

esna EXTRA

A Not-for-Profit Corporation

The Bulletin of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association

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www.esna-nyc.net

[Spring 2011]

THANK YOU FOR TWENTY YEARS



ESNA Members, Associates and Friends

ESNA's New Merchant Members

Falk Surgical, all your home healthcare needs: wheelchairs, hospital beds, braces and more,
1167 First Avenue (Corner of 64th)
Mon-Fri 9:00am – 6:30pm Sat 10:00am – 5:00pm Sun
10:00am - 3:00pm
212 744-8080
www.falksurgicalsupplies.com

Manny's Optical, licensed optician with 18 years experience in the neighborhood,
1101 First Avenue, bet. E. 60th & E. 61st
Mon - Fri 9:00am - 7:00pm Sat. 10:00am - 6:00pm Sun.
11:00am - 5:00pm
212 759-5990

Neely's Barbeque Parlour, expects to open May/June with outdoor cafe, serving the same kind of barbeque they currently offer in their three operations in Tennessee.
1135 First Avenue, (Corner of E. 62nd Street)
212 832-1551

TD Bank, America's most convenient bank, notary on premises.
1240 First Avenue (Corner of E. 67th)
Mon. - Sat. 7:30am - 8:00pm Sat. 7:30pm - 6:00pm Sun.
11:00am - 4:00pm
212 288-1167

Tiella Restaurant, named for a Neapolitan cast-iron pan used for baking in a wood-burning oven,
1109 First Avenue, bet. E. 60th & E. 61st
Man.. - Sat. 12:00pm - 3:00 pm lunch, 5:00pm - 11:00pm dinner, Sun. 5:00pm - 11:00pm
212 588-0100
www.tiellanyc.com

Join us at ESNA's 60th Street Summerfest



- Sunday, August 7, 2011
- 60th Street, between 5th & Madison Avenues
- 12 noon – 4 pm
- And ESNA's fabulous "White Elephant" table.

After its annual meeting, ESNA threw a thank you party for its members who make it possible for ESNA to prune trees, remove graffiti, donate clothing to the needy, bring gifts at Christmastime to needy children at New York Presbyterian Hospital, advocate for our residents and keep them informed about what's going on in the city and in the neighborhood.

President Barry Schneider began the meeting on Sunday April 10 by thanking the Colonial Dames of America for making the auditorium available once again for ESNA's Annual Meeting. He also thanked Espresso's Caffe, Food Emporium and Starbucks for the lunch and refreshments that were to come once the



ESNA members gather for the 20th Anniversary Annual Meeting & Party Celebration

party got underway and the lovely green plants gracing the "ESNA green" tables around the room. And Dave Gillespie's neighborhood photo and film presentation with New York-themed music background set the tone for what was to be a fun afternoon. After Barry introduced the members of ESNA's Board, the minutes of the April 18, 2010 meeting were approved. Then Barry pulled out the latest copy of ESNA Extra from the smart green bag that everyone had been given when checking in. The newsletter, he said, listed all of ESNA's merchant members who actively support ESNA and who in turn should be supported by ESNA members by shopping in their stores, going to their restaurants and buying the services that these long-standing merchant members have been providing to the community. Some of ESNA's merchant members were in the audience like Francesca Vaquero of Espresso's Caffe, Rob Devivo of Food Emporium, Tim Freeman of Apple Bank, Kami Evans of Elahi Children's Yoga, Manuel Carbajal of Manny's Optical and Amanda Wheeler of Mt. Vernon Hotel and Museum. The spirit of the community, Barry said, is strengthened by working together, being an active participant and volunteering in the neighborhood. He



Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer

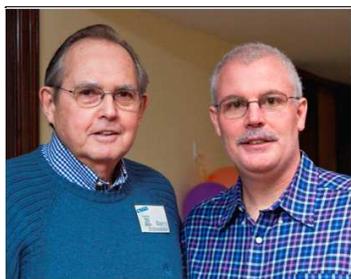
called attention to all of the volunteer opportunities listed in the Volunteers Wanted brochure, also in the smart green bag. Just a couple of hours a month could make such difference to the community especially now that state and city budget cuts will cause some reduction in city services, he said.



Councilmember Dan Garodnick

Joan Ferrone stepped to the podium with an introduction of the officers standing for election – Barry Schneider for President, Joan Fabio for Treasurer, Sally Oleon for Secretary and Liz Nica for Assistant Secretary. Barry

returned to the podium to say thank you to a couple of individuals in the audience who have served the community for some time – Nick Viest, President of the 19th Precinct Community Council, former 19th Precinct Commander Inspector James Murtagh and Latha Thompson, District Manager of Community Board 8, without whom the community board could not function. Latha always stands ready to



Barry Schneider and
NYPD Inspector
James Murtagh

work with ESNA to solve any and all problems that come up in the community. Barry then turned to what is happening in the community. Referring to the Focus on the Neighborhood map which is included in this newsletter, and which was also in the smart green bag, Barry talked about everyone's favorite headache – the construction of the Second Avenue Subway.

Ultimately we will all rejoice when it opens, but for now we can only track its progress and work with the city and MTA to mitigate the impacts as much as possible. The subway is expected to open in December 2016.

Barry next talked about the 59th Street Water Tunnel work that is occurring at night and on weekends. Of particular interest to the ESNA community is the location of the redundancy or secondary water main. Barry reported that East 58th was ostensibly being looked at but there were currently no indications of where the Department of Environmental Protection would come out on the location issue. ESNA has petitioned that the selection be fair, unbiased, technologically and economically viable. There is no place for a NIMBY attitude when it comes to our vital water resource.

Referring to the Roosevelt Tram refurbishment, Barry

encouraged the audience to take the 3 minute trip to the island, ride the red bus and see all of the activities that are taking place and the FDR Memorial Park in construction. Barry covered another anticipated neighborhood improvement – the frontage of the Bentley Hotel. Where the Exxon Mobil station was, there will be outside seating



Friends enjoying the
wonderful party!

and a café alongside the new entrance of the hotel which will now be on York Avenue. The Bentley has also opened a 21st floor restaurant which will offer lovely views of the river. Barry then took questions from the audience on various topics before he said “let the party begin”

The 20th Anniversary celebration began with a beautiful luncheon spread put out by Francesca, assisted by Pablo, of Espresso's Caffè. Gordana Mitrovic of Colonial Dames stood ready to lend a hand at every turn. As the festivities began, elected officials joined the party to chat and mingle

with ESNA members. Councilmember Dan Garodnick not only said thank you to ESNA for the 20 years of community work but told the group that since he was the newly appointed chair of the Consumer Affairs Committee, ESNA could always look to his office on consumer issues. While the mayor could not attend, Barry read Mayor Bloomberg's congratulatory letter thanking ESNA for all it has done for the community. Cullen Barrie of Councilmember Jessica Lappin's office joined the party as well as Linda



Linda Janneh, NY
County District
Attorney's Office

Janneh Jones of the Manhattan District Attorney's office and Rose Pierre Louis, Deputy Borough President.

Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney, who has attended all of ESNA's annual meetings, came fresh from the budget negotiations in Washington with the good news that she participated in defeating destructive riders, like Planned Parenthood funding. She congratulated ESNA for making the neighborhood more livable and was pleased to report that she and Jessica Lappin were working on developing a multi-agency, multi-stakeholder Task Force to address the issues of the East River esplanade. She promised to fight for more schools and in fact was meeting the next day with new Schools Chancellor Dennis Wolcott regarding the 200 children on a wait-list for the schools they wanted to attend.

Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer joined the party and assured everyone that he would not rest until he got assurances from the MTA that everything would be done to minimize the impact of the Second Avenue Subway construction on the neighborhood. He chatted with ESNA members who he referred to as a wonderful collection of neighbors who work together to make it all happen.

The delicious 20th Anniversary cake courtesy of Food Emporium and the accompanying coffee courtesy of Starbucks and the singing of Happy Anniversary by ESNA members, associates and friends, while not American Idol quality, was just perfect to end the day on a very high note as everyone left with their smart green bags.

- Joan Fabio



3rd Generation
ESNA supporter!



An involved membership is at the heart of ESNA's positive role in the community. By participating in a variety of activities and interacting with other residents and merchants, institutions and city agencies, ESNA members have made the East Sixties a more livable, more vibrant neighborhood. Please join with us as we move into our third decade of serving the community.

Call or write us and let us know of your interest. We'll be happy to discuss your role in the association.

Yours for another 20 years of community advocacy.

