



[www.oldsouthwest.org](http://www.oldsouthwest.org)

Editor: Tim Taylor

# The Old Southwest Voice

“A Past with a Future”

Roanoke, VA

OSW, Inc. 641 Walnut Ave SW, Roanoke, VA 24016 (540-343-8794)

June 2017

Volume I Issue 6

## The Old Southwest Enchanted Garden Tour Recap

The Old Southwest Enchanted Garden Tour took place Saturday June 10th. The sun was definitely shining and the birds were singing. Although a bit warm, it did not deter the garden lovers from all over attending the event. Four lovely gardens as well as the Fountain Garden in Old Southwest were on display for the public to walk through and admire.

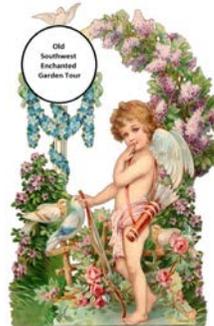
Those that took the tour seemed to genuinely enjoy themselves. Several properties offered a cold beverage of water and lemonade as well as lemon cookies. The four properties on tour included Amanda Cockrell and Tony Neuron on Woods Ave and sisters Julie and Mary Jo Gale on Washington Ave as well as Maria Jacobs on 5th Street and Bob Clement and Tim Taylor on Mountain Ave. Each property was different and included a variety of plants, flowers, sculpture and water features. In addition the tour properties had comfortable seating which the public

most definitely enjoyed. Quite a few visitors on the tour sat and stayed a while to rest a bit and take in the scenery.

Volunteers Frances McNulty, Jan Keister and Hal Irvin sold tickets in Highland Park. Joe Kraft helped with putting out the signage for the tour, so thank you! OSW, Inc. and the entire neighborhood of Old Southwest has been fortunate enough to have the Town and Country Garden Club of Roanoke tending to the fountain garden both this year and last. At the March 2017 Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs Blue Ridge District meeting, they received a first place blue ribbon for Historic Preservation and a first place blue ribbon for “Plant Together Community Garden Project.” Both awards were in connection with the work at Highland Park. Also, at the 83rd Annual Convention of the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs held in April 2017, they received statewide recogni-

tion in the form of a second place award for Historic Preservation, and second place for the “Plant Together Community Garden Project.”

This year we raised \$1,000 from the Enchanted Garden Tour and a check will go to The Making Foundation, which is another non-profit located in the West End/ Mountain View neighborhood. They teach middle school students various vocations after school each day of the week. We sincerely appreciate the public for supporting this good cause and those that participated for the event. You are who make Old Southwest a great place to live, work, play, worship and invest in.



### Inside this issue:

<i>Yard Sale recap</i>	2
<i>Presidents Message Continued</i>	2
<i>News You Can Use</i>	3
<i>Bike Share</i>	4
<i>Community Safety Walk</i>	4

### Next Neighborhood Meeting

July 20th– 6:30 pm for the Safety portion followed by the 7:00 p.m. regular membership meeting– Tell a Neighbor, Bring a Friend! Alexander-Gish House  
641 Walnut Ave SW

## Presidents Message ...continued on page 2

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer and school being out for a few months!! I hope if you take a vacation even if it's by yourself or with friends or family and that you have one that gives you fond memories for

years; please share them with us if you can!

We just finished up with Maria Jacob's Food with Friends and had a great bunch of neighbors attend. We had a few former residents show up

and surprise everyone as well as a couple who attended their first one. We are looking for people who would like to host one and bring the party to your block. So far all the months are



## The annual Old Southwest Yard Sale, Etc. recap

Saturday June 3rd, neighbors gathered in Highland Park for the annual yard sale. This year we had lots of new faces and spaces setup to sell their wares. The event began at 7:30 a.m. but several yard sale participants as well as the public were there much earlier selling everything from clothes to doors to crystal bowls.

The event ended at noon and the neighbors who did not want to haul their wares back home were fortunate enough to have an organization provide a van who loaded up the left-over items and take them away. Every year now for the past five plus, neighbors have loaded up their cars and trucks and unloaded items from their homes and basements and sold them in Highland Park on the first

Saturday in June. It's been a great event which is more of a social gathering than anything else. Neighbors who are selling often also purchase from other neighbors. One can always find a good deal and/or an interesting item that they have either been looking for or just been inspired by.

The event is open to anyone who lives or owns property in Old Southwest. There is no fee or charge to setup a table. It's been a proven fun event for all involved. Consider participating next year!



## Presidents Message (continued from page 1)

available until the end of the year. Even though this event is not an OSW, Inc. event, we like to support it. Consider hosting one at your house.

Opening soon will be a few new restaurants in the neighborhood as well as a few new businesses. There will be announcements as they happen if you missed them at the monthly meetings. This month at the meeting we had

Wendy Allen from the Virginia Room talking about their services and being able to help you with researching your homes history and Al Linton who spoke of the naming of Day Avenue. In the next few monthly meetings I hope to have a short movie of OSW's past with popcorn being served and possibly the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation from

Richmond talking about hiring a contractor and other services it offers.

If you have any suggestions for a meeting or would like to volunteer to host a Food with Friends please let me know.

Have a great summer, enjoy it and be safe!!!

Mark Hostetter

Do something wonderful, people may imitate it.

~Albert Schweitzer



## “News You Can Use” from the Office of Neighborhood Services

Roanoke Expands Service Requests to Twitter Reporting potholes, downed trees, and other issues to the city is now just a tweet away. Using the city’s new iROANOKE Twitter account, residents can tweet issues to @iROANOKE for response by city crews. The iROANOKE Twitter account integrates directly with the city’s Citizen Request Management System.

The system allows staff to log, route, and manage all tweets to the iROANOKE account. Residents who send tweets will receive notifications on Twitter regarding the status of the issue. When sending a tweet, residents should include the exact location of the problem and a photo if possible. The iROANOKE Twitter account will be

monitored Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Save the Date: Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference - Sept 22-23, 2017 - Short Pump, VA The 18th annual Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference will be taking place in the Richmond suburb of Glen Allen/Short Pump on Friday, September 22 - Saturday, September 23, 2017 at the Richmond Marriott Short Pump Hotel in Short Pump, VA.

The theme of this year’s conference is “Building Coalitions to Create Healthy, Vibrant Communities” and promises to be another exciting conference this year! For additional info on the conference including the conference schedule, hotel res-

ervations, and registration, visit [www.vsnc.org](http://www.vsnc.org).

Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference Seeks 2017 Neighborhood Award Nominations The Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference, Inc. (VSNC, Inc.) Planning Committee is currently accepting applications for the 2017 Virginia Statewide Neighborhood Conference Awards Program. This program, one of only 2 offered in the nation, recognizes the accomplishments of outstanding neighborhood organizations and civic individuals from across the Commonwealth who work tirelessly to enhance the quality of life in their communities. The following four (4) Neighborhood Award categories are available for entries: 1) Project of

the Year, 2) Advocate of the Year, 3) Youth Individual Effort of the Year, and 4) Youth Group Effort of the Year. To be considered, nominees must mail /postmark their completed application by the Friday, July 7, 2017 deadline. For additional info including eligibility requirement and 2017 VSNC Award Nomination Form, visit [www.vsnc.org](http://www.vsnc.org)



“Life is the past, the present and the perhaps.”  
- Bette Davis



Downtown Roanoke, Inc. has announced their Budweiser Summer Series— July 16th Flo Rida, July 29th George Thorogood and the Destroyers and September 15th Third Eye Blind will perform. For cost and

additional info, you can check out their website and calendar at:

[Downtownroanoke.org](http://Downtownroanoke.org)



## Bike Share Program

Bike Share comes to Roanoke and to historic Old Southwest! According to the Roanoke Times there are ten bike stations throughout the city.

One of those stations is right here in Historic Old Southwest on the 300 block of Highland Ave.

If the bike is out for more than an hour, the rider is charged \$3.00 an hour, with a \$30.00 cap. The bikes are designed for casual use, with wide seats and baskets. A flexible lock attached to each bike allows riders to park anywhere. Helmets are not included.



The Roanoke Times reported that RIDE Solutions in Roanoke recruited Massachusetts based Zagster to implement the program. Bike rental costs \$3.00 an hour, with an option to buy a \$40 annual membership that allows riders to take out a bike for up to an hour daily whenever they choose for no extra charge.



## Community Safety Walk

Thursday May 18th neighbors of all ages came out for a community safety walk which included Roanoke Police and Fire/EMS. Council member Garland attended and along with neighbors walked several blocks in Old Southwest together in unity. The kids enjoyed taking an up close look at the fire truck from station #1 and got to learn a thing or two from the fire

fighters themselves about their day-to-day dealings with fire and rescue.

They were all given an opportunity to handle the fire hose and feel how heavy it was for themselves. Pizza and beverages were served afterward to those that attended. OSW, Inc. Safety committee chairman Hal Irvin put together this walk and meal and did a great job.

