

**NORTH PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OCTOBER 2011 MEETING NOTES**

DATE: OCTOBER 20, 2011

TIME: 6:30 PM

The North Park Historical Society (NPHS) did not have a formal meeting in October, but instead enjoyed a gathering at Board Member Michael Thornhill's house. Here is an update on our activities and discussions as of November 2, 2011.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The following members of the NPHS Board of Directors were present:

Robert Bauer
George Franck
Steve Hon
Katherine Hon
Ed Orozco
Vince Rivera
Louise Russell
Randy Sappenfield
Jody Surowiec
Michael Thornhill
Sharon Turner
Bill Vivian
Paul Wade
Hilda Yoder

The following members of the NPHS Board of Directors were absent:

Patrick Edwards

Members Paul S., Gini, and our newest member Sheldon also joined us. Special thanks to Michael's wife Janie for the amazing food!

2. UPDATES

New Book: Randy, Steve and Katherine of the book group met in October, but the date didn't work for most of the group. Randy brought some pictures. These 1940s photos are of his brother Gary as a baby and his mom, and a friend standing on 31st Street where the North Park Library parking lot is now. Pictures like this are one of the few ways we get historical views of houses. Randy's childhood house as well as the homes of several neighbors were sold and demolished for the library to be built.



Congress of History: We conducted several e-mail votes between meetings. The ten Board members who responded approved appointing Steve to be the North Park Historical Society representative to the Congress of History in response to the motion made by Katherine, which Sharon seconded. The Congress of History is a local 501c3 organization consisting mostly of representatives of other history groups in the San Diego region. The Congress of History is modifying their bylaws and they need to have a formally designated representative of the member organizations vote on their action at their meeting November 19.

Sister Neighborhood: Ten board members responded affirmatively to NPHS donating up to ten North Park history books to dignitaries coming from Azerbaijan as part of an international Sister Neighborhood Partnership between "Switzer Highlands" (a grouped name for the early 1900s subdivisions south of Upas, east of 28th, and north of Switzer Canyon) and the capital of Azerbaijan. Martin Kruming has been organizing this unique international relationship since 2007. Martin and his wife Barbara have been very active in the North Park community for many years. The neighborhood partnership group planned several events to celebrate in cooperation with the San Diego Diplomacy Council, which has its offices in a lovely Craftsman house on 30th at Dwight Street. Steve and Katherine enjoyed the events, which included a Proclamation Ceremony by Mayor Sanders and Councilmember Todd Gloria at the October 18 City Council meeting. Katherine presented the delegation with their copies of the North Park book at the Diplomacy Council's offices on October 17. As can be seen in the photo below, they found it very interesting.



Toyland Parade: NPHS has sent in their entry form. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, December 3** to dress in your favorite decade and march with us. All friends and members of NPHS are welcome! We regret to say that Bill cannot join us with his fine Mercedes convertible, so we will have to do the beauty queen wave on foot.

2012 Car Show Planning: Katherine and Steve met with Peter Conneely with the Balboa Tennis Club on October 25. The club is interested in hosting the car show next year in the parking lot fronting the tennis courts south of Upas and west of the swimming pool. The parking lot is technically Jacaranda Place, a city street in Balboa Park, so a street closure permit may be needed. On the plus side there would be lots more room without inconveniencing any residents. A likely date is Saturday, September 8, 2012. The Balboa Tennis Club is interested in having vendor booths/canopies for local businesses, in order to generate revenue and a festive atmosphere. They would welcome a presentation by NPHS on November 29. We will discuss this possibility for the next car show at our November meeting. In the meantime, if you have ideas of local art galleries, food vendors, breweries, restaurants, car related businesses or other entities who might want to have a booth at the next car show if we hold it at this location, let Katherine know.

3. MINUTES ACCEPTANCE

The draft minutes from the September 15, 2011 NPHS meeting were accepted and have been posted on the website. Lots of great photos from the 2011 car show are in the meeting notes. Paul will be posting more pictures on the website soon. Thanks, Paul!

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **THURSDAY** November 17, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the second floor conference room of the Masonic Lodge, corner of Utah Street and North Park Way.

Thanks to Jody for sharing this amusing and appropriate cartoon with us:

