



SOUTH SIDE
SLOPES
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Slopes News

August 2008
Volume 10 Issue 8
Monthly



President: Brad Palmisiano
Vice President: Misi Bielich
Treasurer: Joe Balaban
Secretary: Paul Lorincy

Remember, NO August Meeting. See you September 9th! ***Annual Summer Picnic*** ***Tuesday, July 8th!***

58 neighbors attended our July 8th picnic in the dining room of St. Paul's Retreat Center.

Before the meal our president Brad Palmisiano introduced the elected officials present...Bruce Kraus, our City Councilman, and Harry Readshaw, our State Representative. Brad thanked Rep. Readshaw for giving us a door prize which was won by one of the attendees. Brad also thanked Misi Bielich, Dawn Lorincy and Betty Kripp for planning and coordinating the tasty meal and desserts. Misi thanked the owner of the Popeye's food establishment at the corner of 20th Street and Sidney for the fried chicken they provided at a discount for our picnic. She also thanked the good neighbors who contributed the other foods and desserts. Brad recognized and affirmed at least 8 new neighbors attending for the first time. SSSNA also displayed John's newest print (see page 4).

The food was delicious, the camaraderie enjoyable...there's nothing like neighbors getting together for a fun time and getting to know each other a little better.

Fr. Don led 20 neighbors through the Monastery Garden, giving the history of the Passionist presence on the Slopes. His tour was cut short by the arrival of a thunderstorm, but was enjoyable and enlightening nonetheless. Fr. Don Ware, C.P.

Dates to remember...

Meeting Schedule 2008!

August – no meeting

September 9th

October 5th noon-4pm StepTrek!

***October 7th (not the 2nd Tuesday)**

Annual meeting and 10th Anniversary

***November 18th (not the 2nd Tuesday)**

December 16th – Christmas Party in Dining Room

What you missed 7/8!



Everyone enjoyed good company & food





What a great time, had by all.



Monte (in from Chicago) & Brad



Friends, families...



www.SouthSideSlopes.org
www.StepTrek.org



Kids, Councilman...



Big smiles...



Good discussions all around.



Thanks, for volunteer support!



Life long neighbors...



New neighbors...



All having fun!



Good times!

Board of Directors!

The 2008 Board Members are...

Joe Balaban	1999-present
Misi Bielich	2006-present
Beverly Boggio	1998-present
Joe Ciccola	2002-present
Peter Kreuthmeier	2007-present
Paul Lorincy	2005-present
Brad Palmisiano	2004-present
Matt Schaefer	2006-present
Janice Serra	2000-present
Peggy Sullivan	2008
Donald Ware	2005-present

Each can be reached at their email address
firstname.lastname@SouthSideSlopes.org
or through the website.

Elections to the Board of Directors will take place at the October 7th Annual meeting. Those Board members whose terms are finished and are up for election this October are Joe Balaban, Misi Bielich, Bev Boggio, Paul Lorincy, Brad Palmisiano, and Peggy Sullivan. Peggy is serving the completion of Claudia's term. Bev has served the SSSNA Board for 10 years, is the final active "founding" Board Member, and will not seek another term.

If you are interested in a Board position, please contact Brad or any Board member for details. SSSNA is celebrating 10 years of serving the Slopes Neighborhood and community of Pittsburgh this October!

Committees 2008!

The following are the 2008 SSSNA Committees and their chairpersons:

Beautification	Joe Ciccola
Cleanups & Safety	Paul Lorincy
Elm Street	Fr. Don Ware
Finance & Development	Joe Balaban
Housing & Zoning	Brad Palmisiano
Outreach	Misi Bielich
StepTrek	Bev Boggio

Committee Reports:



Step Trek Committee...

Join us for StepTrek 2008 on Sunday, October 5th from noon to 4:00pm. Honorary Chairperson is Councilman Bruce Kraus!

Artwork will be provided by local Artist John Prascak. His "Sunrise on the Slopes" will be featured on the Trek tees.



We would like to take the time to announce our StepTrek 2008 Sponsors...

Presenting Sponsor: Michael Baker Corporation

Publication Sponsor: Rudberg Law

Volunteer Sponsor: Copies @ Carson

Course Sponsor: UPMC South Side Hospital

Anniversary Sponsors: Klavon Design Associates (*new*), Loyson + Kreuthmeier (*new*), Silk & Stewart Development

Group (*new*), SSLDC, United American Savings Bank

Sponsors: Carlson McGinley, Games N' At, Phillips Heating and AC, Ripley and Sons, South Side Works.

In Kind Sponsors: Take Notice Graphics Custom Printed Graphics, and the South Pittsburgh Reporter.

We do have a couple more sponsors to confirm. We are about to place the event on www.Active.com for registration. As always children under 12 are free with an adult registration. The Pre-registration is \$12 for the first registration, then \$10 each additional. Walk up/"day of" registration is \$15 per person. Pre-registration guarantees a shirt in your size and a free raffle ticket. Each year we improve on our book of maps, packed with information!

The theme is "Step Trek – 8, SSSNA – 10, Pittsburgh – 250, view from the Slopes – timeless!" celebrating years of positive change and progress in our beautiful Slopes neighborhood. StepTrek 2008 is recognized as a Pittsburgh 250 & Fit event!

250&FIT
pittsburgh
imagine what you can do here.™

We are seeking volunteers to promote StepTrek at the Pittsburgh 250 & Fit event on Saturday, August 23rd. It is an all day event. We will email the exact details.

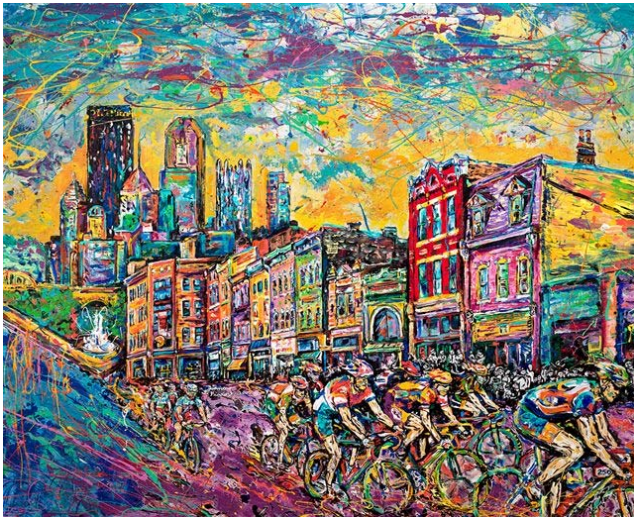
Everyone is excited and has already begun to work. We walked the new routes in May. We sent out mailings in June and there will be more mailings to send at the end of August, if that is how you would like to volunteer.

Bob Kripp, our Trek graphic designer, is hard at work completing the brochure. We will be seeking raffle giveaways and there is much more to do.



If you are interested in being on the committee or volunteering in any way, please contact Bev Boggio.

Johno is also donating his "Colors of Carson Street" Pittsburgh 250 print for the Trek raffle.



If you are interested in a copy, "the South Side Local Development Company has commissioned *Colors of Carson Street* from local artist, Johno Prascak, to coincide with the Pittsburgh 250 celebrations. The piece is a vivid interpretation of cyclists through the East Carson Street historic district with the cityscape rising in the background. All proceeds from the sale of *Colors of Carson Street* will benefit the programs of South Side Local Development Company. 27" x 30" signed and numbered prints are available for just \$50 and make great gifts; 8" x 10" prints are also available for \$15. Prints may also be purchased via telephone at 412-481-0651 x. 10, by visiting the SSLDC offices at 2000 East Carson Street between 9am-5pm, Monday through Friday. Online purchases can be made at www.southsidepgh.com/store."

For more details, call Bev at 412-488-0486.
Or contact us in writing:
PO Box 4248, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 or
Visit us on the web: www.StepTrek.org
www.SouthSideSlopes.org
Or email us at info@SouthSideSlopes.org
Thanks!

Brosville & Monastery Artwork and Lighting Installation Project – Update

There is so much to show & tell! The project is nearly completed. Many thanks to the committee, designers, architects, electricians, craftsmen, fabricators and volunteers have worked very hard to turn an eyesore into this showpiece! The lighting was installed 8/4 and scrim 8/6. It is not finished, but this is so far...



The lights were on at dusk 8/4!



Ray with John Schaefer aiming the lights.



Ooohhh, Aaahhh!

Next, the scrim went up...



Men at work on 8/6.



Elm Street logo in the lower left.



Several neighbor & committee members were there for the first scrim lighting.



Peter Kreuthmeier based the scrim on a cross section of the Slopes map. To the left of center, the large cut out represents St. Paul of the Cross Monastery. Thanks, Klavon Design Associates who designed the garden. More photos next month!



Matt Schaefer, Dina Klavon, Maria Riley, Judy Dyda & Zeke Kreuthmeier (dog)

Membership News...

Please Pay 2008 Dues Now

With your donations, we are able to keep neighbors informed and connected.

SSSNA Membership is \$5 for the 12 months that run from January 1st to December 31st. Thank you, so very much, for your support! As always, we welcome any additional donations. Please mail in your membership dues or bring them to the meeting.

SSSNA Membership 2008

Please mail \$5 to:

SSSNA P.O.Box 4248, Pgh., PA 15203

Or bring it to the next meeting

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Slopes Interests _____

Amount enclosed _____

Save a stamp, please just email me the newsletter each month. Check here

Elm Street Committee...



The following are minutes from the 8/6 meeting: **South Side Park Greenspace** – Judy reported that a meeting was scheduled to meet

with Mike Gable (Assistant Director DPW), Joe Romano (Skelly & Loy), and Judy to discuss the project and determine how the City can be of assistance. Following the meeting, ES Committee member Janice Serra, three members of the Skelly and Loy team, Mike Gable, and South Side LDC staff Kevin Hanley and Judy did an extensive walk through of the park. Judy thanked Janice for her very valuable assistance. Janice reported that she had also provided additional materials to Skelly and Loy. ES Committee members discussed having Skelly and Loy talk with long term Slopes residents to gain more historic background on the park. Janice will provide information to Skelly and Loy.

Public Staircase Inspection and Repairs – Baker has supplied final copies of the step inspection report which was shared with the ES Committee. Judy reported that contract is not yet fully executed but is moving forward. Dean expects to begin work within seven to ten days. Judy also reported that she had requested the ES Design committee to select a color for the railing and that they chose one that will match the new trash cans.

South 18th Streetscape Design – Klavon had delivered final copies of the streetscape design recommendations. These were shared with the Committee. Judy was directed to supply CD's of both the Bake report and Klavon's Design

report to several members of the ES Committee.

Monastery/Brosville Gateway Garden Signage – Lights and sign have been installed. ES Committee all agreed that final product is exciting and impressive. Committee expressed deep appreciation to Peter for his hard work and creativity on this project. The PDC Grant of \$20,000 payment has been received. Remainder of the project cost will come from ES funds. The Committee discussed an unveiling event and decided that it should be related to the upcoming StepTrek to generate more coverage and interest. Image and Identity Committee will work on the details. ES Committee members who have ideas or suggestions should forward them to Dawn, Misi or Judy. There was also discussion about the dissatisfaction with the no-mow grass at the site. Judy will discuss the matter with Klavon Associates and determine what alternatives may exist.

Good Neighbor Booklet – Judy reported that the copy material has been forwarded to a graphic designer for layout. Proposed layout will be shared with ES Committee before going to print. Funds for this project will come from the \$20,000 promotions contract with the URA.

Neighborhood Mailing – Target for mailing is early September and will include a Slopes newsletter, information about the upcoming StepTrek, an SSSNA membership brochure, the good neighbor brochure, and the PDC's required neighborhood survey.

URA at September SSSNA – As a function of the ES Neighbors and Economy focus, it was agreed that a representative from the URA would be a guest at the September SSSNA general

meeting to present information about the URA's home improvement and home ownership products. Judy will work with the URA to coordinate the speaker with Brad.

Funding Update – Judy reported that the upcoming funding round will be handled differently than in years past. This year the URA will issue an RFP to the five Pittsburgh ES districts. The URA will use the responses to complete their application to DCED for funding. The RFP is expected to be issued by the end of August. ES Committee agreed to use the results of the Skelly and Loy, Baker, and Klavon studies to set priorities and respond to the RFP.

Five Year Plan Update – Judy reported that PPND is requiring all ES districts to evaluate and modify their five year business plans by the end of the year. This is also a fourth quarter funding deliverable. Each of the five ES sub-committees will work with Judy to update the business plan. Judy reported that she has asked Josette Fitzgibbons, URA ES Manager, to assist in this task.

PDC Community Safety Initiative Grants – Judy reported that she responded to the PDC RFP for "innovative approach to enhancing community safety" and requested \$50,000 in funding for repairs and design enhancements to the South 18th public staircase. PDC was to announce awards in the near future.

Additional Business – There was discussion about the creation of a community garden at a vacant lot on Brosville Street (further up from the Monastery/Brosville garden). Judy will examine the map to determine if any part of the lot lies within the ES district.

SSSNA will explore the possibility of creating the garden. *Judy Dyda*

Beautification Committee



On Saturday, August 2nd at 9am, Matt Schaefer, Joe Balaban, Elvio Viana and Bev Boggio spent 4 hours weeding the WPC Greeley Garden. It was a beautiful day with good conversation that made the time fly. Check out the before and after photos and see what good can come of volunteering in the community. We spent 16 volunteer hours = \$280.00 equivalent when seeking grants, for this one outing.



Before & after, beautiful annuals!



Thank you to the folks who have stopped and weeded anonymously. The Greeley Garden and the 18th Street bend garden have had some weeding done. You are welcome to let us know your time spent, so that we can formally account for it by calling 412-488-0486 or emailing info@SouthSideSlopes.org. The hours translate into dollars when SSSNA approaches funders. You may give your name or remain anonymous.



Photos of the Barry Street Garden



The annuals are starting to take hold



If we don't have your email address, (*you'll know as this newsletter will be attached to an email on 8/16*) please email Bev at SSSNAPgh@aol.com so that you can receive our updates. Or if you know someone who would be interested, have them contact SSSNA. The internet is a great way to get the word out.

SSSNA History...

Did you know that the South Side Slopes Neighborhood Association is 10 years old this October? That is right! On October 12, 1998, the first set of bylaws was passed & the first Board of Directors was elected. SSSNA is planning several events to celebrate this anniversary. Watch for a Slopes-wide mailing mid September to include a "Special Edition" of Slopes News which outlines our accomplishments. As mentioned in the Elm Street minutes, there will be a dedication of the Elm Street funded garden in late September. October 5th, StepTrek will have a Slopes & Pittsburgh History theme. The October Annual Meeting on 10/7 (not the second Tuesday) will be full of celebration of SSSNA's past and future!

Thank You Sponsors!





South Side Slopes
Neighborhood Association
PO Box 4248
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
www.StepTrek.org

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Remember,
No August meeting!
We have had a busy
summer. See inside for
details!
See you in September.

Thank you to our Sponsors...

