

PPERRIA News – April 2011

Newsletter of the Prospect Park East River Road Improvement Association



PPERRIA Board / Membership Annual Meeting

Monday April 25, 6:30 – 9:00 pm

PROFILE CENTER
2630 University Avenue S.E.

*If you have special needs requiring accommodation, contact
Joyce Barta at 612-859-4960, or bartajm@yahoo.com.
We will make every attempt to meet that need.*

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APRIL AGENDA:

See FYI – back page

WHAT'S AHEAD – MAY AGENDA:

It's the beginning of our operational year
Be part of the planning for the rest of 2011 and beyond

Your current PPERRIA officers:

President: Dick Poppele – 378-9242
dick@umn.edu

Vice-President: Carla Urban – 379-8083
dewey002@umn.edu

Secretary: Karen Murdock – 340-1338
murdock1212@gmail.com

Treasurer: Dick Kain – 379-4253
kain@ece.umn.edu

Notes from the President

Annual Meeting time again!
Another opportunity to celebrate our neighborhood and the many things going on in and around it.

It will be a kind of neighborhood fair – this time at the Profile Center - to feature neighborhood activities. We'll have the usual elections, and there will be ample opportunity to socialize, to see what's happening in the neighborhood and around the University District.

Our big news is that PPERRIA successfully competed for funding from the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative to help coordinate future development around the Prospect Park (29th Avenue) LRT station and along University Avenue. This will be a cooperative effort – led by PPERRIA and its Planning and Transit Committees together with the local business and land owners, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the University of Minnesota and the University Alliance – to develop a scenario for future development. It will start with PPERRIA's previous work on developing Design Objectives for the LRT station area, and the work that the PPERRIA Planning Committee has done over the past few years to envision an “Urban Village” station area. And it will build on the many interactions and conversations PPERRIA has had with local business owners, with developers and with Alliance partners.

Our February proposal to the Funders Collaborative was to develop a plan for the area in two parts. First is to meet any immediate needs of the Textile Center and plans to expand its space to fit its growing program. This would become a model for other developers. Secondly, to develop a more comprehensive plan for the entire area – from Stadium Village on the west to the Saint Paul City line on the east – all of it centered on the proposed Prospect Park LRT station.

About the Textile Center

The Textile Center – a center for fiber art – has its national headquarters on University Avenue SE, across from the proposed Prospect Park LRT Station. It is the first facility in Minnesota representing all fiber art forms, and the only center in the United States that is formed by a coalition of the textile community. It represents and supports fiber artists working in all forms of textile media: weaving, quilting, knitting, sewing, needlework, lace making, basketry and beading. A critical part of its mission is to bring validation and visibility to this venerable art.

In 2010 the Center engaged over 200,000 members, students and visitors in fiber art – including hundreds of children – through hands-on sessions in workshops at the Center and at schools and camps throughout the state.

The physical facility features a gallery and shop, a flexible 300-seat auditorium and classroom space, a textile library, a dye lab and office space. The Weavers Guild of Minnesota along with Minnesota Quilters, are its anchor tenants. Its programs have outgrown the current facilities and require additional space. However the Center wants to remain part of this community as a destination for those seeking the arts and entertainment it fosters.

The Funders grant team is already working intently with the Textile Center to hire an architect who will help them realize their vision with actual plans and possibilities.

A Preferred Development Scenario

The grant proposal lays out a process toward a development scenario for the station area; and doing that as a collaborative effort among the community (us), the business and property owners, and other stakeholders (i.e. the City and the University). It means hiring a professional team to explore various scenarios for housing, retail and commercial development. And all within a framework providing for public realm, connectivity that responds to market needs and realities.

The process will be administered by PPERRIA through a joint Steering Committee of 10 members: five from the PPERRIA Planning and Transit Committees, plus a representative from the Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department, one from the Planning Office at the University of Minnesota, the owners of the Prospect Park Properties, Tierney Brothers, the director of the Textile Center and the director of the Seward Redesign Community Development Corp. This committee will set the scope of the project and hire consultants – professional planners – to carry out the major part of the work. It will engage the community frequently through workshops and open discussion.

It is ambitious, and on a “fast track” to stay ahead of the train. Textile Center plans are expected to be in place by the beginning of June. The rest of the project has a 6 to 8-month time line. We will keep you informed. And we hope you will help us work through this to do what is

best for our neighborhood, ideally in cooperation with the best developers and the best scenario for our future development.

changes. We can get a sense of the magnitude now, by looking across the City line to Saint Paul. It's up to us to assure that those changes trend positive for the future prosperity of Prospect Park.

As noted in my February notes, the LRT is bringing big

.....Dick Poppele

PPERRIA Meeting Minutes March 28, 2011, Prospect Park United Methodist Church

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

- **The 2010 Census preliminary results**
- **PPERRIA Annual Meeting to be held at Profile Event Center in April**
- **Update on Glendale housing project**
- **Nominations for PPERRIA Board of Directors**
- **PPERRIA is awarded a \$60,000 grant from the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative**

The meeting was called to order by President Dick Poppele at 7:05 PM.

Rachel Fanney, the new student liaison from the U of M, introduced herself (email: fanne005@umn.edu). Stephanie Oskie, a longtime neighborhood resident at 152 Arthur, was attending her first PPERRIA meeting.

The agenda was approved with the addition of a Motley neighborhood report from Paul Scheuer.

The minutes of the February meeting, printed in the newsletter, were approved with no changes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Alliance Livability Committee Work Shop**, Wednesday, March 30. Dick Poppele announced that the Alliance is a group of neighborhoods surrounding the U of M, including Prospect Park. The title of the workshop is "Livability in the University District: Meeting of Neighborhood Livability Leaders." The meeting will be at 5 PM in the Brook Commons/Van Cleve Commons Community Room (919 12th Avenue SE). Representatives from PPERRIA will attend. The purposes of the meeting are:
 1. Get to know community leader-volunteers from other neighborhoods.
 2. Get a sneak preview of the report from the City of Minneapolis Strategic Compliance Team.The "Strategic Compliance Team" was set up a year ago. It consists of the Regulatory Services department of the city, the Minneapolis police force, and the Student Services office at the U of M. Its purpose was to decrease complaints involving students living in properties off campus. Some of these properties were receiving a large number of 911 calls. By "targeting" just a few problem properties, the number of complaints went down by more than 50% in a single year. A number of problem properties were also brought into compliance with Minneapolis health and safety requirements.
- **2010 Census preliminary results.** Dick Poppele announced that the preliminary results of the 2010 Census have been released. The population of the state of Minnesota increased 7.8% from 2000 to 2010. Hennepin County population increased 3.2% in that time. It is difficult to make such exact statements about Prospect Park because the "census tracts" drawn by the Census Bureau do not coincide with the boundaries of the neighborhood. Most of Prospect Park is included in tract 1256, which stretches from the Saint Paul city line to Arthur Avenue and from the Mississippi River in the south to the railroad yards in the north. The 2010 population of census tract 1256 was 2898, a decrease of 2.1% from the figure in 2000. The ethnic breakdown of the population in this census tract is
White 80% • Black 4% • Hispanic 3% • Asian 10% • Other 3%
- Dick P. announced that the PPERRIA Annual Meeting will be held April 25 at the Profile Event Center (southwest corner of 27th and University Avenues). It will include displays of maps, photographs and posters, as in years past. Meredith Poppele requested volunteers to help her organize the meeting. Joyce Barta asked for volunteers to count ballots.
- Dick P. thanked Peter LaSha for providing refreshments for tonight's meeting. Peter gave credit to Keys Café, which supplied the apple bars, and Dunn Brothers, which supplied the coffee.

- Tom Kilton said that the annual Mississippi River cleanup will be held Saturday, April 16. Volunteers should meet on the East River Road just south of the Franklin Avenue bridge at 9:30 AM. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.
- Carla Urban of the Livability Committee said that one of the suggestions that neighborhood residents made in the survey last fall was for installation of a sidewalk on the east side of 27th Avenue by Glendale. Carla said that the land here belongs to the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority. Carla would like to put together a task force to see about getting a sidewalk here. People who would like to serve on such a task force should call Carla at 379-8083 or email her at dewey002@umn.edu
- Paul Scheuer said he has been able to attract a Minneapolis police officer to live in a duplex he owns in Motley by substantially reducing the rent. The officer, who has been on the police force for 37 years, is paying \$395/month for the whole duplex. This is about \$1200 below market rate. Paul would like to ask the owners of other rental properties in the area to kick in some money to subsidize the rent on this duplex. The Executive Committee of PPERRIA sent a letter in support of this idea. Paul asked for a vote of the membership to support the letter. The vote was taken and passed unanimously. This can be considered a vote of the Board, a quorum being present.
- Cam Gordon, City Council rep, gave an update on an “urban agriculture policy plan” which was approved by the city planning commission. Its intent is to permit gardening for profit in the city and “urban farms” in industrial areas. Karen Murdock said that Cam has a proven record in supporting urban gardening, since last year he made the city “safe for front yard gardens” by removing from the zoning code a provision that had prohibited raised garden beds in front yards. Karen had asked Cam to help another gardener (not in Ward 2) in this matter. This gardener’s backyard was all shady (this counts as a “hardship” by zoning code definition) and she had built raised beds in front of her house. Karen praised Cam for his prompt and thorough help in this matter and said that she thought the “Green Party” had really lived up to its name in helping gardeners.

REPORT ON GLENDALE HOUSING

Janet Smith from the Minneapolis Public Housing Authority gave a report on Glendale. This project was built in 1952 and covers 12 acres. It has 184 townhomes with 597 residents. 81% of the households are headed by females. 41% of adults have wage income. 38% of residents are Somalis, 12% from Southeast Asia. Glendale includes residents from nine different countries. It has a mix of different sizes of apartments:

one-bedroom units: 26 • two-bedroom units: 69 • 3-bedroom units:70 • 4-bedroom units: 19

The maximum rent for a 3-bedroom unit is \$925. Residents must be low income in order to move into public housing. However, an upper income limit has been removed for residents who have been accepted into Glendale. This means that residents can get a job, or a better-paying job, and still stay in the project. The result has been a decrease in turnover of the units.

Some of the organizations that partner with Glendale include East Side Neighborhood Services, Head Start, Luxton Park, the U of M (for broadband access) and the Center for Asian and Pacific Islanders for gardens. Glendale hopes to get a weekly farmers market this summer. Janet said they hoped to make some of the buildings in Glendale smoke-free. Dick Brownlee asked about the possible sidewalk mentioned by Carla Urban; Janet said she would like to meet with residents of PP to discuss this. Steve Ficker asked about the future of Glendale and asked if HUD might sell the project. Janet said there were no plans to sell Glendale, which is the last “family development” run by the MPHA (other apartments run by MPHA are “scattered site”).

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Tamara Johnson put up an overhead transparency showing those who have agreed to run for positions on the Board of Directors of PPERRIA at next month’s annual meeting. The current officers have agreed to stand for reelection, with the exception of Vice President Urban. Tamara asked if there were any volunteers to run for this position. Christina Larson agreed to do so.

Current Board members who have agreed to run for reelection include:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Tony and Greta Garmers | 6. Dean and Janet Lund | 11. Dick and Meredith Poppele |
| 2. Dick Gilyard | 7. Ann Munt | 12. Jerry and Margie Stein |
| 3. John Holmquist | 8. Rob Nordin | 13. John and Wendy Wicks |
| 4. Tamara Johnson | 9. Jim Oberly | 14. Lois Willand |
| 5. Dick Kain | 10. Dan Peters | |

Others who have agreed to run for positions on the Board of Directors:

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| 15. Ryan Sheppard | 17. Dan Craigie | 19. Henry Keshi |
| 16. Ken Hampton | 18. John Orrison | 20. Rebecca Shockley |

OFFICERS:	President	Dick Poppele
	Vice President	Christina Larson
	Secretary	Karen Murdock
	Treasurer	Dick Kain

Stephanie Oskie asked how many members PPERRIA has. Betts Zerby replied that membership includes 368 households with over 500 total members.

REPORT ON GRANT FOR PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF LRT DEVELOPMENT

Dick Gilyard said that the coming Light Rail Transit line will “put pressure on the neighborhood.” He felt that in order to develop plans on dealing with the LRT line we would need professional help. In December he sent in an application for a grant for planning and implementation of LRT development in the neighborhood. The grant was made to the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative.

Two weeks ago, it was announced that PPERRIA was awarded a grant of \$60,000. Of immediate concern is planning for the Textile Center, which hopes to stay in the area but needs to double its space. A task force to look at this issue has been formed and includes Henry Keshi, Tamara Johnson, John DeWitt, Richard Adams, Dick Poppele and Dick Gilyard. This task force has been meeting at the new office space rented by PPERRIA in the M Flats building at Arthur and University. Betts asked about the new development planned east of the Textile Center. Dick G. said that changing those plans would be difficult since the city Planning Commission met today and approved the development. However, he still held out some slim hope that the task force might be able to meet the owner of the property and to be able to persuade the owner that changing his plans could be beneficial to both him and the Textile Center. Florence Littman said she testified today at the Planning Commission meeting but the application was approved over her objections. She said that the city allows “piecemeal development” along University Avenue and ignores neighborhood plans.

Dick Gilyard said that the department of Community Planning and Economic Development is “the gatekeeper for new development” in Minneapolis. He said that CPED seldom if ever considers the context of new development, what is going on at sites near the proposed development. CPED’s main concern is that development fit the zoning requirements as closely as possible.

Cam G. added that the key to new development is “site control.” If the *property owners* near a proposed new development agree on a vision and a plan, then new owners will fall into place. Dick G. said that four of the principle property owners along University Avenue in Prospect Park are “already at the table” in the planning process. Dick P. said that since the Funders Collaborative grant was awarded to PPERRIA and not to the Planning Committee alone, the money must be handled through proper channels and the Board must be kept informed of how the money is spent.

FEATURED NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS

Lois Willand introduced Tony Parsons, co-owner (with his wife, Nathalie Johnson) of The Signature Café at 130 Warwick Street. He passed around a summary of the past, present, and possible future of the Signature, with a coupon for a discount on food and beverages. The Signature opened on October 1, 2002. The restaurant has 8 spaces for parking behind the building. It has a 100% score on health inspections. The Signature is looking at becoming a “community source restaurant” (like a restaurant in Hardwick, Vermont), run in a cooperative style with shareholders. Nathalie would like to start a school to teach “the business side of the restaurant business” to budding young chefs. Next year will mark Signature’s 10th anniversary; a historical celebration is planned.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR PPERRIA

Rob Nordin said that “strategic objectives” mean the things that PPERRIA hopes to do in the next three to five years. These objectives were gathered from the community in listening sessions and a survey (printed and online) last fall and consolidated into major areas of concern at the Board of Directors retreat in December. The major areas of concern include:

Pratt • Density • Communications • Parking • Membership • Maintain residential core • Use residents’ expertise

Rob passed out an estimated budget for the Community Participation Program, with total expenses of \$39,281 (this was a grant from the city of Minneapolis). Dick P. said that the strategic objectives are the way for PPERRIA to say to the residents of Prospect Park “This is what we stand for; if you support us, this is what you’re supporting.”

COMMITTEE UPDATES **Communications Committee**

Lois Willand said that most communications in PP are now electronic. In order to save money on postage, PPERRIA hopes to get most members to receive their monthly newsletter via email rather than U.S. Postal Service. Haden Bowie and Mary Schneider have agreed to work on sending out the newsletter via USPS. Mary Alice Kopf and Marybeth Luing will coordinate the summer community concerts. The Comm Comm hopes to establish better relationships between PPERRIA and residents of the neighborhood who are not homeowners. Elizabeth Miller is working on signing up new members for the e-list. Mary Alice said that many people who rented apartments in Prospect Park when they were students enjoyed living here so much that, when they got jobs they returned and bought houses in the Park.

STAFF REPORT

The staff report was published in the March newsletter. Joyce Barta worked 26.75 hours in February for a cost of \$642.

There was no new business. The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Murdock, PPERRIA Secretary

We ask [again]: How is your PPERRIA NEWS delivered?

We ask because although many of you get your newsletter electronically, most get it via U.S. Mail. (And that option will remain into the foreseeable future.) However, we learn that our local bulk mail facility will soon move to the suburbs; and this challenges our volunteer-run operation making it unfeasible to continue with bulk-mail delivery.

This in turn means we'll be sending the newsletter as first-class mail. (It's always been a first-class newsletter!) Thus, to keep costs down we're appealing to more of you – if you are able and if you wish to – to accept electronic-only delivery.

You will also continue to find it on our Website.

We say again: You will always receive a print copy by mail if that is what you need or want. However, to opt solely for electronic delivery, please contact Betts Zerby at ejzerby@yahoo.com.

The conversion to first-class mail will begin with the May 2011 newsletter. And Betts has not been overwhelmed with requests for e-only delivery.

.....the editor

Yes, we know, the following announcement ran last month. Since it is still timely, it is repeated here.... because it's still a heckuva deal.....the editor

Consult an architect/landscape architect Saturday April 30th – And it's FREE!

Now that the snow is gone, our thoughts turn to fixing up our homes and yards. Prospect Park homeowners have an opportunity for FREE consultations with architects, contractors and landscape architects on Saturday, April 30. **Architect Day** is sponsored by the University District Alliance for homeowners in the Alliance neighborhoods. It will be held at the Bell Museum. Appointments are required and can be made online at <http://architectdayudistrict.eventbrite.com/>

More information is available at that site or on the PPERRIA web site under "What's Up."

.....Julie Wallace

Melia's Day

Hí., It's me. I'm back! after a snowy winter

In class we watch for colors:

- A blue smiley-face says Good Behavior.
- A yellow says teacher saw your lips move during "No talking" time.
- Red? Oops, she heard you talking! Maybe it's a trip to see the Principal!

On St. Pat's Day we found little footprints over everything and green stuff everywhere. Leprechauns had been here!

I really miss school during vacations. But last month we celebrated all the summer birthdays. So everyone gets a chance to be special.

One day the teachers switched classrooms, but each one said "No," they were our "real" teacher. It was April Fools Day! The rest of the day we looked for spiders in each other's hair, going: "Yikes!" whenever we pretended to find one

It was so much fun learning "Peter Pan" in Jackie's Afterschool group because I played a mermaid and I knew all the lines but I couldn't say 'em because kindergartners don't get speaking parts and I didn't want to get a red mark and get sent to the Principal's office and everybody came to the play on April 5th. Whee!

(Editor's note: Melia is a flesh-and-blood girl starting Kindergarten at Pratt in September 2010. Her "Day" will read as a diary through the school year relating her thoughts as accurately as we can project them. While reflecting every Pratt Kindergartner, they will gradually reveal the real-life Melia.)

PPERRIA SCHEDULE OF NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

(Formerly known as “the PPERRIA Neighborhood Calendar”)

*To include items in the PPERRIA schedule, contact Joyce Barta at bartajm@yahoo.com or 859-4960 by **Wednesday, May 4th***

Earth Day: Saturday, April 16th, 9:30 am to noon (See FYI – back page)
Meet on East River Parkway near the Franklin Bridge – Tom Kilton 339-3064

Garden Club meetings: Wednesdays, April 27th and May 25th 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
At locations to be announced – Call Kent Petterson at 332-1821

Communications Committee meeting: Thursday, April 28th, 7pm
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Lois Willand at 378-9697

Glendale Residents Council meetings: Fridays, April 22nd and May 27th, 3:30 pm
Luxton Park – Contact Henry Keshi, keshi@minn.net

PPERRIA Board of Directors & Membership Annual meeting: Monday, April 25th, 7pm
At the Profile Center, 2630 University Avenue SE – President Dick Poppele 378-9242

Zoning & Planning Committee meeting (Tentative): Tuesday, May 3rd, 7pm
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – Call Florence Littman at 331-2970

PPERRIA Executive Committee meeting: Monday, May 9th, 7pm
Prospect Park United Methodist Church – President Dick Poppele 378-9242

March 2011 PPERRIA Staff Report 3/1/2011 – 3/31/2011

Staff hours for regular PPERRIA tasks from March 1 through March 31, 2011 totaled 19.0 hours for a cost of \$456. This was paid out of NRP 2 funds. Contract C-25154 (11-1-07) between NRP and PPERRIA contained \$27,229 for Administration, of which \$20,000 was designated for Staff and \$7030.26 for other administrative costs. \$8129.40 remains for staff.

Staff hours for the Prospect Park/29th Avenue Station Planning Master Plan task Group and Steering Committee, which is funded by a grant from the Funders Collaborative, totaled 23.0 hours for a cost of \$552.

PPERRIA Standing Committees and Chairs

Administration	Tony Garmers	tggarmers@msn.com	378-2656
Communication	Lois Willand	loiswilland@gmail.com	378-9697
Development	Rob Nordin	nordin@macalester.edu	331-1766
Education & Human Services	Contact: Jerry Stein or Chuck Holtman	stein035@umn.edu Holtman@smithpartners.com	623-9404 331-1679
Executive	Dick Poppele	dick@umn.edu	378-9242
Historic District	Joe Ring	joering@tds.net	379-4587
Housing			
Livability (Subcommittees listed below, designated by *)	Carla Urban, Co-chair Tom Kilton, Co-chair	dewey002@umn.edu tom.kilton.b1cw@statefarm.com	379-8083 339-3064
*Community Events	Contact: Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Community and River Gorge Cleanup	Tom Kilton	tom.kilton.b1cw@statefarm.com	339-3064
*History Project	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
*Landscape, Garden Club	Mary Alice Kopf	mollisk@earthlink.net	379-7436
*Landscape Subcommittee: Tree Health Project	Paula Denman	pjdenman@comcast.net	338-1871
Membership	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095
Planning	Dick Gilyard	rgilyard.architect@earthlink.net	362-8995
Transit	John DeWitt	jdewitt@comcast.net	338-1871
Zoning & Land Use	Florence Littman, Co-chair Phil Anderson, Co-chair	littm005@umn.edu phil.ann.anderson@gmail.com	331-2970

Other PPERRIA Committees and Task Groups

4 th Street	Julie Wallace	jwallace3@comcast.net	378-9429
Luxton Book Exchange	Meredith Poppele	mbpopp@comcast.net	378 9242
Motley Crew	Rebekah Lorence	rlorance@mm.com	331-2464
Nominating Committee	Betts Zerby	ejzerby@yahoo.com	379-8095

The following are not PPERRIA Committees, but they have PPERRIA representatives:

Stadium Area Advisory Group (SAAG)	Dean Abrahamson, Florence Littman
Southeast Minneapolis Committee on Learning (SEMCOL)	Susan Larson Fleming, David Galle, Jakki Kydd-Fidelman, Susan Gottlieb
Southeast Economic Development Committee (SEED)	Dean Lund, Julie Wallace, John Kari
District Councils Collaborative (DCC)	Phil Anderson
University District Partnership Alliance	Dick Poppele, Dick Gilyard

“Do more than belong: participate.”*William Arthur Ward*

Prospect Park East River Road
Improvement Association, Inc.
66 SE Malcolm Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55414
612/331-2970 (voice mail)

We're on the Web!
See us at:
<http://pperr.org>

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



FYI: Annual meeting time!

— **NOTE THE CHANGE IN VENUE** —

**PROFILE CENTER, 2630 UNIVERSITY AVE. SE – south side of University, at 27th Ave. S.E.
Enter on 27th Avenue • Ample parking behind the North Star Center building (diagonally
across University Avenue at 2701 University Avenue, SE)**

**Come early to mingle and nosh – Appetizer buffet provided by our host, Profile Center
View exhibits representing PPERRIA activities – get answers to your questions
Hear current reports from our public officials – 2nd Precinct Police and more
Vote for directors to serve board terms from 2011 to 2013**

In the words of Dick Gilyard: “It’s like a Renaissance Fair” – just no jousting or juggling

And Remember:

What happens tomorrow is shaped by those who show up today