

# The Evergreen News

DO NOT PUT IN MAILBOXES

*A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vullintine-Evergreen Community Association*

P.O. BOX 12011 Memphis, TN 38182-0011

Volume XVI, Number 7, January 1991

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its residents. The Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, businesses, and government policies. VECA is bounded by Watkins on the west, Cypress Creek on the north, Trezevant on the east, and North Parkway on the south. Contact VECA by writing to P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN 38182-0011.

## WE'VE GOT STYLE

By: Julie Baker

The Vullintine-Evergreen area has been used as an Indian hunting ground, as farmland for dairy farming and horse farming, and as a campground for citizens fleeing the yellow fever epidemic.

Our present day VECA neighborhood had its beginnings just after the turn of the century. Lots in the Faxon-Evergreen subdivision were advertised in 1904 as:

"being carefully and consistently prepared for people who love their homes beyond their mere utility as a place of shelter, and who prize beautiful and attractive surroundings as well as the comforts and conveniences of the city..."

"Finished, modern" building lots were advertised for sale in the large University Park subdivision in 1910 for \$30 to \$50. By 1910, there were fifteen homes in the Faxon-Evergreen subdivision, and at least ten homes in the Dickinson-Evergreen subdivision, including several excellent examples of the Queen Anne style of architecture.

James Cochran and I drove around one recent Saturday afternoon, and James pointed out numerous homes in the area which were particularly good (or particularly bad) examples of Queen Anne and Tudor architectural styles.

## VECA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, January 28th

7:30 pm

St. Therese Church

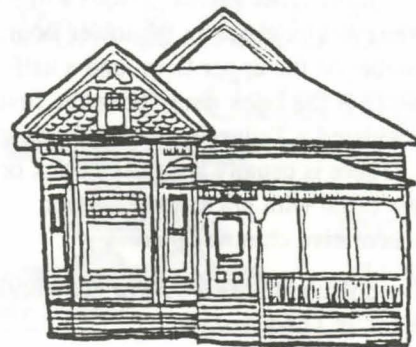
Little Flower Cafeteria

840 Dickinson

### REVIEW OF BY-LAWS AND ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

Everyone is invited to attend the Newsletter Committee meeting and/or the Historic District Committee meeting to be held at 7:00 pm prior to general membership meeting.

QUEEN ANNE was popular between 1880 and 1910. They are typified by a steeply pitched, irregularly shaped roof that slopes on all sides, and a dominant, ornamented, gable facing the front. Contrasting materials were used to avoid a smooth-walled appearance, and banks of windows were common, as were bays, towers, overhangs and wall projections. There was often a full-width or partial, one-story porch. The Queen Anne is full of angles. If it's square, it isn't a Queen Anne.



QUEEN ANNE 1880-1910

## WE'VE GOT STYLE -continued from page 1

Two homes on Faxon, at 1743 and 1731, are excellent examples of the Queen Anne styles, with their sloping roofs, dominant gables, banks of tall windows and full, covered porches.

Another good example is located at 1886 Crump, east of McLean. This baby blue beauty lacks the front facing gable, but otherwise, has all of the standard characteristics of the style.

Terry's Colonial Place subdivision was developed in 1927 by Harry Dlugach, who migrated here from Poland. The area was popular and grew fast because of the new street car lines, and Snowden School, one of the city's outstanding schools at the time (and now). Many examples of Tudor style and Tudor influenced architecture can be found in this subdivision.



**TUDOR STYLE 1890-1940**

The TUDOR style was popular from 1890-1940 and was loosely based on a variety of English building styles. The style features a steeply pitched roof and one or more cross gables. It uses a mix of materials, often brick or stone on the lower floor, stucco or concrete on the upper floor, and a half-timbering effect. If the brick rises above the first level, it is considered a Tudor "influenced" and not a true Tudor. There is usually a massive brick or stone chimney, often with brick pattern-work, topped with decorative chimney pots.

A drive down either Idlewild or Hawthorne, north of Jackson, is Tudor heaven.

The home at 891 Idlewild has the diagonal grided windows popular on the Tudor homes, and quoins (contrasting cut stones) accentuating the corners.

862 and 868 Idlewild feature covered entries.

929 Idlewild has a cute little window by the front door, another popular feature of the style.

862 Hawthorne features a covered entry, an arched opening, and accentuating cut stone.

Vollintine-Evergreen is a true historical district, which deserves to be maintained as such. If you would be interested in joining a committee to have VECA designated a historical district, please contact the VECA hotline 276-1066. Our first meeting of prospective committee members will be held January 28th at 7:00 pm, prior to the general meeting. This will be fun, educational, and certainly worthwhile. We hope a lot of you will want to become involved.

Special thanks to James Cochran for his excellent research, and for sharing that and his time. James is a local architect, who has spent several years restoring his family home on Faxon, which will be featured in a future article.

Thanks also to MIFA for their history of VECA, which is an interesting and invaluable source of information.

"WHERE ITALY COMES TO YOUR TABLE"

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If you would like to be a member of VECA fill out this coupon and send it along with your \$7.50 dues to VECA at P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN. 38182-0011.

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**NEIGHBORHOOD MINI-PARK MEETING**

About twenty community residents met on November 19th at St. John Orthodox Church to discuss preliminary plans for a mini-park. The park would be located at the MLG&W strip on Tutwiler between Dickinson and Avalon. Jo Anne Brown, Debbie Cochran, and Angie Hollis are members of the park planning committee. They presented their ideas and explained the work that had been done on the park. The three women are VECA residents and members of the MOMMIES play group. The park was started with the idea of providing a play space for the children in the area. VECA does not have a city park. The residents present at the meeting were concerned about many issues. Residents wanted further information about maintenance, loitering, and parking. The park committee agreed to do a survey of the area to assess concerns and to hold a meeting in February or March to discuss the results of the survey. It was also suggested that area churches that have small play areas be contacted to see how they have worked with public use of their playgrounds. Some residents felt a representative from the Memphis Police Department at the next meeting would be helpful to answer questions about the community's legal rights when it comes to a public park. Notice of the next meeting will be in the next newsletter.

**"TREE OF LIFE" AFTER-SCHOOL TUTORING**

Peace Lutheran Church at 1548 Jackson is proposing to start an after school program for elementary school aged children in the VECA restoration area. This area is along Jackson from Willett to Dickinson. The program would provide a place for children after school to do their homework or play in a safe environment while they wait for their working parents to come home. "Tree of Life" would operate four days a week from 2:30 to 5:30 pm.

The idea for the program came out of concerns expressed by area residents in a survey done by the VECA housing committee and Rhodes College students in the spring of 1989. Peace Lutheran, located in the restoration area of the VECA project, also saw a need to provide services to area children. A coalition effort between Memphis Partners, VECA, Memphis Police Department, City of Memphis Community Affairs, the Rhodes College Kinney Program, and Peace Lutheran, resulted in the proposed effort. If you would like to write a letter of support for the project, would like to volunteer, or would like to make a contribution, please contact James M. Duke at 1548 Jackson, 38107, or call 274-3677.

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## HOLLYWOOD ON SHERIDAN

VECA residents knew it all along. That's right, Sheridan Street, north of Jackson (as well as the rest of VECA), is a great residential area where the up and coming family would want to live. The production people for the TV movie "September, September" needed an area that reflected an up and coming community in the 50's. When Joe Sohm, VECA resident, and Realtor, was showing the TV people around Memphis neighborhoods, they liked what they saw on Sheridan.


Housekeeping was set up at 877 Sheridan for a week during the shooting of the movie. Moses Gunn, Richard Brooks, and Cybil Shepard could be seen during the days of filming. The street was blocked with vans, holding everything from dressing rooms to a kitchen. One neighbor, who wanted to offer some Southern hospitality, was thanked graciously but informed the cast always travelled with their own kitchen set-up.

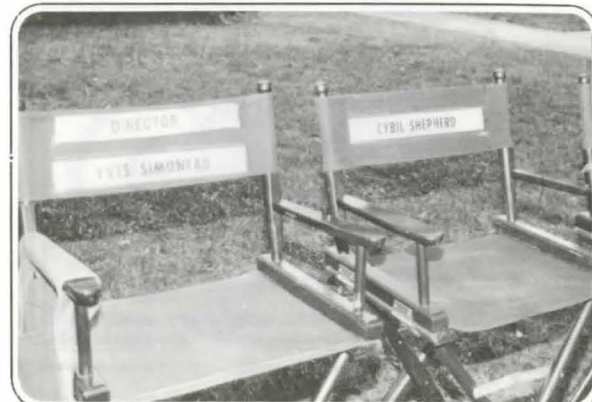
The home at 877 Sheridan was built in 1928. The movie is set in 1957. The iron burglar bars and air conditioners were removed to make the home more like the 1950's, even though the same were common in 1957 and may have been at the home from that time. Trees were trimmed to accommodate the large cameras and lighting equipment. The street was cleared of modern cars during filming. The changes and constant commotion did not seem to dampen the enthusiasm of the street's residents, who were willing hosts. The production crew had expressed to some residents that the area was still a nice community and had the feel of a real neighborhood. The movie folks also had praise for the Memphis Police Department, who helped control traffic around the street. VECA is proud that one of our many beautiful areas will be showcased in the movie. The pleasure we take in our community will be shared by all of us when we watch the movie, sometime in 1991.



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<b>Todd Benitone</b>	<b>526-7745</b>	
<b>54 South Cooper Memphis, TN 38104</b>		
<b>(901)278-4380</b>		



**PEACOCK PLUMES**

ANTIQUES...COLLECTABLES...FASHION DESIGN

By: Annice Jennings

Marilyn and Julius Harrison, Kensington Street residents and members of VECA, opened a shop in October, located at 651 North McLean, that promises to be an asset to this neighborhood.

The Harrison home could no longer accommodate all of the antique furniture, glassware, dishes, costume jewelry, vintage clothing, etc., collected over the years as a hobby, so they decided to open their shop. The store is not a collection of "junktiques." It is a store that is clean, spacious, with a tasteful display of items that are interesting and appealing. Visit and browse around. You won't be disappointed. I went to look and left as a customer!

Mrs. Harrison is also offering a service that many of us want and need. She does alterations of men's and women's clothing. Best of all, she does dressmaking and fashion designing. Share your ideas with her and she will work with you to design and sew what you want.

Store hours are 10:00 to 5:30, Tuesdays through Saturdays; Sundays from 1:00 to 5:00.

**Annual VECA Dues \$7.50**

Make checks payable to VECA and send to:  
VECA Treasurer - 705 N. Belvedere, 38107



751 N. Trezevant, Memphis, TN 38112  
(901) 324-5812 J. Jeffrey Irwin, Pastor

**We invite you to join us for:**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 10:50 a.m.

Wed. Potluck Supper and Vespers 6:00 p.m.  
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**EXPERT ON PRESIDENCY  
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Michael Nelson, a leading authority on the presidency and American national politics, and an award-winning teacher, has accepted a position as a professor of political science at Rhodes.

Nelson has written three books, all of them on the presidency. The books are Presidents, Politics and Policy, 1984; A Heartbeat Away, 1988; and The American Presidency: Origins and Development, 1776-1990, 1990.

"Rhodes is just the sort of school that made the academic life so appealing to me when I first decided to become a college teacher: small, beautiful, excellent," stated Nelson, when asked about his coming to Rhodes.

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**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Volunteers needed for Editor and other Positions. 7:00 pm January 28th LittleFlower.**




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