

## The Recycling Issue

By Timothy Zinn, AWCC President

New Year's Greetings! With the start of 2012, I have once again included a copy of the city's current Refuse/Bulk and Recycling Pickup Schedule in the *Gazette*. Please retain this flyer and refer to it throughout the year. If you already received a copy of the calendar, pass this one along to a neighbor that may not have received one, including tenants, if you have any, or residents in multi-unit apartment buildings. By observing the guidelines, collection times, and calendar contained therein, we can have a huge positive impact, not only on the appearance of our neighborhood, but also on our local environment. All too often people forget the collection/recycling schedule and refuse and recycling are left in alleys and on streets for a week or more. If you put your recycling out on the wrong day or if you miss your collection time, PLEASE do not leave trash and recycling bags on the curb until the next week's collection. You could be cited for this and it also has a huge negative impact on our neighborhood. Additionally, refuse should be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 pm on the night before collection and no later than 6:00 am on the day of collection. Should our collection day (Monday) be on a holiday, refuse will be collected the following day.

I again encourage all of our residents to recycle. Recycling is easy with the city's "single-stream" system, which eliminates the need to separate items. The recycling program accepts glass, aluminum and bi-metal cans, paper, cardboard, and plastics marked 1-5. For additional information and a PDF of the collection calendar and guidelines, please follow the links below:

Collection Schedule:

<http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pw/assets/12-collection-schedule-southern-northern.pdf>

Collection Guidelines:

<http://www.city.pittsburgh.pa.us/pw/assets/12-refuse-recycling-collection-guidelines.pdf>

Additionally, I encourage property owners, residents, and merchants to regularly sweep their respective sidewalks and curbs, including both streets and alleys. AWCC's Friends of Allegheny West Committee organizes several neighborhood clean-up days throughout the year, but this is not enough to keep our neighborhood clean. A commitment of a few minutes a day, three or four times a week could make an enormous impact on all of our streets and alley ways.

Finally, this promises to be an exciting year for AWCC and the Allegheny West neighborhood. While we will inevitably be faced with our share of challenges, we also have the opportunity to participate in, or lead, some exciting planning development projects, and our

## AWCC

### January / February Calendar

#### AWCC General Membership Meeting

Calvary United Methodist Church  
(Beech Avenue Entrance)

**Tuesday, January 10 @ 7:30 pm**

**Tuesday, February 14 @ 7:30 pm**

#### Combined Housing & Planning and North Avenue Committees Meeting

857 Western Avenue

**Tuesday, January 17 @ 7:30 pm**

**Tuesday, February 21 @ 7:30 pm**

#### AWCC Executive Committee Meeting

812 Western Avenue

**Tuesday, January 31 @ 7:30 pm**

**Tuesday, February 28 @ 7:30 pm**

### 2012 AWCC Board of Directors

The election of the 2012 AWCC Board of Directors took place at the November 8 Membership Meeting of the Civic Council.

The 2012 Officers & Board of Directors are:

<b>President</b>	<i>Timothy Zinn</i>
<b>Vice-President</b>	<i>Martha Helmreich</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Bob Griewahn</i>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<i>Cathy Serventi</i>
<b>Membership</b>	<i>Tom Barbush</i>
<b>Ways &amp; Means</b>	<i>Carole Malakoff</i>
<b>Housing &amp; Planning</b>	<i>John DeSantis</i>
<b>Communications</b>	<i>Gloria Rayman</i>
<b>Property</b>	<i>Doug Sprague</i>
<b>Friends of AW</b>	<i>Marv Callison</i>

December 10. Thank you one and all for an absolutely spectacular performance on the 30th anniversary Christmas Tour!

I think by all accounts, this was one of the best tours we've ever staged.

I don't think we've had such great weather since at least 2006, which played a big part in driving walk up ticket sales - as did the lovely article in the PG by Kevin Kirkland.

Everything seemed to run rather smoothly, exactly as it should. Of course there were a few hiccups here and there but when you think about the enormity of staging this type of event with all of the different tasks, events and "staff" that simply must be coordinated and seamless to the guest - done entirely by volunteers - it's absolutely astounding and a tribute to the work ethic and talent of everyone involved!

I will admit, I was pleasantly surprised by the large number of walk-in guests (those who did not purchase tickets in advance). I have been at the ticket table for the past 7 years and this year had more walk in guests by far than any other year out of the past 7.

If you have an opportunity to work with the public you know that if you only have one or two complaints, you've had a successful event; positive comments rarely make it back to the organizers. However this year I received 5 unsolicited comments singing the praises of this 30th anniversary tour! I will be going back to each of these folks to see if we can use their comments in our promotional materials for the 2012 tour.

We welcomed 1,465 guests to our neighborhood this year! Over 430 of these guests visited the train museum at the end of the tour. We had 41 guests enjoy a brunch before their tours; 21 guests started their tour with a high tea; and 15 lucky guests enjoyed a delicious gourmet meal at the conclusion of their tour. (The brunches, teas and dinner were served in private residences not open to the regular tour guest.)

What does this mean to our neighborhood? This tour is our biggest fundraiser of the year the net proceeds from the 2011 tour will be approximately \$30,000! This is money that goes into development projects in our neighborhood. A brief synopsis of development projects funded by our tours will be included in the February Gazette.

Civic Council and the Northside Leadership Conference, has been meeting every couple of weeks to keep the momentum going. And we do have momentum; though the work is stuff most folks would not see. Here is where we currently stand:

- **31 properties and the traffic light at Brighton are affected** (we had to add 904 Western which was not in the original list but is now being rehabbed).
- **12 properties have already had new service locations roughed-in**, meaning that the work in and on the building has been nearly completed by Rock Electric.
- **The next steps for the 12 roughed-in properties** include the City's Electrical Inspector approving the work, and then Duquesne Light will send a crew to switch the electrical feed from the old front location to the new alley location. These are being scheduled over the next several weeks. As the service is switched, the wires on Western WILL COME DOWN! Not all at once mind you, but as each property is newly connected to the alley service.
- **9 properties are READY for rough-in** and this work is proceeding over next several weeks. Then they'll go through the same inspection and new service connection, with MORE WIRES COMING DOWN!
- **20 properties need Right of Way (ROW) easements** to permit wires to cross one property to reach another. Staff of the Northside Leadership Conference, Jon and/or Marcus, are working on this.
- **ZERO properties have had to pay for relocation work.** When we began this project, the goal was to manage the funds carefully and use any savings to defray the costs for any properties that faced relocation issues. That wasn't guaranteed at the outset, but we've made good on that goal.

The biggest difficulties are related to the "Courtyard Properties" (832-840 Western) and the "McIntosh Row Block" (800-820 Western). Both are difficult because they are landlocked - that is, there is no easy way to get power from the alley to each of the structures. But we have made great headway working with Duquesne Light's engineers and Rock Electric. We certainly have a new appreciation for how complex the electrical grid system is and the very complex set of rules that govern utility lines in an urban setting!

We are poised to complete this project in 2012 - we'll keep you posted on the details.

General Membership Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month

Meetings are held in the Chapel of Calvary United Methodist Church, 971 Beech Avenue (side porch entrance).

January 10	July 10
February 14	August 14
March 13	September 11
April 10	October 9
May 8	November 13
June 12	December 11

Housing & Planning Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

Meetings are held at the Home & Garden Show conference room at 857 Western Avenue (enter from Galveston Avenue).

January 17
February 21
March 15 ** NOTE DATE CHANGE
April 12 ** NOTE DATE CHANGE
May 15
June 19
July 17
August 21
September 18
October 16
November 20
December 18

Executive Committee Meeting – LAST Tuesday of the month

Meetings are held at the AWCC office at 812 Western Ave.

January 31	July 31
February 28	August 28
March 27	September 25
April 24	October 30
May 29	November 27
June 26	December 27 **NOTE DATE CHANGE

neighbors and friends on Wednesday evenings at the Elks Lodge, 400 Cedar Avenue. This is not a league, so there is no commitment to be there every week. We do, however, need a weekly turnout of about 10 people. The bowling alleys are located on the second floor of the lodge. Bowling begins around 6:00 PM and we typically bowl three games. The price is \$2.50 per game and includes shoe rental—what a deal! Come to bowl or just socialize in the second floor lounge and cheer on your neighbors. Bowling is followed by the weekly performance of the Pittsburgh Banjo Club—every Wednesday, always open to the public, and never a cover charge.

*Timothy Zinn*

**Allegheny West Neighborhood Mixer**

**Friday • January 13, 2012 • 6 p.m.**

**Modern Café**

**862 Western Ave.**



**AWCC Membership**

***Join Today!***

To become an AWCC member, send your Name, Address, Phone Number and email address to:

Allegheny West Civic Council - Membership Chair  
812 Western Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

Annual Dues are \$3 and Lifetime Dues are \$45. Checks should be made payable to AWCC.

**Pay for your membership online with your credit card! Go to [www.alleghenywest.org](http://www.alleghenywest.org), click on the “Tours” button (it is set up to take payments for our Christmas tour) and then click on the Christmas Tour logo. Scroll to the bottom for the “purchase” link.**

1. READING OF DECEMBER 2011 MINUTES

2. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

**Treasurer's Report**

3. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

**A. Housing & Planning/North Avenue Committees**

North Avenue Sub Committee

- Value Added Foods Building—UPDATE
- Stables Building

Western Avenue Project

- Project Update

West Ohio Street and Ridge Avenue Bridges

Allegheny Commons Pedestrian Bridge

Light of Life Relocation & Expansion

**B. Membership**

- AW November Mixer—Modern Cafe, Friday, January 13, 6:00 p.m.

**C. Property**

- Realtor report

**D. Ways & Means**

- Christmas House Tour-Recap
- 2012 Fundraising Activities

**E. Friends of Allegheny West**

**F. Communications**

4. NORTHSIDE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE REPORT

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS



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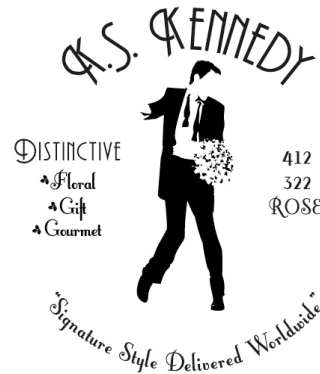
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**THE GAZETTE**

The monthly newsletter of the Allegheny West Civic Council

Editor: *Gloria Rayman*