

December 2003

Pigeon Point Neighborhood News

www.PigeonPoint.org

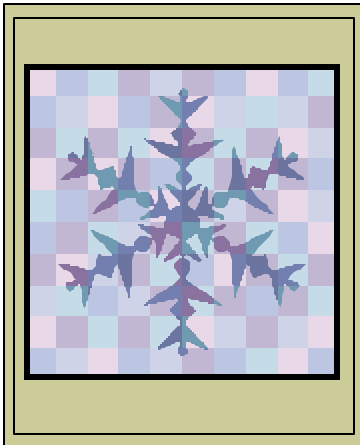
Email: PigeonPointCouncil@Comcast.net

Council Chair: Robert Shampain 206.937.9924

Co-Vice Chair: Pete Spalding 206.933.6587

Next Meeting: Monday, Dec 8, 2003 7:00 to 8:30 PM @ Cooper Elementary School 19th & Genesee SW

Neighborhood Holiday Party



Our annual neighborhood Christmas party will be held at **Cooper School** (19th Ave SW and SW Genesee) on **Monday December 8th beginning at 6 pm.**

As always, the party will be a **potluck** so bring along a dish to share with your neighbors.

The neighborhood council will provide the plates and utensils along with beverages to drink. Please call Pete (933-6587) if you should have any questions.

Also, we would like to collect food for the **West Seattle Food Bank** at this event to help folks that are less fortunate through the holiday season. Please consider bringing a canned non-perishable item or two with you.

If you are unable to attend the party but would still like to donate some food please contact Pete.

Council Elections

The Pigeon Point Neighborhood Council has not held elections in over two years and it is felt that we should do this.

Nominations will be accepted up to our February meeting at which time the elections will be held. We will elect a new Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. If you would like to nominate someone, or to throw your name into the election please let us know. If you have any questions please contact Pete Spalding or Jane Lanning.

Porch Lights

As you might recall from previous newsletters and council meetings it is very important to turn your porch lights on at night to help in the fight against crime. We still have a limited number of compact fluorescent bulbs available for use on your porch. Please let Pete know if you would like one.

Greetings from Vivian

When we are tired of the rain and the damp cold

When we long to go south before were too old

We'll gather together and we'll laugh and we'll play

Tell all the good things that have drifted our way.

Please keep Vivian in your thoughts as we move through the holiday season.

Radio Tower on 21st Ave

Your Pigeon Point Neighborhood council would like to take this time to thank everyone that called, sent an email or in anyway participated in helping to get the graffiti painted over that was on the block building at this site. We need to continue to remain vigilant to keep this site from becoming an eyesore to our neighborhood. If you see trash dumped at the site or anything that looks like it should be taken care of you simply need to send an email to jasonh@sterlingrealty.com or call the graffiti hotline at 684-7587.

Traffic Circle at 20th Ave SW and SW Dakota

The neighborhood council found out that adding any stop signs or yield signs in our neighborhood is not a possibility. In further investigating ways to calm traffic, we are researching the potential to install a traffic circle at this intersection. We would like to have your feedback on this (positive or negative) idea. We would have to apply for funding through one of the city matching funds and then neighbors would be responsible for planting and maintaining the site once it is in place. Contact Pete with comments.

Block Watch Programs in Pigeon Point

Over the last several years there have been some new Block Watch groups formed in our neighborhood. Below are some first hand accounts from the captains of the groups. If your block would like to form a Block Watch group please let us know and we will help you get going. It is a simple and easy process that just takes a bit of time up front to get organized and then it is a piece of cake.

The purpose of the Block Watch program, part of the Seattle Police Department's Community Crime Prevention section, is to "establish a line of communication between you and your neighbors." This should reduce crime occurring near your home as neighbors may be able to identify uninvited guest or car prowlers. Trusted neighbors can keep watch for you when you are on vacation, or report when a street light is broken.

4100 Block of 20th Ave. SW

I am still new to the neighborhood and to the role of Block Watch captain, and I have to admit that I've got some work to do. In this capacity, I have been contacted by neighbors on a variety of issues: a suspected break-in, coordinating tree planting on the block, plans to be out of town, unknown cars parked on the street, etc. I encourage everyone to contact the police with concerns over criminal matters. I also receive notification of released sex or kidnapping offenders residing in our area. Fortunately, I have not seen any too close to Pigeon Point, but I do forward this information on to the Pigeon Point Neighborhood Council for community awareness.

My new year's resolution is to stop by to say hello to everybody on the block. I plan to welcome newcomers as well as arrange a block watch meeting. Our block has a map of all of the residences within our block watch area (which I plan to update and redistribute early next year). This map contains the names and telephone contact information of the participating neighbors. I would like to expand the map to contain emergency telephone numbers, email addresses, and the large pets and vehicles stationed at each home (only if neighbors choose to share this information). Of course, block watch members could designate which information should not be distributed to other participating households.

I have met some of you already and look forward to meeting the rest. I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season! Remember to let your neighbors know what your plans are. ~ Joni Swenson

3700 Block of 20th Ave SW

Our block, the 3700 Block of 20th Avenue SW should have been the safest block on the hill. Because we are a dead end street with no way out except plunging down onto the West Seattle Bridge, the Seattle Police and we were pretty confident we would be unmolested by thieves and prowlers...WRONG!

With tool sheds broken into, cars ransacked, things missing off 2nd floor decks, breaking into alarmed houses, we had enough. Without taking the time to have SPD help us organize, we just decided to do it. We had talked about it off and on for years, usually after one of the incidents above. But no one ever put fingers to keyboard and made it happen.

It was all done with just one invitation letter asking everyone to provide information. We made a drawing of all the houses on the street, collected all our names, phone numbers (home, work, cell) and email addresses and then shared it amongst ourselves. The whole thing was done within a week or two with no one spending more than a few minutes time doing it.

We have already used it several times for suspicious incidents. Whenever someone is going on vacation, they let me know and I email everyone else to keep an eye out. It has helped us all get to know each other a little bit better and made the neighborhood a whole lot safer. The piece of mind is way up at the Point. We would encourage everyone to get on the bandwagon.
~ Ed Doyne

22nd Ave SW North of Andover

Steve Daley has recently taken over as the captain of this Block Watch effective at their neighborhood potluck that was held in August. We started a collection at the potluck to pay for two Block Watch signs for either end of our block. We were able to obtain one sign with the amount collected and are in the process of obtaining the second sign.

Since I signed on as the Block Watch captain, I've gotten a few updates from neighbors regarding their contact information changes, but we still don't have contact information for the majority of our neighbors. By the end of the year, I'd like to have names and contact information for as many of our neighbors as possible. For my neighbors on 22nd Ave SW please contact me with your updated information if possible. ~ Steve Daley

