



🌿 President's Message 🌿

By Lynn Johnson

Spring Clean-Up Arriving

We expected to hold our WNA Semi-Annual Clean-up on April 29. At our monthly meeting, we learned that the trash trucks had been taken for that week-end (Christmas-in-April and other events). And so, we decided to put it off for one week. That means that we will be holding it on **Saturday, May 6**. All the more time to get ready for it.

It will start for most of us at 9:00 am. However, there is a contingent of people that are excited about getting rid of the concrete in the mini-park(s) at the corner of 10th, T, and Vermont. In order to get that concrete hauled away, this task must end at noon. Therefore, the truly-dedicated will be starting any time after 8:00 a.m. to take out that concrete. Those of you willing need to meet at that site.

We're also going to need some good carpenter helpers to build (and re-build) the wooden tree-boxes along 9th Street. Otherwise, there are no rules (and very little managed structure) so you need to determine what you can do that day to make our community look better. Start with the front and rear of your own

April 2006 Meeting

WNA Neighborhood Newsletter

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house and clean or spruce up what needs to be done. That's what this day is about.

And yes, we were able to cajole a roll-off dumpster. It is being donated by Rogers Brothers Services for free. It will be placed on 10th Street, where Westminster Street meets it. It should arrive by 9 am and we will have it until it is full or until high noon, whichever comes first. We cannot put any chemicals, paint cans, tires, or computer-related items in either the dumpster or the trash-truck sites.

We were also able to get some City trash truck to come and pick up smelly items and other bags of trash (no bulk trash) from only 3 street corners. They are,

- 1) The corner of 10th & T St.;
- 2) The corner of 9th & Westminster; and
- 3) The corner of 10th and S Street.

Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, while bad people will find a way around the laws.

Plato

WNA Contacts:

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Treasurer & Playground Coordinator: Chuck Baxter (home) 202-232-7751; (work) 202-273-7140; email: cbaxter@aol.com

WNA Website: Deborah Kobes email: Deborah@our-dc.com

🌿 917 T St. Development 🌿

As most of you know from our prior newsletters, the vacant lot at 917 T Street (which is really the alley running from 9 1/2 Street extended to T St.) is part of the Home Again projects and it was included in a bundle for development. The successful bidder on that bundle came to our meeting and presented his tentative plans.

It will be a 2 unit condo, with parking for 4 cars in the rear. They are not asking for any zoning changes or deviations from the historic preservation requirements. They presented an impressive display of what it will look like--3 stories and slightly higher than the existing housing. Some of the residents raised alley easement and other concerns and they are currently discussing the specifics of those issues with the owner.



🌿 Playground 🌿

It appears that we will be able to get the sprinklers installed that we've been hoping for. The Montgomery Irrigation Company had given us a bid of \$5,250. The WNA Board was able to negotiate a 20% discount from them due to the community nature of this project, which puts the price at \$4,200. This was accepted by WNA and we will now schedule the installation. For those of you that are counting, yes, this does mean that we might end up with \$800 to spend on shrubs and plants after the sprinkler installation.

There have been complaints that some people are starting to hang in the Playground

(along the west wall) in the mid-to-late afternoons to smoke dope and express their romantic feelings to each other (yes, teenagers). Some of them have been quite hostile to others wanting to use the Playground. If this occurs on your watch, you should be calling the police at 311 (if threatening, then 911) so that they can start logging it in their books &/or take action.

There have also been reports of increased dog droppings in the Playground that the owner(s) have not been scooping, despite our easy disposal methods there. It may be only one dog owner. If you see anyone not scooping after their dog, try and discuss our policy or contact a WNA officer with a description and we will do it.

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Trash Cans/Recyclables

For those of you that are new to our community, you need to put your trash cans out after 7pm on Sun. nights & Wed. nights (not before) and take them in the next evening (by 7pm). [The blue recyclable trash-can goes out only on Wed. nights.] Some of your neighbors travel the alleys and it is most helpful if the trash cans are not there. This is also the time of year when the City issues tickets for trashcans put out too early or not taken in in a timely manner.

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🌿 WNA Treasurer's Report 🌿

Financial Statement for April 2006

Bal. as of April 1, 2006	\$6,643.69
Receipts: Dues	65.00
Disbursements:	0.00
Bal. as of April 1, '06	\$6,708.69

Balance Sheet

Total	\$6,708.69
Less Playground Fund	2,536.98
Total in General Fund	\$4,171.71

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~ Vermont Ave. Spruce-Up ~

As many of you have already seen, the Eastenders, in conjunction with WNA members help, held a garden party planting on April 22 along Vermont Avenue. The many volunteers put down an inch of top soil, planted perennials, and then topped it all off with several inches of mulch. It was a rainy day, which, in many ways, made it more fun. It was ended with a brunch at Jeff Willis's house to further organize the future maintenance and other matters. Our City Council Chair (and in-the running for our next Mayor) attended and was visibly impressed with our community spirit.



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~ 2005 WNA Membership Dues ~

Remember that the financial part of your membership dues were payable on the first day of the calendar year. If you haven't paid your 2006 WNA dues, please do so now so we can record you as a member for this year. As to the non-financial part, it is one hour/month on community work. You can carry it forward during the year, but can't carry it past the end of the calendar year.

While the \$5 or \$15 membership fee will not make us rich, what is more important is that we get to count you as a member when we ask the various City agencies and other entities to help us improve our community. Take a moment now to mail or drop your check in Chuck Baxter's mailbox: 914 Westminster Street, NW, WDC 20001.

Current WNA Members

- Anderson, Todd
- Baxter, Chuck
- Bell, Simon
- Blackwell, Emmanuel
- Calhoun, Romes
- Crumm, Leonard & Lofton, Moses
- Dailey, Kevin
- Donelan, Clare
- Dunavant, Reid
- Edwards, Charles & Doris
- Hightower, Betty
- Johnson, Lynn
- Jordan, Sharon
- Jordan, William
- Lewis, William & Michelle
- Lilley, Kirk
- Mack, Tim & Patsy & David
- Marchand, Anne
- Meyer, Kerry & Misa
- Ousley, Susan, Marquan, Andre, Sarah & Bruhier, Stillman
- Perko, Margie
- Rawlings, James Mott
- Rubin, Nilmini and Joel
- Seaver, Geoff & Lucia
- Spaulding, Phil/Coffin, Lynn
- Woods, Alisha
- Woods, Yvette

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Next WNA Meeting

WNA will hold our next regular monthly meeting on May 23 (remember, the 4th Tuesday of every month) at 7:00 p.m. in the Playground (if bad weather, then at 922 Westminster St., NW). Put it on your calendar now.

Adopt-A-Block

We now have volunteers for Westminster & T Streets so we are going to apply to be the sponsor of this program. We need a volunteer for the north side of S Street in order to include this area in our application. Contact Lynn Johnson this week if you can do this.

Volunteer Projects

Playground Sprinkler System – We need volunteers to supervise the contractor for the installation of the sprinkler system.

Sidewalks – We need a volunteer to get Wash. Gas to repair the damage they did to our sidewalks and treeboxes when they installed our new gas lines.

Historic Preservation Infractions – We need a volunteer to follow up on the infractions we obtained on developers/owners who installed improper windows and are still out-of-compliance. Amoy McGhee is handling some of these, but we need other volunteers for the remainder.

Free Mulch

The Eastenders didn't use all the mulch they had for their planting project, so you may now go after it for your personal use. (It's not so much mulch as it is compost, but it works well). It is on the SW corner of Vt, T, and 10th (sitting on the edge of that mini-park there). See Lynn if you need a wheelbarrow.

THE DUPLEX

BY GLENN MCCOY

