



Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Association Newsletter

www.roserpark.net

Second Quarter • March 2008

PLEASE ATTEND THE GENERAL HRPNA MEETING

Thursday,
March 20th at
7:00 P.M.

Resource Center
1001 4th St. S
St. Petersburg

**BOARD
OF
DIRECTORS
VOTING**

Current HRPNA Board

Michael Manlowe,
President

Kai Warren,
Vice-President

Tim Welby, Treasurer

Larry Biddle,
Secretary

Michael Baugh

Ben Chertok

Don Kohler

Catherine Nivens

Don't forget!

Sat., March 29th
Porch Party
at Dennis Lane's

Quarterly President Review...

Looking back at 2007, I am glad to say that it has been another great year in Historic Roser Park! With my first mandate as President of HRPNA nearing its end, I will take this opportunity to thank each and everyone that has given me the privilege to represent our ever so charming community. I am once again amazed to see how many projects have come to a successful fruition: The section of the ongoing corridor improvement and the creek opening has been finalized just to name a few.

During the first quarter of 2008, the association once again has been busy with new projects. It makes me so proud to see how dedicated everybody is. Year after year, Historic Roser Park, your passion is still running strong!

The neighborhood monument markers are on order and we will shortly replace broken or missing Roser Park Logos. Also, bids for repairing monument markers are being reviewed. The outdoor museum will soon be replacing the worn placards.

The 2008 Tour of Homes Committee is busy with its last minute deadlines for our March 22nd event; I am convinced that it will be another great year with several "new" homes featured. With the Easter Holiday arriving early this year, the TOH committee really put things together in such a short period of time. We are always looking for volunteers to help with this event! Make sure that you contact Deb Camfferman if you want to help. And with this being said, I would like to extend a special "thank you" to Deb for heading the committee and to all the neighbors who helped her.

As some of you may already be aware, an incident happened earlier in HRP last month that involved two dogs. The attack speared into the hearts of many neighbors. I, along with the board members pushed our association into action. During these critical times, we all worked together to turn a tragic event into a positive, community building

experience. The Crime Watch committee, now headed by Michele Cardinal, has stepped up to the plate and has volunteered to take on this challenge. Together we will preserve a quality of life that we all seek and have been lucky to enjoy in our beautiful Historic Roser Park. Elections for the Board are taking place during the General Meeting of March 20th! I strongly encourage you to take part in this process!

In order to vote, you will need to be a "paid member." You can either pay the \$10 per person annual association fee the night of the meeting or prior to the election, you can leave at check at Twigs and Leaves, 1013 Dr. MLK Jr. St. S. during business hours, 10-5.

Thanks again for all the hard work that you have done this year..

See you at the next general meeting, March 20th.

Michael L Manlowe
President of HRPNA

Let's use our web site!

by Wayne Schrader

It's hard to believe it's been 4 years since we launched the award winning Roser Park web site – www.roserpark.net. It's proven to be a rather handy educational and marketing tool for

Roser Park, and no doubt has enhanced our visibility. A few years ago, I remember getting a call from The Wall Street Journal. They were doing a story on tour of homes across the country, and had spotted ours during a Google search. The web site, like many of the projects in Roser Park, is a great success story.

Continued on page 2

Web Site continued from page 1

As time goes by, however, yes, a kiss is just a kiss. Now that the site has been built and launched, it becomes easier to take for granted. I can remember how excited people were when we first unveiled it. Now it seems we're interested in it only twice a year – right before the Art Festival, and right before the Tour of Homes. I applaud these committees for their continued interest in and use of the web site as a promotional tool, but I have often wished there was broader participation.

Here are but a few examples of how the site might be used. Committees could use it to post their minutes, agendas, member profiles and accomplishments. Individual residents could post photos or bios of their homes (not just those that are on the Tour of Homes). The site could feature editorials and articles submitted by you. In short, the site can be anything we want it to be. It's a neighborhood asset and resource that's there at our common disposal. Recently people have asked me why I don't seem to update it as frequently. The answer, in part, is that I don't get all that many requests to add content.

I would like to jumpstart the original enthusiasm that surrounded the launch of the website (my own included). I would like to reiterate the fact that the web site belongs to all of us, and all of us do have access to it. I invite all of you to submit your ideas and outlines for new pages. Please e-mail me your requests for updates and new content at our new e-mail address: rpsiteupdates@gmail.com. The only thing I ask is that you be the one to formulate the content and write the copy. So, when you're submitting a request, please be sure that all the information, text and photos are included. I check this e-mail account at least twice a week and will do all updates on the weekend.

If you have just an idea or concept for a new subject or theme, that's fine

too. Run it by me via this new e-mail address and we can try and develop it together. Increasingly, I want to rely on our neighbors for contributions and content to the site. This will not only encourage wider participation, interest and enthusiasm, but will reinforce the sense that the web site is a community resource, not some remote entity that's difficult to access. This will also enable me to focus more on the technical side of the sites maintenance, and less on content creation – which is the most time consuming aspect.

So as you're in your committee meetings, general meetings and board meetings, please discuss and explore ways in which the web site might be employed to improve the communication and visibility of your respective projects, events, tasks and goals. The web site is a blank slate and a community bulletin board, it's up to you to fill it up. Keep in mind, it's also a great marketing tool for Roser Park. We, therefore, will want to maintain a sense and theme of cohesiveness and continuity when adding new content. It should fit seamlessly into the overall scheme. As I'm adding new content, I will likely be editing much of it, tailoring it to the overall appearance of the site. First, we'll need some more raw material, and that's where you come in.

Creek Opening

By Kai Warren

The opening of Booker Creek was nine years in the making. Back in 1999 we were told that the city was going to add culverts to drain off the extra rainwater that flooded Roser Park Drive regularly. That would have been fine except that our Neighborhood Plan, approved by City Council in 1995, clearly stated that when the city was going to solve this flooding problem they would do it by opening the creek rather than diverting the excess water underground into more culverts. The city engineers weren't

impressed by this fact and we had to fight for two years to get them to do a study on our proposal. What they found out when they completed the study was that it was not only going to be cheaper to open the creek but the Southwest Florida Water Management District (Swiftmud) was going to pay for half of it – over \$2 million.



It took the next six years for the city to finalize their plans, buy up and clear property, and begin work. Of course there were other projects that they were busy with; and came after our project was approved, but nothing happens overnight when you are working with a bureaucracy. And now the creek is finally open.

There is still plenty of work to do though. The Historic Roser Park Neighborhood Association needs to continue its efforts with Bartlett Park and Campbell Park to extend our outdoor museum to create the Historic Booker Creek Trail. It will begin at the mouth of the creek at Bayboro Harbor and move west along the creek, past Tropicana Field, to where it will connect with the Pinellas Trail on First Avenue North. The museum will involve the histories of the Tocobaga Indians, Historic Roser Park, African-American History in St. Petersburg, The Negro Baseball League that played at Oliver Field in Campbell Park, and Modern Baseball history at The Dome. We have many grants to apply for to make the museum happen and beautify the trail and clean up the creek.

But all of this will improve our quality of life and help revitalize Historic Roser Park and our adjacent neighborhoods.

HRPNA Community Safety Committee

By Michele Cardinal

Crime Watch Committee name has changed to HRPNA Community Safety Committee - We can call it CSC for short!

Block Captains have volunteered and been assigned. The chart (see our web page for chart) shows who is where and you can expect a visit from your block captain sometime this month to share some crime watch updates and information as well as obtaining an emergency contact number. A packet will be put together including some tips and stickers for each neighbor.

St. Petersburg Police Department is providing at least five Crime Watch signs for us. The location of the signs will be as follows:

Corner of 10th Ave S. & 9th St. (MLK Dr.); Corner of 9th Ave S. & 9th St. (MLK Dr.); Corner of 11th Ave S. & 9th St. (MLK Dr.); Under the 8th St. Connector bridge; Roser Park Drive and 6th St. east of the bridge.

Possible additional locations are 6th St. east of the Mayor's mansion; the corner of Jasmine Terrace and 9th St (MLK); the corner of 8th Ave. S. and 9th St. (MLK.)

We also have two solar powered motion detector lights that will be installed in areas that are considered high problem areas. This is a pilot program for our community and the locations were chosen by the committee with input from other neighbors as well. The locations are in the alley between 8th Ave. and 9th Ave. and in the alley/access on the east side of the empty lot on the corner of 10th Ave & 9th St. (MLK)

HRPNA has purchased Crime Watch T-shirts, flashlights and radios with money from a grant. These items are for all of our residents. It shows a stronger presence and that our neighborhood is ACTIVELY involved in making our community a safe place to live, there by, it will be less

likely undesirables will come to our neighborhood to take care of their "needs." T-shirts can be worn while walking our dogs, walking for exercise, even while we are picking up trash. Flash lights can be carried at these times and used for safety at night and radios can be used if a partner goes for a walk and the other stays home, if something occurs the partner can then merely push the button and communicate immediately.

The next CSC meeting is April 17th @ 7pm at Jane & George Shaw's home.



Nickel Tour

By Kai Warren

On Saturday January 19th we had a \$100 Visioning Tour. It was really the same as the Nickel Tour but with a different name to make it sound more important. Those who read the whole e-mail understood that it was really a free tour and some of them braved the light drizzle that morning to see what could happen in our future.

There were many things discussed on our walk as we moved along the creeks path from 5th Street and Ingleside Avenue to Campbell Park. The most obvious and immediate change to come was that the creek was going to be opened. We talked about the history of getting the creek opened, its significance for the future with The Historic Booker Creek Trail, the environmental impact, and the esthetic benefit of having this extra greenway in our community. We also talked about the Roser Park Corridor Improvements; what earlier plans said would happen, what we wanted

to happen, what has happened, and what is going to happen in the near future and 15 to 20 years as the city looks to take different action on the corridor. As we worked our way past the 8th Street Bridge we talked about the 1979 conversion of 8th Street and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Streets from two way to one way traffic and how that action created the 8th Street connector, which wiped out 37 Roser Park homes. We talked about how the conversion back to two way could affect our neighborhood. Then we talked about how the trail would connect us to Campbell Park and The Trop, and The Pinellas Trail.

There was a lot of information conveyed on the walk and it gives a wonderfully optimistic view of our future. Every resident of HRP should take the tour to get a greater appreciation of where we are in relation to what is what may happen in our future. Certainly the more we know the easier it will be to accomplish our vision.



\$100 Visioning Tour attendees at the beginning of the tour: Henry, Michele Cardinal, Catherine Nivens, Ben Chertok, David Warner, and Debra Camfferman

SAVE THE DATE HISTORIC ROSER PARK ART FESTIVAL

November 8-9, 2008

Be a part of this exciting neighborhood event. The first art festival committee meeting will be April 23rd, Wednesday, 7:00 PM at 909 Prospect Ct. S.

The View from My Porch

By Ron Motyka

We were very lucky to have had a meeting with our park's foreman, Mr. Chandrahaasa Srinivasa. It's ok to call him Chan. (Chan on the left - Mike on the right.) He tells me that Roser Park is one of his favorite spots in the City.



The subject of the meeting was our major concern about the erosion of soil by the walkways and the sinkholes in the park. We requested soil and sod be placed there ASAP. Our other concerns were about the general maintenance of the park. We noticed some areas where trees were improperly trimmed, an oak with a chain and padlock where the tree was being killed as it grew over the chain, and some dead trees and plant material. All of which was promised to be addressed.

Now that I am a dog owner (some of you have already met Morgan, my ten year old Bearded Collie.) I've noticed the doggie mitt stations were empty as I walked Morgan. We asked that the dog mitts be filled weekly. Chan informed us that they are filled regularly, so hopefully everyone will start and continue to use them to pick up their dog's waste and keep our park lovely.

In preparation of our Home Tour, parks will be delivering annuals and mulch which the garden club hopes to place by our neighborhood park signs and the bird houses. If you are able to help, please join us at the footbridge at the base of Prospect Court and Roser Park Drive on Saturday, March 15th at 9:00. We promise not to keep you past noon. If you rsvp to Ron by Thursday, March 13, he will provide you with a picnic lunch. Bring your garden gloves and tools.

As many of you know, I had a heart attack a year ago, last December. I had wanted to reach a goal of teaching for 35 years. I rethought that idea and now this is my last year of teaching. I look forward to having more time for other activities and to support our beautiful neighborhood. I have lived here almost as long as I have taught - since 1975. As we age we realize just how little time we have here to make a difference. Why this reflecting you ask? One of my favorite former neighbors just passed and for those of you who are new to Roser Park you missed a positive peaceful soul. Ralph Cady died Feb. 29. He and his partner, Muriel, lived at 802 Roser Park Drive. Ralph was the "king of lights." We had to give two lighting awards back then because Ralph and Muriel won every year and we wanted to give others a chance. When my friend, Gary and I bought our homes, both houses were overgrown and their porches covered up and enclosed. As Gary and I cleared the slope and opened up the porch, so did Ralph. He discovered his green thumb and started to plant and add garden features: a water wheel, a fish pond, brick walls and paths, statues and garden art everywhere. He was responsible for the colorful bougainvillea you see in the park. As those who knew him said, "He will be missed by all who knew him. He was everyone's friend." Muriel, you are in our prayers.



Upcoming Garden Club Meeting Schedule

Kris & Kim Caskey: Sunday, Mar. 30th, 730 Roser Park Drive at 4:00.

Don & Alma: Saturday, April 19th. Same time 4:00.

Ron Motyka: 659 10th Ave South. Sunday, May 25th at 4:00.

(Bring a snack to share and a plant to exchange at all garden club meetings.)

1st Quarter 2008 Home & Garden Winner

Our first winner of the year belongs to Kim & Kris Caskey at 730 Roser Park Drive South. They have made amazing changes both inside and out of their home. Their work in progress continues and right now their focus is the kitchen indoors and outdoors, a great deck patio area on the north side of their home. Be sure to attend this month's Garden Club meeting to see what they have done.

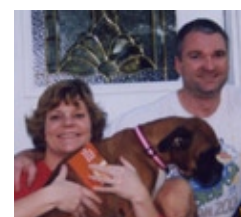
2007 Home & Garden of the Year

I had the honor to present Jesse and Evelyn Oliver with the gift certificate to Home Depot for winning "Home and Garden of the Year" I know they will put it to good use. Now that the work on the creek has finally wrapped up, Jesse hopes to repair the original rusticated block wall on the creek side of his home. An interesting aside, it was Jesse's birthday when I dropped off his certificate. (Pictured with grandson.)



2007 Light Up The Neighborhood Award

Russ and Rita Peterman were voted best holiday lights for 2007 at the January general membership meeting. Their lights were in theme, tastefully done, and the overwhelmingly favorite of the voters. Like the Olivers, they also said they would put their prize to good use. The photo below shows them with the newest addition to their family.



2008 Porch Parties

March Dennis Lane & Richard
 April Russ & Rita Peterman
 May This date is available.
 June Ron Motyka
 July Michael Baugh & Beck Taylor
 Aug. Catherine Nivins & Michele Cardinal
 Sept. Larry Biddle & David Warner
 Oct. Brian Bailey & Dexter Fabian
 Nov. Kim & Kris Caskey
 Dec. Christmas Party with Zen Glass - This ties in with our luminaries

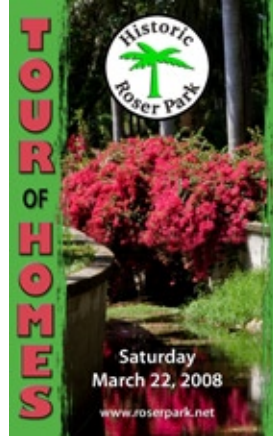
If you wish to host a neighborhood porch party please call Ron Motyka at 823-4706. Right now, the month of May is available due to a cancelation.

We wish to thank Ben Chertok for hosting our last porch party. A great time was had by all who braved the rainy evening. Ben has done so much work on his home. He has an eclectic mix of furniture and art that is a wonder to behold. We are so lucky that he agreed to be part of this year's home tour. I enjoyed Ben's game room and the great variety of activities there. Cathy and Emily played electronic darts. Gary, Ron, and Jim were the pinball wizards of the evening. And, what delicious foods were spread across Ben's dining room table. It was a royal feast. Some guests are pictured below: Mike Manlowe with Debra (our Home Tour Chair), and Bob and Bev Ostrowski



A report from the Tour of Homes committee

by Deb Camfferman



The 6th Annual Roser Park Tour of Homes is VERY SOON - March 22nd.

If you haven't already done so, tell all your friends to come on out and plunk down only \$10 per person to see 7 beautiful Roser Park homes. This seems to be the least expensive fee for home tours this year, so our visitors will be getting a bargain. Our Outdoor Museum tour will have 3 showings and we'll also be showing off the Booker Creek opening project that is almost complete. Tickets will be sold in front of Linda Clark's home on 8th Ave. S. and free parking will be available in the medical garage at 8th Street and 7th Avenue S.

We need YOU to help out! Please consider volunteering either in a host home or on the tour route for 3 hours. We'll feed you lunch and you'll enjoy the many guests who have wonderful things to say about the neighborhood and how great YOU are for putting on this event. I'll have a sign-up sheet at our General Meeting (3/20) and a volunteer meeting the next night Friday (3/21) at my home at 714 Roser Park Dr.

Feel free to stop in that night at 7pm to ask questions, pick an assignment, get a walkie-talkie (maybe... I don't know how many extras we have) and get ready for the tour the next day. Shoot me an e-mail (camffdeb@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Our thanks go to our home hosts: Will and Laura Engleby will show off the finished projects that were shown 'in progress' last year; Trey and Sara McDonald and Debra Camfferman are repeats from years ago; new homes are Ben Chertok's and Russ and Rita Peterman's and Kathy Rodman's apartment at the Chalet; and of course our 'anchor' home, the Bradshaw Mansion, belongs to Tom Barrett and Len Johnsen. They promise to serve snacks again to our visitors.

My thanks also go to committee members Carolyn Pavonetti, for designing and preparing the beautiful brochure, Roopal Mehta for being our advertising salesperson, and Kai Warren for getting the house information and pictures together for the web site and brochure. What a team!

Dog Leash Law

In the last couple months we have had a couple of our neighborhood dogs mauled by other unrestrained dogs. Because of this we have initiated a policy to enforce the County leash law which states:

Sec. 14-63. Dogs or cats at large.

(a) No dog or cat shall run at large within the county, as defined under this article. Any person who possesses, harbors, keeps, or has control or custody of any dog or cat which is running at large shall be in violation of this article, regardless of the knowledge, intent or culpability of the owner.

We encourage everyone to keep their pets under control with a leash or a chain when they are outside. Any violations can be reported to Animal Services at 582-2600. Any future attacks should be reported to Animal Services also and if a person is bitten it should be reported to the police.



Meeting Location:

Resource Center
1001 Fourth St. S.
St. Petersburg, FL

E-mail:

Michael Manlowe, President
mlmanlowe@hotmail.com

Newsletter Submissions:
Carolyn Pavonetti
carolyn@pavonetti.com

We're on the Web!

www.roserpark.net

Webmaster:

rpsiteupdates@gmail.com

Non-emergency police.....	893-7780
Community Police Contact – District 1	551-3181
Auto theft unit	893-7080
Narcotics tip line	892-5000
City Code enforcement	893-7373
Mayor's Hotline	893-7111
County Animal control.....	582-2600

City of St Petersburg – service request: <http://www.stpete.org/action.htm>

This newsletter is published quarterly. If you would like to submit an article OR advertise, contact Carolyn Pavonetti via email: Carolyn@pavonetti.com

HRNA Newsletter Committee
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