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**President's Message**

**Mixing it Up in May!**

The last board of directors meeting of your WEA was the proverbial mixed bag of issues and ideas, old business and new, and quite a lot of the second- time-around topics so many neighborhood groups encounter. You know, those nagging issues that never seem to go away or reoccur with all too familiar regularity. It's the essence of the community governance process (not to be mistaken for how sausage is made – *that's* like making legislation) Here's what the mix looks like: Your elected leadership tackles the concerns abroad in the community at the times, makes headway here and there and hits headwinds or gets sidetracked sometimes just as often. So, the agenda moves forward a little at a time, sometimes imperceptibly, but it does move. That comes with the volunteer territory. The board is a mix of long time residents and newcomers, diehard Westenders and those only recently converted. We've got some still in their first West End home, then we have others who are "serial renovators" well into their third or fourth project. There's a variety of expertise and experience and more continuity than you think. The thing we all have the least of is time – but we've each chosen to devote some of it to the West End. That talent mix changes from time to time as new members come on board and their fresh viewpoints and willingness to jump right into the thick of things is always a joy to behold.

Last month's board meeting was an outdoor one on my veranda, for after all, it was Spring and lovely weather before the mosquitoes have even thought about showing up. And mixed with the sound of neighborhood traffic, the chirping birds and a cacophonous chorus of yard equipment form Kilpatrick Stockton's army of lawnsmen we talked of the issues. And questions always arise: Who's got a house in mind for the home tour? Where do we stand in membership? Anyone want to host a social? But amidst the banal and the routine come the thornier matters: Let's get the police in to talk to everyone about a crime watch program. Ok, which house are we going to ask the City to work with us on saving from a derelict owner? Yes, we are dealing with these and a host of others – for you and your neighbors. Come to the May WEA meeting, it may be the last one before we take the summer off, or maybe not - that's still another thing we must decide. Mix with your neighbors – maybe you'll have something to add to the mix.

- Steve Joiner  
WEA President

## West End Egg Hunt Rolls Out a Success!

April 9 at Grace Park was the start of what might be an eggs-traordinary new West End tradition. Thanks to West Enders Regina Hanslmayr, Sally Meehan and Toni Phillips, forty West End youngsters got to hunt for eggs, hold sack races and relays, and feast on snacks and lemonade. As the pictures below by Sally Meehan show – it was a great day to be a kid, or young at heart!





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