

September 2003 General Meeting

The next meeting of the Willow Meadows Civic Club is Tuesday, September 9th, 7:00 pm at the Willow Meadows Baptist Church Chapel.

Willow Meadows News

WWW.WillowMeadows.Org

**Sept.
2003**

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From The President

Dear Willow Meadows Residents,

How do you feel about the neighborhood you live in? Would you like to be involved in the community around you? Now is your chance. Per our Association By-Laws, at the September General Meeting we will be taking nominations for our upcoming December elections. The September General Meeting is the only chance to have your name placed on the ballot to be on the Board of Directors for next year. Whether you want to have a hand in furthering the current programs that WMCC runs, or would like to be involved to steer some changes in different directions, I invite you to announce your desire to run for office on September 9th.

As we move into the final quarter of the year, there is an excitement on the part of many people, as we will soon see the fulfillment of a goal for many Willow Meadows homeowners. Final approval has been given from the city to refurbish our major subdivision markers on West Bellfort. Along with this needed refurbishment, we will also be adding some new, smaller entrance markers in various entrance points throughout the neighborhood. Please see the article on page 6 for further news.

Also in this newsletter, you will find an article by Charles Rusciano, Board Member and past president, who represented the Association at a recent Town Hall meeting held by City of Houston Council Member Mark Goldberg. Charles' report, both in the newsletter and at our September General Meeting, discusses the very real possibility of the West Bellfort extension between Stella Link and South Main. This may happen, and could have a negative effect on our neighborhood.

Juan Moreno, our former webmaster, has recently moved out of Willow Meadows. Juan had been the webmaster for our website (www.willowmeadows.org) since the very beginning. He designed the original Willow Meadows website and maintained it for more than four years, never charging for development or maintenance. For the first three years, Juan even paid for the hosting and registration costs himself! Juan has also paid for the website hosting charges for the first half of this year. This means that over the past 4 years we have had the website, our total cost of ownership has averaged less than \$27 per month. Our grateful thanks to you, Juan, for helping us into the internet age! For the latest news on our website, please see page 9.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our annual Neighbor's Night Out Picnic on Sunday, October 19th from 5-7 p.m. at Willow Park. You will learn more about security and help further build our community. To volunteer for this event, or just learn more about it, contact Kay Adams at (713) 729-9669.

As always, I look forward to having a chance to talking to you at our next General Meeting!

Ken Ancil
WMCC President

Willow Meadows Civic Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 35551
Houston, Texas 77235

2003 Willow Meadows Civic Board Members & Committee Chairs

President	Ken Anctil	(713) 721-7212	At-large Pos. 1	David Dennison	(713) 728-0004
Vice-President	Sondra Ludwick	(713) 723-1595	At-large Pos. 2	W. Emory Glover	(713) 729-0445
Treasurer	Kay Adams	(713) 729-9669	At-large Pos. 3	Charles Rusciano	(713) 721-3136
Secretary	Stephen Polnaszek	(713) 721-8425	At-large Pos. 4	Charles Cohen	(713) 885-0883
Security	Philip Vivier	(713) 729-5679	Beautification	Kay Adams	(713) 729-9669
Deed Restrictions	Charles Cohen	(713) 885-0883	Architecture	Robbie Chase	(713) 723-6468
Newsletter Editor	Luanne Field	(713) 723-5943	Interim Webmaster	Ken Anctil	(713) 721-7212
Deed Restriction Complaints		(713) 449-4448			

Political Directory

As a courtesy to our residents, we are providing you the most common "gripe" numbers so that you can make your voice heard on the issues of concern to you.

County Commissioner

Prect. 1, Outside the Loop

(El Franco Lee) (713) 755-7715

Prect. 3, Inside the Loop

(Steve Radack) (713) 755-6305

Houston City Council

(Mayor Brown's Office) (713) 247-1888

(Mark Goldberg, Dist. C) (713) 247-2004

(Michael Berry, At Large) (713) 247-2006

Houston Solid Waste Mgmt (713) 837-9100

dead animals (713) 669-7900

heavy trash (713) 551-7300

Texas State Representative (512) 463-0518

(Al Edwards, Dist. 146) (713) 741-8800

Texas State Senator (512) 463-0113

(Rodney Ellis, Dist. 13) (713) 236-0306

HISD Board of Education (Dist. 5)

(Dianne Johnson) (713) 892-6121

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency	911
WM Security Patrol	(713) 447-0200
Animal Control	(713) 238-9600
Garbage Pickup	(713) 551-7300
Heavy Trash Pickup	(713) 551-7320
Odor Hotline	(713) 837-0600
Street/Light Maintenance	(713) 837-0600
Water/Sewer Repairs	(713) 837-0600
Weeds Blocking View	(713) 525-2525



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Kay Adams

**Willow Meadows Civic Club****Initial Budget vs. Actuals as of 8/10/2003 (Unaudited as of 8/10/2003)**

	Operating Budget			Capital Budget		
	Budget FY03	As of 8/10/2003	Variance	Budget FY03	As of 8/10/2003	Variance
Expenses						
Bank Charges	300	300				
Deed Restriction Enforcement						
Enforcement/Support Services	6,760	1,975	4,785			
Legal Services/Filing Fees	7,500	4,448	3,052			
Beautification						
Esplanade Project			-	20,000		20,000
Monument Planting & Foliage			-	1,500		
Mowing	6,600	4,812	1,788			
Willow Park Committee Project			-	1,000		
Yard of the Month	300	300	-			
Mosquito Spraying	4,700	1,350	3,350			
Security Expense	80,000	44,789	35,211	-	-	-
Postage & Mailing						
Mail/Postage Expense	2,500	756	1,744			
PO Box Rental	75	68	7			
Printing						
General Printing	2,500	920	1,580			
Security Stickers	650	64	586			
WMCC Annual Directory	250		250			
Charitable Donations						
Red Elementary PTO	250	250	-			
United Orthodox Synagogue	125	125	-			
Willow Meadows Baptist Church	175	175	-			
Braes Bayou Association	200	200	-			
Houston Homeowners Assoc.	50	50	-			
Miscellaneous Expenses						
Accounting/Bookkeeping Services	3,900	1,480				
Insurance for Board	1,400		1,400			
Office Supplies	125		125			
Neighborhood Night Out	3,000		3,000			
Storage	900	455				
Welcome Packages	1,500	375	1,125			
Web Site Hosting	1,500		1,500			
Other	500		500			
Total Expenses	125,760	62,891	60,003	22,500	-	20,000
Revenues						
Annual Assessment	119,485	98,258	(21,227)			
Refund Amounts	-	7,500	7,500			
Transfer Fee Income	2,500	1,150	(1,350)			
Interest Income	3,000	120	(2,880)			
Advertising Revenue	1,250	1,500	250			
Officer Holiday Fund		1,085				
*Other Revenue				2,250		
Total Revenues	126,235	109,613	(17,707)	-	-	-
Net (Surplus or Deficit)	475	46,721	42,296	(22,500)	-	20,000
Cash Balance 12/31/2002		169,938				
Plus net surplus/(deficit) Oper + Cap Exp		46,721				
Cash Balance 8/10/2003 Board Mtg		216,659				

Deposits made since January 1, 2003:

Past and Current Annual Assessment:	\$98,258
Harris County - Perry Wooten Issue:	7,500
Officer Fund Donations:	1,085
Transfer Fees	1,150
Advertising Income	1,500
Interest Income	120

\$109,613 Total

WILLOW MEADOWS NEIGHBORHOOD SCHEDULE Third Quarter, 2003



Remember.....

Trash cans and yard clippings are NOT to be placed out at the curb more than 24 hours before scheduled pick-up! Heavy trash may be placed out no earlier than 6pm the Friday before pick-up!

Sept. 1st	Treat yard for mosquitoes
Sept. 2nd	Heavy Trash (Outside of the Loop)
Sept. 2nd	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Sept. 2nd	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Sept. 9th	General Meeting at 7:00 pm at WMBC
Sept. 15th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Sept. 16th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Sept. 25th	Heavy Trash (Inside of the Loop)
Sept. 29th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Sept. 30th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Oct. 1st	Treat yard for mosquitoes
Oct. 7th	Heavy Trash (Outside of the Loop)
Oct. 13th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Oct. 14th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Oct. 23rd	Heavy Trash (Inside of the Loop)
Oct. 27th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Oct. 28th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Nov. 1st	Treat yard for mosquitoes
Nov. 4th	Heavy Trash (Outside of the Loop)
Nov. 10th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Nov. 11th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Nov. 24th	Green-bin Recycling (Outside of the Loop)
Nov. 25th	Green-bin Recycling (Inside of the Loop)
Nov. 28th	Heavy Trash (Inside of the Loop)

Outside of the Loop regular garbage pick-up day is **MONDAY**.
Inside of the Loop regular garbage pick-up is **TUESDAY**.

GARBAGE STICKERS ARE AVAILABLE AT SELLERS BROS. ON STELLA LINK. 713-666-4417 (CALL AHEAD TO CHECK FOR AVAILABILITY)

SECURITY REPORT

BY PHILIP VIVIER

We will be going online with the new software in the patrol cars by September 1st. This software will enable the officers to communicate with one another as well as the security chair.

As always, remember to request a vacation watch when you are away. Be safe!

Offense	April		May		June		Quarter Totals	
	15E30	WM	15E30	WM	15E30	WM	15E30	WM
WM vs. Beat 15E30*								
Rape	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Robbery	7	0	10	0	6	0	23	0
Aggravated Assault	6	0	11	0	6	0	23	0
Burglary	16	3	19	0	23	3	58	6
Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	30	4	15	2	16	0	61	6
Auto Theft	10	0	16	2	16	0	42	2
Narcotic Drug Laws	9	0	5	0	13	0	27	0
DWI	3	0	2	0	1	0	6	0
Totals	82	7	78	4	81	3	241	14

WILLOW MEADOWS SECURITY PATROL
713-447-0200
OR 911 For Emergency Calls





MAINTENANCE & BEAUTIFICATION

by Kay Adams

The Maintenance & Beautification Committee is accepting bids for the following annual contracts: Mowing, Mosquito Spraying. To bid on these services, please contact Kay Adams at 713-729-9669 for more information.

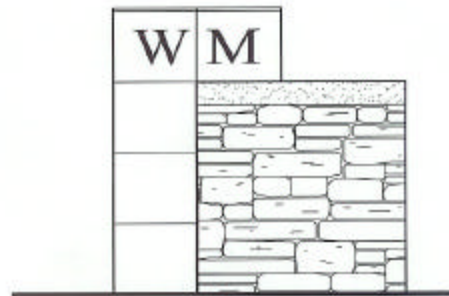
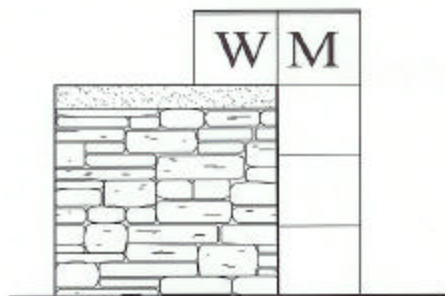
The Maintenance and Beautification Committee is pleased to announce that we have an approved final design for the new and refurbished neighborhood signs. The homeowners present at the June 2003 General Meeting approved the design and the materials. In addition, we have received approval for the refurbishment of the West Bellfort signs by the City of Houston, Code Enforcement Department, Sign Administration Division.

We will be contacting some homeowners to negotiate agreement to build some of the signs on private property rather than on public right of ways. Otherwise, our plans remain the same as you've heard for the last two and one half years.

We continue to spray for mosquitoes on Friday nights, weather and wind speed permitting. Gold Rose Landscaping continues to mow our three esplanade areas and they have agreed to pick up the trash at the IH-610 and Greenwillow underpass on an as-requested basis.

Our committee's contracts are going out for bid as required by WMCC by-laws and deed restrictions. Should you know of companies that may want to either mosquito spray or maintain our esplanades for our neighborhood, please have them give me Kay Adams a call at 713-729-9669.

Below is the approved design for the neighborhood signs.



West Belfort Extension—Goldberg Town Meeting

By Charles D. Rusciano

6/30/03—E. Weiner School

Councilman Mark Goldberg hosted an informational meeting to allow citizens to hear from and pose questions to several persons about projects either being planned, or in the works, around us. Specifically, the meeting centered around the various toll roads planned and the development east of South Main along the right-of-way designated as the West Belfort extension.

One guest of honor, Herb Lum, did not attend the meeting. Mr. Lum is with the Harris County Toll Road Authority and was scheduled to be available for questions from the approximately 200-230 area residents that attended. Due to Mr. Lum's absence, discussion regarding the toll roads to be constructed on our side of town was tabled so that the West Belfort development could be reviewed in greater detail. Councilman Goldberg introduced two persons instrumental in planning for a development of 200 acres east of S. Main and south of the 610 South Loop. Kent Marsh and Joel Scott presented Knutson & Associates' development plans for "Buffalo Lakes". This development is now in the works and will have as its central road thoroughfares Buffalo Speedway and West Belfort (at least from Lakes 610 Blvd to South Main). The developers want to extend Willowbend further east as well and take it all the way to Buffalo Speedway. Buffalo Speedway would be taken south over the railroad tracks to connect with Holmes Rd.

I noted at the meeting that there were many Willowbend residents who were concerned about the Willowbend extension, and many Westwood and Willow Meadows residents concerned about the West Belfort extension. Knutson & Assoc. seemed to be concerned only with taking West Belfort as far as South Main and did not wish to get involved in the more controversial aspect of its extension over to Stella Link. (I believe this is no doubt wise on their part.) They stated that the project needs access to South Main.

The "Buffalo Lakes" project will have commercial business development along Buffalo Speedway, and residential areas branching out which would include predominantly single family dwellings, some town homes, and approximately 300 apartment units.

Many questions were raised. Most were answered succinctly by Mr. Marsh and Mr. Scott. When Councilman Goldberg fielded questions, several were about the proposed expansion of West Belfort between South Main and Stella Link. As has been previously published and documented, appropriations for that extension have already been made. I asked Councilman Goldberg a purely political question: "Can the next Mayor of Houston stop the extension?" The simple answer was (and is) "YES". But the Mayor is about the only one who can now do so. The current Mayor wants the extension, but he leaves office at the end of this year. Each of our residents may want to give some special consideration to asking the current slate of candidates why West Belfort needs to be extended from Stella Link eastward, and vote for the one who will do what it takes to prevent it.

I can assure you that the vast majority of attendees at this meeting from Willowbend were as concerned about the extension of Willowbend St. as are we about West Belfort. Contrary to opinions expressed in certain weekly publications about how wonderful it would be to open up all of these roads east of us, this is not what was generally expressed by the large, diverse group attending this meeting.

Some members of the Westbury Civic Club informed us that WestburyCrier.com will post information about mayoral candidate forums. (There is one taking place on October 14th at Fondren Middle School.) You may want to write or e-mail each of the candidates and confront him/her with the issue long before that forum date. Don't wait too long—elections are in November.

As we have limited space in this newsletter, a full report on the meeting would be impossible to publish here. Ken

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

Ancil will designate some time at the next general meeting for me to provide more details regarding this very informative conference. Please attend if you want to find out more about the Buffalo Lakes project and other political cauldrons brewing!

We wish to thank Mark Goldberg and his staff for sponsoring this community forum.

AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Mark your calendars...

NEIGHBOR'S NIGHT OUT is scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 19th at Willow Park from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. Bring a blanket and some chairs and come meet your neighbors! **To volunteer for this event, call Kay Adams (713-729-9669).** Hope to see you there! (rain date Sunday, Oct. 26th)

Friendly Reminder ...

If you recently received a letter from our Treasurer and you have not contacted her yet, please be sure to follow the instructions in your letter right away. Thank you!

Question or concern about Deed Restrictions?

Call 713-449-4448 for help.

A Big Thank you!

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to the Police Officer Holiday Fund!

Parker Elementary Expands Temp Class for the Fall

This fall, Parker Elementary Magnet School for Music will offer the popular TEMPO class twice a week. TEMPO is a pre-school level music class that introduces children (ages one to four years) to music concepts such as rhythm and melody through listening, tapping, and story telling. Parents attend the lessons and participants learn related games and activities for additional fun at home. Two classes will be offered on Mondays for Session I: a morning class at 9:00 a.m. and an afternoon class at 12:00 noon. Each session consists of six 45-minute small group lessons taught by a Parker Elementary Music Teacher. Session I will be held September 8, 15, 22, 29, October 13, and 20. The cost is \$40 per child (\$25 for additional sibling) and includes a CD and a take-home booklet. Sign up for the Fall Session by Friday, August 22. Enrollment is limited. Two additional sessions are planned for Sprint 2004. Give your gifted child the gift of music. Contact Cindy Pack at (713) 726-2122 if you have any questions or need further information.

Willow Meadows 2003 General Meeting Schedule

September 9th 7:00 pm

December 9th 7:00 pm

**All meetings held at the Willow Meadows Baptist Church Chapel
4300 W. Bellfort**

WWW.Willowmeadows.org

by Ken Ancil

Juan Moreno, our past webmaster co-chair, has recently moved out of the neighborhood. If you have the time and minimal internet expertise please consider volunteering your time for the neighborhood this way.

Per a motion at the June General Meeting, our website will now include minutes from General, Special, and Board meetings. Please see the website before the General Meeting so that you can read the minutes of the previous meeting before even getting there!

The Board has also taken this opportunity to give the website its first major refresh since it was originally designed. This redesign will allow for easy updates to the website on a frequent basis, thus preventing our website from ever getting stale. It will also allow for individual committee pages, a Board of Director's page, a Treasurer's page, etc., in order for you to best see who's doing what in the Association, and how you can learn more or get more involved. We hope to have the new website up and running by the September General Meeting. Please send any feedback to webmaster@willowmeadows.org.

NEWS FROM RED ELEMENTARY

By Judy Douglass

It seems like just yesterday we said good-bye to the children for the summer and now we are opening our door again. We are very excited about the 2003-2004 school year and have added some new members to our family.

This is the first year that Red will be a Title I school which provides supplemental resources to help schools. We are one of the 281 schools out of 304 that will be Title I in 2003-2004. These funds make it possible for us to have a Reading Specialist on campus to target those boys and girls that we identify having difficulty reading from first grade to third.

We hope you are using the weather bug on your computer to view live data coming to you from our new weather station. You can see a view of the campus and know what the weather is in your neighborhood at any given moment. Enter www.weatherbug.com to access. It is completely free.

Saturday, September 13, 2003, Starbucks is sending anywhere from 60-80 volunteers to Red to do painting, landscaping, cleaning and provide general help. They are giving us ten hours a matching hours per dollars for our future playground equipment. We are so fortunate to start the year with such committed community involvement.

"Once upon a Playground", our major fundraiser for the year will be November 14th which will include a barbecue, a silent auction, games, prize drawing, karaoke, as well as our annual book fair. We hope to see everyone there!

As always, our doors are open to our neighborhood and if you have a few spare hours during the week and would like to put a smile on a small child's face, please come by and sign up to volunteer.

Now is the Time to Step Forward! Elections are Around the Corner!

by Ken Anctil

The Board of Directors wishes to encourage all Members in Good Standing to consider running for any of the eight elected positions in the Association. They are President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and At-Large Positions 1 – 4. Anyone wishing to have his or her name on the ballot must be nominated at the September General Meeting. If you cannot make the September General Meeting, the By-Laws allow you to "...submit a written request to run for office to a member of the Executive Committee prior to the September General Meeting." If you have any questions about any of the duties of the positions, please feel free to contact me at (713) 721-7212.



**BABYSITTERS
AVAILABLE!**

**WEEKENDS OR
WEEKNIGHTS**

**SARAH ISAACSON
(15 YEARS OLD)**

&

**SAMANTHA ISAACSON
(13 YEARS OLD)**

**NEIGHBORHOOD
REFERENCES AVAILABLE**

CALL 713-723-2815

**CONGRATULATIONS YARD OF THE
MONTH WINNER!**

**JUNE - 10214 PIERMAIN
THE DEGEN FAMILY**



July and August
winners will be
announced
in the December
newsletter.

T C Pet and House
Sitting Service, Inc.



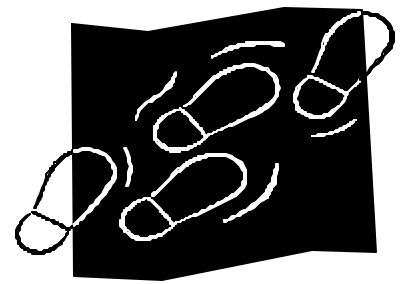
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For information, please contact
the Editor at (713) 723-5943 or
email at
Editor@willowmeadows.org.



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NEIGHBORHOOD
INFORMATION

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