

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting

August 27, 2013 7:20 p.m. 23 attendees

The Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association (TGHNA) meeting was chaired by President Jim Zakibe. A new resident was introduced. Jim noted an Oct. 15th [golf tournament](#) to benefit the Police Department's 3rd District. The Tower Grove South neighborhood yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28th.

Darrell Hughes, Supervisor Valuation, Corporate Finance, Ameren Services, gave a presentation titled "Renewable Energy: Its Role in our Future". Ameren Missouri serves a specific area in Missouri as part of Ameren Corp. It both buys and provides energy in Missouri. The presentation showed that petroleum provides 37% of the energy in the US. Only 8% is generated from renewable sources. Natural gas is playing a bigger role lately and accounts for 25% of the supply. Coal accounts for 21% and nuclear makes up 9%. Ameren Missouri uses wind, solar, and landfill gas sources as well as three hydroelectric plants - Keokuk, Osage and Taum Sauk. The Calloway Nuclear plant in Missouri is what accounts for Ameren's source of nuclear power. Darrell noted that almost 80% of the power in France comes from nuclear power so we can certainly look at how they have been successful with this process. Transportation is 28% of the energy use. Industrial is 20%, residential and commercial use account for 11% and electric power is 41%. Renewable energy means the energy doesn't deplete. Cost parity has not yet been reached between renewal and non-renewable energy sources. Hydro, wind, solar and biomass (landfills) are the predominate renewable resources. There are federal and state standards with which Ameren must comply pertaining to renewable resources, relating to the percentage of sales that must be derived from these resources, solar rebates, etc. As far as wind generated power, Ameren signed the first contract for wind energy in June 2009. The availability of wind power varies widely across the country. There is also a renewable energy center landfill in Maryland Heights that takes natural gas, purifies it, puts it through a turbine and generates power. Ameren has trial solar panels mounted at their office to demonstrate their performance. Solar provides power about 14% of the time in this area. Solar generation is also variable across the country and not economical in all regions. The need for power during the day doesn't match the time that the most power is generated, so these power sources cannot be a complete solution. Ameren is doing a biomass study using corn stover (leftover corn shucks and other non-food corn products). Ameren provides net metering which is the ability for customers who generate power to get credit when the power is shipped to the utility. Ameren also has a series of rebates available. Darrell distributed a flyer with this information which is also available online at ActOnEnergy.com where customers can view these rebates and other incentives. Contact Dhughes3@ameren.com, [314-554-4171](tel:314-554-4171) to get additional information. .

Robert Ashton distributed flyers for the 2013-2014 season of the [West End Players Guild](#). This local theater group has been around for over 100 years and is presented at a venue on Union Ave. in the Central West End.

Officer Amber Gottschall, St. Louis Police Dept. Neighborhood Liaison, reported that crime statistics show that we are down in robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries as well as larcenies. Vehicle thefts are the only crime area that has increased. Clubs that lock the steering

wheel are available for \$13. Amber warned us about the heat advisory that we are currently under. Major Leyshock has moved to headquarters and Major Joseph Spiess has replaced him as Commander of the South Patrol. The department has made an arrest of a suspect who is responsible for many local burglaries.

Jennifer Florida, 15th Ward Alderman, noted that the green alley installation had delays due to lateral sewer repairs which were done by only one contractor. They started on Aug. 5th. The concrete strips are in place and pavers will be installed starting this week. They estimate it will take four weeks to complete. Work will be done on the next two alleys after Labor Day with two contractors working on the sewer issues.

On the 2nd Tuesday of the month, we are sponsoring "Living Local with Heights Nights" parties at various local businesses and restaurants. The next event will be at [Café Natasha's](#), 3200 S. Grand, on Sept. 10th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. We raffled five Café Natasha's gift certificates tonight and will raffle five more at the door that night.

Marty Chorkey and Nicole Johnson announced that they will have a parade through the Heights area for their marriage celebration on Sept. 14th, starting at 3 p.m.

Marilyn Browning, organizer of Autumn Fest, reminded us that this year's Autumn Fest will be on Saturday, Oct. 12th. The event will be held at three locations with appetizers, dessert and a party site. Additional information will be distributed soon on the [TGHNA website](#).

The next TGHNA meeting will be on September 24, 2013.

The meeting concluded at 8:15 p.m.

Claudia Seifert,

Secretary