



FROM THE PRES...

The election of officers for the Board of Directors took place at the Neighborhood Association's October meeting. Those who were elected for 2007 are listed below. I am honored to be serving as your association's president for this term.

At our November meeting, the association commended the leadership that former president David Barzen provided during his term. This has resulted in an excellent foundation upon which to continue the association's growth and accomplishments in behalf of our neighborhood.

We all know the importance of communication in our daily lives. To facilitate more convenient access to current information about association activities, we will be using e-mail in addition to postings on the neighborhood website. If you are not currently a member, and wish to be added to our neighborhood's e-mail distribution list, let any of the officers know.

At the annual Social on January 18, we will be gathering to enjoy our neighbors' company and hold this month's business meeting. I hope to see you at the Des Moines Art Center. Thanks for your support!

Brad Sammon, President

EVERYBODY LOVES A PARTY

There are two times each year when Westwood neighbors get together to party. One is in the heat of summer for the annual ice cream social; the other is in the cool of winter for the annual gathering at the Des Moines Art Center.

This year's event at the Art Center will take place Thursday, January 18 beginning at 7:00 PM in the restaurant. A trio of top classical music students from Roosevelt High School will provide entertainment. The hors d'oeuvres are complementary and a cash bar is available.

Join your neighbors for an evening of music, food, libations, and conversation. And, by the way, the art may be interesting, too.

Thomas Kisch

**WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL SOCIAL
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2007,
7:00 to 9:00 P.M.
AT THE DES MOINES ART CENTER**

CURRENT OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Brad Sammon, 277-9190 marleyrb@aol.com
 Vice Pres: Barbara Bell, 277-4860 belldsm@dwx.com
 Treasurer: Vicki Heiken, 255-7066 lattevick@msn.com
 Secretary: Thomas Kisch, 274-4644 tkisch9@mchsi.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Membership: Rob den Hartog, 279-5743,
rob.denhartog@nfmfn.com

Neighborhood Identity / Signage: Margo Hutcheson, 274-4644,
mhutches@mchsi.com & Barbara Bell, 277-4860
belldsm@dwx.com

Newsletter: Thomas Kisch, 274-4644, tkisch9@mchsi.com

Social: Linda Bardole, 274-4010 & David Barzen, 274-6263,
dbarzen@aol.com

For more WNA News, visit our website:
www.neighborhoodlink.com/desmoines/westwoodna



FROM A SINGLE SEED

Gardening is a wonderful way to remain in touch with the rhythms of our world, and for gardeners, each season is marked by significant, recurring events. St. Patrick's Day coincides with the spring equinox, for example, and in the Midwest signals the time to plant seed potatoes. The last frost date in early May triggers a frenzy of activity, as does the first frost of fall. We have just passed the winter solstice, and as the light begins to return to our days, a gardener's mind naturally turns to thoughts of spring, and turning the soil. These thoughts are further enhanced by the not-so-coincidental arrival of burgeoning stacks of garden catalogs.

Who can resist the glorious full-color photos presenting every manner of flowers and vegetable, as well as those pages of essential gardening tools and accessories? Each company seems to offer something a bit different, specializing in the rare, exotic or native plant. Other than the obvious need to feed our winter-weary souls with the promise of summer's bounty, why would anyone wish to go to the trouble to order plants or seeds through the mail?

Three reasons: cost, variety, and the satisfaction of dropping a single seed into the ground and being rewarded by a season's (or a lifetime's) worth of tomatoes, peppers or colorful blooms. For those who are afflicted by the "bug," a set of fluorescent lights in the basement illuminating a few containers (milk cartons still work great) of 3" tomato seedlings enables us to survive those last weeks of winter, thus preserving the harmony of many households. It's also a great way to introduce children to the life cycle of plants.

Those who have subscribed to mail order gardening no doubt have their favorite nurseries. For others, or those wishing to broaden their horizons, here's a brief list of some of the good ones. A brief online search will uncover many more:

Vegetables and flowers:

Pinetree Garden Seeds 888 52-Seeds or www.superseeds.com

- A collection of vegetables, herbs and flowers, seed prices are mostly \$.95 to \$1.25.

Vermont Bean Seed Company: Fourteen pages of bean seeds plus a solid selection of vegetables.

- 800 349-1071 or www.vermontbean.com

Seeds of Change: A huge selection of certified organic vegetable and flower seeds.

- 888 762-7333 or www.seedsofchange.com

Nichols Garden Nursery: A wonderful company in Salem, OR. specializing in herb seeds and plants; also hops, lavender and vegetables.

- 800 422-3985 or www.nicholsgardennursery.com

J.W. Jung Seed Company: A family-owned company, celebrating its 100-year anniversary this year. This nursery sells vegetable and flower seeds and plants, as well as hardy Northern-grown trees, shrubs and perennials at very reasonable prices. (My favorite.)

- 800 247-5864 or www.jungseed.com

Native plants:

Ion Exchange: An Iowa company selling seeds and plants of most species of wild plants native to Iowa.

- 800 291-2143 or www.ionxchange.com

Prairie Moon Nursery: A Minnesota company specializing in prairie, savannah and woodland plants and seeds

- 866 417-8156 or www.prairiemoon.com

Forest Farm: Another Oregon-based nursery, selling only plants; if they don't have it, you probably can't get it.

- www.forestfarm.com

Propagating native plants:

The most complete guide for propagating those temperamental native plants is William Cullina's "*Growing and Propagating Wildflowers of the United States and Canada*" (ISBN 0-395-96609-4). He also has a companion book "*Native Trees, Shrubs and Vines*"

Kris Sutton, Biologist



FUTURE WESTWOOD HOME AND GARDEN TOURS

Although many volunteers were willing to help with the Holiday Home Tour scheduled for December 2006, we did not have enough homes for a tour.

The Garden Tour in June 2006 was a great success, with beautiful weather, gracious hosts, enthusiastic volunteers, and many visitors. The next tour will alternate with the Home Tour, so will be held in 2008. But, neighborhood gardening enthusiasts do not despair with the long wait; the annual Great Westwood Divide will be held in the spring.

PROJECT DESTINY

In July 2007, voters in Dallas, Polk, and Warren counties will have an opportunity to vote for or against Project Destiny. This name has been given to a plan which will impact sales and property taxes in this three county area for a ten-year period. If approved, proceeds from the increase in the sales tax would be divided three ways. One-third would be used to reduce individual property tax bills; one-third would be directed to city budgets; and, one-third would be allocated to trails, museums, and other cultural facilities.

Because of the potential long term impact of this plan on all of our neighbors and interest in the pros and cons of the proposal, the Westwood Neighborhood Association will have a guest speaker at an upcoming neighborhood meeting. Stay tuned for the date and location.

Thomas Kisch

NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNS IN PROGRESS

At the October 17 Association Meeting, those present actively voiced their choice of color options for the new logo by secret ballot. Tom Rosborough, a professional artist and neighbor, is finalizing the logo drawing that will be incorporated into signage. Barbara Bell, co chair for the Signage/Identity Committee received approval for the sign design from the City of Des Moines. Our plan is to have one sign produced initially and then to determine locations for additional signs. Westwood Neighborhood signs will be erected in 2007.

Margo Hutcheson

EXACTLY WHERE ARE WE?

Questions have been asked about boundaries of the Westwood Neighborhood Association. Originally, the east boundary was 45th Street. However, in 2002, the association's bylaws were amended to add 44th Street.

So, now Article 3 of the bylaws reads, "The boundaries of this Association are: Grand Avenue on the north from 44th Street west to Walnut Creek, then following Walnut Creek south and east to its point of meeting with the east boundary lines of Ashworth Park and Greenwood Park, then north to Grand Avenue."

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

At the November Association meeting, members discussed what day of the week meetings should be held, the frequency of meetings, and separating business meetings from general meetings.

From this discussion, it was decided to continue holding meetings on Tuesday evenings and to have six (6) general meetings on a bi-monthly basis for 2007. The January and July meetings will be neighborhood-wide social events. There will be no meetings in August and December. The other meeting months will be March, May, September, and November. The association's officers will discuss plans for holding the business meetings.

For your convenience, here are the dates of the upcoming general meetings for the first calendar quarter of 2007.

- **Thursday, January 18—Des Moines Art Center**
- **Tuesday, March 20—Hanawalt School**

If you are interested in getting involved with the neighborhood association, please join us. It is a great opportunity to meet neighbors and help to shape and maintain our neighborhood. Hope to see you there.

Deadline for placing articles, information or advertisements in the next newsletter is April 1, 2007.
Contact: Thomas Kisch

LEARN TO PLAY THE PIANO

Lessons for children or adults,
in my home or in yours.

Linda Bardole
Telephone 274-4010
371-6527 (cell)



WNA MEMBERSHIP

Strong, consistent membership can greatly benefit the neighborhood association and is essential when seeking grants to fund neighborhood improvements. Our challenge is to build and develop a stable neighborhood association. Becoming a member is the first step. Thanks to members below who have paid for fiscal year July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007! *Rob den Hartog, Membership*

Armstrong, Juliette
Aspengren, Mary Lou
Baker, Keith & Guthrie, Deborah
Bardole, Linda
Barzen, David & Kristy
Beard, Mary Ann
Bell, Jim & Barbara
Berry, Gregory & Maria
Bookey, Harry & Pam
Brown, Peter & Lisa
Burgeson, John & Colleen
Campbell, Bo & Jan
Carver, Brent & Gina
Cary, Daniel & Tiffani
Chiovaro, Dominic & Marty
Clemens, Jack & Maxine
Clutter, Ryan & Sehgal, Vicki
Connor, Bob & Shirley
Copple, Vincent & Susan
Cownie, Andrew & Christy
Cranberg, Gilbert & Norma
Davis, Ron & Agnes
DeBord, David & Sutton, Kris
den Hartog, Rob & Currans, Brenda
Downing, Wendell & Joyce
Eckhouse, Herbert & Katherine
Erbstein, Lou & Lois
Faber, Vern & Nancy
Fisher, Robert
Fleming, Jim & Allison
Fox, Cynthia
Galeazzi, Dennis & Nancy
Galenbeck, Scott & Treloar, Leann
Gore, Sachin & Michelle
Gottschalk, Mary
Hanke, Sheila
Hearn, Jack
Heggen, Bill & Lynn
Heiken, Thom & Vicki

Hemminger, David & Jane
Hetherington, Peter & Sue
Horstmann, Eric & Laura
Howard, Steve & Kay
Huber, Rory & Marti
Hull, Marge
Johnson, Kathy
Kahl, Andy & Roy, Peg
Kelley, Enosh & Rachel
Kisch, Tom & Hutcheson, Margo
Kobes, Joe & Jo
Krantz, Mary
Lavalle, Michael & Lisa
Lawson, James & Stauffer, Rachel
LemMon, Jean
Lonning, Craig & Judy
Lorber, Fred & Mickey
Ludwig, Bill & Joyce
Lyford, Dick & Barb
Mackaman, David & Laura
Malone, John & Jane
Marquardt, Steve & Sara
McCausland, Stanley
McGreevy, Jeanette
McKinney, Alissa
Meehan, Bill & Judy
Michelson, Brent & Ann
Munier, Darwin & Shirley
Murphy, Catherine
Murphy, John & Sharon
Nesbit, John & Ann
Olson, Gretchen
Parrish, Stephen & Carla
Pederson, Dennis & Cheryl
Pelley, Greg & Caroline
Peterson, Mike & Margaret
Pintus, Peter & Eva
Rabinowitz, Sheldon & Roselind
Ray, Robert & Billie

Reece, Mark & Barbara
Rosenberg, Harlan & Audrey
Rosenberg, Steven & Tracy
Rowe, Steven & Hlavin, Mary
Sammon, Brad & Jenny
Satterstrom, Bill & Ginny
Scott, Fred & Brette
Smith, Val & Elizabeth
Spellman, Ed & Anne
Stephens, Michael & Tammy
Strief, Charles & Peggy
Tatge, Bob & Sandy
Taylor, Dawn
Tegrotenhuis, Jeff
Textor, Jack & Susan
Tiffany, Bill & Maureen
Ulrich, Matt & Kellie
Urban, Tom & Mary
Vanhon, Thomas & Michael
VerSteeg, Dirk & Adele
Voss, Zack & Sarah
Wallace, Sam & Sara
Walsh, Phil & Sharon
Weitenhagen, Dean
Westlund, Robert & Nancy
Williams, Ted & Nancy
Wittmack, Charlie & Cate
Wolfe, Greg & Vickie
Young, Joe & Linda
Zuck, David & Amy

Westwood Neighborhood Association Membership Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

_____ \$25 Family/Household annually (July through June)
_____ \$15 Single annually (July through June)

Please make check payable to:
Westwood Neighborhood Association
Mail to: Vicki Heiken at 327 49th St, Des Moines, IA 50312

If you have any questions about membership, Rob may be contacted at 279-5743.