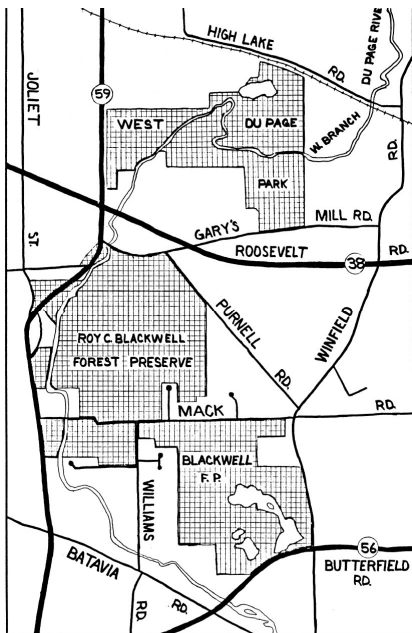


West-Win Homeowners' Association
PO Box 367
Winfield, IL 60190-0367
 On the web: www.West-Win.org
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First Class



Spring 2017 Newsletter – Inside this issue:

- Home Security Tips
- Secret to Finding Small Dropped Items
- Contacts for Your Questions and Concerns

Circulation 726

April						
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Spring General Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, April 25th

Where :	<u>Winfield Public Library</u> – lower level. 0 S 291 Winfield Rd. Parking lot to the North of the building.
6:30 p.m.	Talk with local officials, West-Win Board Members and neighbors Pay annual dues.
7:00 p.m.	Brief business meeting, including: Election of Board Members
7:15 p.m.	Brief updates from Winfield Plan Commission President, Winfield Township Road Supervisor, Sheriff's Liaison, and Forest Preserve Commissioner
7:45 p.m.	The Buzz On Bees Speaker: Chris Saad
8:45 p.m.	Adjourn. Cleanup. Volunteers welcome.





West-Win Homeowners' Association

individuals working together to preserve our idyllic countryside

Welcome to West-Win! We are an organization of independent homeowners in unincorporated Winfield Township who have a history of protecting the ambiance of our country-like area.

Much of our work involves the exchange of mutually useful information through our semi-annual newsletter, our website and through issue-specific emails. We respond to concerns of our membership and often advocate with local governments on issues of common interest, especially those threatening the peace or security of our homesteads.

There are over 700 homes within our unincorporated area. By joining West-Win Homeowners' Association, you will be one of many organized to protect the peace and beauty of our environment.

Membership in West-Win is voluntary. Please join us! Give us your opinions and ideas for protecting or improving our area. If you are new to our neighborhood, or are an eligible household recently added to our mailing list, we look forward to meeting you at our next General Meeting!

Your current Board of Directors to contact with ideas is:

President:	Herb Wigder	847 723-5150
Vice President:	Vicki Weyer	630 400-1556
Secretary:	Judy Cummings	630 293-0474
Treasurer:	Eileen Kelly	630 876-1316

Directors	
Deb Barclay	630 690-2058
Gib Van Dine	630 231-4777
Barb Whitney	630 231-0320

email: info@West-Win.org

On the web: www.West-Win.org

Like us on facebook to get notice of current events: West-Win Homeowners' Association

COME TO THE SPRING MEETING AND VOTE FOR BOARD MEMBERS

The nominating committee has returned a slate of officers and directors. All they need is your vote on the evening of Tuesday, April 25th. The slate is:

Officers

President Herb Wigder

Directors

*Mary Bakas
Deb Barclay (1yr)
*Kathy Hydo
*Dr. Nick Parrilli
Gib Van Dine

*Three candidates for Director positions are new to the Board.

The candidates will each serve for a 2-year term except Deb Barclay who will serve a 1-year term.

Other officers and directors have one year remaining on their 2-year term.



SPEAKER AT THE SPRING MEETING

The Buzz On Bees

Not only fruits, but many of the other foods on our tables depend on the pollination work of honey bees. But, important as these busy little workers are to our diet, and busy as our local beekeepers are to keep colonies of them healthy and productive, our bee population is under threat. At our meeting on April 25th we will have the opportunity to hear much about the role that bees play in our lives in addition to the ones we know about - delicious honey and beeswax products.

Chris Saad, one of our area's major apiary operators will fill us in on many of these aspects:

1. General beekeeping. How we get our bees.
2. The hive society and roles: Queen, worker bee and drone.
3. Honey bee pests and decline.
4. How you can help honey bees.

Chris started with 3 hives with his 2 sons as a hobby in 2008. But that grew quickly; by 2010 he and his wife had started their business "Honey Trails" with 90 hives providing local honey to area residents at the Winfield and Naperville Farmers' Markets. They currently operate 140 colonies in Kane and DuPage Counties.

In addition to their honey they craft and sell beeswax candles and various skin care products. They also build and sell woodenware hive components and distribute package bees to many area beekeeping hobbyists.

Come on April 25th and learn what we each can do to help these little guys keep working for us.

BUG IN THE CAR?

We have all had the annoyance of a fly, mosquito, or even a bee flying around our head while driving. So what can you do about it? The first thing is to make sure all the windows in the car are closed. Then open the front two **only a little crack**. Next turn the car's blower on high. When the large volume of air brought in by the blower is forced to go out those very small openings, the air velocity shooting out there is very high. If a fly or mosquito gets near one of those cracks, it will be swept out instantly.

Needless to say, if you are bothered enough by the pest to try shooing it towards one of the openings, please stop the car first. There have been a number of accidents caused by a frantic driver trying to shoo out a bee without first stopping the car.

HOME SECURITY TIPS



Bushes and Vegetation

Thick shrubs can lend curb appeal. Unfortunately, lush hedges can provide cover for a burglar. Keep vegetation trimmed low, and consider installing thorny plants close to the house to thwart thieves.

Mirror and alarm

A mirror in the entryway lets you assess your look before heading out the door. But check its position from your front windows. Can you see the reflection of your alarm system? If so, would-be intruders can too - and they'll know at a glance if you neglected to arm it when you dashed out on an errand. An alarm can be a deterrent and also call police if the alarm is set off when you are away.

Keys and Valuables

That bowl or basket where everyone tosses keys, wallets, phones and other valuables may also help possible criminals. Sure, you'll know where they are - but so will a burglar. The best place for car keys is beside your bed. If you wake up to noises that sound like someone breaking in, hit the alarm on the fob to scare the criminal away. No one likes to get locked out, but a spare key stashed under a rock or above the door frame is bound to be discovered, so exchange yours with a neighbor you trust in case of emergency.

Doors

You might keep the deadbolt locked on the front door at all times, but what about the back door off the patio? Or maybe you leave the garage door wide open during the afternoons? Be as conscientious about your less-used entrances as you are with your main one. Also reinforce sliding doors with a sliding lock or even a metal or wood piece along the rails can be effective.

Hiding spots for valuables

Thieves know that homeowners hide valuables in the sock and underwear drawers. Places like under a mattress or in a nightstand are also known hiding spots. Use less used places like an attic, secret compartments or drawers or a heavy safe that can't be carried.

Friends, Followers, and Fiends

When you're out of town, you have a neighbor pick up your mail and you stop newspaper delivery so thieves won't see them piling up. Also block any social media posts to the public that may say you are out of town or not at home. All a burglar has to do is look up your address and then leisurely go to your home, knowing you won't be back from Italy until Sunday.

Residents of West Win know the area and their neighbors better than our office. Residents are able to detect anything that is out of place at their neighbor's home as well as autos that they own. Please report these types of things to our office by calling 911. If you are not sure, try to obtain information on what you saw like license plates, car makes and models from a safe location and call your neighbor to see if everything is fine. If something is wrong or a crime was committed we can use that information for our investigation and possibly help with arresting the responsible people.

LOST IN PLAIN SIGHT ON THE FLOOR?

Can't find a small pill you've dropped? Where's the missing piece to the jigsaw puzzle? It can be very frustrating to know that some tiny thing you have dropped on the floor is there in plain sight, even in a brightly lit room, but you cannot find it. But all is not lost! That is, your small object is not going to be lost for long. You could of course sweep the floor and see what shows up in the dust pan, but there is an easier way.

In most cases like this the small object you are looking for happens to closely match the color and/or the pattern of the floor in the area where it lies. And an overhead light source, no matter how bright, makes it difficult because it casts no shadows from objects on the floor. Have you seen pictures of the craters on the moon? The ones that really stand out are those which are lit by sun light coming in at a slant.

So the secret to finding your little lost object is a bright beam of light coming in at nearly right angles. Use a flash light that makes a sharp narrow beam - one of the new LED types is good - and hold it down on the floor where you can slowly sweep the beam across its surface. Even the tiniest object will become immediately visible in the beam.

There is a disadvantage to this technique. It can show you what a bad housekeeper you are! Every tiny speck that is normally invisible on the floor now shows up, and it can make you either feel guilty, or head for the vacuum cleaner after picking up what you were looking for.

In the first picture there is a hairpin and a small jigsaw puzzle piece on the floor in a brightly-lit kitchen. See them? I can't. But in the second picture they are caught in the beam of a small flashlight that's at floor level. I wouldn't have taken these pictures if the floor hadn't been swept first. I wouldn't want you to see what bad housekeepers we are!



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!

Especially if your Newsletter was Addressed to "Current Resident"

You've selected a beautiful, unincorporated setting in which to live. To stay connected and current on issues within our area, please email your contact information to us at info@West-Win.org.

FOR LONG-TIME NEIGHBORS . . .

Let us know when a house near you gets a new owner so we can welcome them to the neighborhood and send or hand deliver to them an issue of our Newsletter. Please email their house address to info@West-Win.org.

CONTACTS FOR YOUR QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

On the dues form our members often thank us for our work and include various local questions and concerns as well as ideas for future general meeting topics. Some concerns can be addressed by talking with elected officials (Winfield Township Supervisor and Highway Commissioner, and Forest Preserve District Commissioner) and our Sheriff's Neighborhood Liaison before and after the general meetings, as well as by the meeting topics. Additionally these resources may be able to answer your questions.

DuPage County Sheriff's Office

Website: dupagesheriff.org

Sheriff's Neighborhood Liaison: Corporal Ed Castillo

Non-Emergency: Communications Center: 630-407-2400 (24-hr. phone)

Emergencies: 911

Winfield Township

Website: winfieldtownship.com

Email: info@winfieldtownship.com

Supervisor: Dona L. Smith: 630-231-3591, supervisor@winfieldtownship.com

Highway Commissioner: John S. Dusza: 630-231-8850, road@winfieldtownship.com

Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Website: dupageforest.com

District 6 Commissioner: Al Murphy: 630-244-2674, amurphy@dupageforest.org

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Being united as a homeowners' association, we have been very effective in protecting the environment in which we reside. Your paid-up membership helps us ensure that you receive information to help protect one of your most valuable assets, the large lot sizes and natural land around you.

The newsletter cover sheet indicates if you have already paid for 2017. If you have, we thank you. You have helped us to continue our efforts to protect our country-like area. 2017 dues are \$20. If you have not yet paid, please mail your dues to:

West-Win Homeowners' Association,
PO Box 367, Winfield, IL 60190-0367.



Your member number is on the top line of the cover sheet. Please put it on your check and fill out and enclose the cover sheet.

Some of our members contribute more than the stated dues, and others pay for years in advance. We appreciate not only those who pay the regular dues but also those who are generous enough to pay more than the required amount. Thank you for supporting West-Win at whatever level you choose!

If you have questions or concerns, please send an e-mail to info@West-Win.org.