

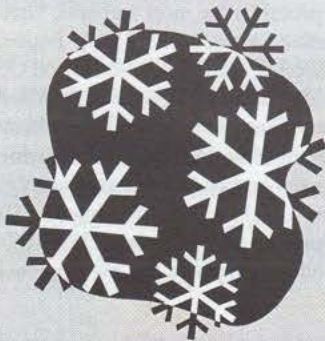
The

EASTLAKE NEWS

December / January 2001 - 2002

EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL
117 E. LOUISA STREET, #1
SEATTLE, WA 98102

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PUBLIC MEETINGS

Tues., Dec. 11th - Fairview Green Street Planning Meeting

7-9 p.m. @ TOPS Seward School Cafeteria

Tues., Jan. 8th - Fairview Green Street Planning Meeting

7-9 p.m. @ Tyee Yacht Club, 3229 Fairview Ave. E.

Tues., Jan. 15th - Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness

(ECC General Meeting)

7-9 p.m. @ TOPS Seward School Library

FAIRVIEW AVENUE GREEN STREET PLANNING COMMENCES

A series of planning meetings to define and develop guidelines for Fairview Avenue Green Street began with a public meeting held on October 30, 2001. Fairview Avenue E., from Newton to Roanoke and Hamlin to Fuhrman, has been designated as a Type III Green Street that allows for continuous use of the street by motor vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. As a result of this designation the Eastlake community has the opportunity to design the guidelines for future street enhancements.

The large attendance at the public meeting was a strong indication that many people passionately care about Fairview Avenue and preserving its unique neighborhood characteristics. Fairview Avenue has been described as a "strolling lane," honoring the fact that residents frequently use the street itself as a walking path and want to continue to do so safely. A display of photographs enabled participants at the public meeting to take a visual journey along the street. They made numerous recommendations to both protect the natural ambience of Fairview and to consider potential improvements in traffic calming, parking and habitat, as well as the treatment of litter containers and view areas.

An initial "green street" planning meeting was held on Tuesday, November 13th. Members of the community met to review past planning activities associated with Fairview Avenue, as well as the comments collected from the public meeting and other sources so far. This group is in the process of organizing a volunteer committee to design community guidelines that will be consistent with the character and existing use of the street. The next meeting for Fairview Avenue Green Street will be held Tuesday, December 11th from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the TOPS Seward School cafeteria, 2500 Franklin Ave. E. A meeting is also scheduled for Tuesday, January 8th, 2002 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Tyee Yacht Club, 3229 Fairview Ave. E., to discuss ideas for north Fairview from Hamlin to Fuhrman.

Your comments and participation in the meetings are essential to this ongoing planning process. Suggestions pertaining to specific sections and features of Fairview are especially helpful. They can be sent to Fairview Avenue Green Street c/o ECC, Lake Union Mail, 117 E. Louisa St. #1, Seattle WA 98102 or emailed to Martia Denniston at mdenniston@effectnet.com. Questions and volunteers are welcome (720-5519).

Dear Neighbors,

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Editor of the Eastlake News. As a volunteer member of the Eastlake Community Council Board, I'm excited to help serve you, my neighbors, by creating a publication that addresses the issues and interests we share as a community.

To tell you a little about myself: I grew up in the Lynnwood/Edmonds area, and my husband and I moved into the neighborhood earlier this year as renters. I have a degree in Geography from the UW and a passion for community development and historic preservation. Already, I've come to love the beauty and uniqueness of this neighborhood and am convinced that it's the best place to live in Seattle!

I hope to make the Eastlake News a publication that you look forward to reading every two months, which means your input is welcome and appreciated! If you have a story relevant to Eastlake that you'd like to see published in the newsletter such as an issue to be addressed, a historical account relevant to the neighborhood, a new business, etc., please contact me at eastlakenews@hotmail.com.

If you're a business owner and are interested in advertising, please contact me as well and I will send you an information packet regarding ad sizes and rates.

Finally, thank you to all those who are members of the Eastlake Community Council. Your support helps to make this publication possible!

Sincerely,

Holly Houser



Business Notes

Seattle Times business columnist Stephen Dunphy on October 21 featured Eastlake to illustrate the impacts of the recent economic downturn. Dunphy knows the neighborhood business district as only a longtime resident could. The article quoted representatives of **CompuStar Computers**, **Louisa's Bakery and Cafe**, **Serafina Restaurant**, and **Travel Experts**, and ended: "the shopkeepers, accountants, real-estate agents, cooks and waitresses that make up the Eastlake economy will await an upturn, hopefully soon."

Hines Public Market Coffee, Inc. (2243 Eastlake, 568-7742) has opened a coffee house in a beautifully renovated storefront. Hours are 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. M-F, and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends. To go with the fresh-baked pastry from next-door **Bandoleone** are drip coffee, tea, and hot chocolate, not to mention espresso from one of the world's two largest espresso machines (the other is in Berlin!). Ground and whole bean coffees are also available by the pound. ... Next door is **Porta Greek Taverna** (2245 Eastlake, 860-0284), which promises the most authentic Greek food in town. ... Congrats to **Sophie's Doughnuts** (2238 Eastlake Avenue, 323-7132). Praising this local business as one of the region's "remarkable doughnuteries," the Seattle Weekly on Oct. 25 observed that Sophie's balances "the hit-and-run feel of the standard doughnut shop with plenty of seating where one can fritter away a rainy morning sampling, well, fritters." ... **Sam's Steakhouse** (2947 Eastlake, 957-7777) got a nice write-up in the Nov. 16 Seattle Times, which observed, "It's the little things that make this self-proclaimed 'neighborhood steakhouse' so neighborly." ... Three Eastlake restaurants made it into the Seattle Weekly's Nov. 15 rating of "100 Hot Dishes": linguine carbonara at **Pomodoro Ristorante Italiano** (2366 Eastlake, 324-3160), mushroom gnocchi at **Serafina** (2043 Eastlake, 323-0807), and garden paella at **Cafe Ambrosia** (2501 Fairview Ave. E., 325-7111.)

Fabu (2938C Eastlake Avenue, 709-7634) offers custom clothing designs and personal tailoring for all sizes, ages, and genders. It also offers handmade pillows, home decor, and crafts of the cloth. Hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 11-7, and Fridays and Saturdays 11-6. ... Congrats to Annette Lance, a staff member who recently purchased **Salon 1520** (1520 Eastlake Avenue, 328-8161) from its longtime owner. Hours are M-F 10-7 and Saturdays 10-5. **Kristine Anne's** (3200 Harvard Avenue E., 860-1972) is selling a lot of dog and cat beds, along with dolls and bears and the chairs that fit them, dressmaker forms, and other handmade upholstery. Kristine Anne has welcomed her daughter Sara into the business, making this the only mother-daughter handmade doll store we know of. ... **Kim Brooke Group** (2044 Eastlake, 329-1111) is a full-service agency representing models and talent of all ages and types; it also provides training, photography, portfolio consultation, and skin care. ... **Eastlake Market** (2244 Eastlake, 720-1483) opens M-F at 5 a.m., and 6 a.m. on weekends, and does not close until 2 a.m. every night.

Lake Union Dry Dock continues to distinguish the neighborhood with high-profile fix-up jobs like the historic Virginia V and the U.S. Navy's retired Turner Joy (the latter, at 418 feet one of the largest vessels ever to enter Lake Union, has now returned to the Bremerton waterfront), Washington ferry Klahowya, and others. Also moored there are legendary ships like the Sea Shepherd, the tug Chickamauga and the handcrafted Glory of the Seas. ... The remarkable paintings and sculptures of **Sabah Al-Dhaheer** (2310 Franklin Ave. E., 324-1730, www.aldaher.8m.com) were featured in a recent show at Seattle Center. ... The Eastlake-based **Tudor Choir** hosts from London the world-renowned Tallis Scholars in a Dec. 13 concert at St. Mark's. The holiday program includes a Christmas Mass by Thomas Tallis, and other Renaissance works and chants. Information on tickets (\$22 to \$30): 322-3118 or www.tudorchoir.org. ... Liz Halperin of the **Deaf-Blind Service Center** (2366 Eastlake, 323-9178), who herself is deaf-blind, was a featured speaker at a recent televised Seattle City Council forum on needs of the disabled. ... Brad Decker, owner of the new office building at 3302 Fuhrman Ave. E., was one of its first tenants; other tenants include **Seattle Mortgage** (407-0100, www.smloan.com), **Petersen Rotherth Insurance Services** (329-7092, www.petersenrotherth.com), **Four Seasons Homes** (650-0568), and the law firms of **Krogh and Leonard** (464-1872), and **Bradshaw and Richards** (622-3444).

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Historic Seattle

EASTLAKE MODERNISM

Mention historic architecture in Eastlake, and for many of us, early 20th century Art Deco apartment buildings and Craftsmen bungalows come to mind. However, it is the buildings that lie between – those of our recent past, often overlooked and ignored – that are the focus of interest and study among a group of local architectural historians. These buildings are some of the architectural expressions of the Modern Movement in Western Washington.

While today Eastlake is a unique place to live and work, in the 50s and 60s architects saw it as a unique place to build. It was close to downtown, relatively inexpensive, and provided an eclectic urban laboratory for new ways of working and design. Because of this, Eastlake is home to a number of excellent representations of Modern-style architecture. Some of these buildings were recently showcased by Historic Seattle's DoCoMoMoWeWa (Documentation and Conservation of buildings, sites, and neighborhoods of the Modern Movement in Western Washington) committee in a tour sponsored in our neighborhood this past summer.

Some of the buildings on display included the Egan Residence, a well known landmark at 1500 Lakeview Boulevard East, and the Gene Zema-designed building at 200 East Boston. The Zema building exhibits many elements characteristic to the modern-era style including use of pure planes of materials, namely wood stucco and glass, a virtually flat roofline, and a design that hovers above the ground to minimize the impact on the site.

Many of us walk, bike, or drive past excellent examples of Eastlake Modernism every day. Those to look for include:

- Elmec Building, 1920 Eastlake Ave. E
- Pacific Architect & Builder's, 1945 Yale Place E
- Architect's Office Building, 2000 Minor Ave. E
- Lake Union Community Psychiatric Clinic, 2009 Minor Ave. E
- The Castlewood Apartments, 2717 Franklin Ave. E
- Architect's Office Building, 1264 Eastlake Ave. E
- Lakeview Blvd. Apartments, 1555 Lakeview Blvd.

By understanding the historical significance of these buildings, both in the elements of their design and in their relationship to our neighborhood's evolution over time, we develop a new appreciation for the built environment of Eastlake's recent past.

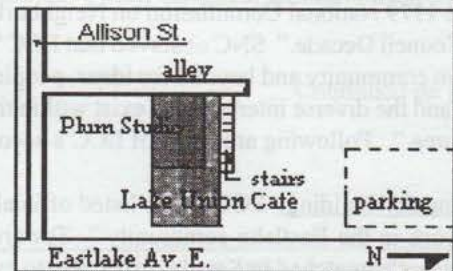
If you're interested in learning more about Modern architecture and DoCoMoMoWeWa, visit Historic Seattle's website at www.historicseattle.org. Here you'll find information on future events as well as an opportunity to become a member and be placed on their mailing list. If you would like to purchase a copy of the self-guided Eastlake Tour brochure (\$3), including detailed descriptions of the featured buildings, call Historic Seattle at 206-622-6952.



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VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR EASTLAKE

Have you ever lived in a small town? You do, you know. Oh, it's not incorporated, and no road signs announce the town borders. But it's here, Eastlake, a community with a heart and a conscience, its own tiny budget, town meetings, and a growing number of volunteers who are willing to stand each year and say, "We care; we'll give a few hours a month to the neighborhood; count on us."

--Dick Arnold, Eastlake News

If the Eastlake Community Council did not exist, it would have to be invented. Volunteer action has preserved and improved this wonderful neighborhood, and is most effective when coordinated. Long before ECC's 1971 founding, volunteer efforts were in progress. Eastlakers organized in 1910 to defeat a proposed Northern Pacific rail line along our shores, and again in the 1920s to protect Fairview Avenue E. from becoming a four-lane arterial. The North Capitol Hill/Eastlake Community Club worked for neighborhood improvement from the 1920s to the 1950s; had it survived when I-5 was being planned, that freeway might have demolished fewer homes and businesses, and might not be such a source of noise and a barrier.

The Eastlake Community Council is one of the most praised of neighborhood associations. It was recognized as unusually effective by the 1979 National Commission on Neighborhoods, and in 1993, the Seattle Neighborhood Coalition honored it as the "Community Council Decade." SNC observed that ECC "consistently through the years has demonstrated an outstanding ability to reach into its own community and beyond for ideas, people, and solutions. They have set a standard for developing partnerships with government and the diverse interests that exist within their jurisdiction. They have been pro-active and inclusive of all people and needs in their area." Following are some of ECC's accomplishments.

Community-building. ECC's first-listed official purpose is to "foster and encourage a sense of community among people who live and work in the Eastlake community." Toward this end, we publish the Eastlake News (4000 circulation), which a network of volunteers unmatched in Seattle distributes to every home and workplace in the neighborhood. Similar information is increasingly available on the Eastlake web site, <http://eastlake.oo.net>. ECC holds regular general meetings that have brought Eastlakers into dialogue with one another and with civil servants and elected officials on a wide variety of topics (ECC never takes positions for or against candidates for public office).

Community-building mustn't get too serious; it's got to be fun. ECC has organized banquets, pot-lucks, "get-to-know-you dinners," picnics, softball games, clean-ups, paint-outs, cruises, walks, dances, concerts, holiday and Halloween parties, art shows, auctions, rummage sales, street fairs, festivals, tree-planting, weeding, plant exchanges, park dedications, centennials, reunions, a farmer's market, and a tour of homes, businesses, and boats.

ECC was initially fostered by the Floating Homes Association, and in turn ECC has encouraged the founding of such local organizations as the Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission, Eastlake Community Land Trust, NOISE, Transportation Legal Defense Fund, and business associations.

... Continued on page 5

ECC Membership Application - Eastlake Community Council

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

- Household \$ 25
- Business \$ 50
- Senior Citizen/Student/Low Income \$ 10
- Donation \$ ____

Interests

- Parks and Open Spaces
- Traffic/Parking Issues
- Building Guidelines
- Newsletter Distribution
- Fundraising
- Work Parties
- Community Art Projects
- Community Meetings

Member Status

- New
- Renewal

Eastlake Community Council — 117 E. Louisa #1, Seattle, WA 98102

Schools. Although ECC usually avoids positions on ballot measures, it has chosen to officially endorse school bond issues. At a time when the School District was considering the sale of Seward School, ECC fought to keep it open. When the Seward School program closed, ECC welcomed the Colman School program to temporary quarters at Seward while it encouraged the permanent relocation to Seward of TOPS alternative school. ECC has a representative on the TOPS Site Council, which advises the school administration. ECC members worked closely with the School District on the renovation of the Seward buildings, and ECC is working to increase the number of local children admitted to TOPS. For several years, ECC sponsored a community school, based at Seward, funded by the City, and taught by local volunteers.

Public Safety. ECC efforts with the police and fire departments helped keep this a safety neighborhood. We have particularly worked to ensure full coverage during the Fourth of July, when approximately 30,000 people jam our neighborhood to see the fireworks display.

Social Services. ECC has worked to ensure that our social service institutions enhance the neighborhood. An ECC board member worked with a steering committee of senior citizens to research the nutritional and social needs of the elderly.

Art. ECC has worked with the Seattle Arts Commission on competitions that produced such art works as the three "dreamboats," the many glass cornerstones, and the steel sculpture at the corner of Fairview and Eastlake. ECC has sponsored several art shows. The masthead of the Eastlake News was drawn by Victor Steinbrueck. Eastlake posters have been designed, among others, by Dick Arnold, Robert Rudine, and Karen Berry, who also drew ECC's letterhead.

... Continued on page 6



Holiday Shipping Tips & Tricks

- ⇒ Parcels under 35 lbs. tend to be carried, and those over 35 lbs. tend to be tumbled.
- ⇒ **Internationally**, small packages under 4 lbs. are the most cost-effective. (Think earrings, not mirrors.)
- ⇒ **Wine is illegal** to ship to 38 states. Carbonated beer bottles can burst mid-transit. **Liquids** in general often **freeze, expand, and break** their containers. (Ask us sometime about The 28 Snow Globes of Christmas.)
- ⇒ Some **pottery**, particularly large flat serving plates, are not structurally sound enough to withstand small parcel shipping. People don't like receiving broken pottery presents. If it is larger than 10 inches in diameter, it is best not shipped.
- ⇒ Chipboard shirt boxes crumple in shipping. Scotch and masking tapes are not durable in shipping. **Use cardboard boxes** and 2-inch clear tape.
- ⇒ Don't recycle for shipping those cardboard boxes labeled as containing **liquids or toxic materials**. Shippers no longer allow containers with such markings.
- ⇒ **Street addresses are far superior** to Post Office boxes as shipping destinations.
- ⇒ **Always list clearly**, with full names and full addresses, both sender and recipient on the same face of all letters and parcels.
- ⇒ **Place clear tape** over your address labels to prevent smudges and smears. Include your return address and phone number inside the box as a back-up measure.
- ⇒ **Alert recipients** to expected delivery day. Delivery instructions taped to the recipient's door greatly reduces lost packages.
- ⇒ **Objects other than paper** need to be mailed in padded envelopes or boxes rather than paper envelopes (which are run through high speed sorting machines).
- ⇒ **Ship your presents and holiday clothes ahead.** Don't bother lugging suitcases long distances through security checkpoints. Box and ship your stuff approximately 10 days before you fly to your destination.

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VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE, CONT.

Driving, Parking, Walking and Bicycling. ECC has worked to protect Eastlake Avenue and other streets from pass-through traffic and to ensure the safety of local drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists. Our defeat of two private skybridge applications prevented the overshadowing of Eastlake Avenue and refocused attention on safer crosswalks. ECC successfully campaigned for traffic signals (stop lights) along Eastlake Avenue at Fuhrman, Newton, and Garfield, and pedestrian-friendly timing for the traffic signal at Louisa. We prevented the proposed widening of Lynn Street, and are working to beautify it. ECC spearheaded installation of the traffic circle at Franklin and Hamlin. Years of ECC effort produced the Residential Parking Zone, which gives residents priority for on-street spaces, but its design is friendlier to neighborhood businesses than any other RPZ in the city.

Bus and Rail. ECC has repeatedly gone to bat for Metro bus riders, working to preserve and improve routes and shelters. We helped achieve the electrification of bus route 70, which formerly had been diesel. The ECC board supported a county sales tax increase that helped make up for revenues lost when voters slashed the motor vehicle excise tax. ECC has actively followed and participated in the light rail and monorail debates, and shares the positions found in the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan.

Noise and Pollution. Working with our state legislators and other affected neighborhoods, ECC arranged for an \$80,000 study of how to mitigate noise from I-5 and SR-520. ECC helped broker an agreement under which float plane companies avoid early-morning takeoffs, and avoid routes that are most likely to disturb nearby residents. We have worked to resolve noise issues between taverns and nearby residents. We successfully overturned a permit the City had issued for a helicopter port at the corner of Eastlake and Garfield. We secured a Metro policy restricting the idling of diesel buses in the neighborhood.

Freeway Expansion. ECC has worked to prevent expansion of I-5 and SR-520 into the neighborhood, such as an off-ramp proposed in the 1970s that would have destroyed Seward School, and recent proposals to take street, sidewalk, and even homes along Boylston Ave. E., or huge increases in traffic into and out of a new tunnel opening near the Eastlake business district, the shoreline and the new "colonnade park" under I-5.

Green Space. Working with other organizations, ECC volunteers helped build Lynn Street Park, Terry Pettus Park, and Roanoke Street Park (1970s), Hamlin Street Park (1980s), Fairview Park and Good Turn Park (1990s), and Franklin Green Street and the renovation of Rogers Playfield (2000s). When we began the struggle for Fairview Park, few City officials thought we could succeed at assembling the state, county, city dollars needed to purchase the property from developers who were preparing to build a huge office complex that would have overshadowed the P-patch and devastated the natural area.

History and Landmarks. ECC has worked to preserve our past through an oral history program and historic documents and photographs (see narrative and photos at <http://eastlake.oo.net>). We worked for City landmark status for Seward School and the Lake Union Steam Plan and Hydrohouse, and to ensure that this landmark status was respected in the buildings' renovation. An ECC appeal of a six-unit condominium proposal at 2819 Franklin Ave. E. prevented demolition of an old Victorian house, which is now a City landmark and was beautifully restored by its new owners. A similar ECC appeal of a bulky apartment proposal at 216-20 E. Lynn saved an old house, which was tastefully expanded into three apartment units.

Shorelines. One of the six official purposes of the ECC is to "maximize public use and enjoyment of the inland waters and shorelines adjoining the Eastlake community." ECC campaigned for State shoreline legislation, and helped shape the City's shoreline ordinance for Lake Union. Its earliest battle overturned a City-issued permit for a 400-foot-long five-story overwater condominium building at the foot of Roanoke Street. The court case went all the way to the State Supreme Court and established nationally that community groups have standing to sue in the public interest. ECC continues to speak for the public interest in shoreline issues, and is willing to file appeals and go to court when necessary.

Zoning and Land use. Frequently, ECC is contacted by developers before they apply for City permits; it facilitates neighborhood input for their plans, and often sponsors open meetings for this purpose. ECC's review of plans, discussions with developers and with City officials, and in some cases, administrative appeals and court challenges, have reduced the height, bulk, and scale and improved the design of practically every large building constructed here in the last thirty years. In

... Continued on page 7



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some instances, our input caused out-of-scale building proposals to be withdrawn, among them a seven-story mini-storage warehouse under I-5 at 1700 Franklin, a hotel just north of Eastlake and Roanoke, and a huge apartment building at Boston Street between Minor and Fairview.

Proactively shaping zoning rules can create greater clarity for the community and developers alike, so ECC has convinced the City to reduce the potential height, bulk and scale of several residential and commercial zones. We even secured a City Council resolution applying the new commercial standards retroactively to office projects that had already applied for permits, triggering the withdrawal of several project applications. ECC also helped eliminate several large billboards from the neighborhood.

In its thirty-year history, ECC has gone to court only five times to seek enforcement of City and state rules and permit conditions, and in two of these cases--including the recent Lake Union Crew case--it did so in support of the City, which had filed the original complaint.

Neighborhood Business. ECC has encouraged businesses that serve neighborhood needs, as with re-establishment of a laundromat at the Eastlake and Louisa, where a new development had displaced the previous laundromat. ECC has worked for retail space in buildings fronting on parts of Eastlake Avenue. The Eastlake News carries a regular business column, and because of its low advertising rates and wide circulation, many businesses choose to advertise.

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EASTLAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL - 12 MONTH TREASURER'S REPORT
OCTOBER 14, 2000 - OCTOBER 9, 2001

14 October, 2000 Checking Balance		\$8,236.45
Period Income		
General Donations	\$110.00	
LUC Donations	\$3,830.00	
Memberships	\$2,060.00	
Advertising	\$2,401.03	
Subtotal - Operating Income		\$8,401.03
Stockley Memorial	\$2,000.00	
City of Seattle (Rogers)	\$68,501.77	
City of Seattle (FGS)	\$20,247.73	
Subtotal - Pass Through Accounts		\$90,749.50
Total Deposits		\$99,150.53
Payments and Deductions		
Printing	\$3,555.60	
Mailing	\$386.48	
LUC Expenses	\$7,622.95	
Insurance	\$250.00	
Miscellaneous	\$558.19	
Subtotal - Operating Expenses		\$12,373.22
Stockley Memorial	\$2,000.00	
Rogers Playfield	\$68,501.77	
Franklin Green Street	\$20,247.73	
Subtotal - Pass Through Expenses/Transfers		\$90,749.50
Total Expenses/Transfers		\$103,122.72
October 9, 2001 Checking Balance		\$4,264.26
Less Cornerstones		-\$298.96
Less Franklin Green Street Cobblestones		-\$118.37
Less Stockley Memorial		-\$460.00
Less LUC		-\$103.61
Total Available to E.C.C.		\$3,283.32
Other Accounts		
Seattle Community Council Fund as of 08-31-01		\$86,720.12
Bank of America Investment Money Market/SC as of 08-31-01		\$6,761.60
Bank of America Investment Money Market/NPP as of 08-31-01		\$21,644.30
Stockley Memorial CD as of 08-29-01		\$3,657.53

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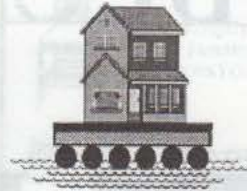
Neighborhood Planning. ECC led a community process that produced the Eastlake Goals and Policies that were acknowledged by a 1979 City Council resolution and helped to shape the neighborhood's development in the 1980s. ECC also contracted with the City to host a partnership of neighborhood organizations and businesses that produced a neighborhood needs survey (1990), an Eastlake Vision Plan (1993) and an Eastlake Transportation Plan (1994). These efforts served as one model in the formation of a citywide program of neighborhood planning, in which we participated by jointly producing with other Eastlake groups the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan (1998; available at <http://eastlake.oo.net> or on the City's web site). Adopted by City Council resolution and ordinance, this plan works to reduce noise from I-5, revitalize Eastlake Avenue as our "main street," and make Fairview Avenue E. safer for walking. The plan also works to keep the neighborhood diverse and affordable, and has helped bring City funds for projects such as parks under I-5, and for street and sidewalk improvements.

Volunteers All. It is quite remarkable that ECC has achieved the above with such a tiny budget. ECC's neighborhood improvement efforts have depended on the volunteer efforts of thousands of Eastlake residents, workers, and business and property owners. ECC was founded by Phyllis Boyker and Margaret Newcombe, and among others its board has included actor's union official Dick Arnold, civil rights leader John Cornethan, Chinatown businessman Ted Choi, historian Walt Crowley, land use consultant Carol Eychaner, housing advocate John Fox, business leader Jules James, Issaquah City Council President Fred Kempe, hospital administrator Lynn Poser, journalist and houseboat advocate Terry Pettus, actress Marjorie Nelson Steinbrueck, architect Victor Steinbrueck, and Center for Wooden Boats founder Dick Wagner. Hundreds of other volunteers--young, retired, or in mid-career - have also served on its board and committees, among them accountants, architects, artists, doctors, geographers, investigators, lawyers, managers, nurses, realtors, social workers, teachers - and many others who, whatever their credentials, performed as volunteers with the utmost of professionalism.

Be a Volunteer. Practically any of the activities mentioned in the above sections could use your volunteer time and skills. (You can also see how very far your dollars will go, if you prefer to make a cash donation.) ECC can continue at the same pace only if new volunteers emerge to help. With enough volunteers, we could try something we couldn't before, such as produce a video history of the neighborhood or do more outreach to the elderly and disabled. As a volunteer, maybe you could suggest a new activity that ECC has not thought of yet. Let us know if you, too, would like to make a difference.

Article is by ECC board member Chris Leman, cleman@oo.net, 322-5463.

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LOCAL ORGANIZATION RAISING COFFEE AWARENESS

Is your coffee “sustainably grown”? That’s the question an Eastlake based non-profit organization is asking consumers in a Puget Sound area campaign that has heightened awareness locally and will soon be going national. The Songbird Foundation, started by Vashon Island resident and singer/songwriter Danny O’Keefe in 1997, is working to educate people about the impact their coffee choices have on migratory songbirds in Latin America, and they’re doing it all from their headquarters in our neighborhood.

Traditionally, coffee in Latin America has been grown under the shade of the rain forest’s canopy, but an increased trend in aggressive sun-grown coffee is encouraging destruction of the bird’s natural habitat. By buying shade-grown, organic, fair traded coffees we can help to preserve sustainable agriculture practices that result in the preservation of the songbird’s home.

The Songbird Foundation has teamed up with the popular media and the entertainment industry to get their message out through a Sustainable Coffee Campaign. This spring, a benefit concert was staged at the Paramount along with the Northwest Shade Coffee Campaign and TransFair USA featuring Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, and Keb’ Mo’. In November, a number of Thursday night concerts were held at neighborhood cafes from Olympia to Bellingham showcasing local Northwest artists.

The message of the Songbird Foundation is that we can all contribute to this cause by the choices we make as consumers. If you’re interested in doing your part, you don’t have to go far to find a retailer who offers sustainable coffee. Safeway, QFC, and Starbucks, to name a few, have all made efforts to carry these blends.

For a complete list of Seattle area retailers and for more information about The Songbird Foundation, check out their website at songbird.org.

ECC NEEDS DONATED ITEMS

The Eastlake Community Council welcomes donations of the following items: an easel for public presentations, solid chairs such as one would use around a conference table, and picture frames, especially big ones. Old neighborhood photos are always welcome - or go out and take some new ones, such as of the eagles, herons, and kingfishers that frequent the neighborhood. In addition, we are looking for spare copies of the 1994 Eastlake Transportation Plan (grey cover) and of the 2000 Supplement to the Eastlake Neighborhood Plan, on Adoption and Stewardship (white cover with color picture). Contact Chris Leman at 322-5463 or cleman@oo.net.

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BUSINESS NOTES, CONT.

Based in Santa Clara, **Wood Associates, Inc.** has opened a Seattle office at 2815 Eastlake Avenue E. #150 (809-1814). The company offers services in marketing, promotion, and merchandising. ... New to 2367 Eastlake is the **Songbird Foundation** (374-3674, www.songbird.org), whose good work was recently featured in the Seattle Times. ... **Global Solutions** (2712 Eastlake, 343-5210) sells attractive address books, photo books, guest books, journals, paper weights, letter openers, rubber stamps, wax seals, and wrapping and bulk paper, much made from recycled materials. ... Two Eastlake residents work at **Glow Natural Health Center**, 636 Lake Washington Blvd E (546-7545)

Congrats to Chris Bolas of **Eastlake Mail and Business Center** (2226 Eastlake, 323-0508, www.eastlakemail.com). A customer tells us that the U.S. Achievement Academy awarded him its National Collegiate Award in Business for 2001. Bolas is also a full-time student at Seattle Central Community College, where a faculty member nominated him for the award.

Mention in this column does not imply endorsement by the ECC, writer, or editor. Send your business news to Chris Leman (cleman@oo.net), 85 E. Roanoke Street, Seattle 98102-3222.

LAND TRUST SEEKS BOARD MEMBERS

The Eastlake Community Land Trust is expanding its board and invites you to get involved. The land trust is a tax-exempt organization whose purpose is to create some permanently affordable housing in the neighborhood. No experience necessary, but we would welcome experience in accounting, law, real estate, or fund-raising. Contact Chris Leman, Co-chair, 322-5463, cleman@oo.net.

MEETING SPACE OFFERED AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Seattle School District is offering meeting space in selected schools for community and neighborhood groups (including garden clubs, service organizations, etc.) for just \$10 a night. Thanks to TOPS at Seward (2500 Franklin Ave. E.) for being one of the 23 schools participating. The only requirement is to apply at least two weeks before the meeting, and to encourage your group's members to donate time or resources for school needs. For an application, call 615-1812 or (preferably) by e-mail to sandra.boasdupree@ci.seattle.wa.us.

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If you did not receive this in the mail with a label attached with your name, then you are not a paying member of the Eastlake Community Council. We need your support, and you will receive benefits in return, so please send in your membership application today. Thank you.

Rogers Playground

A Neighborhood History by Jules James

September 2001 seems an appropriate moment to look back. Rogers Playground has changed more during the last three years than since the original park improvements of 1908-1910. Two new entrances, lowered and removed perimeter fences, a new baseball backstop, re-surfaced tennis courts, a 92-year-old oak removed, the complete replacement of topsoil and grass, new irrigation and drainage. . . and new play equipment pending.

But this isn't a story about concrete pours, plastic piping and cyclone fencing. Playgrounds are personal.

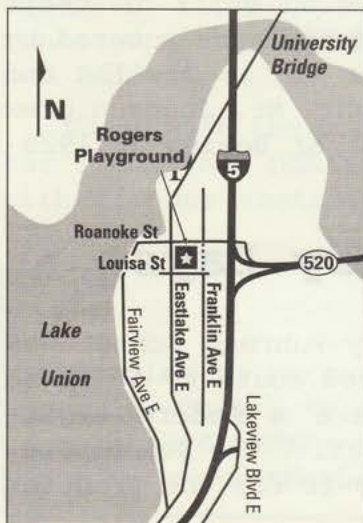
In the late 1980s, Norm Campbell was a school crossing guard on the corner of Eastlake and Louisa. Each morning and afternoon before the school bell rang, Norm looked across some 200 feet and some 30 years' distance to visions of his daughter growing up at Rogers Playground. And sometimes that sentimental old gaze covered 60 years to the infield where he spent so many afternoons playing ball at Rogers. There is an emotional warmth to looking back on the old stomping grounds from childhood and parenthood.

In contrast to Mr. Campbell's cherished memories, playground namesake Governor John R. Rogers (1897-1901) may have unknowingly glanced over the vacant block eventually named in his honor. Stump-strewn meadows were more common than houses in Eastlake prior to 1900, so it is unlikely anyone ever pointed out the 235' x 355' undeveloped playfield to the governor.



OLD WOODY, 1925. The Parks Department and the Seattle Times sponsored competitions featuring Old Woodenface - a wooden strike zone target - between 1919 and 1968. Pictured at Rogers Playfield with Old Woody and the kids is Ben Evans, the City's Director of Playgrounds. Evans Pool at Green Lake is honored with his name.

Clerk of Seattle Photo Archives



Sean Donovan Design

Up From the Stumps

Halfway along the trolley line between Seattle's waterfront and the state university campus, the one-room Denny-Fuhrman School was built in 1895. Between the school and the trolley line was the Denny-Fuhrman Playfield.

As a teenager, David T. Denny (1832 - 1903) helped found Seattle. By the 1890s, he and Louisa (as in Louisa Street)

resided on the Northeast corner of Eastlake and Hamlin. Henry Fuhrman, a real estate developer, lived in a mansion at the Northeast corner of Boylston and Edgar. The two men drew up for development the north half of Eastlake as the "Denny-Fuhrman Addition" in 1890.

The Panic of 1893 devastated the national economy and local real estate values. Almost overnight, David Denny lost the real estate, trolley car and timber portfolio he had built over 40 years. The city of Seattle purchased the land for the Denny-Fuhrman Playfield from Mr. Denny via Sheriff's sale in 1896, but until 1908 the playfield remained undeveloped.

Economic difficulties, however, can change quickly. The Yukon Gold Rush of 1897 inspired, well, a gold rush. America acquired the Philippines for its fledgling empire following the Spanish-American War of 1898. The focus of the nation came upon the Pacific Ocean as a highway rather than a barrier. Seattle responded with the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition of 1909 (Exposition hereinafter), held on the campus of the state university. The Exposition sent to the nation the civic statement that our frontier bumpkin days were indeed history; that we were now a city of international consequence.

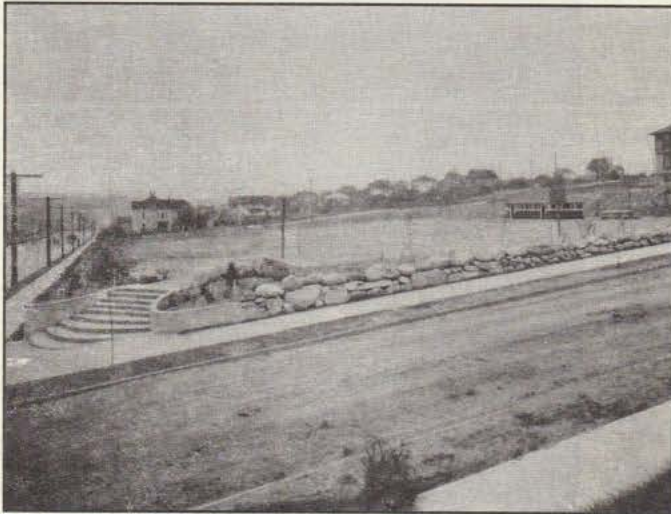
During the period of 1896-1908, America also redefined its way of thinking about public recreation. Coming into the 1890s, parks were generally pastoral places to stroll, to have a family picnic, to appreciate the beauty of a tended formal garden, or to have a romantic paddle on a placid lake. During the first decade of the 20th Century, a frenzy of fitness came across the land. For a visual image: picture Teddy Roosevelt. In fact, it was Teddy who called together the first White House Conference on Playgrounds in 1906; Boy Scouts, Boys Clubs, Campfire Girls and Girl Scouts all were established between 1906 and 1912.

The Olmsted concept of passive beauty continued (Seattle's overall park scheme evolved from an Olmsted plan adopted in 1903), but the public desire to be vigorous, hard-bodied young empire-builders quickly grew to be both a companion and a competing

interest for public funding. Seattle was at the forefront with \$6 million appropriated for recreation, boasting a rank of third nationally for playground facilities, and boasting the best recreation facilities west of Chicago.

In December 1903, at the undeveloped Denny-Fuhrman Playfield, 8-year-old Denny-Fuhrman Schoolkid Phil Johnson and his friends were chasing wind gusts in their imaginary cloth-winged biplanes powered by pusher propellers, one kid as Orville and another as Wilber Wright. Mr. Johnson grew up to become President of Boeing (c.1925-1933 and 1940-1944).

Museum of History and Industry, Seattle



ROGERS PLAYFIELD, 1909. The Parks Department Annual Report of 1909 featured this photo. The text includes: "Though a small tract of slightly over an acre, this...is a well equipped small playground. A small but neat modern Shelter House of a standard design... has been built, swings teeters and amusements for small children have been provided, while the ball field is the center of attraction for the larger boys."

✂ The Glory Days ✂

In 1905, the Denny-Fuhrman School was lifted up and moved south by 50 or so feet. In its place a modern eight-classroom school was built. The School District intended to name it for the frontier

missionary Marcus Whitman, but a groundswell of neighborhood opposition changed the name to Seward School. William Henry Seward (1801-1872) was a man who never saw Seattle, but was important as the visionary embodiment of the upcoming Exposition. As a Senator from New York in the 1850s, he had been a vocal proponent of Pacific expansion. As Secretary of State in 1867, he negotiated the purchase of Alaska from Russia.

In 1909, the adjacent Denny-Fuhrman Playfield was re-named for Governor Rogers. The 1909 Parks Department Annual Report states: "The tract was re-named recently in honor of the late John R. Rogers, former governor, author of the famous "barefoot school boy" law by which free text books are furnished in the public schools of the State of Washington." The citation reads nicely, but hardly can be the whole name-sake story.

As governor, John Rogers led the state during both the Yukon gold rush and the Spanish-American War. When the 1st Washington Volunteers were training in Tacoma before departing for the Philippine theater of the Spanish-American War, their temporary home was "Camp Rogers." After the war, Fort Lawton (now Discovery Park) was named for the general who led the 1st Washington Volunteers; City Park on Capitol Hill was re-named Volunteer Park to honor the war's soldiers.

The Barefoot Schoolboy law was passed when Mr. Rogers served as a legislator from Puyallup, not as governor. Unless Mr. Rogers represented the Eastlake neighborhood as a legislator, it seems highly improbable for an Eastlake public playfield to honor his legislative accomplishments.

In the 1909 Exposition year, Governor Roger's Yukon and Pacific involvement most certainly counted for more than his legislative record in the naming of the City's premier playfield along the trolley line to the Exposition. Whatever the primary naming inspiration, John Rogers wasn't around to bask in the honor. He caught a cold in the first year of his second term, it turned into pneumonia and he died in office, December 27, 1901.

In 1909, new cedar steps led down the hill from Seward School. A shelter house and an elaborate set of wooden fitness apparatus were installed in Rogers Playfield. The equipment proved a false start. The next year, all but the wood-sided sandbox were replaced with metal equipment - swings, teeter-totters, slides, rings, chin-up bars and ladders.

These were the youthful glory days of promise for Rogers Playfield. It was one of the first four public parks the city outfitted with play equipment and supervised with fitness instructors. Seattle's first Boy Scout troop was formed in 1910 at



TENNIS, 1910. (Photo #20645 in the Seattle Municipal Archives) Barely discernable within are two women in long skirts playing tennis on a court without a perimeter fence.

Clerk of Seattle Photo Archives

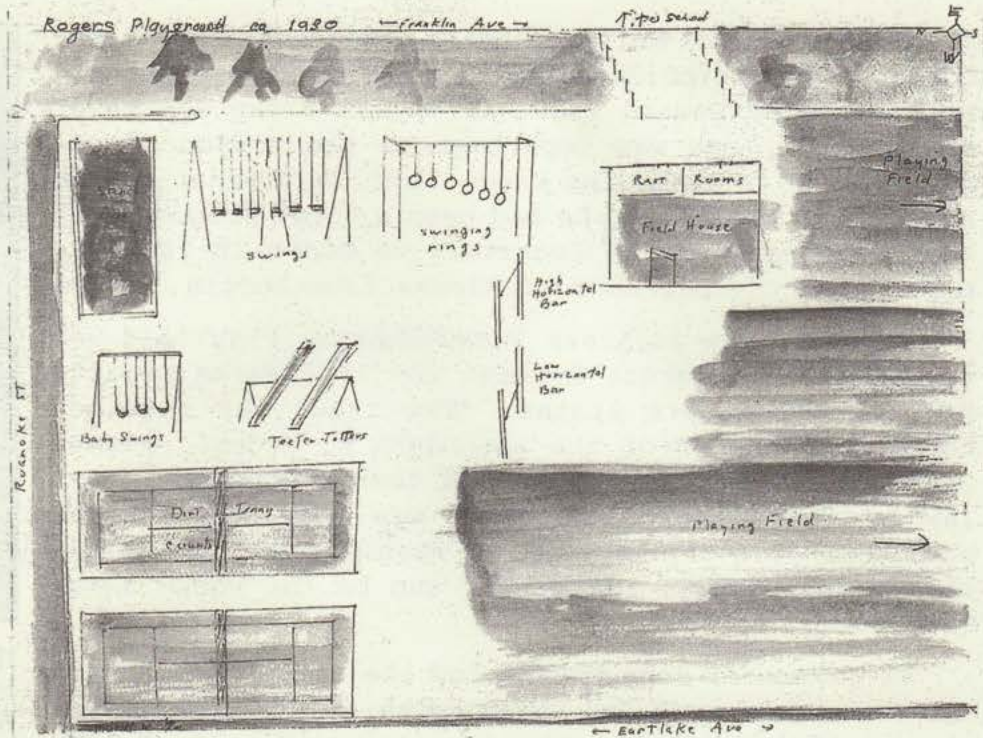
PLAYFIELD or PLAYGROUND?

According to Parks Department terminology specialists, a "playground" is smaller than a "playfield". Playfields are regional draws, have scheduled athletic fields and maybe a community center or other facilities. Playgrounds are more neighborhood-oriented.

Rogers. In 1912, the Seward boys baseball team won the city championship with Rogers as their home field. In 1924, in an experiment with City Light, Rogers was illuminated. Those "experimental" lights remained until 1951.

Muriel Weissberg, who lived on Franklin Ave, remembers from the late 1920s, "We spent a lot of time at the playground, starting with the big sandbox in the corner near our house, graduating up to the swings, rings, horizontal bar and finally the tennis courts. On sunny mornings in the summer we would look out our mother's bedroom window through a crack between the two apartment houses and check out the tennis courts. If no one seemed to be using it, we would grab our rackets and ball and run over for a quick game before breakfast."

Seward/Rogers neighborhood kid Pearl Wanamaker grew up to be Superintendent of Public Instruction for Washington state from 1941 to 1957. Rogers/Seward kid Don Hillman became an ace P-47 fighter pilot during World War II, and made the cover of *Life Magazine* (December 8, 1946). David Storm, a 1940s Rogers/Seward schoolkid, grew up to be a Episcopal priest who still lives in the Roanoke Park house of his youth.



Muriel's Memories: Muriel Weissberg now lives in California. But she grew up in the Eastlake neighborhood during the 1920s and 1930s. From memories 70 to 80 years old, she created this scene for her family members now residing in Eastlake.

Muriel Weissberg, 2001

✧ The Decline ✧

Freeways tend to make bad neighbors. Our freeway (Interstate-5), built in the late 1950s and early 1960s, paved over hundreds of houses once brimming with school-aged children. When completed, it created a noisy, dirty, dangerous, hostile chasm where a thriving community existed before. With the North Capitol Hill kid count devastated, the Seattle School District regularly recommended closing Seward School for the next 25 years.

In 1965, the Parks Department gave Rogers Playground a minor make-over. The baseball diamond was upgraded to Little League standards (gearing toward more regional play). The shelter house was demolished. A new bathroom (half the size of the original shelter house with none of the pleasant exterior aesthetics), was built near the tennis courts and the remaining playscape equipment.

In 1975, neighbors and school parents installed new play equipment on Franklin Avenue between Rogers Playground and Seward School. Only the swings and the preschoolers' sandbox remained in the northeast corner of Rogers. (The mid-1970s days were those of Rogers/Seward kid Stone Gossard, now a guitarist for Pearl Jam, running wild at Rogers Playground.)

As an Eastlake resident and businessperson, I've been around Rogers Playground most every day for nearly 20 years. I remember community softball games in the mid-1980s. We'd play all ages, all genders, all abilities. Over the fence was (and still is) an out. Starting in those years, I kept an informal list of activities seen in Rogers: kite-flying, golf, football (touch, flag, Nerf, tackle), kickball, lacrosse, boomerang, soccer, tai chi, sunbathing, flyfishing, baseball (hardball, softball, t-ball), volleyball, fencing, snowballing, plane flying (balsa, paper, radio-controlled), dog romping, cross-country skiing, windsprints, jogging, croquet, cricket, badminton, tag, jump-roping, shot-put, tree photography, metal detecting, 8 mm movie making and pony riding. Someone's sentimentals freshly-made most every day.

The School District finally succeeded in closing Seward School in 1990. Ironically, this action marked the beginning of the re-building of the school, the neighborhood and Rogers Playground. The displaced Colman School was housed at Seward for two years (1990 and 1991), then the alternative K-8 TOPS (The Option Program at Stevens) moved into Seward in 1992.



Stevan Morgain

Recovered Treasures. The Rogers Irrigation and Drainage Project of 2001 created a rare opportunity for metal detecting hobbyists. Recovered and pictured here: a 1892 Liberty Head dime, 1898 Liberty Head quarter, 1939 Mercury Head dime and a 1909 Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition Chief Seattle Medallion.

✎ The Re-Building ✎

Among those who care, there is a perpetual discussion about the essential components of a neighborhood. A proprietor-run grocery store? A coffee house? A good public school? People outside tending their flowers and dogs? A tavern where everyone knows your name? Clear boundaries and official city recognition? Or is it more - pure and simple - just people who care?

Who Owns Rogers?

Rogers Playground and Seward School are often mistaken to be a single property. The confusion is understandable anytime a public park is adjacent to a public school, but is further blurred by the traffic restrictions on Franklin Avenue between the school and park. Seward School belongs to the Seattle School District. Rogers Playground belongs to the Seattle Parks Department. And Franklin Avenue is a public street controlled by the Seattle Transportation Department.

The 2500 block of Franklin Avenue has been pedestrian-only dating back to 1918. At first, temporary chains stretched across the Franklin roadway at both ends of the block to allow kids safe access during school hours from school to park. The chains were replaced with immovable metal posts by the Parks Department from 1950 through 1975. Then, after 22 years of highway guardrails spanning the Franklin roadway, removable wooden bollards were installed in 1998.

Since 1998, the 2500 block of Franklin Avenue has been designated by City Council as a "Green Street, Type 4." Motorized traffic is restricted to emergency vehicles. The school community, Parks Department and the Eastlake neighborhood jointly maintain the Franklin Avenue Green Street.

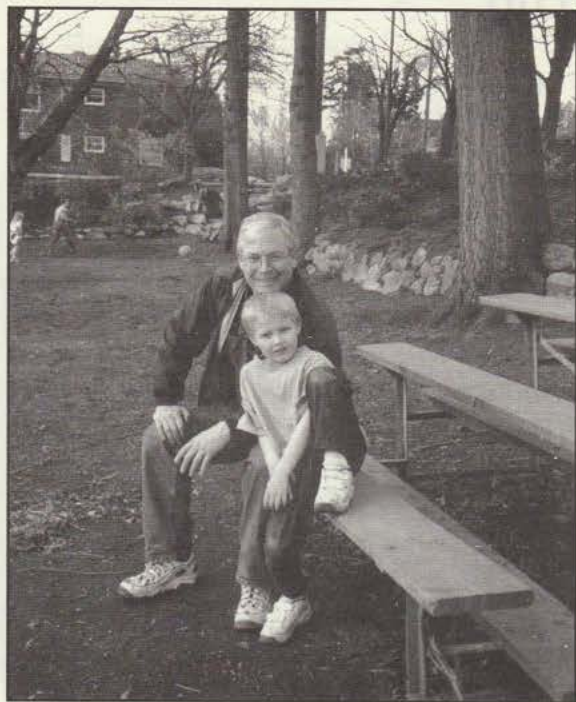
Whatever the essential components, kids, and pre-schoolers most particularly, are the glue of residential neighborhoods. Without pre-schoolers, we tend to recreate regionally, not locally. Our pre-schoolers bring us out to the lawns, onto the sidewalks, and down to the playground. That is where we share with strangers our kids at play and our stories of parenting . And strangers become acquaintances, friends - neighbors.

In 1992, the Eastlake Community Council and TOPS/Seward School teamed up to replace the 1975 equipment at the Franklin Avenue playscape. A year or so later, the School District committed to a multi-million dollar remodel of the school.

In May 1998, as part of the Seward School renovation project, the Franklin Avenue playscape was demolished. Plans called for a temporary playscape to be installed in the Northeast corner of Rogers during the remodel, followed by a new school and community playscape located on school property. From the day it was installed until the day it was removed, the Rogers temporary playscape was swarmed with kids. But the permanent playscape outside the kindergarten classrooms, which opened in September 1999, turned out to be too sophisticated for pre-schoolers to use safely. Neighborhood children were once again without play equipment.

✧ Restoring Play Equipment to Rogers ✧

I remember my son Alexander riding a pony in Rogers Playground. It was after dusk, but the neighbor-kids were there. All but the newest kid - and that was the reason for the pony in Eastlake. It was August 1998. Fletcher had been born with the will to live, but not the lungs. Nearing the end of his 23 days in the hospital, the neighbor girls brought in their pony for Fletcher's brother to ride. It was a distraction which helped us all tremendously.



Kyle Kurokawa

ALEX JAMES and DAD, Spring 2001. We are seated approximately at the new entrance to the pre-school play equipment. The three large trees along the eastern perimeter of the project are red oaks. The large tree along the project's northern border is a Plane tree. These trees were saplings in 1909.

A year later, when the kindergarten playscape proved a pre-school failure, Fletcher's parents Laurie and KC wanted to build something in his name. They were thinking maybe \$5,000 and a weekend's community work project to fill the play equipment void left at Rogers Playground. But other needs surfaced (and \$5,000 buys not much in public playground equipment). TOPS/Seward needed play equipment for the 7- to 13-year-old kids. The Parks Department needed wheelchair access to the tennis courts and bathrooms. And the Department of Neighborhoods required a public process to insure the proposal was truly the community's desire, not just the unsupported crusade of a few.

Small grew big. Friends of Rogers Playground, with Laurie Stusser-McNeil's leadership, swelled into a two-year, \$300,000 project. Hundreds of glass leaves imbedded in the play area will carry messages from family, friends, neighbors, businesses, charitable foundations, Seward alum, TOPS/Seward parents and those who have lost children. The fundraising goals have been met. Sometime in November 2001, play equipment returns to where it began in Rogers, 1909.

Special thanks to G&H Printing and Lake Union Mail.