

## WALK'EN WITH RICH

By Rich Kelly



### Walkin' with Rich

It's been a while since our last newsletter, but not from lack of activity in the neighborhood. There is the "Historic South

Side" sign on der Glockenspiel at 5th and Division (thanks Loren Boone and SCSU!), the Greater St. Cloud Development Corp. and New Market Tax proposals, the Place Making Through Public Art plan, the Top 10 Greater St. Cloud Priorities efforts, even NUCC had a re-visioning exercise. This is only a partial list of efforts underway to make St. Cloud a better place to live. Our SCH&NPA members are active in all these projects. We have had the luxury to evolve from a reactive organization to a pro active organization.

Like many groups, we were formed in response to crisis. Chunks of homes were being torn down, homesteaders were fleeing and the only press coming out of the South Side was negative. Our major events, Home Tour and Boutique, were born under this cloud. The express reason to hold these events was positive PR about the neighborhood, and to bring people into the neighborhood to experience our great homes and closely knit neighbors. If funds were raised it would be a bonus. I hope we have a tour again in the future, but now I would like to focus our events inward such as the two new events of 2012- the

*"Minoris Sed Victor"*



South Side Neighbor  
524 7th Avenue South  
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Block Party Pie Bake Off and the Progressive Christmas Party. A big thanks to the planners of both. (Are you planners on again for this year?) If there is a different new activity/event you want to help plan, please contact me or an Events Committee member.

There is room for more members on the board. Maybe you can't commit to the board now but can help with some other issue. Great, that is why we have an organization. We are lucky to always have people commit to serving on our board, NUCC, SSUNA, and the SCNC boards from our neighborhood. But, just because you don't have the time to serve now, don't feel that you can't have input or support a cause near to your heart. We have the structure, the support that the St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition (SCNC) provides and great neighbors. We can adjust to new times and new projects. Times are different and that is a GREAT thing!

Oh, have you been to "the wine shop" yet. It is in the old Pickard Motors next to Bo Didley's at 2186th Ave S. If you are going to be modeling responsible consumption for some of our younger neighborhood residents anyway, then why not buy local and support a neighborhood business. If you find something you like feel free to invite me over for a glass. See you out there, REK

# The South Side Neighbor



March 2013



*"Beautify your city as you would have your home" - Charles Barden*

Save  
the date!

## 2013 ST. CLOUD HISTORIC & NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (SCH&NPA) ANNUAL MEETING & SOUP BUFFET

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 13TH

10 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Our hosts will be Steve, Beth and Katie Cragle at their home, 201 Ramsey Place.

*(Save the date, agenda mailed in April)*

Everyone is welcome for a chance to visit with neighbors, review our work from last year, discuss this year's efforts and share and enjoy a fine selection of soups made by your SCH&NPA board. Meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. with soups on the table at 11:00 a.m. (You can show off your skills and bring a crock pot or dessert if you have the time.)

### SCH&NPA STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

1. PRESERVE BUILDINGS OF HISTORICAL, ARCHITECTURAL, AND NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNIFICANCE;
2. PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF HOMESTEADERS;
3. FOSTER COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HOMESTEADERS AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION;
4. ENGAGE THE INTEREST AND SUPPORT OF OTHER ORGANIZED GROUPS SUCH AS THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, STEARNS HISTORY MUSEUM, AND OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS WITH SIMILAR OBJECTIVES;
5. COMMUNICATE WITH CITY OFFICIALS AND AGENCIES;
6. PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR THE COLLECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO HELP FURTHER OUR OBJECTIVES.

St. Cloud Historic & Neighborhood  
Preservation Association  
(SCH&NPA)

**President: Rich Kelly**  
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**Newsletter Editor**

St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition  
(SCNC)

**Chair: Rich Kelly**  
**richkelly1@yahoo.com**

Neighborhood University  
Community Council (NUCC)

**Fr. Nathan Kroll**  
**ndkroll@stcloudstate.edu**

South Side University  
Neighborhood Association  
(SSUNA)

**Chair: Peter Fandel**

**ATTENTION--** to cut down on costs and paper, the next issue of the South Side Neighbor will be emailed to our friends outside of the South Side (unless you request a mailed copy). Send your email to be on our newsletter list.

## SCH&NPA BASICS AT A GLANCE, AS PROPOSED FOR ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

(The basic must haves/duties to keep our neighborhood association healthy and viable.)

- Meet a minimum of 5 times yearly, including an annual meeting - St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition (SCNC) rule.
- Pay our SCNS dues and maintain affiliation with SCNS. (SCNC provides event/board insurance, and 501c3 status as well as networking with other groups.)
- Collect member dues.
- Elect a board and officers.
- Support and supply neighborhood representatives to: Barden Park and Events Committees, NUCC, SCNC Board, SSUNA and any new ad hocs.
- Create and distribute newsletters (our goal is quarterly).
- Plan and host the following yearly events: Annual Meeting, National Night Out, Block Party, Progressive Christmas Party, others as members choose.
- Follow our mission and the South Side master Plan.

## SCNC: A WALK THROUGH OUR FIRST DECADE



The St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition (SCNC) is the umbrella organization for the core neighborhood associations such as ours. Rich Kelly, the last founding SCNC member on their board and current chair, compiled this list of milestones as the tenth anniversary approaches in October 2013. Sometimes it is asked, "What do you people actually do? What good comes from all this?" This list answers these questions and shows the opportunities made possible in our neighborhoods from this collective effort. SCNC provides support so individual neighborhoods don't have to keep reinventing the wheel.

**2003:** After months of discussion, the first monthly meeting of the St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition (SCNC) was called to order by our chairperson and founder, Joan Jaye. It was October, 2003. Eastside and South Side were the inaugural neighborhoods. We recognized that we had similar issues and would have more power to effect change if we banded together. An initial goal was to create a central structure providing non-profit status, insurance, grants, staff, etc., so that each neighborhood wouldn't have to struggle to do these things independently. ♣

**2004:** SCNC began developing our mission and goals. We began a plan to attract new core neighborhoods into the Coalition through the Initiative Foundation's (IF) Healthy Neighborhoods Partnership Program (HNPP). This program was being designed specially for SCNC from their existing Healthy Cities Program. To date, we are their only model for a coalition of neighborhoods within a single city. ♣

**2005:** Lake George, St. John Cantius, South Side University, and Seberger-Roosevelt Neighborhoods participated in the IF Healthy Neighborhoods Partnership Program, bringing the number of SCNC participating neighborhoods to five. (Eastside Boosters had participated in a HNP a few years before.) It was decided that, to be a neighborhood in good standing with SCNC, that neighborhood must complete the HNPP trainings and refreshers. ♣

**2006:** Garner Moffat served as our second chairperson. The five neighborhoods began planning for the future of SCNC including developing bylaws, goals, incorporation, and staffing. Neighborhood leaders facilitated the important work of holding monthly and annual meetings in the neighborhoods, working with the City, HRA, Police, SCSU, St. Cloud Hospital, businesses and other groups to address the goals that resulted from the HNPP process. ♣

**2007:** Under the years of leadership of our third chairperson, Marge Prayately, we attained: our 501(c)3 non-profit status, contracted with a tax consultant and a bookkeeper to maintain professional money management and oversight for the Coalition and neighborhoods, acquired Board and event liability insurance, and updated our mission, bylaws, and operating principles. ♣

**2008:** McKinley-Railroad Park, North Side-Hester Park and Northeast Wilson Park neighborhoods completed the HNPP process and brought us to our current number of seven neighborhoods. We received a \$17,500 grant from the Initiative Foundation. We contracted with a website designer and launched the SCNC website: [www.scnc.us](http://www.scnc.us). ♣

**2009:** We elected our fourth chairperson, Kelly Bartlow, and continued to work on community building in our neighborhoods, sought grants to keep the work of the SCNC going, as well as supported small projects in the member neighborhoods. We received a \$17,500 grant from the Initiative Foundation. The Otto Bremer Foundation awarded a \$20,000 grant to SCNC. We also contracted with an administrative assistant to help the chair manage the ever increasing workload required to keep the Coalition moving forward. ♣

**2010:** The neighborhoods worked on projects from plantings and granite restoration to home tours and clean-up days, partnering with neighbors, businesses and institutions. Our successes were becoming apparent. We received a \$12,500 grant from the Initiative Foundation. The Otto Bremer Foundation increased the amount of their second SCNC grant to \$30,000. They made a point of telling us that we were the only... "non-poverty related" grant that they awarded in that grant round. This was celebrated as recognition of the solid foundation we had built for SCNC. ♣

**2011:** We received a \$12,500 grant from the Initiative Foundation. Our successes, and progression of professional development, brought us to the point where even dedicated volunteer labor could not shoulder the responsibilities of sustaining such an organization. Therefore, we contracted with our first executive director, Juliana Elchert, to run the day-to-day operations of SCNC in coordination with the chairperson and board. We also revised our mission statement and goals. ♣

**2012:** Rich Kelly was seated as our fifth chairperson with the task of designing and implementing a capital fund drive to stabilize the Coalition financially. Also, all seven neighborhoods participated in a refresher course of the HNPP to reinvigorate neighborhood leaders and revise goals and initiatives. We raised funds for HNPP. SCNC received funding for HNPP from the City of St. Cloud, the St. Cloud HRA, The Southside University Neighborhood Association, Xcel Energy, Liberty Savings Bank, and TCF Bank. We applied for and received an \$18,500 IF grant. ♣

SCNC was created to provide resources which participating volunteer neighborhood associations need to carry out their own missions and goals. Looking back at our history, we have accomplished our initial goals from 2003. We created a central structure, gained non-profit status, provided insurance coverage for the Board and for Coalition and neighborhood events. We sought and received every grant for which we applied. We contracted with staff: executive director, administrative assistant, bookkeeper, accountant, grant writer, and web designer. The SCNC umbrella organization did all of this so that individual neighborhood associations did not need to provide these resources on their own.

Rich Kelly stated, "We built this house. Now is the time to start living in it." The work of creating and growing our Coalition was long and hard fought. Now, our task is to financially sustain our operations so that neighborhoods may take advantage of the indispensable resources provided by the St. Cloud Neighborhood Coalition.

By Rich Kelly, current SCNC President and founding SCNC board member.

Reviewed by: Kelly Bartlow, past SCNC president and current SCNC board member and Juliana Elchert, SCNC Executive Director.

## BARDEN PARK SUMMER SCHEDULE 2013

The Barden Park Committee and friends are looking for help planting and weeding in Barden Park this summer. We will plant during Memorial Day Weekend (May 25, 26, 27). Weeding takes place during the summer as needed. Contact Juliana at 253-2210 or [dj709@charter.net](mailto:dj709@charter.net) if you can help – even on a one-time basis.

The St. Cloud Municipal Band will perform at Barden Park on the following dates: July 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, 15. We will serve rootbeer floats on those dates. Contact Nancy at 253-6815 to scoop ice cream, pour rootbeer, and meet and visit with a lot of nice folks. It's a quintessential summer event and it's fun! Join us.

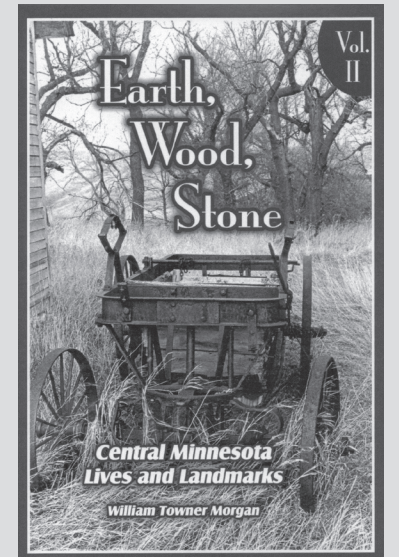


## NEW MONUMENT

The addition of "Historic South Side Neighborhood" lettering onto the monument sign at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Division Street (Highway 23) may be complete by press time. Scenic Sign Corp., of St. Cloud, is completing the lettering in 6-inch high, 1/4 -inch plate aluminum with satin brushed finish. Total cost of the entire sign project is \$3,390, funded through St. Cloud State University. The SCSU Foundation constructed the monument sign as part of the effort to create a major presence for the University along Division Street/Highway 23. The sign includes two digital signage areas which promote University, neighborhood and community events mixed with advertising promotion for Fifth Avenue Live! entities. The addition of the "Historic South Side Neighborhood" designation was a natural progression of the site and area development. We are in this together.



**SCSU AWARD:** St. Cloud State University, in partnership with the City of St. Cloud, received the Innovative Program of the Year Award from the 800-member Association of Student Conduct Administrators at their national conference in St. Petersburg, FL on February 9, for the Diversion/Impact Program, which addresses high risk drinking. The program was developed in collaboration with the St. Cloud City Attorney's office and the Police Department, and offers young offenders who meet the criteria the opportunity to participate in educational programs on campus in exchange for a reduction in their fee. Data over the last several years shows the program to be highly effective. Assistant Dean of Students Jerry Bulisco and Peggy Sarnicki from the Office of Student Life and Development attended the conference to accept the award. Following the conference, the university also received a personal note from the association's founder, who praised the program for its unique contribution to best practices in student development programming. The diversion program has received widespread recognition among college and university communities for both innovation and collaboration. Congratulations to SCSU and the city for their terrific work.



Includes great images and stories of South Side people and places. Copies available at Stearns History Museum Gift Shop

## Do you know of someone interested in moving to the south side university neighborhood?

Remember this great incentive: The HRA is offering a \$25,000 loan deferment program for new south side home buyers to use in rehabbing/restoring their property. Check with the HRA for details: 252-0880.

Readers are reminded that the NEIGHBOR prints letters to the editor, events, and residential homes for sale free of charge to members.