

GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

November 2000

Volume 23, Number 11

GOMO Block Walks Have Begun!

Sam Stengler

Ok, Fall has finally arrived, with almost a week of 'frigid' temperatures, followed by a rapid warm-up back to the 80's....that's the weather in Houston, neighbors. As the old-timers used to say, if you don't like the weather right now, wait a bit...

With the change in seasons comes a change in our efforts to get out and get votes for GOMO. We started off the month of October with a Saturday morning walk through the southern part of Section 5, up to and including Gardenia. Volunteers had passed out flyers a day or two before, letting everyone know that we would be coming around with ballots and information about GOMO.

Saturday morning arrived, cold and rainy. The brave committee members, undaunted by the inclement weather, trudged through the 'near-icy' conditions, howling 'arctic' air, and managed to collect an impressive 28 votes! For their acts of civic duty while faced with less-than-ideal conditions, I would like to heartily thank Joe Muscara, Lori Kennedy, James King, Shelly Immel, Tom Stell, Bill Shaughnessy, and Steve Powell for their efforts!

Our monthly committee meeting on October 11th was one of the most heavily attended ever, with more than a dozen folks present. We discussed more ballot strategy, and came up with an intense schedule of block walking through the various parts of the neighborhood.

The weekend of October 14th turned out to be almost perfect for getting outside and meeting your neighbors. In Section 2, Joe Muscara, Lori Kennedy, and David Heiland managed to gather another 13 ballots. In Section 1, Alex and Mary Tyler-Martinez gathered in another 33 votes. All these votes are shown in the table below.

Other volunteers are continuing these efforts, and the race is on to get GOMO going!

By the way, if any volunteers still have completed ballots in their possession, please arrange to get them to me for inclusion in our totals.

Our next meeting, Wednesday, November 8th, will be devoted to further discussing the still-in-design GOMO bylaws. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend, as the bylaws will determine exactly how GOMO will operate. The meeting will be held upstairs at the Kroger's on W 43rd, and will start at 7PM.

See you then!

Section	Yes	No	Mis-Balloted	Total	% of section
1	97	1	1	98	22
2	43	2	2	45	29
3	49		2	49	22
4	36	4	4	40	13
5	65		1	65	20
Grand Total	290	7	10	297	20

November Civic Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 7th, 7 P.M. Garden Oaks Elementary

Politics and Voting

Joe Muscara, Gazette Editor

By now, most of you have realized that most (if not all) of my columns for the *Gazette* have been written with my tongue planted firmly (and sometimes painfully) in my cheek. This time, however, I'd like to get up on the ol' soapbox for a moment to discuss a topic that you may have already read about but that I think is extremely important to all of us...

[climbing and grunting sounds made]

I know that many of you have been living in Garden Oaks quite a long time, perhaps since its inception. Others have moved here only recently. Lori and I have been enjoying living here just over a year. What was it that brought you to Garden Oaks, or that kept you here all those years? Step outside, take a look around. I'll wait.

Let's look at it from the perspective of those who have been here all those years. In those fifty-plus years, Houston has been through a lot of changes, far too many to list here. Yet our secluded little burg hasn't changed much. I think most of us would agree that it's the nicest, most reasonable neighborhood located in or near the Loop. That's what has kept so many here all those years, and what has drawn so many newcomers.

So how has Garden Oaks kept these qualities all this time? A lot of it is the people, residents like yourself, who were willing to put in the effort needed. But the residents needed a tool to help them. Fortunately, the founders of our subdivision had the foresight to implement a set of deed restrictions to define our neighborhood, and an organization to enforce those restrictions. Unfortunately, just over a year ago, we lost the organization in a legal battle. This left us with our deed restrictions but no body to enforce them. Right now, the only way to stop someone from violating the deed restrictions is for another person to sue them – a costly, difficult, and aggravating solution. So it is unlikely that our deed restrictions will continue to be enforced via this method. Did you know that if our deed restrictions are unenforced, they will expire? That's right, we could lose the key to keeping Garden Oaks what we all love.

So what can we do about it? Fortunately, the answer is easy. Most of the work has been done by the Garden Oaks Deed Restrictions Committee. They have done the research, consulted legal experts, and are now committed to creating a new organization to enforce our deed restrictions, the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO). All they need is your vote. It's really quite simple, and it only takes a few

Civic Club Officers

<i>Interim President</i> Robert De Veau	713 686 6012
974 W 42nd deauxboy@msn.com	
<i>Treasurer</i> Jay Slemmer	713 695 7953
733 W 38th benslem@msn.com	
<i>Secretary</i> Amy Shaughnessy	713 957 1214
975 Gardenia amys@woodlandscenter.org	

Committee Chairs

<i>Beautification</i> Jeff Benjamin	713 695 7953
<i>Citizens on Patrol</i> Carl Waters, Jr.	713 864 1992
<i>Constable Program</i> Jay Slemmer	713 695 7953
<i>Co-Chair</i> Terry Jeanes	713 680 8550
<i>Deed Restrictions</i> Sam Stengler	281 773 3478
<i>GardenOaks.org</i> James Cobb	713 686 4578
<i>Co-Chair</i> Sheila Briones	713 861 8091
<i>Home and Garden Tour</i> Mike Caldwell	713 697 8690
<i>Co-Chair</i> Robert De Veau	713 686 6012
<i>Membership</i> David Bell	713 694 5016
<i>Senior Helper</i> Sharon Lauder	713 862 3747

Gazette Contacts

<i>Editor</i> Joe Muscara	713 691 6833
750 Sue Barnett GOGazette@Mac.com	
<i>Co-Editor</i> Sheila Briones	713 861 8091
<i>Advertising Director</i> Robert De Veau	713 686 6012
<i>Billing</i> Jay Slemmer	713 695 7953
<i>Delivery</i> Jerry Vuchak	713 862 6593

The *Garden Oaks Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. Submission deadline is the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted. Publication of any article does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

Garden Club Officers

<i>President</i> Brenda deAlba	713 694 5934
<i>Vice President</i> Susan Spooner	713 861 1336
<i>Secretary</i> Kim Salls	713 290 9067
<i>Treasurer</i> Tina Nieto	
<i>Yard of the Month</i> Cathey Land	
<i>Sunshine</i> Terry Jeanes	

minutes. The committee has started doing block walks in different parts of the neighborhood, and they are trying to let the area that they will cover know ahead of time so the residents can be home. If you don't want to wait for your chance to vote, I strongly urge you to call the GOMO hotline (you can find the number elsewhere the Gazette) and let the committee know how to contact you. They will make sure to make arrangements to get a ballot to you.

Some of you probably wonder if voting for your representatives on November 7 is worthwhile. That's a decision you have to make for yourselves. I can tell you that voting on the creation of GOMO is worthwhile. Our deed restrictions and their enforcement not only affect our property values, but also the kind of community in which we live. Without deed restrictions, it will not take long for Garden Oaks to change for the worse.

Vote! We are coming to your block soon! Vote! Keep our neighborhood great! Vote! Call and make an appointment! Vote! When you see us walking your block, come on over and introduce yourselves.

Giving Thanks

Robert De Veau, Interim President

I have much to be thankful for this year. Aside from the obvious – my health, a loving partner, a roof over my head and a steady paycheck – there are the numerous volunteers who continue to make Garden Oaks a place I am proud to call home. These are the unsung heroes who find the time in their busy chaotic lives to give something back to our community. Each of them has made my term as President an enjoyable experience and I could not have done it without them. I know that if I start naming names, I will inadvertently leave someone out but I'll give it the old college try. First off are my fellow officers: Jay Slemmer and Amy Shaughnessy. Of course, I would be remiss in not including our most recent President James Flowers. Each of them has given of themselves far more than anyone can comprehend. To each of them – thank you.

Then there are the numerous committee chairs and co-chairs that have all served in some capacity throughout the year. In no particular order of importance they are: David Bell, Jeff Benjamin, Sheila Briones, Mike Caldwell, James Cobb, Shelly Immel, Meredith Jenkins, Kirsten Joel, Sharon Lauder, Joe Muscara, Terry Jeanes, Sam Stengler, Jerry Vuchak and Carl Waters. Of course, no committee would be complete without its' committee members and many of them I don't know. To each of them – thank you.

On the first Tuesday of every month, there are those loyal residents who find themselves gathered in the multi-purpose room of the Garden Oaks Elementary School for the Civic Club Meeting. At times, we have had to make some quick adjustments when we have found ourselves accidentally locked out of the school but those civic minded folks don't mind dealing with a few minor inconveniences and laugh in the face of adversity. Instead, we have convened for a friendly meeting in SPARK Park. To each of them – thank you.

Every month we are blessed to have a quality newsletter hand delivered to your front door. Aside from all the work that goes into producing the *Gazette*, there are those volunteers who, rain or shine, sweltering heat or cold, make their rounds door to door. Every issue of the *Gazette* also contains some 20 or so advertisers who foot the bill for the printing costs and, in their own way, support our neighborhood. To each of them – thank you.

In whatever way you choose to spend the Thanksgiving holiday, I hope that you will stop and reflect on the many blessings we have right here in Garden Oaks. I know that when I am gathered at my table surrounded with friends and loved ones, I will be thankful for the opportunity to call this place home. To all of you – thank you and Happy Thanksgiving.

Nominating Committee Presents 2001 Civic Club Officer Slate

The GOCC Nominating Committee, headed up by Craig Lee, presents the following recommended 2001 GOCC slate of officers:

President: David Bell
 Vice President: Stacey Park
 Treasurer: Jay Slemmer
 Secretary: Amy Shaughnessy

Voting will take place at the December 5 Civic Club meeting to be held at Garden Oaks Elementary. In order to cast a vote, you must be a dues paying member of the Civic Club. Also at the December meeting, nominations will be taken from the floor, but any resident considering running for an office must be a dues paying member of the Civic Club.

Other members of the Nominating Committee included Sheila Briones, Robert DeVeau, Terry Jeanes, Mark Saranie, and Rodney Seiler.

Luxury Lawns

Minutes of October 3, 2000 Civic Club Meeting

Amy Shaughnessy, Secretary

President De Veau called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. A motion was made and seconded to accept the September minutes as published.

Officer Reports

Treasurer: Jay Slemmer reported that the 2001 budgets are due from committee chairs by October 5, 2000.

Committee Reports

Beautification: Jeff Benjamin announced there will be a major planning meeting for the committee on November 20. Check the *Gazette* for meeting details. The Beautification committee is planning to replace the missing roses in the Rose Garden and has had several mature rose bushes donated for this purpose. Call Chair Jeff Benjamin at 713-695-7953 to volunteer for the Beautification Committee.

GOCOP: Carl Waters reported an increase in theft of yard art from *and* back yards. Deputy Green has altered some of his patrolling hours in an attempt to catch the thieves. Contact Carl at 713-864-1992 for more information on becoming a GOCOP.

Constable Program: Co-Chair Jay Slemmer announced there will be a one-month payment surplus in the program for the year. This will be kept in the Civic Club treasury as payback for the loan the Civic Club gave to the Constable Program in 1999 to keep it going. Jay has announced his retirement from the Constable Program and a new co-chair is needed. Contact Chair Terry Jeanes at 713-680-8550 for more information or to participate in the Constable Program.

GardenOaks.org: Sheila Briones reported that the committee is gathering information and working on the layout for the website pages. James Cobb is working on the graphics. Call James Cobb at 713-686-4578 or Sheila Briones at 713-861-8091 for more information.

Gazette: Joe Muscara stated that the deadline for the November *Gazette* is October 15. Contact Joe at 713-691-6833 for information on space availability.

Deed Restrictions/GOMO: Chair Sam Stengler announced a block walk for Section 5 on October 7. **Volunteers are needed for more block walks.** The committee is looking for Section Captains for Sections 3-5. Sam reminded everyone of the party, generously donated by Terry Jeanes, for the first section to get the required 60% "Yes" vote. If you have not voted, or are interested in additional forms to take to neighbors, the form is available on the Garden Oaks Listserv at http://www.egroups.com/group/Houston_GO. There is also a very helpful Frequently Asked Questions document available on the listserv. You may also call Sam or any committee member for forms or information. For more information on the Deed Restrictions Committee or to volunteer, call the hotline number at 713-341-3737.

Home Tour: Co-Chair Robert De Veau announced there would be a wrap-up meeting for last year's committee on October 17 and a meeting for the 2001 committee in November. Watch the *Gazette* for breaking information.



617 1/2 W. 19th
Houston TX 77008
713.682.2053

Ruben Sanchez, Owner
ruben@tru-litegas.com
www.tru-litegas.com

Kaplan's Ben Hur

Terry Jeanes

Senior Helpers: Sharon Lauder was not present.

Membership: David Bell was not present. Contact David at 713-694-5016 to join.

Nominating Committee: Sheila Briones thanked the committee members for their work and announced the recommended slate of 2001 Civic Club Officers. The committee is still taking nominations and voting will take place at the December Civic Club meeting.

Garden Club: Brenda de Alba reminded everyone that the Garden Club meets the second Thursday of every month. Meeting topics and locations are printed in the *Gazette* calendar. Contact Garden Club President Brenda de Alba at 713-694-5934 for more information.

Unfinished business

Ken Yarbrough reported that the sound wall contract has been approved and work should begin in the next 4-6 weeks. The project should take about 9 months to complete.

New business

There is a dead pine tree in Graham Park that needs to be removed. Brenda de Alba wished to send a big "Thank You" to Wayne Forster for spraying the unaffected pine trees in the park to stop the damage by the pine bark beetles.

Special Guest

Victoria Frayser, who is running for State Representative, stopped by to introduce herself.

President De Veau adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Refreshments for the meeting were graciously provided by Terry Jeanes, REMAX/Metro.

Constable Program Volunteers Needed

Section leaders and block captains are needed to work on the 2001 Constable Program. Call Jay Slemmer at 713 695 7953 or Terry Jeanes at 713 680 8550 to volunteer.

Beautification Committee

Jeff Benjamin

The Beautification Committee has received a generous donation of roses from Ms. Thomas of West University. She recently purchased a home with a beautifully landscaped yard, but which requires too much attention for her to maintain. The Beautification Committee will transplant these roses to replace the stolen roses from the Rose Garden. A work day is scheduled for Saturday, November 4th at 11:00 AM. Please contact Sheila Briones, Rose Garden Captain, if you wish to assist or have any questions (713-861-8091).

Thanks to all of the concerned Garden Oaks residents who notified us of the water line break at Gazebo Park. The City of Houston has repaired the problem.

Shannon & Assoc.
(heavier weight)

Lauder Properties

O.D.'s Printing

Controlled Air

Diane Morish

Citizens on Patrol

Carl Waters, Jr.

The holidays are once again upon us (is it just me or has this year flown by for everyone else?). With that in mind, I would just like to drop a few reminders about holiday safety.

If you go shopping at night, try to park your car in a well lit area.

Place your purchases in the trunk or hide them under blankets to prevent others from seeing your purchases thus reducing the temptation to break into your vehicle to get them.

Once home, store your purchases (gifts) in closets or other non visible areas to keep persons passing your home from seeing them.

Keep fresh cut Christmas trees well watered and remember to cut an inch or so off of the bottom so the tree will take in the water.

Reported crimes for August (8)

Assault (1)

8/11/00 in the 2900 block of N. Shepherd at 8:15 P.M. in a restaurant parking lot.

Burglary (2)

8/24/00 in the 800 block of W. Forty-first St. at 8:30 P.M. at a residence.

8/25/00 in the 700 block of W. Thirtieth St. at 1:00 P.M. at a residence.

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle (2)

8/13/00 in the 900 block of Althea at 9:00 P.M. in a driveway.

8/27/00 in the 800 block of W. Forty-second St. 5:00 P.M. on the street.

Auto Theft (1)

7/31/00 in the 800 block of Lamonte Ln. at 2:30 A.M. in a driveway.

Driving While Intoxicated (2)

8/21/00 in the 3400 block of N. Shepherd at 8:10 P.M. on the street.

8/27/00 in the 700 block of W. Forty-first at 5:51 P.M. on the street.

During the year the ranks of our program have thinned and we are now down to 11 patrollers who actively participate each month. I mention this for several reasons. The first is to say **THANK YOU !!** to the dedicated patrollers with their busy schedules that keep patrolling. The second reason is to ask if there are any inactive or infrequent patrollers that would be willing to commit or return to a monthly schedule. Finally, as always, I'm looking for new patrollers.

Before closing this month I would like to give an example of dedication to our community and to this program. **Woody Mehrkam** has been involved as a patroller and base station operator for the 10 years that the program has been running. In early October Woody completed his **1000th hour of patrolling**. **That means he has averaged about 2 hours a week for the past 10 years.** **THANK YOU, VERY MUCH, WOODY for your long time commitment to the COP program and the safety of our neighborhood !**

Garden Oaks Resident & Specialist
**SHE WANTS TO BE
YOUR REALTOR**

Professionalism, Integrity, Enthusiasm

**Cherry
Wolfarth**

Office: 713-686-5454
Pager: 281-625-3711



 Prudential
GARY GREENE, REALTORS®



Harry James
(double size)

(same ad as Au-
gust with Web ad-
dress)

Persons interested in joining the program can either e-mail the program at GOCOP77018@AOL.com or call me 713-864-1992. I try to answer inquires to either format within 24 hours of receipt.

Emergency Contact Numbers

Crimes in progress, Fire or Ambulance	911
Houston Police Department (non-emergency)	713-222-3131
Precinct One Constable Dispatch	713-755-7628

Garden Oaks Montessori News

Christine Adams, President, Friends of Montessori

The Friends of Montessori Board extends a heartfelt "Thank you!" to everyone who made our two Fall fundraisers the successful events that they were. Thank you to all the businesses that let us post announcements in their shop windows or donated food or supplies. We want to extend a special thanks to the following businesses who donated generously to our first Fajita Family Fun Fest: Albertson's, B & W Meats, Fresh America, Kalil Fresh Marketing, HEB Pantry, Martin Poultry, Taco Cabana, and Espiga de Oro. Your continuing support does not go unnoticed by the community.

The annual September Pancake Breakfast and the inaugural Fall Fajita Fest not only raised funds for the program, they also provided parents and members of the community an opportunity to get together for fun and relaxation. The spirit of cooperation and support was strong judging by the many generous contributions to the Montessori program. The additional funds raised each year help defray costs for teacher attendance at Montessori educational conferences, many pre-school costs, and Montessori classroom materials not paid for by HISD. In order to be fair to the other equally valuable HISD programs, the Montessori program must remain cost neutral to HISD.

Now that some funds have been raised for this year to help keep the Montessori program going strong, the Friends of Montessori will collaborate with Garden Oaks PTA on fundraising efforts for the school as a whole. Please come to the annual Garden Oaks PTA Fall Dinner and Auction on Sat., Nov. 11th. The auction will include a silent auction for many modest items but there will also be some big-ticket auction items. Everyone had a great time last year. Parents had fun socializing with other adults while their kids danced at the sock hop. Once again dinner will be served by Haute Groceries and is sure to be absolutely delicious. Come and enjoy a night out even if you don't have kids at Garden Oaks Elementary.

At the Montessori Parent Meeting on Oct. 17th, the initial discussion of changes in admissions policy for the Montessori program for the school year 2001-02 got underway. Thank you to all the people who participated in generating ideas about admissions. A final policy will need to be in place with plenty of time to spare for the March application deadline. If you were not able to attend but have an interest in being on the committee looking at admissions, please call Brian Sherwood at 713-681-4674.

Green Green Grass of Home Realty
Member of MLS HAR

David R. Heiland
Licensed Agent

P.O. Box 131512
Houston, Texas 77219
davheiland@aol.com

713-927-1125




Tree Experts

Houston Residential Services

- Remodeling
- Additions
- Repairs

713-694-4601
713-705-7644

14 Years Experience


WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE

Gazette Advertising Director

Help out your community and your community newsletter.

Contact Robert De Veau at
713 686 6012
for more information.


(Actually, we would prefer the Ad Director to be alive.)



Bus: 713-686-1818
 Fax: 713-686-2828
 Cell: 713-412-6682

KELLER WILLIAMS Realty
 THE GARDEN GROUP

Let's talk...about Garden Oaks!



AN INDEPENDENT MEMBER BROKER

**Andrew Smith,
 CPA**

Frame Shop



MALDONADO LANDSCAPING
 Lawn Service & Tree Trimming
 "Also Picket Fence Installation"
 Fully Insured

Servello Maldonado
 (713) 640-1465 P.O. Box 230459
 Pager (713) 813-6666 Houston, TX 77223-0459

Garden Oaks Elementary News

Jeannie Daniels, Principal

October was a busy month at our school. We were able to share the Mobile Art Quest with the children from St. Matthew's Child Development Center and with students from Kay-Ongoing High School. The MAQ was wildly creative for all of us. A fantastic way to learn about art! A special thanks goes to the Blaffer Gallery of The University of Houston. Their docents did a great job with the children.

Coming up on November 11 is our Fall Auction and Dinner. Tickets are available from the school office. Adult tickets are \$10.00 for a candlelight dinner, 5:30 to 8:00 p.m., catered by Haute Groceries. Children pay only \$5.00 for pizza, a soft drink, and a Sock Hop!

The auction will have many interesting items, including an autographed T-shirt from Lyle Lovett!

Finally, log on to schoolpop.com and select Garden Oaks Elementary if you would like to contribute part of your online purchases to our school. There are many Holiday specials offered from stores such as Lands End, Amazon.com, and many, many others.

How to Vote for GOMO

All homeowners in Garden Oaks are strongly encouraged to cast their vote regarding the creation of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization. This is the proposed body for enforcing our deed restrictions. Only Garden Oaks property owners may vote, but you may complete one ballot for each GO property that you own.

The following people have volunteered to be the contacts for each section. You can contact them to make arrangements to fill out a ballot at your convenience (it only takes a few minutes). If you own property in more than one section, let the volunteer know when you call so they can have the correct ballots ready for you.

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Section 1 - Alex Martinez | 713 862 1927 | Section 3 - Sam Stengler | 281 773 3478 |
| Section 1A - James King | 713 426 1607 | Section 4 - Sam Stengler | 281 773 3478 |
| Section 2 - David Heiland | 713 927 1125 | Section 5 - Shelly Immel | 713 688 4681 |

Welcome New Neighbors

On behalf of the Garden Oaks Civic Club, we'd like to extend to you this laurel, and hardy handshake to our new neighbors. Below are the MLS listings of those who have joined us from May 15 through September 30 of this year (this does not include private transactions).

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1014 Althea | 1403 Sue Barnett | 706 W 39th |
| 1023 Althea | 1459 Sue Barnett | 903 W 41st |
| 958 Lamonte | 231 W 30th | 1055 W 41st |
| 1002 Lamonte | 320 W 31st | 807 W 42nd |
| 3003 Lawrence | 211 W 32nd | 958 W 42nd |
| 714 Sue Barnett | 228 W 33rd | 1066 W 42nd |
| 1010 Sue Barnett | 324 W 33rd | 1063 W 42nd |

Proposed 2001 Civic Club Budget

Jay Slemmer, Treasurer

Income:		
Gazette	\$10,123.00	
Membership Dues		\$1,000.00
Advertising		\$9,123.00
Beautification	\$2,100.00	
Membership Dues		\$1,100.00
Other		\$1,000.00
Home Tour	\$24,810.00	
Carry-over from Prior Year		\$1,560.00
Sponsorships		\$10,000.00
Pre-Ticket Sales		\$2,000.00
Ticket Sales		\$3,500.00
Raffle Ticket Sales		\$2,000.00
Silent Auction		\$2,000.00
Concessions		\$150.00
T-shirts		\$100.00
Sponsor Party		\$3,500.00
Membership	\$6,800.00	\$6,800.00
GOMO		\$1,000.00
GO COP		\$900.00
Garden Club		\$900.00
Constable Program		\$50,000.00
Interest Income		\$900.00
Total Income:		\$97,533.00
Expenditures:		
Gazette	\$10,573.00	
Printing/Distribution		\$10,948.00
Home Tour Tickets For Advertisers		\$320.00
Supplies		\$600.00
Committee Charges		(\$1,295.00)
Beautification	\$8,250.00	
Esplanade		\$2,015.00
Gazebo		\$1,575.00
Rose Garden		\$1,095.00
Triangle		\$965.00
Community Garden		\$250.00
Art Park		\$375.00
Misc.		\$1,375.00
H.L.P.		\$240.00
City of Houston - Water		\$240.00
Home Tour	\$10,850.00	
Pre-Tour Sponsorships		\$2,500.00
Graphics Committee		\$3,000.00
Volunteer Refreshments		\$400.00
Copies, Supplies, etc.		\$250.00
Raffle		\$200.00
Transportation		\$2,200.00
Traffic Control		\$300.00
Tour set-up		\$750.00
Publicity		\$300.00
Storage Rental		\$550.00
Concessions		\$300.00
Volunteers		\$100.00
Membership		\$1,000.00
GOMO	\$8,212.00	
E-mail Account (\$11 mo x 12 mo)		\$132.00
Printing		\$1,770.00
Signage		\$60.00
Supplies		\$250.00
Legal Fees		\$6,000.00
GO COP	\$900.00	
Appreciation Dinner		\$700.00
Supplies, etc.		\$200.00
Constable Program		\$50,000.00
General Expenses		\$1,500.00
Total Expenditures:		\$91,165.00
Net:		\$6,368.00

This is the proposed budget for the 2001 Civic Club. At the November 7th meeting, the floor will be open for discussion. The final budget will be voted on during the December 5th Annual Meeting of the Civic Club.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at 713 695 7953.

Get your ad to every Garden Oaks resident, and show your support of the community at the same time!

It's just \$40 for one month, \$200 for 6 months, and \$380 for one year for the standard ad size (2 3/8" x 2 1/4"), or \$70 for one month, \$350 for 6 months, and \$740 for one year for double the ad size.

Contact Robert De Veau at 713 686 6012 or send an e-mail to GOGazette@Mac.com.

All Star Construction

D.J.'s Lawn Care
(new phone number 713-868-5044)

U.S. Tree Experts

A Few of My Favorite Things

Mark Saranie

In this day and age our neighborhood is a garden full of relative tranquility and wholesomeness. Several weeks ago a good neighbor of ours came knocking one early morning with a loaf of "just-out-of-the-oven" banana bread. The aroma filled our home with the rich smell of goodness and our hearts with joy. Thank you! You know who you are. My wife and I would be crushed if things changed in Garden Oaks, one of our most favorite places to live. Vote **YES** when approached by a concerned neighbor bearing **GOMO** ballots. This is the only way to maintain the integrity and beauty of our collective garden.

With the recent cold snap, the energy to resume work in the yard and gardens has come flooding back. The survivors in my beds are showing their delight with deeper colors and perkiness. A potted bay and lemon eucalyptus tree I thought long dead have put out new growth, the few roses I keep are blooming, and the weeds... well, after several weeks of ignoring the beds, weeds are what have grown best, and they are really rewarding me now.

My slothfulness over the past very hot months has resulted in some pleasant discoveries. In early spring I planted three varieties of basil: African blue, Lemon, and the standard Sweet basil. We were able to harvest enough sweet basil to make pesto. When the heat settled in, the sweet basil went to the great stockpot in the sky. The other two varieties tied for the "I survived the summer heat and drought" gold medal. We have armfuls of lemon and African blue basil. The lemon basil is quite pungent and lemony and makes a great bouquet for the kitchen window. The African blue has an intense and deep aroma that lacks the sweet smell of licorice as in sweet basil, but still tastes great. When we want a surprise in our salad I gather a few leaves from each and toss in with the other greens along with nice vinaigrette. The addition of leaves becomes a delightful morsel when encountered. The lemon basil came from seeds purchased at one of our local home improvement centers and the African blue was a purchase from Mercer Arboretum. The basil has now bolted giving swarms of bumblebees and honeybees ample supplies of nectar.

Another summer champion and one I see in many beds, is Mexican heather. The heather boarder by our front walkway has been covered with purple blooms all summer and is still going strong. The bees are loving it! If we get a hard freeze

this winter I won't worry about this particular plant. When spring comes around it will come back with a vengeance as it has done in the past. A good layer of mulch gives the roots adequate protection from the cold. Yes, quite common but one of my favorites.

"Garden" things for November

- Vote **YES** for **GOMO**, it's the best fertilizer for our neighborhood's health and well being.
- Continue planting fall and winter color. There is an abundance of material out in the nurseries. As always with store bought plants, get those with as few blooms on them as possible. Remove all blooms when planting, (be strong). This will give them strength to establish themselves and give a show later.
- If you purchased any bulbs for spring color, the beginning of November is the recommended time to give them a home in the garden, except, that is, for tulips and hyacinths. Follow the suppliers' recommendations. Mid December is the time to plant
- Consult books on growing bulbs in our gulf coast region. They are your best resource to planning this coming spring's color show.
- In one of my first installments I mentioned the virtues of cayenne pepper as a squirrel deterrent. I also dust the beds in which bulbs lay dormant. This way those pesky squirrels will leave my bulbs alone.
- Start or make additions to your herb garden. The cooler weather will give these tasty plants a great start.
- Leaves are falling. Either compost these or use all this free mulch in your beds, I know I will.
- Water everything well especially prior to any freeze forecasts.

October Yard of the Month
 311 West 33rd
 for interesting display of various perennials and well kept appearance.
 Congratulations to Jim & Beth Patterson!
 Please Note: The Yard of the Month address for September was listed incorrectly and should have been listed as 850 Lamonte, Cheryl Cohorn & Ray Wilkins.

Custom Window Treatments: From Budget to Big Bucks

Susan Kostecky, Window Fashions Certified Professional

Custom window treatments are a decorative and functional complement to a home, and add color, texture and softness. Custom treatments can range in price from very reasonable to very expensive. If you are considering window treatments for your home, there are a number of factors to consider. Those factors are: style, budget and function.

You can accomplish great style in any budget range. You may already have ideas that you like, from model homes or decorating magazines. You may prefer light and airy, or richly luxurious, casual or formal. If you are working with a window treatment specialist or decorator to determine what style treatments will best fit your home, it is important to discuss the budget you have allotted for this project. You may decide to focus on one room at a time, which makes it easier on your wallet and also to make decisions. Knowing your budget helps your consultant present style ideas and fabrics that will keep the project in your price range.

Some treatment styles require considerably more fabric than others, which generally means more lining and more labor. Fabrics with a very large motif (such as a large bouquet of flowers) may require more yardage in order to center or match the motif throughout the project. Treatments with deep folds or pleats require more fabric than a flat treatment. Flat does not mean boring; adding contrasting trim, banding, buttons or tassels adds interest. A flat treatment (like a roman shade, cornice or a straight valance) also lets the fabric print be seen completely. If you have fallen in love with a tulip floral print, a flat treatment showcases the tulips much better than a gathered treatment does.

If there are blinds in place, you have many choices to select from to accent your furnishings. Consider how the room is used: a bedroom might dictate room-darkening draperies to permit sleeping late on the weekends. A west-facing window might require interlining or other linings to prevent light bleed-through, fabric fading and/or rot. Silk may be interlined to add lush body, insulation and to protect the silk from the sun. A kitchen window may only need a fabric accent valance for color and interest. These are options, depending on your goals for your room.

Fabric prices vary greatly. Retail fabric stores offer a good selection, reasonable prices and can generally order fabric for you if they do not have the quantity you require. Outlet stores have very low prices, stock that changes rapidly and cannot be reordered, and may sell "second quality" fabrics that may be flawed. If the price is right, you can purchase additional yardage to offset flaws. The stock changes rapidly, and if you mull over your sample options, the fabric may no longer be available when you go to purchase it. A designer or window treatment consultant has access to the Decorative Center of Houston, which has tens of thousands of fabrics available. The selection of fabric, rods, trimmings, tassels, etc. is far beyond that found in retail locations. This is a huge benefit if you are trying to coordinate with existing fabrics in your furnishings that may be discontinued and no longer available.

Custom window treatments should reflect your taste and lifestyle, and still leave money in the bank! Make your home your personal oasis by choosing a treatment that has style and personality and fits within your budget.

For more information call Susan Kostecky at 713-697-4110.

Garden Oaks Babysitting Co-op

Garden Oaks has a co-op of parents who use a form of tokens in lieu of cash to trade babysitting time. It's a friendly and highly responsible group that has been in existence for many years. There will be an informal picnic/get-together with individuals available to meet and greet interested parents. The 'Meet and Greet' picnic will be at Graham Park (on W. 34th Street) Sunday Nov. 19th from noon to 2 P.M. (come and go as you like). Please come join the fun and find out more about this organization.

Christmas Eve Services at St. Matthews United Methodist Church

St. Matthews United Methodist Church welcomes all our friends and neighbors in Garden Oaks to attend our Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service and Live Nativity on Sunday, December 24, 2000 at 7p.m. Families are encouraged to bring their children to the service; an infant nursery is provided by reservation (713-697-0671). St. Matthews is located at 4300 N. Shepherd Drive. Come and share in our celebration of the birth of Christ!

Heavy Trash

One Call Program
713 956 6589

South of 38th* - Nov. 7

North of 38th to
South of 43rd - Nov. 14

North of 43rd to
Chamboard - Nov. 21

*East of Shepherd
may have a different
schedule.

Recycling

North of West 43rd St.
Tuesday Nov. 14 & 28

South of West 43rd St.
Tuesday Nov. 7 & 21

Recycling Hotline
713 837 9130

Directory of Advertisers

- All Star Construction 9
- Andrew Smith, CPA 8
- Cherry Wolfarth 6
- Controlled Air 5
- Diane Morish's Boutique 6
- DJ's Lawn Care 9
- The Frame Shop 8
- Green Green Grass
of Home Reality 7
- Harry James 6
- Houston Residential 7
- Kaplan's Ben Hur 4
- Keller Williams/
The Garden Group 8
- Lauder Properties 5
- Luxury Lawns 4
- Maldonado Landscaping 8
- O.D.'s Printing 5
- Shannon & Assoc. 5
- Terry Jeanes 4
- Tree Experts 7
- Tru-lite Gas Products 4
- US Tree Experts 9

November 2000

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

			1	2	3	4
<p>"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." - Benjamin Franklin</p>						<p>Rose Garden Work Day 11 AM</p>
5	6	<p>7 Civic Club Meeting 7:00 PM G.O. Elem Election Day</p>	<p>8 Deed Restrictions 7:00 PM Kroger (W 43rd)</p>	<p>9 Garden Club 7:00 PM 407 W. 33rd Color in the Garden by Kathy Huber</p>	10	<p>11 GO PTA Fall Auction & Dinner 5:30 - 8 PM Veterans' Day</p>
12	13	<p>14 Home Tour Committee 7:00 PM</p>	<p>15 Web Site Committee 7:00 PM 3309 Lawrence #1</p>	<p>16 Gazette Deadline was Yesterday!</p>	17	18
<p>GO 19 Babysitting Co-op Meet & Greet 12 - 2 PM Graham Park</p>	<p>20 Beautification Committee 7:00 PM 858 Lamonte</p>	21	22	23	24	25
				Thanksgiving	<p>Shopping? Are you nuts?</p>	
26	27	28	29	30		

Upcoming events for next month

Civic Club Annual Meeting Tuesday, December 5th - Officer Elections, Approval of Budget, Covered Dish Dinner, and Entertainment

Make sure your Civic Club committee meeting or event gets on the calendar! E-mail the editor at GOGazette@Mac.com with your information.