



Where Has Our Constable Gone?

Terry Jeanes & Susan Saranie

Due to the lack of funds for the final months of the program, we no longer have a dedicated constable patrolling the neighborhood. The constable's office will answer calls for this area, but we do not have the 40 hours of paid patrol per week.

The constable program has run in arrears in excess of 5 years. In order to avoid this situation in the future, the program has been converted to a monthly draft program. Once we have the commitment of a sufficient number of contributors at a draft of \$20 per month, the program will be reinstated. Drafts will only begin once the required number has been reached. This method assures us that for the full year and beyond, we will have the money necessary to pay the contract each month.

The officer's visible presence does make a difference; just ask long time residents of Section One. To participate please complete the form found within this *Gazette* and return it as soon as possible. All former contributors will be contacted for conversions and additional paperwork will be handed out in the neighborhood. For questions contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 / jeanest@pdq.net or Susan Saranie at 713-861-7994.

Conn's, Deed Restrictions, and Enforcement

Alex Martinez and Mary Tyler-Martinez

Ignoring violations of our deed restrictions can result in a waiver of the right to enforce those restrictions. The law says you have four years, but that is debatable based on the actual circumstances. We didn't want waiver to be an issue, so we filed a lawsuit against Conn's Appliance Inc. in the fall of 2001.

After Conn's purchased the two residential lots behind their store, they began using the lots for business use; parking lot, commercial dumpsters, loading ramps, traffic cut through, and overnight stays of 18 wheelers. We still had the Board of Trustees in the early stages and they were successful in correcting the parking lot problem with the help of the City. However, the other examples continued to take place on a regular basis. One of the lots practically became a public street.

Later, with the Board gone and GOMO still in the process of being formed, we believed that an attempt to stop these violations was needed to protect our section from what amounted to business encroachment. We hired an attorney to send a demand letter stating they were violating our deed restrictions and to stop. Conn's then got rid of the dumpsters and agreed to stop the other violations. But after a short time, the improper use of the residential lots began once again, and with time running out we filed suit.

Civic Club Meeting

Tuesday, November 5th

The next Civic Club Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 5th at 7:00 P.M. in the Garden Oaks Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room. Come by after you have voted. There will be a **drawing for a door prize**. Don't miss out!

Mark your calendars now for the December Meeting which includes a pot luck dinner. It's a great holiday event!

Continued from page 1

This was the first lawsuit either of us had ever become a party to and we were in for an education. Lawsuits are scary and expensive and you can open yourself up to a counter suit. We felt we had right on our side, but maybe our opponent knew something we didn't. Once Conn's learned of the suit, they responded with a defense of waiver. They presented an aerial photograph of the property from 1975 and claimed it showed it being used as a parking lot. Our attorney advised us to drop the suit. That's when Shelley Rogers came into the picture. Shelley also lives in section one and happens to be an attorney.

In discussing the matter with her, she remembered talking to a woman after a civic club meeting who grew up across the street from the property in question. The woman still lived there at the time of the conversation and recalled her parents taking legal action in the late 1950's or very early 1960's to stop the owners of a Minimax store from using the property as a parking lot. By this time she had sold and moved away, but we located her and she confirmed the story. Our lawsuit now had some new life.

After some discussion, Shelley Rogers ended up being our new attorney. She represented us from that point on at no charge for her time. This was a tremendous help and a relief. She handled the matter swiftly and competently. She took our case and won it! Conn's agreed to take effective necessary steps to end the improper use of these lots and reimburse us for our legal expenses. Thank you Shelley Rogers!

We have several reasons for submitting this article. One reason is to make this particular enforcement effort a matter of public record and knowledge to the residents of Garden Oaks for future enforcements needs. Another reason is to draw attention to how residents run the risk of losing their right to enforce their deed restrictions through inaction. Last but not least, to say we are glad to have GOMO in place now to take on the very important responsibility of enforcing our deed restrictions. By adopting the highest standards in its bylaws, neighbors stepping forward to volunteer and understanding its purpose, we as a neighborhood have an opportunity to make GOMO an organization we can be proud of for years to come. Let's not waste it!

Alex Martinez and Mary Tyler-Martinez are residents of Section One.

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http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Houston_GO/join

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Garden Club Officers

<i>President Janet Cones</i>	713 956 7340
<i>Vice President Holly Veech</i>	713 861 8093
<i>Secretary Susan Spooner-Gunther</i>	
<i>Treasurer Tina Nieto</i>	
<i>Yard of the Month Terry Jeanes</i>	
<i>Sunshine Barbara Ballance</i>	
<i>Phone Committee Cathey Land</i>	

Membership

Cherry Wolfarth

Hello Friends & Neighbors! As we near the end of the year, the membership committee (myself along with Michael Froebel & Chris Lindsay) would like to thank all the fine folks who've made the commitment to become a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club (GOCC). We need only 22 new members to reach our goal of 25% neighborhood participation in 2002. November will be the last month that we will collect 2002 dues and the December Gazette will publish the full list of paid GOCC members for the year 2002. The deadline to be included in the list will be receipt of dues by Nov. 14th.

People are always curious about how the numbers look in each section and we often get a friendly competition going between sections. Section 2 is the clear winner in the contest with 28% participation. With the smallest number of households (148), it could be argued that their job is easier but nonetheless – great job! Here's the breakdown:

Section One – 23%	Section Four – 19%
Section Two – 28%	Section Five – 24%
Section Three – 26%	

During the November GOCC meeting (Tuesday Nov. 5th, 7 PM) we will be presenting for approval a new structure of collecting membership dues. We propose the following 3 membership levels:

- Basic level – the “Crepe Myrtle” - \$25 (no change from this year) (\$5 Seniors)
- Intermediate level – the “Magnolia” - \$50 (\$10 Seniors)
- Highest level – the “Garden Oak” - \$75 (\$15 Seniors)
(Seniors are those residents who are 65 years or older.)

There are several reasons for this proposed change. One reason is that it simplifies our current method of dues payment (paying for a basic membership, then making additional contributions to specific programs). Second, it will simplify our accounting methods so we do not have to keep track of contributions for each program. Thirdly, it will more closely reflect how GOCC money is actually dispersed. (All money goes into and out of one account not separate accounts for each program.) Last, but not least, we hope that it will increase the amount of operating income for the GOCC.

Look for a **mailed** invoice for your 2003 GOCC dues in early January. It will include a self-addressed return envelope. Payment received by March 1, 2003 will be eligible for a special drawing. Please return your contribution promptly so that we can get on with the business of serving our great neighborhood!

Please consider attending a GOCC meeting. Babysitting is provided for a \$1 fee per child and each month we give away a gift certificate for a local business. Usually we have a newcomer draw the winning ticket. Last month was a real pleasure because an individual who was attending for the **first** time after having just moved into the neighborhood not only drew the ticket but also won the prize! (No it wasn't rigged). Congratulations to **Jessica Lightfoot** of the 400 block of W. 30th who took away a dinner certificate from **Tony's Mexican Restaurant**.

The December meeting will include a potluck dinner followed by a **very** short meeting. It's a great time to get to know your neighbors.

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Guillaume "GEM" Morvan (Shepherd Park Plaza Resident)

Minutes of the October 1, 2002 Civic Club Meeting

Lori Kennedy, Secretary

President Kenneth Santos called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. The September minutes were accepted as published.

Officer Reports

Treasurer – Treasurer Margie Dalton reported we did not pay the October bill for the constable patrol because there was not enough money in the account. The rest of the accounts are in good shape and *Gazette* revenue has been increasing.

Standing Committee Reports

Beautification – Chair Rick Grochoske reported that there is a new contractor providing park maintenance. It costs about \$4,000 per year to maintain all of the GO parks. The committee would like a project manager to lead the effort for the park at 30th and Durham. Contact Rick at 713.864.8164 for more information or to volunteer.

GOCOP - Chair Carl Waters reported the August crime statistics, which included 4 crimes against persons (2 robberies and 2 aggravated assaults). Patrollers are always needed. Contact Carl at 713.864.1992 for more information or to volunteer.

Constable Program – Deputy Moncrief reported that many stolen cars have been dropped off in the neighborhood lately. Co-Chair Terry Jeanes reported new ideas to maintain the constable program. Option 1 would suspend the program 10/4/02, keep Deputy Moncrief in the district, and maintain the money in the account until the program resumes. Option 2 would continue the program until 10/25/02 or 11/8/02, but Deputy Moncrief would leave the district and we might have to train a new deputy on our contract time. Either option would probably result in 2 or 3 months without constable patrol. The committee will proceed with Option 1 and end the contract on 10/4. The program will also change to make the bank draft the standard option. The draft will continue at \$20 per month and will need at least 225 supporters. The draft has been temporarily suspended for current enrollees and will resume when the program resumes. Existing draftees will not need to renew their draft form to continue to support the program. The committee will seek new draft supporters and will try to complete commitments by 11/30/02 so the program can resume in time for holiday coverage. Contact Terry at 713.812.9154 for more information or to support the constable program.

Gazette – Chair Joe Muscara reminded everyone that the deadline for submissions is the 15th of every month. If you know of someone who wants to advertise, please contact Holly Veech at 713.861.8093.

Membership – Chair Cherry Wolfarth announced that membership is about 26 people short of their 25% goal. New resident Jessica Lightfoot won the door prize.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports

GO.org – Co-chair Joe Muscara reported that the website is up and running. Content is still needed. GardenOaks.org e-mail addresses have been set up to contact

the officers or committee chairs. It was moved and seconded that the ad hoc GO.org committee be amended to become a standing committee of the Civic Club.

Fall Festival – Margie Dalton reminded everyone that the Fall Festival would be Sunday, October 27 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Garden Club

Brenda DeAlba reported the next meeting is at 319 W. 34th and will be on culinary herbs. They will be doing an auction at the Fall Festival instead of the plant sale. There will be a workday on Saturday 10/12/02 in Friendship Garden beginning at 9:00 a.m. Contact Janet Cones at 713.956.7340 for more information or to join.

Old Business

The Civic Club is still looking for a Home and Garden Tour Chair. The executive committee is exploring the idea of hiring an organizing coordinator for the tour; the longer it takes to find a chair the less likely there will be a tour at all. The Civic Club needs to consider all options to make the tour happen.

New Business

There will be a committee chair budget meeting on Saturday 10/12/02 at 12:00 p.m. at 974 W. 42nd.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Meeting refreshments were graciously provided by Terry Jeanes of Re/Max-METRO.

Don't Waste Your Vote!

Joe Muscara

Many of us were taught when we were kids about the importance of voting. But it seems that most of us didn't really *learn* the lesson. You say you don't have time, but it's only one day of the year (except for the stupid city elections where we seem to have runoffs until the day before the swearing-in ceremony). There are many demands on your time, and there are so many more things people want you to do. Just in our own neighborhood, there are many committees, organizations, and activities wanting your time at meetings, events, etc. But voting is just one day a year, and not even a full day at that.


I've heard way too many people say that they are fed up with the political process, corrupt politicians, paid-for political parties, and so on, so they don't vote. They seem to think that voting for someone besides an Elephant or a Donkey is a "waste" since no one else will win anyway. Perhaps, it's not really about "winning" or "losing," but about change. If you vote for the same old same old, nothing will change. But if you vote for someone else, you are voting for change. Maybe not with this election, maybe not even with the next one, but at some point, you can help an "outsider" change the system. I've heard many of the characters who are running for office spew out the same garbage as they have before, and some of them are spewing out the other party's garbage to try to steal their votes! You can't even tell these people apart anymore. I'm just as tired of the two parties as a lot of people that I've heard, and I'm **definitely** voting. Best of all, I'm not voting *against* the big-funded candidates, I'm voting *for* candidates in whom I believe. I challenge you to find candidates in whom you believe, because the only vote that's wasted is one that's not taken.

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Citizens on Patrol

Carl Waters, Jr.

Once again I am happy to announce that two more of our neighbors have taken the initial steps to join Citizens On Patrol. We have added four new members in the past two months and we can sure use them and many more. As you will find elsewhere in the *Gazette* this month the Constable Patrol Program has been suspended because of a lack of financial support from the neighborhood. It won't take long for the criminals to notice this and I am sure we will be in for a rough time over the holidays. Please use extra care during the upcoming holidays to make sure it is safe for you and your family. As a reminder I thought I would reprise last year's holiday safety tips that were taken from a quarterly publication that I receive from the Houston Police Department.

While Shopping:

- Stay alert to your surroundings; thieves prey on those who are inattentive.
- Do not shop alone (swimming isn't the only time there is safety in numbers).
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Purchase your merchandise with checks and credit or debit cards if possible.
- Always carry some form of identification preferably a Texas Driver's license or identification card.
- Do not carry a large purse. If you must carry a purse wrap the strap tightly around your arm.
- Do not carry your wallet in your back pocket. Consider carrying it in your front pocket. This is good advice for check books as well.
- Keep an eye on your packages; when eating at the mall, bags can be easily switched. The same is true while shopping for additional purchases.
- Teach your children what to do if they become separated from you while shopping.
- Do not carry a large number of packages when you leave the store or mall. Consider using the package pick-up service.
- Always have your keys in your hand before leaving the store.
- When you arrive at your vehicle place your packages in the trunk or other covered area.
- Avoid shopping until the store closes.
- Check with the store or mall security to see if they can escort you to your vehicle.

In Parking Lots:

- Shop early to avoid evening darkness and night travel.
- Park in areas with high visibility. Check for lighting in the event that you must leave after dark.
- Avoid parking next to vans or other vehicles with heavily tinted windows.
- Walk briskly, confidently and directly through the parking lot to your vehicle. Be wary of strangers soliciting sales or information.

At Home:

- Keep the outside of your home well lit with your doors and windows locked.
- Do not display gifts beneath the Christmas tree that can be seen from the street.

- After Christmas destroy all gift boxes and place them in non transparent garbage bags to avoid advertising to thieves what gifts came into the house.

Citizen Patrollers Needed

Contact Carl Waters at
GOCOP@GardenOaks.org or
 713 864 1992

August Crime Statistics (11)

Robbery (2)

700 block of W. Thirtieth St. on Sunday, August 3 at 11:00 p.m. (Bus Stop).
 200 block of W. Thirty-first St. on Friday, August 30 at 11:50 a.m. (Garage).

Assault (2)

700 block of W. Thirtieth St. on Sunday, August 3 at 9:35 p.m. (Residence).
 1300 block of Sue Barnett on Friday, August 30 at 9:30 p.m. (Street).

Burglary (2)

700 block of Garden Oaks Blvd. on Thursday, August 22 at 6:00 p.m. (Garage).
 700 block of W. Forty-first St. on Thursday, August 22 at 8:00 p.m. (Specialty Store?).

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle (4)

700 block of Garden Oaks Blvd. on Thursday, August 22 at 6:00 p.m. (Residence).
 700 block of W. Forty-first St. on Thursday, August 22 at 8:00 p.m. (Residence).
 700 block of W. Thirty-ninth St. on Friday, August 23 at 3:30 a.m. (Residence).
 700 block of W. Forty-first St. on Monday, August 26 at Noon. (Driveway).

Auto Theft (1)

700 block of W. Thirty-ninth St. on Friday, August 23 at 2:30 a.m. (Residence).

Please contact me via the Internet at GOCOP77018@AOL.com or call me at 713-864-1992 for details about joining our program.

Emergency Contact Numbers

CALL THESE FIRST - THEN CALL ME TO REPORT NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES

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All Other City Services	311



Terry Jeanes

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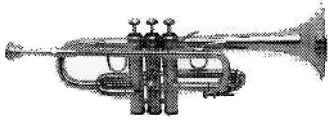
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GOMO Director Elections

There will be a meeting of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO) on November 5th, 2002 at approximately 8 PM (after the GO Civic Club meeting). All are welcome to attend and participate.

The first activity for the meeting will be the election of the new Directors of GOMO for each section (1, 2, 3 and 5). Afterward, there will be a GOMO business meeting.

As far as nominees for Directors go, I have received only three (3) Nominations/Statement of Qualifications forms from folks wanting to run for their section. Two are from current Interim Directors (Donna Archer and myself - sections One and Two, respectively), and a third that is provisional.

Remember folks, GOMO is *your* organization, created *by you* to help maintain and enforce *your* neighborhood's Deed Restrictions. We need your participation to make this work!

If you would like to nominate yourself for a GOMO Director's position, please complete a Nominations/Statement of Qualifications form. These are available from your section Interim Directors (listed elsewhere in this *Gazette*), or by calling me, Sam Stengler, at 281-773-3478.

The qualifications to run for GOMO Director are as follows:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Must reside in Garden Oaks
- Must own property within the Garden Oaks section that you are seeking to represent as a Director
- All property owned in Garden Oaks must be in compliance with the Garden Oaks Deed Restrictions, *excluding* violations that existed before your ownership of the property
- Must fill out and sign the Nominations/Statement of Qualifications form attesting to the above.

The deadline for turning the Nominations/Statement of Qualifications form in is November 4th, 2002.

See you all at the polls!
Sam Stengler, President, GOMO

GOMO Directors and Officers

<i>Section One</i>	Donna Archer	713 863 0532	dwright8@houston.rr.com
<i>Section Two</i>	Sam Stengler	281 773 3478	sstengler@covad.net
<i>Section Three</i>	Richard Stark		rstark@lucascareers.com
<i>Section Five</i>	Margie Dalton	713 705 0499	mdalton@jaeger.com

<i>President</i>	Sam Stengler
<i>Secretary</i>	Donna Archer
<i>Treasurer</i>	Margie Dalton

For a copy of the deed restrictions for your section, visit the Garden Oaks web site at <http://www.gardenoaks.org> or contact any of the above GOMO representatives. Please be sure to include your section number or your address in correspondence.

Minutes of Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization, October 1, 2002

Unofficial meeting following the Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting. Answered questions of civic club and suggested any interested homeowners submit their own or others who would be willing to serve on the Board of Directors of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization which will represent Sections one, two, three, and five.

At 8:15, the official meeting of the Garden Oaks Maintenance Organization (GOMO) was called to order by the interim organization president, Sam Stengler.

Those present: Sam Stengler, Richard Stark, Margie Dalton, Donna Archer.

Immediately, the organizational structure of the interim organization was formed and approved. Sam Stengler, president; Donna Archer, secretary; Margie Dalton, treasurer.

Our Articles of Incorporation are approved and dated September 27, 2002.

We determined that we should begin collection of fees as of November 1, 2002. Sam Stengler has a letter going to title companies and real estate agents who work in this area.

Donna Archer reported that she is pursuing a quote from Hotchkiss Insurance and has filled out pertinent forms with Nancy Evans of that Agency. Also talked to Chubb Agency who turned our name and phone number over. Other calls were made to Chubb, but no final connection was made. Suggested that we contact Ed Montgomery of Allstate for "pointers," but they would be unable to handle the insurance. Donna will continue to pursue insurance options.

Margie Dalton reported that she had interviewed a number of banks regarding our account and she was most impressed with Compass Bank. Richard Stark suggested that with the kind of money we may be collecting, we might want to look at "investment" banking and pursue those that would pursue us.

Plans for 311 W. 32nd St. (Lot 25A & 26 B) in Section One were approved. This is a new dwelling. All setbacks were deemed to be appropriate per the submitted plans.

The suggestion was made that we have a form to fill out for people calling with complaints. Sam said that he would work on said form.

After much discussion, our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, October 13, 2002, at 4:30p.m. in the Kroger meeting room. The agenda will include: Banking, Insurance, By-Laws, and Other such matters to bring us to the November 5 election of Board of Directors as outlined in handouts to the doors of the communities affected.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Archer, GOMO Secretary

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Delivery Volunteers Needed

We need people who can fill in for regular volunteers who are on vacation or otherwise unavailable, as well as those who are interested in taking over a delivery route.

For more information, contact Amanda Carlin at 713 263 1026 or Amanda.Dalton@CFISD.net.

The Truth About Fat

Catherine Kruppa, MS, RD, LD

All of the top killers of Americans—heart disease, stroke, breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer and obesity—have been linked to excess fat consumption. But not all fats are equal. Here is a look at the different types of fat and how they should be balanced in your diet for optimal health.

Saturated fats and trans fats are known as the bad fats. Saturated fat occurs in all animal products, including meats and dairy products, as well as some tropical oils, palm kernel and coconut. Trans fats are created when manufacturers turn liquid oils into more solid fats like shortening and margarine. Both of these fats have been found to raise LDL cholesterol, the bad cholesterol in your blood. High blood LDL cholesterol levels increase your risk of heart disease. Both types of fat should be avoided. Trans fat makes up approximately 2% of our fat intake, while saturated fat constitutes 13%. Current food labels indicate how much saturated fat is in a food, however they do not list trans fats. To identify if a product contains trans fats look for the words “partially hydrogenated” in the list of ingredients. Avoiding saturated fat is much harder than avoiding trans fats, which are mainly in processed foods. Saturated fat is found in anything from pizza, hamburgers, steak, tacos, ice cream, and cheese.

The better fats are the monounsaturated and polyunsaturated fats. Both of these fats have been shown to decrease total cholesterol as well as LDL cholesterol. Polyunsaturated fats are found in safflower, sunflower, sesame, soy and corn oil, as well as soft margarine. Monounsaturated fats are found in olive, peanut and canola oil as well as olives, nuts and avocados. Since both types of oil are beneficial, it is important to have a balance. Most restaurants use soy oil, which is polyunsaturated, so it is a good idea to balance that with monounsaturated oil at home, such as canola or olive oil.

The best fats are the omega-3s. Three new studies have been published in 2002 that have shown that omega-3 fats in fish oil protected people from sudden death. It is not known exactly how the omega-3s protect the heart. The American Heart Association recommends at least two servings of fish per week, preferably fatty fish. Fatty fish such as salmon and trout contain approximately 10-20 grams of omega-3 fatty acids per 6 ounce serving. If you are not a fish eater you can find omega-3s in flaxseed, canola and soy oils as well as flaxseeds, walnuts, and soybeans. Some companies such as Eggland and Gold Circle Farms feed fish oil and flaxseed to their hens to raise the concentration of omega-3s in their eggs. These eggs contain 50-150 mg of omega-3s per egg. There are also breakfast cereals that contain flaxseeds such as Healthy Valley Golden Flax Cereal, Lifestream Flax Plus and Zoe’s Soy and Flax Granola.

Here are a few things to remember when you are adding healthy fats to your diet. The extra calories from these fats should be balanced with a cut in fat somewhere else such as less salad dressing or oil used during cooking. Try to cut your intake of saturated fat and trans fat to less than 20 grams per day. Aim for between 500-1000 mg of omega-3s per day from either fish two to five times a week, taking fish oil pills or consuming flaxseed.

For more information, contact Catherine at 713-316-2707, ckruppa@houstonian.com, www.advice4eating.com

Critter Corner

Casey and Mau Mau Farris

November is here and the holidays are knocking at your door; please plan ahead for your pets. Hunting season is upon us and our pet of the month is ready. Crating your pup can be a valuable tool but your dog should not "live" there. This month we talk about the do's and don'ts of crating. Mau Mau has advice for all you felines going through house remodeling. Did you know that Texas is the battiest state in the union and that some bats gobble up as many as 600 mosquitoes in just one hour?!

Pet of the Month: "Mr. November" is Alex McLean. Alex is an English Springer Spaniel and will be five on November 1st. Alex is black and white and lives in Section Four with his family, Caroline, Sean and little Lucy. Alex joined the McLean family through the Texas Springer Rescue Group. Alex is diligent about walking his family every morning then he spends the rest of his day chasing squirrels. Alex has just returned from vacationing in Florida with his family where he had the most fantastic time flushing seagulls. As far as Alex is concerned life is one big hunting season but he does take time out to relax with his family and enjoys an occasional ice cream. Happy Birthday Alex and Good Hunting!

Critters 101: To Crate Or Not To Crate

In the wild, dogs are naturally denning animals. They seek out places that are sheltered and secure. This instinct has been passed down to our domesticated doggies. Ever see your dog curl up in a corner, under a table or desk? If you have, you've witnessed the denning instinct in action. When you bring a new puppy or dog home and just let it roam around the yard or inside the house while you are out, you are asking the pup to "fend for itself," to survive in a new, strange environment. Your puppy does not have the physical or psychological skills needed to survive on its own. So, your puppy gets very nervous and anxious and calms itself by barking, escaping, chewing, digging, pacing, etc. By crate training your puppy or dog you can relieve his stress in an appropriate manner. This den will calm and settle your pet's anxiety and provide you with an invaluable management and training tool.

The molded plastic crate (used on airplanes) offers more shelter and security because it is enclosed. If you have the wire type crate then you can provide more security by covering it with a blanket. Most importantly the crate needs to be the right size. The crate length should be 1 1/2 times the length of your dog when full grown. Your dog should be able to stand up, turn around and lie down in the crate comfortably. If you are purchasing the crate for a puppy, place something indestructible, like plywood, in the crate to act as a

partition. As the puppy grows move the partition to accommodate the growth. The partition will keep him from soiling in the crate's excess space.

Put the crate near you (kitchen or living room) and not in some out-of-the-way place. Give your dog a few days to get used to his new den and encourage your dog every time he goes near the crate. Every interaction your dog has with his crate should be pleasant. You will find that your dog will gladly go in the crate especially if he gets treats while he is in it.

Never use the crate as punishment. Time outs are okay when done without emotion (no screaming, yelling, etc.). Do not force your dog into the crate and do not over use the crate. Your dog should not be "living" in it. A puppy should be in the crate a maximum of 1 hour per month of age. Once he is trained, do not leave the puppy in the crate any longer than 4 hours. An adult dog (1 year of age and older) should not be in the crate any longer than 8 hours at a time. By taking your time and letting your dog become acclimated to the crate, you can have an invaluable training tool and your companion can have a place to call his own.

Dear Mau Mau: *My house is being remodeled. How can I make it easier for my cats?* L Bennett Provide each pet (stinky dogs too) with a safe place like a pet bed or crate under your bed or in a closet that is not shut or the dirty clothes hamper in the bathroom. Try to act calm and reassuring to your pets and be extra understanding if they are a little nervous or anxious. Special treats would also be helpful. *Mau Mau*

Backyard Report: Bats look like mice with wings, but they are not rodents. A few bats feed on nectar or fruit, but most feed on insects. Bats are not blind at all and see quite well in the dark. Bats are very fastidious and spend much of their resting times grooming and cleaning themselves.

The location of your bat house is important. Baby bats thrive best where daytime temperatures are between 80°-100°F. To achieve these temperatures, a bat house should receive at least 6 hours of morning sun. In warm climates, it should be shaded in the afternoon. Bats also seem to prefer locations protected from the wind. Mount your bat house securely to the eastern side of a building approximately 12-15 feet above ground. There are no guarantees that bats will inhabit your house, but be patient. If after three or four years, you have no bats, place the bat house in a new location. NEVER attempt to relocate bats. They have strong homing instincts and will attempt to return to their original roost.

Casey's Comments: Many people have bad things to say about pit bulls, but during the California floods of 1993, one saved the lives of thirty people, twenty-nine dogs, thirteen horses, and one cat. He did this by carrying food to the stranded animals and people, and leading them to less turbulent areas where they could safely cross.

Useful Numbers

All City Services
(city information or services ranging from traffic court dates and sewer concerns to pothole problems and neighborhood complaints)

311

One Call Program
(Heavy trash and more)
713 956 6589

Recycling Hotline
713 837 9130

Deed Restriction Violations
City of Houston Legal Department
713 247 2000

Bruce Tatro (District A)
713 247 2010

Ken Yarbrough
713 263 1516

John Whitmire
713 864 8701

November 2002

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Upcoming events Pot Luck Dinner, Officer Election, Budget Vote, and Civic Club Meeting Tuesday, December 3 rd <i>Make sure your Civic Club committee meeting or event gets on the calendar! Email the editor at Gazette@GardenOaks.org with your information.</i>					1 <small>All Saints Day</small>	2
3 <small>National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week</small>	4	5 Civic Club 7:00 P.M. G.O. Elem. GOMO Elections Election Day	6 <small>Ramadan Begins</small>	7	8	9
10	11 <small>Veterans Day</small>	12	13	14 Garden Club 7:00 P.M. 1010 LaMonte Sago Palms	15 Gazette Article Deadline	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 "In the end, we will not remember the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends." - Martin Luther King, Jr.	25	26	27	28 <small>Thanksgiving</small>	29 <small>Fur Free Friday</small>	30 <small>Chanukah</small>

2002 Garden Oaks Civic Club Membership Form

Please note that your Civic Club dues are now payable on the first of each year.

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Own Rent Email _____

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| (A) Annual Dues | (B) Additional Program Support | (C) Garden Oaks T-Shirts - \$15 each |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> All Three Programs \$18 | 2002 Paid Member Price - \$10 each |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen \$5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gazette \$7 | Qty Sm _____ Total Shirts Ordered _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol \$7 | Med _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification \$7 | Lrg _____ Price each _____ |
| | | XLrg _____ |
| | | XXLrg _____ Total \$ for T-Shirts _____ |

(D) Gift to the Garden Club \$7 or other \$ _____

Total amount enclosed (A) _____ + (B) _____ + (C) _____ + (D) _____ = \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO Garden Oaks Civic Club
Mail completed form and payment to PO Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206