

Tower Grove Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting

May 24, 2011 7:17 p.m. 23 Attendees

The TGHNA meeting was chaired by President Marilyn Browning. Marilyn asked new residents to introduce themselves and several families did.

Jim Merkel, author of [Hoosiers and Scrubby Dutch: St Louis' South Side](#), (published by Reedy Press), read several vignettes from his book. As a long-time resident and former journalist covering the South side for the [St. Louis Suburban Journal](#), Jim had many stories of the area. On May 14 this year, Jim, along with Maureen Kavanaugh of St. Louis Walking Tours, led a [bus tour of South St. Louis](#). He said they may have an additional tour in the future, so follow Jim on his [Twitter](#) site for more information.

Carl Thenhaus, a Tower Grove South resident, discussed citizens' mobile patrols. He told us that we used to have mobile patrols 30 years ago where people with walkie talkies went around the neighborhood, calling the police if they saw problems. Lafayette Square helped their crime problem with these patrols so Carl thought the idea should be revived. With the help of Jennifer Florida and Judy Lane, we currently have 50 volunteers and 35 have had training (which is needed before going on patrol.) Residents can patrol on foot or in cars. This is a non-confrontational patrol where the goal is to get information and call the police if problems are seen. Records are kept of these calls. There should be a minimum of two people on the patrol for safety. Everyone must have a background check conducted by the Police Dept. Tower Grove East and the Dutchtown neighborhood are doing this as well.

Chris Campbell, a new resident whose mother-in-law is Jean Iezzi, first president of TGHNA, told us that his family came up with an idea for Tower Grove Heights stickers with the TGH logo. Chris has had them printed and he generously passed them out to everyone. Chris works for Thread's Embroidery and Screen Printing, the company that made our TGH t-shirts.

Jill Miller, board member from the [15th Ward Democrats](#), passed out a flyer for a 15th Ward Democrats 10th Anniversary Picnic to be held on June 9, 2011 from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. in Tower Grove Park at the Humboldt South Pavilion. To RSVP, or for more information, please e-mail Jill at jillcmiller@gmail.com or call Committeewoman Jan Clinite at 314-773-2907.

Jennifer Florida, 15th Ward Alderman, reported that the South Grand Streetscape is on track to complete in Sept. Next month, the [Tower Grove South website](#) will have information on the Citizens' Patrol. Jennifer also reported St. Louis has had a 50% decrease in violent crime and a 20% decrease in crime rates overall.

Next month, Chief meteorologist Wes Browning of the National Weather Service in St. Louis, will speak about tornadoes.

The meeting concluded at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be June 28, 2011.

Claudia Seifert, Secretary