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Changing of the Guard: Join the WEA Board

At our Annual Meeting in February, all of the WEA officer positions will be open for election. Current positions that are open for election:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- There are 3 general board positions that are open for election.

Four current board members are interested in each of the executive board positions. Two current general board members are interested in serving an additional term. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please E-mail thewestender@yahoo.com before February 8th so that we can add your name to the ballot.

WEA Communications

The West End Association Web Site

We are actively working on making the West End Neighborhood Web site even better. Please visit www.historicwestend.org for information about our neighborhood's history, maps, links and membership information.

West End Listserv is a Yahoo Group

To be added to this group, please send an e-mail to thewestender@yahoo.com.

Neighborhood Watch

Let's keep our neighborhood free of crime. Please email thewestender@yahoo.com if you are willing to be a block captain for your block.

Facebook

There is a Facebook group page for "West End Neighbors Association".

Linked In? If you use the networking service *Linked In*, you can join the West End Association Group. Please send an aill to thewestender@yahoo.com and we will send you the link to join.

Welcome to our new Westender Editor

Please welcome **Rose Florence**, our new Westender editor. Rose is new to Winston-Salem and the West End and has recently graduated with a Journalism degree from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. We would like to welcome Rose to the neighborhood and thank her for taking on the task of being our new newsletter editor.

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P.O. Box 21054
W-S NC 27120-1054
Editor: Rose Florence
Email: thewestender@yahoo.com
Business Manager/Circulation: Toni Phillips
Email: tphillips@lrbrealestate.com
Phone: 336-624-6946

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The West Ender

By and For the West End Neighborhood

February 2010

Upcoming Events
February
February 9th - Annual Meeting

- Vote for New Officers & Board
- Renew your WEA Membership

March
March 9th - Board Meeting
April
April 3rd—Easter Egg Hunt in Grace Court
April 13th - General Meeting

We Invite You to Participate in Your Neighborhood Association

In the last couple of years, there appears to have been a significant drop in attendance at West End Association meetings, WEA events, and volunteerism in WEA activities. We would like to invite you to become more involved in these activities as we strive to make our neighborhood association the best that it can be.

We understand that the West End Listserv is a wonderful tool to keep neighbors informed of what is going on in the neighborhood. It provides everything from crime updates to upcoming events and news that happens between monthly newsletters. However, it does not replace the physical interaction between neighbors at meetings and events. Even I, an ardent supporter of social media, know that it is the combination of electronic and physical interaction that most benefits a group or community.

Members of the WEA pay dues. The WEA board makes decisions on behalf of the neighborhood. When you attend the bi-monthly meetings, you can make your voice heard on issues that affect you, your home, and the neighborhood. The meetings and events are also a great way to meet your neighbors. If you are a homeowner, renter, or business owner in the neighborhood, we want to know you. All are welcome! If you have recently moved into the West End, let us welcome you to the best neighborhood in the city. If you are a renter, please come and let us know how we can make the WEA relevant for you.

Crime rates are lower in neighborhoods where people know their neighbors and look out for one another. If you know the people who live around you, you can better recognize outsiders who may be there to commit crimes. A good example of this was a topic from the listserv last fall. A young man knocked on several doors of houses in the West End and stated: "I am your neighbor and I have locked my keys in the car. Can I come in and use your phone?" He did not live in the West End and has since been arrested for stealing. Any one of us could have been swindled by this man. If you attend WEA meetings and events and meet the people who live around you, you will have better awareness of who actually lives in the neighborhood. This can help you avoid becoming a victim of this kind of scheme.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Getting Involved in the WEA
- NEW West End Listserv
- Volunteer Positions
- New Business in West End
- Renew Your Membership
- WEA Elections Feb. 9th
- Communications
- Welcome New Editor

Volunteerism for events in our neighborhood is another big issue for the WEA. So often the same few people volunteer to put on events for the whole neighborhood. We know that your time is precious. We are not asking for a full-time commitment. However, we would like to have more people help with WEA events and activities. Volunteering is not only a great opportunity to meet your neighbors, but it allows us to get more accomplished in a shorter period of time. If you pick one or two events a year that pique your interest and pitch in with that event or events, then the burden is spread out. If you have been waiting for an invitation, here it is: Please help out by volunteering to help with one or two events in the WEA in 2010. (And thanks in advance for volunteering!)

Finally, to our veteran West Enders, so many of you have lived in the neighborhood for decades. You have seen the West End go through transition. You made it the place that it is today. We appreciate the work you have done in the past to make the West End such a great neighborhood. We understand that you have paid your dues, both physically and financially, in the past. We thank you for that service.

We have new arrivals to the West End who are interested in building on your hard work and keeping the neighborhood a wonderful place to live, work, and play. We need your wisdom, experience, and guidance. If you used to be more involved in the neighborhood but have scaled back in the past few years for whatever reason, we invite you to come back and help out. We also ask that you get involved again to mentor those who are taking leadership roles in the WEA. We appreciate all that you have done in the past and would like for you to guide us into the future. We will bring cookies to the meetings, if that will help.

In short, the neighborhood is what we make of it. That we includes you. The WEA can only represent you if we have your input. We can be houses that are linked by geographic proximity or we can be friends and neighbors who enrich each other by sharing a neighborhood and a community. I invite you all to help us strive for the latter.

Susan Morris, West End Neighbor and WEA Member

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NEW Listserv for the West End
Over the holidays, we experienced some technical difficulties with the West End Listserv. The Yahoo group is no longer functional, and if you have tried to e-mail to the listserv, you have received an error message. After unsuccessfully working with Yahoo, we have resorted to starting a NEW listserv for West End neighbors. Please use the following link to join the new West End Listserv. We apologize for any Inconvenience and look forward to getting things up and running again.

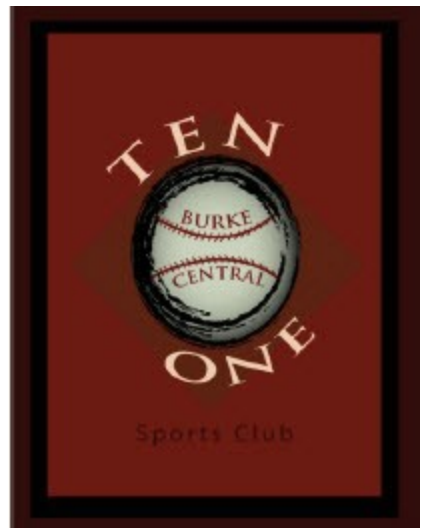
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/West_End_Listserv/join

Volunteer Positions Open

2010 Holiday Home Tour Chairpersons, Homeowners, and Volunteers
Even though we have just put away our holiday decorations, it is not too early to start thinking about the West End Holiday Home Tour. We are looking for at least two people to chair the event on Sunday, December 12th, 2010. If you are willing to volunteer to be a chair person, a committee member or if you are a homeowner and you wish to have your home on the tour this year, please e-mail thewestender@yahoo.com

Newsletter Business Manager Assistants: Job description includes visiting/calling existing West Ender advertisers for renewal and seeking new businesses to fill monthly advertising space in newsletter and inserted flyers. Advertising renewals are paid annually while inserts are on a monthly basis. If you have a couple of hours that you can dedicate to helping with gathering sponsors for 2010.

New Business in the West End



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The West End Association's 2010 Annual Membership Drive
It is time to renew your membership the West End Association. The association relies on membership dues to pay for the many events in the neighborhood, as well as sponsorships of events in and around the West End. Membership is \$20/household and is effective for the 2010 calendar year, January-December.

This year, members will receive two West End Membership Cards per household, once they have paid their annual membership fee. Membership cards will be mailed to your home, so please include your mailing address on the Membership Form. The membership card will be good for discounts at West End restaurants and businesses. Discounts will be advertised in the West Ender Each month. We are excited to offer the Membership cards to our neighbors. Please include your mailing address in the form below so that your membership cards can be mailed to you.

Please make your check out to the West End Association and put "membership" in the memo line. Your \$20 membership fee pays for everyone in your household. Please fill out the Membership Form below and include it with your payment. We have provided self-addressed envelopes for you convenience. You may also pay your annual dues at General West End Association meetings.

Your information will not be shared with anyone outside of the West End Association.

West End Membership Form

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

___ Please add me to the West End listserv ___ I am already on the **NEW** listserv

Number of people in your household: Adults ___ Children under 18: ___

Please indicate if you are interested in working in helping in the following areas:

- 2010 West End Holiday Home Tour
- Communications: Web site/newsletter contributions, newsletter delivery
- Neighborhood Watch: Block Captains/participants
- Traffic Committee: Traffic Calming/ Problem solving
- Social Committee: Easter Egg Hunt, 4th of July Picnic, Fall Festival,
- Neighborhood Beautification: Quarterly Clean-ups, Garden Club

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