



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

LAKE EOLA HEIGHTS HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER 2nd QUARTER 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: WHY HISTORIC DISTRICTS WORK

By David Martens

This past week, Diane, your treasurer, and I visited the Savannah, Georgia's historic district for the first time and discovered just how precious historic designation really is to our neighborhood. Their historic district is one of the largest in the country, was formed in 1966 and is contained within a little more than one square mile. Ours is bordered more or less by Magnolia, Robinson, Mills and Colonial and, once we became historic in 1982, all destruction and senseless alteration of our structures ceased. You sense the high level of stability and purpose a neighborhood has going forward from that point.

In Savannah where old retail once flourished, new and old retail flourish again. Quaint shops, art galleries, antique stores and restaurants drive the business districts within, as opposed to new high-rise residential and office towers. Want to see what can happen without the protection of historic designation? Compare the development of North Eola Heights to South Eola Heights from '82 to the present. Diane and I were here and recall an equal number of historic structures on both sides of Lake Eola in the early '80s.

Can't compare the sophistication of Historic Grand Savannah to Lake Eola Heights Historic District? Well, on one level we are supreme! We happened be there when they held their Annual Hidden Garden Tour. It features 9 gardens throughout the district, ending with a Formal Tea at the Green Meldrim House, an historic mansion they use for their "Garden Central."

Now, we don't hold a formal tea afterwards, but we also don't charge \$40 per person and many of our gardens are far superior to theirs. When I say better, I mean more mature plantings per garden, more frequent bursts of color and

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

7 p.m. Thursday May 8
at Trinity Lutheran Church
123 East Livingston Street

Bring a Neighbor!

JOIN US FOR SOME FUN AT THE NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

By Heather Surrency

Do you enjoy BBQ, music and meeting new neighbors? Then you will not want to miss the Lake Eola Heights Historic Neighborhood Block Party!

This year's party will be held on Saturday, May 17, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Cathcart Street near the Handy Pantry (corner of Cathcart and Amelia). Bring a side dish or dessert to share and join your neighbors for an afternoon of Wildside BBQ, music, and fun.

The party will have plenty of activities for adults and kids alike. The highlights for kids will be a chalk drawing contest, cotton candy machine and a bike/scooter parade. Kids will have the opportunity to decorate their favorite bike/scooter and show off their work at the bike/scooter parade which will be held on Cathcart Street.

Are you a fantastic baker? The dessert contest will be the perfect opportunity to show off your talents. Bring your best pie, cake, cupcake or other treat for judging. Prizes will be awarded.

If you have any adult games, such as Corn Hole, or kids games you would like to bring to the party, please contact Heather Surrency at hsurrency@yahoo.com. We are also looking for a volunteer face painter.

Block party! Barbecue! Live Music! Saturday, May 17