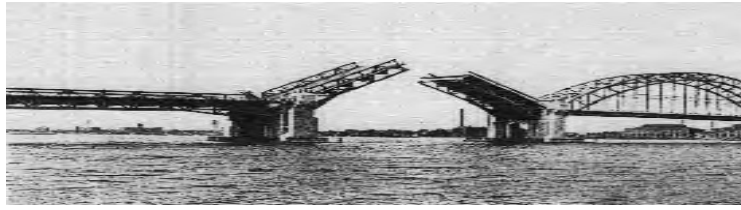


TACONY TOWN WATCH



For more than 200 years, Town Watch has proven to be an effective crime prevention tool. Its effectiveness can be maximized if Town Watchers learn through training the parameters of the role, proper Town Watch procedures, and the crime prevention context in which Town Watchers operate.

In Tacony, a section of Northeast Philadelphia, a Town Watch was formed in 1982. Its purpose is the same as colonial days, to watch the streets and help report crime. Tacony Town Watch, Inc extends a warm welcome to those individuals who wish to become a part of its organization. Membership is offered to those people over the age of 18 who either reside or maintain an interest in the community. You cannot have been found guilty of a crime nor have an existing warrant and you must be willing to volunteer your time, as needed, and are willing to undergo all training provided. Members receive the finest training available and learn many things concerning law enforcement. The number one rule that a Town Watcher learns is that he or she is not an officer of the law, but are the "eyes and ears" of the Police. Being a member of Town Watch has many rewards. The most important is acquiring a sense of pride knowing that you are giving back to your community.

Still today, Tacony Town Watch, Inc attempts to make every effort to maintain active patrols. With the decline in neighborhoods, ever growing blight, increase in crime and decrease of law enforcement our efforts sometime become difficult as we depend on residents to help patrol the streets on a voluntary basis and for no monetary compensation. Our boundaries include Frankford Avenue to the River; Robbins Avenue north to Cottman Avenue. From time to time we also assist Wissinoming and Mayfair Town Watch with coverage in their area. Our members range from different ages and races; they patrol by bike, car or block watch. They are well trained and the training is ongoing and it is mandatory for them to attend each training provided and our monthly members meetings to maintain active status with the organization.

When Tacony Town Watch, Inc started, they patrolled the neighborhood every day of the week and had a block watcher on almost every block. However, unfortunately today; due to lack of interest in the neighborhood or fear of retaliation our membership has suffered and our patrol schedules are primarily catering to the weekends when most of the crime activity is present. We work closely with all levels of law enforcement and our board members attend monthly meetings at the 15th Police District with the Captain, the 15th Police District Advisory Council, Tacony Civic Association, and we are a member of the National Sheriff's Association Neighborhood Watch. This ensures our active role and continued success as we pass this information onto our members.

We are always looking for new members who want to be apart of our organization because they have a passion for Tacony not a desire to only fix what is happening on their block. We need people to be proactive, not reactive! If you have a problem, we need you as the solution – join Town Watch and we will make every attempt to help. We have guest speakers at our meetings and you should walk away with learning something new. Many times we have heard—I don't see Town Watch, where are they? Well, our members do not wear neon signs on their cars or a person drawing attention to themselves while on patrol. Nevertheless, be rest assured, they are out there! In addition, they are simply your neighbors! On the other hand, we have heard well where was Town Watch? Well, our response is just this — we are not a hired security firm and we are not required to be out there 24/7! Without members, we are not effective..... So everyone must get involved!

If you care about Tacony and are willing to be a part of an organization that has lasted for over 25 years then contact us through our web site at www.tactw.org. We are striving to keep this organization alive and keeping Tacony the neighborhood to live in and raise a family for generation after generation.

WE NEED YOU!! GET INVOLVED AND BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION!!

