



Eastlake News

March / April 2008

Upcoming events

Mar. 12 — ECC Board Meeting

7:00-9:00 p.m., TOPS @ Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. The Eastlake Community Council Board meets the second Wednesday of each month. We gather in the Eastlake Room. If you would like to attend or have an agenda item that you would like to add please contact Matthew Stubbs at President@eastlakeseattle.org.

Mar. 25 — Public Meeting on Lake Union: History and Future

7:00 p.m., TOPS @ Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave.

Apr. 9 — ECC Board Meeting

7:00-9:00 p.m., TOPS @ Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave.

Apr. 22 — Public Meeting on Earth Day

7:00 p.m., TOPS @ Seward School, 2500 Franklin Ave. Come share your ideas on how we can all leave a lighter footprint.

To learn about more upcoming events, go to the ECC calendar at www.eastlakeseattle.org.

Eastlake Caucus-Goers Show Up In Drove

On February 9, TOPS Seward School hosted a lively Democratic caucus. ECC board member Charlie Walsh offers a play-by-play of the event.

My neighbors and I, from the roughly four blocks that make up Precinct 42-1982 in Seattle's Eastlake neighborhood, did not have to contend with rain or snow on caucus day this year. The sight of a line around the block — to enter an event that only attracted seven dedicated people four short years ago — was inspiring to say the least. In a society that has been largely lulled in to political indifference by its comfortable affluence, it's telling that some spark seems to have been lit in the American people during this election cycle.

Great turnout led to great confusion, despite the coordinated efforts of the many volunteer precinct captains who had been trained in the complex art of caucusing only two days before. Like most everyone else, my wife and I neglected to bring our voter registration cards which identify which precinct we belong to. After standing in the long line to enter TOPS Seward Elementary, most caucus goers then joined a second queue to find out whether they would be enjoying the democratic process while sitting in dwarf size chairs in the cafeteria, the library, or one of the classrooms.

Positive energy filled the air while we awaited our instructions. It was impressive to hear the excitement in the voices of neighbors I had never seen

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ECC: Making a Difference for the Neighborhood

If the Eastlake Community Council did not exist, it would have to be invented. Volunteer action has preserved and improved this wonderful neighborhood. Long before ECC's 1971 founding, Eastlakers organized in 1910 to defeat a proposed Northern Pacific rail line along the east shore of Lake Union, and again in the 1920s to protect the same shoreline from becoming a four-lane arterial Fairview Avenue. The North Capitol Hill/Eastlake Community Club worked for neighborhood improvement from the 1920s to the 1950s; had it survived when I-5 was being planned, that freeway might have demolished fewer homes and businesses, and might not today be such a source of noise and a barrier.

The Eastlake Community Council is was praised for its effectiveness by the 1979 National Commission on Neighborhoods, and in 1993, the Seattle

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Eastlake Caucus-Goers Show Up In Droves ...

Continued from front page

before. Due to the overflow, the 60 or so hearty souls from my precinct volunteered to forgo the miniature chairs and move outside to the parking lot. Our precinct captain read an overview of the improbable rules and procedures that are the current Washington State Democratic Party Caucus process. As these rules flew right over everyone's heads and glazed eyes, I began to understand why the turnout at many primaries across the country is typically low; the caucus process is ridiculous!

A quick background on the caucus

Roughly a week before the caucus I received a Registered Voter's Official Ballot in the mail. Great, I thought to myself, this must be for folks who can't attend the caucus. Either way, the vote gets counted right? Wrong. Apparently our wise state legislature created the February primary alongside the caucus in 1988 to encourage more participation after a controversial victory by the televangelist Pat Robertson in the Republican primary.

As it turns out, a mailed ballot for the primary does not actually count unless you vote Republican, and even a Republican ballot would only partially matter because the party uses the caucus to dole out 19 of their 40 delegates and counts primary ballots for the rest. Curiously, the Republican caucus delegates chosen by their peers can actually decide to change their mind and vote for a different candidate when they show up to cast their ballot in April. I guess it matters who your neighbors chose to be the delegate after all, eh?

The Washington State Democrats award 78 of their 97 delegates based on the February 9 caucuses. But wait a tic, if 78 of 97 delegates are



Caucus attendants filled several large rooms and spilled out onto the school grounds

determined by caucus, where do the other 19 delegates come from? Well, they come from the planet Krypton of course. Just in case the state's party elite do not agree with the whims and passions of the electorate, they appointed themselves as "super-delegates" so their voices would be heard louder than those of Precinct 42-1982. The arrangement is similar to the hereditary House of Lords in Britain. For decades the super delegates — not the primary or the caucus — have acted as the crucial swing vote deciding the fate of our state. In light of the attempt of superdelegates to use their kryptonite to marginalize the rest of us, I am even more impressed with the inspired turnout for the caucuses.

In the trenches

After the reading of the rules, our precinct split into three groups. I joined the Obama group with a total of 48 neighbors, and my wife joined the Hillary group with a total of seven. After each side had given their 60 seconds of well-worn talking points dutifully regurgitated from the talking heads on CNN, the undecided folks had the opportunity to update their allegiances. Apparently the arguments presented were more original and/or moving

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Eastlake supports International Women's Day: Seattle Biotech & Science 2008

Eastlake will host the celebration of International Women's Day on March 7, 2008 at Lake Union Crew. The Seattle life sciences community will join the worldwide celebration of International Women's Day. Seattle harbors a wealth of successful women in science related industries and we plan to spend an energized morning hearing inspiring stories, participating in a career development workshop, and networking. There will be a number of speakers, a workshop, networking opportunities, and many fabulous door prizes from our Eastlake businesses.

To register please visit www.iwdseattle.com, or contact Paulene Quigley at 206-521-7882 or iwdseattlebiotech@hotmail.com.

Help Fight Graffiti

Quick removal of graffiti is the best way to discourage taggers. City laws require private landowners to remove it promptly, and the Mayor has pledged immediate action on public property. The City graffiti hotline is 684-7587. Be sure to describe the location accurately (address, cross street, side of street, etc.). Volunteers are needed to report and/or paint out graffiti. To help, send an e-mail to both of Eastlake's graffiti coordinators: lizzieknudsen@hotmail.com and erintoraya@gmail.com.

Honoring Helen Hundley, Seward School Secretary

It is with pleasure for Helen Hundley and sadness for the neighborhood's loss that we note her impending June retirement as School Secretary at The Options Program at Seward. This is Helen's 22nd year with the School District, where she also worked at Whitworth and Olympic View elementaries. It is her tenth year with TOPS, so this is the second class she will have seen graduate right through from kindergarten up.

More so than we do some of our teachers, many of us remember the school secretary (really called administrative secretary) who is there throughout our childhood to provide memorably kind and confidential help with bloody noses, stomach aches, and other forgotten emergencies. For many years, Helen has also been the ECC's contact in reserving meeting rooms at the

school. Helen is one of those responsive and unflappable people that any school and any community need.

Helen grew up just a few blocks away in the Wallingford neighborhood, where she went to Latona Elementary (now John Stanford International School), Hamilton Middle School, and (now-closed) Lincoln High. She and her husband enjoy escaping to a second home on Whidbey Island. We wish Helen a long and pleasant retirement, secure in the knowledge that she has been an important part of the Eastlake community and will be sorely missed.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor Bulletin Board

Recently we received the following e-mail from Eastlake houseboater Barbara Donnette: "Thank you for the great piece on Eastlake trees. How fortunate we are to have sentinel trees in our neighborhood! Look at Eastlake from outside the neighborhood and you see it softened by landmark trees. Look from the freeway, or across the lake and what we see is a friendly place, not industrial or plain, but green. When we moved here some 40+ years ago there were few trees along Fairview. Each year we now revel in the fall display of color. We treasure these days and hope others too rejoice in living in this great neighborhood where we treasure trees!"

Contribute To the Eastlake Field Guide!

Help create a comprehensive Eastlake field guide of all the wonderful critters in our community! Send your report of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish, etc, that you have personally observed in our community, over the last two years. Email your sightings to Craig MacGowan at cmacgowan@comcast.net, and include the name of the animal and location of sighting(s) in your message. Please be as specific and detailed as possible. Deadline for entries is May 15, 2008. Send your submissions in today!

Questions? please contact Kate Dulemba at kathyndulemba@yahoo.com



ECC: Making a Difference for the Neighborhood ...

Continued from the front page

Neighborhood Coalition named it the "Community Council of the Decade," which "consistently through the years has demonstrated an outstanding ability to reach into its own community and beyond for ideas, people, and solutions. They have set a standard for developing partnerships with government and the diverse interests that exist within their jurisdiction. They have been proactive and inclusive of all people and needs in their area." ECC led the 1998 Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, whose unexcelled outreach, vision, and detail presuppose many of the improvements that are still continuing.

- **Community-building.** ECC's first-listed official purpose was to "foster and encourage a sense of community among people who live and work in the Eastlake community." Toward this end, we publish the Eastlake News (4,000 circulation), which a network of volunteers unmatched in Seattle distributes to every home and workplace. The newsletter is also available on the Eastlake website (eastlakeseattle.org). ECC holds regular general meetings that bring Eastlakers into dialogue with one another and with civil servants and elected officials on many topics. ECC never takes positions for or against candidates for public office, so it can work with whomever is elected.

And community-building is fun. Over the years, ECC volunteers have organized banquets, pot-lucks, "get-to-know-you" dinners, receptions, picnics, softball games, clean-ups, paint-outs, cruises, walks, dances, concerts, holiday parties, art shows, auctions, rummage sales, pet parades, street fairs, festivals, tree-planting, wedding, plant exchanges, park or sculpture dedications, centennials, reunions, a farmer's market, a community school, and a tour of homes, businesses, and boats. What we can do is limited only by whether

Have you ever lived in a small town? You do, you know. Oh, it's not incorporated, and no road signs announce the town borders. But it's here, Eastlake, a community with a heart and a conscience, its own tiny budget, town meetings, and a growing number of volunteers who are willing to stand each year and say, "We care; we'll give a few hours a month to the neighborhood; count on us."

— Dick Arnold, former ECC board member

you or some other volunteer will step forward to help.

- **Schools.** Although ECC usually avoids positions on ballot measures, it has regularly endorsed those for school funding. ECC helped defeat a School District plan to sell Seward School. When Seward's elementary program closed, ECC welcomed Colman elementary to temporary quarters there while encouraging the relocation of TOPS alternative school to the Seward School building. ECC has a position on the TOPS Site Council, which advises the school administration. ECC worked closely with the School District on the renovation of the Seward buildings, and is working to increase the number of local children admitted to TOPS.

- **Public safety.** ECC efforts with the police and fire departments help keep this a safe neighborhood. We work to ensure full coverage on the Fourth of July, when approximately 30,000 people jam our neighborhood. ECC is building a block-by-block network by which neighbors can join to fight crime and prepare for emergencies. We are working for quick removal of graffiti.

- **Social services.** ECC has worked to ensure that our social service institutions enhance the neighborhood, and included them in the neighborhood planning process. An ECC board member worked with a steering committee of senior citizens to research the nutritional and social needs of the elderly.

- **Art.** ECC has worked with the Seattle Arts Commission on competitions that produced such public art works as the three "dreamboats," the many glass cornerstones, and the steel sculpture

at the corner of Fairview and Eastlake. ECC has sponsored art shows and an art auction, and hopes to initiate a monthly art walk. The masthead of the Eastlake News was drawn by civic icon (and former ECC board member) Victor Steinbrueck, and others have designed our posters and letterhead.

- **Driving, parking, walking and bicycling.** ECC has worked to ensure that pass-through traffic does not overwhelm our streets and to ensure the safety of local drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists. The future walking trail around Lake Union is largely a reality in Eastlake as a result of decades of effort by ECC volunteers. Our defeat of two skybridge applications prevented the overshadowing of Eastlake Ave and refocused attention on safer crosswalks.

ECC successfully campaigned for traffic signals (stop lights) along Eastlake Avenue at Fuhrman, Newton, and Garfield, and continues to seek pedestrian-friendly timing at all signals. We prevented the widening of Lynn Street, and are working to beautify and make it safer to cross. ECC spearheaded installation of the traffic circle at Franklin and Hamlin, and encouraged local efforts that produced another at Franklin and Edgar. Years of ECC effort produced the Residential Parking Zone, which gives residents priority for on-street spaces, but in its design is friendlier to our neighborhood businesses than any other RPZ in the city.

- **Bus, rail, and freeway expansion.** ECC has repeatedly gone to bat for Metro bus riders, working to preserve and improve routes and shelters. We helped achieve the re-electrification of

bus route 70, which was diesel from the 1970s to the mid-1990s. The ECC board supported a county sales tax increase that helped make up for revenues lost when voters slashed the motor vehicle excise tax. ECC helped organize the Eastlake bus riders' coalition and has actively monitored light rail, monorail, and streetcar proposals. ECC has worked to prevent expansion of I-5 and SR-520 into the neighborhood, such as an off-ramp proposed in the 1970s that would have destroyed Seward School.

- **Noise and pollution.** Decades of effort by the ECC helped fund and plan for the I-5 noise walls that are beginning to appear along Boylston Avenue E., as well as noise-reducing panels on the I-5 Ship Canal Bridge. ECC helped broker an agreement under which float plane companies avoid early-morning takeoffs and routes that are most likely to disturb residents. We worked to resolve noise issues between taverns and nearby residents. We successfully overturned a permit the City had issued for a helicopter port at the corner of Eastlake and Garfield. And we secured a Metro policy restricting the idling of diesel buses in the neighborhood.

- **Green space.** ECC volunteers helped build Lynn Street Park, Terry Pettus Park, and Roanoke Street Park (all in the 1970s), Hamlin Street Park (1980s), Good Turn Park and Franklin Green Street (1990s), and the Bouledrome at the Louisa street-end (2000s). Despite facing initial skepticism within government, we succeeded in establishing Fairview Park and Colonnade Park.

- **Shorelines.** The ECC helped secure the state's Shoreline Management Act, and helped shape the City's shoreline ordinance for Lake Union. We overturned a permit for a 400-foot-long, five-story overwater condominium building at the foot of Roanoke Street. The case went to the State Supreme Court and established nationally that community groups have standing to sue in the public interest.

- **Zoning and land use.** Frequently, ECC is contacted by developers before they apply for City permits. ECC facilitates neighborhood input for their plan and sponsors open meetings for this purpose. ECC's review of plans, discussions with developers and with City officials, and in some cases, administrative appeals and court challenges, have reduced the height, bulk, and scale and/or improved the design of practically every large building constructed here in the last four decades. In some instances, our input caused or helped cause out-of-scale building proposals to be withdrawn, among them a seven-story mini-storage warehouse under I-5 at 1700 Franklin, a hotel just north of Eastlake and Roanoke, and a huge apartment building at Boston Street between Minor and Fairview.

Proactively shaping zoning rules can create greater clarity for the community and developers alike, so ECC has convinced the City to reduce the potential height, bulk and scale of several residential and commercial zones. In the 1980s we secured a City Council resolution applying new commercial standards retroactively to office projects that had already applied for permits, thus triggering the withdrawal of several project applications. We also eliminated several large billboards.

- **History and landmarks.** ECC has worked to preserve our past through an oral history program and historic documents and photographs. We worked for landmark status for Seward School and the Lake Union Steam Plant and Hydro house (now ZymoGenetics). An ECC appeal of a six-unit condominium proposal at 2819 Franklin Ave. E. prevented demolition of an old Victorian house, now a City landmark. An ECC appeal of a bulky apartment proposal at 216-20 E. Lynn saved an old house, which was tastefully expanded into three apartment units.

- **Neighborhood planning.** ECC led a community process that produced the Eastlake Goals and Policies that

were acknowledged by a 1979 City Council resolution and helped to shape neighborhood development in the 1980s. ECC also contracted with the City to host a partnership of neighborhood organizations and businesses that produced a neighborhood needs survey (1990), an Eastlake Vision Plan (1993) and an Eastlake Transportation Plan (1994).

These efforts served as one model for the citywide program of neighborhood planning, in which ECC jointly produced with other Eastlake groups the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan (available at www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/npi/plans/elake). Adopted by City Council resolution and ordinance, and much-praised for its substance and unexcelled outreach, this plan works to reduce noise from I-5, revitalize Eastlake Ave. as our "main street," and make Fairview Avenue E. safer for walking. The plan works to also keep the neighborhood diverse, affordable, and well-designed, and has helped bring many City funds to the neighborhood.

- **Neighborhood business.** ECC has encouraged businesses that serve neighborhood needs, as with re-establishment of a laundromat at the corner of Eastlake and Louisa, where a new development had displaced the previous one. ECC has worked for retail space in buildings fronting on parts of Eastlake Avenue. Because of its low advertising rates and wide circulation, many businesses choose to advertise in the Eastlake News, which carries much business news.

Help write the next chapter. The above results are quite remarkable on such a tiny budget. They have resulted from the volunteer efforts of thousands of Eastlake residents, workers, and business and property owners. Let us know what ECC should do next-and hopefully, how you can become a part of, and even lead, these efforts.

This article is by ECC Vice President Chris Leman. He can be reached at cleman@oo.net.

MOST POPULAR PLACE IN TOWN

Thanks, Daly's for a wonderful 46 years of unmatched burgers, halibut and chips, thick shakes, and other delicacies. Now displaced by construction, owners Maureen and Everett Waters are looking for a new location. If you can help, call them at (206) 232-6141. Also, is there anyone who could help with the removal and storage of the historic Daly's sign?



Eastlake resident **Sabah Al-Dhaher** (www.aldhaher.net, 227-1730) is an internationally known sculptor who was born in Iraq and has lived in the U.S. for twelve years. His eight-foot stone carved "Middle East Peace Sculpture" is the central feature of the Peace Garden between the Space Needle and the Pacific Science Center. An article about Al-Dhaher in the *New York Times* led to an award-winning documentary, "My Saraab" that, we hope, will be released soon for home viewing. You can find the article on his website, as well as information about the documentary, shows of Al-Dhaher's sculpture, and more.

Congratulations to former ECC Secretary **Barbara Heather** on the second printing of her autobiographical 2004 book, *The Other Side of the Ocean: A Family Chronicle, 1899-1946*. Prominently quoted on the back now is an endorsement by Usch Engelmann from her March 2006 *Eastlake News* review: "The remarkable story of growing up in a Quaker family in Germany and several moves across the Atlantic Ocean in the years before and during World War II. ... I couldn't put the book down until I read the final page." Copies (\$12) are on sale at the University Friends Meeting House, University Unitarian Church Bookstore, or by contacting the author at barbaraheather@hotmail.com or 329-5824.

Thanks to **Ken Meyer**, resident of one of the Hamlin Pier houseboats, for contributing two of the neighborhood's iconic images by making topiaries. In 1999, he first thought a shrub in Hamlin Street-end Park had possibilities as a ballet dancer, but after experiments with pruning and further growth, Ken decided it was meant to be a violinist. His green violinist has outgrown a little vandalism, and was recently replanted after construction. Just south in the parking lot is a much larger shrub that Ken has pruned into a plump and happy bullfrog (appropriately

green). Check the next issue of the *Eastlake News* for a story on that wonderful eagle carved into a stump near the corner of Roanoke and Boylston.

John P. "Pete" Mazza, a resident of the Mallard Cove townhouses, has turned the reins of Mazza Financial Group, Inc. over to his son and business partner Bryan. A thirty-year student of the American Civil War, Pete is about to begin teaching two eight-session weekly courses on Civil War history that highlight a series of failed opportunities to reach a more peaceful resolution to the social, economic, and political conflicts leading to war; and the drama of the war itself and its historic consequences to the present day. The first series will be at the Laurelhurst Lifetime Learning Center beginning Wednesday March 26th from 9:30 to 10:30 AM; call (206)-985-3904 or go to www.lifetimelearningseattle.com. The second series will be through the UW Experimental College in the early evenings, beginning the week of April 14. Call (206)-543-4375 or go to www.experimental.asuw.org.

Lake Union Drydock (1515 Fairview Avenue E., 323-6400) recently completed renovations on the 390-foot Excellence, down from Alaska as the mother ship to 20 fishing boats. It is one of the largest ships ever serviced at the famous boatyard.

Robert Rudine, local artist and co-ruler of Tui Tui, a virtual republic off of Eastlake's shores, is well known around the world for his artistamps. A recent issue is a Dragonfly Express Registered Mail stamp featuring his wife and equally benevolent co-ruler Janet Yoder. (3125 Eastlake Avenue E., rrudine@aol.com)



ECC Vice President (and your columnist) **Chris Leman** has been re-elected to a second year as Chair of the City Neighborhood Council, an official advisory committee that is the citywide voice of the thirteen districts. Leman also represents ECC at the Lake Union District Council. For information about the City Neighborhood Council and the district councils (listing all meetings, including a workshop on neighborhood plans that is tentatively scheduled for April 5), go to www.seattle.gov/neighborhoodcouncil.

Mention here does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer, or editor. Send your news to Chris Leman (cleman@oo.net) or c/o ECC, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle 98102.

VOXX Coffee a Great Addition To the Neighborhood

The Eastlake community has waited with baited breath for the official opening of the newest coffee kid on the block, VOXX. This addition to Eastlake does not disappoint! The owners, who also run The Sitting Room in Queen Anne, have brought a relaxed and inviting atmosphere to our Eastlake community. The interior — with walnut cabinets and shelves, architecturally inspired wall panels, and lovely hand tiled-countertops — makes for a great mid-century, modern atmosphere.

For those that are curious, the name VOXX is derived from the Latin words “vox” or “vocis”, which means voice, singing, language, sound — all welcoming senses in a coffee shop!

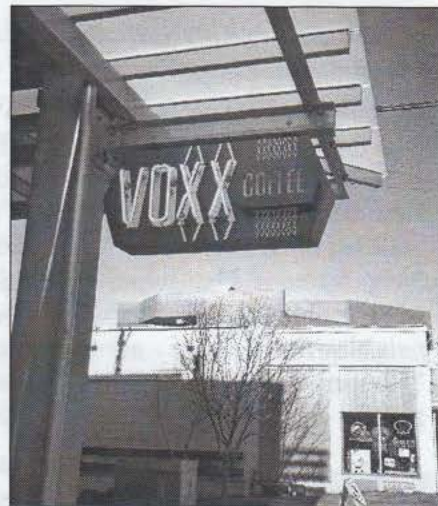
The café is laptop friendly with easily accessible and numerous plug outlets, comfortable seating, and

VOXX Coffee
 2245 Eastlake Ave. E.
 206-324-2778
 Mon-Fri: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 Sat & Sun: 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
 Free Wi-fi available

good lighting. Oversized windows open out completely onto the street, giving the shop a friendly, almost European cafe vibe.

Voxx serves Stumptown Coffee (one may also purchase Stumptown beans to go, either whole bean or they’ll grind on the spot), and between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. various white and red wines are served by the glass.

Voxx owner Michael finds Eastlake a perfect fit for the new café. “Eastlake has retained a strong sense of identity as a charming, slightly funky lakeside neighborhood



with a real sense of community. This is the sort of environment Voxx Coffee wants to further contribute to. As an independent coffee house, Voxx strives to be a true neighborhood gathering spot where everyone feels welcome.”

Please welcome VOXX to the Eastlake community!





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Beloved Eastlake Shortcut: The Louisa Arborway

by Paige Stockley Lerner

Louisa Arborway is a pedestrian tunnel of greenery that connects Yale Avenue with the cluster of business' surrounding Louisa's Café and Lake Union Mail. Eastlakers have used it for years to shave off 10 minutes of walking time. Surveys done in preparing the 1998 Eastlake Neighborhood Plan found the Louisa Arborway to be one of the best-loved parts of the neighborhood; the neighborhood plan adopted for it this guideline: "Continue to maintain this hidden though well-traveled path in an informal, romantic landscape design."

For years, the first-to-bloom-in-the winter old-fashioned yet thorny quince bush marking the upper entrance collapsed on pedestrians, some of whom would whack the quince back from time to time when things got too scratchy. At nighttime the Louisa Arborway also becomes a dark gloomy passageway, and when it rains, water rushes across the sidewalk. The Eastlake Neighborhood Plan recommends improvement of the drainage, and addition of "subtle safety lighting." The City claims that the drainage problem has been solved, a view not shared by many who walk there on a rainy day.

In 2002, with donations in memory of Peggy and Tom Stockley, the Eastlake Community Council qualified for Neighborhood Matching Funds from the City to hire the distinguished architectural Lead Pencil Studios team of Annie Han and Daniel Mihalyo to design lighting and other improvements for Louisa Arborway. Their drawings were presented in two community meetings

at Café Louisa, and all feedback was incorporated into the final drawing, (which can be viewed at www.eastlakeseattle.org). For more on the light-emitting diodes (LED) to be used, see www.onlinelighting.co.uk/ishop/906/shopsr2685.html

Han and Mihalyo's design included LED lighting to be attached to the south wall at about knee level; steel rebar arbors to shore up the foliage; and an open wooden gateway at the Yale entrance, to be planted with grape vines. The steel rebar arbors over time would disappear with the growing foliage, while at the same time, keeping the foliage at regulation SDOT height of eight feet. Other elements in the drawings include native plants and more vines to fill in the bare sections of the Arborway; and approximately six small plaques cut into the sidewalk to mark names of plants with botanical interest.

To install the lights, Seattle City Light issued a permit and the City's Neighborhood Street Fund awarded ECC \$3,500. In an unfortunate setback, SDOT used the \$3,500 to deeply prune the quince and cut down a big cedar tree that it claimed to be rotten. These unwelcome "improvements" sadly left a gaping hole in the arborway foliage, but ECC is committed to bringing it back to its former glory, and to move ahead with the lighting with other City funds.

An additional \$7,500 must be raised in order to build and install the steel arbors, landscape the Arborway, and install the open gateway at the Yale entrance. Donation checks should be made out to ECC, with a notation that they are for the Louisa Arborway, and mailed to ECC at 117 E. Louisa St. #1 Seattle WA 98102, or dropped off at Lake Union Mail. If your donation must be tax-deductible, write your check to the Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission, noting that it is for the Louisa Arborway, and mail it c/o ECC to the same address.



Postcards of the Arborway with a beautiful rendering donated by an unknown photographer (see photo) are available at Lake Union Mail, as is a complete set of the plans. Paige Stockley Lerner, coordinator or the Louisa Arborway project can be reached via email at paige@speakeasy.org.

san francisco in seattle – a landmark of distinction

2819 franklin avenue east | seattle washington 98102



- price: \$950,000
- style: queen anne style
- circa: 1895 - historic landmark status
- size: 2,457 sf
- bedrooms: 3
- baths: 2.5
- 9.5-ft ceilings
- Rumford wood-burning fireplace
- newer systems and roof
- parking: detached garage
- two additional off-street spaces
- additional storage space: 800+ sf
- yard irrigation system
- lot: 5,500 sf
- zoning permits additional dwelling
- 2006 taxes: \$4,949
- MLS #: 27168733

Follow the winding stone pathway, past a heritage laurel tree, into a Seattle legacy.¹

Exquisite architectural details define this richly storied and lovingly maintained Queen Anne-style residence. Outside, elaborate gingerbreading, cut vergeboards, and decorative shingles accent the cross-gabled roofline. Inside, antique chandeliers, stained glass, fir flooring, millwork, and a heart-shaped porcelain pedestal sink whisk you into a bygone era.

Greet visitors on the generous wraparound front porch supported by turned pillars, then usher them inside to the light, airy ambiance that prevails. Host soirees or intimate gatherings in myriad special spaces—from the large, sunny, eat-in kitchen to the bay-windowed living room, warmed in winter by a Rumford fireplace.

Watch the sun set from your master suite, accessed by a private staircase, and graced with a deck for a quintessential Seattle view that includes Lake Union.

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¹This residence was featured in *Classic Houses of Seattle: High Style to Vernacular, 1870-1950*, Caroline T. Swope

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Bob Lilly: The Man Behind the "Floating Gardens" of Tenas Chuck Houseboat Dock

by Paige Stockley Lerner

In Eastlake's colorful houseboat community, the historically designated Tenas Chuck dock has attracted numerous photographers and painters over the years because of its wild tangle of stunning summer flowers and fauna.

The mystery man and Tenas Chuck resident behind this work is Bob Lilly, one of the designers of the Northwest Perennial Alliance Border at the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, author of a recent book on perennials, and houseboat resident since 1970.

Unassuming and a little bit shy, Bob can often be spotted with his signature baseball cap in the Tenas Chuck parking lot loading and unloading mysterious pots and seeds in and out of his car, or in the summer endlessly watering the hundreds of pots he has planted on 2331 dock.

Out of 13 or so houseboats on 2331 dock, Bob gardens on seven of them including his own, and devotes time to beautifying the common area "wide spot" — a part of the dock that is wide enough to handle a co-op party, "Bach on the Dock", "Jazz on the Dock", or a wading pool for the children currently living at Tenas Chuck co-op (last count there are 12 children at Tenas Chuck, many of them under the age of 5).

Finding his green thumb

Bob was born in 1947 at Swedish Hospital, the son of Joseph Lilly and Donnie (Hall) Lilly who met at the UW and married during the war. Joseph Lilly owned the menswear store Lundquist-Lilly at 4th and Pike, which he inherited from his father. The store closed sometime in the 1970s when "menswear" became an outdated concept.

Growing up in Laurelhurst, Bob developed an early love for plants. He and his brother grew vegetables in their back yard for their mother, and then visited their grandfather in Vancouver, Washington where there was a large vegetable garden.

"It was fun", is how Bob describes those early gardening days for the family.

Nevertheless, Bob had art on his mind when he went to Washington State University to pursue a B.A. in Fine Arts with a specialty in painting, painting abstract landscapes. He spent summers working at the Anhalt's Nursery north of the University Village.

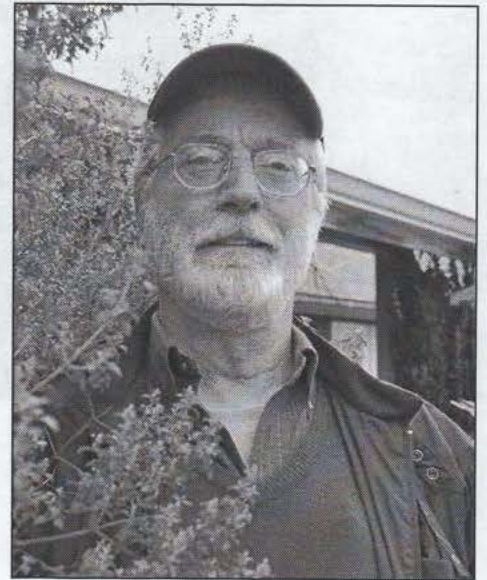
Summer work made an easy post-college transition for Bob. He was hired at Anhalt's full time in 1970 for \$1.25 an hour, and then proceeded to find a place to live. It was a stormy night in October 1970 when Bob happened to buy a houseboat.

"I bought my houseboat from a medical student who had purchased another houseboat at a tax auction for \$800. He didn't need two houseboats, so he sold one to me.

"In those days, Tenas Chuck was a little rickety," Bob said, "and was managed by Terry Pettus and his business partner. It had not been very long that the houseboats had been hooked up to the city sewer (1969), and the place was full of hippies."

When asked if he was a hippy in those days, Bob replied, "I was not a hippy, I had a job," but nevertheless enjoyed the fact that the houseboat community was full of curious and interesting people.

Soon after becoming a houseboater, Bob quit his job at Anhalt's, and left for Santa Barbara, where he stayed with friends for about two



months. In Santa Barbara he marveled at the interesting plants that grew there.

He doesn't remember if he had a housesitter while he was gone, but in those days, friends just came and went, crashing at his houseboat if they needed a place to sleep.

Upon his return he was hired as a sales person for annuals and perennials at Wells Medina Nursery, where he worked for the next 16 years, growing 5-6,000 perennials each year. Along the way, Bob began to garden on Tenas Chuck, "because that's what gardeners do," Bob says. "They plant things."

"Houseboats are great places to garden," Bob said, "They thrive here. There is lots of light, and lots of bounced light, and good air circulation. Annuals love light."

When he left Wells Medina in 1989 he worked for two years at the Herb Farm before becoming a broker for perennial wholesalers. Bob also volunteers for the Arboretum Foundation, the NW Perennial Alliance, the Bellevue Botanical Gardens, and runs the Spring Plant Sale for the Arboretum Foundation

Bob Lilly ...*Continued from last page*

called "Florabundance," the last weekend in April. For six years in a row he has been the one to find plants for the Arboretum's Display at the Flower and Garden Show. Just recently he has begun to do landscape design for private clients.

All the while, he manages to keep up his gardening on the houseboats, filling the available spaces with varieties from all over the world.

"With permission, my plants have migrated to other decks. I collect plants in the way all people who become intensely involved in collecting do. If I find something new or rare, I've just got to grow it and my neighbors are just fine with it."

"I like the play between the quaint houseboats, the dock, the decks, the plants, the light and the lake."

Bob has a land garden too, which he inherited from an acquaintance who handed over the garden to Bob decades ago while the owner (Michael) was in New Zealand. When Michael returned from "down under", he asked, "Who's that?" To which everyone replied, "That's Bob the Gardener." They have been friends ever since.

Given a preference between land and houseboat gardening, Bob says it is like apples and oranges. He does not favor one over the other.

International influence

Bob has traveled all over the world to see gardens, and in the garden world Bob considers himself an Englishman. "They are garden fanatics," Bob says, "In England gardening is a very important part of their social structure."

He describes the English style as intense, and horticulturally diverse. Their gardens require a high level of care and thoughtful design all incorporated into fabulous English architecture.

"Bob's contribution to his community is like a gift to all of us," commented Dina Moreno, another Tenas Chuck houseboat neighbor whose deck is host to some of the unusual specimens from all over the world, including exotic herbs from Australia. "Bob's gardening is a major reason that our dock has the character and charm that it does."

"When I am in an English garden," Bob says, "I am enchanted and amazed."

A glimpse into 2331 dock

The houseboats themselves have changed significantly in the 38 years since Bob became a houseboater.

"When I first came to Tenas Chuck, the houseboats were on a downward spiral. Now the population has changed, but the community still attracts the same kind of person as before. One filter is that a houseboat only works for people who can live in small spaces. You have to give up the standard consumer thing. People who collect books shouldn't live on houseboats.

"The 2331 dock has good feng shui because it's crooked and the lake spirits can't come at you when you enter," explained Bob. "A Japanese person could live here."

Long time dock resident Florence Yerxa is one of the houseboat owners that hosts Bob's dock garden. "Bob has done more for me and the dock than anyone I can imagine. Because of him, TCM became what it is — a very unusual and beautiful place. What interests me is how he has devoted his life to this garden. Gardening is not just a job for Bob, it is a life passion."

Andy Forrest bought his houseboat on 2331 because of Bob's plants. "The plants spoke to us. It's funny, because at the time we didn't even know Bob, but it was his sublime creations that brought us to the houseboats." His wife Dawn Yokoe added, "I love all the colors: yellow, white, pink, and green, some with heavenly fragrances and some just for looks."

"Bob's contribution to his community is like a gift to all of us," commented Dina Moreno, another Tenas Chuck houseboat neighbor whose deck is host to some of the unusual specimens from all over the world, including exotic herbs from Australia. "Bob's gardening is a major reason that our dock has the character and charm that it does."

Visitors to the dock who are startled by the unusual plants commonly ask Bob, "What is that and where can I get it?"

Bob tells them that they come from all over the world: New Zealand, Australia, Tasmania, South Africa, Chile, China, Japan, Northern India, Holland, England, the Mediterranean. You wouldn't be able to buy these varieties at the local nursery, but many are for sale at Florabundance in April or can be found through specialty growers.

Bob explains that trees do quite well on houseboats, in particular Japanese maples, eucalyptus, pines and conifers, and even lilacs.

Gardening keeps Bob so busy he does not own a computer. "My life was full enough already by the time computers came around, so I never saw the need, nor do I have the time."

Bob can be contacted for private landscaping projects at 324-0179.

Perennials: the Gardener's Reference, a guide Bob co-authored with Susan Carter and Carrie Becker, can be purchased at most book stores and online book retailers. The book is now in its second printing and receiving fabulous reviews (even in Bob's beloved England).

For more information go to the publisher's site at www.timberpress.com.

Restoring Hamlin Street-End Park

Hamlin Street-end Park, located in a Seattle Department of Transportation right-of-way in the Eastlake neighborhood, was formerly an overgrown and garbage-strewn waste of the Lake Union shoreline. But a three-year effort by the Eastlake Community Council and Hamlin Shores Homeowners Association made it in 1992 a lovely and much-used street-end park with paths, steps, picnic tables, trees and shrubs.

To make the park possible, ECC obtained an SDOT street-use permit, \$10,428 in City Neighborhood Matching Funds, and tens of thousands of dollars in donated labor and materials (including the park's design) from dozens of businesses and hundreds of volunteers.

In January, the ECC learned that city agencies SDOT and the Seattle Public Utilities Department had imposed a requirement upon nearby developer Wards Cove to do major construction in and adjacent to the park — without adequate notice to or consultation with the community, and under the mistaken belief that it is under the jurisdiction of the Park Department. Officials were unaware that the City itself had issued ECC a permit for the park in 1991, assigning us continuing responsibility for managing the park as SDOT right-of-way.

In this vacuum of consultation, what we received is an unsafe and incomplete sidewalk that reaches only halfway across the Hamlin street-end. This temporary setback does not realize the Mayor and City Council's recently adopted priority to complete a walking path around Lake Union, nor the 1998 Eastlake Neighborhood Plan's goal to improve walking safety along Fairview. While the plantings have been put back since this photo was taken, the park is diminished as a welcoming stop for pedestrians and bicyclists. Thus ECC has made these proposals to the City:

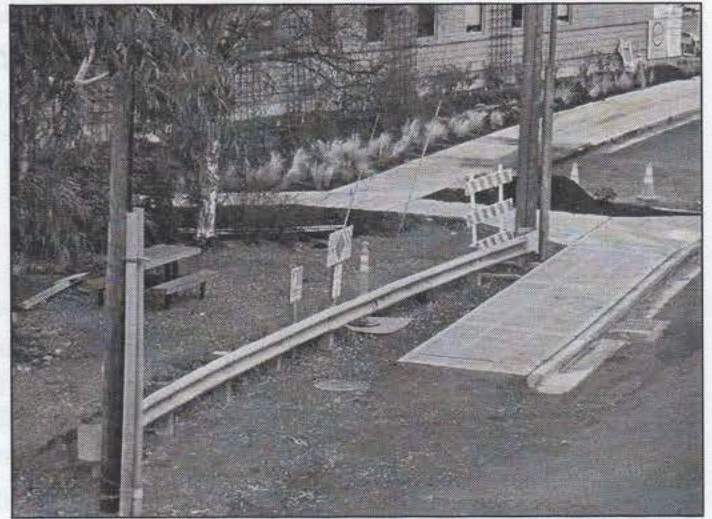
1. Move the crash barrier to the street (east) side of the sidewalk. Optimal location is above the curb by the east side of the sidewalk. Moving the barrier to the east edge of the new sidewalk would improve safety, expand the park, and make it possible to walk or bicycle between the park and sidewalk.

2. Extend the side-walk to the south half of the Hamlin street-end. The SDOT-permitted design gives the sidewalk an uncompleted appearance and raises safety issues, as pedestrians emerge onto the street at its south end rather than into the park.

3. Replace the crash barrier, now a corrugated metal highway-type, with a rustic wooden type such as is in place a block north. SDOT approved this wooden barrier in 1998; it is in keeping with the "country road" feeling promoted by the Fairview Green Street guidelines.

4. Create one pedestrian opening (and possibly two) about four feet wide in the crash barrier. The main north-south walking route now has its access to the park completely blocked by the crash barrier. Park users find it difficult to use the sidewalk, and sidewalk users are blocked from entering the park.

5. Continue the new sidewalk as a winding walkway that follows the contour of the park. The new sidewalk juts out in such a way that continuing it would



interfere with the drive-way into the Hamlin Pier parking lot. It should better connect with the driveway and the south entrance to the park.

We hope to report good news about this situation by our next issue. For their advocacy on behalf of Hamlin Street-end Park, thanks to Barbara and William McPherson of Hamlin Shores; and Mary Lou Pederson of the nearby houseboat community. Your thoughts, donations, and volunteer offers are welcome, to ECC Vice President Chris Leman, cleman@oo.net, (206) 322-5463.

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Traffic Circle Damaged at Franklin and Edgar

Last year, the busy intersection at Franklin and Edgar was awarded a traffic circle by SDOT, after speeds were clocked at well above the speed limit. The circle is designed to be traffic calming while allowing room for fire engines and emergency vehicles to clear the intersection.

A paper bark maple, asters and daisies were planted by Dick and Kim Asia, who are the designated "caretakers" of the circle. Three-year-old Daisy Lerner also helped in the planting.

Shortly after the spring planting, it became obvious that drivers did not have the patience to drive around the circle, so the plants soon were run over, and tire tracks marred the new soil and maple that the neighbors had proudly installed. Randy Sullivan, a Franklin Avenue resident, noticed that the school buses going up Edgar were not clearing the circle, and called the bus barn to request rerouting. They were happy to oblige, and that action made a big difference in the number of hits.

Nevertheless, the hits kept coming, from large trucks or just drivers who did not have the patience to slow down or negotiate the turns. In one of the hits, the driver simply ran over the paper bark maple. Dick and Kim Asia righted the tree, and luckily it survived.

A sign that reads "Please respect our tree and plants and drive carefully" has helped somewhat, but several weeks ago, a driver ran over the actual sign, dragging it under its wheels halfway up Edgar Street. Tulip bulbs planted in the Fall are just now poking their heads up from the soil, but have been crushed under the wheels of drivers at least a dozen times since first appearing.

Linden Mead, an arboriculturist from SDOT wrote neighbors that traffic circle hits can be reported at 684-TREE, and they will do their best to recoup damages. She can be reached at 684-8733. SDOT representatives are looking at possible solutions to the problem.



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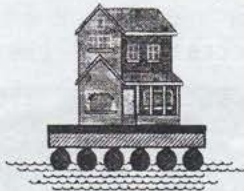
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Eastlake Caucus-Goers Show Up In Droves ...

Continued from front page


than I realized, because two of the undecided voters moved to the Hillary camp and the other came over for Obama.

Once we had the final tally for each side and the precinct captain borrowed a calculator from the crowd to do some quick electoral fuzzy math to determine the number of delegates for each side. The calculator said that our precinct would have four delegates for Obama and one for Hillary. The democrat elite elected not to chop any neighbors in half, so in the fuzzy math turned Hillary's 15% of the vote into 20% of the delegates.

Next, we had to pick delegates for the state convention. Again the Obama and Hillary camps retreated to their separate corners. I later learned from my wife that the Hillary camp had a difficult time finding a volunteer to be the delegate from our precinct, but they eventually managed to cajole someone into it. In the Obama camp, we had nine men and four women

vying for the four delegate spots. One woman suggested that half the delegates should be women, and no one dared disagree, so the four women decided amongst themselves whom would be a delegate and an alternate. The nine men, including yours truly, each gave a 30-second speech on why they were qualified to fill one of the two remaining delegate spots, followed by a brief "election" where caucus goers stood next to their candidate. I was happy to be chosen for one of the alternate delegate spots, though my fellow delegates and I are still not sure what exactly this means. There was some vague speculation of showing up on one or two different days in April at an undetermined location for what promises to be an equally curious round of delegate apportionment.

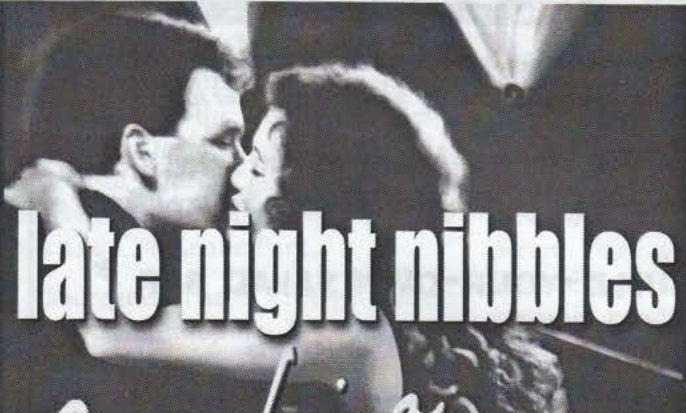
For all its faults, the caucus was a fantastic experience if only because it provided a rare forum for neighbors to come together and be represented at a national level. After 220 years of this American experiment, I believe the comfortable affluence and security of American society is behind the consistently low voter turn out every four years. What would it take to activate the silent majority of non-voters across the country to demand representation?



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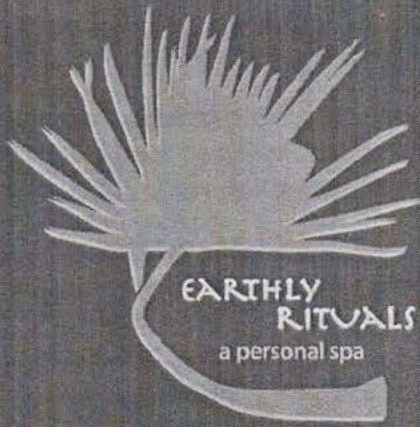
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