



Mind Your Manor

ORWIN MANOR WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION – Serving Orwin Manor Westminster since 1983

No. 1 Winter 2025

Celebrating Our Past, And Looking Forward

President's Report by Stephen Pategas

Centennial Celebration and More

2024 was a busy year as we prepared for our Centennial Celebration year that started in November. Graphic artist Rick Kilby created a new OMW logo and one for the centennial. One of the new logos ended up on new event signs, T shirts, the Centennial cake, and this newsletter.

In the spring we wrapped up six block parties held on blockaded streets throughout our neighborhood. They were organized by Block Party Organizers Matt Daley, Tracy Hadley, Jimmy Hendrickson, Shawn Layton, Kerry Merrigan Falconer, Mark Snedeker, Richard and Vanessa Verkaik, Leslie Williams, and myself.

The November Centennial Celebration event filled The Park at Orwin Manor with neighbors and a few dignitaries including Winter Park Mayor Sheila DeCiccio and Commissioner Kris Cruzada. Neighbors pitched in for a banner, large yummy sheet cake (1/2 carrot and 1/2 chocolate), and OMW centennial themed coasters, stickers, and magnets. The food truck was a big hit. Residents who have called OMW home for ten years or more were recognized.

I wrote the text for and ordered two historic markers with one coming from Winter Park and one from the State of Florida. In early 2025, the markers will be installed with one in The Park at Orwin Manor and one in the tiny park on Orange Avenue across from Commerce Bank & Trust.

2025 appears to be the year for the budgeting of the replacement of the missing gateway arches as we prepare plans and a construction estimate for the City of Winter Park.

The FDOT Orange Avenue Lane Reduction project is almost complete as we wait for clean-up and activation of the crosswalk flashing beacons. Once the mast arms are installed at the Orlando Avenue intersection the additional left turn lane will be opened. It was December 31st 2017 when the fatal accident occurred and soon after we held a Traffic Summit to find a solution to the increasing traffic issues.

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Above, the November Orwin Manor Centennial celebration featured cake, dignitaries and neighbors enjoying the day.

We are proud to have Home Boys | Serhant, Delaney Crosscountry Mortgage, Advent Health, McLaren, Commerce Bank & Trust, Demetree Global as our OMWA Neighborhood Sponsors for a year.

Mind Your Manor

Is published by Orwin Manor
Westminster Association
P.O. Box 2367 Winter Park, FL
32790-2367

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flyer we insert into the 350 hand-
delivered newsletters.

Quarter Page

3.625-in Wide X 4.75-in Tall

\$75



Around The Corner

By Neighbors and Board Members

Orwin Manor historic district petition is coming soon to your email inbox.

The inaugural Emeritus Orwin Manor Westminster Board Members and Honorary Orwin Manor Westminsterites were announced at the Annual Meeting in January. Certificates and letters were presented to those in attendance and others were mailed. To see those recognized visit the bottom of our history page at <https://orwinmanor.org/history/>.

Look for an email with information about signing an electronic petition for having the city of Winter Park research an historic district or districts for our neighborhood. Find our many houses on the Winter Park Historic Register along with a map at <https://orwinmanor.org/historic-homes/>.

Meg Barclay, Greg Hartung, Stephen Pategas, and Leslie Williams used three ladders, measuring tapes, a four-foot level and great care to get dimensions. Meg will turn the measurements into a plan and volunteer Bill Matthews with Bowen Engineering will use that to create structural drawings. Neighbor Tamara Khan will use the plans to create a construction estimate. The City of Winter Park will have this information by March for their first budget meeting. Installation 2026?



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About OMWA

The Orwin Manor Westminster Association (OMWA) founded in 1983, offers the best of two worlds – a neighborhood association with voluntary membership but without the rules, regulations, or assessments of a homeowners' association. If our neighborhood was within an HOA, every household would be assessed mandatory fees. Many volunteers contribute their time and energy to improve our neighborhood. OMWA advocates with municipalities and is responsible for launching The Park at Orwin Manor, creating the bronze identity signs, hosting events, and researching our history.

2025 OMWA Events Calendar

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, April 19th, 10 am-12 pm

Oktoberfest – Sunday, Oct. 12th, 4:30 pm

Great Pumpkin Judging – Thursday, Oct. 16th, after 6 pm

Witches Walk – Friday, Oct. 31st, 6:30 pm-8 pm

Orwin Manor Aglow – Monday, Dec. 3rd, after 6, (Most Traditional, Most Creative, Most Lights)

Luminaries – Wednesday, Dec. 24th, rain date 25th, 6 pm

Annual Meeting 2026 – Tuesday, Jan. 13th, 7-9 pm at Commerce Bank & Trust

Upcoming Neighborhood Gatherings

Join us at the historic clubhouse at Dubsdread Golf Course, 549 West Par Street, Orlando every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. We reserve the long high-top table adjacent to the bar in the Taproom.

Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday, Feb. 12, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 12, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, April 9, 5:30 pm

Wednesday, May 14, 5:30pm

Board Meeting Dates

Third Tuesday, 7 pm-8:30 pm unless otherwise noted

Tuesday, March 18th; Tuesday, May 20th

Tuesday, July 15th; Tuesday, September 16th

Tuesday, November 18th

Please join us! Call 407-622-4886 for the locations or to place an item on the agenda.

2024 Orwin Manor Aglow Results

Most Creative

Winner – 1400 Canterbury

Second – 1333 Canterbury

Third – 1509 N. Orange

Most Traditional

Winner – 1319 Buckingham

Second – 1405 Pelham

Third – 1371 Devon

Glowing Brightest

Winner – 1659 Harmon

Second – 1660 N. Orange

Third – 3345 Pelham



APRIL 19TH 10AM - 12PM

EASTER HUNT EGG

THE PARK AT ORWIN MANOR

10 AM to 12pm

The Easter Bunny will be making a special visit!

Enjoy Mimosas and light snacks. Neighbors are welcome to bring a dish to share.

Hosted By:
HOME BOYS | SERHANT.
Your Neighbors & Realtors, Shawn & Jimmy

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Thank you for your support of our association and your participation. It takes a neighborhood to create a community and a safe environment.

The November Orwin Manor Centennial celebration featured cake, dignitaries and neighbors enjoying the day.



Neighborhood Bits

Celebrate spring with Art in Bloom, an annual fundraiser presented by Council of 101, April 4-6, 2025 at the Orlando Museum of Art. Enjoy stunning floral interpretations inspired by works from the museum's permanent collection and current exhibits.

Take in the array of antiques and vintage collectibles offered by highly respected dealers, as well as a variety of lifestyle and hostess items from local vendors in our Boutique.



OMWA E-News

The E-News (typically sent out once or twice a month) moved to a MailChimp platform which provides more flexibility. We promise you will not want to opt out. So far, we reach about one-third of our neighbors. What are two-thirds of you missing? Sign up at <https://orwinmanor.org/omw>.



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Upcoming Winter Park Election

A General Election will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, for the purpose of electing a Commissioner for Seat 3 and a Referendum in Winter Park. Candidate Warren Lindsey is elected to Commission Seat 4 without opposition. Early voting runs from March 3rd - 7th (Note: Only 5 days to vote early).

To check your registration and voting status: <https://registration.elections.myflorida.com/CheckVoterStatus>

Candidates

Commission Seat 3

Commissioner Kris Cruzada

Candidate Justin Vermuth

Commission Seat 4

Candidate Warren Lindsey

Commissioner Todd Weaver (retired)

Referendum

Repeal of ban on use of internal combustion powered leaf blowers. A no vote continues the ban.

Yard of Distinction

(visit <https://orwinmanor.org/programs/>)



Congratulations to Bre-elle and Tristan Ishtar at 1659 Harmon Avenue for earning the January/February Yard of Distinction.

PLEASE JOIN OUR BOARD!

Meet neighbors, make friends and support the neighborhood you love. Requirements: Be a member of our association; attend a minimum number of the six board meetings each year in a two-year term, serve on a committee and help at event(s). Please contact us at <https://orwinmanor.org/contact/>

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Kudos

To Bill Legg for rebuilding the Little Library in our park. It was originally created by an Eagle Scout sponsored by Winter Park Fire and Rescue.

During the rehab Bill discovered the roof was material recycled from a fire hose. The same roof is back in place. To Leslie Williams for designing the Emeritus Board Member and Honorary Orwin Manor Westminster certificates.

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Orwin Manor Membership 2025

It's easy to become a 2025 Orwin Manor Westminster Association Member. Thanks to all of our existing and new members for supporting our neighborhood events and newsletter. OMWA dues fund our events, this newsletter, our P.O. Box, and so much more. Our dues are only \$35 per year. If you would like to join, simply scan the QR code below or mail a check to Orwin Manor Westminster Association, P.O. Box 2367, Winter Park, FL 32790-2367, or pay online at www.orwinmanor.org, under resources tab select membership. Contact us at <https://orwinmanor.org/contact> with any questions.

Please see a hand delivered copy for the list of paid members. Thank you.



Gardening Tip

Don't buy mulch! Take those falling leaves and use them to mulch your plants up to a 4-inch depth. Keep them a few inches away from trunks and plant stems. Leaves hold moisture in the soil, keep out weeds, encourage earthworms and add nutrients to the soil. Spread them and bag some for future use.

Source: Master Gardener and Board Member Penny Potter, 2024



It's Easy to Become an OMWA Member!

Scan the QR code at left, make your \$35 payment, and consider a donation. Please note what payment is for.



Not Getting the OMWA E-News?
Visit <https://orwinmanor.org/omwn/>



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