 2005 and we were very pleased with their service and the quality of the publication.

We plan on distributing the directories at our general meeting in July 2006 and through our block captains, neighborhood ambassadors, retail businesses, and churches. If you want to include your business, please mail or email your information. Mail to: SWGNA, 4950 Southwest, St. Louis, MO 63110.

Email: swgarden@stlouis.missouri.org

2006 Neighborhood Garden Contest

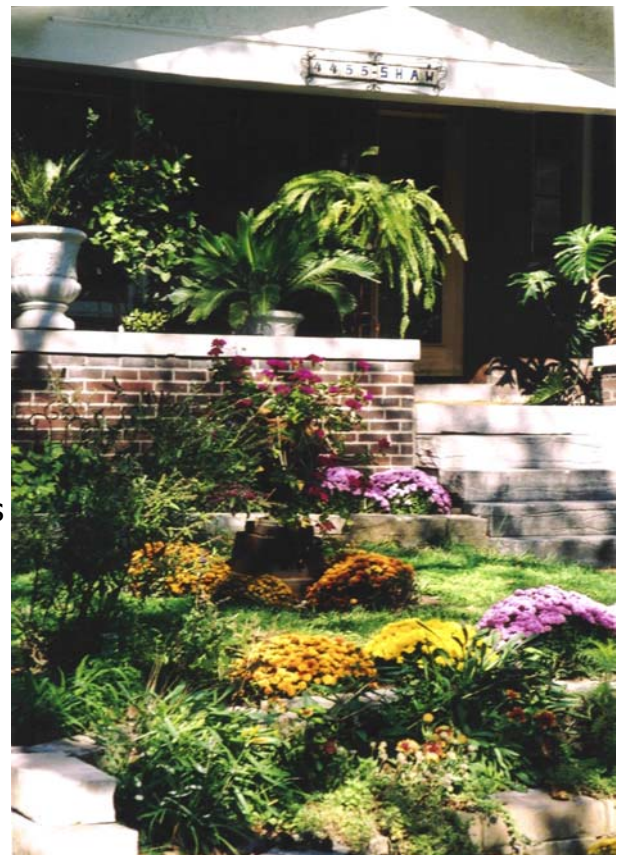
Our Neighborhood Assessment Committee has suggested we revive the Neighborhood Garden Contest. Would you like to be involved? Please join our Garden Contest Committee. Some of the ideas suggested thus far include recruiting master gardeners as jurors, creating several different criteria (flower garden, vegetable garden, overall design, business, rental property, single family residence, public garden area, etc). Residents could nominate their own garden or that of another. The committee members could solicit prizes for the winners.

Anything is possible. We have the world famous Missouri Botanical Garden within our neighborhood for inspiration. We only need a handful of volunteers to lay the ground rules for the competition. Please help bring this great suggestion to fruition. Call or email the SWGNA office to participate. 772-6082 / swgarden@stlouis.missouri.org

How to be a Good Neighbor

Have pride in your property, whether you own or rent and be considerate of your neighbors. Here are a few tips.

- Get to know your neighbors.
- Pick-up newspapers, litter, and debris in your yard, street and alley.
- Clean-up after your pet.
- Ask your guests to phone or knock on your door to signal their arrival rather than honking their car horns.
- Bulk trash pick-up is on the third Monday of each month in our neighborhood. Place your bulk trash items behind your home if you have an alley or on your front curb if you do not have an alley. Do not place bulk trash in public areas, next to dumpsters, or on your neighbor's property.
- Place only yard waste – grass clippings, leaves, and limbs in the yard waste dumpsters.
- Leave a porch light on at night.
- Report suspicious activity to the police. Call 911 for emergencies and 231-1212 for non-emergencies.



2006 MetroLink & MetroBus Changes

The St. Louis MetroLink expansion is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2006. With the expansion of MetroLink, MetroBus routes will change. Alterations to bus routes are still in the planning phase and Metro seeks input from the public.

If any of us have considered issues such as rising gasoline prices, air pollution, climate change, or global warming, perhaps we should give more thought to using public transportation. Did you know we have a Park-N-Ride station in our neighborhood? We do! The lot at Shaw and Vandevender is a Park-N-Ride Station for Metro. Once MetroLink's expansion is complete, we will have many more public transport options available.

If you currently use public transit or would like to find out options for doing so, come to our January 23rd meeting. Representatives from Metro will present their proposed bus route changes. The representatives have offered to stay after our General Meeting to answer questions and present information on options for public transport. Visit Metro online: www.metrostlouis.org

Area Developments

- ⇒ Leon Jones has completed renovations of his single family residence at 44XX Shaw.
- ⇒ New owners will soon be moving into the SWG Housing Corp renovation project at 27XX So. Kingshighway.
- ⇒ The fire damaged home at 49XX Magnolia will soon have a new owner who plans to renovate.
- ⇒ Sublette Fields, at Sublette and Reber, has begun construction on one of the homes of the two homes planned for that site.
- ⇒ A mixed-use building at 53XX Southwest is nearing completion
- ⇒ Chris Ketcherside is renovating a three family residence at 55XX Southwest.
- ⇒ Hugh Pavitt has remodeled several units at a four-family residence at 45XX Cleveland.

None of these projects would have been possible without the support of our 8th Ward Alderman Stephen Conway and 10th Ward Alderman Joseph Vollmer. Thank you Gentlemen.

Development Proposed on Arsenal

Highland Homes has submitted plans to build five attached townhomes at 5719 Arsenal. Each home would have a two car garage accessible from the front of the home on Arsenal. The frontage of each structure would be off-set to give a more interesting visual appeal to the structures. Highland Homes has built some homes in Dogtown. Several SWGNA board members toured one of their existing structures and we were impressed with the finished product. For more info call Highland Homes 863-2845.



Tower Grove Farmer's Market

Logistics are being considered for an area farmer's market. Feedback is needed, so fill out a survey online at: <http://barnraisingdevelopment.com/survey.htm> They are hoping to get this up and running in the spring. You can reach the organizers, Jenny and Ryan directly at 772-4538.

Missouri Botanical Garden

The Doris I. Schnuck Children's Garden "A Missouri Adventure" will open April 1st. Unlike any children's garden in the country, this two-acre venue will feature a canopy climb, cave, and more.

Hailed as the premier St. Louis cultural event of 2006, "Glass in the Garden" will be an exhibit of stunning "hand blown" glass custom designed by the artist, Dale Chihuly, for the Missouri Botanical Garden. In celebration of the Children's Garden and the Chihuly exhibit, banners will be placed prominently on light poles within the neighborhood.

The Garden wishes to recognize the continued support of the Southwest Garden Neighborhood Assoc. by offering members of SWGNA a 20% discount on the purchase of a Garden Membership. Regularly \$60 - 20%, you will save \$12. This is a limited-time offer and is only available on-site through Feb. 28, 2006. Stop by the Garden with your 2006 SWGNA membership card to take advantage of this offer. Garden members receive free unlimited admission for two adults and all children under 12 to the Garden, Shaw Nature Reserve, EarthWays Center, Tower Grove House, invitations to free Members Days, and more.

Southwest Garden Residents Serve Police

Hot meals were served to the on-duty Police Officers of the South Patrol on Christmas Day. Funded by SWGNA, Sandy and George Grbac of 49XX Botanical, organized this community service project. Many residents donated or volunteered to help prepare, transport, and serve delicious hot meals for the Police Christmas Day. Thank you to everyone that helped. Hopefully we made our Police Officers holiday a little brighter.



It takes a Village

Homage must be given to those who contribute to our community. Special thanks goes to the following individuals and businesses for their contribution: Chuck Fuhry, Michelle Krevenas, Kim Norton, Gloria Openlander, Bob and Bernie Busher, Carol and Bob Schwartz, Darlene and Allan Koonce, Kay and Ed Mantia; Patrick and Donna Harvey, Jim and JoAnn Allen, Steve and Judy Lewin, MaryAnn Owens, Barbara Beck, Ron Matejka, Mary and Bob Huber, Tommy Florence, Sandy and George Grbac, Mary Balles, Jerry Basye, Billy Sills, Nancy Hightshoe, Mike Thone of Harry's Bar and Grill, Herb Krischke of The Trophy Room, Jan Frigerio, St. Louis Senior Center, Kay Gassen and John McClusky at UMSL's Public Policy Research Center.

Sure Shot

Pest Control
4944 Southwest Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63110
776-PEST 776-KILL

...Your Best Shot Is Sure Shot...

Bella's

Bar and Beer Garden
5838 Southwest Avenue

Pizza, Games, Monday Karaoke
Happy Hour 4-7 M-F

11:00 a.m. - 1:30 a.m., Monday - Saturday
314-644-1777

**Property Owners Association
February 8th, 2006, 7 pm
MO Botanical Garden Beumont Room
4300 Block of Shaw**

Dana Gray, Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association Director will give a neighborhood update. Home Tenders Corp. will discuss how to showcase an apartment or home for sale or rental. Property may be “staged” and photographed for internet advertising or an open house. Neighborhood Stabilization Officer, Michelle Boston-David will give an update. Operation Brightside will discuss their exciting new greenspace development on Shenandoah and Kingshighway.

We will examine current property values in the area for multiple family and single family properties. Property Owners to review crime statistics, security concerns, problem property issues and compare with problems of four years ago, prior to hiring High Tech Security Services.

Local Developments to be displayed: Eichelberger Realty on DeTonty, Mandalay Properties (Dan) on Castleman, Hugh Pavitt on Cleveland, Lunna Investment on Magnolia and Southwest, Shannon Ware with SoldontheCity.com on Shaw Blvd.

Alderman Stephen Conway will answer questions about area issues. Dues keep our organization going. \$20 for Southwest Garden Property Owners. \$10 for the Neighborhood Assoc. Non-members and residents are also encouraged to attend and participate! Call Floyd Wright 771-3271 with any comments or suggestions.

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(formerly Plus Communications)



New Sign Prototypes Unveiled

At a recent reception for area business owners, the Southwest Garden Neighborhood Association unveiled a new sign to a very positive response. We have received orders for six signs from businesses already. The sign provides for dual marketing of the SWG neighborhood, our two distinct geographic areas “the Hill” or “The Garden District”, and a specific business or street name. The SWGNA board members approved an expenditure of \$3000 towards the purchase of a dozen signs for residential streets. The cost per sign is \$250. If you would like to purchase a sign for your business or street, call us at 772-6082.

**We Rent It, Inc
“On The Hill”**

**Zak Wampler
Manager**

7am – 5pm Mon – Sat
2616 Brannon Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63139

(314) 772-4227
(314)664-RENT
Fax (314) 772-5773



*Gary Wilson says:
"Why pay retail when there is no need to
at Premier Appliances!"*

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- Gaggenau • Scotsman • Sub-Zero
- Thermador • U-Line • Wolf

Save 10% - 30% on In-Stock Inventory

Fisher & Paykel
Laundry Set \$990

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"OUTLET STORE"
5033 Northrup (314) 351-2222
"On the Hill" Call for Hours

Board Positions to Expire

In April 2006, the two-year term for the offices of 1st Vice President, 3rd Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and Member-at-Large will expire. The office of Recording Secretary will also be available for a one-year term. If you or someone you know would like to be included on the election ballot, please submit your nomination. Nominations must be received at the SWGNA office by March 1, to be eligible for the April 17 election.

Winter Activities

Shaw Community Education Center (CEC) offers foreign languages, fitness and exercise programs, art classes, grant writing, dance, and yoga. Classes begin the week of Jan. 23. Fees vary. CEC brochure will be mailed to residents the last week of Dec. Call 776-4327 to register or get more info.

Southwest Church offers free computer classes, Thursdays 4 – 6 pm, at 4543 Magnolia, call 771-6251

Steinberg Ice Rink at Forest Park. Hours Sun. to Thurs. 10am – 9pm and Fri. to Sat. 10am – 12am. Admission for adults \$6, kids \$5, skate rental \$2, 361-0613.

SWG Resident Lois Conley, is founder of the Black World History Museum. Lois invites us to visit the museum, located at 2505 St. Louis Ave. February is Black History month. Call 241-7057 for more info.

IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

2005 marked a year of renewed commitment towards working with all members and volunteers of our organization, elected officials, and city offices for an improved neighborhood. Programs and volunteers beautify the community, improve public safety, fight crime, provide outlets for socialization, and keep you informed. Membership entitles you to voting rights at general membership meetings; two votes per family membership; one vote each for individual, senior, or a business. Dues must be received by March 17, in order to vote at the April election.

NAME: _____

BUSINESS: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

An added donation to your membership is very appreciated and will be used to continue SWGNA programs and activities.

- GENERAL FUND BUILDING FUND
 Please contact me about the NAP tax benefit for my Contribution

You may bring this form with you to the next general membership meeting or mail to:
 Southwest Garden Neighborhood Assoc.
 4950 Southwest Ave.
 St. Louis, MO 63110

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (PLEASE CHECK ONE):

- FAMILY – \$20 BUSINESS – \$25
 INDIVIDUAL – \$10 SENIOR – \$6
 RENEWAL NEW MEMBER



SOUTHWEST GARDEN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.

2006 MEMBERSHIP CARD

Name: _____

Check #: _____ Cash Amount: _____ Date: _____

4950 Southwest Ave., St. Louis, MO 63110



Cut and save above card for your records. You will need it for the 20% discount on Garden Memberships.



**SOUTHWEST GARDEN
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

4950 Southwest Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110

Tel: 314-772-6082 Email: swgarden@stlouis.missouri.org

Web: www.stlouis.missouri.org/southwestgarden

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Board of Directors

- Floyd Wright.....President*
- Mary Huber.....1st Vice President*
- Ron Matejka.....2nd Vice President*
- Kim Evans.....3rd Vice President*
- Jim Allen.....Rec. Secretary*
- Mary Ann Owens.....Corr. Secretary*
- Barbara Beck.....Treasurer*
- Judy Lewin.....Member at Large*
- Kay Mantia.....Member at Large*
- Dana Gray.....Executive Director*

**SOUTHWEST GARDEN
NEIGHBORHOOD
BOUNDARIES:**

Beginning at Hampton and Columbia, east on Columbia to Southwest Ave., east on Southwest to Kingshighway, north on Kingshighway to I-44, east on I-44 to Tower Grove Ave., south on Tower Grove to Magnolia, west on Magnolia to Kingshighway, south on Kingshighway to Connecticut, west on Connecticut-Scanlan to Hampton, north on Hampton to Columbia (point of beginning).

Neighborhood Map

Bus Routes
<i>Route Number(s)</i>
13-Union-Garden
30-Soulard
80-Shaw-S.Hampton
90-Hampton
92-Lindenwood
95-Kingshighway

