



WECA MEMBERSHIP

By Chairman Doug Kyle

After compiling the WECA membership list into a computer database, I have found that membership is 265. There is truly a growing interest in this wonderful historic area.

I would like to thank Betty Biden for helping me with the membership list and for making the transition to computer a smooth one.

Membership is open to everyone living in or owning property in the West End of Cambridge. Yearly dues are \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Talk to your neighbors about joining! The more members we have the more we can do for our community.

If you have a question about membership or want to join this vital association, you can call me at 410 228-5257 or email WECA at weca@usa.net.

TREASURER'S REPORT

11/17/98 through 3/16/99

11/17/98 Balance Forwarded	\$1,092.07
Income: Dues, Donations	\$560.00
Expenses: Chamber Dues, Xmas Contest, Printing	
Newsletter, Stamps	\$769.88
3/16/99 Balance on Hand	\$882.19

CHRISTMAS WINNERS

Christmas 1998 in the West End was celebrated more brightly than ever before. The newest addition of icicles dripping off roves accented the many lighted window ornaments, door wreaths and lawn decorations which lit up the neighborhood. Winners of the annual West End Christmas Decorating Contest were: Mr. & Mrs. Roland Pete, 208 Glenburn Ave., Mr & Mrs Milford Foxwell, 104 Glenburn Ave., Mrs. Lee Dodson, 1006 Glasgow St., Mrs. Phillip Cannon, 313 Talbot Ave. Honorable Mentioned were Mr. & Mrs. Hamilton Brake, 1302 Hambrooks Blvd., Mr. & Mrs. George Burton, 502 Edlon Park, and Mr. & Mrs. David Tomey, 100 High Street. Awards included U.S. Savings Bonds given by WECA, Jenkins, Block & Associates, The Bank of the Eastern Shore and a Gift Certificate from Mark's Hardware. Congratulations and appreciation to all.

COMPLIMENTARY ISSUE

Last May, the West End Citizens Association Board of Directors voted to distribute this Association newsletter to members only. In an effort to inform all West End households of the Association's mission and activities to promote and improve our community, this Spring Issue of the WEST END NEWS is being distributed throughout the area. If you would like to receive future issues, which are published quarterly, please complete the membership form, include an annual dues payment and return to WECA. All West End residents, property owners and business owners are eligible to join.

Membership	
West End Citizens Association P.O. Box 13 Cambridge, MD 21613	Family – \$10.00 Individual - \$5.00 Due Date _____
Name(s) 1. _____ 2. _____	
Address _____	
Telephone # _____	
E-Mail Address _____	
Amount Paid _____ Date Paid _____	
Return this portion with payment to above address.	

WECA Membership Card
Name(s) _____
Address _____
Amount Paid _____
Expiration Date _____
Keep this portion as your membership card. Donation is tax-exempt.

If you would like to sponsor an issue of the West End News, we would love to hear from you.
weca@usa.net
410 228-5257 410 228-7927

DID YOU KNOW? The West End Citizens Association is incorporated as a non-profit organization, and donations are tax-deductible up to \$5,000!

WEST END NEWS

Email: weca@usa.net

Web Site: www.dorchesterlibrary.org/wecanews

Spring 1999

NEW STUFF...

Thanks to one of our member's passion for computers, there are three things that will hopefully make WECA more productive. First, the WEST END NEWS has a new look and is now printed "in house"! Secondly, there is a new way to get in touch with the association, through their new, monitored, email address: weca@usa.net. Thirdly, all of the membership information is now in an easy to update database. Hope you enjoy!

5TH ANNUAL MEETING

April 20, 1999

On Tuesday, April 20, at 7:00 P.M., WECA will convene its 5th Annual Meeting in the downstairs room of the **Dorchester County Library** to recognize accomplishments and to elect members to the 1999 - 2000 Board of Directors. Refreshments will be served. The Nominating Committee, Chaired by Doug Robbins has submitted the following slate of nominees for the Board.

President: Marjorie Hull
 Vice President: Lee Weldon
 Secretary: Holly Short
 Treasurer: Barbara Williams
 Membership: Doug Kyle
 Neighborhood Oversight: Carroll Dail
 Publicity: Tom Schuerger
 Special Projects: Open
 Community Pride: Fiona MacDonald
 Past President: Judd Vickers

Come meet with your neighbors, and enjoy an evening out while supporting WECA, the only organization that speaks for the West End and our residents.

SPRING YARD SALE

Annual Spring Yard Sale

Saturday, June 12, 7:00 a.m. until.....

It is not too early to think about spring-cleaning. Put June 12 on your calendar now!! The West End neighborhood yard sale

provides an excellent opportunity to clean out attics, closets, sheds and side porches of unwanted but "too good to throw away items". This sale serves a dual purpose of neighborhood clean up while giving participants some ready spending cash for summer projects. To participate, West Enders need only set up a yard sale in their own yard. The WECA Community Pride Committee will compile a list of yard sale locations and advertise addresses free of charge in all local and regional newspapers as well as on WCEM. The rain date will be the following Saturday. To register, call **410-228-7927** and give your name, address, and telephone number and tell WECA you want to participate. Your call will be returned. Watch the newspapers in April for further information on this successful annual event. Past yard sales tell WECA that this event annually draws many shoppers not only from Cambridge, but also from surrounding areas.

HISTORIC GUIDELINES

Historic Design Guidelines Coming

The process to develop Historic Design Guidelines continues. The Guidelines are the last step in the process to protect the many historic homes and commercial buildings of Cambridge, a great majority of which are located in the West End. When WECA first approached City Council to recognize the Historic District which was defined by the U.S. Department of the Interior in the early 1980s, Commissioner Octavene Saunders asked that WECA contact all owners of Historic properties in the District to ascertain their desire to be included.

In response, WECA developed and mailed a survey to the 700 plus owners. A 30% response was received which included only one negative response. The originals of these surveys are on file in City Hall. The overwhelming positive response spurred WECA's efforts to have the Historic District recognized by the City. The process, started by WECA in 1994 resulted in the Ordinance that set up the Cambridge Historic Preservation Commission chaired by Armond Hayward, II. Under his guidance the Commission set two priorities for action; 1. Define the Geographic Boundaries for the District. 2. Develop Design Guidelines for renovation and restoration of historic structures.

During the 5 years following the inception of this effort, the City Council and Commission have held a number of well attended Public Hearings, meetings with WECA, Dorchester Chamber of Commerce, the Maryland Historic Trust, numerous other Historic Preservation Commissions throughout the state, sought legal advice at both the state and local level, worked closely with the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions and the Cambridge Department of Public Works. Along the way, the Commission has kept City Council informed and involved in its activities.

The Commission completed its first priority. It is WECA's understanding that two major activities must happen before the second priority, City enactment of Historic Design Guidelines will become a reality.

WECA expects that a Public Hearing on the Historic District Guidelines will be scheduled within the next few months. A mailing is prepared to notify all historic district property owners of the date, time and location when it is scheduled. **Please make every effort to attend.** It is the overwhelming turnout to previous public hearings that has brought the Commission to fruition and Historic Boundaries set. **Do not let our efforts go uncounted for at this last opportunity to show our support for protection of our greatest asset, the historic structures that grace the West End and set our neighborhood apart from other areas of Cambridge.**

WHAT'S UP?

A stroll through the West End uncovers many buildings under construction. The Glenburn Garden House for senior citizens has broken ground in the 500 block of Glenburn Ave. Completion is scheduled for September 1999. In June, Site Manager Lisa Baker (410-228-6880) will accept applications for occupancy of the 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. This is a moderate-income development.

Harbor Haven II at 302 Academy St. is under roof. It will offer 12 more condos for sale on Cambridge Creek. The YMCA indoor pool construction moves ahead at 201 Talbot Ave., Executive Director Don Herres looks for a June completion date. Pull out that swimsuit and test the waters.

On March 16, the Planning and Zoning Commission granted conditional approval to the Oakley Beach Townhouse project which will construct 38 two and three bedroom townhouses on the vacant property fronting on the Choptank River, Belvedere Ave. Hambrooks Blvd. and Oakley St.. This is a high-density development that includes a swimming pool, club house and boat slips. On March 22, the City Council voted to delay the

conditional approval until they received answers to a number of questions they raised.

WECA is concerned that the character of the West End, which is predominantly a single-family home neighborhood, is being threatened. We congratulate City Council for proceeding with hiring a consultant to review City Zoning. For 40 years, the waterfront from the Creek Bridge to Great Marsh has been zoned R4, permitting construction of 4-story multiple housing structures for high-density occupancy. This has persisted, even though the 1974 City Comprehensive Plan and the 1998 Comprehensive Plan has stated that the City should seriously review Zoning to bring it into compliance with the prevailing land use in the area. WECA feels that Zoning in the West End is a prime example. Theoretically, over time, if the zoning on West End's waterfront is not changed, high-density condos, townhouses and apartments can cover the entire waterfront. Inevitably, the Hyatt Chesapeake Resort will draw other large developers to Cambridge. The question remains, **"Will a zoning change happen before the West End loses any more waterfront to large multiple housing developments?" Would a building moratorium on all City R4 Zoning until review by the Zoning Consultant be appropriate?**

WELCOME BASKET

Welcome Basket Big Success

In April 1998, the Welcomers of West End Committee began delivering baskets of information, gift certificates, discount coupons and gifts to newcomers to our neighborhood. To date 22 newcomers have been welcomed. Following the Easter Holiday, the committee will deliver 30 more baskets. Many thanks to Rick Travers of Center Market who shrink-wraps and decorates the baskets. Each basket is a treat to the eye. Recipients find the baskets acquaint them with city and county services, merchants and the many resources Cambridge and Dorchester County offer to those of us who are fortunate to live on the shores of the Choptank River. Has someone moved into your neighborhood from out of town? Call **410-228-7927** with the name and address, and the Welcomers will put it on the basket delivery list.

Thanks to all of the contributors of this issue of the West End News!

It is our intention to bring you a quality newsletter. If you have any comments or suggestions, feel free to join WECA and let us know.

PROPERTY TRANSFERS

West End Property Transfers

November 12 - March 15

Dennis B. Souder & Donna M. Casarotti, 904 Locust St. \$68,000; John R., Jr. & Cindy L. Cantville, 204 Choptank Ave. \$49,000; John L. & Lorette C. Ondrick, 205 Mill St. \$135,000; Fernando A. & Maritza R. Sanchez, 5 Somerset Ave. \$85,000; Deborah A. Bell & Gregory K. McCray, 1111 Locust St. \$110,000; Andrea M. Giuffrida, 111 Choptank Ave. \$46,000; Suzanne L. Huntman, 105 Belvedere Ave. \$95,000; Secretary of HUD, 113 West End Ave. \$60,000; Michael A. & Beverly A. Robinson, 702 Church St. \$49,500; John W. & Melissa A. Sard, 10 Willis St. \$57,500; Charles W. & Jane K. Parks, 400 Leonards La. \$36,625; Robert S.& Petrina F. Swan, 100 Oakley St. \$205,000; John D. Bradley, 308 Somerset Ave. \$93,000; James A. & Patricia Goodyear, 210 Market Sq. \$125,000; Kangaj D. & Brenda J. Mij. 427 Oakley St. \$59,000; Richard L., Jr. & Mary P. Toebbe, 706 Locust St. \$59,000; Paul J. & Elaine E. Perrera & Michael D. & Mary Rose Joyce, 513 Glenburn Ave., Unit 101 \$67,000; Jeannette M. Holman, 102 Glenburn Ave. \$125,000; Devon K. & Jennifer T. Leap, 114 Glenburn Ave. \$60,000; Dean P. & Patricia A. Raymond, 606 Water St., Unit 4 \$58,000; Edward C. & Bonnie B. Griffith, 1001 School St. \$61,500; Wingate & Dalrymple, LLC, 1108 Holland Ave. \$59,000; Robert M. Benson & Janet N. Roessler, 402 Edlon Park Dr. \$100,000; Bruce H. MacSorley, 305 Talbot Ave. \$46,500; Terry A. Anderson, 323 Willis St. \$65,000; William A. & Lorene G. Brown, 210 West End Ave. \$41,000; Robert S. Larimer & Melissa D. Walter, 122 Willis St. \$65,000; Susan F. Kunkel, 117 High St. \$190,000.

Neighborhood Oversight

You and your sidewalk

By Chairman Doug Robbins

In case you missed it, the City Council recently passed Ordinance No. 864 to amend Section 4-38 of the City Code in order to clarify any questions regarding the responsibility of property owners for the maintenance of abutting sidewalks. Since it has now been clearly articulated by the City government that your sidewalk is the responsibility of the property owner, why not take the time to acquaint yourself with your sidewalk and what may be required to bring it into compliance with the City Code.

It has always been a source of amazement why some otherwise dedicated homeowners do not seem to care what their sidewalks look like, let alone whether they are safe for pedestrian traffic.

In this day of quick fix sprays developed to kill virtually anything that grows, there is little excuse for letting an unsightly mess grow between the cracks, and power trimmers easily take care of the edges. Moreover, it is undeniable that such care complements the hard work (and expense) devoted to the rest of your property; and the resulting appearance enhances the value of your investment.

Therefore, if you are interested in how you can help improve your neighborhood, look no farther. But, if you are already among the group that considers sidewalk maintenance part of your routine chores, then perhaps you could help your neighbor get started, or volunteer your service if your neighbor is elderly or handicapped. The good will generated could be contagious. Let's start an epidemic!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By Ed Stewart

Over the past six months, there have been a number of crimes committed in the West End area. At the last WECA meeting some interest was expressed in forming a Neighborhood Watch Group. Is there still interest in forming such a group? The purpose would be to develop and distribute educational information on residential crime prevention and report through the Newsletter all criminal activity in the WECA area.

If you are interested in being part of the Neighborhood Watch Group, please call Ed Stewart at 410-901-2966. We will hold a meeting of the Group prior to the Annual Meeting in April.

DORCHESTER YMCA

New Facilities at the Dorchester Y

If you've not been to the Dorchester County YMCA recently, you owe it to yourself to stop by and see the new Wellness Center, with all its brand new top of the line equipment. Also, for all you Mermaids and Mermen in the county, the new indoor swimming pool is well on its way to completion.

For us older citizens in particular, a light workout program at the "Y" really does wonders for your lifestyle. Support your "Y" by joining for only \$9 a month, and get fit!

HISTORIC TOURS

Over the years, the West End Citizens and Pleasant Day Adult Medical Day Care have worked together to refine our 40 Minute Bus Tour of Historic Cambridge. The first tours of 1999 will run in conjunction with the Annual Dorchester Chamber of Commerce Festival to be held in July.