

THE GARDEN ISSUE

OUT IN THE GARDEN WITH ALAN CASH

February 2 of each year is Groundhog Day. Since 1887, Pennsylvania's

Punxsutawney Phil has announced spring's arrival. According to tradition, if a groundhog sees its shadow on this day, there will be six more weeks of winter. If it does not, then spring is right around the corner. Only time will tell.



For many gardeners, Valentine's Day, February 14, is when to get ready for spring gardening. It is the date that perennials, plants that grow from year to year, can be cut back to promote new growth. If trimmed on Valentine's Day, by the time new growth appears, we will usually be past the time of the last winter freeze.

Common perennials that can be trimmed after Valentine's Day, even if they haven't frozen back, include: Esparanza, Firebush, Lantana, Mexican Honeysuckle, Mexican Petunia, Philippine Violet, Plumbago, Shrimp, Salvias, Thryallis, and Turks Cap.

Cut them back to about six to twelve inches tall. This is also a good time to trim shrubs to shape them and keep them from getting too large for their space.



Alan Cash pruning his Sweetheart rose bush that was planted at his home in 1917

To encourage abundant spring flowers, shrub roses should be cut back by about half. Climbing roses are an exception because they bloom on old wood. Prune them after they have finished blooming in late spring.

Mountain Laurel also bloom on prior year's growth. If needed, trim them after their spring blooming is finished.

Nandinas can get leggy with tall canes with most of the foliage near the top. Trim them by each year cutting about one fourth of the tallest canes to about two to four inches from the ground. New sprouts will fill in the empty lower area.

Fertilize lawns and flower beds if it has been two to three months since the last application using an organic fertilizer found at most good nurseries and some feed stores. They do not necessarily need to be watered in immediately after being put out.

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Garden Note: Never carry a hoe into the house. If you do so by mistake, carry it out again, walking backward to avoid bad luck. (This is an "Old Wives' Tale" from *The Old Farmers Almanac*.) •

THIS MONTH'S FEATURES INCLUDE:

MEET OUR NEW PRESIDENT President's Messagepg 2 **FIRST AID FOR SPRING FEVER** *Tips to help you pick the right plantpg 5*

BACK WHERE WE STARTED

53 Years Later..... pg 6

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:

Margaret Leeds



King William Association President Margaret Leeds in front of her home on King William

May 2021 continue as a bright year full of promise and fulfillment. You have selected an awesome team of neighbors to serve with me as your King William Association Board of Directors. We want to stay closely connected with you and to hear from you regarding questions or concerns you may have about the neighborhood, suggestions for action on our part, or perhaps an occasional recognition of something that was done well.

It is fortunate that the 2020 KWA Board seems to have had 2020 vision. With the purchase of 122 Madison and the sale of 1032 S. Alamo, we have weathered an uncertain financial situation resulting from the cancellation of the 2020 KWA Fair.

Decisions about these properties and about the KWA Fair generated differences of opinion throughout the neighborhood as to the wisest way to proceed. It is my hope that differences of opinion, unavoidable as they are in any diverse group, will be offered and welcomed in a forum of open communication as we search collaboratively for the best answer.

The 2019 KWA Survey revealed that you concur with the KWA mission statement that our main purpose is "to preserve the historic and residential nature of the neighborhood." The newly formed Quality of Life Committee can help us to deal strategically with issues that threaten the physical quality of life, but the biggest threat to our emotional quality of life is letting differing viewpoints prevent us from being good neighbors. Preserving a building pales in importance if a neighborhood is falling apart. We may not always reach consensus, but let us be united, working and living together as friends and neighbors in the 'hood.

¡Viva King William! •

BOARD BRIEFS:

The 2021 King William Association Board had its first meeting Wednesday, January 20. The most pressing business of the Board was the 2021 King William Fair. The Board discussed alternatives of holding the King William Fair in April, postponing to summer, or postponing to 2022, and authorized the Executive Director and Fair Manager to communicate our significant concerns to the Fiesta Commission. The Finance Committee reported that due to the foresight of the 2020 KWA Board, the Association is in stable financial condition and is able to maintain operations if the 2021 Fair is cancelled or postponed. "Board briefs" are not intended to replace the official minutes of the Association but to summarize the board's latest activities.

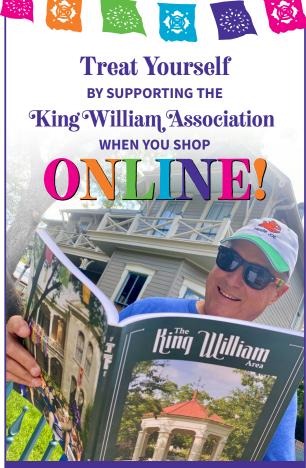
Your 2021 King William Association Board has great anticipation for the next year. • *Dan Ratliff, Board Secretary*

LETTER FROM LISA

Executive Director Lisa Lynde

As some of you know Sue and I have an antique furniture business. There is nothing more satisfying than taking a discarded item and giving it a new lease on life. One time I rescued an Eastlake dresser from a burn pile. Yep. You read that right. It was going to be kindling for a bonfire at an underground music festival a friend of a friend was having in Michigan. I hauled it off that pile, mouse poop and all, and put it in the back of my van, excited to hand it off to Sue who does the furniture restoration work. Besides picking, my specialty is antique linens. I remember one estate sale where they had trash bags full of old embroidered linens they were practically giving away. I was in heaven. After several days soaking in OxiClean, I was rewarded with antique linens as bright and crisp as they were when they were first embroidered. Now if only OxiClean could have done the ironing...

Here in King William, we think a bit bigger. We like to give our buildings a new lease on life. I was thinking of this when I read Bill Cogburn's article on the history of KWA offices in this month's newsletter. When I learned that KWA offices were first housed in a candle factory on Madison – the very space we occupy today – I realized we had come full-circle. It definitely re-confirmed to me that we'd made the right decision to purchase 122 Madison! So, to celebrate our newly owned office, Syeira and I rearranged the office over our winter break. It's still a work in progress, but Syeira's new desk may very well be one that was used for KWA business over fifty years ago! We also had some pretty serious pruning done courtesy of a KWA member. The palm trees have never looked better! Even our old building, 1032 S. Alamo, has been given a new purpose. A chiropractor office will soon be opening here in the neighborhood!•



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WHY I LIVE IN KING WILLIAM

BREAKFAST AT KING WILLIAM Nora Peterson

It was 1997 and I was sitting in front of the gift shop on Alamo Street in King William. It was a lovely evening, and I was soaking up the atmosphere. I had a view of the Tower of the Americas and was relishing the proximity to downtown. I am a city girl from Chicago, and the walkability and charm of the neighborhood was right up my alley. I told my husband Richard that if we were going to move to San Antonio from St. Louis, that this is the place I want to live.

We started looking around at L houses. Betty Yndo drove us around

with the goal of selling us on King William even more than on selling us a house. The next thing you know, we not only bought a house, we purchased the Adams House Bed & Breakfast Inn. This was a great introduction to folk in King William.

The San Antonio Bed & Breakfast Association introduced us to other B&B owners, who became our friends. After joining the King William Association, we met more neighbors in addition to those on Adams Street. When my parents moved to Adams Street from Chicago in





Richard Green and Nora Peterson standing in front of their home on Adams To their left, the original Adams House Bed & Breakfast Inn, which is now a single-family dwelling

2002, they settled into a wonderful community. I loved being proprietor of the B&B. I felt like an ambassador to San Antonio, and quickly became acquainted with the sights to see. It was fun to share these with our guests from around

the world. The McNay Museum is a favorite.

We purchased the house next door to the B&B at 227 Adams in 2004. We began to restore the historic home built in 1897. In 2006, we sold the B&B as a single-family dwelling and moved into our new home. It was great to move into a new-old home and keep all of our good neighbors and friends. •



GARDEN ISSUE FEATURE

FIRST AID FOR SPRING FEVER Roselyn Cogburn

When spring fever strikes, gardeners are helpless to resist. In February when the weather is cool and the soil is moist, we forget the heat and drought of August. We forget our promise to God that we would never do this again.

We become excited by trays of colorful flowers coming off the nursery trucks. There is so much to choose from that we can't choose at all. We go a little mad and choose one (or several) of everything - with no idea where we will plant them. Such madness is much encouraged by astute nurserymen.

To avoid ending up with too many of the wrong kind of plants for your particular garden, I offer a few hard-learned lessons:

Read - and believe - what the nursery tag says about sun, shade and moisture requirements. How much time and money do you want to spend on water to keep these plants alive?

Perennials are worth the extra expense, saving work and money in the long run and (with luck) they multiply. Annuals provide colorful seasonal filler for the bare spots.

Buy only as many plants as you can get into the soil in one day - two at most. Otherwise, those beautiful plants will become expensive compost. Better to give the extras, while still healthy, to a neighbor.

Three things to remember: Maintenance-free gardening is an oxymoron. Xeriscape is not zeroscape. And don't ask me about tomatoes. That's why we have Alan Cash. •



STOCK PHOTO

WHAT'S COOKIN'?

Roselyn Cogburn

Lemon juice and rind are good to keep on hand. A couple of tablespoons of fresh or frozen juice brightens chicken soup, salad dressing, pasta etc. Generous neighbors keep me supplied. When I get a lot at one time, I grate the rind then freeze juice and rind separately in small containers. This way I have "fresh" lemon flavor all year long. •

QUICK LEMON SAUCE	Pasta With Lemon Olive Oil	
(Good on gingerbread or any kind of plain cake)	• Zest of 1 lemon • ½ cup lemon juice	Combine all ingredients except pasta in large bowl. Drain pasta, reserving some of the water. Add hot pasta to the bowl and toss to coat. If needed, add a little hot pasta water to smooth out the sauce.
½ cup sugar2 Tbsp. cornstartch	 ½ cup extra-virgin olive oil 1 or 2 large garlic cloves minced 	
1 cup water	• ½ cup Kalamata olives, pitted and sliced	
2 Tbsp. lemon juice 2 tsp. grated lemon peel	• 2 Tbsp. (<i>or more</i>) fresh chopped thyme or basil or parsley (<i>or all three if you have them</i>)	
2 Tbsp. butter	Salt to taste	
Mix sugar, cornstartch and water and cook over medium heat until smooth and thick. Add lemon juice, rind and butter. Mix and serve over gingerbread or plain cake.	 Coarsely ground black pepper, to taste 1 lb. pasta of choice, cooked al dente Fresh grated Parmesan (or similar cheese 	
	to serve	KWA NEWSLETTER 5

THEN AND NOW



122 Madison in the 1960s, home of King William Association's first office space

122 Madison today, home of King William Association, photo by Al Rendon

AFTER 53 YEARS – BACK WHERE WE STARTED Bill Cogburn

The King William Association was incorporated July 28, 1967. Raford Dobie, one of three incorporators and initial agent was the principal organizer of the association. He served as the association's first president from August 1967 to March 1970.

Charter member Graham Knight offered office space for the fledging group in the entry hall of his Clare Candle Factory at 122 Madison Street. Knight not only loaned the space but also his employee, Geri Regier, to handle the association's minimal affairs such as newsletters and membership dues. The early newsletters consisted of both sides of an 8½ x 14 inch sheet cranked out by hand on a mimeograph machine. Monthly general meetings were held at St. Joseph's Hall.

In the early 1970s, Graham Knight closed his candle factory and since the building was being repurposed, the association needed new quarters. Phil and Mary Schug, a former KWA president, owned the house at 222 King William Street and they had a small apartment for rent just off their porte cochère. This small space served as the association's office for the next fifteen years. Geri Regier, who lost his job when Knight's candle factory closed, also rented a small apartment in the Schug's house and agreed to continue with the association's duties for a small stipend. Later, when Geri began to have health problems, Jean Alexander-Williams was hired as the association's second employee.

In 1990, former KWA presidents Carol Hodge and Lewis Fisher promoted the purchase of the 1884 Haenel house at 1032 South Alamo for the association's new office. Under the leadership of association president Carolene Zehner, neighborhood architect Charles Schubert oversaw the restoration of the building. The house served as the association's headquarters from 1991 to 2014.When limited space became a problem, the KWA board voted to move its headquarters to 122 Madison Street on a rental basis. 122 Madison has been the King William Association's home since 2014.

122 Madison Street is a mid-century modernist structure. Graham Knight commissioned O'Neil Ford and Associates to design his building. The project was largely the work of architect Alex Caragonne, then early in his career. The original drawings with notes in O'Neil Ford's hand provide written proof of Ford's influence in the design.

Sadly, Graham Knight, an early King William Association president and ardent supporter of the neighborhood, passed away on January 17, 2020. He continued to have an office in



222 King William, home of King William Association's second office space in the 1970s-1980s, photo by Al Rendon

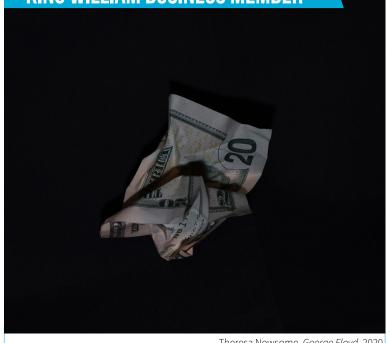


1032 S. Alamo, home of King William Association office from 1990-2014

a back room of 122 Madison until months of his death. In December 2020, the King William Association purchased 122 Madison and sold the house at 1032 South Alamo. •

Source: KWA archives; Carolene Zehner

KING WILLIAM BUSINESS MEMBER



Theresa Newsome, *George Floyd*, 2020 Archival pigment print, 12x12, courtesy of the artist

BLUE STAR CONTEMPORARY

Daniela Oliver de Portillo

This February we celebrate Black History Month, an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans, their significant role and importance in U.S. history. This year, more than ever, Black History Month is a time to reflect on our immediate need to work together to achieve a truly fair and inclusive America, where all lives are valued in equal measure. Blue Star Contemporary invites the public to view Theresa Newsome's solo exhibition, Objects of Aggression. The photographs reflect on the murder of unarmed black men and women in the United States, either by police brutality or unchecked racism. The objects depicted in this series portray the everyday objects that have become iconographic, and in a sense, played a pivotal role in the victims' murders. In creating these images, Newsome frames how baffling it is that these objects were seemingly integral as reasoning for the violence that transpired. Through this body of work Newsome also confronts the ongoing fear Black women specifically live with of losing the boys and men in their lives. In the artist's case it is a constant worry for her brother's life, in addition to other loved ones and community members. Newsome questions how the worth of these objects and the alleged offenses of the victims, equate to the worth of a life.

We wish to congratulate our immensely talented and resilient MOSAIC students, who opened an exhibition entitled *Posterworks* at AXIS gallery in Sacramento, California. This is the first national exhibition for MOSAIC students. Blue Star Contemporary's MOSAIC Student Artist Program is a free after school program for high school students who are interested in developing their professional artistic skills and careers in the arts. The exhibition was recently featured by Deborah Martin in an article in *The San Antonio Express-News*.

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KING WILLIAM CLEAN-UP

LITTER PATROLLING

We are all so fortunate to live in the historic King William neighborhood! As a daily walker, I regularly see neighbors and guests strolling along our shady sidewalks and enjoying the beautiful homes and gardens. A fresh air break is delightful, especially in these days of COVID-19. But the next time you are out walking, look down. I think you will be sad and disappointed to see the amount of litter. I see garbage on virtually every street in King William, including our own – Cedar Street. This seemingly small thing can spoil the charm of our neighborhood.

I have been litter patrolling Cedar Street between South Alamo and Pereida and find a weekly policing can be accomplished in less than 15 minutes. This is sad to say, but I typically collect a grocery bag of trash each week on just our block. In addition to empty bottles, retail ads, and fast-food packaging, I routinely find used face masks, wipes and even dirty diapers.

Litter is not just an unpleasant distraction that degrades our community, it also poses risks

OLD NEWS

OUT IN THE GARDEN FEBRUARY 2009 Alan Cash

Nurseries will soon have a supply of annual plants for sale. Buy now to get a good selection and price but wait to plant them after the threat of frost is past in mid-March. If you plan to fertilize your lawn grass in spring, wait until it has been cut at least twice to be sure the roots are actively growing and can use the nutrients. Using a good organic fertilizer reduces the possible buildup of chemicals in the soil and water supply. Organic fertilizers do not burn the grass and do not have to be watered in immediately after their application.

Garden Note: Gardening is a matter of your enthusiasm holding up until your back gets used to it. •



to all of us including children, pets, and our abundant birds and squirrels. Broken glass, cigarette butts and plastic are all too common. Garbage that contains food remnants is also an attraction to unwanted wildlife including rats, opossums and racoons.

The King William Association hopes you will help pitch in to improve our neighborhood by joining one of these efforts:

Adopt Your Block

Consider adopting your block for a weekly or bi-weekly litter pick-up. A good pair of gloves, a garbage bag, and your mask are all you need. If you are interested, please contact the KWA office at <u>director@ourkwa.org</u> or 210-227-8786 to register and claim your block! Volun-

> teers will receive a free King William t-shirt or poster as a thank you for helping to improve our community.

Contact Businesses

The next time you are dining out or shopping, encourage your favorite local establishment to provide a trash can on their sidewalk for customer use. Also encourage them to regularly pick up litter left behind on the sidewalk and their property by customers. I am pleased to announce that Bonham Academy has agreed to place and service a garbage can on Cedar Street to reduce some of the litter that is generated by school pick-up and drop-off. Every piece that goes directly into a trash can is one less piece to pick up!

Our neighborhood is frequented by many tourists and guests who are an important part of our local economy but may not hold the same standards as those of us who are fortunate enough to live here. We hope that much like painting over graffiti creates a natural deterrent, picking up litter and maintaining clean streets will establish a new norm where tossing out cigarettes, empties, and other garbage is no longer common.

King William is special and we are all so lucky to live here. Please help us to maintain the special charm, livability and beauty of our neighborhood.•

