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A Letter from the President

With our busiest season behind us, it is time to look forward to next year. September not only marks the beginning of the school year, but also the beginning of the HPCC’s fiscal year. I am happy to report that 2013 was an extremely successful year. Our major events - the House Tour, Marathon Party, Yard Sale, Bryant Street Festival and Reservoir of Jazz were all very popular, attracting record numbers of neighbors who enjoy the events and welcoming newcomers to our neighborhood, introducing them to Highland Park and some of what makes it so special.

With the beginning of every year comes our membership drive. This October, our annual membership mailing will be replaced by an oversized postcard mailed to every home in the neighborhood. We have many new neighbors and we want to make sure they are all aware of the HPCC, neighborhood ListServ and other support available to them in Highland Park.

I know I always look for the little white envelope with green lettering that Kelly Meade has been mailing in the fall for years to all HPCC members. This new postcard will include a tear-off return portion, similar to the regular mailing, if you wish to continue to send in your membership dues the usual way. It will also include instructions on how to renew or become a member using our new online resource. Please use whichever method is most comfortable to you.

Remember, we are a 501(c)(4) non-profit organization run completely by neighborhood volunteers and 100% of all membership fees and donations are used to support Highland Park. We cannot continue our good work without your membership support.

The HPCC Board is made up of 13 members, all residents of Highland Park. Each year, three of those members rotate off of the board as three more are voted on for a three-year term. My thanks to Glen Schultz, Laura Smith and Teri Rucker for their service to the HPCC. Although they are ending their term on the board, they will continue to be active in the community serving on committees and volunteering during events. I invite members and non-members alike to the October meeting when we will vote in three new board members.

On a separate note, I also wanted to let everyone know that beginning in October, we will be moving back to St. Andrew’s on Hampton Street for our monthly meetings. Many thanks to Union Project for their support while St. Andrew’s was under construction.

Monica Watt
HPCC President
The main speaker of the evening was Ernie Hogan from the Highland Park Community Development Corporation. He updated everyone on the progress of their Bryant Street development and announced a few of the new tenants that will occupy the building. He also discussed other projects in the neighborhood and community development in general.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

The next HPCC meeting is Thursday, October 16th at St. Andrew’s church.

The speakers will be Ms. Karen Arnold, the new principal of Fulton, Dr. Regina Holley, PPS Board Representative for District 2 and Jenna Sue Vanden Brink, Union Project Ceramics Program Manager, who will talk about kids programming at Union Project.
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Highland Park Volunteer Day

Saturday, October 25th from 9:00am - 1:00pm
Rain or shine.

Volunteers are critical to healthy, beautiful parks. Come join your neighbors, meet new friends, and have a great time doing your part to keep our neighborhood park in tip-top shape.

This volunteer event will focus on removing invasive plants from throughout the park. We ask that all volunteers wear closed-toe shoes and long pants to this event.

Meet at the Farmhouse, a light breakfast will be provided.

Here’s what is provided at volunteer days:

**Supplies and Food**

We’ll have shovels, gloves, and whatever else you’ll need to get the job done on hand. Snacks, coffee, and water are also provided.

**Training**

Learn about tackling the task at hand and why it’s important in keeping the park healthy and beautiful.

Register at [www.pittsburghparks.org/volunteerdays](http://www.pittsburghparks.org/volunteerdays) or call 412-682-7275 ext.232

[www.pittsburghparks.org](http://www.pittsburghparks.org)
For all old movie buffs... Fathom Events, Turner Classic Movies and Warner Bros. Home Entertainment are coming together again to present Gone With the Wind: The 75th Anniversary Celebration in select movie theaters nationwide on Wednesday, October 1.

Celebrate 75 years of this quintessential Hollywood classic by experiencing the “story behind the story” and understanding how this 10-time Academy Award® winning masterpiece came to be and its historical significance.

Fully remastered and with a specially produced introduction by TCM host Robert Osborne, this event is one you will not want to miss.

Time: 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. (local time)
Run Time: 4 hours 5 minutes (approximate)

Tickets are available by clicking on the orange “Buy Tickets” button on the website below. If online ticketing is not available for your location, you can purchase your tickets by visiting the box office at your local participating movie theater:

• Cinemark Robinson Township, Pittsburgh PA
• Cinemark Pittsburgh Mills, Tarentum PA
• Waterfront, Homestead PA

www.fathomevents.com/event/gone-with-the-wind-75th-anniversary
A Bit of History from East Liberty Valley Historical Society

THE JOHN W. TIM HOUSE

By George A. Clarke

BACKGROUND

Growing up in the Highland Park section of East Liberty, I was always fascinated by the many types of houses in the neighborhood. Most of them were built between 1890 and 1930, ranging from Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Craftsman to Tudor and Spanish Revivals. Miraculously, there were a few houses left that pre-dated this peak building period. One of these is a very old two story brick house with an almost flat roof, unusual for our neighborhood. Fortunately for me as a child, one of my playmates, Tommy Wichmann, lived in this house so I had easy access to the interior. Tommy told me that the house had been moved once, something that also seemed unusual to me. I asked my mother, Elizabeth Urling Clark, about the house, since she also grew up in Highland Park and seemed to know EVERYTHING about the area. She said it had been the Tebbett’s house, lived in by four unmarried sisters. She also said that as a child, when her parents first built their home in Highland Park in 1918, she attended a kindergarten school run by the Tebbett sisters in their home. I heard all these stories as a child and only now, having done research, found them all to be true. Some additional interesting information was also discovered with my research.

HISTORY OF THE LAND

The history of a house becomes more interesting when you know the history of the land and the people who lived there. The land upon which this house is located was originally part of a 443 acre plantation called “Heth’s Delight” first patented in 1769 to William Heth of Virginia. In 1799, Heth sold the land to Jacob Negley for $5000. Negley had purchased and inherited along with his wife, Barbara Winebiddle, vast tracts of land in the East Liberty Valley. Due to his extensive real estate investments, he became over-extended at the time of a national financial panic in 1819, and died shortly thereafter.

1899 John W. Tim 5 acre property and home.
By Tania Grubbs

His heirs had to sell land to satisfy debts. In 1829 James Ross, executor of the Jacob Negley estate, sold part of this tract to Alexander Laughlin for $2,757.50. In 1832 Laughlin sold 94 acres to James Laughlin for $2,230. In 1835 Laughlin sold to Thomas Crompton 10 acres for $700 and in 1838 Crompton sold to Robert Wright 5 acres for $600. In 1853 Wright's 5 acres of land was sold in a sheriff's sale to John W. Tim for $250. What a bargain! At the time the property contained a frame dwelling. A few years later John Tim built the brick house, the subject of this article.

1904 - Tim property - western half sub-divided with new street planned before the house move.

**JOHN W. TIM**

John W. Tim (born 1815) was a native of Holland, who came to this country with his parents in 1818. They settled in Baltimore, MD, where Tim attended school and then learned the business of making umbrellas, whips and canes. In 1848, John Tim came to Pittsburgh and established his business on Wood St, where he became quite successful. He later took his son Anthony into partnership and continued in business until his death over 50 years later, in 1899. Tim became a prominent citizen in the community. He was president for several years of the City Deposit (later Mellon and now Citizens) Bank in East Liberty and was one of the founders and vice president of the German Fire Insurance Co. He also served as a school director for the 19th (East Liberty) Ward.

**JOHN TIM BUILDS HIS HOUSE**

John Tim must have been a forward thinking man in 1853. He had the foresight to buy property in the very newly developing North Highland Avenue district of East Liberty. Even at that early date people who could afford it were beginning to move out of the smoky downtown section of the city to the clean atmosphere of suburban East End. The railroad had come through East Liberty in 1851, which made it possible for people who worked in the city to easily commute the distance. Tim's five acre property was just off North Highland Ave. on what would later be called Grafton St. In 1861, John Tim commenced to build a fashionable Italianate suburban villa for his family. I have heard and read this house being referred to as a “farm house”. John Tim was no farmer and his five acre property with his very up-to-date house was certainly no farm! The Italianate country house was one of the styles that was championed by Andrew Jackson Downing in the 1840s and 50s. Downing was an American landscaper, designer and writer who was very influential at this time. He considered the Italianate style a refreshing and more appropriate alternative to the Greek Revival style that, to him, had run its course. Downing’s book, Architecture of Country Houses, published in 1850, was a huge success and his designs were copied all over the country.

Some of the salient features of this style are: low pitched roofs with wide eaves and prominent brackets underneath appearing to support the roof, but are in fact only decorative, round and flat arched windows with “bonnets” on top and prominent sills below. All of these are features on the Tim house. There would be a large porch across the front, though the one
on this house is a later replacement added after
the house was “moved”- more on that later.
Inside are many features typical of the period:
multiple paneled doors with over wide moldings
and high fancy baseboards. Newell posts, stair
railing and spindles are many sided. A white
marble fireplace with rounded opening and
eleven plus foot ceilings are other features.
The house appears to have been built in two
stages, and from examination of doorways and
woodwork it appears that the front part of the
house was built first. This consists of the central
stair hall with a room on either side upstairs and
down. The back part of the house is reached
from a doorway at the back of the hall that leads
into another hall that is perpendicular to the
first. The back hall has a stairway too and there
are three rooms along one side of this hall.
There is the same general layout on the second
floor as well. The later addition to the house
would have been made very soon after the first
part, as it is difficult to see much difference in
architecture or detail. John Tim had a large
family and needed a large house!

DEATH OF JOHN TIM AND THE
SALE OF HIS COUNTRY HOUSE

John Tim died in 1899 at the age of 84. He
must have been a hardy man, as he had been
downtown to his place of business the previous
day. His wife Elizabeth had died in 1870, but he
left four adult children: Anthony, who was in
business with him; John, who moved to Salem,
OH; Emma, wife of Samuel Young; and
Catharine, wife of Louis Kable. The five
acre property was divided between the two
daughters. Emma received the southern half
that included the homestead and Catharine
received the northern half.

By 1900, Highland Park was beginning to
become more developed with many of the old
country places being subdivided. Samuel and
Emma Tim Young presumably continued to live
in the old family home for a few years, but by
1904 they had begun developing their half of
the property with a short street running
through it, called Sheridan Place-now the 1300
block of Sheridan Avenue. There were twelve
residential lots on each side of the street. To
do this they had to either demolish or move
the old home as it sat facing Grafton St. right in
the middle of the new street. They had a new
foundation dug on two adjoining lots and the
house was moved and turned to face the new
street. Quite a feat for those days. The house
move was completed before 1909, because in
that year Samuel and Emma Young sold a lot 60
by 98 feet containing the old Tim house to Kate
and Charles Tebbetts.

1910 - Tim property - western half - Tim house
moved to two lots, houses built on remaining lots.

CHARLES, KATE AND THE
MISSES TEBBETTS

The Tebbetts were originally from Kentucky.
Charles Tebbetts is listed as an actuary in the
1910 US census. He died sometime between
1915 and 1920. He and his wife Kate were the
parents of four unmarried and enterprising
daughters: Mary, Marion, Elizabeth and Ruth,
who termed themselves “the Misses Tebbetts”.
Even though they did not marry, they did not sit
at home and do nothing. They all worked at a
time when it was rare for women to have careers. The Pittsburgh City Directories list Mary and Marion as operating The Misses Tebbetts Junior School out of their home. This began some time before 1918. Elizabeth is listed as a clerk and Ruth as a draftsman. One of my mother’s old neighborhood friends, Virginia Koch Daugherty, who lived right across the street from the Tebbetts and is now an alert 101 years old, told me recently that she remembered seeing chauffeur driven cars bring young children up to the Misses Tebbetts School. She also told me that the Tebbetts sisters made and dressed elaborate dolls for sale.

In the early 1930s, at the depth of the Depression, and with their Junior School now closed, the sisters were trying to come up with some way to earn a living. They hit upon the idea of teaching the art of needle point work to women who had time on their hands to spare. Doing needle point was becoming popular and the Misses Tebbetts began to teach this to some of their friends. Within five years there were over 200 women who had learned the art of needle point. Not only did they teach it, they also created their own designs. My mother told me that they would go to the Carnegie Library and copy elaborate designs out of books and then transfer these designs to the French needlepoint canvases that they sold. The spaces on the canvas would be numbered and they would make up packets with the correct color and amount of wool yarn necessary and number them to match the canvas. These would be made up into kits for sale. The Misses Tebbetts became nationally famous for their needle point designs. The National Cathedral in Washington, DC, has a needle point rug at the high altar that was designed by them. Many other churches throughout the country, including St. Andrews Episcopal Church, here in Highland Park, have needle point work created by the Tebbetts. I am fortunate to have two chairs with beautiful needlepoint seats worked by my mother from kits purchased from the Tebbetts. According to my mother, this enterprise was so successful that when the sisters moved to New England in 1952 they were able to sell their business.

Later Residents of the House

The Tim and Tebbetts families each occupied the house for more than forty years. No subsequent owner would live in the house longer than ten years except for the Wichmanns and the current owners. Dr. Russell Wichmann and wife Helen bought the house from the Tebbetts in 1952. He was the organist/choir director at Shadyside Presbyterian Church for over 50 years and also taught at Chatham University. They stayed in the house for 15 years. There have been six additional owners of the house. The current owners, the Wallnau family, have lived there for about 20 years. They have been excellent stewards of the house, adding necessary updates in a sympathetic manner in keeping with the character of the house. The house is beautifully maintained and is a wonderful example of a house of yesterday, livable for today and updated for the future. John Tim would be proud!

Credits
A Century and a Half of Pittsburgh and Her People, by Jordan and Boucher, 1908
Newspaper clippings: Tebbetts sisters - needle point – Marilyn Evert
Recollections: Virginia Koch Daugherty, George A. Clark and the late Elizabeth Uring Clark
Allegheny County Deed extracts
There’s a lot a-jumble around Old St. Andrew’s this fall, as our construction and renovations are at long-last coming to a conclusion and as we begin to move back in—with enhanced accessibility and expanded resources for the parish and the neighborhood. We celebrated a new beginning on Sunday, September 7, with a “Renaissance”-themed parish day, and it was fun to welcome Highland Park leaders like HPCC President (and St. Andrean) Monica Watt and our District 7 Councilwoman Deb Gross. Music, food, and fun: a great time was had by all! We’re still awaiting the completion of a few final projects and then will need the inspections and certifications and occupancy permits that will allow us to open our doors again as a center for so many important activities in our ever-more-exciting neighborhood!

Any day now, so stay tuned!

AROUND ST. ANDREWS

By Bruce Robison, Rector

We do have a few items emerging now on the calendar, and we’ll see more to come . . . .

Our first “First Thursday, 8 p.m.” Choral Evensong will be sung by St. Andrew’s Parish Choir on Thursday evening, October 2, and the service will be followed by a brief musical recital featuring John Hall, cellist with the Youngstown, Ohio, and West Virginia Symphony Orchestras.

On Saturday October 4, we will join with our friends of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Oakland for a St. Francis Day Service, and Pet Blessing, which is always meaningful and fun! This year we’re at the “Lutheran Location,” corner of Center Avenue and Morewood, at 2 p.m. Our song is “Sing out, People and Pets!”—and we’d be glad to see you there!
Our first major event in our renovated St. Andrew’s facilities will be centered around the annual St. Andrew’s Lecture, which is scheduled as a “Lecture Weekend” this year. Our Lecturer will be the Rev. Dr. Dwight Zscheile, Associate Professor of Congregational Mission and Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. A leader in the “Missional Church” movement, Zscheile’s lecture on Friday evening, October 17th, 8 p.m., will be on “The Agile Church: Faithful Innovation in a Changing World.” Addressing critical themes for lay leaders and clergy of all denominations, Zscheile will then also participate on Saturday, October 18, in a 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. program with formal responses, panel discussions, and small and large group interaction. Finally, on Sunday afternoon, October 19, our Guest Preacher at the regular 4:30 p.m. service of Choral Evensong will be the Rev. Dr. John A. Macdonald, Director of the Stanway Institute for Mission and Associate Professor of Mission and Evangelism at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge. The service will observe the Feast of St. James the Just, Brother of our Lord and First Bishop of Jerusalem, and will invite us to connect the Apostolic Past with our present ministry context. All St. Andrew Lecture events are free and open to the public. (We are asking this year for an RSVP for the Saturday portion of the program, either by phone or e-mail to the St. Andrew’s Church Office, so that we can predict numbers for lunch.)

Sunday mornings at St. Andrew’s during this season are, as we say, “back to normal.” Holy Communion at 9 a.m. in the Chapel, the Choral Service at 11 a.m., and programs for Children, Youth, and Adults at 9:45. Nursery Care is provided upstairs in the Parish House, 8:45 a.m. - 12: 15 p.m.

So just to say that it’s a fun time to be a part of the parish and the neighborhood.

St. Andrew’s has been on the corner of Hampton Street and North Euclid Avenue, at the heart of the Highland Park neighborhood, for more than a century. If there is a pastoral need that we can help with - a baby to be baptized, a wedding to celebrate, a sick or shut-in friend or neighbor to be visited, a family to support at the time of a death - please feel free to be in touch. Or if you need (once our last projects are completed!) to find some space for a meeting or family gathering, or to borrow a few chairs: we’ll be glad to help if we can. Call us at 412 661-1245 or check us out on the web at www.standrewspgh.org.
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