

TACONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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Volume 8, Issue 2

A Nonprofit Corporation to Serve the Community

May 2010

Tacony Civic Association General Meeting

★ **May 11, 2010** ★

- ♦ Starting Time: 7:00PM
- ♦ Disston Memorial Presbyterian Church, located at 4500 Tyson Ave. (Please use side entrance on Glenloch St.)
- ♦ Featuring Captain Frank Bachmayer's 15th District Town Hall Meeting at approximately 8:00 PM.
- ♦ All are welcome!

Future 2010 TCA meetings:

- ♦ September 14th
- ♦ November 9th

Renew Your Membership for 2010!

If a 2010 membership renewal form is enclosed, please complete it and return to the address specified on form. Only \$5 a year! What a bargain!

Inside This Issue:

Did you know?	2
Upcoming Meeting	2
Tacony Town Watch Notes	3
Tacony Library Schedule	3
Tacony Zoning Report	4
Disston Park Events	4
Flea Markets	4

MEMBER ALERT:

As discussed at the last General Membership Meeting, President Louis M. Iatarola will not seek another term as President of the Tacony Civic Association, choosing to focus on chairing the Zoning Committee while remaining active on other organizational committees.

Second Vice-President Christine Woolslayer has resigned from the Board of Directors for personal reasons. Both the President and Second Vice-President positions will be open for a two-year term.

The Civic Association Board of Directors is always looking for committed individuals to join us. If any member is interested in nominating themselves or a fellow member for the Board, please call President Louis M. Iatarola at 215-331-1551, extension 103. This is a great way to get more involved in the improvement of our community.

2010 TACONY CIVIC ASSOCIATION SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Save these dates...

July 8th July 22nd August 5th August 19th September 2nd

Start time 6:30 p.m. Stay tuned for more details!!!!

Northeast Philadelphia History Fair

Rain or Shine Attendance is FREE!!! FUN is Guaranteed!!!

May 8th 10 - 4:00 pm

Holy Family University

Campus Center Bldg. - Stevenson Lane 9801 Frankford Avenue

Bring the kids!! Spread the word!!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Louis M. Iatarola
President

Mary Benussi
Vice-President

Open
2nd Vice President

Linda Salandra
Treasurer

Anne Marie Kuvik
Secretary

Troy Everwine
Dawn Ramos
Board Members

TACONY CIVIC COMMITTEES

Events Committee
Mary Benussi

Membership
Dawn Ramos

Fundraising
Dawn Ramos

Police Liaison
Mary Benussi

Publicity & Public Relations
Troy Everwine

Quality of Life
Barbara Dooley & Sandy Stewart

Public Works (Streets, Traffic, Water, & Sewer)
Anthony Naccarato

Tacony Clean & Green
Troy Everwine

Zoning
Louis M. Iatarola

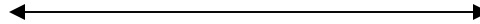
*Please leave a message on the Tacony Civic phonenumber (215-338-2575 ext. *1) if you would like join a committee.*

Your help is greatly appreciated!

DID YOU KNOW?

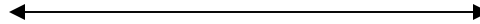
Tacony was not only at the forefront of our country's defense during the Second World War at the Disston Saw Works and Armor Plating Plant. After the War Tacony was literally at the forefront of defending our city just west of the Tacony Palmyra Bridge within Disston Park! In the square bounded by Magee Avenue, the railroad, Levick Street and Keystone Street, an anti-aircraft defense battery consisting of 4 ninety-millimeter guns and 4 small gasoline engine-driven Quad 50 caliber machine guns protected our area from incoming attacks at each corner. The guns were originally wheeled but later were placed in protective sandbag enclosures. The 90 mm guns were located in the block between Magee and Hellerman while the support buildings were situated between Levick and Hellerman. The support buildings included the mess hall, motor pool and armaments buildings. Live ammunition was stored in the sandbagged gun emplacements and bigger quantities in sandbagged bunkers adjacent to the railroad.

It was approximately 1947 when the United States Army fenced off the two-square block area where neighborhood children once roamed freely. Personnel and vehicle entrances were established at the foot of Hellerman Street. Exactly when the installation was removed is uncertain. At the time, Keystone Street had not been paved south of Magee Avenue and did not exist between Robbins and Levick Streets. Tolls on the Tacony-Palmyra Bridge were 5 cents and Levick Street carried two-way traffic to and from the Bridge to Roosevelt Boulevard. If anyone has pictures of this military installation, please contact the Historical Society of Tacony at 215-338-8790.



KNITTING YARN GATHERING DUST?

Do you have yarn you would like to donate to a civic member? [Call 215-338-2575](tel:215-338-2575)



POTHOLE? Call 215-686-5560 or www.phila.gov/streets/potholes.html

Please attend the TCA Quarterly Meeting on Tuesday, May 11, 2010

at 7:00 PM at Disston Memorial Presbyterian Church

Disston Memorial is located at 4500 Tyson Avenue; use Glenloch St. entrance

May 11th will feature Captain Frank Bachmayer's **15th District Town Hall Meeting** at approximately 8:00 PM. General business will be conducted between 7 PM and 8 PM. Preceding the Civic Association Meeting will be the semi-annual Historical Society of Tacony meeting at 5:30 PM. The guest speaker will be Fred Moore, Holmesburg resident, historian and civic leader discussing the early days of Holmesburg and the formation of Northeast Philadelphia. Light dinner and refreshments will be provided between meetings courtesy of the Mayfair Community Development Corporation.

From Tacony Town Watch...

We are excited to announce that the Philadelphia Police Department rolled out **Police Service Areas** in all police districts beginning January 2010. The City of Philadelphia is now geographically divided into 23 districts, each lead by a police captain. The 15th Police District Captain is Frank Bachmayer. Each district has at least one PSA (Police Service Area) depending on district size; the 15th is divided into 3. Each PSA is headed by a police lieutenant, who along with a team of sergeants and officers is responsible for coordinating police services within their PSA. This is the first step toward establishing accountability for both the police and the community, in the hope of building a proactive neighborhood policing strategy.

The officers assigned to a particular PSA will handle calls for service primarily within their PSA boundaries but they are not exempt from having to cover another area in an emergency. The PSA officers assigned to a particular area are required to spend time getting to know the community within their boundaries, its chronic crime and disorder issues and the community members who live and work there.

Starting January 18, 2010 there were a series of meetings held in all PSA Communities. Tacony held a successful meeting on January 20, 2010 at the Tacony Baptist Church. There will be monthly meetings held in each PSA, coordinated and facilitated through the local town watch organizations. The purpose of these meetings is to build a partnership between police and community that will result in a coordinated response to systemic issues of crime and disorder. Over the next year, the monthly PSA meeting will offer police and community members training in problem-solving.

Residents, town watches, civics, community organizations, churches, schools, businesses and others within a PSA will work with their PSA team to help design and implement problem-solving strategies. We can now create and sustain a vision for building safe and healthy neighborhoods.

The 15th Police District is comprised of 3 PSA's. Tacony is settled between both PSA 2 and PSA 3. Meetings are held separately for each location with two separate Lieutenants and two separate facilitators. PSA 2 covers from Bridge Street North to Knorr Street and PSA 3 covers Knorr Street North to Rhawn Street. But if you are a resident of Tacony you can still contact me as the PSA 3 Facilitator to resolve your problems as both facilitators, sergeants and lieutenants correspond regarding both service locations.

You may ask how you can help. The answer? Get involved! We need a representative from each block in Tacony to communicate with the town watch and the civic association regarding any problems you may be having. Our groups may have a resolution to your problem so that you can enjoy a better quality of life.

Tacony Town Watch, Inc is in need of block watchers and patrolling members, drivers and riders. Tacony Civic is always looking for members for their Quality of Life Committee. Together both of these groups have over 50 years experience dedicated to the residents of Tacony. Together we can make a difference!

Should you have questions, issues concerning crime to include narcotics complaints please feel free to contact Tacony Town Watch, Inc at 215-335-3438.

Angel Cianci-Hartman

President, Tacony Town Watch, Inc.

Est. 1982

At the Tacony Library...

- ◆ **Saturday, May 15, 10am-3pm:** Friends of the Tacony Library **Flea Market and Used Book Sale** Rain date is Saturday, May 29.
- ◆ **Tuesday, May 25, 6:30pm: Make Your Own Herbal Vinegar** Learn how to make herbal vinegar with Mary Pat Boyle, the "Vinegar Lady" from Morris Arboretum. Participants should bring a big glass container, preferably one with a wide mouth opening and a plastic lid. *Pre-registration required.. Space is limited.*
- ◆ **Tuesday, June 1, 6:30 -7:30pm: Kitchen Garden in a Pot** Using a variety of vegetables, fruit, herbs and containers, this workshop presented by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society will show you don't need much space to grow a kitchen garden.
- ◆ **Wednesday, June 9, 6:30-7:30 pm: Vegetable Gardening in Small Spaces** Love to have a vegetable garden but short on space? Please join us to learn where to look for gardening space in your backyard to maximize your yield. Presented by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.
- ◆ From **June 16-August 11** children (pre-schoolers to teenagers) can join the **2010 Summer Reading Game** and win cool prizes! Play at your local library or online at www.freelibrary.org/summerreadingonline/
- ◆ **For more information on any of these events contact Tacony Library, 6742 Torresdale Avenue, 215-685-8755.**

Zoning Variances

Louis M. Iatarola, Tacony Civic Zoning Committee Chair

6414-22 Hegerman Street - permit to construct four (4) attached garages at a vacant site zoned "R-9" Residential. Meeting was held on March 11 to discuss with neighbors and applicant. TCA did not oppose with provisos. ZBA granted variance with provisos on March 24th. Will be discussed at meeting.

7101 Keystone Street - permit for a 2-family dwelling at a mixed-use property zoned "G-2" Industrial. Meeting was held on March 15 to discuss with neighbors and applicant. TCA did not oppose with proviso for owner occupancy only. Awaiting ZBA decision. Will be discussed at meeting.

7109 Keystone Street - permit for a 2-family dwelling at a vacant (shell) property zoned "G-2" Industrial. Meeting was held on March 15 to discuss with neighbors and applicant. TCA opposed after unsuccessfully seeking provisos or compromise on the part of applicant. ZBA granted variance on March 16th. Will be discussed.

6942 Marsden Street - permit for two (2) open air slots at a detached single family residence. TCA did not oppose at ZBA hearing on March 17. ZBA granted variance.

4923 Friendship Street - legalization of automotive repair shop with no body or fender work and no spray painting. TCA did not oppose at hearing on April 13. ZBA granted variance. Will be discussed.

6425 New State Road - legalization of wireless service antennas on wood pole 86 feet in height, plus existing fenced area to house equipment. A meeting was held at the site on April 9 and the TCA did not oppose at the ZBA hearing on April 14. ZBA granted variance. Will be discussed.

6382 Marsden Street - permit to use first floor rear as real estate management office. Meeting was held at the property on April 13 to discuss with neighbors and applicant. TCA did not oppose with provisos. ZBA granted variance with provisos on April 15.

4117 Tyson Avenue - legalization of a three-family dwelling at a property constructed as a 2-family dwelling. Meeting with neighbors and applicant scheduled for May 4th at Disston Recreation Center. Will be discussed at meeting.

DISSTON PARK FOCUS OF MANY COMMUNITY EVENTS

This year the spotlight is shining on Disston Park like never before! On April 24th, over 300 volunteers from the community and **Comcast** came to the Park as part of *Comcast Cares Day*, an annual day of service sponsored by the local cable giant. It was part of a two-pronged effort that also included improvements at Pennypack on the Delaware. About 25 new trees were planted in the Park near Unruh Avenue, clean-up was performed, benches and fences painted and the new *Good Food Community Garden* was installed near Magee Avenue. Created through a unique partnership of the **Food Network, Tacony Civic Association, Comcast** and the **Delaware River City Corporation**, the herbs and vegetables from the garden will benefit local organizations for free distribution. On hand were all of our local political representatives as well as **Comcast** President Brian Roberts to offer encouraging words to the many Tacony residents and **Comcast** employees gathered at Disston Park.

May 8th will be the annual TCA clean-up of Disston Park and vicinity, with a focus on the areas from Longshore to Princeton Avenues. The clean-up will begin at 9 AM and conclude by 12 PM. Refreshments and equipment will be available. For more information, or to register a small group to participate, please call 215-338-2575, extension *1.

Later this summer... watch for the groundbreaking at Disston Park for the new Engine 38 facility near the corner of Magee Avenue. This will be the first LEED - certified "green" municipal building and will feature a new art installation, vegetative roof cover and a large community room for organizational use. We expect the facility to be completed by Summer/Fall 2011.

Tacony Flea Markets

Disston Park – Keystone Street between Longshore & Disston
8:00 am - 2:00 pm
\$10.00 per 10'x15' space

Saturday, May 15, 2010
Saturday, June 19, 2010

Rain date: Saturday, May 22nd
Rain date: Saturday, June 26th

Food vendor and restroom facilities will be available onsite.