

The Valley View

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 75, May 1999

E-mail: valleyview@altadata.com

President's View

by G. Emslie

A big thank you to Paul Dorpat, Janice Oldershaw, and Jerry Sussman for showing the gathered neighbors from the Madrona and Madison Valley Community Councils slides of the past and present of our neighborhoods. Over 75 neighbors enjoyed a wonderfully informative and visually stimulating evening. Our apologies go out to the faithful Madrona neighbors who arrived at 7:00 p.m. for the 7:30 p.m. program.

Bush School middle school teachers and students spent a day in the community helping those in need and cleaning up the neighborhood. You may have seen some of the action on the

corner lot at 24th and East Madison. Thank you for helping to make our neighborhood a cleaner, better place to live and raise children.

Mark your calendars: Saturday, June 12, all interested neighbors and friends are welcome to meet Larry Gaffin at Arosa Espresso (3121 East Madison) for the next clean-up of Madison Street. For more information call Larry at 325-9093.

City of Seattle project engineer, Richard Hennings, has informed the community that the City now plans in hand to fix the very dangerous hazard at 32nd and East John. If you would like an update you can call our neighbor, Chuck Pearman, at 329-4631 or call the engineer directly at 684-7262. Sounds like we'll finally have this problem fixed before the next rain season.

Another reason to mark your calendars: July 17 marks the date of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council's courtyard sale. Again this year

the Bush School has generously donated the use of their courtyard and storage space prior to the courtyard sale. We need your new or used unwanted items for this great sale. Please contact Maggie Seymour or Eli Stahlhut if you would like to donate or volunteer. They can be reached at 322-0580 and 322-7196, respectively.

Look forward to seeing you all at the next community council meeting on May 18, where we'll elect a slate of officers for the next year.

Keep the faith; it will get warmer. ▼▼

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Paul Dorpat, Hometown Historian

by J. Sussman

We had a crowd of over seventy at our April meeting at King School. They came from our valley, Denny Blaine, Madison Park, and Madrona to see curious images of Seattle's early days. Dorpat has become an authority on the growth of the city by hunting everywhere for drawings, maps, and photographs showing our beginnings. He tries to locate every vista or house from the past in the real landscape of today. By pairing slides of before and now we see the amazing changes of scene and people's ways that have swept along in this century.

He and another historian, Janice Oldershaw, showed how the Madison artery grew from a dirt trail through the woods. There were the trolley tracks and the boat landing at Lake Washington. There the ferry and excursion boats, houseboats, canoes, and an amusement park. They uncovered the story of a racetrack with stables at Madison Park after 1900; this became a Western Washington fairground and then an ostrich farm to provide fashionable feathers and ostrich meat! More surprises came when Paul showed us a panorama taken in the early 1900's from the Holy Names site on Capitol Hill looking eastward to Madison Valley and the lake

beyond. It is a desolate logged-over landscape with only a couple of houses in sight. We were amazed to see another photo showing the lowland of today's Arboretum facing south to the high timber trestle that carried Madison Street traffic.

One walked under that trestle on 30th Avenue into Washington Park, then a virtual wasteland. Since then a massive earth fill sealed off the valley and provided a new roadbed for Madison Street. City People's Nursery sits atop that fill, and the watershed drainage goes in a great pipe underground. Lake

Washington Boulevard, designed by the

(Continued on page 3)

Arboretum Update

by Nancy Knapp

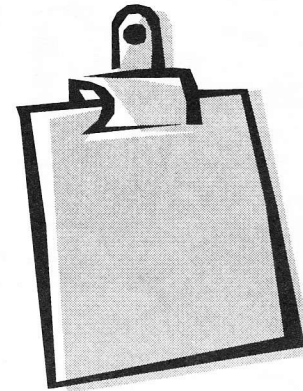
On April 8 Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) held a meeting to discuss the Preliminary Scoping Document for the Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Arboretum Plan. The Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition was included, along with DPR and Center for Urban Horticulture, in presenting opening statements. Afterwards everyone who wished to had a chance to speak, roughly equal numbers speaking for and against the Arboretum Botanical and Garden Committee (ABGC) Plan. Most of those speaking in favor of the plan were either DPR or UW employees. Even though the folks who were critical of the ABGC Plan made many positive suggestions for improvement of the Arboretum and inclusions in the scoping for the EIS, it was obvious that the audience and the speakers were sharply divided into pro and anti plan factions.

On April 28 the APPC, at the invitation of Chairman Nick Licata, participated in a meeting of the Culture, Arts and Parks Committee of the City Council. Present were four members of the APPC, three members of DPR and three members of the ABGC, as well as Sue Donaldson, Nick Licata and various staff members. APPC and ABGC were given equal time to present. Clem Hamilton from the ABGC and Center for Urban Horticulture took the whole ABGC time to outline the plan. The APPC took the high road and, instead of criticizing the plan, spoke of what we wanted to see included as alternatives in the EIS. Our presentation was followed by 35 minutes of roundtable discussion during which it was clear once again that there was no mood for compromise on most points.

The next step is DPR's release of the Final Scoping Document the week of May 10. As a part of his fact-finding, Nick Licata will lead a tour of the Arboretum. Two spokes-persons each from the APPC and ABGC will contribute their opinions of how each area will be affected by the ABGC Plan as they walk through that particular part of the park. After that the Scoping Document goes before the Culture, Arts and Parks Committee one more time, and is sent to the full City Council, which sends it into the EIS process.

Although the EIS probably will not be released until after the first of the year, none of us will be idle. The Arboretum Foundation has hired Former State Senator Joe King as their lobbyist and Clem Hamilton is on the lecture circuit. We of the Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition are building our support in a more grass-roots style. Every Saturday and Sunday from noon to five we have a permit for a group of us to man two or three "information tables" in the Arboretum. So far we have given out more than 1,000 cards with our website, www.scn.org/arboretum and other info. I would say that 95% of the people with whom we have spoken are opposed to most of the aspects of the ABGC Plan. We use their own map to explain our objections to the plan. A goodly number of folk sign up as interested in participating in our effort. We are also renewing our community council contacts, talking with prospective City Council Candidates, and working with Nick Licata to form a city-wide tree commission. The next few months should be exciting times. ▼▼

Nancy Knapp is Chair of the Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition.



Annual Elections of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council:

May 18, 1999

Our bylaws specify election of officers at the regular May meeting. We called for nominations at the April meeting and learned that three of the incumbents are willing to run for another year's term.

They are:

President Gary Emslie

Vice President Charles McDade

Secretary Celine Grenier

David Foecke, our treasurer, has told us that he will not run again. Two members offered their services: Angel Chaffin and Marla Contini. Marla graciously withdrew her name and volunteered instead to do writing and other chores for the newsletter.

Further nominations from the floor will be welcome at the May meeting. We still need volunteers for the M. L. King School site committee post. Come and vote!

Upcoming Missives from Rwanda

Our friend Sara's stay in Butare, Rwanda, will be coming to an end in the next few months. She continues to send stories of her experiences there, so be on the lookout for the final installments of her stories of Rwanda in the June and July issues of this newsletter.

Dorpat

(Continued from page 1)

Olmsted company, became the main route from the lakefront to the north.

Many questions and discussion followed the slide show, and Paul Dorpat packed up to go. He is happy with the response he gets to his work, and says he'd like to return with another presentation next year. Look for his books at Madison Park or at the University Bookstore. ▼▼

Engineering Advice Wanted

Chuck Pearman lives on 32nd Avenue East across from the Harrison Greenbelt. That is the street between Denny and John where the hillside runoff has ruined the roadway and contributed to water woes in the valley. He is one of the persistent people who hammer away at the Parks and Engineering departments to do the right thing. A drainage line and catch basin need to be installed, plus a strong retaining wall at the foot of the greenbelt. Then the road must be repaved with permanent materials, not asphalt patches. The Parks Department has now sent Chuck blueprints for a proposed remedy. Chuck would like to consult with an engineer or architect familiar with this kind of work to evaluate the plans and help write a response to the City. After years of inattention we'd like to see this job done properly. If you can help, please call Chuck at 329-4631.

Donations Sought for the Annual Courtyard Sale

Do you have good quality unwanted clothing and household items that you don't know what to do with? Look no further. You can donate them (tax deductible) to the Greater Madison Valley Community Courtyard sale.

Your donations of unique, attractive items in good condition will help the GMVCC raise money for our neighborhood and school projects, and to produce this newsletter. Last year was our most successful sale yet, bringing in enough to support the newsletter for months.

Please call Eli at 322-7196 or Maggie at 860-9115 to arrange drop-off of boxed clothing and household items.

The Courtyard sale will be held on Saturday, July 17, 1999, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Bush School Courtyard. ▼▼

Minutes of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council Meeting for April 20, 1999

The meeting was preceded by a fascinating lecture and slide show on Madison Valley and Madrona's history presented by Paul Dorpat and Janice Oldershaw. Paul Dorpat and Genevieve McCoy recently authored the lushly illustrated book *Building Washington*. Jerry Sussman also presented a recent set of his own slides of the central neighborhood.

The meeting itself was called to order by President Gary Emslie at 8:47 p.m. A quorum being present, minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's report: We have a current balance of \$6,074, including the proceeds from the highly successful Progressive Dinner Silent Auction and the sale of the van. Gary said he would thank the businesses that contributed so generously to the Silent Auction.

Jules Bloomenthal, now working with the Seattle Council on Airport Affairs (SCAA), read the mission statement and goals of this group in order to see if the Council wanted to be a supporting member at \$100 per year. It was moved, seconded, and approved that the Community Council be a paying member of the group, and that the Council provide a one-time use of the Council's mailing list to the SCAA.

Gary led a brief discussion of the way officers will be elected, as written in the Council bylaws, at next month's meeting. Two community members expressed interest in David Foecke's soon-to-be vacated Treasurer's job. A new Site Council representative (or representatives) to the Martin Luther King School will be needed as well.

Chuck Pearman brought up the drainage problem on 32nd Avenue East. He has obtained engineering plans from the City, and he would like an engineer or architect from the neighborhood to look over the plans with him. Chuck can be contacted at 329-4631.

Letters or e-mail to City Council members in advance of the Arboretum Park Preservation Coalition (APPC) meeting with the City Council on April 28 are encouraged. The APPC now has a web site: <http://www.scn.orb/arboretum>.

Eli asked everyone to remember to make donations to the Courtyard Sale.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. ▼▼

Minutes prepared by Celine Grenier, Secretary, Greater Madison Valley Community Council.

THE VALLEY VIEW

2802 East Madison St., Box 184
Seattle, WA 98112
Greater Madison Valley
Community Council
Member of the Seattle
Community Council Federation

Newsletter Staff

Jerry Sussman
Celine Grenier
Eli Stahlhut
Maggie Seymour
Miriam Roskin

The Valley View is published 10 times each year.

Deadline: First of each month.
Your submissions are appreciated!
Mail to the address above.

1998-1999 Officers

President - Gary Emslie
Vice President - Charles McDade
Secretary - Celine Grenier
Treasurer - David Foecke
Site Council Reps. - Mike Seymour, Maggie Seymour
Phone - 206/328-0058
E-mail - valleyview@altadata.com

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Greater Madison Valley Neighbors & Supporters
201 31st Ave E
SEATTLE, WA 98112-4822



Next Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 18, 1999, 7:30 p.m.
Martin Luther King School
in the portables
3201 East Republican St. (parking available on playfield)

Eggplant My Kids Love to Eat

by Cathy Nunneley

Although the texture and appearance of cooked eggplant has always horrified my children, this recipe is a favorite. It's a standard in Middle Eastern cuisine. A food processor really helps.

Baba Ganoujh (ga-noosch')

- 1 large eggplant
- 1 clove garlic
- fresh lemon juice
- 1-2 T roasted tahini
- 1-2 tsp. olive oil
- parsley, minced
- salt



Roast eggplant whole in a 400-degree oven until very soft. Fit the food processor with the standard blade. With the motor running, drop the garlic through the feeding tube and process until finely chopped. Scoop out the flesh of the eggplant and add it to the bowl. Add tahini. Process until smooth. Add lemon juice by the tablespoonsful until the taste is right for you. Add salt to taste. Pour out on a plate. Drizzle with olive oil and parsley. Serve with wedges of pita bread and enjoy!

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