

# WINLOW *Place*

A WINNING DEED-RESTRICTED NEIGHBORHOOD OF OVER 400 FAMILIES RIGHT IN THE HEART OF HOUSTON!

Visit for  
Winlow Place News!

[www.winlowplace.org](http://www.winlowplace.org)

*All Winlow Place Residents!*

## WINLOW PLACE GENERAL MEETING

**Thursday, February 7, 7:30 p.m.**

**St. Stephen's Episcopal Church**  
(SW corner of Alabama and Woodhead; South Entrance)

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**SPEAKER:** Deborah Morris, Architect

“Rebuilding Green - Pier & Beam Still Works!”

### **Hello Neighbors!**

#### **CHANGE HAS COME TO THE WP CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER!**

After many years of diligent, good work, Kris Kelly has stepped down as the newsletter editor due to time constraints.

Welcome to a new era of cutting edge neighborhood journalism. I am honored to be serving our community and spreading news of important events affecting us.

Please support your local Civic Club and attend our 7:30 PM General Meeting on Thursday, February, 7th at St. Stephen's

Episcopal Church (SW corner of Alabama & Woodhead).

Deborah Morris, the architect of Lee & Hardy Loe's "green" house under construction at 1844 Kipling, will discuss designs and materials that minimize energy use and environmental degradation.

Winlow Place Civic Club is led by neighbors, just like you, who are dedicated to keeping our neighborhood safe, clean, desirable and valuable. Please lend your hand and get involved in our worthwhile organization. It is a great venue to meet neighbors, make friends, network and stay tuned into important events occurring near one of your largest investments.



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Security!

If we have a buzzword for the New Year, it is surely the protection of life, limb and property. Most of us are not armed with shotguns like Joe Horn, but we have certainly experienced our share of garage break-ins, property loss, general nuisances like graffiti and much bigger problems like car window breakage and thefts.

All of us seem to agree that we need increased security in the neighborhood.

Most of us would like the concept of increased security but are not willing to pay for it.

This unfortunately was demonstrated at our Nov 27<sup>th</sup> general meeting; out of approximately 40 people there who can be assumed to be among the more active in our civic club and our neighborhood, only 9 filled out the forms Vernon had about how much they would be willing to pay per month to contribute towards trying to re-establish the constable Patrol.

Those nine would pledge a total of less than \$5000 which is only dropping gently into the bucket of needs to reconnect with a Constable patrol – the cost of which is \$60,000/year for ONE eight-hour shift. We have pulled back, in turn, from spending any more time on trying to conduct an individual house-to-house poll to determine a more exact number

We have also tried to interest other neighborhoods like Mandell and Lancaster in sharing / contributing, but they face the same problems we do of apparent interest, but unwillingness to ante up the funds required. There is a strong undercurrent of “If I pay, and my neighbors don’t, do they still benefit from the protection?” The answer of course is “Yes, they do.”

Is there an answer?

More than one person has suggested that Management Districts are the answer. Yet Montrose East, which has one, along with Avondale, has re-instituted the Citizen Patrols precisely because they are experiencing the same security issues we are and the Management District has not resolved the problem in spite of taxing the businesses within its purview

We have only a very few businesses on the edges of Winlow Place and while the MD taxing authority does not currently permit the taxing of residences, there is no guarantee that if an MD were instituted on this side of Montrose that the situation would either remain the same or that it would help. It apparently has not made a difference East of Montrose in an area that has considerably more commercial activity than we do.

In the meantime, those of our Civic Club officers who have attempted to generate interest in this have pretty much felt burned out with the lack of response. If you have ideas, suggestions and remedies and are prepared to help carry them out, please present them to the board and come along to help implement them!

### What all of us can do now;

- Motion sensor lights in driveways and at back doors
- Lighted front doors – a CF bulb that is left on day and night is cheap insurance and helps supplement the street lights which often are obscured by our beautiful trees.
- Make friends with your neighbors. Do not allow newspapers to pile up when you are away for the weekend or on vacation.
- Use timers for some lights inside the house all the time, not just when you are away.
- Cut shrubs / bushes away from the door so that there is a clear view from the street.

- Be alert. If you see bicycle riders with no apparent goal lingering in the neighborhood, take notice – call 911 if you think they are up to no good. (A current “trend” apparently for car break-ins is to use a heavy rubber band and an old spark plug to quickly break a car window and ransack the contents. We have had several of these reported in our neighborhood.)
- Call 911. Report even petty thefts. Get the name of the officer to whom you are speaking, and the badge number.

These are simple steps, and they will all help keep our neighborhood safer.

### Why Recycle??

There are two schools of thought about what is happening on the planet; Group I believes that as the Chinese and Indians push to achieve our standard of living (and wastefulness) that nothing we can do will make a difference. Group II still thinks that if every single one of us were to stop throwing out plastic, metal and aluminum in our trash that goes to landfills, we will help stop the proliferation of landfills among other things! (Just ask the people who live within nose-distance of one whether they think it ought to be expanded further!)

As I walk my dog in the mornings, and sometimes drop that doggie bag into a trash can on the street, I often notice that newspapers, detergent and milk bottles, and cardboard boxes have been included with the plastic bag of kitchen trash instead of being separated and put out in the green boxes.

My parents were pretty militant about recycling mainly because we had to haul every single bit of trash to a pickup point many miles from the house. Organic refuse got buried, cans were flattened to take up less room, and bottles were taken to a town dump. Not everyone can compost. But with comparatively little effort, we can set things out at the curb and have trucks remove it every week or every second week!

I would love to see Winlow Place with a green box in front of every house on pick-up day. Plastic with a 1 or a 2 in the little triangle can be recycled; the others (up to #6) are indeed trash. I am encouraged to see stores like Whole Foods give a credit if you bring your own shopping bag; we all can do a little more to clean up the neighborhood, if not the world.

So please join the tree-huggers or whatever you call the mad recyclers – we CAN make a difference! And it is not really much work to throw the cans / plastics into one bin and separate the newspapers into a paper bag.

#### Next 2008 trash days for the 77098 zip. Mark your calendars

Mondays	Regular Garbage	
Tuesdays	Recycling	January 15, 29, February 12, 26 March 11, 25
Heavy Trash	Second Thursday of the month;	Feb. 14, March 13 and April 10

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### 2008 DUES ARE DUE

**Patron:** \$100.00      Mail to Denise Hanks, P.O. Box 980712/77098 or

**Regular:** \$50.00      Just pay at the meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> and save the stamp!

Sr. Citizens: \$10 or what you can afford.

We want to have a committee to replace the signs. We need a Neartown Rep. We need to set up a Deed Restrictions committee. Any volunteers??

**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

Mark your calendar for February 7! We encourage you to support your friendly neighborhood civic association and, as always, we look forward to seeing you there!

If I may make a suggestion, we should plant tall bamboo at the end of Harold and Hawthorne to screen the new apartment complex.

—George Barnstone  
WPCC Editor

**What Else is Going On?**

**Next Recycling Day:**  
Tuesday, January 29th. Your recyclables are picked up curbside every other Tuesday.

**Crime Reports:**

If you know of ANY TYPE of crime (no matter how small an incident,) PLEASE report it both to the police (9-1-1) and to the Constable's office (713) 755-7628. Ask for the reporting officer's name and badge number, as this is the only way that we will have realistic incident statistics. Vernon Durke has done a wonderful job of keeping our website current. We encourage everyone to visit [winlowplace.org](http://winlowplace.org) for pertinent neighborhood news, general information, updates and crime reports.

**Open 2008 Board Positions!**

We have several open positions and welcome any volunteer help that you may give. Immediate needs include:

**Deed Restrictions Chair**

Sandra Southern has volunteered to replace Jeff Grant. We need to vote her in on Feb 7, and look for some committee help. Responsibilities include welcoming Winlow Place real estate agents and developers to our neighborhood and ensuring they have our deed restrictions.

**Nearatown Representative**

Represent WPCC at Nearatown Associates' meetings.

**WPCC Sign Committee**

Shepherd the replacement of our block WPCC signs. We have a good start with Sandra Roeder's designs (displayed at our last General Meeting). We now need a chairperson to obtain a design/color consensus and oversee production and placement.

Please attend our General Meeting on February 7th. We look forward to seeing as many Winlow Place neighbors as possible and sharing good information! M. Needham

2008 OFFICERS	
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Mary Needham
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Bruce Smith
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Kay Warhol
<b>TREASURER</b>	Denise Hanks
<b>NEARTOWN REP</b>	OPEN

2008 COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
<b>SECURITY</b>	Vernon Durke
<b>DEED RESTRICTIONS</b>	OPEN
<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	Geo. Barnstone
<b>MEMBERSHIP</b>	Denise Hanks
<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Audrey Cook

2007 BLOCK CAPTAINS			
1700 Hawthorne	Pam Jenkins	1707 Hawthorne	713.927.2880
1900 Hawthorne	Paul Cobb	1900 Hawthorne	713.522.8030
1700 Harold	Jan Ossman	1716 Harold	713.529.3191
1800 Harold	Connie Reilly	1829 Harold	713.524.9821
1900 Harold	Bob Mercado	1901 Harold	713.522.4433
1700 Kipling	Kris Kelly	1756 Kipling	713.523.2721
1800 Kipling	Sandra Roeder	1817 Kipling	713.529.4111
1900 Kipling	Donia Caspersen	1902 Kipling	717.522.6543
1700 Marshall	Audrey Cook	1745 Marshall	713.522.9398
1800 Marshall	Bruce Chambers	1848 Marshall	713.822.1577
1900 Marshall	Denise Hanks	1911 Marshall	713.520.1277
1700 W Alabama	Randy Mitchmore	1722 Alabama	713.592.9300
1800 W Alabama	Kathy LeGros	1749 Marshall	713.942.2530
1700 Westheimer	Byron Rusk	1700 Westheimer	713.529.5855

**WINLOWPLACE.ORG**

*Please check our website frequently and share your news on our blog!*

You can improve our neighborhood security by actively adding news to our website.

**PLEASE ALERT YOUR NEIGHBORS OF ANY SECURITY VIOLATION IMMEDIATELY!**

[wpcblog.winlowplace.org](http://wpcblog.winlowplace.org)

