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# ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

December 2014

## A Message From President Bob:

*Life is divided into three terms - that which was, which is, and which will be.  
Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present, to live better in the future.*

--William Wordsworth

This is my final President's Message to you, as my term ends this month. The Allegheny West Civic Council has accomplished a great deal in the last two years, largely due to the folks who sit on its executive committee. Among other things, we've completed the sale of the McIntosh Row properties, fought a few battles in front of the Zoning Board of Adjustment, helped beautify the neighborhood, and provided several social activities for our members. I want to thank everyone who has lent a hand during the past two years, from those who volunteer on the house tours to those who bring potluck dishes to the summer block parties. But, my special thanks go to the people who have stepped up to the plate and helped out on AWCC committee work. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

I now leave you in the very capable hands of Cathy Serventi. Cathy has already done a great deal for the Civic Council, from her hard work modernizing the production of both the Christmas and summer house tours, to serving as AWCC treasurer for the past two years. She brings intelligence, humor, energy, and a fresh perspective to the position, and the neighborhood will be all the better for it. Good luck, Cathy!

I'll see you all around the neighborhood. Have a great holiday season, everyone.

Bob Griewahn  
President, AWCC

**Please be aware that there will be no AWCC General Membership Meeting this month.**

**The Gazette**  
The monthly newsletter of the Allegheny West Civic Council. Editor: Fran Barbush  
Letters, Submissions, Advertising and other notices:  
[Gazette@alghenywest.org](mailto:Gazette@alghenywest.org).



### AWCC December Calendar

AWCC General Membership Meeting

Calvary United Methodist Church  
(Beech Avenue Entrance)  
**CANCELED**

Housing & Planning Committee Meeting  
(845 N. Lincoln Avenue)  
Tuesday, December 16 @ 7:30pm

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting  
806 Western Avenue  
Tuesday, December 30 @ 7:30pm

Neighborhood Clean Up  
806 Western Avenue  
Saturday, December 27 @ 9:00am

Committee members and homeowners have been working since September to put this event together. Now there are several things you can do:

### Volunteer opportunities

Tour guides are still needed---contact Doug Sprague, [dougsprague63@yahoo.com](mailto:dougsprague63@yahoo.com)  
Housesitters are also needed---contact Carole Malakoff, [carolemalakoff@hotmail.com](mailto:carolemalakoff@hotmail.com)

### Clean-up

Fill a trash bag with leaves and other “stuff“ from your curb and street. Sweep leaves out to the street. City street sweepers will be around the neighborhood on Wednesday and Thursday before the tour. Please move cars from the street so they can do their job.

### Street Closings

**Beech Ave.**(both blocks), **Galveston** (from Dounton Way to Buttercup Way), **the 800 block of No. Lincoln Ave., Rope Way** (from Buttercup Way to No. Lincoln), and **the 800 block of Buttercup Way** will be closed to traffic from 4pm to 11pm on Friday and from 9am to 11pm on Saturday.

**Off-street parking** is available at

- the **CCAC lot on Ridge Ave.**, just across from the Ft. Duquesne on-ramp
- the **Babb Inc. lot** on the corner of No. Lincoln and Galveston
- and the **Smart Solutions lot** on the north side of the 800 block of West North Ave.
- 

**Volunteer Party**---All volunteers are invited to help celebrate another successful tour in Allegheny West, on Saturday evening, Dec. 13 from 9 to 1pm at the Smart Solutions facilities on the 800 block of West North Ave.

*Our tours have been so successful over the years because of the effort and spirit that you, the volunteers, have put forth. Let's do it again this year!*

## Allegheny West Neighborhood Mixer

Friday, December 19th, 6:00 PM  
at

THE MODERN CAFE ♦ 862 Western Avenue  
Hope to see you there!

## ***An Old Allegheny Christmas***

*Submitted by Carole Malakoff*

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Old Allegheny Victorian Christmas House Tour will be held on Friday, Dec. 12, from 5pm to 11pm, and Saturday, from 10am to 8pm.

Tickets are selling very quickly. Dinner, Brunch, and Lunch Tour tickets are sold out. Regular Tour tickets are still available after 6pm on Friday and Saturday. Tell your family, friends, and co-workers to purchase theirs today, [www.alleghenywest.org](http://www.alleghenywest.org).

As always, the tour will feature 6 homes on the regular tour, plus 4 homeowners hosting brunches, lunch, or dinner. Homes open for the regular tour are:

- **950 Beech Avenue**, Carrie Doyle
- **926 Beech Avenue**, Trish and John Burton and family---This home will be decorated with the help of The Urban Gardener, our North Side garden center.
- **834 Beech Avenue**, Jessica and Bill Murphy
- **913 Brighton Rd.**, Carole and Bob Malakoff
- **849 No. Lincoln Avenue**, Hal Dixler and Nick Duerlinger
- **719 Brighton Rd.**, John DeSantis-- Also, the Toy Train Collection will be open here. Tickets to view it may be purchased on-line in advance or at the door, \$12.

Hosts for the dinner, brunch, and lunch groups are

- Linda and Joe Iannotta, **929 Beech Avenue**---Linda will be preparing all of the food for the brunches, lunch, and dinner.
- Cecile and Carl Canales, **844 No. Lincoln Avenue**
- Debra and John Lantz, **1021 Galveston Avenue**
- Shirley Mehring and Howard Brokenbek, **913 Beech Avenue**

These homeowners need your help. Offer them a helping hand to decorate, welcome guests, or serve food.

*Something new this year at The Toy Train Collection at Holmes Hall...available for sale*, the newly released book, *Greenberg's Guide to Lionel Standard & 2-7/8 Gauges, 1901-1940*. This is a 432 page edition with 1,364 illustrations, many of them from the John DeSantis collection. The perfect holiday gift for the toy train enthusiast. Signed copies are \$100.

*Continued on the next page*