

WYNNEWOOD N O R T H

October 2009

Volume 14 Issue 3

Next General Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday, October 22, 7:00 pm

Orion Ballroom, 15th floor, Bank of America Building

President's Voice

JOSEPH HERNANDEZ

Hello Everyone! Summer has sizzled and fall has arrived...the leaves are dropping, the birds are flying south and our pools are turning a nice shade of green with all the rain. The acorns are ruining the driveway, the gutters are clogged, the pecans are staining the concrete, the squirrels are nesting....I'm not bitter or anything, but fall has got to be one of my favorite times of year and like most other times of the year, there is much to do in Wynnewood North. Time to spruce up our yards with fall color, clean up our alley's, rake up our leaves and most importantly, take advantage of the benefits we get of being WNNNA residents.

The WNNNA board of directors has been working very hard to provide fun events while maintaining your safety and well-being. This year has been filled with great social gatherings and opportunities to meet new and existing neighbors. I have said it many times and will continue to say that "Getting to know your neighbors is the best way to get involved". Please do your best to be a part of the social blanket that makes us one big happy family. At the end of the day...it's YOUR

neighbors that are watching your house, reporting suspicious activity and can be there in times of need. This year has been so much fun with the successful completion of the Spring Wander, Spring Fling, Garage Sale and neighborhood cleanups. Stay tuned for plenty of more fun for the remainder of the year that you won't want to miss!

On another note, I am happy to report that the VIP security patrols are going very well and I ask that if you see the patrol in action or a member of the VIP team...please be courteous and THANK THEM for taking time out of their schedules and lives to make sure that YOU have a safe place to live. It takes a special kind of neighbor to make such commitments and follow through on such a demanding part of what makes this neighborhood unique. So whether it's 6am or midnight...the VIP patrollers are out and about to protect our neighborhood. To learn more or to get involved in the crime prevention committee, please contact the board at anytime.

Continued on next page

Contact Us



www.wynnewoodnorth.org



Wynnewood North
Neighborhood Association
PO Box 3872
Dallas, TX 75208



info@wynnewoodnorth.org

While this year has been a very difficult year for many of our board members on a personal and professional level, we have done our best to stay on track and continue to make our neighborhood the best in north Oak Cliff. Aside from attending the State Fair of Texas, the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League (OOCCL) home tour, the Ft. Worth Avenue Development Group Fall Fundraiser and other community events, be sure to make time for the WNNa Fall Wander, Quarterly General Meeting, Holiday Party and the annual light judging contest! These are the types of activities that make Wynnewood North “the place to be” as other neighborhoods ask for guidance and support, the OOCCL has selected 2 Wynnewood homes for the Home Tour and the WNNa board continues to stay involved in local initiatives and projects, it’s clear we’re doing something right!

To be a part of the energy and get more involved there will be a formal opportunity to volunteer at the next General Meeting but we’ll take your support now. If you are interested in getting involved in any aspect of Wynnewood North, please give me a call at anytime. Until then, I AM ASKING FOR YOUR HELP. The WNNa coffers are running low and income has slowed down this year as well. We need financial contributions to help pay for the water and electric bills at both beautified triangles, the monthly service fees of the Omni Watch security cameras and funds that help defray the costs of the events put on for neighbors throughout the year. This is a great time to make a tax-deductible contribution before the end of the year. We are a 501c3 non profit organization so just let that cash flow! I thank you for your ongoing support and look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting.

WNNa Board of Directors

President Joseph Hernandez
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 Crime Watch..... Pam Westerheide
 Social Director Aja Olson
 Publications John Sarlay
 Communications Tom Claeys
 Beautification..... Lance Ivy
 Website/Special Projects..... Dean Rose
 OOCCL Representative Dwayne Privott

WNNa Block Captains

In addition to distributing the WNNa newsletter and other flyers, these dedicated volunteers help you and the entire community in various ways. They contact our newest neighbors and update our directory. If you’ve just moved in or if you’ve changed your contact information, give them a call. These folks are your first point of contact, so get to know your Block Captain and thank them for their time and commitment.

Bizerte (East) Silver & Bill Poteete
 Bizerte (606-647)..... Janice Williams
 Bizerte (652-757)..... Guy Allbright
 Pratt Silver & Bill Poteete
 Heyser..... Silver & Bill Poteete
 Hoel *Volunteer needed*
 Llewellyn *Volunteer needed*
 N. Manus (East) John & Gail Ridgley
 N. Manus (West)..... Lisa Tully & Mary K Trostmann
 S. Manus Larry & Donna Libby
 Mayrant (East) Silver & Bill Poteete
 Mayrant (West) Janice Coffee & Terry Thomas
 Monssen (East 303-431) Lois Carker
 Monssen (East 436-531) *Volunteer needed*
 Monssen (West) Lisa Kleypas & Jessica Hamilton
 Monssen Pkwy Lisa Kleypas & Jessica Hamilton
 Shelmire..... Tom Claeys & Dean Knight
 Woolsey (East)..... Mary Scherer
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Crime Watch

PAM WESTERHEIDE

If you attended the general neighborhood meeting in July, you had the opportunity to hear Officer Herb Ebsen, our Neighborhood Patrol Officer, discuss ways to reduce and report crime. At that time he mentioned he would be willing to come back at a later date to discuss specific ways to secure our homes. Many meeting attendees expressed interest in this topic, so Officer Ebsen has agreed to attend our next meeting on Thursday, October 22. Please join us that evening to get tips on what works and what doesn't from someone who deals with criminals and criminal activity everyday.

I hope you were able to join us at the National Night Out celebration held on Hoel Street, Tuesday, October 6. We enjoyed hot dogs, chips and other yummys while mingling with our neighbors and local police officers (including Officer Ebsen) to create a unified presence for 'America's Night Out Against Crime'. This annual event is designed to: heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Good fun and community spirit were had by all, and we extend our appreciation to the residents of Hoel for allowing us to close off their street again this year so we could take our celebration to the streets!

Our crime watch patrols continue to run smoothly. VIPers go out several times a week at randomly scheduled times. If you see our volunteer patrollers out and about, say Hi! and let them know how much you appreciate their efforts.

WNNA Residents Nab Criminals!

This is a great example of residents working together to let criminals know that coming to our community to commit crime DOES NOT PAY!



On the morning of July 3, a resident was walking her dog and noticed a suspicious vehicle idling in front of a neighbor's house on Mayrant. One man was in the driver's seat, and another was loitering in the front yard. After this resident passed by, she heard a loud noise, and turned back to look toward the neighbor's house. The man in the yard waved and said he was just knocking on the door. She is obviously more astute than that, recognized that these two were a) not very bright and b) up to no good, and started yelling for help and ran to the nearest residence. Two other neighbors who are VIP-trained heard the commotion and ran to help. The criminals realized they'd been had and drove off erratically, drawing the attention of other residents, myself included. One of the men called 911 to report the situation and the car's license plate number, so with the combined efforts of WNNA residents, the police had the suspects in custody in short order. Great rejoicing was heard throughout the land, and this success story was THE topic of conversation at Terry Thomas and Janice Coffee's annual WNNA Fourth of July breakfast the next morning. It's great to have proof that staying observant and working together really does fight crime!

Our crime rate continued to stay relatively low for July and most of August. We did suffer a rash of burglaries and thefts at the end of August through mid-September. These were primarily crimes of opportunity – garage doors left open and theft of pots and outdoor items. As always, if you are the victim of a crime, call 911 immediately, and if you choose, you can also report the crime to me at crime@wynnewoodnorth.org or by calling 214-943-5673. And of course, continue to remain ever-vigilant for unusual activity and report that immediately to 911. Our neighborhood commitment to each other is one of the things that makes WNNA such a great community!

Social

AJA OLSON

We're Back to Our Busy Season!

I've quickly learned that my position of social director has two seasons, super-busy and dead. The spring was super busy with the Spring Fling, Spring Wander, and garage sale all being within a month of each other. Then the summer came and I was able to relax and get back to my paying job. I was thankful for Terry Thomas and Janice Coffee for having the Fourth of July gathering and giving us all time to visit during our slow social season. Now it's fall and I'm back to busy. It's not quite super-busy since it's a little easier the second time around the block.

Tuesday, October 6th was National Night Out. This event is a joint venture between social and crime watch. My part is the fun stuff, food, drinks, and goodies for the kids. Pam Westerheide is in charge of the crime side of NNO. Pam lined up several of our Southwest Division police to be present! We did our best this year to make NNO fun for the whole family. We hope you had a great time and enjoyed yourself!

The Fall Wander is coming up this month! It will be Saturday, October 24th starting at 6 PM. If you're interested in purchasing tickets please email me at social@wynnewoodnorth.org or call me at 214-669-2547. We have a limited number of tickets, so buy now! For those of you new to the neighborhood, the Spring and Fall Wanders are our two biggest neighborhood fundraisers of the year. Tickets cost \$40 each and 100% of the proceeds goes to the WNNA. A wander is just that...wandering from one house to another, eating, drinking, and visiting with our neighbors. We typically have three host houses, where we spend about an hour each. This is a great way to support our neighborhood and make new friends as well! If you've never attended, I highly encourage you to do something new and go to the wander this fall!

We will have our annual neighborhood Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12th. The holiday house decorating contest will be judged on Friday night and winners announced at this event!

Block Captains

TOM CLAEYS

Block Captains Meeting

Tom Claey's will be hosting the Block Captains meeting at his home at 716 Woolsey Drive on Saturday November 7, 2009 from 6 to 9 pm. It will be a pot luck affair and WNNA will be providing the main course. Block Captains are asked to RSVP both confirmations and regrets to Tom at tomjclaeys@hotmail.com or call 214-755-6742 and leave a message. Please bring a side dish to complement Roasted Chicken and BBQ beef. If you desire any beverage other than water or soft drinks you are welcome to bring that also. Refrigeration should not be an issue in November but we will have a giant cooler available.

We are looking for volunteers to be block captains. Block captains generally keep an eye on their area, welcome new neighbors, and deliver newsletters once each quarter. The Communications Director drops the newsletters off at your doorstep. We need a volunteer for Bizerte (East of Llewellyn), Heyser and Pratt. We also need someone for Monssen 300 to 600 block (East of Llewellyn). If you can volunteer for a Block Captain position consider yourself invited to the dinner on the 7th.



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Maintaining Your Home and Its Value

I want you all to know that we are doing a pretty good job of maintaining our homes in Wynnewood and that the following recommendations are not directed to anyone specifically. We can all use a reminder of what we should be looking for in maintaining our homes throughout the year. As a realtor, and North Oak Cliff Specialist, I see all kinds of maintenance issues when interviewing potential sellers and I hear all sorts of comments from potential buyers but overall Wynnewood is doing its best to overcome the age of our homes.

There are many reasons for not attending the needs of the home and the most valid lies in the restricted income of the elderly in our neighborhood. This is a time when the community should help address these issues with our neighbors. Many of our neighbors do not even see the issues on the exterior of their homes because it is too hot for them to spend any extended time to look over the home and some are physically restricted. If you see a roof that has a hole in it, with or without someone living there, we should notify the owner as soon as possible. A leak in the roof left unattended can create a huge repair expense in a very short period of time. If we see possum or raccoons crawling into someone's foundation through the vent, again please notify the owner. I have seen return air ducts damaged from these vermin and they make nests in the vents. These pier and beam vents should be screened. A good adhesive and some strong screening is not cost prohibitive.

Carpenter ants have infiltrated my oak trees and we have lost some limbs from their nesting. Thankfully there are none in the house. Everyone should have a regular inspection and extermination for termites, ants and other harmful pests. This should be checked every two years. While the

termite inspector is crawling under your house, ask him to check for wet spots under the house. This is a sign of a possible leak in the plumbing. Tip him for checking that because it is not his job to check for leaks.

Be sure you have good drainage away from your foundation. Sitting water under a foundation is an invitation for termites. Be sure all wooden debris is removed from under the foundation.

Every month you should turn all the water off in your house and turn off the sprinklers systems. Then check your water meters to see if they are still moving. This is a good sign that there is probably a leak in the system somewhere.

Have your heating and air vents in the attic checked for leaks. Cooling the attic gets expensive. Those vents should also be insulated for additional savings in energy costs. There should be a t-valve at your furnace that takes away condensation (your unit removes humidity from the interior of your home) through PVC. Sometimes this gets clogged with algae and spills over into the attic or closet where the unit is located causing damage. If it gets clogged, you will have to have it serviced to unclog it or do it yourself. To prevent the clog, pour about ¼ cup of bleach down that t-valve every month. Be sure you are pouring bleach in the right spot and that you don't have a favorite plant where it drains outside of your home. You may not have a t-valve for draining the condensation and any good HVAC company should have put one in.

There are shut off valves for your toilets, sinks, washer and water line to the refrigerator. Every three months you should turn them off and then back on again. This keeps them from rusting shut. Some more recent ones do not rust but should still be regulated. When you are going out of town for long periods you should turn off the water lines to your washer and replace them every three years.

Continued on next page

These plastic hoses are not made to last forever and can actually burst from the high water pressure that we enjoy in Wynnewood.

Walk around your property every week and observe the roof, eaves, windows, foundation, paint job, caulking, insects, plant growth or lack of growth, leaves in gutters, cracks in the driveway, chimney toppers and CHECK YOUR ALLEY. You are responsible for cleaning the debris and overgrowth in the alley behind your home.....even the accumulation of dirt in the middle of the alley where plants begin to grow.

If you have areas of no grass (bare spots) you should plant the appropriate grass for the amount of light in that area. Bare spots in the lawn create erosion and that precious earth ends up in the alley about 4 inches thick, not to mention that a home without a lawn looks bad. Also, please keep your yard mowed, edged and trimmed. The city code violation for manicuring your yard is no longer than 10 inches. This includes grass hanging over the curb so you will need to edge and clean up your trimmings.

Vacant homes with pools half filled with stinky green water and producing excessive amounts of mosquitoes should be reported to 311 for city code violations.

Change your air filters as often as you can. One or two times a year is not enough. Do it every month if you have pets. Those of you who have pets and hardwoods know what I am saying.

Do not cover up return air vents. This makes your heating unit work excessively hard and over heat. Replacement of this unit is expensive.

Be sure your kitchen vent actually vents outside and not into the attic. Excessive cooking grease in the attic can leak back through the ceiling after 30 years of frying food.

Every three to five years you should have your home fully inspected by a professional. They

check everything and it is worth the expense to catch issues early.

If you think you need help somewhere, don't hesitate to call one of the officers and we will find you the best solution to your home care problems.

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WNNA Yard of the Month Nomination Form

Date:

Address of nominated yard:

Reason for nomination (optional):

Cut out the form and return to:
Lance Ivy, 520 Monssen Drive, or
www.wynnewoodnorth.org

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Yard of the Month

WNNNA



August 2009

428 Monssen Dr.

Mike Cooper

September 2009

708 Mayrant

Rick Iber and
Jeff Sappenfield



October 2009

434 North Manus

Lidia Velasquez



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- Grapevine: Hwy 121 South (817) 421-6667
- Plano: Custer Rd. (972) 596-5211
- Arlington: N. Center St. (817) 861-1195
- Hurst: Grapevine Hwy (817) 581-6361
- Plano: Preston Rd. (972) 964-3084
- Dallas: N. Greenville Avenue (214) 363-0525
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Wynnewood North Homeowners Association

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Calloway's Nursery Tip of the Month

October

Heirloom Bulbs for Planting Now

Timely Tip for October Gardeners

Did you know that fall is one of the best times to plant trees, shrubs and perennials? Nursery stock planted now allows for roots to settle in and become established. When spring arrives, this root system can support and take full advantage of the surge of new growth. Fresh nursery stock is arriving daily so, stop by and take advantage of the selection available and this wonderful time of the year to work outdoors!

Once again, we have received heirloom bulbs from The Southern Bulb Company. Chris Wiesinger, aka "The Bulb Hunter," searches the Texas countryside to gather and preserve the "lost and forgotten" varieties; he then propagates and reintroduces them back to the home gardener. Our collection of fall bulbs (plant these now for Spring blooms) include, the Red Spider Lily, 'Gold Dawn' Narcissus and 'Snowflake' Leucojum. These varieties, in addition to several others available, are full-sized bulbs and are grown from historic stock. We will also be receiving Tulip bulbs which are suited for Texas gardens-they require no refrigeration or digging up each year!

The fall season has so much to offer in the garden!

Visit

www.mytexasgarden.com

for more fun ideas and activities!

November

Planting Spring Flowering Bulbs in Fall

Timely Tip for November Gardeners

Spring flowering bulbs are such a welcoming sight after those long Winter months. Many of the Spring flowering bulbs require an artificial "chilling" process before they can be planted. This is generally accomplished by placing the bulbs in a paper bag in the vegetable crisper of your refrigerator for six to eight weeks prior to planting. However, Calloway's Nursery is offering to do that for you. We have many varieties of Tulips, Hyacinths and Narcissus which you can purchase from our stores now and pick-up in December ready to plant. Let us simplify those "chilling" requirements!

We also will be offering pre-chilled Tulips and Narcissus bulbs online at: <http://mytexasgarden.com/index.php/estore>

When planting bulbs, the general rule is to plant them at a depth three times the diameter of the bulb. Use Calloway's Blood & Bone Meal at planting for added nutrients. Plant the bulbs pointed end up, cover with soil and water thoroughly. For the best display, plant bulbs in clusters or uneven numbers. Apply two to three inches of mulch on top of the bed.

For more information on bulbs, visit any of our Calloway's stores and talk with one of our Texas Certified Nursery Professionals.



Wynnewood North thanks Calloway's Nursery for supporting our Yard of the Month program by providing a gift certificate each month to our winners. Submit your nomination via our website or through the form located in this newsletter.

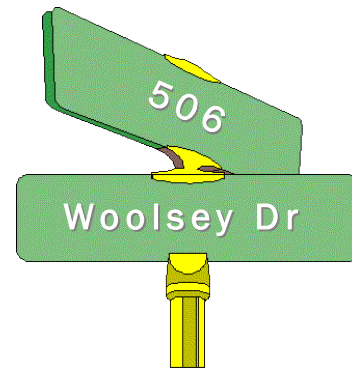
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Tales from 506 Woolsey

CINDY KIRK

It is finally fall! I love fall, it has always been my favorite time of the year. Mary says that is because I celebrate all of October as my birthday “month.” She is of course right. Fall represents the end of the summer months and the beginning of another season of change. The weather is getting cooler and leaves are changing (at least they are changing in other parts of the country...here in Dallas we are still mowing our lawns.). October always marked that season of change for me, and this year, that has never been truer. Many of you know that I lost both my parents this year, and in that respect, this October is much more difficult because it will be the first time I haven't had them around for my birthday, or for their birthdays. Daddy and I were both born on October 11th, so on our birthday, we would gloat about it. Without fail, even when Mom was suffering from Alzheimer's, she told me about the day I was born and how I interrupted the OU-Texas game. The doctors actually brought a radio into the delivery room so they could listen to the game during the delivery. Instead of celebrating birthdays in the month of October, we are in the process of selling the home I grew up in. It all seems to have happened so fast that it is hard to believe. Daddy died after a very courageous battle with breast cancer – so men out there, it is not just women who get breast cancer! Since October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, be sure and have your doctor check you as well! Mom passed away after a lengthy battle with Alzheimer's. The one thing that evil disease wasn't able to steal from her was her love for my Dad. After she lost Daddy, she just wanted to be with him, and being the strong willed woman she always was, she found a way to join him. Losing our parents or a loved one is something all of us have to experience sooner or later; as unfortunately, time won't stand still.



The experience of cleaning out my parents' home and getting it read to sell actually reminded me of buying our home in Wynnewood. When we purchased our house, we bought it from the original owners. Much like my parents, the Brachman's were elderly and no longer able to care for their home by themselves. When we bought the house, it needed a lot of updating, cleaning and general TLC. On the day we closed, we immediately drove over to the house only to find that it was an absolute mess! Rather than clean out the house, they had left old furniture, food on the cabinets, expired nasty food in the refrigerator, along with some other science experiments. Overall, to say the house was filthy, and just a bit overwhelming is an understatement. However, the one shining spot was that their daughter had left us a letter about her parents. In the letter, she told us how much the house had meant to her parents. Her dad had been an orphan after losing both of his parents in the flu epidemic of the early 1900's. She told us how much they loved their home because it was the first and only home her dad had ever owned. She wanted us to make the house she grew up in into our home. She wished us happiness and good memories because her childhood home were good memories for her. I think we have achieved that goal, and being a part of this neighborhood helped to make that happen.

We saved the letter she left for us because it is a part of the history of our home and of the people who helped establish our neighborhood. In turn, I

Continued on next page

have written a letter to the new owners of Mom and Dad's house. I have omitted certain historic facts, because frankly, the egg stains are long gone...but I have told her about Mom and Daddy. I told her about Daddy serving in World War II and that Mom was the best teacher I have ever known, both in life and as a school teacher. I have told her about the fun and love we were lucky enough to experience growing up in that house. I have told her how our neighbors were part of our family and that I hoped that house would become a home she loved and cherished as much as my parents did. I hope she is as fortunate as we were and that her new house will become the home of her dreams. It is time for the torch to pass on to another family, but I will always be grateful for the love and home my parents gave me unconditionally. I think I have taken the legacy they left me and have created my own safe haven at the house I call home.

Treasurer's Report

RICHARD LONDON

As of September 30, 2009

Beginning Balance @ 12/31/08:	\$8,982.54
YTD Income:	\$6,512.00
YTD Expenses:	<u>\$6,732.18</u>
Ending Balance @ 9/30/09	\$8,762.36

General Account Balance:	\$6,124.73
Security Account Balance:	<u>\$2,637.63</u>
Total	\$8,762.36

We just want to remind you that WNNA is supported by your donations. Our work to better our neighborhood is directly connected to the level of your support. Please remember to donate generously at the general meeting! If you would prefer to mail your donation, you can send it to: WNNA Treasurer, P O Box 3872, Dallas, TX 75208. Don't forget! Wynnewood North Neighborhood Association is an IRS designated 501(c 3) non-profit organization so all of your donations are tax deductible. If you ever need a receipt for a donation to the neighborhood association, just let me know and I can provide you with one.

Calendar of Events

WNNA

Mark your calendars now!

- October 22: General Neighborhood Meeting
- October 24: Fall Wander
- December 12: Christmas Party



Check our website

Logon to our neighborhood website for up-to-date information about events and news.

www.wynnewoodnorth.org

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