
ALLEGHENY WEST GAZETTE

June 2009

Message from the President

May was a busy month in Allegheny West. I hope everyone enjoyed the Memorial Day Picnic on N Lincoln Ave. Thank you to Deb Kelly and everyone who helped to set up and make the picnic a success.

The West North/Brighton Road Triangle and the parklet at Western and Brighton look great thanks to the help of gardeners and volunteers coming out on May 23 to weed, trim, and plant.

After months of planning, a small group of volunteers also worked very hard to make the Queen Victoria's Birthday tea a success.

At the May membership meeting, AWCC presented this year's Allegheny West Historic Preservation Award to John Augustine and Jim Welker for the renovation of 820 Western Ave. The renovation included stripping and repointing the brick, painting the wood trim, and new wood windows.

John McDanel

Western Avenue Update

As you can see, our contractor worked at a breakneck pace to get all of the curb in place on Western Avenue to allow Penn Dot to come in and mill and resurface the street. The new street could be done by the time you read this update – depending on the weather!

As for our sidewalk project, we only have a skeleton crew working while Penn Dot is working in the street. ASTCO had to take all of their equipment off the street so they aren't in the way of the Penn Dot project.

But WE HAVE LIGHT POSTS! How exciting! Aren't they beautiful? The tall cobra lights were to be installed on Saturday, June 6 but the Department of Public Works would not allow us to close the street for the morning to bring in a crane for installation because of the Kenny Chesney concert at Heinz Field. So it looks like we will close the street the following Saturday – just for the morning – to bring in the crane for the installation. (The tall cobra lights are necessary because Western Avenue is technically Rt 28 and therefore has state lighting standards.)

We continue to move forward and make visible progress on the project. We still have a lot of work to do but we're getting there!

*Yours in progress,
Gloria Rayman*

June/July 2009 Calendar of Events

AWCC General Membership Meeting

Calvary United Methodist Church

Tuesday, June 9 @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 14 @ 7:30 pm

Agenda:

- i. Reading of May 2009 Minutes
- ii. Treasurer's Report
- iii. Committee Reports
- iv. Ways and Means
- v. Housing & Planning
- vi. Old Business
- vii. New Business

Committee Meetings

Housing & Planning Meeting

844 Beech Ave

Tuesday, June 16 @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 21 @ 7:30 pm

AWCC Executive Committee Meeting

858 Beech Ave.

Tuesday, June 30 @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 28 @ 7:30 pm

North Avenue Sub-Committee Meeting

1009 Galveston Ave.

Tuesday, July 7 @ 7:30 pm



Allegheny West Civic Council
812 Western Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15233
(412) 323-8884

The Queen Comes to Tea

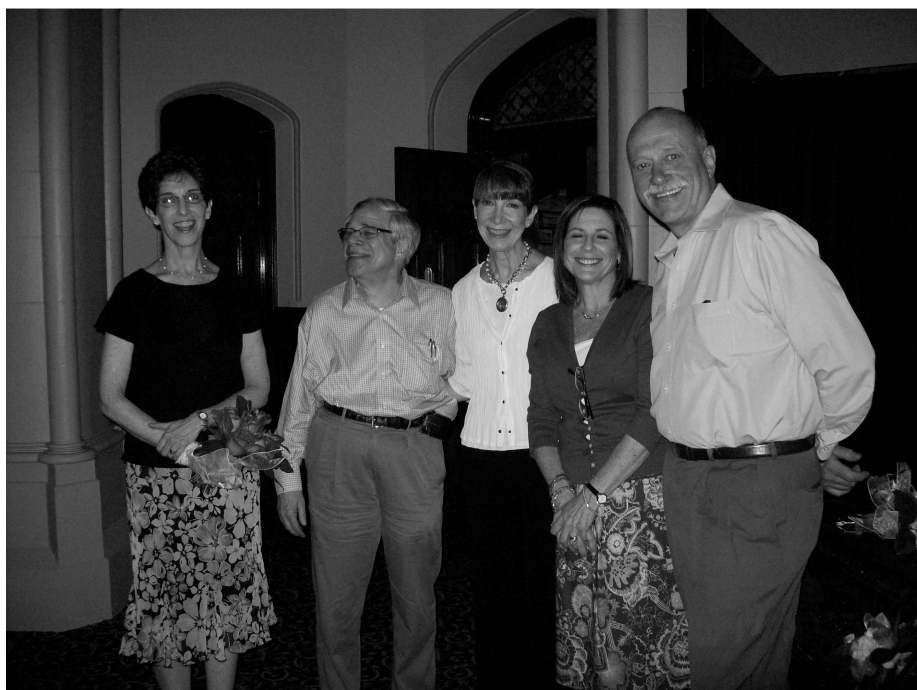
Also the Great-Great Granddaughters of Joseph Klee

Carole Malakoff

On Saturday, May 16, Queen Victoria made a stop on Beech Avenue for a cup of tea to celebrate Her Majesty's 190th Birthday. Along with tea, the celebration included a garden presentation at Calvary Church and a tour of the five homes of Klee Row, which celebrated its 125th Anniversary. The three great-great granddaughters of Joseph Klee also attended the event. They toured the homes built by their great-great grandfather and related bits and pieces of family history.

The afternoon turned out to be a great success. Guests were pleased with the festivities, especially the tour of the Klee Row homes. The great granddaughters were overjoyed with the celebration of their family history. Our neighborhood received some excellent media coverage from the two stories by Patricia Lowry of the Post Gazette, and Civic Council raised some funds to reinvest in our community.

This event was made possible by a group of very hard-working neighbors, the four homeowners who hosted teas for our guests, and their friends and neighbors who helped prepare and serve; the five homeowners of Klee Row; and Linda Iannotta, who prepared all of the food



for the tea, served tea and opened her home for tour.

Also, thank you to Calvary Church, for allowing us to use their facilities for the garden presentation; to The Pittsburgh Presbytery, who gave us use of their parking lot for guest parking; to Kerry Kennedy for his donation of flowers for the event; to Cathy Serventi, our own Queen Victoria; to Dennis Bergevin and Doug Schreck, who costumed The Queen; and to neighbors who served as tour escorts and house sitters.

A Present from Chris Holt and John Steel

Our garden presenters, Chris Holt and John Steel, have donated a pair of elaborate iron brackets as a special way for Civic Council to raise additional funds. These brackets, measuring 30"x25", were handmade by these two very talented blacksmiths. They can be used in a garden for hanging plants or indoors for holding a shelf. We will be auctioning them off or holding a raffle for them at an upcoming event. If you are interested in purchasing them now, please submit an offer to Carole Malakoff, carolemalakoff@hotmail.com.



Organizing a Communications Committee

As Communications Secretary of the AWCC, it's my job to put out the Gazette every month and keep the website updated. In the months that I've been doing those tasks, I've mostly just kept doing what my predecessors had been doing but it's time to start improving things a little. I'd like to get some input from neighbors about how to freshen up the design of the Gazette and how to improve the website to make it a useful tool for the neighborhood. I'd especially like get input from people with a graphic design background since I'm noticeably weak and that area of expertise. I'm forming a small ad-hoc committee to meet a few times a year to discuss these issues and any others related to neighborhood communication that people want addressed.

Email me at gazette@alleghenywest.net or call me at 412.310.3728

Allegheny West Independence Day Picnic!

Saturday, July 4

4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

900 Block of Beech Avenue

**The AWCC will supply the main
course, soda(pop), beer, wine and
paper products.**

**You are asked to bring a side dish or
dessert to share. Don't forget your
lawn chairs.**

**Everyone in the neighborhood is
welcome**

Party rain or shine!



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AWCC Membership

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

2009 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.net/shop – and pick “memberships” from the menu on the left.

If you are unsure of your membership status, please send an email to info@alleghenywest.net and we will look in the membership file!

Your paid membership enables you to vote at monthly membership meetings.



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THE GAZETTE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE ALLEGHENY WEST CIVIC
COUNCIL

Editor: Gene Wilson

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