

Madrona Newsletter

April - May 1992

Member of Seattle Community Council Federation

12th Annual Madrona Home and Garden Tour

Some highlights from the six homes featured this year:

- New and modern home less than a year old with a Madison Valley view.
- Craftsman "Seattle Box" with a house and garden designed for panoramic views.
- A home with a wonderful porch and garden, updated kitchen, traditional woodwork and spacious bedrooms.
- "Bussell Madrona Castle" with a cannon in the turrets, paneling and curved glass and a stone basement.
- A William Bain home with original detailing, and a pool, spa and exercise room opening to the yard.
- Contemporary home richly decorated, with a rooftop space and garden.

Also featured:

- ...the newly renovated Madrona Shelter House
- ...the Epiphany Cafe for free coffee, and lunch at a reasonable price
- ...the newly dedicated Goldmark Overlook at the foot of Madrona Drive
- AND free transportation from the Overlook to Epiphany and the school.

Audience Impressed with Worm Demo

March's General Meeting was a unique experience. Participants listened to Master Gardener, Elaine Keene, talk about drought tolerant plantings and received plant lists; we got a demonstration and more information from two Master Composters on the newest "Green Machine" distributed free by the City of Seattle and received information on installing a drip irrigation system from local gardener, Dave Baylon.

The hit of the evening was the worm bin. Local Master Composters brought a real live worm bin complete with red wigglers. Attendees were fascinated by these efficient kitchen garbage composters that leave rich black soil suitable for gardens and indoor pots. We received a lecture on their virtues (the worms!) and many in the audience were impressed with the idea and eagerly took copies of plans to build their own. More information on becoming a worm farmer can be found in the Community Bulletin section of this newsletter.

Tickets are \$7.50 in advance, and are available at the Hi-Spot Cafe, the New York Deli in Madison Valley, Bek's Bookstore, City People's Garden Store, Cool Hand Luke's and Madison Park Books. Tickets are \$10 on the day of the tour and are available at Madrona Elementary school where the 12th Annual Madrona Home and Garden Tour begins at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, April 25.

Mind Your Own Business District

There are many new businesses in Madrona. The Doll House has reopened as Cafe Madrona. It has five enthusiastic owners and is newly decorated. A recent dinner special featured excellent barbecued ribs or chicken and Red Velvet cake for dessert. The barbecue sauce comes from Anna Pembroke and will be for sale from a cart beside the cafe. It is her grandfather's secret recipe, sold for 40 years at the old barbecue pit at 21st & Cherry.

In the beauty department, the New Edition Beauty and Barber Shop is open for business right new door to Cafe Madrona. And next to the Madrona Laundromat is Sophisticuts.

Just south of that, Sky Vision, a gallery/custom frame shop is going in and soon to be opened is Yours Expressly, a postal service business on the corner of 34th & Union, where Conley Hats used to be. Alex and his hats have moved one-half block south on 34th Avenue. Yours Expressly, owned by Edith Savoy and Genella Tatum, offers a variety of services including UPS, Federal Express, DHL and a fax machine.

Take a stroll around and meet the new neighbors! Next month's newsletter will include a pull-out Madrona business directory for you to tape to your fridge.

Attention Madrona Runners and Walkers

The 16th Annual Shore Run, Seattle's most scenic run and walk, is scheduled for Sunday, June 28. The race is a 6.7-mile run or 5-mile walk along the shore of Lake Washington from Seward Park to Madrona Park. All proceeds from the event benefit the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. Entry forms are available at local running stores, the Madison Park branch of Security Pacific Bank and the Hutchinson Center. The entry fee is \$13 in advance or \$15 on race day. For information, call 667-4399.

Madrona Community Calendar

Saturday, April 25, Madrona Home Tour
Starts at Madrona Elementary; 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, May 5, Council Board Meeting
Madrona Elementary; 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 23, Mayfair
Madrona Playfield; 12:00 p.m.

Madrona History Stories

Forty people attended the first Madrona History Gathering at the Madrona Sally Goldmark Library. New neighbors and old-timers told stories, examined old photographs and enjoyed meeting friends. Nora Wood's commitment to record Madrona's history is taking on new form and energy.

Early history highlights included Haydee Newman's recollections of attending the first school c. 1907 and of the beautiful pair of percheron horses which pulled the engines out of the first fire house (now the library). Jack Dunn who later manned the station for 17 years, could remember what it was like with engines rather than books filling the space. Doug Palmer reminded people that Lake Washington was 15 feet higher before they opened the canal that connects the Lake to the Sound. When the level of the lake went down, former lake front homes were set back from the shoreline and new land was created which became the wonderful chain of parks that now surround our lake front. Madrona, Leschi, Mt. Baker, etc. When asked why all the lake front wasn't preserved, Anne Knight knew that some of the properties had been sold to help raise money for the Alaska-Yukon Exposition.

A few of Madrona's many notable people were mentioned briefly. Harold Preston wrote the Workman's Compensation Laws for the state and ran for Senate in 1902 but was defeated by railroad interests. Claude Harris, Seattle's current fire chief, spent time in the Stationhouse during his formative years.

People told where neighborhood businesses were located including bakeries, grocers, soda fountains, cleaners, multiple drug stores, live theater and a shore store. Clayton Pitre positively identified where the Madrona Movies Theater was located (corner of 29th and Cherry, near his family's home. Others commented on the history of their own and others homes.

As a community, Madrona has experienced all the painful issues of the larger society. Rich Berner reported that during World War II, the Japanese family who operated a grocery store in the business district was evacuated to an internment camp. Narrators shared experiences with an all-white community "club" and discriminatory real estate agents. During the 1960's, neighbors

fought for change, facing tear gas as they marched down Cherry, boycotted the Bon's resistance to hire blacks in the sales force. CORE, the Black panthers and other leaders were based here. Though the period was too frightening for some families, Jean and Marvin Durning said they were attracted by the PA's civil rights activism.

Dick Carbray told of playing on the winning Madrona Wolves roller hockey team in 1930's when the city championship was played on the Madrona Playfield tennis courts. Betty Dunn recalled a soap box derby run down Pike Street hill to MLK Way. Luther Carr chuckled over his experience playing host for a week to the "whole worl's best" fighter, Mohammed Ali.

The history described in this meeting provided a tantalizing sample of what may follow. If you missed this gathering, read the transcript, available at the library. Participants offered future contributions of stories, skills, materials, and time around which other programs and activities will be organized. From this outpouring of interest we will begin setting up community history archives in the Madrona Sally Goldmark Library and organize other functions to draw out more stories. Inerested Madrona neighbors, present and past, are invited to contact Kay Gordon at 328-1327.

Madrona Community Council

Please call your neighborhood representatives. They are out there to answer questions and to represent your point of view to the community council.

N.W.: Orlando Nuckols, 328-1749.

N.E.: John Ewald, 328-0795.

S.W.: Monica Lake, 329-5539.

S.E.: Ed Munoz, 328- 0615.

The Madrona Newsletter is published monthly except the summer months and December. Submit copy for the newsletter to Sally Alhadeff, 922 34th Avenue, Seattle 98122, 324-9865. The deadline is the first Saturday after the Board meeting. Call Susan Roberts regarding newsletter ads, 329-7322. To be on our mailing list, write to Editor, 922 34th Ave. Seattle, 98122.



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April MCC Board Meeting Minutes

Leschi community council members made a presentation on airport noise..now and the likely future (grim). Letters to the Port and to the FAA are urged to protest the continued concentration of airplane take-offs and landings over the neighborhood. Keep Calling the Hotline to complain at 455-5393.

Proposed US Postal Service facility at M.L. King and Dearborn near the Heritage House, and close to a school and senior housing. It is for cargo handling to replace Broadway, East Union and I District cargo facilities and will house over 100 jeeps. The building is proposed to be over 100,000 s.f. and will be approximately 5 stories high.

Neighborhood Matching Fund Grant news..A neighborhood sign grant has been approved to help give definition and identification to the neighborhood. We'll ultimately have 5 "Welcome to Madrona" signs at the entry points to the neighborhood, sandwich boards announcing meetings and identifying projects in process and a bulletin board. The community has to supply the artwork, sandwich boards and bulletin board. Local photographer Walter Bodle is applying for a Small and Simple grant with the support of the council to photograph the merchants and businesses that share 34th & Union. A grant application is also being submitted for summer tennis and art programs to be based out of the newly renovated Shelter House at Madrona Playfield.

There will be no General Meeting for the month of April. It was generally agreed that the neighborhood energies are focused on the Home Tour.

Mayfair is Saturday, May 23, Memorial Day weekend. Plans are in the making. Call Shirley Solomon at 323-1524 or Jill Gordon 329-9836 and offer your help.

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Audrey Seale
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Windermere Real Estate

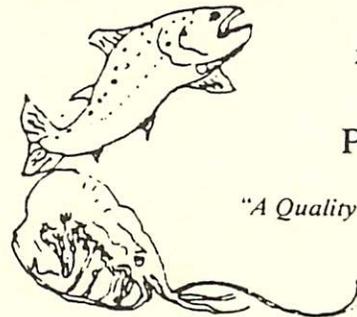
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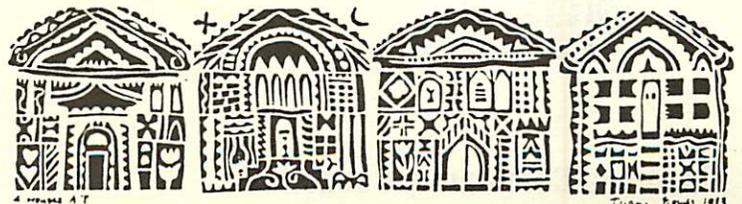


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Telecommuting

While face-to-face contact will never be replaced, with growing traffic congestion and air pollution, people are looking for alternatives to traditional work and commuting patterns. The New York Times estimates that 6 million self-employed people work at home and between 3.5 and 5 million other people work away from an office by maintaining an electronic link to it.

A telecommuting demonstration project has just been completed by the Washington State Energy Office. Participant organizations sent their telecommuters home with computers, rolodex phone files, or writing projects. A guidebook will be published this spring for planning and designing a successful telecommuting program; it will show how to sell the concept to management and include step-by-step program implementation recommendations. Also, the Seattle Planning Department is starting a project to identify the problems to be overcome in setting up a telecommuting program for City employees.

In southern California an experimental local telecommuting center has been established, where people from several organizations share equipment such as telephones, computers, fax machines, modems, printers, copy machines, etc. This equipment would be expensive to provide each worker at home, and not all types of machines are needed by everyone on a daily basis. People commute much shorter distances to their local center, rather than huge distances to their main office.

Telecommuting is not for everyone. Even for those who could benefit, it probably is not possible to telecommute every day. But if people telecommuted even one day a week we could cut down work trips by 20%.

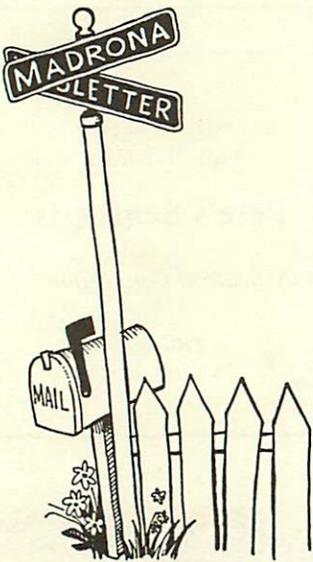
What can Madrona residents do? As individuals, ask your employer about possible telecommuting options. What are the chances of working at home one day a week? How can employer discomfort be overcome? Experiments have shown that increased employee productivity usually outweighs any problems. And Washington State law now requires larger businesses to implement commute trip reduction programs by October 1, 1993.

Community Bulletin

- Central Branch Preschool is now enrolling for fall. Morning, afternoon and full-time programs, small multi-ethnic groups, flexible fees. Summer Program. An outdoor oriented program for 3 to 7 year olds, based at the preschool with trips to parks, beaches, museums plus art, cooking, science and nature projects. Weekly sessions from June 15-July 31. Call Lynne at 723-1187.
- Madrona Investment. Interested in a neighborhood investment? The building with six store fronts south of the Hi-Spot, is for sale. Any local community-oriented investors out there should call Margaret Walters for details at 522-8466.
- Worm Aficionados Alert. Fircrest School, builds and sells two sizes of worm bins, made out of CDX plywood as a fundraiser. For information and an order form, call 364-0300.

Seattle Community Council Federation
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