

# Wind-in-the-Willows

## Willow Ridge Civic Association

### Willow Ridge Civic Association

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Rick VonLangen 691-6420

#### Vice President

Jim Cwierley 525-1893

#### Secretary

Dawn Cwierley 525-1893

#### Treasurer

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### From the President's Desk

#### Dear Friends and Neighbors

I hope everyone had a happy, healthy, and safe holiday season, and best wishes for the new year.

At our meeting in December, which was well attended, elections were held and I would like to congratulate Rick VonLangen as the new President of the WRCA. I especially want to thank current Board Members for their efforts over the past year and to out going Vice President Karen Tyno for her years of service. The Board also provided new Eagle Scout David Sebastian Oddi with a Proclamation recognizing his achievement.

I want to remind everyone that Superintendent of Schools Anthony Day and Willow Ridge Principal Dave Lovering will be attending January's meeting, which has been moved to **Wednesday January 9 starting at 7:30 p.m.** Please make every effort to attend this important meeting.

Sincerely,

**Ed Goetz**

WRCA Membership Meeting  
**Wednesday, January 9, 2013**  
7:30 pm, Ellicott Creek Fire Hall

*Please note the change from Tuesday to Wednesday, of the Willow Ridge Civic Association meeting for this month.*

Sweet Home School District Superintendent **Anthony Day** and Willow Ridge Elementary School Principle **David Loverin** will be guest speakers at the meeting.

Please come with questions and concerns.

#### WRCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, January 9 7:30 p.m.

Ellicott Creek Fire Hall

All Members Welcome

- DEADLINE for the February WITW is Jan 11
- Thanks/Scout Can Collection: Pg. 2
- Membership: Pg. 3
- WRCA Minutes: Pg. 5
- Neighborhood News/Classified: Pg. 6
- Lighting Contest/Good Neighbors: Pg. 7
- Willow Ridge Evenings To Remember: Pg. 8

**OUR THANKS!**

Thanks to outgoing president, Ed Goetz for his labors on behalf of Willow Ridge and the Civic Association. We look forward to his continued efforts in the role of WRCA Treasurer. Thank you as well to outgoing vice president, Karen Tyno for her steady work on behalf of Willow Ridge!



**CANS FOR CUBS 2013**

Cub Scout Pack 173 will be holding our annual pop can/bottle collection drive on Saturday, January 5, 2013 from 10am—1pm. Money earned from the returns will be donated to a charitable organization to be determined at a later date. On Saturday, January 5, please leave your NY stamped returnable cans & bottles in a plastic bag on your front porch or driveway. Our scouts and their parents will be coming around to pick them up between the hours of 10am and 1pm. You can also deliver them to 27 Jonathan Place, or call 691-8713 to arrange a pickup. Only NY stamped returnable pop/beer cans & bottles will be accepted (no recyclables or wine/liquor bottles). Last year’s drive enabled us to donate \$500 to the Amherst Museum (Buffalo Niagara Heritage Village).



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## WRCA 2013 Membership

A big "THANK YOU" to all who renewed their membership or joined WRCA for 2013. We appreciate you and hope you have a great year with WRCA! Your *Wind-in-the-Willows* will continue coming for all of 2013 and you will receive your directory in March. Please plan to participate in our community activities!

### *Did you miss the deadline?*

If you missed the December 31<sup>st</sup> deadline for 2013 membership, please send your check or go on line **today** and renew. Membership fees remain the same as 2012 -- \$15.00.

Two payment methods:

Mail your check: Your invoice was sent with the October *Wind-in-the-Willows*. Please mail the invoice and your check to: WRCA, PO Box 86, Amherst, NY 14226. If you no longer have your invoice, please include name, address, phone number and e-mail address and children's names.

PayPal payment: You can access PayPal, a secure method to make your payment via the WRCA website - [www.wrca.info](http://www.wrca.info).

Join or Renew to ensure:

*Wind-in-the-Willows* will be delivered to your home monthly. Our monthly newsletter – provides many details about the latest happenings in Willow Ridge and the upcoming free events for the children. It also contains neighborhood news, our own free "Classified" section, and notices of special activities. If you prefer to receive *WITW* via e-mail only, please check "Going Green" on the invoice information.

**2013 WRCA Directory** will be delivered to your home in March 2013. Our community directory – includes a neighborhood listing, money saving coupons, services and businesses in our community. In addition there are important phone numbers. You will also find a babysitter listing, a detailed map of our community, a guide to our annual events, and more!

**EWIND** – if you provide your e-mail address on the invoice information, you will receive *Wind-in-the-Willows* electronically as well as a hard copy. You can choose the electronic only option by checking the "Going Green" option. You will also receive e-mail notification of events within our community.

We respect your privacy. We will not be publishing e-mail addresses, and will continue our policy of not sharing our membership information with anyone.

**Joseph R.**





voice-mail: (716)743-5610

e-mail:

JoeHasHome4u@aol.com

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# Willow Ridge Membership=

**\*Monthly Newsletter**

**\*Directory**

**\*Breaking News**

**\*And Reminders via**

Be in  
the loop!



Please see page 3

To Submit Articles for the  
*Wind-in-the-Willows*, email:

wiweditor@gmail.com and be  
sure to put *witw* in the subject  
box; or place signed articles in  
porch box at 221 North Brier  
Road. The deadlines for each  
month are located in the left mar-  
gin on the front page of the news-  
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**Dr. David P. Bartels**



## WRCA Minutes December 11, 2012

President Ed Goetz called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. Also present were Vice President Karen Tyno, Treasurer Rick VonLangen, and Secretary Dawn Cwierley. Board members present were Jim Cwierley, Debbie Goetz, Mark Hammer, Connie Holovics, and Bill VanSplunder. Community attendees included Debby VonLangen, *Wind-in-the-Willows* editor, Cam Hill, advertising and sales, Angela Barrett, Thomas Amodeo, Jennifer Poydock, Christy Stoebe, Charlotte Vansplunder, Ben Procopio, Sally Ferguson, John Ferguson, John Ball, Paul Tyno, Neil Cuomo, Jim McCormick, and one other whose name could not be discerned from the sign in sheet.

**Secretary Minutes:** A motion was made by Debbie Goetz to approve the secretary minutes from the November meeting. Jim Cwierley seconded and board approval followed.

**Treasurer Report:** Rick VonLangen reported that there is currently an account balance of \$10,907 in the bank. A stipend will be given to Lynn Getzin, Membership for her work. \$294 has been cased by the scouts. Jim Cwierley made a motion to approve, seconded by Debbie Goetz and board approval was granted.

**Membership Report:** In Lynn Getzin's absence, Rick VonLangen reported concerning membership. \$1506 is in for membership. We are up to 500 members who have paid their dues for 2013, which is up from this time last year.

**President's Report:** Ed Goetz reported that there is a list of interested volunteers available. He will distribute that to the board members via email. He also noted that Boy Scout David Oddi of Troop 173 had accomplished his Eagle Scout over the summer by building a pergola at the Amherst Alliance Church. A proclamation will be send to David for his efforts.

**Old Business:** Jim Cwierley reported results from the event survey which continue to come in, indicating that many individuals want to see more family events. Results also indicate that signs along the streets are not effective uses of publicity.

Karen Tyno reported that directory sales are moving along very well. Advertisers want to see a copy of their ads in the directory also.

**New Business:** Elections were held for the 2013 board president with Dawn Cwierley and Rick VonLangen as candidates. Those present voted via secret ballot which was certified by a three member panel and reported by Neil Cuomo that Rick received the most votes. It was also noted for public record that this was the first time since 1964 that a vote was held for president. Dawn will complete her term as secretary, as will Connie Holovics in her board member role. The 2013 executive board

officers are Rick VonLangen, President, Jim Cwierley, Vice President, Dawn Cwierley, Secretary, and Ed Goetz for Treasurer. The board of directors are Tom Amodeo, Mark Hammer, Connie Holovics, Bill VanSplunder, and Carol Zaffram. There is still space for one more board director.

Current president Ed Goetz requested that secretary Dawn Cwierley cast the final vote to accept the new slate officers. Dawn accepted the new slate, completing the vote.

It was noted by Ed Goetz that the January meeting will be moved to Wednesday, January 9. This change is being made to accommodate our two guest speakers: Sweet Home School District Superintendent Anthony Day and Willow Ridge Elementary School Principle David Lovering.

Ed also reported that the Christmas tree at the entrance to Willow Ridge will need to be replaced. The incoming president will need to contact Home Depot who had previously offered to replace it.

**Committee Reports:** Neil Cuomo noted that the Christmas lighting contest will take place the weekend of December 15 & 14. He will forward details about the winners to the Jack Baker for the website and to Dawn Cwierley for Facebook. The Annual Wine Tasting event, hosted by Butler's Wine and Spirits at Classics V, will be on January 26. Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund.

**Open Forum:** The Snowflake Dinner Dance is approaching. Watch for details. Ben Procopio asked about sidewalk maintenance during the winter near Walmart on Chestnut Ridge. Ed Goetz responded that we will continue to communicate with Benderson who owns that property.

Jennifer Poydock, an Edgewater Drive resident, noted concerns about vacant and foreclosed homes in the neighborhood. Ed Goetz responded that this is a very difficult situation because when a home is foreclosed it is owned by the bank and the town cannot touch the home, which often times is in disrepair. These homes have been reported to the building inspector, fire department and the town in the past.

**Adjournment:** With no further items on the agenda, a motion was made Debbie Goetz and seconded Jim Cwierley to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 9, at the Ellicott Creek Fire Hall at 7:30 p.m. All Willow Ridge residents are welcome.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dawn M. Cwierley, Secretary,

# Neighborhood News



## Sympathy

Neighbors and friends wish to express their deepest sympathy to Mel Tucker on the recent death of his wife, Lynn on December 10. They are long-time residents of Willow Ridge living on Willow Green Drive over 40 years. Their children, Ann Jobson, Ellen Cohen, and Michael as well as their families are in our thoughts and prayers at this time too.

## Get Well

Friends and neighbors on Willow Green Drive, as well as daughter, Barbara Powers, on Rockdale Drive, are very happy that Donna Dearstyne is back home and recuperating well after major surgery and extended hospitalization. You can hibernate and get strong and healthy during these winter months, Donna, and then we look forward to seeing you outside in your yard, talking to neighbors and taking walks as soon as the robins appear! Be well!

## Congratulations due at Court of Honor

Boy Scout Troop 173 held a Court of Honor on Monday, December 3, 2012 awarding merit badges and rank advancements to all 21 Scouts and honoring **David Oddi** with the rank of Eagle Scout. There were approximately 100 people attending the Court of Honor at Willow Ridge Elementary School. Below is David Oddi and his proud parents, Annette and Scott DeWitt.



## Congratulations

Belated congratulations to John and Chris Fiebelkorn of Willow Green Dr. on the birth of their first grandchild Andrew. Andrew was born March 5th, 2012 to proud parents Jay and Jody, weighing in at 9 lbs 13oz. Best wishes to all! Congratulations also to John on his recent retirement from Fisher Price. Now you'll have much more time to spend with your new grandson. Enjoy!

## Welcome

Belated welcome to the newest residents of 62 Sweetwood, Dr. Neal and Mrs. Kathy Pignatora and their children, Ian, 18; Mitchell, 16; Conner, 13; and Olivia, 10. Dr. Neal and Kathy are the owner-operators of Ellicott Square Chiropractic and Wellness Center with offices in the Ellicott Square Building and a new Northtowns location on Colvin Ave. We want to warmly welcome the Pignatoras, who moved here in July, to the neighborhood!

## Classified

*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, or email to [wiweditor@gmail.com](mailto:wiweditor@gmail.com).

### For Sale:

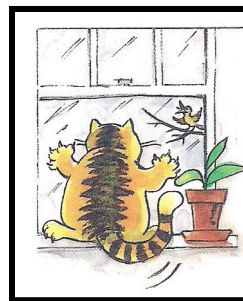
Furniture: DINING ROOM SET, 41" Round Oak Dining Room Table with a 12" Leaf. 4 Solid Oak Spindle back chairs with removable green Cushions. Excellent Condition, \$150.00. Call: 564-3017

### Lost:

Lost Cat: Missing since December 5, 2012. 8 year old, altered male Norwegian Forest Cat (many think he's a mane coon). Black, tan and grey longhair. Front declawed. Answers to the name Tzar. Last seen on Rumson Road. Was wearing a flea collar and an identification collar with a black ID tag. Please contact Tina at 907-0946 or [baronessekat@gmail.com](mailto:baronessekat@gmail.com) if seen/have or need a picture.

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## 2012 HOLIDAY LIGHTING WINNERS



I said last year that it may have been the toughest year to judge, and it didn't get any easier! We saw the newest in light design and gizmos, and were again amazed at how people can decorate 50 foot trees, and get to the highest peaks of their houses. It is an inexact science and we likely missed some deserving ones along the way. House numbers are sometimes tough to see. Congratulations to everyone! The neighborhood never looked better! I hope everyone enjoyed the displays as much as we did. Congratulations to the following 25 winners of \$ 10 Gift Certificates to Willow Ridge Convenient. Neil Cuomo, WRCA Holiday Lighting Chair

### The 25 winners:

164 AMBERWOOD, 1100 CHESTNUT RIDGE  
276 DENROSE, 748 EDGEWATER, 17 JEANMOOR, 25  
KAYMAR, 694 KAYMAR, 43 MANOR OAK, 49 MANOR  
OAK, 85 MANOR OAK, 55 MARICREST, 213 NORTH  
BRIER, 216 NORTH BRIER, 254 PEPPERTREE  
73 ROCKDALE DRIVE, 290 PEPPERTREE, 47 ROUND-  
WOOD COURT, 145 S. ELLICOTT CREEK, 609 S. ELLI-  
COTT CREEK, 80 SWEETWOOD DRIVE NORTH, 28  
WESTCLIFFE, 11 WILLOW LANE COURT, 233 WILLOW  
GREEN, 366 WILLOW GREEN, 395 WILLOW RIDGE.

### Honorable Mention:

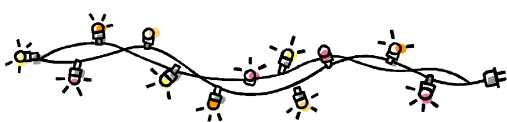
Amberwood: 3,11,20,51,75,91,123,131,132; Beaumont:  
2,26,77; Black Spruce: 1,17,26,34,49; Brookpark: 29; Button  
Bush: 19; Dalewood: 52,123; Deepwood Ct: 3; Denrose:  
269,275, 281, 289, 320; Edgewater: 700,711,736,891; Elder-  
wood: 12,28; Grasspointe: 47,87,111; Hubbardston: 106,112;  
Jeanmoor: 60,73,110,152,153; Jonathan: 10,51,57; Kaymar:  
54,84,90,96,208,384,431,492,493,  
501,565,574,582,590,598,622,669,701,734; Manor Oak:  
13,25,37,44; Maricrest: 13,14,26,49; North Brier:  
72,114,132,173,184,197,237,240,248; Parkhaven:  
82,114,175,190,214,239, Peppertree: 270,276,280,290,311,315,  
Red Maple: 4,53, Rockdale Ct: 241, Rockdale:  
44,81,93,113,130,161,201 Roundwood: 47, Rumson: 38,  
Rumson: 38, S Ellicott Creek: 163,301,443,489 619,627  
Sweetwood: 20,44,62,68,104 Sweetwood North:  
16,22,28,34,52,71,72,110 Westcliffe: 6,12,  
20,27,35,44,59,60,68 Willow Green:  
30,35,48,53,54,142,197,198,210,216,221,269,270, 284,287  
290, 330,353,429,450,453,456,465,468 Willow Lane: 29,35,69  
Willow Ridge: 204,210,256,336,396,402,403

## Willow Ridge—

### A Community of Good Neighbors

**Carl Smith** (the Willow Ridge Flag Man) recently retired from his duties of looking after our Flag Pole. Carl lived on the corner of Sweetwood and Willow Green where he has been our unknown patriotic hero since his retirement from the University at Buffalo in 1995. Carl replaced both the flag (usually yearly) and lighting for the flag and sign when needed. Carl was a Navy Korean War veteran who served as docent at the Buffalo Navel Park for over twenty years. Carl passed away November 30, 2012. His Willow Ridge neighbors are grateful for his many years of quiet service to the WRCA.

**Barry Moir** was recently recognized by WRCA President Ed Goetz for his work on the Willow Ridge entry sign. His recent renovation was actually the second time Barry has worked on the sign; his work this time was extensive as the sign was quite deteriorated. The sign was taken apart, rebuilt, repainted and re-stained. Barry is also a member of the three-man committee that decorates the Holiday Tree and has recently become the leader of a two-man team assuming the duties of retired Flag Man, Carl Smith. Barry is a Willow Ridge unsung hero.





# January 2013

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## Willow Ridge Evenings to Remember

### *Willow Ridge Civic Association*

*Presents a fundraiser*

### *Wine Tasting Night*

*Hosted by Butler's Wine and Spirits*

**Saturday January 26, 2013**

**7pm-10pm - At Classics V**

\$25 per person – includes wine tasting and appetizers

**Make checks payable to:**

**Willow Ridge Civic Association**

**Proceeds benefit WRCA and the**

**WRCA Scholarship Fund**

For Reservations, payment and mailing info contact:

Jim/Mary Ellen Prentice 691-8915

Pat/Kathy Land 691-4613

Ed/Debbie Goetz 691-7079

\*\*\*Availability is limited\*\*\*

### *Willow Ridge Civic Association*

*A classic tradition returns*

### *Snowflake Dinner Dance*

**Saturday, March 2, 2013**

**Classics V**

It is still only \$70/couple for a delightful evening of dinner and dancing. The holidays are a perfect time to begin plans with friends and neighbors to gather near once more well after Christmas. (An "IOU a Snowflake Dinner Dance ticket" would make a nice stocking stuffer, yes?)

Tables accommodate 10 for all your friends, but if you have a smaller group, there will be room for the friends you haven't met yet.

Details are in the works, so watch this space for updates. In the fickle month of March, whether we're celebrating the end of the flakes or still dealing with them, this event will warm your spirit!