



WYNNEWOOD N O R T H

January 2005

Volume 10 Issue 1

President's Voice

JOSEPH HERNANDEZ

Inhale. Exhale. Breathe in. Breathe out. The holidays are over, the outdoor decorations are down (hint hint) and a New Year is upon us. Wynnewood North was certainly a sight of holiday magic. The twinkling lights, the glittering garland, the deer – my gosh, the deer! Everyone did a great job in keeping with the holiday spirit and making the neighborhood feel special. That being said, a special thanks goes to Tom and Victor for hosting the neighborhood holiday party. Their efforts were tireless and the company was warm and cheery.

There has been so much going on in the past year that I hope everyone was able to participate in some capacity. If you have not had the opportunity to do something for your neighborhood, then now's your chance. As we welcome the new year and move forward in 2005, I would like to remind everyone that the WNNA Board elections will be held at the General Meeting on January 20 (please make note of the new location). All board positions are open and we need neighbors to volunteer for various positions and projects. I

have enjoyed my time on the board and now encourage you to view each position as an opportunity to continue the momentum we have created.

There are only bigger and better things that can be accomplished with the help of new members. Please consider this a firm ask to get involved, attend the meetings, make a financial contribution or just stay in touch with your neighbors. Things don't get accomplished on their own, and it's been through the tireless efforts of the WNNA Board members that have made it possible. I would like to personally thank each member of the board for their time and commitment to the neighborhood and for making the past 2 years so pleasant. We truly worked together as a team! Adios...

Meeting Offers Opportunity To Get Involved In WNNA

WNNA GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, 20 JANUARY • 7 P.M.
TOP O' THE CLIFF CLUB, 12TH FLOOR,
OAK CLIFF TOWER

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR FOR
2005 GENERAL
MEETINGS:

- APRIL 21
- JULY 21
- OCTOBER 20

NEW LOCATION!

We no longer meet at the Chamber Building; now enjoy the vista from the top floor of the Oak Cliff Tower.

Each meeting is held at 7 p.m. on a Thursday, and lasts about an hour and a half.

Contact Us



www.wynnewoodnorth.org



Wynnewood North
Neighborhood Association
PO Box 190153
Dallas, TX 75219



info@wynnewoodnorth.org



Yard of the Month

NOVEMBER DECEMBER



2004 WNNA Board of Directors

- President: Joseph Hernandez
- Vice President: Dean Rose
- Treasurer: Tom Reeves
- Secretary: Cindy Kirk
- Crime Watch: Terry Thomas
- Activities: Sue May
- Publications: Greg Gormley
- Communications: Lisa Tully
- Beautification: Dwayne Privott
- Advertising: Paula Graves
- OOCCL Rep: Robert Curlin

November: 506 Woolsey Drive
Cindy Kirk & Mary Scherer

December Holiday Light Judging:

1. Dwayne Privott and Lance Ivy at 520 Monssen,
2. Cindy Kirk and Mary Scherer at 506 Woolsey,
- and 3. Ramon Garcia at 631 Mayrant



Real Estate Update
By Dean T. Rose, GRI, e-Pro

The following statistics were pulled directly from the local MLS for sales reported to local real estate brokerage companies effective 12/31/04. Private sales typically are not included in MLS figures and may raise or lower averages. The highest reported sale in 2004 was \$260,000 and the lowest reported sale in 2004 was \$160,000. Average number of days on the market for 2004 was 40. Low dollar per square foot was \$ 62.89, high was \$133.00, average was \$ 103.72. There have been 14 properties sold during 2004, 5 currently active, 1 under contract in 2005. Current activities range from a low of \$179,900 to a high of \$349,900.

Thanks to our Amazing Block Captains!

Many thanks to all of the block captains for everything they did during 2004. They have been quick to pass out flyers, newsletters and directories, welcomed new neighbors and helped update the neighborhood directory.

If you are new to the neighborhood and have not been contacted, please call your block captain or check the Wynnewood web site (www.wynnewoodnorth.org). That way we can update our neighborhood directory with your contact information.

We could use a few more block captains particularly on Bizerte and Shelmire. Please e-mail Lisa Tully at lisa@wynnewoodnorth.org if you would like to volunteer.

WNNA Board Positions Available!

If you've often wondered what you could do to help your neighborhood become safer, neater and greener, then you should consider serving on the WNNA board of Directors. The duties of the Officers are as follows:

The President shall preside over regular and special meetings of the membership of the WNNA as well as over meetings of the Board of Directors, shall conduct the day-to-day business of the WNNA, and such matters as directed by the Board of Directors, shall represent the WNNA on public occasions, and make committee appointments for the effective conduct of the work of the WNNA.

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President, shall perform such functions as requested by the President.

The Treasurer shall collect, safeguard, disburse and make periodic reports of all funds collected in the name of WNNA.

The Secretary shall record the proceedings of all meetings, maintain adequate records of the WNNA



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activities, conduct such official correspondence as shall be required and shall perform such duties as requested by the President and/or the Vice-President.

The Activities Director shall have charge of all social activities of the WNNA, including visiting new residents of the neighborhood, orienting neighbors to the WNNA and distributing Welcome information packets.

The Publications Director shall perform such functions as requested by the President, and shall act as coordinator for the WNNA publications. This includes activity for a newsletter but is not limited to only a newsletter.

The Communications Director shall assist in the gathering, research and dissemination of information as requested by the President on any issue of relevance or importance that might affect WNNA and shall act as the WNNA liaison between the neighborhood Block Captains and the WNNA Board.

The Advertising Director shall be responsible for soliciting the purchase of advertisements for display in any publication produced by WNNA, and will also assist in obtaining sponsorship or advertisements for any special projects or activities promoting WNNA.

The Crime Watch Director shall carry out all the responsibilities of the neighborhood crime watch, including the organization and maintenance of all crime watch materials of the WNNA.

The Beautification Director shall be responsible for promoting and encouraging the beautification of the neighborhood, including the Yard of the Month, and making necessary recommendations to the Board of Directors regarding special projects for the beautification of the neighborhood.

Old Oak Cliff Conservation League Representative ("OOCCL") shall act as the WNNA liaison between OOCCL and WNNA.



Dean T. Rose, GRI
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Crime & Statistics

TERRY THOMAS

Happily, the last quarter of the year began with no reported crime in our subdivision in October.

November, however, brought us back down to earth as the thieves realized Wynnewood North is too good an area to ignore. That month brought a theft of a chandelier from a rental home in the 500 block of Heyser, a theft from a home in the 600 block of S. Manus in which named suspects removed a large number of household items, a burglary of an attached garage in the 700 block of Bizerte that occurred in the early afternoon hours, and a vandalism complaint in the 1700 block of Shelmire.

The year ended with the theft of Christmas decorations in the 600 block of Mayrant and a residence burglary in the 600 block of Monssen in which entry was gained thru a bedroom window during the day.

There were a total of 38 criminal offenses reported in Wynnewood North in 2004. They included 15 thefts, 4 auto thefts and 8 burglaries. Our most serious crimes were an attempted robbery in the 600 block of Mayrant and 2 robberies, one in the 300 block of Monssen and the other at 500 N. Manus.

Last year's total compared to 46 crimes in 2003 and 40 in 2002. Over the last half dozen years the crime rate appears to have remained fairly constant, with residents usually reporting 35 to 45 crimes a year. While not a cause for celebration, at least we have not seen the increases other parts of Dallas have experienced.

The Crime Watch remains convinced that the approach needed to our problem is not one of crime fighting but rather crime prevention. There will never be enough tax money or police officers to address the crime rate in Dallas. The answer is to educate ourselves so as to not become a victim in the first place. To that end we have invited a Dallas Police officer to speak on crime prevention at our January general membership meeting.

In closing, our thanks go to a number of Wynnewood North residents who made up large cookie trays during the holidays for the 3 shifts at the Southwest Operations Police Station. Silver Poteete,

Kaye Olds, Helen Schneider, Winnie Kaspar, and Janice Coffee did a wonderful job of displaying their baking expertise.

Please plan to attend the general membership meeting on January 20th where a large map of Wynnewood North will plot 2004 crime. Until then call the crime watch at 214-967-5157 to keep abreast

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We Say Goodbye....

We lost two long time neighbors recently.
HELEN HEAD formerly of 715 Mayrant, and
JERRY BEVETTS of 720 Monssen.

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Tales from 506 Woolsey

CINDY KIRK

Civic Duty Calls...

Recently I was summoned for jury duty, that wonderful civic duty we are asked to fulfill periodically. If you are like me, you groan with dread when you open your summons. Believe it or not, it never once crossed my mind to not show up for the jury cattle call down at the state court. No matter how busy I am, or how much I want to avoid jury duty, I know that serving on a jury is a privilege and one of the freedoms we have because we live in the United States. (Please play patriotic music while reading this paragraph).

Anyway...I can't stand to be late, so I arrived in the main jury room at 8:10 a.m. for the 8:30 a.m. Jury call. I have since decided that roughly 70% of the population can't tell time as potential jurors straggled in past 9:00 a.m. It dawned on me that it was going to be a long day when the entire room of those present were all called up for one jury panel. Jurors 4 through 954 were all sent up to the 192nd which is Judge Hartman's court. There were 70 of us, which makes me wonder where all the other missing jurors were - you would think with jury numbers ranging from 4 to 954 there would be a few more folks. As we all squeezed onto the hard benches outside the court to await further instructions, I took a look at my fellow jurors. In my mind, I was already dismissing several potential jurors for cause. For instance, shorts and a sleeveless shirt are NOT appropriate court room attire. If you want off a jury, be sure and wear that ensemble and yawn frequently. I guarantee the attorneys will dismiss you at some point.

After we had all taken our assigned seats, Judge Hartman finally let us in on the news that this particular trial was a medical-malpractice case dealing with allegations of a wrongful death. The trial was estimated to last 3-4 weeks. There was a collective groan throughout the room. Obviously I wasn't the only one excited about fulfilling my civic duty.

Finally, the Plaintiffs' counsel began Voire Dire (this is the process I call "weeding out the idiots"). Unfortunately, the Plaintiffs' counsel believed the jury panel had a combined I. Q. of 63. He began by explaining the meaning of the word "bias." His explanation was simply fascinating...he recited the story that as a small boy, he just loved Wonderbread, and when he went to the grocery store, he begged his Momma to buy him Wonderbread...but no matter how much he begged, she just refused to buy the poor

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child one measly loaf of Wonderbread because she was "biased" towards Wonderbread...heavy sigh...did I mention I knew it was going to be a long day? The juror next to me mumbled under her breath that there was no way a native Texan would buy Wonderbread when Mrs. Baird's was available...I think she missed the point of his story, but I could be mistaken. As I was listening to the Wonderbread saga, I thought the plaintiff's attorney was a highly educated dweeb who didn't have a clue. Obviously being denied a loaf of Wonderbread was devastating to him as a child - enough so that he dredged it up to a captive audience, but I couldn't care a less.

This was the same attorney who later asked everyone in the room if they had ever had a bad experience at a hospital. Forgive me for thinking this - but if you have to go to the hospital, hasn't something bad already happened? I mean, who among us books vacation time at club Baylor Hospital? However, you would be amazed at the responses this type of question draws from potential jurors. Everything, and I do mean everything you never wanted to know about anyone's surgery or health condition was given in explicit detail for everyone to hear. The term "too much information" was an understatement. I have to admit the attorneys all kept a straight face when for the umpteenth time the juror on the 4th row explained to us that passing a kidney stone was worse than giving birth to a baby. I was dying to turn around and ask him when it was he gave birth...but was actually able to keep my mouth shut.

My absolute favorite "over share moment" was the woman who raised her hand about 6 hours into the process. She calmly explained that she could not sit on those hard benches for one minute more as her hemorrhoids were "absolutely screaming" and she needed to leave. Judge Hartman looked up from the bench, took one look at her pained expression and called a 10 minute recess. When we came back, she was gone, and I was envious that I hadn't thought to throw myself on the mercy of the court with that creative excuse.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Day one dragged on. Rather than a reasonable lunch break, Judge Hartman graciously gave us a two hour break when in reality, we all wanted a thirty minute break in the hopes we would be released sooner. After lunch it was back to those hard benches in the courtroom. I really think they should invest in some seat cushions for those benches. The poor fellow sitting next to me had a runny nose. It ran constantly, and he apparently didn't have any tissues, or a handkerchief available to wipe his nose. This guy seemed to be oblivious that his nose was running. How can that be? Surely if your nose is running off your face you are at least vaguely aware of it...I mean...worse case scenario use your sleeve!!! On the positive side, he didn't smell.

The plaintiff's attorney was still questioning the potential jurors after lunch, but had moved on to the topic of "mental anguish." He was very concerned if we felt we could award damages for mental anguish. By that point, I felt like telling him I should be awarded damages for mental anguish

Newsletter Advertising Rates & Information

Advertising can be purchased on a yearly or issue-by-issue basis. Businesses can promote special events, sales, etc. with a single issue ad, but discounted rates are offered for yearly contracts.

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caused by his long winded, mind numbing questioning. As day one dragged to a close, it was readily apparent we would be back the next day. After teasing us with one last break - wherein they were supposedly selecting a jury, we were all called back in. Out of the 70 potential jurors, 40 were sent home. The rest of us were told to report back the next morning.

Day Two: We arrived at 9:00 a.m. and spent the entire day sitting outside the courtroom on those hard benches. No breaks per se, and no lunch break. We all watched the time tick away. A mob mentality started to form. Several of us were enviously eyeing the police officer who had thought to bring a pillow to sit on. Out of boredom, I entered a note in my Palm Pilot to "bring a pillow for my butt," then I entered a note to remind my co-worker Jean to "bring a pillow for her butt," as she had jury duty the following Tuesday. We were reprimanded by no less than two adjoining courts for being too loud and were told we were disrupting their courtrooms. On of the potential jurors growled at the bailiff to tell it to Judge Hartman...the mood had definitely

darkened. Finally, at 2:00 p.m. our bailiff came out to the hallway to announce that several of us would be questioned individually. A ripple of relief moved through the group, at least they knew we were still alive. One by one fifteen individuals were called into the court to be questioned by either the plaintiffs, defendants or Judge Hartman. As I watched the potential jurors being called in for additional questioning, I realized these were the finalist. Panic hit when I heard my name called...it was my last chance to convince someone... anyone...that they didn't want me on their jury.

For the record, I answered every question honestly...yes I felt I would try to be impartial. Yes I would listen to all the facts before making a decision and yes, I worked for a law firm that primarily specialized in defense work. Was it possible that I would have a bias towards the defense? (This question from my favorite Wonderbread attorney), well duh!!! What do you think? I looked at him and responded "Well, I do work for a defense firm...and frankly, I'm not particularly fond

(Continued on page 7)

Treasurer's Report

TOM REEVES

Year to Date As of
December 31, 2004

BEGINNING BALANCE	
YEAR ENDING 2003	\$6,790.75
INCOME	\$5,495.00
EXPENSES	\$5,179.59
ENDING BALANCE	\$7,106.16

(Continued from page 6)

of plaintiff's who overload our judicial system." Bingo! Get out of jail free card!! That was the magic answer, and I was off the short list.

Overall, I am amazed by how well the jury process works. To put it nicely, there were lots of strange, strange people on the jury panel. The attorneys did a good job of narrowing their selections down to those final 12 individuals who would do their best to be fair and impartial - regardless of the fact that serving 3-4 weeks was most certainly inconvenient and possibly a hardship for them as well. The best thing about our jury system is that the majority of the people selected for a jury take their duties seriously. They listen and weigh the evidence and truly try to do the right thing. In the end, the system worked, and with all of its negatives, and problems, we still have the best justice system in the world. (Please hit play on the patriotic music)

A Common Courtesy....

When you are out walking in Wynnewood enjoying beautiful landscaping and yards, help to keep it that way. Curb your dogs along Gannon Park or bring along baggies to remove any "accidents" that occur in neighbors' yards.

Its not just courteous, it's the law.

(Dallas Pooper Scooper Law Ch. 7, Sec. 7-21-2)

New Year's Resolutions You Can Keep

Are you sick of making the same resolutions year after year that you never keep? Why not promise to do something you can actually accomplish? Here are some resolutions that you can use as a starting point:

1. Gain weight. At least 30 pounds.
2. Stop exercising. Waste of time.
3. Read less. Makes you think.
4. Watch more TV. I've been missing some good stuff.
5. Procrastinate more. Starting tomorrow.
6. Don't date any of the Baywatch cast.
7. Spend more time at work, surfing with the T1.
8. Stop bringing lunch from home: I should eat out more.
9. Don't jump off a cliff just because everyone else did.
10. Get in a whole NEW rut!

Courtesy of:

Steven M. Sultanoff, Ph.D. Mirthologist and Clinical Psychologist

But Seriously... For a Healthier New Year

Goal 1: Improve your diet. Swap one daily carbohydrate — a bagel, doughnut or chips — for a low-carb alternative. Introduce low-fat versions of dairy and other foods, one per week. Have water within reach and refilled throughout the day.

Goal 2: Get regular exercise. Walk around the block a couple times a week; jump rope 20 times during your favorite TV show; try 10 sit-ups before your shower. Take three-minute breaks to stand and stretch if you sit for long periods. Make workouts convenient. Pack the gym bag; leave your running shoes at the foot of the bed; arrange to meet an exercise partner.

Goal 3: Maintain good health guidelines. Plan now to schedule health screenings and dental cleanings. Keep a file that contains a log of your health care visits and copies of lab work. Inform you physician of the frequency of any pain, head and muscle aches or stomach troubles... there may be a simple solution at hand.

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A Great Time For All

The annual WNNA holiday party was a smashing success again. Guests bid on many fun and exciting items in a silent auction to help raise funds for neighborhood projects. Carriage rides through the 'hood provided a great chance to talk with friends old and new, and gave the best view of the wonderful decorations and lights.

Special thanks go to Tom Froehlich & Victor Elam, Tim Rupp & Tom Reeves, SMU Meadows School, Mr. Paul J. Williams, Viking Culinary Arts Institute, and all other individuals and organizations whose generous donations made this event a success!

Be sure to watch the newsletter and web site for our next social event and be part of the gang

