



CORNING SOUTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SOUTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2008

PO Box 481 CORNING, NY 14830

Corning's Southside Newsletter

A MESSAGE FROM SNA PRESIDENT

PEETIE DIMITROFF

At the January board meeting, directors of SNA set the following as goals for this year:

- To support the restoration of the Gregory Fountain in Denison Park
- To encourage and support the replacement of missing trees in the Historic District
- To collaborate with the Corning Painted Post Historical Society to continue and expand the Photo Project
- To support the establishment of a dog park
- To develop a plan to increase support, participation, and attendance at meetings through membership, socials, and fund raisers.

This is *your* organization! We, the board of directors, would love to hear from anyone who wishes to share ideas, concerns, suggestions or offers of involvement.



PARK FUND

The commissioner of parks in New York City has the city's parks looking great. His philosophy – great parks make great cities that people want to live in.

SNA has a special PARK FUND! We hope to have a fund raiser later this year to increase our fund. We are currently working with the city on four projects involv-

2008 SNA

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

SNA has a great and varied schedule of speakers for this year:

- February 26 – Pat Flynn (back by popular request and in honor of the 100th anniversary of the building) on *The History of the Southside Post Office*
- March 25 – Roger Ort of Massi's Gardens and Landscaping, Inc. on *Landscaping Your Historic Home*
- April 22* – Matt Hogan, Head of Adult Services at the Public Library, on *Restoration Resources at your Public Library*
- May 20 – Pat Flynn on *Insulating Your Historic Home* and Charlie Swain on *The History of the Swain House*
- October 14 – Tom Pedicone on *The Houghton House*
- November 18 – Annual Meeting, Program on *How to Research the History of Your Historic Home*, and Drawing for SNA plaque

All meetings begin at 7:30pm and will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Pentecost Room, First Street entrance with the exception of the April 22 program, which will be held at the library.

LETTERS FROM CONCERNED CITIZENS

James W. Scouten writes:

I wanted to share my concern with the Southside Community Association regarding the current draft C-PP facilities plan which does not provide for the retention and restoration of the Historic Corning Free Academy as a school facility. I believe this was an issue in the 1999 facilities proposal which was defeated by the voters of the district. Last year's facility proposal included renovating and using the Historic Corning Free Academy as a school facility-demonstrating that it can be done. Failing to preserve/use the Corning Free Academy would be inconsistent with the historic, cultural and social fabric of the community. If put up for sale, the Corning Free Academy building could easily become another vacant "Memorial Library Building" and a blight to our neighborhood.

Note: Shortly before publication we received good news. The Corning City Council recently approved a \$100,000 loan for the renovation of the War Memorial Library. This will greatly improve the chance for a \$2 million state grant for the project. This is great news – especially since we have in the last few years lost the First Street voting booth, the water treatment building, and the Fallbrook Railroad building.

From past board member Pat Dugan:

Just as lovely homes, flowers and trees create an attractive community and beautify our town so too the simple act of not littering or of picking up litter showcases proud residents and caring neighbors.

We all probably have observed members of service organizations, businesses or families picking up litter on our highways and the signs that credit their volunteer efforts. Take some time and walk in city neighborhoods or along the highway within the city limits. You might be surprised at the litter that you see there.

How can each of us make a difference in creating more beautiful Corning neighborhoods?

Following an example of what I have observed in other small towns, I began to carry a plastic bag with me on morning walks, similar to dog owners, only bigger for picking up litter. I am constantly amazed at thrown plastic and glass bottles, paper cups, etc.

Or imagine that at a designated time, perhaps Earth Day, school children, business owners, homeowners and renters around the city, would emerge from their homes, greet their neighbors, pick up and bag litter and create beautiful city neighborhoods for our benefit and for our visitors.

Corning citizens care about their community and about their Earth. Let's each do what we can to show our concern. It can start as simply as beautifying our own neighborhoods. Who will help?

T IS FOR ...

T is for taxes. It's that time. Remember your SNA membership and donations plus \$50.00 from the purchase of a plaque are all tax deductible.

T is for Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. This is the way some people remember which side they can park on. Corning's parking has no parking between 12:01 AM – 4:00 PM on certain sides. If you remember even = T, it might be easier. That means you can park on the even side on the days that have a T in them. Hope this helps!

**SOUTHSIDE
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PEETIE DIMITROFF

President
962-6745
tdim1@aol.com

DAVID DOWLER

Vice President
962-8754
dowlerdp@gmail.com

SUSAN BERRY

Secretary
962-3971
susansberry@gmail.com

ROBERT AVVAMPATO

Treasurer
973-2618
archipfoto@stny.rr.com

PATRICK FLYNN

937-9823
patrickflynn@hotmail.com

ROGER GRIGSBY

524-6651
grigguy@aol.com

JOHN & JANE LARSON

962-1680
jjlarson@stny.rr.com

PAM LEWIS

962-7733
Lewis_p@guthrie.org

MICHAEL MAGLIOCCA

973-2618
innorly@stny.rr.com

**CHRIS & ELIZABETH
QUINLAN**

962-5070
quinlans@stny.rr.com

JIM SCOUTEN

936-1517
scouten1@aol.com

Honor Your Historic Home

SNA with the talent of Dave Dowler designed a bronze plaque for homes on the southside in 2003. Since then nearly 30 homes proudly display this plaque which features the circa date the home was built.

Win a plaque for your home

This year SNA will sell chances for a historic plaque. Chances will sell for \$10.00 each and may be purchased at public programs and from board members. The drawing will take place at the annual meeting, November 18, 2008. This is a great way to get a plaque and to support SNA.



HISTORIC BUILDING PLAQUE ORDER FORM

These are 7 X 10 inch bronze plaques with a brown patina. The date your structure was erected will be placed on your plaque. If you are purchasing a plaque for a structure other than the one listed below, please give the address of the structure for which you are ordering a plaque.

Name _____

Phone/Email _____

Address _____

Plaque Address _____

Date Built * _____ Not sure/don't know _____

* If you're not sure, SNA can help to verify building date.

Price: \$200 including shipping (\$50 is tax deductible)

Please make checks payable to Southside Neighborhood Association, and send to PO Box 481, Corning, NY 14830. Thanks!

Become an Active SNA Member!

The SNA is a not-for-profit organization of individuals who recognize the special character of the Southside neighborhood as a place to live, work and worship. We support local pride in the neighborhood and the sharing of its resources with the greater community and Corning's many visitors. We seek to protect architectural, environmental and social landmarks; promote historic in-

tegrity and foster orderly growth and development through cooperative efforts.

Complete the accompanying form to ensure your SNA tax-deductible membership is current.

Committee Members Needed

Our membership is growing, but we'd like participation from many more of our neighbors.

We are always looking for people to work on committees. We need help on publicity, refreshments, social activities, fund raiser, plaque sales, membership, tree replacement, Photo Project, and city parks. We'd also like to find someone who would serve as our historian. If you are interested in serving, please contact anyone on the board of directors.

Corning Architectural Preservation Award (CAP) Awards

In May 2007, SNA presented four Corning Architectural Preservation (CAP) Awards to:

- Tom and Susan Berry, 248 Pine St., for new paint
- Charles and Kristin Swain, 54 W. First St., for new paint
- Bob and Pam Walker, 214 Wall St., for an addition that blends with the original architecture
- Elise Johnson-Schmidt, preservation architect, for her resto-

ration and Preservation work throughout the city

As a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of our built environment, the Southside Neighborhood Association established the CAP Awards to recognize preservation efforts.

Awards are granted each year during Preservation Month and recognize efforts in three areas: residential, commercial, and out-

building. The award reads: *For excellence in the preservation of historic examples of our built environment which contributes to the vitality and rebirth of our community enabling present and future generations to understand, enjoy and benefit from our past.*

The CAP Awards were first given in 2002, and 25 awards have been presented thus far. If you would like to nominate anyone for consideration, please contact any board member. Decisions are made in early April.



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