

The Scout

A Bi-monthly newsletter

Issue # 4 - September 2013

FWOA Website

has informative information.

Check it out!

www.fortwest.net

FWOA Facebook

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/202384306538717/?ref=ts&fref=ts> to join.

FWOA email

Are you receiving FWOA emails? If not, ask mapnorth@tds.net to add you to the distribution list.



Ideas or Suggestions?

Send an email to Mike at singleta@utk.edu or mail to P.O. Box 22176, Knoxville, TN 37934

Notes from the President:

First, we're proud to report that 170 of your neighbors paid their FWOA dues so far this year and we hope to hear from others. That's an improvement over some past years.

We need more members and we also need more volunteers...people who are willing to help maintain and improve the neighborhood.

Each year as we send out the dues notices, we ask respondents if they have concerns about the FWOA. Many respond that dues should be mandatory -- since it can be considered unfair for some to pay and others not. But FWOA has a long history of having 'voluntary' dues, and that is a tradition that would be hard to break.

But in the interest of maintaining and enhancing the neighborhood, let's all do what we can to assure the association is properly and generously supported.

The dues issue is just one of several for which we could use some legal advice. If the reader is a lawyer who would be willing to advise us pro bono or at least at a modest fee, please help.

We often have issues for which we do not comfortably know the rules. If the reader knows someone for us to contact we can do that. We would very much like to have a local lawyer on the board of directors.

The Board is supposed to have nine members, which should be a good cross section of our owners. At present we have only six. If you would like to serve, tell Mike at singleta@utk.edu, or call 671-1899.

~Mike

Think Color!

FWOA cannot over-emphasize landscaping. Do what you can to make the neighborhood beautiful. Plant color. Crepe Myrtles are cheap

and easy to maintain; and they offer lots of color. Make each home a showplace.

Falling Leaves!

As fall approaches, FWOA residents might be interested in a leaf collection service. FWOA is not endorsing the service but it might be useful to a homeowner. "Grassmasters" say they will provide curbside pickup for \$35.00 "and up." The telephone number is 385-3262.



Neighborhood Safety

On-Street Parking

FWOA is getting lots of complaints about parking and speeding. Probably most notable is the parking that occurs on curves, and especially on Lawton but elsewhere as well. On Lawton, drivers approaching the curve cannot see the on-coming traffic because of the parked cars, and in any event it's hard to move three cars through the curve, and this becomes a real danger. Should we amend the by-laws to limit on-street parking? I think FWOA is empowered to make rules to assure the safety of residents, but this is another issue where we could use some legal advice.

Other issues revealed to the FWOA by residents include commercial vehicles parked on the streets. We have found that some neighbors who are affected by it are severely stressed. They say it looks bad and therefore threatens property values, and that it also is inconvenient for homeowners backing out of their driveway.

Other complaints include overnight parking on the streets.

Speeding

FWOA also gets complaints about speeding. The speed limit, as stated in our by-laws, is 25MPH. It has been suggested we ask the Sheriff's Department to conduct random radar checks so please be aware and please help control the speed. There is some interest on the board in regard to speed bumps. What do you think? We don't want pets or children -- even

rabbits and squirrels -- hurt on our streets. ~Mike

Neighborhood Watch

With today's lifestyles, it's hard to get to know your neighbors. However, several Fort West residents have expressed a wish to do just that. It is a way to develop a stronger sense of community as well as make new friends. (Fort West people are terrific, after all!)

What events and activities appeal to your family? Do you have any ideas to suggest? Send any ideas to Mark Stewart at mastewart@tds.net or text him at 865-805-5881.

Also consider joining our Fort West group on Facebook. It's a great way to share information such as lost or found pets. We currently have 41 members, and we'd like to see more. Go to www.facebook.com/groups/202384306538717/?ref=ts&fref=ts to join.

Kids and Freon - Neighborhood Watch Issue

Individuals looking to get high have started a potentially fatal trend of huffing Freon gas from air conditioners which freezes the lungs and can be deadly on the first try.

We have already had a recent incident reported on Sundown Road where two units were damaged by this act and was confirmed by the repair company. In fact, the technician stated it was happening all over Knoxville and can end up being a very expensive repair.

They are tampering with refrigerate ports or interior lines on outdoor A/C

systems to gain access to the deadly chemical. The harmful effects of huffing Freon include brain mass loss, liver damage, cardiovascular issues and death.

Please be watchful for anyone hanging around A/C units, and call the Police if witnessed. Consider adding more exterior lighting and/or motion lighting around your home.

Also, to stay up-to-date, be sure you've submitted your email to HOA for emailed updates ("blind blasts" so your email stays private). Also, join our Fort West Facebook group - a useful tool for quick communication and community use.

What's happening at your school?

Friday, 9/20/2013 at 7:30PM
Farragut @ West High School

Annual Farragut High School Band Fruit Sale is underway.

The SCOUT needs news! We bet there is a lot going on among our families that others would love to share. For example, did someone recently graduate, wed, travel,



recover, get promoted, move in, retire, got accepted

to...or whatever? Tell SCOUT about it and help to develop our sense of community. Send notes to singleta@utk.edu. Please include include a phone number for our use only as we probably will call back to confirm authenticity and accuracy.

Neighborhood Pool

2013 proved to be another fun year at the Fort West pool. Over 60 residents joined the pool this year which provided funding for the new pool furniture and pump maintenance. Both pool pumps broke this year and were immediately replaced to provide for uninterrupted pool access.

Annual dues continue to allow for improvements for the members. Next year we will be replacing the plastic tables and purchasing new cabanas.

The current budget has \$8,800.00 in the resurfacing account and approximately \$7,000.00 in the checking account. A final financial statement will be posted at the end of the season. We look forward to another great year in 2014.

FWOA Board Meeting

Meeting was held at the Singletary home, 309 Lawton Blvd, September 9, 2013 at 4:30 p.m.

Attendees: Mike Singletary, Melissa North, Mark Stewart, George Nennstiel

The Board expressed thanks to George Nennstiel for raising the seasonal flags, and for arranging maintenance of the sprinkler system for the FWOA.

The Board was advised membership now stands at 170 for 2013, an improvement over previous years. Melissa North reviewed the budget and the Board was advised the FWOA financial situation is sound at this time.

The Board discussed the possibility of installing speed bumps or speed "humps" in key places on at least two streets, Lawton and Longbow, in response to complaints from residents about speeding cars. Mark Stewart will research the issue with the Town of Farragut, to include the feasibility of speed limit signs, and options for addressing issues of on-street parking.

The Board was asked about an autumn garage sale and a repeat of the Christmas home tour. Both items will be discussed further.

The Board was advised that the entrances will be decorated for autumn with pansies, same as last year. The flowers in 2012 provided great color and survived the winter. It was noted that the FWOA planting of summer petunias at the entrances of the subdivision failed, as all the plants died after some three weeks. Cause of the loss is not known.

Mike Singletary urged that the yard of the month competition and the annual neighborhood meeting be resumed, as called for in the by-laws.

The Board also discussed how to improve the gathering of news for the FWOA newsletter. News contributions will be promoted in the newsletter.

Regarding resumption of the annual National Night Out Program, the Board agreed that a chairperson should be solicited to take ownership, so to speak, of that program.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Babysitting is available!



Check out the website!

www.fortwest.net

Pet Sitting Service!



For folks who are planning to travel but who have pets to take care of, resident Joe Cafferata recommends that you consider a pet service called Hush Puppies. In business for 3 years and serving 200 clients, Hush Puppies will come to your home and take care of whatever pet you have.



....and help make a difference in your neighborhood!

- Can you assist with the bi-monthly Newsletter?
- Would you help organize a National Night Out Event? <http://www.natw.org/about/>
- We need a Leader for the Landscape Committee. Could that be you?



Safety Corner

Most drivers do not think that speeding is a serious offense, except where children might be present. Many drivers admit to speeding in residential zones. The reasons range from running late and wanting to make up time to being unaware of the speed limit. Speeding in residential zones are usually the number one complaint of neighborhoods, because of the risks to children. Speeding in residential zones causes five types of harm:

1. Makes neighbors fear for children's safety
2. Makes walkers and bicyclists fear for their safety
3. Increases the risk of vehicle accidents
4. Increases the seriousness injuries
5. Increases engine and tire noise

Even small increases of speed can make the difference between life and death for pedestrians struck by a car or truck and each one-mph reduction in speed equal to a 5 percent reduction in vehicle accidents.

Remember that speeding contributes to 1/8 of all accidents and 1/3 of all fatal crashes.

Please slow down and following the posted speed limits for Fort West and surrounding areas.

Watt Road Extension Project Update

Alderman and Fort West resident Jeff Elliott informed the FWOA that the town of Farragut was notified by TDOT (which oversees this project) that the Watt Road Extension Project will probably not be completed until the spring of 2014. The contractor got behind with utility relocations and weather delays and the likelihood of completion before winter is remote.



Are you a musician?

Mike Singletary does some fiddling or violin-ing (non-classical) and some fiddle repair. If anyone is interested in talking about violins, or jamming a little (i.e., playing guitar accompaniment, piano-violin music) call Mike at 671-1899.

Coming Soon!

Fort West Neighborhood Directory. Watch for it in your email.



Calling Neighborhood Kids!

Advertise your business in The Scout. Send email to singleta@utk.edu

Never thought I'd see?

Did you know a female black bear can produce a litter of up to five cubs every 2 years. So, seeing Momma bear with four cubs on 9/15/2013 wild in the woods was truly a highlight of my year!

FWOA Membership

**Thank you Members & Volunteers
for your support!**

Not a Member? It is easy to become one.

Just mail your payment of \$90.00 payable to

Fort West Owners' Association
P.O. Box 22176
Knoxville, TN 37933

FWOA 2013 Budget Update

Projected FWOA 2013 Budget as of 9/8/2013					
		2013 Income & YTD Expenses	2013 Projected Budget	\$Over/Under Budget	Notes
CY2012 carryover		\$6,156.25	\$6,156.25		
Income	1/2 tree cutting bill in commons	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	
	Pool insurance reimbursement	\$708.00	\$708.00	\$0.00	
	Dues -FWOA	\$15,826.00	\$13,663.00	\$2,163.00	
Total Income		\$22,990.25	\$20,527.25	\$2,463.00	
Expenses	First Utility District (AW)	\$362.98	\$565.00	\$202.02	includes backflow test fees of \$100.00
	Misc. Common Area expenses	\$1,654.41	\$500.00	-\$1,154.41	sprinkler sys, playground, electrical,
	Lawn Care	\$543.71	\$800.00	\$256.29	front entrances flowers, shrubs, etc.
	Mulch - front entrances	\$724.76	\$1,085.00	\$360.24	
	Landscaping Maint Contract	\$3,050.00	\$3,950.00	\$900.00	Landscape Solutions ONLY (only
	Entrance Signage upgrade	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
	Holiday Decorations	\$135.51	\$200.00	\$64.49	4 flags & hardware
	Nationwide Insurance	\$1,180.00	\$1,200.00	\$20.00	60/40 split with pool budget
	Lenoir City Utility Board (AW)	\$318.31	\$465.00	\$146.69	
	Miscellaneous	\$117.51	\$200.00	\$82.49	checks, PO box, small signage
	National Night Out	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Newsletters	\$170.66	\$0.00	-\$170.66	
	Postage	\$363.54	\$300.00	-\$63.54	membership drive mailings
	Printing	\$126.30	\$350.00	\$223.70	membership & holiday flyers, directory
	Property Taxes	\$135.00	\$400.00	\$265.00	513 Sundown; 300 Sundown (pool pays)
	Rural Metro	\$29.99	\$60.00	\$30.01	513 Sundown; 300 Sundown (pool
	Social Committee	\$0.00	\$350.00	\$350.00	Spring Fling, garage sale, Holiday Village
	State of Tennessee	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
	Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
	Website	\$89.89	\$90.00	\$0.11	
Total Expenses		\$9,002.57	\$11,565.00	\$2,562.43	
Net Income		\$13,987.68	\$8,962.25		

FWOA Board Members

Mike Singletary, President

George Nennstiel, Vice President

Melissa North, Treasurer

Marjie O'Connor, Secretary

Dutch Detchmendy, Pool Manager

Denise Kandziolka, Pool Treasurer

Mark and Amanda Stewart, Neighborhood Watch & Block Chairs

Eric Broyles, Social Committee Chair

