



Port Gardner Neighborhood Association News

September, 2016



Next Meeting – Monday, September 12, 2016 – 7 PM

We will meet at our new location in the Resource Room of the Port Gardner Home School building on the west side of the Sequoia High School parking lot at 35th and Grand Av.

Agenda: 6:45 - Meet and Greet, 7:00 - Police Report, 7:15 – Drew Kelly, 7:45 – Erin Treat, 8:15 - Announcements

PGNA is Moving

But, only across the parking lot. Sequoia High School has been very welcoming, but we've had trouble with the acoustics in the cafeteria. That room probably works much better for conversations at the lunch tables than it has for our meetings. This year the folks at Sequoia and the Everett School District have made the Port Gardner Home School building available to us. It's just across the parking lot from where we have been meeting. We'll use the Resource Room in the middle of the building. There are no stairs, and we should have no problem hearing our speakers.

September 12th Meeting Lineup

Drew Kelly, who is working to become an Eagle Scout, will share with us his plan to place an historical marker at the Warren Street overlook. He plans to use a mini-grant to fund the project. Come to learn what his concept is and help him refine it with your insights and questions.

Also on the program will be Erin Treat, Marketing & Outreach Manager with the Sno-Isle Food Co-op. She'll bring snacks and tell us what is going on at the Co-op including great holiday ideas and a bumper sticker contest.

National Night Out is Huge Success

From Claire Griffith comes this report on the August 2nd event at Kiwanis Park: The night out was successful beyond my wildest dreams!!! Even though it was cool and windy, people said they had never seen so many neighbors in the park. It was a real group effort. We had hotdogs, cake, and ice cream. Every bit was used. It was gone too soon. Next year we will get more. We had huge bubbles for the kids; the balloon man was back; and face painting was a big hit. At the very end, when we were packing up, and the face painting materials were being put away, a tiny little girl, who looked no more than three, looked up at the face painter and said, "I want to be a panda. My sister is a panda." The moment was so precious. Of course the paints came out and the little girl became a panda. Toward the end of the evening the fire truck arrivedwith helmets for the children!!!! AND they put down that long ladder across the park! It wasn't just the children who were fascinated. It was beyond an evening I could expect.

Leta Holt and Hilaree Hathaway made a very successful event happen at Rucker Hill Park as well. There, too, face painting was very popular. Cool weather did not deter a park full of kids from having a good time. The pot luck supper gets better every year, and this was no exception.

One guy was seen most of the evening standing by the food tables, plate in hand, chatting with neighbors while sampling almost every dish. The fire fighters who went through the line also seemed quite happy with the spread.

Dean's Doodles

We have an interesting lineup of programs for our fall meetings this year. We'll start in September by revisiting the Warren Street overlook and plans for a new plaque there. In October, we hope to hear more about the elections from the League of Women voters. In November, we will prepare for celebrating the harvest with a representative from the area food banks. Please plan to bring non-perishable foods to that meeting to help our hungry neighbors. Come to our meetings and bring your neighbors.

Fall is in the air and it's not even September yet. The days are getting shorter and there is that certain scent that tells us winter is coming. What will it be this year? The University of Washington climatologists say we can expect more rain and less snowfall with the climate change that by now all competent scientists are acknowledging.

Speaking of climate change, we're seeing a reduction in the numbers of coal trains passing through our neighborhood to about one per day. The numbers of crude oil trains are holding constant at 2 per day but could increase if Skagit County approves a new rail spur for the Shell refinery in Anacortes. There will be more public hearings on that this fall.

For me, the harvest is in full force. Yesterday I started harvesting oats (for oatmeal). This summer I froze 48 quarts of peaches from our three trees, and made 15 frozen apple pies from our one apple tree. Yet to do are tomatoes and more applesauce. Apples seem to be abundant this year. Our grapes are also turning and we will be converting them into raisins.

See you on September 12th.

Dean Smith

2017 Mini-grants

Now is the time to start thinking about mini-grants for next year. The City allows each neighborhood to apply for mini-grants totaling up to \$2,000. The amount of each grant must be matched with volunteer hours from people working on the project. They are valued at \$27 per hour. If you have an idea for a neighborhood activity or enhancement project, share it at an upcoming meeting, and be prepared to submit a formal application.

September is National Preparedness Month

Sponsored by FEMA, National Preparedness Month aims to educate and empower Americans to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies. This year's theme is "Don't Wait, Communicate. Make Your Emergency Plan Today!" Staying connected with your community and communicating is one very important step in preparing for disasters. Visit www.Ready.gov for resources, information, checklists and more to help you prepare!

Here are a few easy steps to start your emergency communication plan:

1. **Understand how to receive emergency alerts and warnings.** Learn more at www.ready.gov/alerts.
2. **Discuss family/household plans for disasters that may affect your area and plan where to go.** Plan for different types of disasters like an earthquake, flood or wildfire.
3. **Collect information.** Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family & neighborhood that includes: Phone numbers and email addresses for family members, friends, neighbors & service providers.
4. **Identify information and pick an emergency meeting place.** Things to consider: **In your neighborhood, outside of your neighborhood and outside of your town or city.**
5. **Share information.** Make sure everyone in your family carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator.
6. **Practice your plan.** Have a meeting to review your emergency plans and meeting place after a disaster, and then practice, just like a fire drill!

For more information and to view emergency plans for your community, please visit the Everett Office of Emergency Management at www.EverettWA.gov/emergencymanagement

**DON'T WAIT. COMMUNICATE.
MAKE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN TODAY.**



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!

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