

VOLLINTINE EVERGREEN

N E W S

A Neighborhood Publication Sponsored by VECA, the Vollintine-Evergreen Community Association

Volume XXIV, Number 1

JANUARY 1998

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING JANUARY 26

Join many of your neighbors at VECA's annual meeting at 7pm on Monday, January 26 at St. Therese Little Flower Church (1644 Jackson). Besides the election of VECA officers and introduction of members of the VECA Board and the VECA CDC Board, this will be the first of several meetings in which we will begin to decide how we would like our commercial strips to look and function. (Check out the article in this issue on commercial revitalization.)

At 6pm the same day, at the VECA office right next door to Little Flower, there will be a reception for Block Club contact people, current and future.

Make the evening of January 26 a VECA evening!

COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION

One of the most promising, challenging, and important tasks in VECA's original grant proposal to the Pew Charitable Trusts three years ago was commercial revitalization. We are finally ready to begin this work.

VECA has contracted with the local firm E.T.I. Corporation to work with us to help residents and business owners make the most of our commercial centers. Despite the relatively small size of our scattered commercial centers, they could do much to enhance our primarily residential neighborhood. Our principal contact with E.T.I. is Eric Schneider. E.T.I. has considerable experience and a solid reputation in land planning, landscape architecture, and environmental engineering. Perhaps E.T.I.'s most visible success related to neighborhood commercial centers is the complete redesign of the Cooper-Young intersection.

The schedule of winter and spring meetings and events related to commercial revitalization is available at the VECA office and will be available at the January 26 meeting. You can help VECA now by completing and returning the commercial survey that is included as an insert in this issue of the Vollintine-Evergreen News. Thanks!

UPCOMING MEETINGS & COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise marked, all of these meetings are at the VECA office at 1680 Jackson. To be certain, you can call first at 276-1782. Committee meetings and Board meetings are open to everyone.



VECA Block Club Reception	January 26, 6pm
VECA Annual General Meeting	January 26, 7pm (St. Therese)
VECA Board	first Monday monthly, 7pm
VECA CDC Board	second Saturday monthly, 9am
Housing Code Enforcement Committee	February 7, 9am
L&N Greenway Committee	second Monday monthly, 7pm
Acquisitions & Rehab Committee	first Tuesday monthly, 5pm
Commercial Redevelopment Committee	third Thursday monthly, noon (Dino's)
Budget & Finance Committee	first Tuesday monthly, 7:30am
Sales, Rentals, & Loans Committee	third Thursday monthly, 10am
CDC Managing Committee	fourth Saturday monthly, 9am
Safety Committee	
Membership & Fundraising Committee	
Historic/Home Tour Committee	second Monday monthly, 7pm VECA Office
Block Club Committee	
Youth & Recreation Committee	
Cypress/Brown/Howell Committee	
Vollintine-Evergreen News Committee	Article deadlines: February 6, April 10, June 5, August 7, October 9, December 4
VECA Board	January 5, 7pm
VECA Board	February 2, 7pm
VECA Board	March 2, 7pm
CDC Board	January 10, 9am
CDC Board	February 14, 9am
CDC Board	March 14, 9am

Do Not Place In Mailboxes

WE'RE ON OUR OWN

The last three years have seen unprecedented levels of activity and achievement in the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood, thanks largely to the \$975,000 Neighborhood Preservation Initiative grant received from the Pew Charitable Trusts by the Community Foundation of Greater Memphis, for revitalization and stabilization in our neighborhood. We residents owe much to Pew (especially Kathy Merchant) and to the Community Foundation (especially Janis Foster). VECA's staff of Robert Drain, Ruth Gibson, Steve Lockwood, and Mary Wilder have worked wonders, but even they couldn't have gotten so much done without plenty of help from many volunteers.

Although a little of the original grant money remains to be spent (on projects already designated), the end of 1997 was the end of the NPI grant period. Other funding sources have been identified, and some money has already been received or promised (after all, nothing breeds success like success!). But VECA's members need to do two important things now. First, let it be known what tasks deserve highest priority we'd love to continue everything and take on even more, but that may not be reasonable.

And second, pitch in on a task that is important to you, whether large or small. There are some really visible signs of positive change in the neighborhood, so let's not lose the momentum!

FOR SALE



VECA still has Historic Designation plaques available, in a variety of styles, starting at \$25.

FRIENDS OF VECA

Students in Rhodes College's new "Friends of VECA" Club will perform service projects in Vollintine-Evergreen and expose students to the neighborhood. The most active members of the club are Joyce Ann Parker, Emily Monroe, Anne Nuffer, Trent Pingenot, and Chrissy Moore. Over 70 other students have volunteered to work on projects involving the V & E Greenline.

The club has started several beautification projects at its adopted corner of University and Jackson. On October 25, club members and the Kappa Sigma fraternity planted an iris bed, installed a garbage can, cleaned up the bus stop, and trimmed the GreenLine all the way to Springdale. On December 2, they planted tulips and daffodils in the same area. Bulbs were donated by neighborhood residents Gladys Wilson, Martha Heinemann, Julie Borys and Jan Kirby. The club plans to plant trees donated as a memorial to VECA resident and Rhodes professor emeritus Fred Neal. It will also label native trees and pick up litter on their adopted space.

SURPRISE APPRECIATION ON NOVEMBER 19

Hazel Jackson

Lt. Grunderson and the officers of the Klondike police substation would like to thank all of our friends and neighbors in the Klondike area for their appreciation and acts of kindness. It is always a good feeling when neighbors show their appreciation in such a kind way. Together we can make it happen. Thank God for good neighbors like you.

A special thanks to Gloria Singleton Fulton, Jessie Rodgers, and Mary Haynes for their time and efforts, and to VECA, Carl's Bakery, Melanie's, Wild Bill's, and all the local businesses that contributed toward making the Surprise Appreciation a huge success. May we all continue to have Unity in the Community!



SENIORS... WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are still looking for a senior citizen from the Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood who would like a part-time job helping out at the VECA office. Applicants must be income-eligible residents, 55 or older. Call 276-1782 or stop by the office at 1680 Jackson.

VOLLINTINE ↔ EVERGREEN

N E W S
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Sunday Eucharists
8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 p.m.
Tues. Fri. Mass - 5:30 p.m.

Saturday Confession - 3:45 4:50

276-1412



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SECOND HISTORIC HOME TOUR

On Sunday, October 19, 1997, a perfect fall day, approximately 350 friends, neighbors and visitors enjoyed the Second Annual Vollintine-Evergreen Historic District Home Tour. The Tour felt like a party, with food and drink provided by the GreenLine Committee, the trolley bus circling the neighborhood and the Memphis Police Department horses prancing down the median on University. Some unexpected visitors dropped by several firefighters returning from a call stopped by to climb over the antique fire engine brought by the Fire Department. One of the best parts of the day was seeing all the bright purple Historic District t-shirts as neighbors came out to admire the houses and neighborhood and to visit with each other.

An event like this cannot happen without the support of lots of people! If this article misses your name, please call the VECA office and we'll make sure you are mentioned. If you want to be mentioned next year, call the office and volunteer. It's a fun way to be involved.

Special thanks go to the homeowners Gay Gullo, Sue and Ken Strong, James Farris, Mark Marascalco and Shane Sullivan, William Criss and Jimmy Stevenson, and Alan Garrett and Terry NeSmith who opened their beautiful homes to us. The congregation and staff at Evergreen Presbyterian Church also welcomed us. The Home Tour committee worked for several

months, starting with driving around to identify potential houses. Stephanie Banks handled publicity and Sherry Henson developed and designed the brochure. Judith Johnson from Memphis Heritage and Michael Finger provided brochure copy and John Rutkauskas drew the homes, in addition to serving as a house coordinator, with Claudia Rutkauskas. Kay Blues, Bill Newberg, Denise Perkins, Dottie Sachritz and Elena Williams also served as house coordinators. Andree Glenn and Linda Nichols co-chaired.

Ticket-sellers were Martha Nichols, Rosalind Cottrell and Margo Weisiger (who had moved into the neighborhood 53 years ago that day!) Ruth Gibson, Beulah Green, Steve Lockwood, Marjorie Barringer, Julie Borys, Martha Jordan, and Steve Gadbois staffed the VECA table. Sarah Strong coordinated Evergreen's participation with assistance from Billie Cannon, Lucy Cummings and Reverend Sam Laine. Stephanie Rodda and the Evergreen Girl Scout Troop provided free babysitting services.

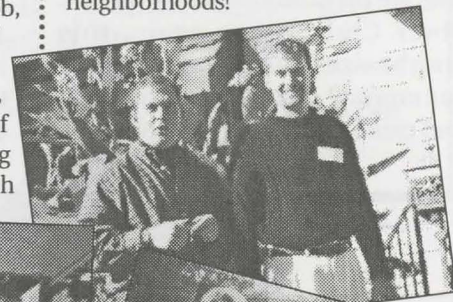
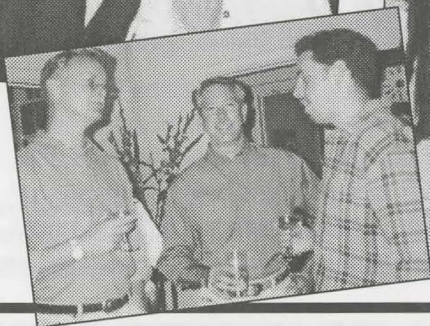
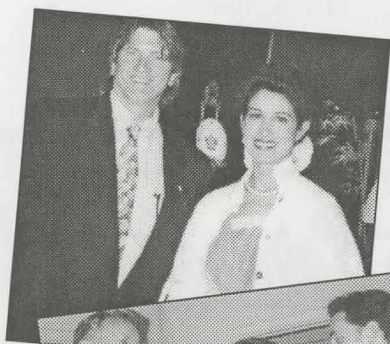
Members of the GreenLine Committee served food. Elise Herron, Len Cobb, Carol Danehower, and Pete and Charlotte Swailes and their granddaughters, Julie and Shelby Willis. Several GreenLiners mowed and cleaned up the day before the Tour, including Mike & Jan Kirby, Lynn Cobb, Chuck Fox, and the "Friends of VECA" club from Rhodes.

At each house and at the church, the docents were incredible sources of information and history, welcoming us into the houses and making each

house come alive. Docents included Barbara Garrett, Tom NeSmith, JoAllene NeSmith, Michael Briggs, Lynn Barnett, Molly Miller, Susan Fagan, Tom Fagan, Marilyn Paavola, Beth Kamhi, Wendy Trenthem, Rebecca Courtney, Maggie Conway Gerre Harrell, Kim Harwood, Kay Jordan, Molly Fleming, Donna Windham, Jan Jamison, Micky Spence, Betty Spence, Rodney Rheinhardt, Scott Sullivan, Harry Clifton, Brian Kirle, Rick Kaccamisi, Robert Durmaine, Portia Brown, Claire Rutkauskas, Lynn Jackson, Sue Miller, Jan Goforth, Catina Dunlap, Sandy Kozic, Greg Lieberman, George Hearn, Carol Blankenship, Hazel McNeil, Brenda Bishop, Molly Jordan, David Glesendorf, Michelle Brown, Ann Rona, Melanie Larue, Bette Ackerman, and Terry Meistering.

Special thanks to those who sold tickets before the Tour: Burke's Bookstore, Paggio's for Hair, ICB Stores, 1910 Frameworks, Wiles-Smith Drug Store and Babcock's Gifts.

The Tour had great publicity from the MidMemphian, Downtowner Lamplighter, Memphis Flyer, Memphis Magazine, Commercial Appeal, Keystone, WKNO-FM, and Channel 3 TV, whose reporter was absolutely right — we are one of Mid-town's finest neighborhoods!





STONEWALL-NORTH END BLOCK CLUB

Jacques A. Tate

Although Mother Nature didn't cooperate, the spirits of Stonewall residents weren't dampened as their October Block Club event was moved indoors to VECA's office. Participation at this first gathering of the newly-formed Stonewall-North End Block Club was tremendous. Cokes, hot dogs, cole slaw, chips, and Halloween candy for the kids made up the menu for the day.

Block Coordinator Ules Mabon and Assistant Block Coordinator Margaret Sanford were very pleased with the enthusiasm and commitment exhibited by family members of Stonewall-North End. Mr. Mabon stated that this was only the beginning and that more was to come in the future. Our hats are off to Stonewall-North End Block Club. Once again, this emphasizes the importance of community involvement and love and care for our neighborhood.

VECA'S BLOCK CLUBS


Gloria Singleton Fulton has worked hard for three years to help residents in all of Vollintine-Evergreen organize Block Clubs, and it shows! Here is the latest list. If your block isn't listed and you'd like it to be, call the VECA office at 276-1782.

Block Club:

Auburndale (Jackson to Vollintine)
Avalon (Tutwiler to Jackson)
Avalon (Jackson to Henry)
Barksdale (Vollintine to north end)
Berkeley (Ramona to Springdale)
Brown (Cypress Creek to Springdale)
Dickinson (Tutwiler to Jackson)
Edward (Evergreen to McLean)
Evergreen (Tutwiler to Jackson)
Evergreen (Jackson to Vollintine)
Evergreen (Vollintine to Edward)
Faxon (Watkins to Stonewall)
Garland (Henry to Vollintine)
Garland (Vollintine to Brown)
Hawthorne (Jackson to Vollintine)
Jackson (Willett to Evergreen)
Maury (Jackson to Henry)
Maury (Henry to Vollintine)
McNeil (Jackson to Henry)
Michelle Circle
Saints Courts Apartments
Sheridan (Vollintine to north end)
Stonewall (Jackson to Henry)
Stonewall (Vollintine to north end)
Terry Circle
N. Watkins Court
Willett (Tutwiler to Jackson)
Willett (Vollintine to north end)

Contact Person:

Chiquita Isom
Anne Leulederkind
Conita Grigsby
Barbara Coleman
Linda Stewart
Belinda Kerusch
TBA
Dorothy Davis
Helen Johnson
Mary and Charles Williams
Lorene Nightingale
Debbie Cochran
Charles McBride
James Ivy
Michael Mitchell
Annette Anderson
Eula Tyes
Marjorie Barringer
Hazel Jackson
Laura Wright
Gaynell Jennings & Clara Terrell
Lois Scott
Gloria Singleton Fulton
Ules Mabon
Jessie Rodgers
Mamie Muse
Loretta Watkins
Beulah Green



VECA NEEDS BUYERS

VECA CDC sold 12 houses in 1996, and will have about 15 more to sell in 1997. These are beautiful, fully renovated homes in many parts of the historic Vollintine-Evergreen neighborhood, selling for an average of \$55,000. Call Ruth at 276-1782.



Craig Smith - Owner
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VECA NEEDS MEMBERS

Name _____
 Telephone Day: _____ Telephone Evening: _____
 Address _____ Zip _____

I'M INTERESTED IN:



- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth & Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Clubs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Housing & Code Enforcement | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Home Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Association |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Delivery | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Articles |
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VECA

VOLLINTINE-EVERGREEN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

VECA is a neighborhood organization made up of volunteers and paying members. The Vollintine-Evergreen News is the way in which VECA communicates with its residents. The Vollintine-Evergreen News contains information about VECA, neighborhood residents, and business 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 1680 Jackson Avenue, Memphis, TN 38107 or call (901) 276-1782.