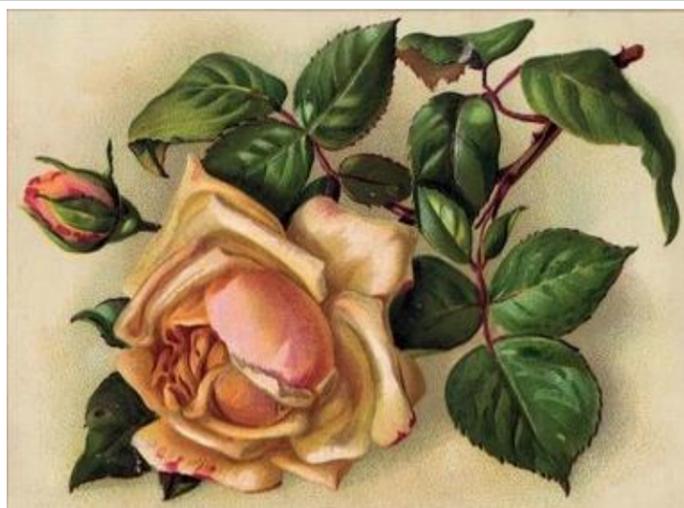


AWCC June Agenda

AWCC General Membership Meeting
 Calvary United Methodist Church
 971 Beech Avenue
 Tuesday, June 9th @ 7:30pm

- Guest Speakers
 1. One Northside AIM Project
 2. Stables Proposal
 3. Erin Tobin, Parks Conservancy
- Minutes
 - Treasurer's Report
 - Nominations for Secretary, Sgt. at Arms
 - Vote on the Budget
 - Neighborhood Clean-ups
 - Wine Tour Recap
 - Upcoming Membership Events
 - Housing and Planning Updates
 - AWDC Updates
 - Committee Q&A
 - i. Housing & Planning
 - ii. Membership
 - iii. Property
 - iv. Friends of Allegheny West
 - v. Communications
 - vi. NSLC

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



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ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

June 2015

President's Address by Cathy Serventi

I thought I understood what kind of work went into putting on one of our house tours. After all I had been working on the tickets sales for something like 5 years; sat in on countless committee meetings; set up a couple of spreadsheets for managing volunteers; even lead a tour or two (it's probably best for everyone if that doesn't happen again). Once, I even dressed up in 40lbs of velvet in August (and showed up at the wrong house with a group of 20 people - seriously, I'm not guide material). Yeah, I had no idea. No idea just how many people have to come together and contribute time and talent to pull off one of these tours until I added the perspective of the home-owner. And it's the spring tour (which is basically the starter tour) - and it's just our garden not the house so we're not quite all in. Even still, there are a crazy number of people helping me and Gene at our house, just to make sure visitors get in and out of the garden with a glass of wine and an appetizer for 3 sets of tours. And there are 7 (7!) other houses. And 2 tours a year. And the neighborhood has been putting these tours on for over 30 (30!) years. I can't even fathom just the raw number of volunteer hours those pretty little tour booklets represent. By the way, if you're feeling stalled on a home improvement project I would definitely recommend putting your house on tour. I think we've finished more projects (yay, no more chain link) in the last 3 months than we have managed to finish in the last 2 years. But as much as our new gate makes me smile, what I appreciate even more is that every time I think I can't be surprised by our neighborhood; that I've lived here long enough to really understand how lucky we are to live here, I am yet again amazed by what our neighbors have managed to accomplish and sustain over decades of dedication. Lots of other stuff is going on too! Please join us at the Tuesday membership meeting for an update on what's going on with Lake Elizabeth and other updates for the Commons, a new One Northside project to catalog neighborhood resources and, fingers-crossed, a proposal for the Stables building that looks very promising.

Thanks Cleanup and Garden Volunteers!

Submitted by Michael Shealey

Over the weekend of the May 30 - 31, the weekend of the Kenny Chesney concert, AW had a very successful cleanup that cleaned the neighborhood before, during and after the Kenny Chesney concert as well as doing two days of gardening work on the AW parklet. Thanks to Fran Barbush and Howard Brokenbek for handing out flyers. Mary Callison, Holly Pultz and Carol Robert worked on the parklet as well as Michael Shealey's 84-year old father, James, visiting from Virginia. Gloria Rayman tackled Dounton Alley herself. Trish Burton, Cathy Serventi and a new neighbor on W. North Ave., Carol Domrick, did a fine job of post-Kenny Chesney trash removal as well as weeding.

Our June neighborhood cleanup will be on Saturday, June 27th from 9:00 to 11:00. We will meet at the AWCC office at 806 Western Ave and refreshments will be provided. Based on the May cleanup experience, more donuts will be provided and fewer bagels. Come out, meet and work with your neighbors.

You're Invited!

32nd Annual Scholarship and Awards Dinner

Northside Leadership Conference

June 11, 2015

Begun in 1984 as a fundraiser to pay an overdue phone bill, the Annual Dinner has grown to be the largest such community gathering in the region, with close to 400 attending annually. It is a celebration of Northside neighborhoods, volunteers, students and partners. NSLC and its sponsors have recognized over 360 community volunteers and awarded over \$187,000 in scholarships!

RSVP by June 8: <http://www.pittsburghnorthside.com>

JUNE MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Mary Callison

June neighborhood mixer will be at Peppis on Western Ave, Friday the 19th at 6:30 PM. If it is not raining we will meet in the patio at the back of the restaurant. Bring your own wine or beer or you may order fountain drinks there and anything else you want from the menu.

Bocce will begin on Thursday, June 11th, 6:30 at the court on Western Ave. Everyone is welcome to play, no prior experience is necessary. We will play every Thursday unless it is raining. In prior years we played on Wednesdays, because several indicated conflicts with the day we are trying Thursday.

The 4th of July 4th Block Party will be on Saturday the fourth in the 900 Block of Beech.

Many thanks to Dennis, Doug and Linda Iannotta for all they did for the May Mixer/1st Annual Allegheny West Art Show. An added attraction was Ann Gilligan's sorbet. There was a great turnout, around 70 persons. Already there is discussion for the 2nd Annual Art Show for next year.

The Memorial Block Party had a great turnout and we were fortunate no rain came as was predicted. It would not have been possible without the help of the following: Tom Barbush and Greg Coll for all the grilling; Gloria Rayman and her brother John who moved paper supplies; food and beverage; Doug Lucas who personally patted out all the burgers; John Burton who secured the wine and beer; Howard Brokenbek for moving tables and trucking supplies back to the office. Several others helped with setting up and cleaning up, and since I did not keep a list that day I cannot list everyone. Thank you to all the helpers.

The Gazette

The monthly newsletter of the Allegheny West Civic Council. Editor: Fran Barbush
Letters, Submissions, Advertising and other notices: Gazette@alleghenywest.org.

Submission does not guarantee publication

Thank you!

Thanks to all who helped with the 2015 Wine and Garden Tour! We are deeply appreciative of neighbors who guided tours, cooked delicious appetizers, attended meetings to help us plan, recruited volunteers, designed the brochure, helped homeowners during the tour, found parking for visitors, hosted the after-party, planted flowers and otherwise helped to beautify the neighborhood by cleaning and weeding....and most especially to those who opened their homes and gardens to our visitors (after working for months in their properties): John DeSantis, Eleanor Coleman, Doug Lucas, Howard & Shirley Brokenbek, Cathy Serventi & Gene Wilson, Brian O'Neill and Jim Wallace.

Above and Beyond

If you'd like to recognize a neighbor who went above-and-beyond for you or the neighborhood this month please send a note to president@alleghenywest.org or give Cathy a call at [\(412\) 418-2027](tel:412-418-2027) and we'll make sure they're recognized in the Gazette.

We ran into **Carol S.** and her mom walking past with bags of weeds and clippings that turned out had come from the garden on Brighton & North. Loved her observation that she caught herself thinking that that "wow, someone should really trim those peonies that were squashed in the rain" quickly followed by "wow, I could take 20 minutes and trim those peonies".

Michael S. has been a litter fighting MACHINE over the last few weeks. If you felt a little disappointed that Kenny Chesney turned out to be pretty much a non-issue and so you missed out on an opportunity to get snarky about folks from the suburbs, you can thank Michael. He spent that weekend walking around talking to folks, model proper behavior by preemptively picking up litter and leading a clean-up so that the neighborhood looks awesome for the tour.

So picture this, **Tom B.** chaining himself to an Allegheny West light post facing off a group of probably pretty confused electrical workers, until Councilwoman Harris swooped into rescue him (and us). Basically, rather than listen to **Fran B.** explain where the conduit for the light poles was buried in the gutter, the power company, after drilling some random holes in the sidewalk, was planning to put in a "temporary" fix for the Beech Ave lights that have been out for a few weeks. It involved a random telephone pole and very un-decoratively strung wires (all wildly historically inappropriate). Everyone is back to focusing on actually fixing the lights.

Many hands make light work ~ John Heywood

Nonie sends a big "Above and Beyond" to the committee who worked together for the Memorial Day Block Party. Chairwoman, Mary Callison, Michael Shealey, Trish and John Burton, Gloria Rayman, Howard Brokenbek, Tom Barbush and Greg Coll (Sorry if I missed anyone). Their efforts gathered many neighbors together to welcome "unofficial summer" to Allegheny West. For those of you who have never helped or chaired this committee, you may not realize how much hard work, mentally as well as physically, is involved. The work begins before the day of the party, and as many of the helpers are aging, the schlepping, hauling and lugging is really a hard task. Nonie hopes that at the next party, those who are on hand could lend a hand during the set-up and clean-up. This would be GREATLY appreciated. It would be terrific to have more people get involved. Again, many thanks to this wonderful committee. For those of you interested in helping with the July 4 party, please contact Mary Callison by e-mail at: callismar@gmail.com.