

The Evergreen News

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A Neighborhood Newspaper Sponsored by VECA, Vollintine - Evergreen Community Association

P. O. BOX 12011

Memphis, TN 38182-0011

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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, Tresevant on the East, and North Parkway on the South. Contact VECA by writing to P.O. Box 12011, Memphis, TN

VECA FALL

FAMILY FESTIVAL

The VECA Fall Family Festival is September 14, 1991 at St. Therese, Little Flower Church. The festival will be an expansion of last year's effort. Area churches are expected to participate with their wonderful food and hospitality. The Festival will start at 10:00 A.M. and end around 5:00 P.M. We are planning on having a petting zoo, story telling, and arts and crafts for the children. VECA is looking for entertainment for the Festival and welcomes any volunteer inquiries. Call and offer help an hour of your time for the community. Thank you for being the good neighbors you are. Let's have fun this year. Please call the VECA hotline 276-1066 or Mary Wilder 272-2620 with your ideas and help.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

On Tuesday, August 6th, Vollintine Hills Neighborhood group will hold its annual Night Out. The theme for the Night Out '91 is "Give Neighborhood Crime and Drugs A Going Away Party." Other VECA areas can become involved by calling Neighborhood Watch Inc. 726-6912 or VECA V.P. Lance Andrade 274-6808. You can show your community is willing to stand together by turning on your lights that night, coming out and talking with your neighbors.

WE'VE GOT STYLE IV

by: Julia Baker

After the decorative complexities and flounce of lacy brackets and gingerbread ornamentation of the Victorian era homes, public taste turned to more humble, unadorned, natural surfaces and styles. The 4-Square was inexpensive to build, while providing a lot of comfortable living area. The two story, square plan used a minimum of land, foundation and roof to enclose a lot of space. Builders copied aspects of the Colonial Revival, Tudor and Craftsman styles in the 4-Square plans, allowing a lot of creativity with an otherwise plain "block." Wood exteriors were popular, sometimes in the form of wood shingles for a hand-crafted appearance. Concrete blocks were often rough cut to resemble stone, stucco was widely used, and, of course, the ever popular 20's red brick is seen on many 4-Squares here.

HOME PLACES

I was invited to tour two Idlewild 4-Squares and interview their owners recently. Each followed the standard layout when built in the early 20's, but with a unique placement of the large fireplace on a diagonal wall in the living room. The similarities end there as the owners have knocked down, built up, added on, and decorated to suit very individual tastes.

CHRISTY AND HORST DINKELACKER found their Tudor home on N. Willett too small for their growing family and "stuff" and purchased a 4-Square on Idlewild in 1976 that, according to Christy, no realtor would touch because it was in such poor condition. Christy, being an artist, was drawn by the total lack of personality of the home. "Starting with a blank, I could do whatever I wanted with it, and whatever I put in it would work." And, put into it they did! Christy's paintings, along with

—continued on page 2

We've Got Style IV—continued

framed maps, prints and "things" are displayed on every wall, adding charm and interest.

Heavy antique furnishings, at home in the high-ceilinged rooms, are beautifully set off by a colorful array of oriental area rugs. A collection of blue willow china is displayed in the open china cabinet in the dining room with the blue and white carried into the remodeled kitchen in the linoleum and Delph wallpaper, giving the room a European Country Cottage look.

A pantry and closet were removed to enlarge the kitchen and provide a large entry to the den/sitting room. A downstairs bathroom had been added in the 50's, probably about the time homeowners began to wonder if architects in the 20's designed two story homes with one water closet as a joke. The upstairs had three bedrooms originally. A 4th was added for son, Otto, by enclosing an upstairs porch. The master suite was so large originally, that a much needed, full wall length closet was added with plenty of space remaining for the large, columned, hand-carved bedroom furniture which was passed down by Christy's New Orleans grandmother.

Interior doors in the home were replaced with bifold louvered doors to gain even more space. A terrific idea! Many of us might want to consider for our homes. Christy's artistic background is apparent in the wallpapers chosen. Bold blue and turquoise here; scallops there, and what I call "Barzizza Brothers floor mats" in the master suite - all incredibly charming.

The Dinkelackers have two children, Otto, age 11 and Jutta, age 17. Horst teaches German at Rhodes College and Christy is moulding the next generation of artists at MSU.

MARY WILDER and her husband, CHUCK FOX, also purchased their home in 1976. Remodeling began in the kitchen by knocking out the pantry and back porch areas, removing the wall that had separated them, moving some plumbing pipes, and adding a bay window with built-in window seat in the newly created dining area. Mary chose a charming French herb tile pattern for the backsplash and stove areas. A like new 1920's gas stove, most often used as a plant stand, was pressed into service a while back when their 1950's stove went out.



During renovation, a two story solar room, designed by passive and active solar architect, John Montgomery, was added off the kitchen, along with a half bath. The contractor was Bill Turner, who lives in Hein Park and specializes in Midtown renovations.

The tall windows surrounding the room are double paned, insulated, Pella windows. One wall of the room is the original red brick exterior, while the lofty, domed ceiling is bead board and heavy beams. The walls and ceiling are double insulated against sound and air loss. Chuck explained that 110 cement canisters under the floor store the sun's heat during the day, and as the heat rises in the evening, the room is kept comfortably warm in winter.

Now, I understand the concept of solar heating, but at this point, I become somewhat confused on the cooling capabilities of the sun. Wouldn't it seem you would store a heck of a lot of heat in those canisters in the summer? Mary explained that a thermostat is attached to a fan system that begins to blow air across the canisters at a predetermined setting, say 50 degrees in summer and 70 degrees in winter. The circulation apparently keeps the heat from building up in the canisters in Spring and Summer. The room remains comfortable in all seasons, and with a planned addition of thermal blinds, it will be more so.

Upstairs, young Charles, 5, was anxious to show off his bedroom, with its balcony overlooking the solar room. Son, Corey, 16, has a west facing bedroom. The master suite is large enough to accommodate a large sleigh bed, seating area, desk and dresser, without being cramped.

The Wilder/Fox home has a light, open, airy, Earth Mother look to it, while the Dinkelacker home is colorful and as comforting as an overstuffed chair. The homes are so alike on the outside, and so very different inside. Each is lovely and each reflects its owners. Thanks to Mary, Chuck, Christy, and Horst.

**MAY 18TH FIX UP
CLEAN UP SUCCESS**

At the May 18th VECA general membership meeting, VECA was privileged to have five informative guests. Tables were set up around the lawn of Nazareth Hall and the speakers were there to answer questions and discuss their areas of expertise.

The speakers were: JIM CROWDER, garden and pet care, a master nurseryman who is in the wholesale nursery business and has a garden radio show on Saturday. LARRY GARRETT with First Choice Hardware is at 1380 Jackson. First Choice opened two years ago on the west end of VECA near the site of the old Craftsman Plumbing. TINA BREWER and P. D. CARTER were at the meeting from Gate City Hardware. Gate City at 2500 Summer is at the east end of VECA. JAMES MENG, architect and planner, lives in the neighborhood and provided help with home renovations questions. Jim lives in the VECA community. His business phone is 272-7241. WILLIAM BOBBITT was there from First American Bank. First American offers home improvement loans to low to moderate income homeowners.

The VECA turnout was modest but the lively exchange between residents and experts took place. Please let us hear your ideas for future meetings.

**VECA RESIDENTS HOST OUT OF
TOWN NEIGHBORS**

As part of the Neighborhoods USA conference, four VECA members put together a progressive dinner on May 23rd for some of VECA USA participants and a delegation of national visitors from the conference. Guests were from Little Rock, Arkansas; St. Paul, Minnesota; Louisville, Kentucky; and California. The VECA guests were pleasantly surprised at the community and sense of neighborliness shown through the dinner.


JULIE BORYS was the first stop with drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Next the group went to STEVE GADBOIS' house for salad. Main course was served at CHUCK DILLIE'S. The dessert course was done to perfection at the home of DARRELL LEBET. Piano music accompanied champagne and chocolate dirt cake. This made for a charming and warm ending to a great meal done in VECA style. Many thanks to Julie, Steve, Chuck, and especially Darrell for your touch of class.

VECA's out of town guests were Rosalie Silverglate, Riverside, Ca.; Jerry Jenkins, St. Paul, Mn; Addie Patterson, Compton, Ca.; Solomon Crane, Dayton, Ohio; Estelle McCaddes, Roanoke, Va.; Harold Mure, Richmond, Va.; Leon Edd, Tulsa, Ok.; Ethel Ambrose, Little Rock, Ark.; and David and Merry Ann Zevenbergen.

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DUCKS UNLIMITED

On the heels of the Rausch Plan and the proposed expansion of Kirby Parkway, which would both greatly impact Shelby Farms, Shelby County Mayor William Morris recently announced that 25 acres of Agricenter land would be donated to Ducks Unlimited for its national headquarters. The Friends of Shelby Farms, Inc., a support group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the public recreation area, met with Willia H. Walker, III, president of the Agricenter to discuss the Ducks Unlimited proposal along with other plans for the Agricenter.

The proposed location of the Ducks Unlimited building is west of the Agricenter and would not be visible from the Agricenter building nor Walnut Grove because of surrounding trees, according to Walker. He also said that there would be no other buildings west of the headquarters toward Walnut Grove and that a shallow lake will be created and landscaped as a wetland area utlizing native plants.

Ducks Unlimited is a non-profit, international organization whose primary focus is to preserve and manage wetland areas, said Pete Aviotti, a local liaison for Ducks Unlimited. Ducks Unlimited receives no government funding, but relies on donations, said Aviotti. "We have 600,000 members in the U.S. and Canada, and last year raised \$70 million. Ducks Unlimited is a most worthwhile organization, especially for the environment. They strive for the management of wetlands, not just for water fowl, but all wildlife," said Aviotti.

According to Walker, Ducks Unlimited is interested in developing a comprehensive plan for wetlands restoration and management throughout all of Shelby County, especially along the Wolf River.

UPDATE ON PROPOSED TUTWILER PARK

Representatives both for and against the proposed park on the property south of Tutwiler between Avalon and Dickinson, met at the VECA Board meeting on June 3rd. Recent surveys were conducted in the area to ascertain public opinions and suggestions.

Survey results were shared and discussed with VECA Board members, but no consensus was reached. Therefore, it was agreed to form a committee to further discuss the issue. Committee members include WALTER BROOKSBANK, JOANNE BROWN, DEBBIE COCHRAN, JOHN COONS, ANGIE HOLLIS, CHUCK WALLACE and VECA rep. STEVE GADBOIS. This committee will have a first meeting on Tuesday, June 18th. Feel free to contact Angie Hollis (274-0376) or Chuck Wallace (278-1690) or any of the above committee members with questions, concerns or ideas for this property. Thanks to all surveyors and survey respondents. Many wonderful ideas surfaced that will be presented to the new committee! We appreciate your input!

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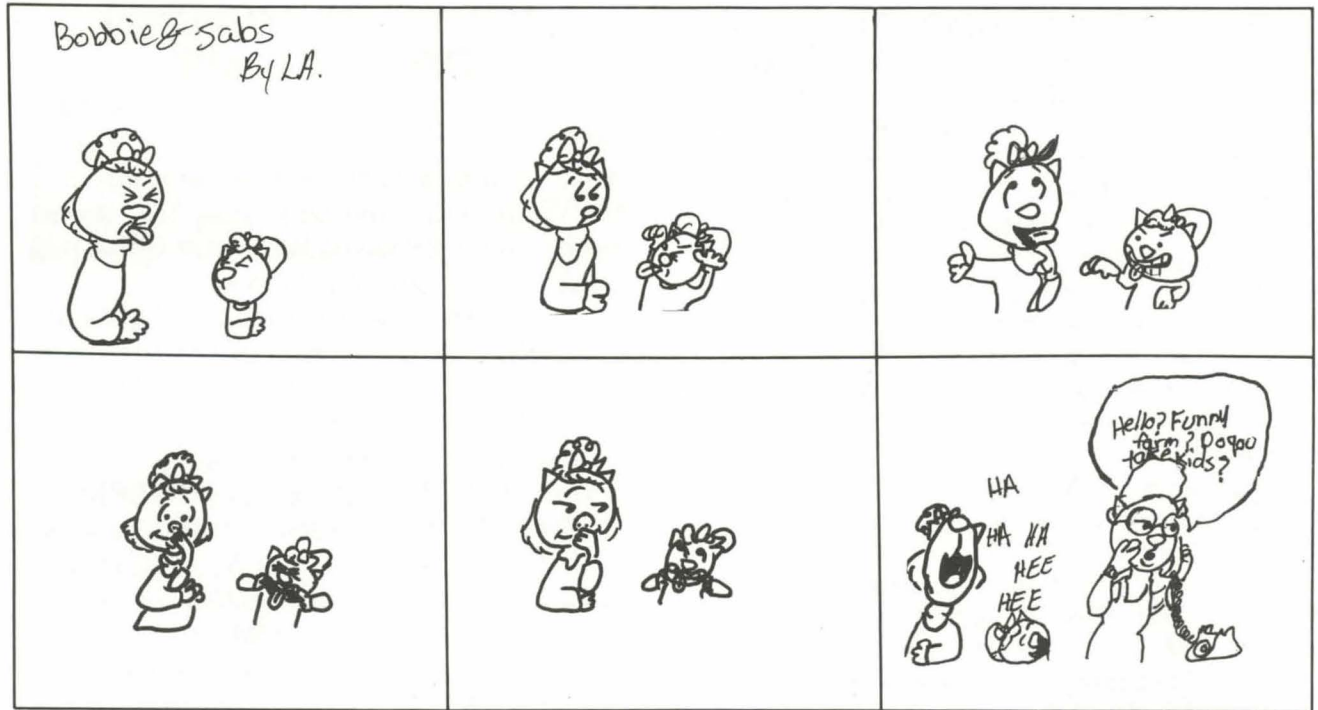
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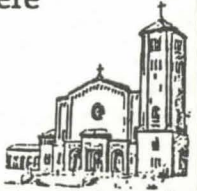
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