

Wind-In-the-Willows

Willow Ridge Civic Association

Willow Ridge Civic Association

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Wind-In-the-Willows

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From the Presidents Desk

Hello Neighbors:

Our annual membership drive has been a great success thanks in a large part to the dedicated head reporters and block reps. On behalf of myself and your neighbors, thank you for taking the time to keep this organization going. With your help, we hope that we have reached two of the objectives the board set as targets for this year's drive. The first being to increase membership to the 900 mark and the second to make sure that all memberships and fees were on the books by May. I am sure as you read this we have surpassed these two goals.

We now look to other issues the board feels to be important, this having to do with finances. Thanks to the increase in dues, the increased membership, and some cost savings from the redesign of the *Wind-in-the-Willows* we hope to finish this year without dipping into our dwindling cash reserves. As you know, things continue to cost more and more and it is to that end that we will be exploring a new revenue source at next month's meeting. That source would be from paid ads in this newsletter. If you have feelings on this topic, I encourage you to come out to next month's meeting.

Please check out the details for "Summer Boat Cruise" aboard the Miss Buffalo that can be found in this issue. It will be a fun to get together with your friends and neighbors over the summer. Remember to get your tickets early, as the boat has a limited capacity of 200.

In closing this letter I would like to recognize a couple of people for their effort on behalf of the neighborhood. Thanks to Brandon Vizzi for the great job on his Eagle Scout project. He organized the team that painted house numbers on the curbs throughout the neighborhood. Congratulations to Lee Baker, on her last Snowflake Dinner Dance as the chairperson. Everyone I spoke with had a wonderful time.

Sincerely,
Cam Hill

Bulletin Board

WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, May 5 at 7:30

(PLEASE NOTE NEW DAY)

p.m. Fire Hall All Welcome

- **DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE WITW IS MAY 13 2005**
- *Easter Report (page 5)*
- *Community Garage Sale Page 5)*
- *Miss Buffalo Cruise (page 2)*
- *Heidi's Day (page 2)*



WRCA BOARD MEETINGS

Thursday, May 5

Thursday, June 2

DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE WITW IS MAY 13

ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

As always, throughout the months of June, July, and August graduation notices will be published in the *Wind-in-the-Willows*. Please feel free to drop off an announcement and short personal message to honor your 2005 graduate. You may mention any honors received and future plans, if you wish. Deliver your typed or printed message to 221 N. Brier Rd., porch box. Submissions will be accepted immediately.

-Debby VonLangen, Editor, 691-6420



**May
2005**

Willow Ridge Garden Club

The Willow Ridge Garden Club will meet on Wednesday, June 1, 2005, at 7:30 pm, at the Zion United Church of Christ, 15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda, N.Y. Mr. Gary Sokolowski, CNP from Menne Nursery will talk about “landscaping on a smaller scale.” Members will also pick up the club flower to be grown this year for showing in September, 2005. Guests are welcome.

Doris Mohr, 691-5639

The Willow Ridge Garden Club will held its Annual Friendship Night/Membership Tea at 7:30 pm, on Wednesday, May 4, 2005, at the Zion United Church of Christ, 15 Koenig Circle, Tonawanda. A flower arranging demonstration will be featured this evening. Refreshments will be extra special this night and members are urged to bring friends and neighbors. As always, new members are always welcome.

Theresa Dybas, Publicity Chairman, 691-8495, (For more information, call Mira, 693-8666)

Committees and Activity Chairpersons

Adult Recreation	Jack & Lee Baker	691-5972	Octoberfest	Tom Halter	691-5318
Directory	Jane Sieman	564-0913	Publicity	Debbie Haendiges	691-5902
Garage Sale	Helene Motyka	691-8682	School Brd Liaison	Mike Morrow	691-8031
Garden Club	Virginia Winter	691-7704	Boy Scouts	Bob Sieman	564-0913
Historian	Bob Lannen	691-5270		Scott McNess	691-5621
Holiday Lighting	Neil Cuomo	691-3014	Cub Scouts	Steve Skinner	833-5938
Junior Recreation	Jennifer Hubert	691-4239		Doug Collins	691-9932
Ladies Bowling	Connie Holoivics	691-9569	Girl Scouts	Karen Lambe	691-4817
Membership	Laura Lewis	691-9527	Sunshine	Lee Baker	691-5972
National Night Out	Gary Roussie	Unlisted	Webmaster	Jack Baker	691-5972



WRCA COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE

The WRCA 2005 Community Garage Sale will be held Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, May 19, 20, and 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The WRCA will provide advertising and signs at the Niagara Falls Blvd., Ellicott Creek Rd., S. and Chestnut Ridge Road entrances. If you are participating in the sale, please provide your own signs inside the Willow Ridge area to direct customers to your house. Maps of the community will be available on May 16 at my house, 68 Manor Oak, for participants to give to customers who ask, "how do I get to _____ from here?". Let's hope for good weather. Questions? Call 691-8682.

Helene Motyka

Membership Corner

THANKS TO OUR HEAD REPORTERS AND BLOCK REPORTERS!! These friends and neighbors devoted a lot of their time and attention to delivering our directories and managing the membership drive for their parts of our community. Welcome to Sue Cuomo, Helen Hill, and Penny Nowak! Sue will be the new block reporter for 255-295 Willow Ridge. Sue lives on Willow Green, nearby Willow Ridge. Helen is the new block reporter for 130-218 Willow Ridge. Penny is the new block reporter for Tanglewood. Thank you to each of them for volunteering. Remember to contact your block reporter with any news you would like published in our monthly newsletter!

I would like to express my gratitude to the block reporters who are having to step down. Thank you to Joan Baer, Pat Hayes, Marikay Wachala, and Debbie Adams! Debbie is preparing for a move, so best wishes go out to her as well as a word of thanks!

Currently we need block reporters for 5-66 N.Brier, 88-112 Hubbardston, and 52-87 Dalewood. Additionally, we are still in need of block reporters for 300-411 Denrose (just the even #'s), as well as 45-80 Beaumont, S. Ellicott Creek and Kaymar. What a great way to get to know your neighbors! If you are considering ways to engage in a service to the community, this may be the perfect opportunity. Call today, or leave a message at 691-9527.

Thanks, Laura Lewis, Membership

WRCA EASTER PARTY REPORT

This year's Easter party, which was held March 19, had an attendance of about 65 children plus their parents. Guests enjoyed the many activities at the party: bounce house, games, crafts, egg dye activity, and visit from the Easter Bunny. The WRCA provided complimentary Polaroid family photos for those wishing to pose with Mr. Bunny. (Even those not brave enough to venture forward, received a special treat bag to carry home!) Many Willow Ridge families were generous with their food donations, which hopefully brightened the holiday for others. All items were taken to the St. Christopher Food Pantry. This is a new idea from the Easter Bunny himself that we hope to continue at next year's party.

Many thanks to the individuals who volunteered their time and talents: Jane and Jenna Guadagna, the Burkes, the Collins', the Thurstons, Nancy Beauche, Nancy Wassenberg, the Hubert kids, and Girl Scout Troop 709.

I would also like to thank Patty Daddario, Junior Recreation Chairperson for the past five years. Patty has organized the holiday parties for our children with much enthusiasm and energy. Her ideas, organization, and sense of humor helped to make my new venture a smooth transition. Many thanks to Patty, and her wonderful family for their years of dedication and creativity.

Our Halloween party will be our next event. Anyone wishing to assist with this party can contact me at 691-4239. Enjoy the sunshine! Jennifer Hubert, Junior Recreation

GIRL SCOUT COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Cadettes in Willow Ridge Girl Scout Troop 881 are working on their Silver Award Project, a community service project to which each member must contribute at least 30 hours. The girls have chosen to refurbish 1 bathroom and 2 girls' bedrooms at Compass House, an emergency shelter for 12-17 year old run-away and homeless youth, in Buffalo. They are also collecting new and gently used items which the residents can use in their leisure time. Compass House's wish list of such items includes books, games, playing cards, music CDs & tapes, walkman, pens & journals. If you would like to donate any of these items please contact troop leaders Debby Malarkey @ 691-8059 or Fran Shaw @ 691-0421 or drop the items off at 93 Rockdale Dr. or 328 Denrose Dr. Thanks so much for your support.

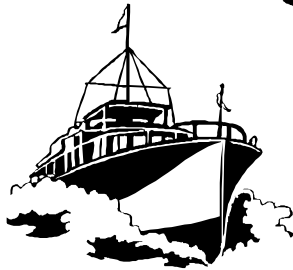
HEIDI'S DAY CELEBRATION



On Saturday, June 11, the Schmidtke family will sponsor the second annual Heidi's Day—a time to celebrate Heidi's life. She died at age 21 on February 10, 2003 after 2 1/2 years of coping with leukemia. Heidi was born and raised in Parkview and graduated from Sweet Home. She was the niece of Laurie and Donna Ruffino of Edgewater Dr.) She enjoyed her neighborhood. She also loved parties, and we want to continue to honor her life in this fashion. The party will be held at the former Dexter Terrace School. In the morning we will sponsor bike rides: 25 mile ride beginning at 10:30, 11 mile ride beginning at 11:00 and a family ride beginning at 11:30. We'll begin serving food at 1:00 and will start our afternoon festivities. There will be many theme baskets to be raffled, food and beverages, face painting, hat decorations and more. Everyone who is interested is welcome to come! No tickets needed! Bring your friends. Please stop by!

Along with the Heidi's Day celebration, we are starting a hat project. For only \$10 you can purchase a baseball hat, if you wish, that will be decorated on Heidi's Day. Heidi wrote advice on how to cope with cancer at the request of the staff at Roswell Park. We will attach a booklet with her advice to the hats and make them available for free to all cancer patients at Roswell who need or want a hat. All monies raised through theme baskets and bike riding will be sent to Heidi's Leukemia Research Fund at Roswell. These funds have already helped support several research papers. We hope that her legacy of caring for others will help cure this dreaded disease. Some of you may have memories of Heidi which we would love to hear. Please bring them on the 11th or email them to us. If anyone is interested in donating a basket, please contact us. For more information check out our websites: Heidisday.com and Heidishats.com or email us at heidisday@adelphia.net.

WRCA Summer Boat Cruise



Sunday, August 14, 2005

\$20.00 per person

- Boat Departs @ 3:00pm Boarding begins @2:30pm
- Two hour Cruise aboard the *Miss Buffalo*.
- Enjoy **free** Beer, Wine and Pop aboard the ship.
- Snacks provided before departure at the Naval Park starting at 1:30pm
- For **Tickets** contact Bob Foladare @ 691-7272 or Ed Goetz @ 691-7079

Amherst Museum Presents Herb Festival

Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Learn the aesthetic and health benefits of herbs from speakers, demonstrations and educational exhibits. Vendors will sell herbs, live plants and herbal products.

Enjoy the beautiful grounds in all its spring-time glory. Visitors can also take part in children's activities and refreshments with an herbal touch. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$2 for children. Museum members are admitted free. The museum is located at 3755 Tonawanda Creek Rd. in Amherst. Call 689-1440 or log onto www.amherstmuseum.org.

Thank You!

Much appreciation to Joan Baer who has been the block rep on Tanglewood for many years. Joan has decided to step down, but recruited her neighbor, Penny Nowak to be Tanglewood's new block rep. Welcome and thank you, Penny! - Mary Rose, Head Reporter

WRCA Meeting Minutes

APRIL 7, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm. In attendance were Cam Hill, president; Jim Prentice, vice president; Neil Cuomo, secretary; Jack Baker, treasurer, and Board Members Clayton Cobb, Andy Adams, Bill Pujolas, and Bob Foladare. Excused were Ed Goetz and Jane Sieman. Also present were Lee Baker, Helene Motyka, Jennifer Hubert and Gary Roussie.

SECRETARY'S MINUTES

The minutes from the March 3, 2005 meeting as published in the April *Wind-in-the-Willows* were reviewed. No additions, deletions or corrections were offered. A motion was made by Andy Adams, seconded by Jim Prentice to accept the minutes as written. It was carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jack Baker reported a checking account balance of \$8,875.00. The amount of \$2,175.00 was deposited for membership dues, bringing the total paid membership to 868 members. A motion was made by Neil Cuomo, and seconded by Clayton Cobb to accept the treasurer's report. It was carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Cam Hill reported that two vendors in the directory remain unpaid and will be re-billed. Cam also received a letter from the Town acknowledging our request for improved drainage in Bedford Park, with a request for more specific info concerning the location of the problem, etc. Anyone with relevant info regarding this issue can contact Cam Hill or Neil Cuomo.



GIRL SCOUT HOT DOG SALE!!

SATURDAY MAY 21

WALMART ON NIAGARA FALLS BLVD

10:30 AM—6:30 PM

Sale hosted by Willow Ridge Cadette Girl Scout Troop 881 who are raising funds for a summer trip. Come and enjoy the taste of summer while helping to support your local Girl Scouts. Thank you in advance.

Amherst Baptist Church

Vacation Bible School

July 25-29

9:00am—Noon each day

VBS is free to the children of the Willow Ridge Community. There will be an open celebration/picnic on Saturday, July 30 for anyone who would like to attend. We want you to know that we're here for you! Please give us a call if there is some way that we may serve you better. Look for us in the neighborhood on **May 14**. A free car wash is planned!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership (Laura Lewis)

Laura Lewis submitted a report advising that eight block reps still need to complete their collections and submit payment.

Adult Rec (Jack and Lee Baker)

Lee Baker reported 260 in attendance at the dinner dance. She announced that after 25 years at the helm, she is turning the affair over to Karen Galli and Pam McNess. The board thanked Lee for her dedicated service in making this substantial undertaking a perennial success.

Webmaster (Jack Baker)

Jack Baker reported that the *Wind-in-the-Willows* is posted on our website at www.wrca.info. Motion was made by Cam Hill, and seconded by Clayton Cobb to authorize Jack to rework the site with additional tabs for a map of the area, our mission statement, and photographs. The site should soon have photos of some of our functions.

Garage Sale (Helene Motyka)

Helene reported that the annual neighborhood garage sale will be on May 19-21. She will place ads in the Buffalo News and Amherst Bee, and signs will be made up to be posted at entrances to Willow Ridge. The amount of \$100.00 has been budgeted for advertising, and contingency funds can be utilized to print the signs that can be re-used in future years.

Junior Rec (Jennifer Hubert)

Jennifer reported that the Easter party was well attended by 65-70 people. Girl Scout Troop 709 was thanked for their support and assistance. No date has been set yet for the Halloween party.

National Night Out (Gary Roussie)

Gary reported that it will be held on August 4, 2005. Plans are being finalized for the traditional parade, a bounce house, entertainment and some police demonstrations.

Boat Cruise (Ed Goetz, Bob Foladare)

Bob reported that the event will be held on August 14, 2005 from 3-5 pm on the Miss Buffalo. There will be a cookout preceding the ride at the launch. Capacity will be limited to 200. Cost for individuals is \$25.00, and for couples, \$40.00. This is expected to sell out and reservations should be made by calling Ed Goetz or Bob Foladare.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion was held concerning the potential for advertising in the monthly newsletter as a way to ease the printing-distribution costs. Further discussion will be held next month.

Cam Hill reported that WRCA donated \$36.20 to Troop 173 for paint utilized by the boy scouts in painting numbers on the curbs within Willow Ridge. Brandon Vizzi headed up that project in working towards Eagle Scout status.

ADJOURNMENT

No further business being at hand, a motion was made by Bob Foladare, seconded by Andy Adams adjourn at 8:40 p.m. which was carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Neil Cuomo, Secretary

Classified Advertisements

Editors Note: *Classified* is a service provided for the use of **Willow Ridge Civic Association members** free of charge. Please print or type your ad on a full-sized sheet of paper. Sign your ad (not the envelope) and include your address and phone number. *Classified* is not to be used for business purposes. Deliver to 221 N. Brier and place in porch box.

FOR SALE

Children's Toys: Sand N Sun 10 ft. x 2 1/2 ft. Easy Set Pool with filter pump, debris cover, maintenance supplies, ladder & instructional video, \$50.00.; Peg Perego Santa Fe ride on train with charger and extra track to make a figure 8 design, \$75.00; Little Tikes outdoor playhouse (pink/blue/white) side opens up with eat-in area, pretend kitchen and play phone, \$60.00 or b/o on all. 564-3017

Clothing: Cap and gown: Two boys Sweet Home (blue) caps & gowns. Both are size 6'1" - 6'-3" in excellent condition, \$5.00 ea. 691-5897

Furniture: A beautiful set of four black oriental **stacking tables**. Absolutely gorgeous! Each top has Mother of Pearl figures and Mother of Pearl scene, glass covers each top and is in excellent condition. The smallest has a small drawer that slides open. Sizes are as follows: 1) 26 1/2" H x 20" W x 14" D; 2) 23 1/2" H x 16" W x 13" D; 3) 10" H x 13" W x 11" D; 4) 16" H x 9" W x 9" D; \$150.00. 691-5620

Household: Two pictures, 32" W, 25" H octagon shape floral scene, gold leaf frame, \$50.00; 28" W x 22" H, original 3D white, pink, green raised fan and raised matting; with brushed gold metal frame, must see to appreciate, \$125.00; Solid brass decorative **eagle**; wing-span approximately 26", \$20.00. Croscill Chambord pattern queen **comforter**, dust ruffle, pillow shams, decorative pillows, draperies and valances, like new condition, \$75.00. 691-5620

Lawn and Garden: Riding lawn mower, 30" cut; 11.5 hp mtd; new deck belt, good condition, \$400.00, 691-8170

Sports and Leisure: Above ground pool, 18' x 33' aluminum with Waterford sand filter and Hayward High Performance pump. Pool and filter are 10 years old and filter is 3 years old. Includes A-frame ladder and a winter and solar cover. \$700.00 or b/o 691-5897

Sports and Leisure: Golf cart, electric, walk behind, "Club Runner" brand, battery and charger included, used two seasons, like new condition, \$500.00 new, \$225.00 or b/o. 691-6754

Sports and Leisure: Hedstrom 13 foot diameter trampoline with safety enclosure net. Top quality construction, used only one summer, stored indoors during winter. Is disassembled and can be transported easily, \$100.00. Call Dave or Ann @ 689-6188

WANTED

Yard Work Wanted: I am a 17 year old student at Sweet Home, who is looking for a little extra cash! I am willing to cut grass or do yard work for pay. I can do one time visits or come on a weekly basis. If interested please contact Eric @ 691-4429.

NOTICE: HOME DEPOT IS OFFERING ITS 10% DISCOUNT TO WILLOW RIDGERS ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH WITH THE PRESENTATION OF THAT MONTH'S WIND-IN-THE-WILLOWS AND PROPER ID. IT IS HOPED THAT THIS WILL ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM OF SOME NOT RECEIVING THEIR NEWSLETTER IN TIME FOR THE DISCOUNT.



At the

Schools

In

2 Teacher Appreciation Luncheon, WR; PTA Mtg, 7pm, MS.; Common Sense Parenting, 9—11am @ Glendale

3 PTA Mtg, 7pm WR; District Annual Budget Hearing, 7pm @ NVCC; BOE Meet the Candidates' Night, after hearing @ NVCC; BOE Study Session, 7pm @ NVCC

4 Kindergarten Reg. & Orientation, 7pm, WRi; Ele. Gold Band & Gr. 7-8 Ensemble Concert, 7:30pm, HS

5 Spring Plant Sale, 8:45am, WR; Superintendent's Forum & Dinner, 6pm @ Classics V; Common Sense Parenting, 6:30-8:30pm @ NVCC

6 Spring Plant Sale, 8:45am, WR; Staff Appreciation Luncheon, MS

7 SAT I & II, 7:45am, HS; Junior Prom @ Connecticut St. Armory, 7-11pm

9 Alumni Mtg, 7:30pm, HS; Common Sense Parenting, 9—11am @ Glendale

10 BOE Mtg, 7pm @ NVCC; G 8 NYS Math Assessment, 5/10-5/11

11 Kindergarten Open House, 2:45pm; Mixed Chorus & Concert Choral Concert, 7:30pm; Gr 4 NYS Math Assessment, 5/11-5/12

17 Gr 6 Jazz Ensemble & H.S. Jazz Ensemble Concert, 7:30pm, HS; 8th Gr Awards, 3:30pm, MS; Annual District Budget Vote, Noon—9pm, @ MS

18 WR Chorus & MS Honors Ensemble Concert, 7:30pm, High School; Retirement Reception 4-6pm @ Classics V Restaurant

19 Ele. Blue Band & Blue Orchestra Concert, 7pm, HS

20 Breakfast of Champions, 8am, Middle School

21 Senior Prom @ Beaver Island Clubhouse, 6-11pm

23 Kindergarten Screening, 5/23-5/26, WR

24 Concert Orch. & Symphony Orch. Concert, 7:30pm, HS; College Fair Parent Night @ Buffalo Convention Center, 6-9pm; NYS Gr 4 Science Test Objective

25 Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band & Percussion Ensemble Concert, 7:30pm; Nat. College Fair @ Buffalo Convention Center.

26 Gr. 6-8 Orchestra Concert, 7:30pm @ HS; HS Honors Banquet 6pm @ Banchetti's; NYS Gr 4 Science Test Performance

27 Team 6 Party, MS

30 **Memorial Day—No School K-12**

Information is taken from the Sweet Home District Calendar. Details subject to change. Refer also to handouts & mailings.