

The Neighborhood Bridge

September

2008

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

Fall 2008 Newsletter

Neighborhood Block Watch

from John French

Thanks to the initial efforts of Goddard Avenue resident, Ava Fox, the TPNA has helped to revive the block watch effort for our neighborhood. And what a busy two months we have had! Fourteen of us attended the Block Watch Summit Meeting at Bellarmine College. Two Windsor Place residents confronted a home invader only two weeks apart; the man was subsequently identified by the homeowners and arrested, following similar incidents on Goddard Avenue and on Hepburn in the Original Highlands. Many cars were broken into on Tyler Park Drive by youths who simply tried to enter unlocked car doors and then rifled through the contents of each car.

Graffiti was a long-running and very expensive problem at Tyler Park all summer. Metro Parks did a great job of repainting the restroom building and scrubbing the paint from the stones under the bridge. Several Tyler Park area residents kept watch over the park and reported new incidents to the police, after which the police stepped up their patrols of the park area.

I myself found that my trash container had been "tagged" with graffiti when I returned from the Block Watch Summit Meeting. I called 574-7111, the police dispatch number, and an officer showed up within minutes.

In our discussions with police, we have heard over and over that we need to keep car, house, and garage doors locked. We might not like the idea, but it is our first line of defense. The home intruder who was arrested recently had been in area homes and had stolen property

with him; still, he talked with the residents and always had a "story" that sounded legitimate.

Men who appeared to be sorting through trash in an alley were found to have hidden a handgun there. An estimated \$7000 in plumbing supplies and equipment was stolen from an area garage in early August. These are the types of incidents that we report to people through our Block Watch email effort.

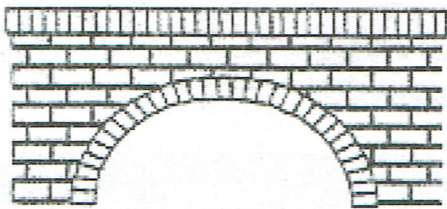


If you would like your email address added to the 125 area residents already on the Block Watch list, please send it to:
info@tylerpark.org.

This seems to be the quickest way to alert people and to keep them informed about neighborhood concerns. We also post news on our web site at **www.tylerpark.org** along with association meeting minutes and a calendar of upcoming events.

Many thanks for all that you do to help keep our neighborhood safe!

Mark your calendar and plan to attend
TPNA Annual Meeting on Thurs., Oct. 23rd
Tyler Park Clean-up probably Sat., Oct. 25th
and buy your tickets in Dec. for
Sun., Jan. 25th's Wine and Cheese Event!
Keep up-to-date with your neighborhood.
Check out www.tylerpark.org on a regular basis!



The View from the Bridge

Summer has quickly passed for the Tyler Park Neighborhood. It began with another wonderful and fun-filled Garden Tour organized by Terry Redden and Jeanette Westbrook and supported by dozens of volunteers. Normally summer in Tyler Park would be closed by our neighborhood picnic but this year, with the crush of urgent needs and a scarcity of volunteer help, we have postponed the picnic for this year. It requires a great deal of time and energy to pull these events together and the TPNA Board just did not have it this year. We hope to be back with it next year.

You may have noticed that MSD is doing some work on the west (lower) side of the Tyler Park Bridge. Over the last several months, members of the Board have been concerned about storm water running out of the bridge between the stonework, and especially at the base of the bridge where a large concrete structure exists.

Several weeks ago, Councilman Tom Owen set up a meeting with MSD Director Bud Schardein on site to examine the problem. Mr. Schardein determined that there was evidence of a problem. Upon visual inspection from the base, it was clear that the drainpipe had separated at the base and that the only way to determine the extent of the problem inside the bridge was to open up the base, repair the connection at that point, and, while the pipe was exposed, inspect it inside the bridge.

Unfortunately, one of the few mature American elm trees left in the park has grown up against the concrete structure at the base of the bridge. It appears that the work will not inflict much damage to the tree and we hope that it will be fine. Another separation in a joint inside the bridge was discovered and it is to be repaired also. To finish the work, a raised sewer cap will be installed so that the drain can be accessed in the future.

Thanks go to Councilman Owen, Metro Parks, MSD and the TPNA Board for resolving the problem with minimal damage to our neighborhood landmark.

A special thanks to Metro Parks for their tireless efforts to remove graffiti as it occurs in the park. It has been cleaned off of the underside of the bridge and the shelter has been repainted yet again.

Finally, I encourage all neighbors to attend any of our TPNA Board meetings on the 4th Thursday of each month, 7 PM at the Highlands Branch Library in Mid City Mall. Of special interest will be our Annual Meeting which is to be held in October. This is the time at which we elect new officers for the coming year.

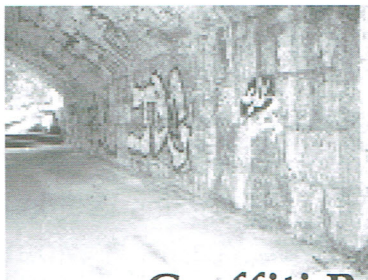
Mike Gramig, President
Tyler Park Neighborhood Association

TPNA Contacts

President - Mike Gramig - 459-6582
Vice President - Terry Redden - 454-5795
Treasurer - Manny Carralero - 451-5198
Newsletter Editor - Florence Saltzman
florenceky@gmail.com

TPNA meetings are the fourth Thursday of each month except November and December from 7 to 9 pm at the Highlands/Shelby Park branch of the Louisville Free Public Library inside the MidCity Mall. All neighborhood residents and business neighbors are welcome to attend.





Tyler Park bridge tunnel after recent vandalism.

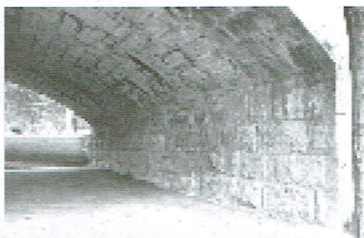
Graffiti Problems

Graffiti has made the view from the bridge a less than pleasant experience in recent months. The park has been slammed repeatedly, including the bridge itself by spray painting. Metro Parks has been very diligent in repeatedly cleaning the mess off of the bridge tunnel walls and repainting the park shelter and picnic tables. Metro Police have increased patrols and there have been other security measures taken. The good news is that they have recently made some more arrests in these cases.

One idea suggested to us by the police is to report any information you may have about the graffiti "artists" to the Crimestoppers at 574-LMPD where you can leave information anonymously and even claim a reward later for the arrest and conviction of the vandals.

This could be especially helpful if you have information but can't or don't want to confront the vandals or their families. The reward is \$500, and the Tyler Park Association recently discussed adding to or even doubling this amount for arrests and convictions of criminals acting in our area.

Don't forget the Police Dispatch number, 574-7111. It's your quickest way to get help from the police in non-emergency situations.



The bridge tunnel after being cleaned by Metro Parks.



MSD at work on the Tyler Park Bridge repairing drainpipes while protecting one of the few remaining elm trees in the park.

Tyler Park Neighborhood Assoc. General Meeting

Our general meeting is set for October 23rd in the meeting room of the Highlands/Shelby Library at Mid City Mall. Like all of our meetings, this one is open to the public. The focus of this meeting is election of officers, appointment of board members (who can simply nominate themselves if interested), and summarizing our accomplishments for the past year.

Board member Joan Dubay suggested that we share information and progress on the Master Plan for Tyler Park, which will involve major work on park drainage, plantings, and "furniture" (benches and tables) in keeping with the original Olmsted plans. We have already received the necessary \$25,000 in funding to cover the plan, which had been scheduled to start in September.

So please join us on the 23rd at 7 PM to share in our past successes and plans for the future! Also, plan ahead for November's meeting which will be the 3rd Thursday, Nov. 20 at 7 PM since the 4th Thursday of the month is Thanksgiving.

Living & Selling in your neighborhood

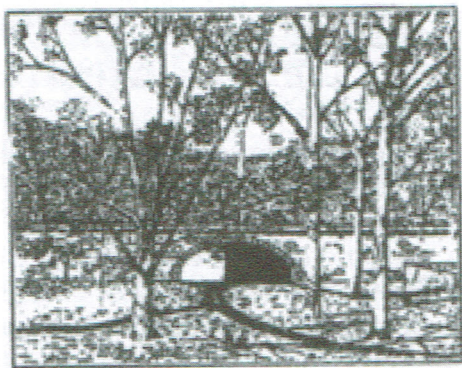
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Tyler Park Cleanup Proposed for October 25

At our August meeting, it was proposed and accepted that we use the October 25 Brightside Cleanup Day to clean several areas in Tyler Park, specifically the corner at Windsor and Baxter, the corner at Edenside and Baxter, and the corner at Edenside and Tyler Park Drive. Many board members and several passers-by helped clean the "Windsor Greenspace" three years ago, but the invasive plants have re-invaded and the area is looking overgrown.

Our first cleanup produced several truckloads of vegetation; if we clean the area again soon, it won't amount to nearly that much work. Lisa Hite, area resident and Metro Parks worker, will again be our liaison with Metro Parks and the Olmsted Conservancy. Because Tyler is an Olmsted Park, we can't simply show up and hope we don't cut down native species of plants.

But the October 25 date is only proposed; for the latest news, please go to the calendar area on our web site, www.tylerpark.org, for news about the cleanup and all the latest news that missed the newsletter. Questions can be emailed to info@tylerpark.org.

TPNA Sponsoring HCM Event

Tyler Park Neighborhood Association has donated \$500 to support The Highlands Community Ministries Week in the Highlands 5K Run/Walk. We join other area associations in sponsoring this annual event, set for Saturday, October 4th. Five hundred participants are expected, with registration fees going directly to HCM.

Highlands Community Ministries has many programs which directly benefit area residents. Some of these are Individual and Family Assistance, Adult and Child Day Care, Youth and Adult Recreation, Housing, and Community Outreach. The Tyler Park Neighborhood Association Board is pleased to be able to contribute to their success.



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membership list. Please look at the mailing label on this newsletter. Members who have paid within the past year will have their name listed on the label with a date showing when we received your membership payment. This date has been moved beside

your name since it was missing on the last newsletter! Businesses should look for the date beside their names to show that they have joined.

If your name is not on the label, **please, please, please join your neighborhood organization!** Details for joining are on the back of the newsletter.

Of course, there is always the chance that we missed your payment. If that is the case, let us know and we will gladly include your information on the mailing list!

Save The Date for TPNA Wine and Cheese Event

Plan ahead and mark your calendars now! TPNA will have our annual Wine and Cheese Event on Sunday, January 25, 2009 from 5-7 at Mid City Mall.

Tickets will be \$15 and will be sold to the public at The Wine Market after January 1st. TPNA residents can

purchase tickets (for Holiday gifts!)

by checking our website for details about early sales after December 1, 2008 (info@tylerpark.org).



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2008 Garden Tour Was A Success

The third annual neighborhood tour was a success. We showcased the Tyler Park Neighborhood with nine unique gardens and a big pottery sale on June 21. The weather was hot and sunny. Of the 77 attendees, 36 were from outside the neighborhood. We heard one lady say, "I go on a lot of garden tours, but this one is my favorite!" Our profit was \$798 after all expenses.

This is thanks to our many sponsors:

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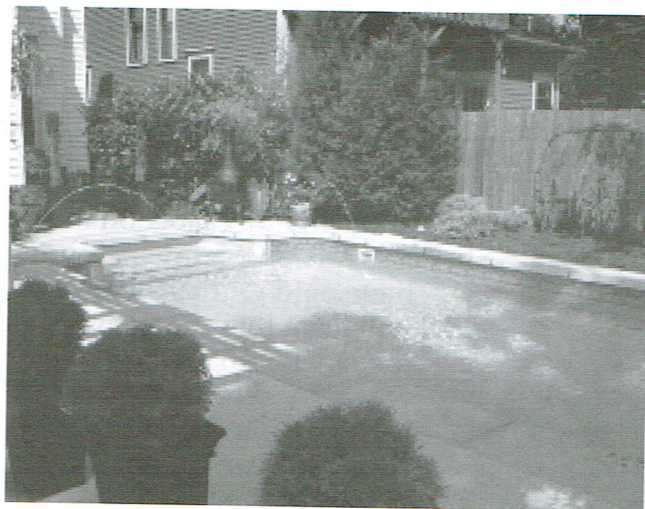
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Hayduke's Lawncare & Gardening

Thanks also to **The Plant Kingdom** for donating a beautiful fern door prize.

If you or a neighbor would like to be included in the 2009 Tour, scheduled for June 20, please call Terry Redden at 454-5795 or Jeanette Westbrook at 451-8207.

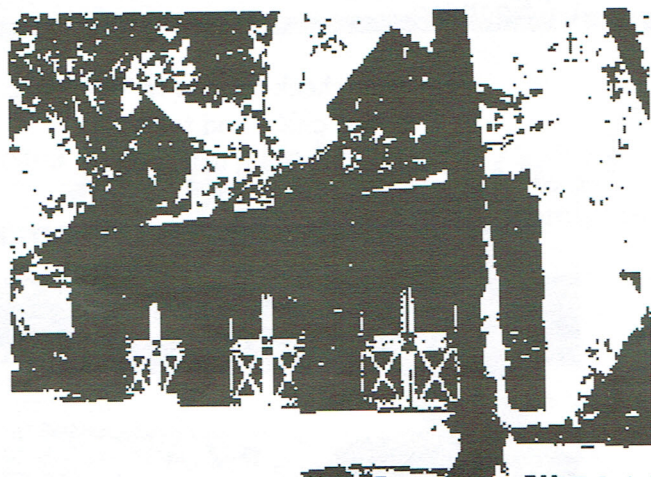


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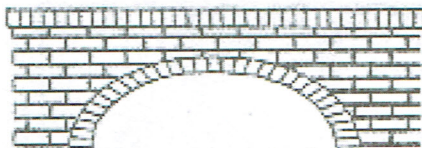
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☐ I would like to serve on a committee concerning _____

☐ I would like to work on the membership committee.

☐ I would like to be on the Board of Directors.

Email your thoughts to info@tylerpark.org

Make your check payable to TPNA, Inc.

Mail check and form to:

TPNA, PO Box 4452, Louisville KY 40204



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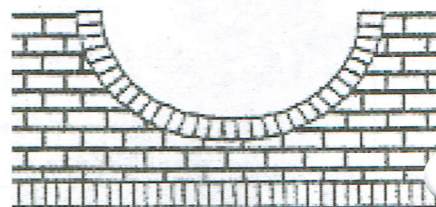
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Also, read inside to learn how to tell from your mailing label if you are up to date on your TPNA membership.



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