

West 9th Street

BLOCK ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 16TH IS OUR BIG SIDEWALK SALE!

Tell all your friends around town and out of town about the original, most authentic sidewalk sale in the Village! It all happens Saturday, September 16th in front of 35 West 9th Street – the one Saturday in September when the residents of West 9th Street empty their closets of the coolest stuff they don't want, and we put it on sale to raise money for our fantastic block. Don't miss it – come support our biggest fundraiser of the year and buy great stuff for next to nothing!

And before September 16th you can help your Block Association in two ways:

1) Clean out your closets and bring your donations of formerly loved clothes, books, DVDs, CDs, tools, games, toys, antiques, furniture, and jewelry to 35 West 9th – the more you donate, the more we can earn for our block.

2) We need volunteers from September 4 – 14th to help tag items for sale. Just a few hours at your convenience would be a big help. Please call Dick Grider at 212-213-5333 with your intent to help. And if you'd like to sell behind a table the day of the sale, let Dick know.

So, mark your calendar – Saturday, September 16th (raindate is Sunday, September 17th) in front of 35 W. 9th Street for great sidewalk sale merchandise, live music, balloons for the kids, and a few surprises, too!

Oh, almost forgot – we're slashing prices on West 9th Street merchandise including t-shirts, umbrellas and cards, so pick up good block souvenirs cheap!

(P.S. We had also hoped to launch our first West 9th Street Art Show on sidewalk sale day, but unfortunately we have not been able to locate safe sidewalk space. We're not giving up! Check this newsletter in the future for updates.)

WHAT'S THE WORD ON THE WICKETS?

Good news. Thanks to the efforts of Leslie Breeding, Louanna Gardner and Martin Hutner we have a plan to remodel our tree pits and surrounding wickets beginning in September. Through a tree endowment funded by West 9th Street residents over the years, the Block Association is able to pay for the replacement of four of the old wickets with a new ironwork design that is more attractive, substantial, and better able to withstand street side intrusions.

The four new wickets and expanded tree pits will be placed at strategic locations on the block that are most in need of replacement. We will then appeal to the generosity of our neighbors and residents to fully fund replacement of all 30-plus beds with new ironwork by the spring of 2008.

In addition, we are also exploring ways to assist block residents in installing more window boxes by the spring. If you'd like information on this initiative attend our Fall Meeting at the Jefferson Market Library (see below).

QUARTERLY MEETING, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH

The next meeting of your Block Association will be held on Wednesday, September 20th in the Willa Cather Room at the Jefferson Market Library from 6:30-8:00. The meeting will begin promptly and end on time.

Some agenda items include: Emergency response preparedness for block residents and what to pack in your "Go Bag," recruitment of building captains, renovation of tree wickets and additional beautification efforts, the offensive scaffolding at #26, new greeting card designs, and current noise code initiatives.

If you'd like to add an agenda item, please call Allan Ishac at 212-477-2993 or e-mail him at West9Street@gmail.com.

Please note: The next meeting date for the Association will be Wednesday, December 6th, at the library. All residents are invited and we'd love to see you at our meetings. Your voice is valuable.

T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

We need a new t-shirt for the block and we want you to design it. You can submit a full-color design (photography, illustration or computer art) with one specification – somewhere on the shirt you must include the words "West 9th Street." You can include other words too, like "Greenwich Village," or "Block of Trees," or a slogan of your creation.

Please submit your t-shirt designs in a format that is easily reproducible – an electronic file is preferred but not mandatory. The winning designer will receive \$50 in cash plus two free t-shirts of their own design. We'd like to have the t-shirt ready for Holiday Decorating Day so please submit your designs by October 1st.

Send to Allan Ishac, 24 Fifth Avenue, Apt. 1402, or if you have an electronic PDF or JPEG file that can be e-mailed, send to West9Street@gmail.com. Just think – all those people wearing your t-shirt design on the sidewalks of New York. This could be the start of something really big – you could be discovered! Or not.

OPENINGS FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Did you know that the West 9th Street Block Association is the oldest continuous community organization of its kind in Greenwich Village and one of the oldest in the city? Did you know that we are all volun-

teers and that we need more good volunteers to keep the wheels running for 40 more years? Let us know if you can help by donating just a couple hours a month of your time as a committee chair or committee member. We know your time is valuable and we'll respect that. Respond to Allan Ishac at West9Street@gmail.com

IT HAPPENED AT ... 34 WEST 9TH STREET

In July 1893, when retirees George W. Dilks and his wife Mary celebrated their golden wedding anniversary at their home at 34 West 9th Street, well-wishers included the Consul General of New York's Chinese Consulate (26 West 9th) and his ministers, as well as distinguished officials of the Fifteenth Ward.

Married on West 13th Street in 1843, George W. Dilks had been a printer. But soon afterwards Dilks joined the police force, becoming Captain in 1853 thanks to his

commendable dealings with the most vicious gangs of New York, including the fearless Dead Rabbits (written about in the book *GANGS OF NEW YORK* by W. 9th Street writer Herbert Asbury). In 1860, following his management of the Draft Riots, Dilks was promoted to Police Inspector.

A constant figure at Jefferson Market Court, former block resident George W. Dilks deserves more mention than he has received in the pages of history. (This bit of local lore provided by Village historian LindaAnn Loschiavo.)

WE'LL E-MAIL YOU, BUT WE WON'T BUG YOU

Send us your e-mail address and we'll put you on a monthly alert of relevant news and information concerning your block. We'll keep your name and contact information confidential: West9Street@gmail.com.

West 9th Street Classifieds

We accept classified ads. The rate is \$1 per word, 10-word minimum, with all proceeds going toward production costs for this newsletter. If you have a classified ad send it to: Allan Ishac, 24 Fifth Ave., Apt. 1402, N.Y., N.Y. 10011, or e-mail West9Street@gmail.com. Please include your telephone number and enclose a check for the appropriate amount made payable to the West 9th St. Block Association. The next issue is WINTER. Ads or articles should be submitted by November 15, 2006.

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WEST 9TH STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION 2006 MEMBERSHIP

Getting involved – whether you become a member, join a committee, or make a donation – means a better block for all of us. Together, we can and do make a difference.

I want to help my neighborhood with the enclosed membership contribution:

\$20 (Individual Membership) \$30 (Block Supporter) \$25 (Household Membership) \$75 (Block Patron)

Check here: Renewal New Membership

Name _____ Address _____
Apt.# _____ Tel: _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to the West 9th Street Block Association and mail to:
West 9th Street Block Association, P.O. Box 1675, OldChelsea Station, NY, NY 10011-1675.
Call Kim Goodwin at 212-286-2044, if you think you might have already renewed or to verify current membership.
Write to us, we're lonely: West9Street@gmail.com