**Holiday Greetings!**

Happy 100th Anniversary to Lakewood Seward Park Community’s Building!

We come together each year in December to discuss the current year, plan for the coming year, elect officers, and celebrate another year of community. Please join us at our Annual Members Meeting on Thursday December 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lakewood Seward Park Community Clubhouse.

**Slate of 2015 Board Candidates**

President: Jeannie O’Brien  
Vice President: Bill Muse  
Treasurer: Aaron Evanson  
Secretary: Sabranie Coyne  
Sheri Richardson

Members should RSVP to the annual dinner meeting to Sheila by Monday, Dec. 8th: LSPCCmanager@gmail.com or (206) 722-9696. Check the mailing label on this newsletter. Membership expiration dates will be noted on your label if you are a current member or your membership has recently expired. So easy to renew or join by visiting LSPCC.org or mailing the coupon on the back page with a check. Remember that we are organized under Internal Revenue Code 501c3, so dues and donations are tax-deductible and some employers will match your gifts.

Rejoining the Southeast District Council (SEDC) this year has brought our neighborhood issues to the attention of all of SE Seattle neighborhood, business and community associations, and to the Seattle City Neighborhood Council (CNC) the “council of councils.” I am excited to be SEDC’s representative to the CNC and expect that we will have some say on city policy decisions that impact neighborhoods.

2014 kept us busy with continued clubhouse renovations, a 37th Legislative District Senate Candidates Night, two scholarship awards, a discussion on the Metropolitan Parks District Initiative, a meeting to discuss the rezone at Mt. Baker’s light rail station, our annual Wine Tasting Party, an introduction to the SNAP program: Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare, our neighborhood garage sale, Oktoberfest, a combined sewer overflow project update, and our Halloween Ice Cream Social. What’s on deck for early 2015? Traffic redesign and re-channelization plans for Rainier Ave, and beginning to create an emergency communications hub at LSPCCClubhouse.

Columbia City businesses and residents are working hard to create the Columbia City Gateway, a mini-park at the corner of 37th Ave S and S Edmunds, near the current farmer’s market site and future PCC site. The LSPCC board voted to donate $500 toward this project, to support our Columbia City neighbors and to help create a safer, more pleasant pedestrian route to the Columbia City light rail station.

Thanks for being part of this great community!

President: Jeannie O’Brien
Vice President: Bill Muse
Treasurer: Aaron Evanson
Secretary: Sabranie Coyne
Sheri Richardson

John Charles  
Karen O’Brien  
Willie Gregory  
Fionnuala O’Sullivan  
Scott McCormick

4916 S. Angeline  Seattle, WA 98118  206.722.9696  LSPCCmanager@gmail.com  LSPCC.org
In its fifth year, the TOYCYCLE sale is officially an LSPCC tradition! Every year, this event is a win-win for the entire community, and it keeps getting better. Parents and kids sell their gently-used toys and give them new lives with new children. Parents get to clear off the shelves before the holidays, and kids learn valuable lessons in sales, bargaining, and exchanging money. Shoppers are able to shop in their neighborhood and buy wonderful toys, books and winter gear for a fraction of their retail value. No extra packaging in the landfill and extra money in their pocketbook. Proceeds from table rentals and entrance fees benefit Wellspring Family Services, helping homeless families in the Rainier Valley. On top of all of this, the night is festive with music and sweet treats and lots of neighbors and friends.

Our goal this year is to raise $1,250 to make the holidays brighter for local families in need, come and help make it happen! For more information, contact cambriacos@comcast.net.
Christmas Ships Arrive December 3rd and 7th

The Argosy Christmas Ship festival is a holiday celebration that has been a Northwest tradition for over 60 years. Its main purpose is to bring communities together to celebrate the holiday season. From the flotilla of ships to the crowds of people who gather onshore, this celebration is one of the gems of the holiday season.

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<th>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3</th>
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<td>DEPARTS: Leschi Marina</td>
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<td>7:00pm-9:30pm</td>
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<td>7:50pm-8:10pm Pritchard Beach Park</td>
<td>5:40pm-6:00pm Ferdinand Street Park</td>
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<td>8:25pm-8:45pm Seward Park</td>
<td>6:15pm-6:35pm Stan Sayres Memorial Park</td>
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<td>6:45pm-7:05pm Mt. Baker Beach Park</td>
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Century Old Clubhouse Celebration!

Take a look at Seward Park peninsula and you can imagine what the terrain across Andrews Bay looked like 125 years ago. Woods along the west side of Lake Washington between Hudson St. on the south, 42nd Ave. on the west, and just north of Stan Sayres Pitts, formed a triangular piece of land called Lakewood. The original survey of the area was platted by Guy Phinney, a wealthy lumber mill owner who bought Lakewood in 1883. (Phinney also platted Woodland Park. His wife donated their property to the city after his death for the zoo.) By 1903, Lakewood was a booming suburb of Seattle. With the service of Seattle, Renton and Southern Railway streetcars running along Rainier Avenue, it wasn’t long before the Lakewood “clearings in the wilderness” lots were sold to immigrants from Canada, England, Sweden, Norway, Iceland and pioneers from the mid-west.

Photo: Lakewood boat landing, lots for sale boat tour, 1902, courtesy of the Rainier Valley Historical Society

A mile from Columbia City, Lakewood’s need for road improvements, boardwalks and wider walking trails was priority. In 1910, there was one automobile per every 44 homes, and most Lakewood residents walked or carted over the hill by horse to Columbia. The first generation of Lakewood neighbors began discussing transportation issues, which led to the organization of improvement clubs. A Canadian born real estate broker named Albert George Corbett, platted the area of Hudson Street behind today’s PCC. Corbett presided over the first all male meeting of the Lakewood Improvement Club, and Mrs. Henrietta McCloy called to order the first meeting of 30 women, that formed the Lakewood Civic Improvement Club. The two groups met twice monthly; the women met in the parlor of the McCloy home just above the Lakewood Marina, and the men met at the Lakewood Boathouse. 80 male members paid annual dues of $1.00 in 1910. Early civic improvements included the installation of 3 plank sidewalks to accommodate young families with baby carriages, the 48th Street overpass that crossed Genesee St., and the regrade of Genesee Street in 1912. A major transportation improvement was the successful campaign of a shuttle streetcar line installed for Lakewood residents. The Genesee Street streetcar coined the “Galloping Goose,” “Rabbit” and “Puddle Jumper” clanked on a single track from Hudson along 50th to Genesee, to Rainier Avenue, and back again. The Genesee streetcar ran from circa 1920 until 1937 when the Seattle, Renton and Southern Railway line ended its operations. Photos: 50th and Hudson Street, streetcar, circa 1920, Genesee Street grading, Hawthorne Elementary, 1913, courtesy of the Rainier Valley Historical Society and Seattle Municipal Archives
Civic improvement was one community effort, establishing a social and meeting hall was another. $5 shares of stock held by the “Lakewood Club House Company” were sold to purchase land and building materials for a community clubhouse. With volunteer power from Lakewood members, the first privately owned clubhouse in Seattle was built in 1914 on the corner of 50th and Angeline Street. In 1929, the organization incorporated the Lakewood Community Club and merged the mens’ and womens’ civic improvement clubs. Their mission statement “To unite all those whose homes and interests are in this vicinity and to work together for the development and common welfare of the community” still holds today.

Seward Park neighbors joined this effort in 1979, consolidating the two neighborhoods to a total of 6,700 residents. Photos: 1914 brown stained Lakewood clubhouse with Chinese red trimming, bungalow-style, rustic building. Remodeled Lakewood Clubhouse wedding reception, 1952, Lakewood Seward Park Community Club archives.

Is your home 100 years old?

Chances are a founding member of the Lakewood clubhouse built it! LSPCC archives will be on display at the annual meeting, Dec. 11th, 7 pm.
Rainier Ave South, a major arterial handling an average of 19,700 vehicle trips a day between Alaska and Othello, is set to undergo a significant transformation, one with many impacts to the 70,000 of us that reside in zip codes 98118 and 98144. Seattle’s Department of Transportation (SDOT) has hosted community meetings in response to local outrage about the numbers of crashes and injuries along Rainier. And true enough, our stretch of Rainier is the most dangerous in Seattle, averaging one car crash a day consistently over the past 10 years.

Transit ridership is up by 40%, a welcome increase after all the money we spent (and continue to spend) on Light Rail. But transit doesn’t work for everyone, especially those of us in single family neighborhoods with children, pets, elderly parents, service jobs or places to go that transit doesn’t serve. Transit doesn’t serve us in Lakewood Seward Park particularly well, and bus service to connect us to Link Light Rail has been cut.

There is no question that a road diet, or “re-channelization” of Rainier Ave S, will improve safety for drivers, pedestrians and cyclists. By removing two lanes, capacity will be significantly decreased, congestion will occur and traffic will slow. This outcome is not disputed. The 2008 South East Transportation Study predicted that after a road diet, southbound transit would run 30% slower during evening rush hours, and car traffic would run 100% slower by 2030.

We have seen the significant increase in traffic along Lake Washington Blvd and Seward Park / 50th Avenue South since Martin Luther King was under construction for Light Rail. Since completion, MLKing’s traffic volume has not returned to pre-Light Rail numbers. Perhaps drivers have discovered the peace, efficiency and beauty of driving along our park and residential boulevards and aren’t going back to Rainier and MLKing. We know that if Rainier becomes more congested, Lake Washington Blvd and Seward Park / 50th will continue to absorb the overflow, as both are easy connectors to HWY 167 in Renton and to the 520 Bridge. While Rainier Ave gets safer, our neighborhood streets will become less safe and more congested.

Is a road diet the only answer to make Rainier Avenue safer? How can we mitigate the impacts to our neighborhood? We have invited SDOT Chief of Staff Bill LaBorde and Senior SDOT Planner Michael James to attend our LSPCC Community meeting in February. Please join us and bring your questions about the traffic redesign being studied around the Mt. Baker Light Rail Station, the road diet planned for Rainier Avenue, and how both of these projects will impact us in the Lakewood Seward Park neighborhood. Tuesday, February 10th, 7:00 p.m. By Jeannie O’Brien
In the Puget Sound area we can experience a variety of disasters from weather related floods and power outages to single family fires or a moderate or a major earthquake. We also know that our normal daily lives can be severely disrupted and services we are used to getting (clean water, electricity, natural gas, phone and internet, fire and police response) will be very limited to non-existent. That is why we encourage people to not only prepare themselves and their families, but to talk to their neighbors about how they will work together to make sure everyone in the neighborhood is safe and cared for.

The City of Seattle has created the Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare (SNAP) program to help your neighborhood get organized. There is an online toolkit that provides practical step-by-step instructions on organizing as a neighborhood. If you want, the Office of Emergency Management can come out to your home and help your neighborhood get organized. SNAP is a simple and flexible process that can be customized to meet the needs of your neighborhood. For more information about SNAP or to schedule a SNAP meeting, call 206-233-5076 or email SNAP@seattle.gov.

Where will you go for information and assistance if an emergency occurs delaying city emergency services?

The LSPCC Board is forming a committee to work on preparing the Community Club to serve as an emergency hub offering power, warmth and a place of centralized communication in the event on an emergency. To join let us know at lspccmanager@gmail.com.

Members Invited to Annual Meeting December 11th, 7:00pm

The Annual Meeting of the members is the opportunity to learn what your association has done this fiscal year, help shape plans for 2015 and vote on any open issues including election of your board of directors.

This is a special meeting as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the building in 1914 and the 104th year of operation of the community association. In addition to all current members, all former board members and officers are encouraged to come celebrate with an annual business meeting and Italian meal prepared by Pizzuto’s Italian Café. RSVP to lspccmanager@gmail.com

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Name(s) ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________________________

Email: (for electronic newsletter and community information) ________________________________

$30 Family Membership ____ $75 Lake Washington Membership ____ $300 Mt. Rainier Membership ____
 (includes 1 wine tasting ticket) (includes $150 off a Saturday rental)

* Scholarship Fund Donation ____ Capital Campaign Donation _____ Total Enclosed $ __________

Your donation and dues, renewable each June, to the Lakewood Seward Park Community Club are tax deductible as defined by IRS Code 501c3. We graciously accept company matching funds. Please send this form along with your check made payable to: Lakewood Seward Park Community Club (LSPCC)

Special event coming up? Members receive a clubhouse discount!
Check out the rental rates and clubhouse calendar at: LSPCC.org