



HISTORIC TIMES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR TOLEDO'S HISTORIC OLD WEST END



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December 15th Santa Claus will be making an appearance in the Gerber House at the Collingwood Arts Center. He will be there from 5:30pm-7:30pm during the Third Thursday Art Loop.

The Season of Wonder

by Gregg Stambaugh

Well, good people, 'tis the season of wonder. So, have you ever wondered how people have become downtrodden, desperate or homeless? I guess it doesn't matter. What matters is that we reach out to them and donate to the agencies that can help them.

It is most appropriate in this season of giving.

Did you take a moment this season to stop and wonder about the true meaning of Christmas? It certainly isn't the mad dash to the mall for the best deals on gifts. No, it obviously is all about the birth of Jesus. Maybe you don't believe in Jesus. That's OK. I do hope you have a deity that keeps hope and joy and laughter everlasting in your heart. And I hope your deity makes you realize how precious your life and life itself really is. Don't just wonder what your friends or neighbors are doing; get together and enjoy life.

I have often wondered how cool it would be for every adult to be a grandparent. Yeah, yeah...I know some of you don't care for the little rugrats, right? Take it from my darling wife and me; you

would do OK. We are blessed with five grandkids. They have amazed us from day one. Everything from the car door slam and headlong rush into Grandma's arms or the cuddling, falling asleep on the porch swing in Grandpa's embrace. Don't forget the wide-eyed expressions of playing hide and seek and actually finding Grandpa under the dining room table or the precious "thank you, Grandma, that macaroni and cheese was delicious." Ah, yes...grandchildren for everyone!

My mom made it to 97, and my father-in-law just turned 84. Now that's wonderful. But I can't help but wonder why my dad and my mother-in-law had to leave this earth so soon. The time spent with those two was not only precious but truly wonderful.

So, learn a joke and tell it to everyone. Smile a lot. Be daring...have an extra cookie during this season of wonder. And...oh, yeah. Have I ever wondered what a fortunate soul I am? All the time, good people, all the time.

I do hope your holidays will be blessed with much joy and love.

Kudos to:

Tours de Noel

Thank you to all the Volunteers:
House Captains, Tour Guides,
Cookie Bakers, Physical Setup and Guests

The View from the Sidewalk

by a Walker

The view has changed, from fall color to bare trees, now with holiday decorations and lights starting the season. I wonder what it was like when these houses were built. Candles were probably used for indoor decorations but not left lit very long. I don't know when electric light ornaments came into use; now they are everywhere.

The future of indoor lighting was uncertain at that time, whether gas or electricity would be used. Many houses had ceiling and wall light fixtures with gas jets pointing up and electric bulb sockets, underneath. A few are still in place in some of the older houses where owners have preserved that bit of history.

One view that hasn't changed is the row of trees at the 175 exit to Detroit Ave. Let's hope those dead branches don't come down in a heavy snow or ice. That ugly mess is such a contrast to the entrance to the OWE on Bancroft and the landscaping along Detroit Avenue.

To all you yarnbombers - a much more benevolent use for your stash of leftover yarn would be caps, scarves and mittens for the folks in the homeless shelters. The decorations on signposts and columns lose their charm with rust and street grunge.

The tree lighting at the Commons and the Tours de Noel are only hours away! What a great way to start the season!



Holiday Wishes to everyone in the Old West End!



Letter from the President
by Courtney Macklin

Winter in the Old West End is so beautiful it almost makes you forget how cold it is outside – and inside. I hope that everyone has a wonderful holiday season filled with friends and family and many warm memories.

Speaking of winter, if your house is cold and drafty, Columbia Gas performs home energy audits to help you find ways to save money and stay warmer. Learn more by calling 1-877-644-6674 or visiting www.columbiagasohio.com/ways-to-save/home-energy-audit

While we are on the topic of money, at November's Old West End Association Meeting we heard from Tim Harris of First Federal Bank. This regional bank is opening a new branch in the Seaway Marketplace in January. They are very excited to expand their services in Toledo and to be a part of our vibrant area. More details about the grand opening date are to come. I am delighted to have another banking option close by.

The Entrepreneurship/Business Development Committee that was created when the OWEA updated its bylaws had its first meeting in November. After a very insightful discussion in which many ideas and hurdles were discussed, three overarching themes developed: the need to foster new business, grow customers, and a create identity. I am excited to see this committee develop, and want to remind you to support all of the awesome businesses in our neighborhood.

The Education and Scholarship Committee is also developing new ways to work with and support the schools in our neighborhood. Deb Kienzle has been meeting with teachers at Glenwood Elementary and Scott High School to identify programs that we can assist in making more vibrant for the students.

Even though it is winter, the Festival Committee is already hard at work gearing up for the first weekend in June. Houses are still needed, so please consider showing off your beautiful home. The website, www.toledoldwestend.com, also now has a feature to sign up to volunteer. It is only two hours out of your weekend to help show everyone that the OWE really is the best neighborhood in the world.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2016
O.W.E. Executive Board Meeting
6 p.m. at **Deb Kienzle Home**
2238 Scottwood Ave.

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016
Association Holiday Pot-Luck
6 p.m. at **The Libbey House**
2008 Scottwood Ave.
Bring a dish to share -
Main dish and drinks provided
EVERYONE IS ALWAYS WELCOME!

If you've always wanted to learn more about the house you live in, Preservation is planning a session at the downtown branch of the Library geared toward learning how to research your home. Please see the Preservation Reminders for more details.

Missed the October deadline to apply for a Neighborhood Beautification and Improvement Grant? Don't worry, the next deadline will be in April. If you have an idea to better the neighborhood but just need some funds to kick start it, please apply! It is probably the easiest grant application ever.

The next Old West End Association meeting is the annual **HOLIDAY POT-LUCK!** The meeting is extra short so that all of our neighbors can get together and enjoy some tasty food and fellowship. The Association provides the main dish, all you need to do is bring a dish to pass. I hope to see you all there on Tuesday December 20 at 6:00 at the Libbey House, 2008 Scottwood.



OLD WEST END SECURITY

Common Holiday Safety Tips from Old West End Security

- Make certain your home appears occupied.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- Cut back shrubbery to discourage burglars from hiding near window and doors.
- Lights On: Keep exterior lights on during the night - and put indoor lights on timers so if you are gone for vacation (or just a few hours) it looks like



Agnes Reynolds Jackson Arboretum 2016
Robinwood @ Delaware

Cookie Bakers & Buyers and Poinsettia Buyers
A huge Thank You to all for supporting this year's Arboretum Cookie Walk!

PRESERVATION REMINDERS

Thank you to all that attended November's meeting at the Kent Branch Library. During this meeting we took the time to discuss future OWE Preservation projects. Helping one of our local non-profit institutions save and restore a landmark building was discussed; along with the possibility of restoring a building; the need for a better developed preservation web site was also brought before us. These two topics will be presented on December 12th 7:00pm at the Kent Branch Library.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for our neighborhood preservation stop by our meeting, we look forward to seeing you.

Old West End Historic District Commission

Neighbors, if you are planning any exterior alterations please contact Molly Maguire at the City of Toledo Plan Commission for a certificate of appropriateness. Molly can be contacted at 419-245-1200 or molly.Maguire@toledo.oh.gov

you're home.

- Lights Out: Always turn off christmas tree lights when you leave the house unattended or when going to bed. And don't forget to test your smoke detectors!
- As always, Old West End Security relies on your fiscal support in order to schedule patrols of the neighborhood. More eyes on our streets and homes means a safer OWE for all of us. Consider joining your neighbors for 2017.

Note: 2017 Super Bowl Fundraiser — be on the lookout for more info. coming in Jan!!

Visit us online: www.oldwestendsecurity.com -or- call us: (419) 902-0982

WOWE's new & improved Web Site Thanks Jemma Hostetler



The Women of The Old West End

WOWE Officers: Carol Kutsche, Toni Moore, & Tammy Michalak

Tree Planting in Memory for neighbor Mark Macksey

On a beautiful and crisp November Saturday afternoon, friends & family gathered for a reception in the Commons Park to celebrate & dedicate a beautiful Ginkgo Baloba tree that had been planted a few days earlier in memory of Mark. We began the dedication with a Champagne toast, followed by friends and family who read poems and spoke of the amazing young man Mark was. All memorials for Mark were given to WOWE and so we begin & benefit with a new tradition for the Commons.



With a call out for the last Commons Park work day, WOWE was grateful for the many volunteers who came to help. A mountain of leaves were raked and blown from the Park, 72 Rose bushes were pruned back + Russian Sage, all the while dodging the poison ivy. We thank all who helped on this last workday to get the Commons ready for winter and Tours de Noel.

Thank You to Bob Bogantz, Rick Risner, Brian Miller, Ken Schumaker, Jim Logan, Dave & Toni Moore, Shirley Johnson, Carol Kutsche, Sandy Frank, Dave Neuendorff & George Lemble.

We are again, so grateful for ALL who help to keep the Commons Park so beautiful with their time, talent and treasure.

UPCOMING WOWE MEETINGS ... 6:30 POTLUCK 7:00 MEETING FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH All neighbors are welcome!

Please join us and learn how WOWE is making a difference for our neighborhood

December No Meeting Jan. 11, 2017 Pumpernickels

The January meeting is always scheduled one week later due to vacations.

2016 Tours de Noel

With sincerest GRATITUDE to our SPONSORS, HOME OWNERS, HOUSE CAPTAINS, COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS, COOKIE BAKERS and the ELVES who decorate the COMMONS PARK & GAZEBO we say ...

Thank You

Home Owners & House Captains

The Newcomer-Patay-Fenger Home Joe Patay & Natalie Fenger 601 Acklin Ave. House Captain Carol Kutsche

The Todd-Graybeal Home Mike & Aubri Graybeal 2372 Scottwood Ave. House Captain Crystal Rogers

The Winfield-Taub Home Greg & Kathi Taub 2351 Glenwood Ave. House Captain Marge Dottling

The Bolles-Stone-Gaynor Home Skip & Judy Stone Gaynor 2428 Scottwood Ave. House Captain Phil Klunk

GRATEFUL APPRECIATION TO OUR SPONSORS:

- Signature Bank, NA Jeep Country Federal Credit Union First Federal Bank Findlay Davies The Beckman Building The Free Clinic Manos/The Attic Black Kite Sterling Pipe & Tube - Alex Armstrong

We are also grateful for the continued support of BLACK KITE for their donation of Coffee & Hot Chocolate for the Tree lighting AND also to Debbie Stambaugh & Carol Kutsche who make all those delicious cookies for the Tree Lighting. All of your time is truly appreciated.

COMMONS PARK ELVES

Paul Davidige & Todd Ruehle who have used their magic, talent & treasure to transform the Commons Park & Gazebo into a Holiday Wonderland. We wish we could leave the lights on all year...

Thank You

Pastor Larry Vriezelaar & Jeri Wiitila of First Congregational Church for again allowing WOWE the use of their beautiful building for the Cookie Walk & Boutique.

Tours Committee

- Dennis Lange, Chair & Transportation Carol Kutsche, Underwriting Lynn LaPlante, Tickets Kent Illenden, Publicity Debbie Stambaugh, Tree Lighting Dave LaPlante, Light the Neighborhood Arlene Hartmann, Boutique Toni Moore, Boutique Jeri Wiitila & Cindy Rimmelin, First Congregational Church coordinators Jim Logan & Rob Shadix, Physical Set-up and Take Down Dave Moore & Dennis Duggan, Trolley Sign Placement

This year's Tours de Noel was dedicated in the memory of Joe & Maureen Patay, both members of WOWE and OWEA. The Patay Home was opened for the first time by the Patay's son, Joe and daughter-in-law Natalie.

2017 OWE CALENDAR

Don't miss out on purchasing the "Limited Edition" WOWE 2017 Calendar. Perfect gift for Holiday Gift Giving. Contact Toni Moore - 419-360-2151 or e-mail tmoore_etfc@hotmail.com or Carol Kutsche - 419-243-2848 or e-mail cjkutsche@bex.net Don't wait to much longer ... supply is getting low.



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FREE COMMUNITY MEAL the last Sunday of each month from 4 - 5 pm at Collingwood Presbyterian Church, 2108 Collingwood Blvd. Entrance off Floyd Street, Handicapped Accessible. Information call Lynn LaPlante 419-244-4921