

Neighbors

OAKLAND
WINCHELL

A great place to grow up and
a great place to grow older



“Dedicated to viable urban living through neighborhood participation!”

Early aspirations voiced in the Association’s motto continue to point the way to meeting today’s challenges!

In the Oakland-Winchell area we work together to protect our neighborhood’s quality of life. We have chosen to live in this city, believing our neighborhood’s shady streets and lovely homes represent an investment in community as well as in real estate. In fact, some of our residents commute to work in nearby locations in Calhoun

County and to as far away as Chicago because Oakland-Winchell is such a great place to live! To most of us, it’s obvious that our residential properties are valuable assets to the city of Kalamazoo as well as to ourselves.

However, recent events along the Stadium Drive and Howard Street corridors remind us that we must be constantly vigilant when it comes to maintaining the character of our residential streets and buffer areas.

We expect our neighbors and our City’s officials to respect the residential character of our neighborhoods, and honor the laws that we have adopted for this purpose. We must remain informed and express ourselves in order to protect the neighborhood we call home. Now is the time for neighbors to be *informed and to participate!*

<http://winchellneighborhood.org>

[Check soon](#)

[for news and information](#)

It’s time for THANKSGIVING in Oakland-Winchell, a neighborhood famous for trees and open spaces, holiday luminaries, community garage sales, monthly social hours, gardens and flowers, walkers with dogs, kids on their bikes, ponds and lakes, nature preserves and parks. Oakland-Winchell is a place of caring neighbors, plant exchanges, political passion, gnomes (if you know where to find them), long-time residents and growing families, yards where kids can play, distinguished architecture, well-maintained properties, dancing, holiday bike parades, and lots of can-do spirit.

Oakland-Winchell: our home and our neighborhood.

Association Officers

Larry Ross, President
Barbara McCrea, Co-President
Pat Klein, Secretary
Diana Morton-Thompson,
Treasurer

Neighborhood Liaison

Kleinstuck Preserve area
Cynthia Addison
Sycamore area
Jennifer Frea
Oakland Neighborhood Assn
David Neesius
Parkwyn Village
vacant
Highpointe Condominium
vacant
Shelter Point
vacant
Woods Harbor Condominium
Karen Zirkle
Woods Lake
Pat Klein
Winchill School PTO
vacant

Communications

Barbara Brose, Chair
Scott W. Dales, Editorial
Terri Dall, Editorial
Carolyn Hilgart, Editorial
Pete Kushner, Web
JoAnn Yochim, Logo
Raoul Yochim, Editorial
D. Morton-Thompson, Board

ad hoc Committee on Sustaining Residential Zoning

Pete Kushner, Chair

Message from Association President Larry Ross

Thanks to everyone involved in moving this organization into the 21st century with new attention to the website, emails, and revitalized community-wide communication.

Lately our organization has been involved with issues on all sides---the City, University, and State Government. I think we're doing well in defending our various concerns. I refer you to the website index and the Kalamazoo Gazette for more detail.

It's been a peaceful beautiful fall. The neighborhood has been gorgeous. At my house, like many others, we've spent a lot of time in the yard and we would recommend the great outdoors to everyone.

I hope to see you at meetings of the Oakland Drive Winchell Neighborhood Association (ODWNA) soon!



Association Looking for a New Logo

Got Graphics? Got Ideas?

There's been talk of creating a new logo for the Association, but so far it's been *just talk*. We're hoping resident designers will take on this project and submit nifty ideas. We're looking for graphics that make an instant mental connection to the neighborhood on print materials and the website, as well as on flyers, t-shirts, and hats – maybe even a banner.

That means the colors and images will *represent Oakland-Winchell instantly and distinctively*, and will be so appealing that even the most reticent will aspire to read, wear, and/or wave them at social events, at meetings, and even in parades.

Please send a PDF of your ideas to the Communications Committee via LogoSearch@winchellneighborhood.org. We're hoping to see your suggestions by December 15, 2009.

Do You Walk or Drive ... to neighborhood stores for groceries, to browse in the shops, to find a specialty item, to obtain a service, to indulge in a treat?

Do You Recommend ...the products and services of your neighbors in the commercial district?

Please Remember... say hello to your neighbors in business as well as at home.

An Invitation to Oakland-Winchell Neighbors

You are invited to become better acquainted with your neighbors. Find out about the issues that concern your neighborhood. Learn how you can help maintain the quality of our residential and commercial properties and green spaces. For current topics, go to the website: <http://winchellneighborhood.org>. Of course, we'd love to have you take out new/renewed membership in your neighborhood association too, but even more important, we'd like to hear from you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____

Preferred telephone contact number: _____

Make checks payable to: ODWNA (Oakland Drive-Winchell Neighborhood Association)

\$ 4 - household membership is valid till May 2010

\$12 - household membership is valid till May 2011

I wish to become a member, dues are enclosed

I wish to renew my membership, dues are enclosed

I do not wish to become a member at this time

Please keep me informed by email

I am willing to help the neighborhood association (circle interests that apply): social events, zoning issues in general, graphics, sponsor or buy an ad in the newsletter, mailing, relay tower issue, green spaces, planning, area liaison, KCHS athletic field lighting and expansion issues, attend city meetings & report back to association, membership, other _____

Mail to: ODWNH Treasurer
PO Box 20061
Kalamazoo MI 49019

Payment of dues by any resident of the Oakland-Winchell neighborhood makes him/her eligible to vote.

Your Voice Counts

From its inception, this Kalamazoo area neighborhood association has been aware that the concept of community works best when all members participate. Before we act, we need to understand the issues, listen to the various views, and

seek solutions. We need to give voice to the pleasures of urban living and lend a hand to solving its challenges. Your association is only as strong as your voice!

Our Purpose

The Constitution of the Association sets forth the following purposes:

Preserve and enhance the concept of neighborhood living

...in the area contiguous to Oakland Drive and Winchell Avenue (N to Stadium and Howard; W to Drake; S to Parkview; E to Kleinstuck Preserve and Pikes Pond)

Protect the natural beauty of the Association area

...including Arcadia Creek, Asylum Lake Preserve, Kleinstuck Woods, Parkdale Plat parklands, and Woods Lake

Encourage beautification, physical well-being, and neighborhood spirit

...of the residential area

Constructively assist ... Kalamazoo city and county government

Provide a forum for open and frank discussion of differing points of view

...regarding neighborhood development

Provide for communication

...on matters of neighborhood interest

May Membership Drive

The annual Membership Drive will take place in May, but you don't have to wait that long to join. Send your check payable to ODWNA to the Treasurer today and you'll be enrolled immediately.

Random Thoughts, Essays, Poems, and Stories

Send your thoughts telling why Oakland-Winchell is **"A great place to grow up and a great place to grow older"** to the Editor at Communications@WinchellNeighborhood.org. We'll post a sampling on the website &/or print them in the next newsletter. If you are a student please identify your school and grade level.

Get Exposure in over 1400
Neighborhood Households
Help Underwrite Newsletter Costs

Your advertisement could be in the Spring
issue of the Oakland-Winchell Newsletter.

For details contact
communications@WinchellNeighborhood.org

What the "Tree Guy" Said

In our on-going effort to understand what's going on in our neighborhood, one of us recently engaged one of the Consumers workers in an *unofficial chat* about the tree trimming on Oakland. As he explained it, some years ago, Consumers decided to save money and outsource its tree trimming. As a result the trees are not trimmed gently each year (the most aesthetically desirable and horticulturally sound approach) but are left for years until just one drastic pruning can be scheduled. It's a savings of manpower, but sure doesn't help the trees. This knowledgeable fellow suggested that the neighborhood begin now to think about identifying hardy ornamental replacement plantings that will be needed as the trees age and eventually have to be removed.



STUDENTS FOR SUSTAINABLE EARTH Rally for Asylum Lake

At the November Association meeting, we heard a report on the efforts of students from both Kalamazoo College and WMU to help preserve Colony Farm/Asylum Lake. The students are concerned about House Bill 5207. This bill proposes transferring land originally allocated to WMU for "public use" to private corporate interests.

Find out more about proposed changes at the Colony Farm/Asylum Lake site and the

Noble Lodge property at the corner of Howard and Oakland at the legislature's website www.legislature.mi.gov. Enter House Bill 5207 in the search box. The summary (last on the list) is a great place to start. The Bill passed in the House, and it is now in the State Senate.

The students and members of the Association urge residents to become involved, read more, and take action.

Contact members of the WMU Board, call State Senator Tom George (517 373-0793) and/or the Governor (517 335-7858) to express yourself on this issue.

OAKLAND-DRIVE-WINCHELL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 20061
KALAMAZOO MI 49019

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