

# The West End

By and for the  
West End Neighborhood JAN 85

*January 1985*

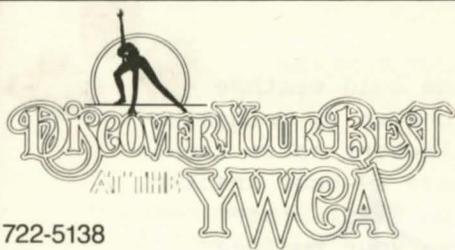
*Dec 84*

OH, NOTHING HAPPENING HERE BUT THE USUAL CHRISTMAS

## SUCCESS STORIES

The annual Christmas party and the bi-annual Holiday House tour were smashing successes in December. On Friday the 14th, lots of folks showed up at Davis & Harwell's for the party. Query: What can be said about a neighborhood where, when people are asked to bring appetizers or desserts, about 80% of them bring desserts? Does this predilection toward the sugar bespeak a sweetness of disposition? Does it mean that several dentists should move their offices into the West End? Does it portend a more Rubenesque appearance of neighborhood residents, perhaps as a backlash to all the physical fitness taking place at the YM and YW? Contemplate these things, my children, and ponder them in your heart, your clogged heart, if you pigged out at the party.

As for the House Tour, please meander with me for a while, rather than rush pell-mell to the bottom line. (OK, our net profit, after taxes and kick-backs, was \$2,222.22, more or less.) When your writer first set foot in Winston-Salem some fourteen years ago, he came as an itinerant peddler. While traveling from one commercial part of town to another, he found himself driving through what is known as the West End. "This place reminds me of San Francisco," he murmured to himself, having lived in that loveliest of cities on Telegraph Hill some three summers previous. Eight years later, your writer moved to the Camel City and into the West End . . . there was something about the hillsides, the older houses, the low-level eccentricity of the place. Well, the other day, he walked out onto Jersey Avenue, and there were all these people wandering around, like TOURISTS, like the tourists he used to feel a smug superiority over from his porch on Telegraph Hill 17½ years before. It was that same feeling, without the smugness, the feeling that this place I live in is something special. People pay money to come here and look around! And the people come here look like good people who are relaxed and curious and genuinely interested in what this place has to offer. The place I live in is helping these people enjoy themselves, and it's at nobody's expense and there's nothing sleazy about it and nobody is being ripped off.



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ENOUGH EUPHORIA, NOW BACK TO THE DAILY FARE

Yes, citizens, there was a meeting of your Board on Tuesday the 4th of December. Sam Matthews presented the Treasurer's report, which showed a total fund balance of \$7,930.00, most of which is in the Historic District Fund. Next month, we'll offer a detailed year-end report. (Next month, we are also going to start hassling you about paying your 1985 membership dues, but we're not going to say anything about 1985 dues this month, so please don't pay your dues this month, OK?)

Your Association's President, Bill Wise, has been engaged in much dialogue with the Wachovia Bank people about traffic flows from the West End Center. We feel encouraged that steps are being taken to minimize parking over-flow onto our streets. Nevertheless, there is going to be increased congestion once that place gears up, and we'll continue to work to mitigate the problems.

We also talked about the House Tour, the Party, and (on a less sanguine note), the ongoing questions about YMCA landscaping plans.

For the most part, it was pretty quiet. THE NEXT MEETING will be on Tuesday, January 8th, at Wise's house on 4th Street. The Zoning Committee will meet before that time in anticipation of some questions which will affect this neighborhood at the Zoning Board meeting on January 3rd.

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"WENDY GOES TO THE ZONING BOARD"

The continuing saga of one brave woman's battle to save the ranch and fatten herself to the max. -- By I.B. Gyle, West Ender raving reporter.

Last month you'll recall that Wendy, the West End Windbag, announced her controversial plans to convert her lovely West End home into condos. Our story continues as Wendy, her supporters, and a throng of outraged West End residents confronted each other at the annual Christmas Eve meeting of the Zoning Board, held at the Winkler Convention Center on Peters Creek Parkway (BYOL). Will the Z.B. allow Wendy to stack three double-wide mobile homes one on top of another in order to get the most bang for her bucks? During a brilliant parliamentary maneuver in which the two board members who opposed the plan called for a vote while the pro-development majority was taking a coffee break, Wendy's plan went down to defeat, much to the joy of the proponents of the status quo. Wendy vowed revenge.

Control yourself while waiting for next month's tense installment, "Wendy Goes Nuclear."

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"You know, Burgess, I don't believe a thing that man is saying."

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Well, forgive me for carrying on so, but this place really is something special, and while my sentimental maun-derings probably won't convince you, perhaps this will. We sold almost 800 tickets to the house tour, in the face of some noble competition from Reynolda House and Graylyn, and those places aren't exactly in the slums. We grossed over \$3,900, and (as has been hinted at above for the quantitative crowd, we will net between two thousand and 2½ thou, once all the expenses are in and counted. Over 200 people, many of them folks who don't reside in the West End except in spirit, over 200 volunteered their time and efforts as hosts, drivers, decorators, cleaner-uppers, general factotums (factota?) and cookie-makers. A bit of specific information about that last topic, one which might explain those existential questions raised in the opening paragraph: there were nine people baking cookies, and these nine turned out over 3,000 cookies, and all but about two heaping handful were gobbled up. And, as far as we know, nobody died or even got nauseous. Which is another good thing that can be said about the Christmas party, too.

There are a lot of people who need to be thanked. Liz Gilliam and Chris Chapman and Martha Harper managed the house and host situation, Felice and Keith Avery kept Operations going smoothly--on-time delivery of all goods and services, without exception. Dot Wise played Pub Queen-for-a-Day at Shobers, serving 27 gallons of warm spiced cider and all those cookies. The City Sanitation people helped prepare the area with a good clean-up. Gorgeous music was performed by the Spectrum Singers, the Shape-note Singers and Robert Kerr, a fine young violinist (yet another good thing about Friday night's party was his contribution). Most of all, thanks go to the families and businesses who opened up their doors for us all.

(There is something you should know, if you don't know it already. Jim Humphreys was one of the tour hosts, and he also showed up at the party. Now a Winston-Salem event does not obtain social/cultural legitimacy unless and until Jim arrives. There is a rumor that Reagan and Bush attended a secret fund-raising event at Reynolda House given by the Reynolds, Hanes, Grays, et al. Apparently the President came into the room, gave his grin, but got a little rattled and nervous, turned to his hosts and said, "This is fine, but where's Jim?" Perhaps that rumor is untrue, but how else can you explain the success of the week-end, especially good weather, without considering God, Man and Jim H?)

*Frank*

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We appreciate the friendship and good will of those we serve. May happiness, good health and good cheer be yours throughout the New Year! HOSPITALITY INTERIORS, INC, 942 West Fourth Street.

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Pay Attention, troops! West End Cafe is now open until 10 P.M. Monday through Friday and 11 A.M.-4 P.M.Saturday. We're four years old, and we've learned how much you enjoy our homemade soup and hot (but not Texas-style) chili. We have extended our selection of imported beer with some special post-holiday brews. We have more help during the evening hours, and --don't forget-- take-home orders are filled promptly at all times.

THE WEST END CAFE.

----- We did a silly thing last month to our new advertiser, ADVANCED HEATING SYSTEMS. We told you how terrific their Hydronix heating units are, how they provide clean, safe, economical and uniform convection heat from trim baseboard units affording individual room temperature control But nowhere in the newsletter could you find their telephone number. Well, now that the December summer is over, call Bill Morrison at 785-7275 or 768-4378. He'll analyze your home's needs at no cost or obligation.

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DON'T FORGET -- THE WEST END IS A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH COMMUNITY. Take a little extra time to see that your neighbors are being cared for. Neighborhood Watch is not just about preventing crime, although that's an important part of it. It's mostly about reaching out next door or down the street and giving a darn about the human beings who dwell there.

welcome to 1985. join the west end association. next month.

Look for upcoming issues on new elections of Association Officers and Directors. Look for the Historic District Special Meeting. Plant a tree. Read The Brothers Karamazov. Ignore all these suggestions.

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