



**WEST SALEM
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER**

410 Beaumont Street
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27101

www.westsalemneighborhood.org

WSNA OFFICERS

Steven Shafer, president, 721.1049,
stevenshafer@sprintmail.com

Barry Lyons, vice president, 748.8183
barryalyons@bellsouth.net

Kay Everhart, treasurer, 725-8081
sidelle@triad.rr.com

Mike Anthony
manthony9@bellsouth.net

BOARD OF ADVISORS

Sarah Carter

Joann Reed

Apryl Roland

David Roland

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Josh Sutter

Kristen Tanguay

WEST SALEM CLASSIFIEDS

PLEASE NOTE: Classifieds are offered free to West Salem neighbors wishing to sell personal items. Ads will be deleted after two consecutive newsletters unless renewed by the seller. Business advertisements will be paid advertisements billed at the standard rates.

FOR SALE: Kenmore Cabinet Model Sewing Machine, \$25. Call 724-0121 Kenmore Cabinet Model Sewing Machine, \$25. Call 724-0121

FOR RENT: West Salem House, available in December. 508 Academy Street--2 bedrooms,1 bath, den, dining room, kitchen, laundry room, fenced back yard with storage building. Call 655-6898.

FOR SALE: 1997 Ford Escort LX Station Wagon, has a 2000 2.0 Escort motor with 38,000 miles was put in car in 2007 with new water pump, timing belt, also transmission filter and fluid replaced. n 2008 new radiator replaced. Other maintenance done. Runs great, interior and exterior in excellent clean condition.\$ 3,000 or best offer. Call 655-6898.

FOR SALE: Two large bird cages for sale. \$20 each. Call 655-6898.

FOR SALE: 1999 Ford Taurus SE, 6 cylinder, 123k miles. Runs great, good tires, cold air. Some body damage. \$2000. Call 336-724-9559.

FOR SALE: Great for the upcoming Holidays: Evening gowns sizes 7 thru 26. Many colors to chose from to suit you. Leave Msg. if no answer: 722-1158.

FOR SALE: Complete Women's Store. Only interested call 722-1158.



Christmas Gifts Suggestions

- Christmas gift suggestions:
- To your enemy, forgiveness.
- To an opponent, tolerance.
- To a friend, your heart.

By Oren Arnold

**WEST SALEM'S
DECEMBER CALENDAR**

If you would like to have a brief announcement of community activities published monthly in our newsletter, please call or email Steven Shafer.

Friday, December 5, 6—8:30 PM. Gateway Gallery will open the exhibition "Picturing Motion: Image & Reality," featuring photographs of dancers, with a free reception. Two short choreographic works for film will premier at 7:30 PM. 1006 S. Marshall Street. Call 777.0076, x238 for more information.

Thursday, December 11, 7 PM. "Dancin' on Broadway: A Song and Dance Revue," featuring the Enrichment Center Performance Company and the Enrichment Center Percussion Ensemble. Gateway Gallery. 1006 S. Marshall Street. Free. Call 777.0076, x238 for more information.

Green Street Church December Events

Friday, 19th 8PM - Million Start Hotel Fundraiser at The Garage to benefit the Shalom Project

Sunday, 21st, 7PM,Manger Faces Christmas Jazz Concert

Monday, 22nd, 6PM, Hanukkah Meal, 6 PM

Wednesday, 24th, 5:30PM - Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, 23rd, Food Pantry CLOSED

Weds 17th, 24th, 31st, Medical Clinic CLOSED

Sunday, December 21, West Salem Caroling. Meet at Christ Moravian Church Parking Lot at 7 PM!

Sunday, December 14, 2—4 PM, Winston-Salem Visitor Center, local author/historian, Michael Bricker, will have a book signing of his new book, "Winston-Salem: A Twin City History" plus his pictorial book "Historic West Salem."

Tuesday, January 6, 7 PM West Salem Neighborhood Association holds monthly Association Meeting in the Fellowship Hall of Christ Moravian Church, corner of Academy and Granville Drive. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

VERY SPECIAL GIFT GIVER

Our little house in Munster, Indiana, served us well. The only dimension that was large at all was its height. The first floor had a living room and a combination kitchen/dining room. Attached to the rear, was a small, screened-in porch. Upstairs there were the bare essentials: two bedrooms, each with a closet, one bath and the stairway. The front bedroom was for Mom and my sister, Altamae; the rear bedroom was for me and my two brothers. I didn't know until years later that I lived in a small house and should have felt sorry for myself. That house easily held the five of us and all the love we needed and then some.

That year, money was hard to come by. Our long-gone father wasn't sending many if any monthly support checks. After all, he reasoned, we children were old enough to work and earn money for the family ourselves. Big brother Harold had to drop out of high school to get a job so that we could stay together and stay alive. Bill and I worked in the evenings a couple of nights each week setting pins in the local bowling alley. As Christmas approached, we went to the woods nearby, cut down a five-foot-tall evergreen tree, set it up in the living room and decorated it for Christmas. As the days deepened into the month of December, I noticed that there were no presents under the tree. Mom gathered us around her on the couch and on the floor and told us that there wouldn't be any presents this year. There just wasn't any money. She seemed sadder than any of us. I suppose she felt that, as our mother, she was letting us down.

When I came into the living room during that month, I often noticed the empty space under the tree and felt a twinge of regret. But I was happy and felt quite secure as a member of our little family. After all, no one else had a present; why should I feel sorry for myself.

On Christmas eve, Mom read the Christmas story from the Bible and prayed, thanking God for His love and for our love for each other both of which were far more important than gifts, anyway. I came down stairs on Christmas morning with no place to go and nothing special to do. As I walked through the living room toward the front door, I noticed something out of the corner of my eye. I turned toward the Christmas tree across the room with surprise—no, with shock! There were four well wrapped Christmas presents under the tree!

Continued on page four. . .

Recipe of the Month
Irma Jackson offers up another great recipe for this month's newsletter.



Quick Chicken Pot Pie

- 2 C cooked chicken, cubed
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 2 C mixed vegetables
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 or 2 pre made pie crust(s)
- Season to taste (salt, pepper, dill)

Stir all the ingredients in a bowl except the pie crust. Pour the mixture into a casserole dish. Put the pie crust over the top and bake for 35-40 minutes at 350 degrees or until the top is lightly browned. Let cool and dinner is ready.

Variation: If you want both a top and bottom crust, get 2 rolled pie crusts. Put one crust on the bottom. Pour the mixture into the crust then cover with the 2nd crust being sure to crimp the edges. Bake for the same amount of time. You can also use other meats.





DECEMBER 2008

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Gift giver, continued. . .

I dropped to my knees and began reading the tags. One had my name on it!

Running back up the stairs, I shouted the amazing news to everyone! We all nearly tumbled down the stairs in our haste to witness this Christmas miracle. I looked at Mom and was surprised to see the look of disbelief on her face. We sat down on the couch and the floor as Mom picked up the first package and read, "This one is for you, Altamae." She opened it slowly, carefully, as though it were something magic. Then, Mom read Bill's name. He eagerly opened his to discover a delightful toy. Next, Mom gave me the gift with my name on it. I, too, received a toy the likes of which I hardly knew existed. The last present was for Mom. Tears were chasing each other down her cheeks. She carefully, incredulously, opened it to discover a simple item of clothing, something new to go with the well worn wardrobe we all knew so well.

In all of our joy and wonder about this minor miracle, none of us who had received a gift noticed that Harold—big, tough brother of ours—was sitting across the room watching the celebration unfold. Tears were streaming down his cheeks. His face was twisted with the joy he knew no other way to express. All of the others of us, as one person, were swept up with the realization that Harold had bought and wrapped these gifts for his family.

Each week, when he brought his paycheck home and gave it to our Mother, she gave him back a \$5 dollar bill to spend anyway he wanted to as his reward for leaving school and working hard to support the family. Rather than spend it all on himself, he saved up until he could go to the store and buy our presents. He, alone, did not receive a gift.

But he was the happiest of us all.



West Salem Neighborhood Newsletter

DECEMBER 2008

Downtown Living with a Small Town Feel

volume X issue vii

Raffle fundraiser
 We still have tickets available. Since we postponed the voting, we felt it might be a great time to postpone the raffle. Who wouldn't want dinner for two and a night at the Shaffner House during the winter months?

If you would like to purchase tickets, please get in touch with a member of the board of advisors or one of the officers, they will either have tickets or make arrangements to have tickets brought to you. Again, the price is \$2 a ticket, 3 tickets for \$5. Please consider purchasing tickets; you can consider it a tax deductible donation, since we are a 501 3c organization. Confirm your tax deductions with your tax advisor. Receipts provided for anyone who needs them.

My final words as we end 2008
 Thank you so much for the opportunity to work in the neighborhood. 15 years ago when my wife and I decided to make our home here, we were warned about the crime and challenges. At the time there was so many things here that needed help that our community was considered a 'super block' with special funds for clean up. Bulk Item pickup took place every week, instead of once a year as we have today. We have since raised our four children here. It has been our home. We have seen many phases of change.

Most recently, are the new ball park and the upgrading of the sewer/water system. As things progress and change, I am fond of remembering what makes things great in our neighborhood: the people. YOU are the reason I have been involved, and will continue to be involved. The park improvements, the fight against Place Properties, and the challenge to improve our situation with rooming houses are all successes that have been achieved by all of us working together. I think when good people stand by and do nothing, then great places fall. The converse is what I see in our community; when good people stand together for mutual improvement a progressive community results. That is exactly what we find in West Salem today.

We have become the model neighborhood for our city. I see that leadership role only becoming stronger. We are able to have affordable housing, local merchants, and local involvement for improvement, as we see in the Peters Creek Parkway Initiative. I encourage each of us to look forward to 2009 for greater opportunities for service and improvement in our neighborhood. We can be a better neighborhood, as we work together. I hope to see each one of you there, at my side, as we work toward that end. Thank you, one and all. *Steven Shafer*

Solstice Singing/Winter Caroling
 Come one; come all to our annual neighborhood caroling. We will meet at Christ Moravian Church parking lot at 7 PM to go caroling through the neighborhood. We anticipate caroling for about one hour, then will finish with some sipping chocolate at the Shafer's home at 410 Beaumont. Should there be inclement weather, we will still have the sipping chocolate at the Shafer's, just move the time to 8 PM. (confidential – Steven's 40th birthday is December 22nd. Come help him enjoy his last day in his 30s!)



New officers
 As you know by now, we postponed our voting, due to unforeseen circumstances. The board of advisors and current officers are compiling a list of candidates that will be sent to all via email the last week of December. We combine the January/February newsletter, so the next newsletter will be after the officers have been elected and installed.

Since there has been a slight delay, we are opening up the window to throw your name into the ring. Please contact either Steven Shafer or Barry Lyons to be added to the list of candidates. If you have someone else you wish to nominate, rest assured that we will contact them to confirm their willingness to serve.

On a side note, the board is meeting to consider reducing the term of office from two years to one year, with the plans to have it effective January 1, 2009. Perhaps this will change your willingness to be involved, please consider being involved.

Update on criminal information
 Take care during this holiday season as there is often an increase in criminal activity, from simple theft, to domestic violence, and even animal abuse. And during times of economic stress, crime tends to increase nationwide. If you observe anything that doesn't feel right, please call the police. Take careful note of behavior and dress to give the police. We are grateful to live in a wonderful community where folks look out for each other. We plan to invite the police to an upcoming meeting to discuss how we can be involved in preventing these specific crimes and others in our community.