



WESTWORDS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



The Westwood Civic Association Celebrated Our First Hundred Years 1911- 2011 and We're Still Going Strong!
Join our email list by contacting- info@westwoodcivic.org

January, 2012

www.westwoodcivic.org

Volume 42, Issue 1

President's Message:



2011 was a banner year in Westwood, and 2012 can be even better. (Please see the list of accomplishments and goals in this newsletter.) Our level of activity is high, and our tireless volunteers never seem to run out of ideas to improve our neighborhood. But we need more people to get involved. We need you. I would hope that each of our residents could set aside a little time each month just for the betterment of Westwood.

Over the past several decades, our neighborhood has seen growth, prosperity, decline, despair, anger, action, volunteerism, renewal, and a new hope for the future. Somehow, it seems that the perception of Westwood around the region is often negative, even though we know better. I recently saw a comment about the Gamble house, and the writer could not understand why anyone would want to save any building in "that" neighborhood. Some of those perceptions might change if they spent some time here. They would see people walking their dogs, pushing strollers down tree-lined streets, or talking with their neighbors. Or they might see children walking to school, shoppers shopping, and people working in their yards. In other words, we are living our lives in Westwood, and it's a wonderful place to be.

We just need to continue to accentuate the positive, and eliminate the negative. That is why we must fully implement the **Westwood Strategic Plan**. (You can view it at westwoodcivic.org) A part of the plan is to reverse the 60/40 ratio of rental/owner occupied housing, but there is much more. Westwood School will re-open this year. Our plan calls for making this a premier (magnet) school, so our children and grandchildren don't have to travel for a decent public education. For the 2010-11 school year, Westwood School had the following 8th grade student proficiency percentages - Reading- 69% Mathematics- 41.4% Science- 27.6%. That is unacceptable for a school that bears the name of Westwood.

Another goal is to work with the Cincinnati Police Department to develop a formal plan to address specific

goals related to quality of life and safety issues. That process is well under way, and we will be meeting with CPD Chief James Craig to discuss and implement it.

The city of Cincinnati will be finalizing a new comprehensive city plan this year, and we need to make sure our plan is incorporated into it.

Another very important project we need to tackle this year is to re-activate our CourtWatch Program. CourtWatch is a process of tracking criminals and advocating for our neighborhood in the justice system, making sure that crimes are properly prosecuted. It requires some computer work, some organization, communicating with prosecutors, and sometimes going to court to follow cases through the system. It's a program that works by showing authorities and criminals that we will not tolerate crime, that we are paying attention to the cases, and that we expect results.

And let's not forget the incredible **Westwood Citizens on Patrol Program**. These volunteers patrolled our streets for more than **ELEVEN HUNDRED HOURS** during 2011.

There- now you have it- plenty of opportunities to get involved, and we welcome your ideas. Come on out to a meeting- the third Tuesday of every month, at 7PM. We will try to make the meetings interesting and as short as possible.

I'll see you around the neighborhood...

Jim McNulty

ELECTION NOTICE

The Westwood Civic Association's annual Board of Directors election process has begun. Each year, five of our fifteen board positions are up for election. A nominating committee has been selected. The candidates names will be announced at the **FEBRUARY 21, 2012** General Membership meeting, and the ballots will be mailed to the membership in March. Officers will be selected by the new board in April. If you wish to join the WCA board of directors, email info@westwoodcivic.org or drop a note to WCA- PO BOX 11466 WESTWOOD OH 45211.

What has the Westwood Civic Association done for you in 2011?

Many times changes occur around us in a gradual manner. We see the final result, but forget what went into affecting the change. During the past year, your Westwood Civic Association (WCA) has been involved in many projects designed to improve your quality of life. As the New Year begins, let's look at some of the accomplishments of 2011 and also look at the plans for the upcoming year(s).

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2011

- ♣ WCA was instrumental in the new fire house to be located on Harrison near McHenry. The new house will include an ambulance.
- ♣ Westwood Block Watch has expanded to include more than a dozen streets.
- ♣ After many serious accidents, WCA helped to get a 4-way stop at Lischer and Epworth Avenues.
- ♣ We instituted several neighborhood clean-up projects, including Epworth Court, Glenmore & Glenway and Glenway & Boudinot. We also did a clean-up in East Westwood.
- ♣ The Westwood Community Garden is well underway with more than half the beds rented.
- ♣ The Westwood Art Show (3rd annual) was the biggest and best yet!
- ♣ WESTCURC was successful in acquiring the Bell Building (Epworth and Urwiler) for the new home of the MADCAP Puppet Co. currently on Glenmore Avenue.
- ♣ WESTCURC purchased, remodeled and resold several single family homes in the "summit" of Westwood.
- ♣ We have been working to clearly establish the official boundaries between Westwood and our surrounding neighborhoods.
- ♣ Several blighted apartment buildings have been demolished at the direction of WCA.
- ♣ Board members have donated many volunteer hours to the St. Catherine Festival, WESTFEST and other community events.
- ♣ With dogged persistence, WCA saw City Council pass the new Chronic Nuisance Ordinance 9-0.



PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

- ☺ We look forward to the completion of the Montana and Harrison Avenue restructuring projects.
- ☺ WCA plans to work toward reducing multi-family apartment buildings and increasing the number of single family homes on larger lots.
- ☺ We anticipate the re-opening of Westwood School as a premier learning center that our neighborhood can be proud of.
- ☺ We plan to start an advertising campaign to tell potential homeowners that we are here, we are building a great community, and we have your new home.
- ☺ We look forward to the construction of the Bracken Woods Lane single-family housing community.



If you are an energetic and concerned resident interested in giving back to make our neighborhood better, please get involved with your WCA. We are a dynamic group interested in making things happen. We meet monthly on the third Tuesday at 7:00 PM at the historic Westwood Town Hall.

Westwood Historical Society Membership Liz Kissel

January is the official start of the membership year for the Westwood Historical Society. Current members will receive a renewal form in the mail. Dues are \$15 per household. If you are not a member and would like to join, send a check to (make payable to the *Westwood Historical Society*):

The Westwood Historical Society
PO Box 11095
Cincinnati, OH 45211

Please provide your name (and the names of other people in your household), address, phone number, and e-mail address if available.

Members receive a newsletter 5 times per year. Membership meetings are usually held at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month, nine months of the year (no meetings are held in January, June, or August).

Mark Your Calendars.....

The 6th biennial Westwood Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday, April 29. We are still lining up homes and sponsors and will be looking for volunteers. If you have questions or ideas, contact Liz (661-1156), Adam (Adam@sanregret.com), or Dave (dzelman@frch.com).



WESTWOOD COPP

If It Looks Like a Duck. . .

One of the ways that everyone can make Westwood a safer neighborhood is to be aware of what is happening on the street where they live. If a vehicle pulls up and someone is sitting in the car, they might be taking a cell phone call. But, just as likely, they may be casing the neighborhood or waiting to make a drug transaction. If the person in that car does not live in your neighborhood and they are there longer than seems reasonable, get a description of the vehicle (color, make, model, 2-door or 4-door, or any other identifying features, such as tinted windows or a dented bumper) and call District 3 (352-3574). In our training as Citizens on Patrol members, we learn that if "it looks like a duck, swims like a duck, and quacks like a duck, then it probably is a duck." So, if something doesn't look right on your street, it probably isn't! Contacting the police gives them a reason to question that person idling their car on your street. If that person is casing your neighborhood, waiting to make a drug transaction, or stalking someone, then it pays to call the police *before* the crime occurs. By making that telephone call, you are making Westwood a safer neighborhood.
So if it looks like duck. . . .

Bruce McClung
Administrative Coordinator
Westwood Citizens on Patrol

Wood Fires Can Cause Harmful Pollution

Hannah McCartney, Public Relations Intern, Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency

It's that time of year when it's most tempting to curl up next to a warm fireplace. The crackle and sizzle of a wood fire on a cold winter night can be charming, but be sure to consider the implications on air quality before lighting a fire. Wood-burning produces smoke containing fine particles called particulate matter (PM) that can affect both the lungs and the heart.

Smoke released from wood-burning stoves and fireplaces omits large amounts of PM because the wood is a solid, making it difficult to burn completely or efficiently. The size of the particles released is linked to their health risks; the smaller the particles, the greater the potential for them to get deep into the lungs or even enter the bloodstream. Long-term particle pollution exposure has been linked to a variety of problems, according to the U.S. EPA, including:


- decreased lung function
- irregular heartbeat
- development of chronic bronchitis
- increased respiratory symptoms, including irritation of the airways, coughing, difficulty breathing

In fact, wood-burning fireplaces omit the greatest amount of PM into the environment over other heating sources. Cleaner heat options, such as electric heaters, gas or oil furnaces or pellet stoves are good alternatives to burning wood in a fireplace. If you do choose to use a fireplace, be sure you use dry, well-seasoned wood to reduce the amount of PM released and maintain a hot fire.

Consider the air you breathe this season before lighting wood fires. For more information on ways to contribute to healthier air, visit SouthwestOhioAir.org. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) (@SWOhioAir).

January 2012

Westwood Branch Public Library
 3345 Epworth Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45211 - 513-369-4474

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Closed	Noon – 8 p.m.	Noon – 8 p.m.	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	Noon – 8 p.m.	10 a.m.- 6 p.m.	10 a.m.- 6 p.m.
1	2 Chicks with Sticks Teens & Adults 6:00 p.m.	3 Introduction to E-Books Adults 7:00 p.m.	4	5 Computer Open Lab Adults 10:00 a.m. Registration Required	6 Introduction to E-Books Adults 10:00 a.m.	7 Will Party Teens 2:00 p.m.
8	9	10	11 Movers & Shakers Ages 1-4 10:30 a.m.	12 Chicks with Sticks Adults & Teens 6:00 p.m.	13	14
15	16 Read To Reel Movie All Ages 2:00 p.m.	17 Library Babies Ages 6-18 mo. 6:30 p.m. 	18 Movers & Shakers Ages 1-4 10:30 a.m.	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 Movers & Shakers Ages 1-4 10:30 a.m.	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Cincinnati Recreation Commission

WESTWOOD TOWN
HALL RECREATION CENTER
3017 Harrison Avenue Cincinnati,
Ohio 45211 662-9109 Marlene Trapp

MADCAP PUPPETS IN JANUARY - Save the date. Saturday, January 28th at 2 pm. \$5/pp Children must be accompanied by an adult. **"JACK AND THE GENTLE GIANT"**

A sequel to the famous fairy tale where in each episode the giant is bigger than the last. Stories include: "The Stone Giant"; "The Heartless Giant"; and "The Brave Little Tailor".

Fun for the whole family!

POOL MEMBERSHIPS: - ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON LINE. They are no longer included in 2012 Center Memberships. There is an "early bird" discount for pool memberships until March 1st, 2012. You must pay on line through PAY PAL. Visit cincyrec.org/crc/paypal

New rates for Pool Memberships are: \$20/youth or Senior (\$15-early bird) or \$35/Adult (\$25-early bird). Family Memberships--up to 6 people-- are \$75 or (\$65-early bird).

Previously issued memberships in 2011 will be honored until they expire.

AFTERSCHOOL DAY CAMP Monday--Friday 2-6 pm \$185/month/child.

SEWING WITH CHERYL - returned Tuesday, September 11th at 3:30 to 5 pm for ages 6 and older. \$40 for 6 weeks, continuous throughout the school year.



FRIDAY FAMILY SEWING/CROCHET CLASS - 6:30-8:30 pm. Bring your own machine or use one of ours. \$25 a month. You can learn to sew or crochet.

OLD FAVORITES: - Harmonica & Guitar - for all ages, TaeKwonDo, Yoga, Belly Dancing, Clogging and all the fun kid's classes: Home School Art, Lot's of Other Art Classes, Clay Hand Building, Cooking, Girly Girlz, Jewelry Making, Crochet, Double Dutch, Chess Club, and many more.

FOR SENIORS - Mondays at The Presbyterian Church 9am - 3 pm. At the Center, we have Quilting, Wii Play, Exercise, Line Dance, Crochet, and more in the works.

CHECK www.cincyrec.org for a complete list of **WINTER PROGRAMS**. Pre-registration is necessary for most classes to occur.

OR stop in the Center to pick up a program pamphlet.



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**Westwood Civic Association Monthly
Statement December, 2011**

Revenue

CD Interest Earned*	\$414.07
INN	289.06
Membership	140.00
Banners	40.00
Miscellaneous	1.46
Total Revenue	\$884.59

Expenses

Newsletter	\$405.32
Christmas Party	122.24
Make-A-Difference Day	60.00
WTH Gardens	56.49
Postage	26.40
Miscellaneous	13.83
Total Expenses	\$684.28

CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE \$9,861.85

SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE \$8,943.32

*CD Retired on Dec. 7, 2011

Submitted by Valerie Baumann, Treasurer

**Upcoming
Westwood Civic Association
Meetings & Events**

1/10 Steering Meeting 2/14 Steering Meeting
1/17 General Meeting 2/24 General Meeting

Steering Committee Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Westwood Town Hall.

Regular meetings are the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Westwood Town Hall.

Angelo's Automotive

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WCA OFFICERS

Term: April 2011 - April 2012

PRESIDENT-

*Jim McNulty.....662-8560

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Melva Gweyn..... 481-0761

VICE PRESIDENT-

*Becky Weber.....661-3216

RECORDING SECRETARY-

*Mary Jenkins.....451-8004

TREASURER-

*Valerie Baumann.....

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY-

*Irene McNulty.....662-8560

***WCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Joe Henke

*Sr. Ann Rene McConn

*Jerry Hildebrand

*Jill Minor

*Joel Kimmel

*John Sess

*Mary Kuhl

*Karen Strasser

Monthly Ad Rates

\$100.00.....	Full Page
\$50.00.....	Half Page
\$25.00.....	Quarter Page
\$10.00.....	Business Card
\$50.00.....	Insert

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with funds supplied by the
Neighborhood Support Program,
local advertisers, and membership dues.

For information on placing an ad, contact:
Becky Weber, Editor
bmimmy@aol.com or

Westwood Civic Association
P.O. Box 11466
Cincinnati, OH 45211

Westwood Citizens on Patrol

A COMMUNITY BASED DIVISION OF THE CINCINNATI POLICE



For a membership application
or to report issues of concern

WestwoodCOP@aol.com
OR
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- Speaking to your garden club or other group meeting



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513-922-8720 fax

Up off Glenway in
Powell Bluiding
(Brick Bldg. Behind Collions Auto)

WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER: _____

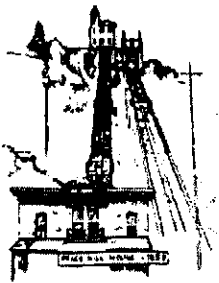
E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD (VOTING MEMBERS): _____

CALL ME FOR: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES _____ FUND RAISERS _____

Annual dues are \$10.00 per household. Make your check payable to "Westwood Civic Association" and mail to:
WCA, P.O. Box 11466, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211

Or you could save a stamp and bring this with you to the next meeting- we'd be happy to see you!



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3351 Glenmore Ave.
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Westside tavern at the corner of Glenmore and Applegate for 17 years.

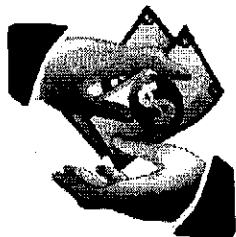
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2012 DUES REMINDER!

If you haven't already done so, it's time to renew your Westwood Civic Association Membership.



The mailing label on this newsletter contains a year above your name. If your label reads "2011", then it's time to renew. If it reads "2012", then your dues are current.