

Historic Takoma

NEWSLETTER

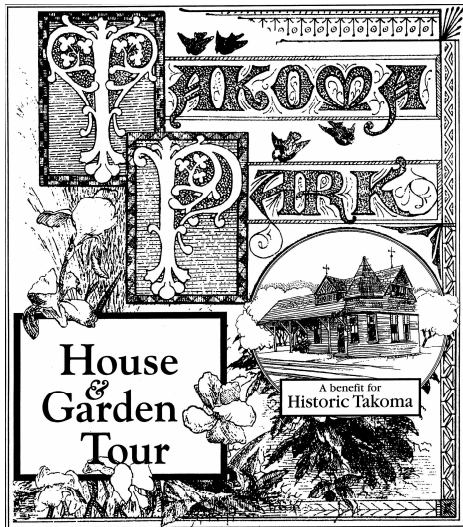
Historic Takoma, Inc. Celebrates 26 Years of Service to the Community 1979-2005

2005 House & Garden Tour, Sunday, May 1st

On Sunday May 1, this year's Takoma Park House and Garden tour celebrates spring by highlighting a diverse set of gardens along with the eclectic mix of houses that has been an annual tradition for 32 years.

Historic Takoma calls this year's tour "A Sylvan Suburb" in honor of founder B. F. Gilbert's favorite nickname for his community. This year, the Takoma Horticulture Club joined with Historic Takoma to identify gardeners willing to share their yards for the tour.

The tour runs from 1-5 pm and is designed for walking since the



dozen houses and gardens are in close proximity to each other. Tickets can be purchased in advance for \$15 at local Takoma

merchants. On May 1, tickets will be sold for \$20 from a central ticket booth at the Takoma Park-Silver Spring Co-op (Carroll Avenue at Ethan Allen). The self-guided tour brochure and map, not made available until the day-of-tour, will be available at the ticket booth also for those who purchased tickets earlier.

For more information on the House and Garden Tour, please call (301) 270-1181 or visit www.historicatakoma.com. Susan Harris, president of the Takoma Horticulture Club, can be reached at (301) 270-5481 and the website is www.takomahort.org.

2004 Holiday Party & Annual Meeting



HTI co-founder Loretta Neumann reminisces on early days of Historic Takoma.

Alderson were unanimously re-elected to a second one-year term as officers of the organization. John Current was elected to the office of Treasurer, also by unanimous vote. Incumbent Director Diana Kohn was unanimously re-elected to a three-year term. New Director Rachel Kennedy was also unanimously elected in absentia to the Board for a three-year term.

Sunday December 5, 2004, turned out to be warm and balmy, a perfect afternoon for Historic Takoma's holiday party and annual meeting. Held at the richly decorated David-Warner Inn, HTI's annual meeting, convened by President Sabrina Baron, held elections, presented the annual Art McMurdie Restoration Award to Jerome Ernst, and celebrated the 25th anniversary of Historic Takoma.

President Sabrina Baron, Vice President Lorraine Pearsall and Secretary Caroline

(continued on page six)

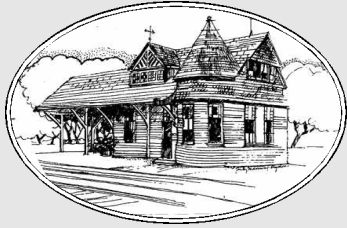
HTI Needs Your Photos!

Coming Soon - a Pictorial History of Takoma Park, Maryland and DC! Photos Needed!

Arcadia Publishing Co. approached Historic Takoma about doing a book on Takoma Park as part of its Images of America series, and as a result by fall 2005 we will have a new book on the Takoma community on both sides of the line. If you've seen books in this series - and a number have been done on Washington neighborhoods, for

(continued on page five)

HISTORIC TAKOMA NEWSLETTER



Historic Takoma, Inc.
PO Box 5781
Takoma, Park, MD 20913
(301) 270-2831
www.historictakoma.org

Officers

Sabrina Alcorn Baron, *President*
Lorraine J. Pearsall, *Vice President*
Caroline Alderson, *Secretary*
John Current, *Treasurer*

Board of Directors

Dorothy Barnes, *Historian*
Kathy Brooks-Denny, *Chair, House
and Garden Tour Committee*
Karen Fishman, *Chair of Archives
Committee*
Mark Freedman, *Communications
Director*
Rachel Kennedy, *Member-at-Large*
Diana Kohn, *Chair, Education
Committee*
Paul Mandel, *Chair, Membership
Committee*
Susan Schreiber, *Chair, Grants &
Development*

Legal Counsel

Richard S. O'Connor

Historic Takoma Newsletter is a publication of Historic Takoma, Inc.

Letters to the editor are encouraged. Volunteers are welcome. Please contact HTI if you want to become more involved in the preservation of your community.

HTI is a membership-based non-profit organization founded in 1979 to promote historic preservation, citizen involvement, and community development in the Takoma community.

Membership is open to the public. Contributions are tax deductible. Federal ID No.: 52-1146960



A member of the
United Way of the
National Capital Area
Agency Code 8361

www.guidestar.org

AROUND TAKOMA

City Council Recognizes Historic Takoma's 25 Years of Service

Members of Takoma Park's City Council, led by Mayor Kathy Porter, passed a resolution expressing appreciation to Historic Takoma on December 6, 2004.

Past and present members of Historic Takoma joined the mayor, three of four original founders of Historic Takoma, and the City Council in celebrating Historic Takoma's 25 years of Service to the Takoma Park community.

The resolution highlighted the many significant contributions Historic Takoma has made over the years toward preserving and improving upon the quality of life in the community. These include:

- supporting "Operation Turnaround," one of the City's earliest programs to preserve historic structures;
- publishing walking tours, developing oral histories, seminars, exhibits and other events to document and promote the City's history;
- publishing the books, "Takoma Park: Portrait of a Victorian Suburb," and "Takoma Park A to Z: The Kids' Guide to the Town that Gilbert Built;"
- preserving and interpreting the historic Thomas-Siegler Carriage House and Gardens and the art deco gas station at Takoma junction;
- supporting the expansion of the Historic District in the City, helping to create the largest historic district in Montgomery County;
- incorporating in the District of Columbia to enhance the organization's efforts to coordinate activities of mutual interest to the two sister communities of Takoma, DC and Takoma Park, Maryland;
- helping to craft a compromise on the renovation of the Takoma Park, Maryland fire station which allows the station to remain at its current location; and,
- helping to negotiate the expansion of Montgomery College in a manner which set a precedent for establishing the jurisdiction of historic districts within Montgomery County and the state of Maryland.

Mayor Kathy Porter said she was not surprised at the large turnout that gathered and she congratulated Historic Takoma on their twenty-five years of service, as did Council Members Joy Austin-Lane, Bruce Williams and Heather Mizeur.

President Sabrina Baron thanked the Council and recognized the three founders present: Ellen Marsh, Loretta Neumann, and Roland Halstead. She noted that Phil Vogel, one of the original founders, passed away a few years ago. Former vice-president Loretta Neumann and past presidents Roland Halstead and Lorraine Pearsall, also thanked Ellen Marsh and others for their vision, their work on the Cady-Lee mansion, publishing the book, "Takoma Park, A Victorian Suburb," and as current vice-president Pearsall noted, because of their help the City survived the threats of the Montgomery College expansion, the North Central freeway and WMATA development.

Also speaking were DC ANC Commissioner Faith Wheeler and Julia O'Mally, Chair of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission.

New Board Members at HTI

Historic Takoma is pleased to announce the new Board Members and Officers. They are:

Officers:

- Sabrina Baron - President
- Lorraine Pearsall - Vice President
- Caroline Anderson - Secretary
- John Current - Treasurer

Directors:

- Dorothy Barnes - Historian
- Kathy Brooks-Denny - Chair, House and Garden Tour Committee
- Karen Fishman - Chair, Archives Committee
- Mark Freedman - Communications Director
- Rachel Kennedy - Member-at-Large
- Diana Kohn - Chair, Education Committee
- Paul Mandel - Chair, Membership Committee
- Susan Schreiber - Chair, Grants & Development

Art McMurdie Restoration Award

The annual Art McMurdie Restoration Award was presented to Jerome Ernst for his loving and beautiful restoration of 7321 Takoma Avenue, which was badly damaged by fire. Jerry has preserved and restored several houses in our community, none more important than this one. It is certainly one of the first 70 houses completed in Takoma Park, and perhaps among the first 25 completed. Built in 1889, and once located across from the Cady-Lee mansion, it was moved in 1913 to its current location when the railroad underpass was built.



7321 Takoma Ave. beautifully restored and saved for posterity.

Recent Additions to Our Archives

The Historic Takoma Archives is very pleased to have acquired the following items:

Al Blackburn has given us his father's helmet used during World War II when he was a Civil Defense Warden patrolling Sycamore Avenue and vicinity.

Thanks to Ellen Marsh for all the materials she has donated to the Archives, including articles on preservation she has written, newspaper clippings mentioning Takoma Park and materials from her tenure as president, co-founder and member of Historic Takoma.

A handwritten note from Fanny G. Hodgson to Mrs. Rollinson Colburn, postmarked Baltimore, Maryland, and dated March 31, 1894. The Colburn family lived on Carroll Avenue, between Westmoreland and Columbia Avenue, where the gazebo now stands.

Several postcards of the Bliss Electrical School, located in north Takoma Park, and the Washington Sanitarium (now the Washington Adventist Hospital).

New HTI Life Members

A special thank you to new B. F. Gilbert Club members:

- Joy and Christopher Austin-Lane
- Robbi Kimball
- Christine Simpson & John Lorenz
- Becky Miller
- Faith Wheeler
- Randel Wisbey, President, Columbia Union College



Save The Date!
Annual House & Garden Tour,
Sunday, May 1, 2005

Historic Takoma
RESOURCE GUIDE

Call (301) 270-2831 for information on advertising

mark's kitchen



"a place where vegetarians and carnivores can dine together without losing respect for one another."
-Quirks

Vegetarian, Asian & American

7006 Carroll Ave. Takoma Park, MD
301-270-1884 • 3 bks. Takoma Metro



MOORSHADOW

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

7000-C Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912
301-270-8775

Bring in this ad for 10% discount.



...where
FUN rules!

Jude Garrett
6917 Laurel Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20902
301-270-2250



Heritage

Building and Renovation, Inc.

Specializing in the complexities of older homes

Design/Build Additions

Kitchens and Bathrooms

Family Rooms and Built-in Cabinetry

Porches and Decks

Structural Repairs and Basement Waterproofing

(301) 270-4799

Many Local References

SALON JAM

Haircuts Facials Waxing
Highlights Perms Color

STYLIST

7054 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD
301-270-4477

Salon Hours

Tuesday to Friday 10 to 8

Saturday 9 to 5

amano

FROM PETITE TO PLUS
FUN, FUNCTIONAL, AFFORDABLE CLOTHING
A GREAT SELECTION OF JEWELRY AND ACCESSORIES
SHOES, SANDALS, CLOGS, & BOOTS BY
NAOT, BIRKENSTOCK, & DANSON



7030 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 301-270-1140
11-7 Mon-Fri 11-6 Sat 11-5 Sun

savory

Real Food for Real people!

Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner - Catering

Brunch on Sundays!

Tel: 301-270-2233

7071 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park

Shampoo
INC.

7009 Carroll Avenue
Takoma Park, Maryland 20912

**FAMILY HAIR
SALON**

(301) 270-3551



**TAKOMA BOOK
EXCHANGE**

USED BOOKS & MUSIC
VIDEO RENTALS

7009 CARROLL AVE.
BELOW SHAMPOO

(301)891-4656

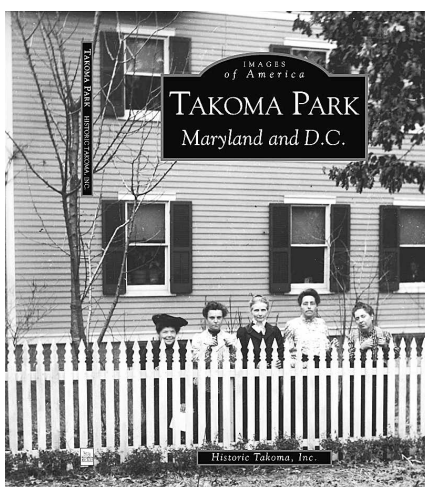
Visit us at www.historictakoma.org.

HTI Needs Your Photos!

(continued from page one)

example, Georgetown, Dupont Circle and Greater U Street – you know they are affordable, a handy 6" x 9" size, and packed with photographs.

Entitled *Takoma Park Maryland and D.C.*, the new book will include approximately 200 photographs and images tracing the story of the community that B.F. Gilbert founded in 1883 from its "streetcar suburb" days all the way up to 2005. Over 100 years



Proof cover of new Arcadia volume.

of Fourth of July parades, the Adventists, a spiritualist or two, the Boys and Girls Club, the coming of the Metro, the Nuclear Free Zone, the Farmers' Market – it will all be there. Of course there will be buildings – from the proud Victorians to more modest bungalows, colonials, brick Cape Cods and the apartment buildings – even castoff trolley cars used as homes. You'll recognize some photos from the classic 1984 *Takoma Park, Portrait of a Victorian Suburb*,

Protecting Our Beloved Boundary Stone

The sandstone monument that marks the boundary between the District of Columbia and Maryland on Maple Ave./St. is one of 40 boundary stones placed in 1791-1792 at one-mile intervals to designate the original 'ten mile square' of the 'Federal District' as specified in the Constitution. That makes it one of the oldest local and national monuments!

Several years ago, Historic Takoma took the lead in replacing the iron fence after a truck damaged the one put in by the Daughters of the American Revolution in the early twentieth century. Since that time, Historic Takoma, working with nearby residents and the City of Takoma Park, has been taking steps to ensure the boundary stone's preservation, as well as educating residents and visitors about its history. HTI is seeking easements from the two owners of the properties on which the stone sits, with the intention of enhancing the landscape around the stone and creating a buffer. While the residential owners are willing, negotiations with the owner of the Maple Street Apartments have been more difficult. We appreciate the efforts of our attorney, Richard S. O'Connor in these negotiations. Meanwhile, Diana Kohn cites the boundary stone as a favorite stop on the Historic Takoma walking tours for both the general public and Takoma Park schoolchildren. Historic Takoma will use a grant from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission to erect an interpretive sign telling the story of the marker in the near future.

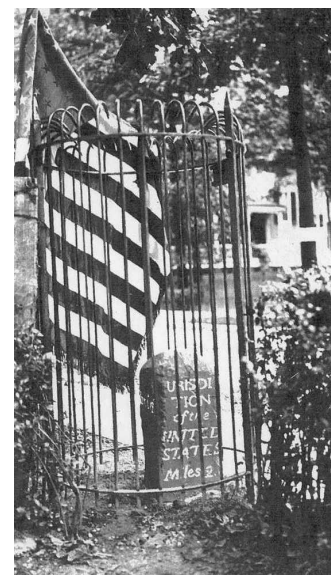
but there will be many surprises.

If you act quickly, there may still be time to contribute photos of Takoma life in the 20th and 21st centuries. The "book team" has been combing Historic Takoma's archives and other sources, but if you have photographs that reflect the character and story of

Takoma Park and Takoma, D.C., we would love to see them – for example, celebrations, sports, scouting, political life, religious life, special characters, special places. We're on a tight deadline, though, so please contact susanschreiber@starpower.net or dianakohn@erols.com ASAP.



The Boundary Stone today, restored. Photo courtesy: DDOT



Boundary Stone NE #2 in 1917. Photo courtesy of the DAR.

2004 Holiday Party/Annual Meeting

(continued from page one)

Directors Robert Patenaude and Bonnie Moss resigned from the Board, as did Treasurer Brian Finlay. HTI is sorry to lose the services of these dedicated Directors and Officers, and very much appreciates all of their good works for the organization.

A gift of appreciation, in the form of a \$150 gift certificate for Galileo restaurant, was presented to Doug Harbit and Robert Patenaude, co-owners of the Inn, in gratitude for their hosting of HTI events over the years, especially the annual meetings. This meeting was likely to last to be held in this lovely historic building as Robert and Doug are planning to sell the property. 2005 marks the 150th anniversary of the Inn's construction.

President Sabrina Baron made a few remarks about the 25th anniversary of HTI and recognized original founding members present at the meeting, Ellen Marsh and Loretta Neumann. All members were invited on Monday, December 6, 2004 to attend the Takoma Park City Council meeting, where HTI was being recognized with a Council resolution and a small reception.



Dorothy Barnes, Jerry Ernst, Dick O'Connor and Ann Juneau.



Catherine Tunis and Brian Finlay listen to the business portion of the meeting.



Historian Dorothy Barnes and guest discuss Takoma history.



Former president Doug Harbit with Loretta Neumann, another guest, and Councilmember Joy Austin-Lane.

Takoma Park Portrait of a Victorian Suburb



1883-1983

By Ellen R. Marsh and Mary Anne O'Boyle

Chronology by Terry F. Dammann

Design by Linda McKnight

Historic Takoma, Inc.
Takoma Park, Maryland

141 pages of history and
photos of Takoma Park
over 100 years

Available at
Takoma Book Exchange

Or buy it on the web at
www.historictakoma.org

Save The Date!
Annual House &
Garden Tour,
Sunday, May 1, 2005

The Takoma Voice

"The truth is rarely pure and never simple." – Oscar Wilde

"Sports, politics, good wine and
The Takoma Voice...
...if I had to give up one, it wouldn't be the
Voice."

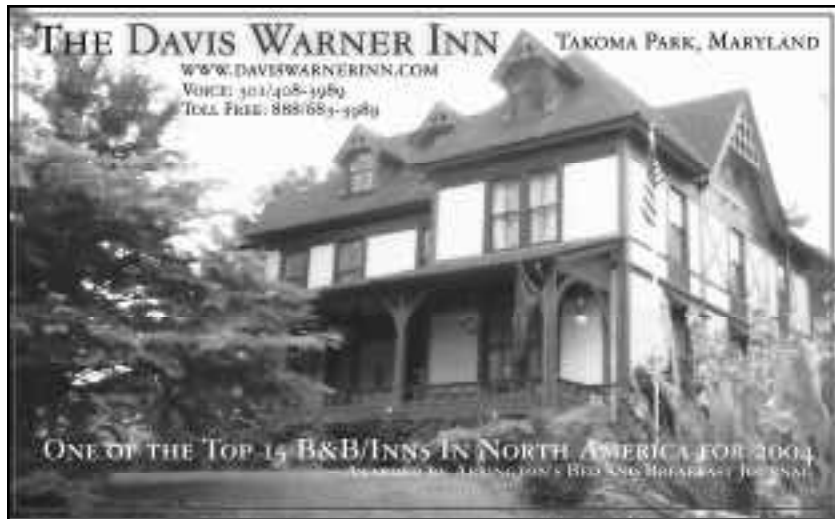
Look for Takoma Resources on the
web! www.takoma.com

Howard Kohn
1996 Takoma Park Citizen of the Year

P.O. Box 11262 ♦ Takoma Park, MD 20913


(301) 891-6744 ♦ (301) 891-6747 FAX

**Historic Takoma
RESOURCE GUIDE**
Call (301) 270-2831 for information on advertising



VERGES
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

NEW CONSTRUCTION,
RENOVATION & REPAIRS



STEPHEN VERGES
301-942-6666

Background text (repeated): PATIOS, STONE WALKS, DESIGN, STEPS, PORCHES, FENCES, WALLS, SLABS & DRAINS, CARRYING, CUTTING, PRIOR, PATIO, APPRO, CARP, WALL, APPRO, PATIO, APPRONS, EXTERIOR CARP, CARPENTRY, EXTERIOR CARP, WALKS, WALLS, STEPS, PORCHES, MASONRY, PAINTING, DRIVEWAYS, SLABS & DRAINS, PLASTERING, EXTERIOR CARPENTRY, CUTTING, FENCES, APPRO

House of Musical Traditions

New & Used Instruments
Lessons
Concerts
Expert Repairs Imports
Books
Local Recordings
Band Instrument Rental
Mail Order Sales Since 1967



7040 Carroll Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301)270-9090
<http://www.hmtrad.com> hmtrad@hmtrad.com

**abrams
design
build**

alan abrams cpbd
certified professional building designer, abcd

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN
& CONSTRUCTION

202.726.5894
www.abramsdesignbuild.com
MD HIC Lic. 88613 DC Lic. 5931

**Historic Takoma
REAL ESTATE GUIDE**

Keep up the good work Historic Takoma!
Thank you for your continued support over the years!

Carol Cutini
Takoma Park Specialist
Top 2% of Agents Nationwide
Professional Service with a Personal Touch

301-656-2500 ~ Office
301-570-5111 ~ Home Office
301-570-5517 ~ Fax




www.homesdatabase.com/cutini




Historic Takoma...
You keep
Takoma Park
special

Hank Prensky

Nobody knows Takoma
Park & Silver Spring
better than Hank!



www.TakomaHomes.com
Hank@TakomaHomes.com
301.585.2255



MEG FINN
*Specializing in Takoma Park, Close-in
Silver Spring and Takoma, DC*

Thank you to all my friends, neighbors, clients and especially Historic Takoma members for your continued support and referrals over the years. Let's all support Historic Takoma in the 21st century in its worthy efforts which benefit us all!

Meg
*For Professional
Successful Service, call Meg*

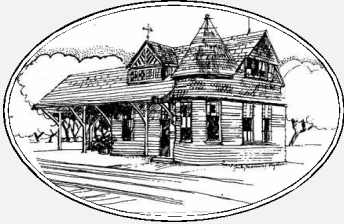


Office: 240 497-1700 x.1721
Home Office: 301 270-6515
Email: MegFinn@erols.com
www.homesdatabase.com/megfinn

Calendar of HTI Events

www.historictakoma.org

Historic Takoma's Annual
House and Garden Tour
Sunday, May 1st, 12-5 p.m.



**Watch this space
for other spring
and summer
events!**

Join Historic Takoma Today!

Help Preserve Our Community's Heritage

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Household |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 Business | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Sponsor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Benefactor | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 B. F. Gilbert Club (lifetime) |
- (Contributions are tax deductible.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-Mail _____

**Mail to: Historic Takoma, Inc.,
 PO Box 5781 Takoma Park, MD 20913**

Visit us at www.historictakoma.org.

Historic Takoma, Inc.
PO Box 5781
Takoma Park, MD 20913

IN THIS ISSUE:

2005 House & Garden Tour

2004 HTI Annual Meeting

HTI Needs Your Photos!

City Council recognizes
25 Years of HTI Service

New Board Members

Recent Additions to Our Archives

Art McMurdie Restoration Award

New Historic Takoma members

Protecting Our Beloved
Boundary Stone