



Historic Takoma

NEWSLETTER

Historic Takoma, Inc. Celebrates 28 Years of Service to the Community 1979-2007

HTI Holiday Party and Annual Meeting December 9, 1-5 p.m.

Please join us at the HTI Holiday Party and Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 9 from 1-5 p.m. The event will be held at the historic Cady-Lee House, a fully restored 19th-century Queen Anne home, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, located at 7064 Eastern Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, at the corner of Eastern Avenue and Piney Branch Road. There will be food, drink, and a short business meeting which will include the election of new board members and officers. Please come out and enjoy the holiday cheer with HTI.



Time To Renew Your HTI Membership!!

*Become a New Member or Renew
Your Current Membership With HTI*

This has been a year of making progress on the build out of the new HTI headquarters building at the Junction, but we need additional funding and volunteers to help us plan the build out and make it happen and also to help us with the new programs that we will now be able to support, including establishing permanent files and archives, developing educational and exhibit materials, and newsletter publication. Please become a member and be an active volunteer now. Contributions are tax deductible.

Please call us at 301-270-2831 if you have questions or are interested in volunteering.

Fabulous Fall Festival

On a glorious Sunday afternoon, October 21, HTI sponsored its first annual Fall Festival at the Thomas-Siegler Carriage House. The festival proved to be an enjoyable event for the community with some local history thrown in for good measure. Beautifully maintained classic cars, Model A Fords owned by Roland Dawes and Erwin Mack, flanked the drive to the Carriage House. Passersby were lured in by the glorious Bluegrass tunes and country duets performed by HTI Board Member Caroline Alderson (guitar and vocals), husband Tom (mandolin and vocals), Dave Goldman (fiddle), with guest appearances by Doug Stevenson and Brian McGuire. Our loyal Historian, Dorothy Barnes, manned a table with Historic Takoma, Inc. books and literature. There was food and drink, and many activities for kids, including apple bobbing, pumpkin painting and papermaking. Vendors were selling tiles, cards, and jewelry. The historic carriage was out on display. It



HTI Board member Caroline Alderson (guitar and vocals), husband Tom (mandolin and vocals), and Dave Goldman (fiddle).

was a wonderful way to acquaint visitors with the rich history of the property.

The Carriage House, located on Tulip Avenue between Willow and Cedar Avenues, stands on the grounds of the Thomas-Siegler House, built in 1884, one of the first houses completed in Takoma Park. In 1984, when the property was threatened by development, the carriage house and surrounding garden were rescued by the Trust for Public Land, which bought the property and re-sold it in 1985 to the City of Takoma Park, which used Maryland Program

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HISTORIC TAKOMA NEWSLETTER



Historic Takoma, Inc.
PO Box 5781
Takoma, Park, MD 20913
301-270-2831
www.historictakoma.org

Officers

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Ron Watson, *Member-at-Large*
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Cindy Uleman, *Member-at-Large*
Nancy Abbott Young, *Member-at-
Large*
Erik Anderson, *Web Master*
Ralph Freedman, *Newsletter Design*

Historic Takoma Newsletter is a publication of Historic Takoma, Inc. Letters to the editor are encouraged. Volunteers are welcome. Please contact HTI if you want to become more involved in the preservation of your community.

HTI is a membership-based non-profit organization founded in 1979 to promote historic preservation, citizen involvement, and community development in the Takoma community.

Membership is open to the public. Contributions are tax deductible. Federal ID No.: 52-1146960



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HTI NEWS

WMATA Board, DC/MD Officials Ignore Community Concerns

On November 8, 2007, the WMATA Board voted 5-0 to approve a townhouse development at the Takoma Metro Station over long-standing objections of neighbors in the District and Maryland who said the project would limit access for disabled riders and put pedestrians in harm's way. Metro has therefore moved one step closer to selling most of the station property, including existing greenspace, to developer EYA for an 86-unit townhouse development. Opponents won a temporary victory last month when Maryland officials, including Gov. Martin O'Malley, U.S. Rep. Chris Van Hollen and Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett, persuaded the Board to delay its decision. However, Maryland Transportation Secretary John D. Porcari supported the EYA plan, personally instructing Maryland's WMATA Board members to vote against the concerns of Maryland residents and taxpayers.

D.C. City Council member Jim Graham, who is also a DC representative on WMATA's Board, introduced, and the Board adopted, a requirement that the staff analyze an alternative design from Montgomery County and make changes to the plan "as appropriate." Bruce Williams, the incoming mayor of Takoma Park, said that the city is considering legal action in response to the WMATA vote. Historic Takoma has been working with Friends of Takoma Transit to stop the proposed EYA development and to encourage a plan that is true Smart Growth, transit-oriented development.

What Does Historic Takoma As An Organization Do?

- Historic Takoma (HTI) plays a critical role in preserving the character and history of our community. It serves as the advocate for both the Maryland and DC National Register Historic Districts.
- Historic Takoma preserves the historic records of the city of Takoma Park, MD.
- Historic Takoma educates residents and the public in the history of our community.
- Historic Takoma sponsors the House and Garden Tour.
- Historic Takoma holds historic easements on properties in the DC and MD historic districts.
- Historic Takoma accepts tax deductible donations. Donations made can be made directly (see form on the back of this newsletter) or through the United Way or the Combined Federal Campaign (HTI Agency Code 58861).

Façade Repair at 7328 Carroll Making Great Progress

Anyone who has passed by the Junction in recent weeks has noticed the significant progress made on the façade of HTI's building at 7328 Carroll Avenue. This work has consisted of repair, restoration and cleaning of the building façade with much focus on the prominent bay window. The bay window was in terrible disrepair when HTI took ownership of the building, made possible by matching grants from both the State of Maryland and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County. New glass, along with copper muntions and



The facade was washed and new glass installed in the bay window of the HTI building.

flashings, were recently installed. The front door will soon be replaced with a replica of what was originally on the building based upon pho-

tographs in our archives collection. The transom windows are being repaired and will be reinstalled, and a fire door will be installed in the rear. All of the façade work is being funded by the generous donations of several community sponsors of the House and Garden Tour, and these donations are being matched by the Maryland Main Street Program. HTI will be shortly beginning work on installing a new electrical and HVAC system in the interior, which will be funded through our remaining State bond bill grant together with another grant from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

Fabulous Fall Festival

(continued from page 1)

Open Space funds to complete the purchase. The original house continues to be occupied by private owners, and the City retains ownership of the rest of the property. Through an agreement with the City, Historic Takoma manages the city-owned portion of the property for public use. In 1995, Historic Takoma opened the Thomas-Siegler Carriage House Museum on the site. The Carriage House and grounds are particularly lovely in the spring. Looking for a perfect setting for a garden party or wedding reception? The site is available to be rented for such events. For more information on the history of the Thomas Siegler House and grounds see www.historictakoma.org/programs/tsiegler/tsiegler.html.

HTI would like to thank all those who made the day a success, including board member Ron Watson and his partner Lori Brown, and the City of Takoma Park Public Works Department.



Apple bobbing was a popular activity at the HTI Fall Festival.



An original nineteenth-century carriage from the Thrasher Carriage Museum in Cumberland, MD, was on display at the Festival.



Erwin Mack proudly shows his Model A Ford to HTI Board Member Erik Anderson.

Historic Takoma
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PRESERVATION NEWS AND NOTES



Mark Freedman cut a handsome figure as he enjoyed the festival dressed as city founder B.F. Gilbert.



Pumpkin painting was just one of the activities for kids at the HTI Fall Festival.



HTI Board member Jim DiLuigi and former City Council member Roland Dawes pose with Takoma Park founder B.F. Gilbert.



B.F. Gilbert and HTI Historian, Dorothy Barnes, a lifelong resident of Takoma Park.

PRESERVATION NEWS AND NOTES



HTI board member Lex Ulibarri (front left) and others at November 8, 2007, Metro Board hearing.

HTI Seeks Tax-Deductible Contributions for Litigation Fund

HTI is actively seeking tax-deductible contributions from the community for the Alfred P. Vogel Litigation Fund. This fund supports legal actions that HTI must take from time to time in order to defend and protect the historic heritage of our community. At present, we are exploring avenues of legal action with regard to preserving the green space and trees at the Takoma Metro site, as well as the historic residential nature of the surrounding neighborhoods. But legal action is very expensive and we need your help in this important fight.

Please support HTI's protection of our community. Donations are 100% tax-deductible and may be sent to: Historic Takoma, Inc. at PO Box 5781, Takoma Park, MD 20913. Please note "Alfred P. Vogel Litigation Fund" on the memo line of your check.

Calling All Volunteers: HTI Needs Your Help

Can you provide painting, plastering, or construction skills, or manpower? Pro bono legal services? IF SO, CONTACT HTI AT PO BOX 5718 SO WE CAN PUT YOU TO WORK!

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Thank you to all my friends, neighbors,
clients and especially
Historic Takoma members
for your continued support and referrals
over the years. Let's all support Historic
Takoma in the 21st century in its worthy
efforts which benefit us all!

Meg

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Calendar of HTI Events

www.historictakoma.org

Sunday, December 9, 2007

HTI Holiday Party and
Annual Meeting, 1-5 p.m.
at the Cady-Lee House
7064 Eastern Avenue

Renew Your HTI Membership!

If you are a member of Historic Takoma, please fill out the form on the right to renew your membership. This is an exciting time as we settle into our permanent home. We need the help of our loyal members now, more than ever!

Join Historic Takoma Today!

Help Preserve Our Community's Heritage

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PO Box 5781 Takoma Park, MD 20913

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