

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION NEWS

DECEMBER 2020

THE "VIRTUAL" HOME TOUR ISSUE

ART SHAPES COMMUNITY

Leigh Anne Lester

I have been working at San Angel Folk Art in the Blue Star Arts Complex for 27 years. It has given me a community and a whole lot of wonderful art in my life and in my collection. Because I worked there, it gave me an opportunity to get an artist studio in the complex. First Friday had just started and my studio mate and I thought why not take advantage of the people by showing our art and others during First Friday. We put up lights, painted walls and cactus bra SPACE was born and exhibited some of San Antonio's finest artists in the state and beyond for 19 years. This neighborhood was where most of our friends lived so we'd wander over for First Friday gatherings at their apartments. It felt like a home away from home. On the weekends we would very often come down here for openings, parties, and going to restaurants.

Cut to many years later and Nick and I were looking to move from a house that we loved, but wanted to be much further south. Our most important final criteria was that we wanted to be able to walk in a city that loves its cars. It was just meant to be, after looking at many



Leigh Anne, Noli and Nick Lester standing in front of their home on Mission St

houses over 4 years, we finally found one that we both could agree on and loved. Little did we know that we would feel so welcomed by all the people around us. We walk and ride our bikes to neighbor's homes and to our favorite restaurants. The neighborhood has changed but the old-school people who live here are

what makes King William so special, a pride in their homes and neighborhood. I hope we can do them and it justice in the years to come! •

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Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion(s) of the Board of Directors of the KWA.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

John Doski

"Though, in reviewing the incidents of my administration, I am unconscious of intentional error, I am nevertheless too sensible of my defects not to think it probable that I may have committed many errors." - "One Last Time," Hamilton, Lin Manuel Miranda

To describe 2020 as intense does not do it justice. I feel confident everyone is ready to end this year, hoping for a more normal 2021. This month concludes the term of the KWA 2020 Board of Directors, which persevered through anxiety and COVID. I am most thankful for all the energy and participation the Board has brought to bear in an era of "social distancing." (Could not have predicted use of that word in January.) General membership meetings, socials, concerts, functions, and the KWA Fair have been zoomed, morphed, modified, or delayed. We abide by our leaders' recommendations now greeting each other in masks. A written report (presented in person last year) of the KWA is included in this month's newsletter, suboptimal but executed amidst a once-a-century plague. Our office staff has been hugely impacted, with operations scaled back to skeletal functionality, hibernating awaiting spring. Aligned with my opening quote, my powdered George Washington wig has lost its freshness.

But there has been real progress in spite of it all. Amidst cost discussions, we talked about our ability to continue renting, concerns about KWA owning too much property, taking additional properties off the tax rolls from nonprofit exemptions, a return to a much smaller space for operations, and our financial health. This led to a fortuitous purchase of our current home at 122 Madison and sale of our prior home at 1032 South Alamo, which simplifies our existence with most favorable financial terms. 122 Madison is a great space which will provide great flexibility and possibility for future board use. And we are working regularly with Councilman Trevino on commercial-residential friction and traffic following a transient COVID-related lull.

I maintain it important the Board seek opinion from and inform members and neighbors in its promotion and advancement of the mission of the KWA. And I am pleased to be able to continue personal efforts on the 2021 Board. But I know mistakes were made which I hope we have learned from. Appreciating the diversity of the KWA, it is a most challenging task moving the collective forward in a common direction. I feel badly and am sorry that decisions or actions may have made some frustrated or angry. I conclude by acknowledging the imperfectness of the world, and encourage all of us to do the best we can.

Thank you for this privilege, Happy Holidays in whatever form we are able to execute, and I extend a genuine wish for a better 2021.

"I shall also carry with me the hope that my country will review them with indulgence; and that after forty-five years of my life dedicated to its service with an upright zeal, the faults of incompetent abilities will be consigned to oblivion, as I myself must soon be to the mansions of rest." - "One Last Time," Hamilton, Lin Manuel Miranda

BOARD BRIEFS:

On November 18, 2020, the board of directors met via Zoom as permitted by the bylaws. The board authorized future email votes on approval of the IRS Form 990 and the final position letter of the architectural advisory committee relative to the anticipated request to demolish the former El Mirador Restaurant. The board also voted to establish a residential quality committee to address noise, zoning, and other quality of life issues. The board abolished two outdated policies and adopted revised policies addressing conflicts of interest and staff support. "Board briefs" are not intended to replace the official minutes of the Association but to summarize the board's latest activities. •

Rose Kanusky, Board Secretary

LETTER FROM LISA

Executive Director Lisa Lynde

We're calling this issue our "Virtual" Holiday Home Tour issue. Last year I was so excited about the prospect of helping the home tour committee plan and execute the tour in 2020. In fact, last December I took a call from a gentleman who lives outside San Antonio. He and his wife came to the tour for the first time in 2018 and loved it so much that they decided it would be an annual holiday event for their family. Neither of us really had COVID on our radar at the time and I am glad we didn't. It was nice to be excited about the holidays and the tour itself.

Holiday rituals are meaningful to all of us. In New Orleans Sue and I had several. On Thanksgiving we'd go to the racetrack (along with the rest of the city) wearing a wacky hat to celebrate opening day. Another tradition was to see the gorgeous lights in the tree-lined lobby at the historic Roosevelt Hotel. One of my favorite traditions was to go candle-light caroling in Jackson Square. Songs would be led by the Mayor, Archbishop and other city officials who were often slightly under the influence of "holiday cheer." And there was always dinner at Commanders Palace at some point during the holiday season too.

We don't have holiday rituals here in San Antonio and it doesn't look like we'll be establishing them any time soon thanks to COVID. But Commanders Palace is doing mail-order three-course dinners for the first time in its 127-year history. So, we might just try and vicariously enjoy at least one of our old holiday rituals as we happily toast the end of this rather wretched year. •



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The Bylaws mandate an annual report to the King William Association at a General Membership meeting with provision for questions and input. As this has been like no other year we've lived through, this is a written report. As I will continue on the 2021 Board, I look forward to a future opportunity to answer questions in person.

A 2020 KWA TIMELINE

January 1, 2020: A new 13-member Board voted on in November 2019, including President, Vice President, and 11 Board members from whom treasurer and secretary are appointed.

January 25, 2020: All-day retreat with Board of Directors and office staff.

February 5, 2020: General membership meeting at 122 Madison, CPS Community Solar program.

February 19, 2020: First and only in-person meeting of the Board of Directors. Agreement to dedicate space at 122 Madison as Molly Shafer Gallery.

February 23, 2020: Successful Second Annual Sauerkraut Bend Run with approx 400 runners.

March 4, 2020: General membership meeting at 122 Madison, including COVID presentation by Drs. Patterson, members and Infectious Disease physicians.

March 13, 2020: Texas and Federal Emergency Orders and Actions: closure of businesses and schools, shelter at home orders related to COVID. Meeting restrictions remain in place limited to 10 persons, indoor or outdoor, renewed Oct 28, 2020.

King William Fair scheduled April 25, 2020, Fiesta 2020, delayed: moved to November 2020.

April 2020: First Zoom specially called Board of Directors meeting, review and approval of application for CARES act Paycheck Protection Plan (PPP) forgivable loan/grant for 3 months in support of operations.

April 25, 2020: Limited KW Fair parade held through the neighborhood, including social media involvement.

Apr-Jun 2020: Nominating Process: virtual voting on Nominating Committee enacted with initial online nominations then online

voting for Nominating Committee - Chair Pat Hearn, Carlos Villarreal, Maria Pfeiffer, Anne Alexander, and Jessie Simpson. July-August with process and selection of a 2021 Board of Directors.

Virtual Board meetings: May 13, (special) June 17, July 15, and August 19: Cancellations of the 2020 KWA Grants Program, 2020 KWA Home Tour scheduled December 2020, (Chair Christine Vina), KWA Sidewalk program (administered by Fred Pfeiffer) and KWA Texas Historic Plaque support program.

July 1: Special Board of Directors meeting to discuss offer to purchase 122 Madison, followed by neighborhood engagement and opinion, Board approval.

King William Fair scheduled Nov 14, 2020, Fiesta 2020 canceled. Next KW Fair scheduled for April 21, 2021.

September 2, 2020: First Virtual General meeting, included release of nominating committee slate, nominations from the floor. Oct 7, 2020 with virtual General membership meeting. Paper ballots mailed to all voting members, returned to office, votes counted Nov 4, 2020.

September 16, October 21, November 18 Board meetings: Offer and approval of sale of 1032 S. Alamo

122 Madison/1032 South Alamo

Initiated by a discussion with current owner in June 2020 on assisting the KWA through a one- to two-year period without primary fundraiser. Owner offer to purchase 122 Madison, owner-financed with first year interest only payments, then 30-yr mortgage at comparable rent costs; early payoff without penalty at 5 years. Contract closing pending, expected completion for January 1, 2021.

1032 S. Alamo with current tenant request to terminate early (interior designer) executed September 2020. With purchase of 122 Madi-

son, general agreement to sell 1032 S. Alamo in near future. In process of seeking new renter, significant offer received to purchase 1032 S. Alamo. Reviewed and approved by Finance and Board of Directors, October 2020. Contract execution pending.

Activities

- KWA Architectural Advisory Committee: chaired by Mickey Conrad, maintaining of Zoom meetings starting Summer 2020 with important contributions. Careful and seasoned assessments of all sorts of neighborhood change, especially the new Rosario's.
- KWA Cultural Arts Committee: chaired by Nora Peterson, continued meetings, virtual concert series.

- KWA Finance Committee, chaired by Chance Kinnison, active via virtual meetings, including budgets, financial planning, advising to the Board of Directors on purchase of 122 Madison, sale of 1032 S. Alamo.

- Extensive discussions with Councilman Trevino, SAFFE officers regarding commercial and residential friction, especially noise, code compliance, and traffic.

- New KWA and Cultural Arts websites, including calendar of events, improved functionality of AAC, links to HDRC, online membership renewal and KWA item purchase.

- Forcke St reconstruction including sidewalks and curbs, Cedar St and Mission St resurfacing.

- Extensive discussion with significant commercial/residential friction, engagement with SAFFE, City Council.

- Discussions with Southtown residents about creation of separate Southtown Cultural Arts Committee.

- Significant scale back of all short term operations, office activities and expenditures, office hours canceled March-August 2020 with limited resumption. Rainy Day fund intact through 2020.



Now is the time to start saving on your next year's San Antonio Water System (SAWS) water bills. SAWS bases its monthly sewer charges on our average winter water use. The charges are based on three complete billing cycles from mid-November to mid-March. So, beware of your household water use during this period and save in the coming months. If you have an irrigation system in your garden, you may want to operate it manually only when the top 2 inches of soil is dry.

Winter is a good time to trim trees, especially those that lose their leaves because it is easier to see which limbs should be cut. Trim limbs back to the point they branch off another limb. The cuts of red oaks and live oaks should be sealed using a can of latex spray paint to prevent disease.

The holidays are here and poinsettias are available as the traditional plant of the season. Another colorful plant to consider for indoor decoration is the croton. They have bright red, yellow, and green leaves and if kept in a bright window will last until they can be put out on the patio in spring. Crotons grow to 3 or 4 feet tall and can last many years.

Being close to the river may be why it sometimes seems like we are living in the woods. Hawks whistle, bluejays squawk, squirrels chatter, and raccoons, skunks, and possums roam at will during the night. Now add one more varmint to the list. On November 9, 2020, about dusk while sitting on my front porch on Mission St., I saw a FOX run across the neighbor's yard and down the driveway. It isn't the first sighting in the neighborhood but it is always a surprise to see them.

Here we are at the end of another year. I wish all a Happy Holiday Season and a Happy and Safe New Year. I hope I have helped to make gardening more of a pleasure and less of a chore. •

Garden Note: Observe sheep, cats, and cows. Their bodies are affected by changes in air pressure. When rain is on the way, old sheep turn their backs to the wind, cats sneeze, and cows lie down.

- *The Old Farmers Almanac*, 2020

619 MISSION STREET

Alan Cash

The home at 619 Mission Street is a two-bedroom Arts and Crafts style home built in 1917 by Isidore Tarrillion and his brothers. The home remained in the Tarrillion family until 2003. The house design was by the architectural firm of Alfred Heineman Associates of Pasadena, California. A unique feature of the home is the large front porch gabled roof, which when built was supported by three large ship anchor type chains. The roof is now supported by columns, but the chains remain as an unusual decoration. Neighbors Rose Kanusky and Joe Sheldon attended an Arts and Crafts gathering on the East Coast a few years ago and met a professor noted to be an expert in Craftsman architecture. He told them he was aware of the Heineman design and knew of twelve such homes built but none in Texas. So, 619 Mission Street is lucky number 13. •



Top photo of chain originally used to hold up the front porch roof. Middle photo of home after restoration. Bottom photo of home when purchased.

841 E. GUENTHER

Carlos Villarreal

Four principles guided the redesign of our home:

- 1) To follow the lines and form on the original structure;
- 2) To maximize the use of the space;
- 3) To see out from any place inside the home; and
- 4) To have ample outdoor space.

The main design features of the home that allowed us to accomplish the principles were: changing the roof pitch, double hung 3'x6' windows, a tri-folding glass patio door, and ample decks.

Our home's roof and exterior siding lines mimicking the roof and exterior siding lines of the original home. The main difference is the roof pitch changed from the original 12-on-12 to a 12-on-7, which allowed for the raising of the second-floor plate. This allowed for a front balcony with a view of the Tower of the Americans and a back balcony overlooking the San Antonio River and the Flats at Big Tex. This alone fulfilled three of the guiding principles.

Second, the back first floor exterior wall, facing the river, measures a little over 26 feet. 21 feet out of those 26 feet are covered with glass in the form of a 9'x 6'8" tri-fold door, a 3'x6' window and a 9'x6' window. This is most likely the best view of the first floor, standing at the kitchen's island, there is a 225° panoramic view from Brackenridge Music Hall, tennis courts, Eagleland Trail Head Plaza with the walking bridge across to the silos of The Flats at Big Tex. •



Photo of Carlos Villarreal, homeowner



Photo of home today



Photo of home when purchased in 1996

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A DREAM COME TRUE

725 E. GUENTHER

Gayle Millard and Bob Lord

Hello, fellow members! My husband and I had always dreamed of moving downtown in retirement, but when a house became available in King William several years before then, we jumped at the opportunity. We purchased the 1910 Queen Anne cottage at 725 E. Guenther. We are SO excited about restoring it, and about becoming active in the King William community. It has been super fun to have a project to distract us during COVID!

Our progress on this adventure has been steady since our purchase in May. The foundation repair brought the variance, which was as much as seven inches in places to less than .5 inches. To our delight, the windows and pocket doors work beautifully now that the house is level! We felt we could hear the old girl say “thank you!” Our plans were approved (yay!) and demo is completed. As the framing nears completion, the vision becomes clear. There are so many things in the house that we plan to preserve: the pocket doors, the floors, the front door, the original windows, and the charming doorbell that works with a crank.

We never quite understood antique people, and now we are they. We read as much as we can about the early 1900s, and we would love to know more. It seems the Victorian era was winding down, and the Art Deco period was just beginning. So where was San Antonio in terms of popular colors, fabric and design?



Photo of Bob Lord and Gayle Millard in front of their new home while it's being remodeled

Was Texas different at that time than the East or West Coast?

We have uncovered a bit about the original owners of the house, Ernst and Hedrick Thomas, and would love to know more. Apparently, Hedrick was born and raised in New Braunfels and Ernst came here from Germany. He taught violin and voice at the Thomas (no relation, apparently) School on Alamo St., the Bonn Avon School, and at the house on Guenther.

Clues and advice are most welcome. Can't wait to meet you all! •



SOUTHTOWN ARTS DISTRICT
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Top photo of work in progress. Bottom photo of living room under construction.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN FOR THE FIRST TIME

KWA President John Doski

It is time to renew membership with the King William Association or join KWA for the first time! In previous years, the renewal process occurred over the summer, and members received mailed renewal statements. Bylaws changes in 2019 made it even easier to become a member and changed the membership year to begin January. That makes it time to renew or join NOW.

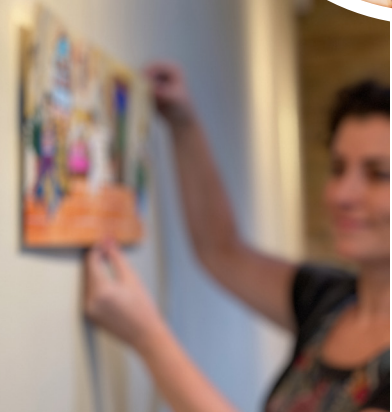
Robust membership improves our ability to advance the mission of the King William Association, as well as broadens relationships with neighbors and expands our diversity. Membership benefits include numerous discounts at businesses and on KWA merchandise (including some Fair discounts!). Joining as a Voting Membership allows voting participation on KWA issues and eligibility to serve on the KWA Board of Directors.

And if that wasn't reason enough, being a member helps to support all the programming KWA offers during a "normal" year:

- Concerts in the Park (virtual during COVID)
- Art Exhibitions in the Molly Shafer Gallery
- Educational Lectures
- Monthly Membership Meetings
- Opportunities to talk to City and State Representatives
- Sidewalk Grants
- Community Organization Grants
- Architectural Advisory Assistance
- Twice-a-year Socials
- The King William Fair
- Sauerkraut Bend 5K Fun Run
- Holiday Home Tour

Initial and renewing membership are quick, easy, and secure online by visiting our website at www.ourkwa.org. Alternatively, you can fill out the application in this December newsletter. And you can always call the office if you need assistance with your membership dues. So, please take a moment and join or renew now. One of our current and returning Board members, Carlos Villarreal, is working to increase membership by increasing its value, and he would appreciate your input or help on this important process.

John Doski
KWA Board President





KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

SIGN ME UP OR RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2021

Dues for 2021 are payable by January 15. A voting member must be current with annual dues 30 calendar days prior to any vote and dues must be paid by January 15 in order to receive complimentary King William Fair admission and be included in the printed directory. The membership year runs January 1 to December 31. Dues may be paid any time but will not be prorated. The King William Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3).

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS (non-voting) - Choose a level:

- Individual (Free) Family (Free) Business/Organization (Free)

VOTING MEMBERS (must reside in or own KW property) - Choose a level:

- Individual (\$30/1 vote) Business/Organization (\$50/1 vote)
 Patron (\$75) Family (\$40/2 votes)
 Benefactor (\$250) Lifetime (\$1000)

INDIVIDUAL NAME(S): _____

For voting business members, list the designated person and alternate person who may cast a vote.

BUSINESS NAME (if applicable): _____

CHILDREN (under 18, list names): _____

VOTING MEMBERS: Would you like your children's names in the KWA Directory?

- YES NO

STREET ADDRESS: _____

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(Check one) I AM I AM NOT

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E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____

VOTING MEMBERS: Would you like your email address listed in the KWA Directory?

- YES NO

ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE ON THE...

- Board Home Tour King William Fair Architectural Advisory Cultural Arts
 Newsletter Other: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please fill out the KWA membership form above and mail to the KWA office at 122 Madison, SATX 78204. You may also drop your form in the mail slot in the door facing Madison (not the parking lot entrance). You may also email us at info@ourkwa.org. Finally, you may also become a KWA member online at OurKWA.org/Membership-Join

BRIEF HISTORY

THE MALVINA NELSON HOUSE 202 KING WILLIAM STREET

Maria Watson Pfeiffer

Malvina Nelson, sister-in-law of Thomas J. Devine who owned much of the land comprising the King William district, purchased this property from Devine in 1863. She built a house on the two corner lots at King William and Turner streets and lived there until 1883 when the property was sold to Francisco (Frank) and Rosana Campbell Ruiz. Ruiz worked in various public jobs and also sold real estate. An advertisement published in August 1883 offers a “ten room rock house on two large lots, beautiful shade trees and shrubbery, corner of King William and Turner streets. Will sell cheap.” This advertisement is thought to describe the Nelson house purchased by the Ruiz’s in November 1883.

If this is correct, the Ruiz’s apparently lived in the older house for about six years before constructing a brick house on the site. The Sanborn’s fire insurance maps dated 1896—the earliest for King William—and 1904, as well as Bexar County property records, provide information about how the current house evolved over time. Frank Ruiz received a building permit on February 25, 1889, for a “brick dwelling” at the southeast corner of King William and Turner Streets. The permit was for \$2,500. A rectangular, 2-story brick structure with a 1-story, 2-room rear addition is illustrated on the 1896 Sanborn’s map. Because the current house has a limestone foundation, it is possible that the Ruiz’s built on the remains of the Nelson house and/or salvaged building material from the older structure.

The Ruiz family lived there until the house was sold to D.J. and May Woodward in 1903.



Pictured left to right, Juan Fernandez, Henry Brun and Regina Moya

The Woodward’s had wide-ranging business interests including Woodward Carriage Company and ranches in Texas and Mexico. D.J. Woodward and his wife apparently added the elaborate porches and the back wing seen on the 1904 Sanborn’s map and also in an illustration published in the *San Antonio Gazette*. Woodward was a wealthy rancher, carriage company owner, and real estate investor. The Woodward’s lived in the house from 1903 until they sold it in 1905 to W.B. Garrett. Though no documentation of the architect has been located to date, the house resembles the work of Atlee B. Ayres and his partner, C.A. Coughlin. Woodward used Ayres as his architect on other projects, including the house he moved to after leaving King William Street. Today, that house at 1717 San Pedro Avenue, completed in 1905, is the home of the San Antonio Woman’s Club.

After a succession of owners, including Jesus and Rachel O’Con who resided there for twenty-three years, the house was purchased in 1966 by Lady Brady, daughter of Thomas

Brady who developed the downtown Brady Building and Empire Theatre and invested extensively in real estate. Brady used the King William Street house as rental property and after her death in 1971, it was sold at auction to Carlos and Sophie Juarez Gonzalez (sometimes spelled Gonzales).

The house was in poor condition at the time it was purchased by the Gonzalez family. Subsequent work removed a large portion of the character-defining front porch and replaced open back porches with a poorly constructed 2-story addition. The house was divided into six apartments, and various family members continued to live there. After the death of Sophie Gonzalez, the house was owned by her son. It was purchased in 2013 by Juan Fernandez and his company CVF Homes. Restoration began in 2014 and was completed in 2015. The architect for the project was Alberto Isunza of Isunza Studios. •



KING WILLIAM CONCERT #8

Henry Brun & The International Trio featuring Judi Deleon will wrap up the Virtual King William Concert Series, Holiday Style. International recording and award-winning percussionist Henry Brun will showcase his band’s Latin jazz in front of a historic home in the King William neighborhood.

HENRY BRUN & THE INTERNATIONAL TRIO
featuring **JUDI DELEON**

November 15, 2020 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

King William Cultural Arts Facebook Livestream

THE HAARMANN/ GOETH HOUSE 331 ADAMS

Bill Cogburn

In 1893, hardware merchant Charles Haarmann bought the large lot at 331 Adams for \$1,000 and hired San Antonio architect Albert Beckmann to design a house for it. In 1903, Charles' wife, Emilie (Minnie), sold the house to her sister Carolina (Carrie) and her husband, Conrad Goeth. Goeth family members lived in the house for the next 65 years.



Top photo of 331 Adams as it looks today by Al Rendon from *Down the Acequia Madre*

Middle photo of 331 Adams, c. 1915

Bottom photo of Charles' son, Arthur, with his pet goat in the backyard of 331 Adams, c. 1903

Conrad Goeth was a land developer who sold a dozen or more lots to homebuilders who were active in the King William neighborhood in the early 1900s. Most of the lots were along the west side of Adams Street. In 1916, he and fellow developer Leonard Peck created building restrictions "for the purpose of making said property mutually more valuable and attractive as residences." Restrictions included setbacks for the structures and fences and minimum construction cost for the houses.

331 Adams is just one of a dozen or so houses in the King William neighborhood designed by architect Albert Beckmann. Distinguishing characteristics to look for on Beckmann designed houses are red brick accents on otherwise yellow or beige brickwork. Another common feature is slender ironwork supporting canopies mounted over graceful arched doorways. •

Source:

Down the Acequia Madre, by Jessie N. M. Simpson; period photos courtesy UTSA-ITC Special Collections, current photo; Bill Cogburn



WHAT'S COOKIN'?

Annice Hill

Wow! Thanksgiving is over, Christmas is around the corner, and 2021 is almost here. I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving!

Now it is time to get ready for Christmas – you have already started, right?

I wish I had a glass of this punch right now!

Port of Call Punch

Serves 20 (1/3 cup servings)

- 5 lemons, divided
- ¾ cup sugar
- ½ cup orange liqueur
- 1 bottle ruby port
- 1 liter sparkling water

1. Remove peel from three lemons and combine with the sugar in a 3-quart bowl, jar, or pitcher; muddle (mash peel and sugar together to extract the lemon oil). Let stand one hour.
2. Squeeze all five lemons to extract ¾-cup juice. Stir the juice into the sugar mixture. Add orange liqueur and port; stir gently.
3. Chill and add the chilled sparkling water just before serving.
4. Garnish with lemon slices and grated nutmeg.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all
– and God bless us everyone!

Experienced House Sitter

Whatever you need to enjoy the holidays.

- ✘ Pets
- ✘ Plants
- ✘ Miscellaneous
- ✘ References Available

Amber Clour | adclour@gmail.com | 405.623.1369

Now here is a recipe to give you luck in the New Year – and let you use of all that ham you have left over from Christmas Dinner! This soup is great – serve with good Texas cornbread and you have a feast!



Pot Liquor Soup

Yield: 2-½ quarts

- 2 pounds fresh collard greens
- ¾ pound smoked ham hocks
- 1-½ pounds cooked, chopped ham
- 2 tablespoons hot sauce
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 medium onions, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 6 red potatoes, diced
- 3 (14.5-ounce) cans chicken broth
- 4 cans black-eyed peas, rinsed and drained; (or two 16-ounce packages frozen black-eyed peas)
- 2 cups water
- ½ cup vermouth
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt

1. Remove and discard stems and any discolored spots from collards; rinse with cold water – drain and tear into 1-inch pieces.
2. Bring collards and ham hocks, with water to cover, to boil in a large Dutch oven. Remove from heat; drain. Repeat procedure once. Remove from Dutch oven and set aside.
3. Toss together chopped ham and hot sauce and cook in the hot olive oil in the Dutch oven over medium-high heat for about 6 to 8 minutes or until browned.
4. Add onion and garlic; sauté until tender. Stir in collards, ham hocks, potatoes, and remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, stirring occasionally, 45 minutes.
5. Remove meat from ham hocks – discard hocks and return meat to soup.
6. Season with salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste.

BLUE STAR CONTEMPORARY

Daniela Oliver de Portillo

As this challenging year starts to wind down and we prepare for the holidays and welcoming a promising New Year, Blue Star Contemporary (BSC) upholds its commitment to inspire our community and present artwork that is thought-provoking and catalyzes dialogue. BSC presents four new exhibitions which remain on view through the spring. On display in the Main Gallery is *Please Form a Straight Line*, featuring the work of Jamal Cyrus, Maggie Evans, Benjamin Jones, Yuge Zhou, Frances Lightbound, Mark Menjivar, Jingjing Lin, and Jorge Villarreal. In Gallery 4, Theresa Newsome presents a recent and ongoing body of work entitled *Objects*; in the Middle Gallery, Ryan Takaba presents an installation following his BSC Berlin Residency at the Künstlerhaus Bethanien, *A Relationship with Flight*; and the Project Space Gallery features work by Sanctuary City Project, a social practice project of artists Sergio De La Torre and Chris Treggiari. In addition to the work Sanctuary City Project presents in BSC's gallery, the collective encourages community participation through call and response prompts. Viewers will encounter a billboard on BSC's facade prompting reflection to the question: "When did you forget you were an immigrant?" To add your response to their project, call (210) 342-2667. Press 0 then # to leave a response.

To complement these exhibitions, check BSC's calendar for a busy fall of dynamic virtual and outdoor programs. On Thursday, December 10, 2020, join BSC and exhibiting artist Mark Menjivar for an Art Walk to commemorate International Human Rights Day. The public program, led by *Please Form A Straight Line* artist Menjivar, will start at BSC and end at Sala Diaz (.7 miles) on Stieren Street in King William. Participants will engage in response activities that connect his artwork at both sites. A companion solo exhibition of Menjivar's work titled *Birds, Rats, Roses*, further investigating themes of capital punishment and contents of the David Lee Powell archive, is concurrently on view at Sala Diaz. In *Please Form a Straight Line*, Menjivar presents DLP, 2018-2020, a work that includes a photograph of 17 storage boxes alongside a detailed index of their contents, the former belongings of David Lee Powell who was executed in Texas in 2010 after spending 32 years on death row. Menjivar is the artist-in-residence with the Texas After Violence Project which uses history and archives to create dialogue and action around capital punishment in Texas.



Yuge Zhou, GREEN PLAY (EXCERPT), 2016

BSC is committed to creating an environment in which artists and the community can explore difficult and challenging issues while respectfully exploring diverse points of view, thus creating opportunities for exchanges from which individuals come away inspired and challenged. For more information on our exhibitions and programs please visit bluestarcontemporary.org.



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KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION BOARD UPDATE

The KWA Board will have two open board positions as of January 1, 2021. The Nominating Committee has identified two candidates as nominees who will serve on the KWA Board if elected by the KWA membership. The nominees are Leigh Anne Lester and Jessie Simpson. Their biographies follow:

LEIGH ANNE LESTER

Leigh Anne Lester is an artist that has had exhibitions across the country and internationally. She also ran an alternative exhibition space, cactus bra SPACE, in the Blue Star arts complex for 19 years. She has worked at San Angel Folk Art in the complex for 27 years and counting. She served for 5 years on the board of the Artist Foundation of San Antonio.



She and her husband Nick and pup Noli (seen above) have moved into the neighborhood 2 ½ years ago. They jumped into making their house a home in a personal way that embodies the spirit of King William. If you happen to cross their paths, please don't hesitate to say "Hi". •

JESSIE N.M. SIMPSON

Jessie Simpson is a retired Air Force Contracting Officer and lifelong preservationist. She began her first restoration project, 514 Madison, in 1975 and has since been instrumental in the renovation of five more houses on King William and Madison. She has been a neighborhood volunteer, King William Fair Chair and vice-president of the KWA Board of Directors.



In 1985, she began the restoration of the Joske House (241 King William), where she lives with husband Bill Hoover. Gardening, cycling and historic research are favorite hobbies. •

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