

Being Pretty and Popular is *Hard Work* By Timothy G. Zinn, AWCC President

...and of course, with this title, I am referring to our neighborhood and the efforts of all of our volunteers that keep it looking beautiful and that plan the events that we all enjoy. The latest of such events was the Independence Day Picnic/Block Party. Even torrential downpours could not dampen the spirits of those attending. Again, as with the Memorial Day party, last Monday's event attracted well over 100 neighbors, friends and guests. For those who may have missed the celebration, the highlights included a children's bike parade that kicked off the day, a pig roast and picnic dinner in the 900 block of Beech Avenue, music, and, of course, an amazing fireworks display. The true highlight of the event was the pig roast, which took days of planning and preparation. I would personally like to thank all of the volunteers that made this event possible. I hesitate to name our volunteers as I would unintentionally yet unavoidably omit one or two, but your efforts are greatly appreciated for creating one of the best Independence Day parties in my memory.

The only event of the day that had to be cancelled due to the weather was the outdoor movie, which will be held later this month. Please see the see page 2 for more info and be sure to email me with your vote for the "feature presentation."

The popularity of our neighborhood and the success of our events will inevitably cause us to experience growing pains. The attendance at our past two block parties has been due to the tireless efforts of our Membership Committee, which, I might add, has been doing an outstanding job. These events have attracted increasing numbers because they are fun, well-planned activities and because the Membership and Communication committees have been doing an excellent job of canvassing the neighborhood with flyers prior to the event. Big events like these never go off without a hitch, however (weather for one). As they increase in popularity, we may need to look at different ways to organize and host these activities. Since alcohol is usually present, we certainly need to be mindful of the responsibilities that go with it. We have recently added music and, although we have received no complaints, we need to be mindful of potential noise impacts. I am open to your suggestions on how to continue to improve these community events that are for the enjoyment of our entire neighborhood. We will hear a report from the Membership Chair on the July 4th Block Party at next Tuesday's General Membership Meeting, and we welcome your suggestions then, or you may email me your comments if you are unable to attend.

On a final note, AWCC's officers decided that the Independence Day Block Party would be a good opportunity to sign up new members. Our Recording Secretary, Carole Malakoff, volunteered to do this and through her efforts, several people joined AWCC (for the nominal annual membership fee of \$3.00 or a lifetime membership fee of \$45.00). Unfortunately, we did not have a printed list of existing members at the picnic, so if you are already a member and were asked to join that day, please do not be offended. The Civic Council does maintain a list of annual and lifetime members in our Western Avenue office.

I continue to appreciate the opportunity to serve this neighborhood. I look forward to receiving your comments at tzinn106@msn.com.

Allegheny West July Mixer
Friday, July 15, 6 p.m.
Modern Café—862 Western Ave.

JULY/AUGUST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AWCC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Calvary United Methodist Church (Beech Ave. entrance)

Tuesday, July 12 @ 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 9 @ 7:30 p.m.

HOUSING & PLANNING/NORTH AVE. COMMITTEE MTG

Tuesday, July 19 @ 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 16 @ 7:30 p.m.

AWCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MTG

944 Western Ave.

Tuesday, July 26 @ 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 30 @ 7:30 p.m.

AWCC MEMBERSHIP MTG. AGENDA TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2011 7:30 P.M.

1. READING OF JUNE 2011 MINUTES
2. REPORTS OF OFFICERS
 - Treasurer's Report
3. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
 - Housing & Planning/North Avenue Committees
 - Development Proposals*
 - Stables Proposals
 - North Avenue Sub Committee*
 - Value Added Foods Building
 - Western Avenue Project*
 - Project Update
 - West Ohio Street and Ridge Avenue Bridges*
 - Membership
 - 4th of July Block Party—report/discussion*
 - AW July Mixer*
 - Saturday Tennis Club/Clinic*
 - Labor Day Picnic/Block Party*
 - Property
 - Realtor report*
 - Sale of 816 Western Ave.*
 - Ways & Means
 - Friends of Allegheny West
 - Neighborhood Cleanup: July 16, 9:00 a.m.*
 - Communications
4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - Heinz Field additional seating—UPDATE
 - Stage AE Sound Study
 - NSLC NID Steering Committee
 - Noise Task Force
 - Light of Life expansion/relocation
5. NEW BUSINESS
6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Outdoor Movie Series Begins This Month

Cast Your Vote for the 'Feature Presentation'

Because of the downpours on July 4th, our first-ever outdoor movie had to be postponed. We will try this again within the next few weeks, most likely on a Friday or Saturday evening. The movie will be shown in the side yard of 843 Beech Ave. and projected onto the side of 849 Beech. Thanks in advance to Bob and Nonie and Gretchen and Dan for making this possible.

Please vote for your pick from the following movies by emailing me at tzinn106@msn.com with "MOVIE" as the subject line. In your email you may suggest other movie selections to be included in next month's list:

Gaslight (Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, Joseph Cotton); **The Valley of Decision** (Greer Garson, Gregory Peck, Donald Crisp); **Little Foxes** (Bette Davis, Herbert Marshall, Teresa Wright); **The Girl in the Red Velvet Swing** (Joan Collins and Ray Milland); **A Place in the Sun** (Montgomery Clift, Shelley Winters, Elizabeth Taylor); **East of Eden** (James Dean, Raymond Massey, Julie Harris and Burl Ives); **Meet Me in St. Louis** (Judy Garland, Margaret O'Brien, Mary Astor); **Gentlemen Prefer Blondes** (Jane Russell, Marilyn Monroe, Charles Coburn); **The Long, Long Trailer** (Lucille Ball, Desi Arnaz, Bill Thompson and Marjorie Main); **A Room with a View** (Maggie Smith, Helena Bonham Carter, Daniel Day-Lewis).

Meet the Ways & Means Committee by Tim Zinn

As we continue to highlight one of the AWCC's standing committees each month to encourage greater participation in the organization, this month we feature the Ways & Means Committee. According to AWCC's Bylaws, *the Ways & Means Committee shall be responsible for all fundraising activities of the Civic Council.*

This short description however belies the magnitude of the work involved in planning and executing the events that are necessary to generate the funds we need to keep the Civic Council operating. One of the largest responsibilities is organizing the Christmas House Tour, which is our largest fundraiser of the year.

This past April, the committee held a very popular and successful tour, *A Flavor Tasting: Wines & More*, which featured tours of six homes or gardens where guests enjoyed a variety of wines paired with several specialty foods including olive oils, salts, waters, and chocolates. In past years, the committee has also organized summer garden tours and the *Spirits of Allegheny* Halloween tour.


Committee meetings are held on an as-needed basis, usually a few weeks to several months prior to these major fundraising events. Planning is already underway for the Christmas House Tour. If fundraising and special event planning are your forte, this is the committee for you.

The current chair of the Ways & Means Committee is Gloria Rayman, a resident of the 1000 block of Galveston Avenue. Gloria has been doing an excellent job of organizing our long-standing fundraisers, such as the Christmas House Tour, as well as planning new and exciting events, like the Wine Tasting Tour. These events are major undertakings, some of which require dozens of volunteers. Please contact Gloria if you are interested in volunteering for any of these events or if you have ideas for other fundraisers.

Each month, I will continue to highlight one of our committees. As you become familiar with the duties and functions of the various committees, I encourage you to contact our committee chairs and join one that interests you or would benefit from your time and talents.

July Neighborhood Cleanup

Please meet at the AWCC office (812 Western Ave.) at 9 a.m. on Saturday, July 16 for our July neighborhood cleanup. We'll provide the bags and gloves, please bring your rakes, brooms and clippers.



IF ANYONE'S GOING TO LOSE SLEEP, IT'LL BE US.

Our 24-hour service means that you can rest assured. Because whenever you need help with your furnace, air conditioner or heat pump, we'll get it to you.

Whatever it takes.

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THE GAZETTE

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