

The West End

By and for the
West End Neighborhood

JULY 1984

PLEASURE BEFORE BUSINESS, ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME OF YEAR

In keeping with our traditions, some of you did not receive the June newsletter with its featured announcement of the Grace Court Park concert until the day after the concert. As usual, that tardiness insured the success of the thing for those who attended, and indeed it was a wonderful summertime event. The music was skillfully performed and thoughtfully selected to appeal to the spirits of the audience without grossing it out in the process. That's a lot more than you can say for Channel LXI (What you can say for said airwave is that it is either the beginning of the end or the beginning of the beginning, or not, as the case may be. But we seem to have gotten distracted.). The weather was a bit warm, but not stultifyingly so, and the people who did make it to Grace Court on the evening of the 5th -- and there were a lot of people there -- appeared to enjoy the event thoroughly. The children were a bit obnoxious, to be sure, but none of the little urchins seemed abused, neglected or bored.

All this blather has two purposes: (1) to fill up this page with print; and (2) to serve as prelude for the following ANNOUNCEMENT:

The second Concert in Grace Court Park will take place on Tuesday evening, July 3rd (that's the day before July 4th, right, when all y'all will be stuck in town for the holiday without a darn thing to do and will be desperate for some cheap entertainment). Note that the event will commence at 7:00 P.M., rather than the usual six o'clock, to give things a chance to cool off a bit before the show begins. That does not mean that you are encouraged to saunter in about eight or so, although the show is set to last 'til nightfall at nine. Jazz music will be played, and a good time will be had by all.

BUSINESS BEFORE PLEASURE

Speaking of what the bride wore, did you know that there are twenty-six (26) weddings scheduled to be held in Grace Court Park between the 5th of May and the 8th of September? Our Association can be proud, and is proud, by golly, that the West End has become a special place for lots of people who don't live here, but who love here, at least in a tasteful manner, officially sanctioned. Let us hope that on their first anniversary, these blissful couples will elect to make a sizable contribution to the Grace Court Park Fund to help maintain the garden spot of the center city. A small donation now wouldn't do any harm, but I suppose these young folks have other things on their minds at this, as they say, point in time.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: Who is C.S.Lee?

The answer to that question will be announced at the July 3rd concert. Anyone with the correct answer gets in free. Anyone with an incorrect answer, or no answer at all, also gets in free. But the people with the answer will feel a little superior. Here's a hint: 1921.

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JUST BUSINESS

I know that that's a boring way to begin a page full of print, but it's the truth and there are those of us in the West End who love the Truth, even if it is boring. So read on, whether you find it interesting or not.

On June 12th, your Board had its monthly meeting on Julia and Ben Wilson's back porch. It was hot as hell that night, the night the Celtics closed out the Lakers in that winter sport championship finale, but the lemonade and iced tea were superb.

The first item on the agenda was money, of course. Treasurer Sam Matthews presented a report whose "bottom line" shows that there is a total of \$6,873.15 in the coffers, and all the bills are paid. We have spent \$3, 181.32 in 1984 (\$1,993.89 fixing up Grace Court, \$1,067.43 on this newsletter --OK, groan if you must, but the Pentagon spends that much on weapons in a heartbeat-- and \$120 on "socials", namely the first concert); we have taken in \$4,028.79 (mainly through dues, donations to Grace Court fund, GWENYS and advertising in the newsletter, along with some other donations, tee-shirt sales, and savings account interest. Of particular interest was that 152 of you have actually paid your 1984 dues, which is not bad, but not nearly good enough, in a community where probably 400 households ought to support the association.

Speaking of sales, Moth Hughes had some polo shirts with the West End name and logo printed on them. The Board discussed whether to try to get someone to print up some more and offer them for sale. Prices and potential demand will be researched, so if you are interested in this project or in buying a West End polo shirt, call Jay Cutchin at 724-3077. (There was some sentiment that "polo shirt" sounded kind of pretentious for this neighborhood, but the group felt that selling those tank-top undershirts that Stanley Kowalski wore was going a little too far the other way.)

The most involved discussion of the evening centered on the question of whether this neighborhood wants to try to obtain residential parking stickers. Warren Sparrow has been looking into the procedures involved, and they are many, with a petition, a study by the city traffic department, conformity with certain quantitative requirements (6 connecting street blocks, 80 contiguous housing units, etc.). The people most affected by the automobiles of outsiders are those who live near the YMCA and near the new Wachovia West End Center.

--continued



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After hashing over some of the pros and cons for a while, we couldn't figure out what to do next, so we decided to spread the word to those West Enders on and near Summit Street and the Glade at Sunset crowd (which is not the "Music at Sunset" crowd, an event that has been moved to the West Coast, or at least the East Bank) that we need them to carry the ball on this question for a while. We felt that the people most affected would have the most insight and energy when it came to solving the problem. In the meantime, your officers will continue to communicate with the officials at the Y and at Wachovia to develop ways to minimize the adverse impact of members' & employees' automobiles on the peace and tranquillity of our domains. Dear reader, please feel invited to attend the next board meeting or to speak with a board member if you have any good ideas about this matter.

The next board meeting, by the way, will be held at Grace Humphreys' house on 1124 W.4th on Tuesday evening, July 10th (the birthday of a great American), at 8:00 P.M.

David Speedie announced the particulars of the July 3rd concert, and he indicated that, if all goes well, there will be two concerts co-sponsored by our Association with Urban Arts in August, as well as some entertainment at the September annual pot-luck extravaganza. So, pay your dues and get your newsletters and come on down, or up, as the case may be, to GCP.

Chris Chapman reported that the House Tour committee has been talking to a nearby professional about generating some lucrative publicity for this December's affair. Chris says that there are seven prime candidates for inclusion on the tour, and a couple of them have agreed to open their doors. It is not too early for you to call Chapman at 723-7620 to express your interest in helping make this year's tour another smashing success. (more over

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() I am interested in a "commercial membership" and in becoming an advertiser in the newsletter each month.

MY PHONE NUMBER IS _____

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2. West End Printing
3. West End Paints
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5. Tile Source
6. Spaugh Motor
7. Solomon's Antique
8. Painter's West End
9. Miller-Shaw
10. Lighthouse Restaurant
11. Jewell Interiors
12. Electric Sales
13. 848 West Fifth
14. Colonel Ludlow House
15. City Beverage
16. Chameleon Gallery
17. Accent Travel

Scrambled Answers:

- a. something to read
- b. something to drink
- c. some decoration
- d. some reason to stink
- e. something to munch on
- f. something to lunch on
- g. something to live in
- h. something to sit in
- i. something to keep
- j. something to cover with
- k. some light
- l. some motion
- m. something to spread with
- n. somewhere to wander
- o. somewhere to crash
- p. something for bare spots
- q. something for hair spots

No board meeting would be complete without a discussion about zoning. This month's centered on the application of the condo builders at the corner of Jersey and Brookstown to get a variance which would allow them to put covered stairways a little closer to the street than the law normally allows. Your officers who had looked into this question felt that under the circumstances, the builder's request was reasonable and would probably enhance the appearance of the project. There was some grumbling about how that developer had raped the landscape there, but the grumblers (your writer included) acceded to the wisdom of the folks who had kept a closer eye on the variance request.

Finally, about the time we ran out of lemonade and the Lakers started to run out of steam, it was announced that the Historic Preservation committee would meet at Dr. Gravlee's house on Tuesday, June 26th. Because this newsletter will not get to you until after that date, you can be assured that the meeting was well-attended and served a constructive purpose.

NEXT MONTH:

Next month's newsletter will contain a list of the people who have paid their 1984 dues. If it would be a source of embarrassment for you for your name not to appear, please see to it that you bucks are in our bank account. If it would enhance your standing in the community not to be listed, all you gotta do is nuthin'.

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