

The West End

By and for the
West End Neighborhood

February 1985

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MARCH 5th

Your West End Association will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday evening, March 5th, at 8:00 P.M. It will be at the dining room in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Summit at Pilot View.

The Nominating Committee has come up with a slate of candidates, but nominations for any officer or seat on the board can be made from the floor at the meeting. The nominations are:

Officers:

President -- Bill Wise
Vice-pres. -- Warren Sparrow
Secretary -- open
Treasurer -- Sam Matthews

Board Members:

Felice Avery
Liz & John Gilliam
Ann Johnston
Paula Locklair
Claudia & Paul Shepard
Margaret Smythe
Evelyn & David Speedie
Julia & Ben Wilson
Jeanne Wine

The four officer positions are to be filled, as well as seven board positions. Six newly elected board members are to serve two-year terms, joining the six other members who are in their second year: Chapman, Cutchin, Elliott, Gregg, Humphries, and Sparrow. If Sparrow is elected V-P., the seventh board position will come open.

So, PLEASE show up at the annual meeting, so that no one can accuse the West End Association ruling elite of being a narrowly constituted group of nerds who never outgrew their desires to sit at the head of their high school student council. Or, as my daughter calls it, the "student cancel." (And remember Gibson's corollary: "Them that show up are usually the ones to be elected, and them that don't, ain't.")

TWO-HEADED MONSTER RUNS LOOSE IN WEST END. . .RESIDENTS SCURRY ABOUT MADLY, TRYING TO GET IN ITS WAY!!!

Well, that's a pretty cheap, sensationalistic way to introduce the February 5th meeting of the West End Association, but it was a bit special, because not only was there a gathering of the officers and board members (snore. . .,OK, I realize this is not all that exciting, but Mr. Reagan says we are all American heroes, and I'm just doing my part), but there was also a general meeting of the membership and other interested persons to talk about historic preservation.

Here's what was discussed at the board meeting:

A proposal to turn a house in the 1200 block of Brookstown into a back-up support facility for the Ronald McDonald house near Baptist Hospital. David Neal, a resident of this neighborhood, recently bought the house from Ken Land, and Neal wants to put in up to seven apartments. There appears to be no problem with off-street parking or street footage or with any zoning laws. However, Neal is

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considering enclosing the front porch, which will involve his obtaining a waiver. It turns out that one of the architecturally significant characteristics in our neighborhood are the front porches. Had you noticed that? Well, I hadn't either, but if you look around you'll see that, by cracky, it's true. So, the board is working on developing ways to encourage some preservation alongside the laudable aims Neal has to provide a place of refuge for visitors to the hospital.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH is important to all of us, especially recently, given the incidents of physical violence that have occurred in the area. Specially, there have been rapes, actual and attempted, on Piedmont Avenue, as well as some attempted accosting of school children near Brunson Elementary. Brunson's principal, Mary Jo Isaacs, was at the meeting and suggested that neighbors be watchful. If you see any suspicious activity near the school, you are encouraged to call the police and to call the school itself (727 2856). There was also a call for us to put pressure on City Hall for more aggressive police protection, and we have been told by the police department that there are more plainclothes officers and unmarked cars patrolling the area than before. What can you do? You can continue to be watchful, to maintain a sense of concern, to politely send a visual message to any stranger you see that he or she is being observed and is not an anonymous person operating in an indifferent environment. Remember to keep your doors and windows locked, and to burn a porch light from time to time.

It is significant that a young man has turned himself in to the police on the rape cases. Without passing judgment on his guilt, it is of interest that the young man himself is a resident of our neighborhood. Because we do not build fences around the West End, we are often presented with situations that remind us that ours is truly an ambiguous world. Maintaining a healthy balance between being open to our fellow human beings and protective against our fellows is no easy trick. Perhaps it is to our credit as a community that in the West End we at least give it a try.

The Historic Preservation portion of the meeting was attended by close to forty people. Speakers included David Hood and Diane Filipowitz (sp?) from the N.C. Division of Archives and History in Raleigh; Laura Phillips, a preservation specialist who lives in Crystal Towers; and Glen Gravlee, the head of our Committee. There were two terrific slide shows plus, discussion of the national and local district options, an outline of the the research and documentation necessary to get the job done, and the expected cost (some \$22,600). The concensus of the group was to forge ahead with fund-raising and the other things that need to be done to complete the project.

Our special thanks go to the folks who braved ice and raw winds to come over from Raleigh. They sent us a clear message that the West End's architecture, its plant materials, its topography and its unusual curvilinear design are all features which combine to make ours a special place. The turn-out, I hope, gave them a message that the people in the West End aren't so bad, either.

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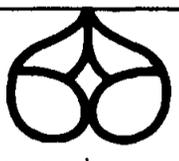
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THE WEST END ASSOCIATION:

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU???



- If you want to live in a neighborhood made up of people who know each other and who care for each other's well-being . . .
- If you want to live in a place that has both natural and architectural beauty . . .
- If you want to live in safe houses, safe apartments, on safe lots, next to safe streets . . .
- If you want to magnify your voice in such matters as zoning, traffic control, recreation, and the timely provision of municipal services. . .
- If you enjoy spending your time amid a place that keeps alive a sense of its own special history . . .
- If you want to see the value of the residential real estate you own increase at least as much as real estate values generally . . .
- If you want to encourage the location in this part of town attractive businesses where you want to shop, eat, drink or whatever . . .
- If you want the businesses in your neighborhood to blend in with and serve our predominantly residential community rather than to overwhelm it . . .
- If you want to insure that Hanes Park and Grace Court are kept up and kept safe . . .
- If you want to contribute to the redevelopment of downtown Winston-Salem as a place people will want to gather for living, working, shopping and entertainment . . .
- If you want to have an excuse to get together with your neighbors and socialize a bit at Christmastime and during the summertime . . .
- If you want to become involved in a common effort that has impact in the political arena that is closest to you -- your own neighborhood . . .
- If you want to help your neighbors who want these things . . .
- If you want something additional that we've overlooked that is compatible with these things . . .

THEN JOIN THE WEST END ASSOCIATION,



and give it your support.

MY NAME IS _____

I (WE) LIVE AT _____
in Winston-Salem N.C. 2710 _____ or in _____

() \$10.00 Regular membership OR () \$5.00 senior citizen/full time student.
() New Membership OR () Renewal of membership.
() Check enclosed OR () Send me a bill . . .
OR () Send someone by to collect.

() Before joining, I would like to get more information; contact me.

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

MY PHONE NUMBER IS _____

() I would like to become a candidate for an office or director position in the West End Association.
() I would like to recommend someone as a candidate: _____
() I am interested in helping do "committee" work with the Assn.

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"WENDY GOES NUCLEAR"

Chapter 3 in a tale that has become even too farfetched for the supermarket tabloids.

By I.B. Gyle

Following her bitter defeat at the Zoning Board, Wendy the West End Windbag announced plans to convert her house into an eight-story nuclear power plant, with a revolving restaurant on the roof. Much to her consternation, she was forced to present her plans to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission at a special session. Following a heated debate, the Commission rejected her plans as being "too tacky" and therefor an unsuitable use of the property. They liked the idea of the plant OK; it was the lack of ferns in the dining area that scuttled the project.

Be with us next month for the concluding episode in our little drama, "Wendy Goes to Buena Vista."

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