



WILDWOOD PARK

Newsletter March 2015

A Fantastic Annual Dinner at Tokyo Seoul Restaurant (thanks to everyone who helped)

Neighborhood Vice President Lloyd Porter and his wife Jerosha served as hosts for this year's Annual Dinner. The Annual Dinner was held on February 15 at the Tokyo Seoul Restaurant, in Westland Mall. The buffet line moved quickly, the food was tasty and plentiful, and the ambiance was great. Mingling started at 5:00 p.m., and we got to meet our newest neighbors (they've been in the neighborhood for only 3 months!). Our guests were Officer Robert Wilcox FWPD, and his wife. "Officer Bob" is our Neighborhood Liaison Officer, and has helped our neighborhood in so many ways for many years.

Those of you who attended: what do you think? Should we consider going back next year? Was the room large enough? Give your comments to any officer or director, or e-mail them to wildwoodparknewsletter@gmail.com.

Election Results! The results are in:

Two Board positions were up for election, and you returned both incumbents to office: Grant Shipley and Lloyd Porter have been reelected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors. At a special Board Meeting on February 15, the Directors then elected the following officers: President - Grant Shipley. Vice President - Lloyd Porter. Secretary - Mike Galbraith. Treasurer - Julie Walda. Brad Huff agreed to serve as chair of the Maintenance Committee. The Board will be seeking volunteers to serve on the Welcome Committee and also on the Architectural Control Committee. Among the first "events" of the spring will be the Garage Sale. We already have some volunteers for this, so if you want to be part of the neighborhood Garage Sale Committee please contact any officer or director or send an e-mail to wildwoodparknewsletter@gmail.com.

Pay your 2015 Dues now. It's Easy.

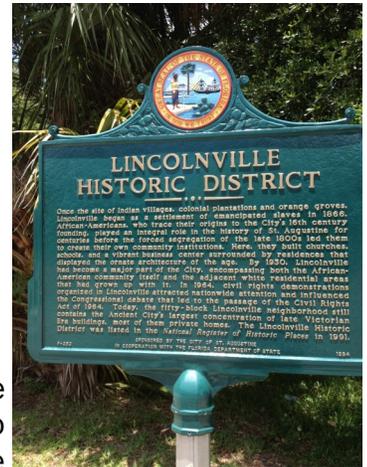
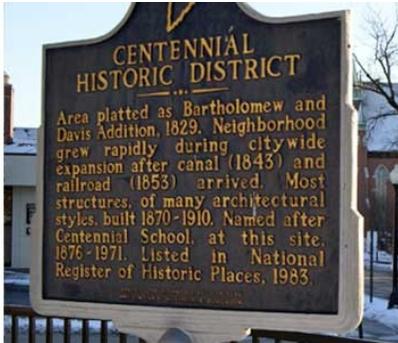


The annual dues are set at the Annual Meeting. This year's Annual Meeting established the 2015 dues at \$75. Please save us some postage, and simply mail your dues check to our Treasurer, Julie Walda, 1625 Hawthorne Rd., Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

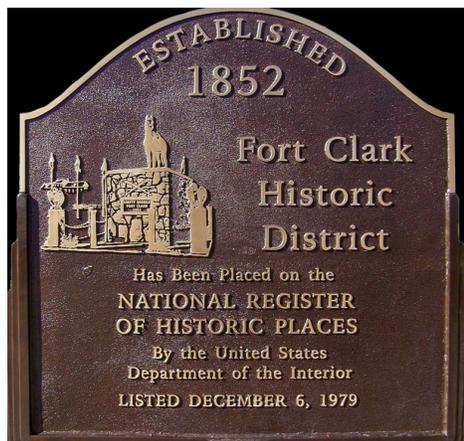
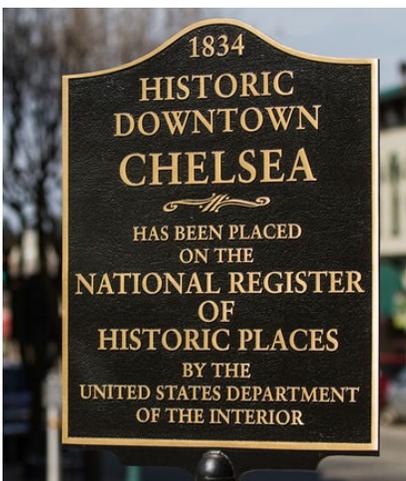
Better yet! You can also tell us at the same time how you want to be listed in the 2015 Wildwood Park Neighborhood Directory. Accompanying this Newsletter is a separate information sheet for the Directory. So print the information sheet and fill it out; mail it with your check to Julie Walda, and you're done for the year! Your check should be made payable to Wildwood Park Community Association, Inc. If you are paying dues for a lot that is not the same as the address on your check, please note this in the "memo" portion of the check.

Shall we Erect a Sign Commemorating Wildwood Park’s Selection by The National Register of Historic Places?

We are thinking about erecting a sign at the intersection of North Washington Road and South Washington Road, just about where the literature box has been placed for the Wildwood Park Newsletter, to commemorate Wildwood Park’s inclusion as an Historic District in The National Register of Historic Places. Here are sample signs from other historic districts:



(The Centennial Historic District is in Lafayette, Indiana.) The text of the sign varies greatly from place to place: some historic districts choose not to have any “history” on the sign; others give a brief background as to why the area is historic.” In Fort Wayne, the Illsley Place Neighborhood was placed on The National Register; they responded by erecting a sign commemorating this honor. See <https://www.facebook.com/illsleyPlace>.



There has been great variety in how business districts, neighborhoods, and other historic areas have chosen to commemorate the honor of recognition as “historic.” Among Indiana neighborhoods, the tendency is to use a very traditional format (instantly recognizable as an “historic” sign) in cast aluminum or bronze. We would hope the cost would be around \$1000. Let us have your comments. Should we have a sign? What kind of sign should it be? Should we have a significant amount of text, explaining Wildwood Park’s background and historic status? (The more lines there are the harder it is to read; also, the more lines there are, the more expensive it is.) Give your comments to any officer or director, or e-mail your comments to wildwoodparknewsletter@gmail.com.



Steve Souers

Steve Souers retires as Treasurer, Julie Walda is our new Treasurer

After many years, Steve Souers has now retired as our neighborhood Treasurer. We all thank him for years of faithful service (and accurate record-keeping!). Just to show that this not a thankless job, we hereby thank Steve for all his work. Also, he has not left us in the lurch: Julie Walda (just to make clear: it is Wildwood Park's Julie Walda and not the other Julie Walda who is rumored to be somewhere in Fort Wayne) who has stepped up to become our new Treasurer.



Julie Walda

Our Treasurer is not merely a bookkeeper. Rather, the Treasurer plays an active role in managing our finances — sort of like a Chief Financial Officer. Therefore the Treasurer is invited to all Board Meetings and her comments and input are valued.

We appreciate Steve and Julie working together to create a smooth and seamless transition.

Are you a Gardener? Purdue can Help!

Purdue University, through its county extension service, offers a free electronic gardening newsletter sent to your personal e-mail address. Ricky Kemery is your contact at the Extension Office; send him an e-mail at kemeryr@purdue.edu; in the subject line include the words Home Horticulture. You will receive a regular newsletter called Home Horticulture E-Updates which contains gardening tips, advice, local garden events and program listings; also timely updates on pests and diseases in our area. (Your e-mail address and personal contact information will be kept confidential.)

Maybe you are really interested in gardening, and would like to undertake the intensive training in horticultural principles through the Purdue Master Gardener Program. Mr. Kemery will offer two master gardener trainings in 2015. The spring training will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 5:45 til 9:00 p.m., beginning March 16 and ending on May 21. All training will be held at the Allen County Extension office, 4001 Crescent Avenue here in Fort Wayne. If you want an application, contact Rhonda at 481-6826 (option 3), or send an e-mail to Mr. Kemery at kemeryr@purdue.edu.

Even in Winter, Clean Up After Your Dog

We've said it before: Wildwood Park is not a doggy restroom. When you walk your dog please keep the dog on its leash, and please carry plastic bags to pick up its droppings. Neighbors are seeing the dog footprints and the accompanying "gift." It's your dog; it's your problem; it's your responsibility.



Annual Meeting: The Neighbors Voted to Postpone Action but Seek Further Information

At the Annual Meeting held February 15, 2015, action items about neighborhood landscaping and a neighborhood historical marker were postponed for further information gathering. In addition, the question was raised whether we as a neighborhood should continue to fund treatment of ash trees on neighborhood property and on the City right-of-way where (for now) it does not appear there will be an end to these required treatments if we are to save the trees from the Emerald Ash Borer.

The Board had sought a vote on whether to fund, by special assessment, additional money to secure the services of a landscape architect to help design an improved new natural area at the west side of the Park at the Point. The discussion at the Annual Meeting focused on whether people knew why this was an issue, and what exactly the natural area would consist of. So the issue was postponed to the next Annual Meeting, but the Board will sponsor hosted discussions and visitations so that neighbors can come and see the current problems with the site, and discuss what a landscape architect could do to help lay out a new natural area in keeping with the ambience and historical appearance of Wildwood Park. At the same time the Board will explore alternate sources of funding to help relieve the (possible substantial) cost of a complete upgrade for this area.

Discussions about a special assessment to fund an historical marker were likewise postponed, to give neighbors a chance to see what such an historical might look like. An article in this month's Newsletter has pictures of sample historical markers/signs. Your comments – both as to your preferences and as to a sample text for the sign will be welcome (once again, please share your comments with any officer or director, or e-mail them to wildwoodparknewsletter@gmail.com.)



Your Board of Directors

The Officers and Directors of Wildwood
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Robert P. Sandoz
3521 Saginaw
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Bill Deller 672-8127
3524 South Washington Rd
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The directors have elected
the following officers:

President: Grant Shipley
Vice-President: Lloyd Porter
Secretary: Mike Galbraith
Treasurer: Julie Walda
1625 Hawthorne Rd.
432-6374
julie.walda68@gmail.com

Our Website is:
www.wildwoodpark.us

Letters to the Editor to:
Wildwoodparknewsletter@gmail.com

Trivia Corner

Number of days in Wildwood Park
without significant tectonic activity:
35,985