

O c t o b e r 2 0 0 6

Volume 29 No. 10

The Garden Oaks

Gazette

Oct



President's Message

Sheila Briones, 2006 Garden Oaks Civic Club President

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

As per the GOCC by-laws adopted on May 2, 2006, Article VI, Section 6.03, the Board elected five (5) members to serve on a Nominating Committee whose sole purpose is to nominate a slate of candidates for the positions of 2007 President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary for election at the December 5th members' meeting.

Chairing this committee is Dian Austin. Members include John Bartos, Terry Jeanes, Craig Lee, and Trish Ricklefsen.

As prescribed by the by-laws, the slate will be presented formally at the November members' meeting with nominations accepted from the floor at the November and December members' meetings.

Any Civic Club member interested in running for one of the four positions should contact Dian Austin at 713-691-6505.

HCC TRUSTEE FLORES

Our guest speaker for the October 3rd Civic Club meeting is Yolanda Navarro

Flores, Houston Community College Trustee, District I. She will bring us up-to-date on the rebuilding of the HCC Northline Mall facility to be virtually right next to its old location. This new project, one of 15 involved in HCC's Capital Improvement Plan, will be completed in the fall of 2008.

Mark your calendar to attend the October 3rd Civic Club meeting beginning at 7 p.m. in the Garden Oaks Elementary School cafeteria located at 901 Sue Barnett @ Garden Oaks Boulevard.

VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE

Just a quick reminder that the Civic Club has set aside some time at the November 7th Civic Club meeting to recognize the veterans living in our community with a small reception.

Help us honor them by telling us who they are (or who you are) by filling out the form inserted in this Gazette or you can go to www.gardenoaks.org to fill out the form. We would like to publish the names in the November Gazette, so the deadline to turn in forms is Sunday, October 15.

In This Issue...

President's Message	1
Heard Under the Oak Tree	2
Sept. Meeting Minutes	2
Constable Program	4
Dinners On Us!	5
GOMO Notes	6
GOES In Full Swing	7
Citizens Patrol Program	8
GO Kids News	9
Boy Scout News Letter	9
Critter Corner	10
Advertising & Article...	11
Hollerin' in the Oaks	12
Veterans Day Tribute Form	13
Calendar	14

Friendly Reminder

Deadline for Submission is the 15th of Every Month
No exceptions, no submissions will be accepted after this date.

This allows us to proofread, edit, and the printing to be done in a timely manner for delivery to all Garden Oaks Residents.

Next Civic Club Meeting Tuesday, October 3rd

The next Civic Club meeting will be on Tuesday, October 3rd at 7 p.m. in the Garden Oaks Elementary School cafeteria, 901 Sue Barnett @ Garden Oaks Blvd. Babysitting services are available at a cost of \$1.00 per child. Hope to see you there!

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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome new neighbors who recently joined the neighborhood.

818 West 31st	951 West 41st
228 West 30th	1079 Lamonte
1034 West 42nd	3010 Randall
842 Azalea	3213 Lawrence
919 West 43rd	807 Lamonte
3309 Lawrence	1003 West 41st
3102 Lawrence	

Congratulations on joining us. We hope to see you at a civic club meeting soon.

Congratulations on these October **Birthdays and Celebrations.**

(1) **Dian Austin**, (3) **Sue Schmidt**, (6) **Tania Chaix**, (9) **Tina Sabuco**, (12) **Michael Padon**, (15) **Rita Donaldson**, and (28) **Jack Runge**

Happy Anniversary the 6th **Debbie & Tony Padon** and the 9th **Gig & Betsy Runge**

Seen in the Travel section and other related news... Tina Parks Rowe just returned from a trip to Aruba and followed it up with a trip to Las Vegas. **Patty Walters** spent a week at a fabulous retreat in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Welcome back **Brenda de Alba** following your trip to China. Next month get the update on **Dian Austin** and **Sandy Altman's** latest travels.

Unusual sightings...Margaret Rudd and Tom Peden were surprised to find a baby rabbit in their home recently. They can only figure their pup brought the tiny bunny in thinking it was a very young puppy. All are fine.

Special thanks to all those whose efforts have been coordinated to help with the recent loose dog issue in Garden Oaks Area. And to those who recently lost their pet cats our condolences.

To highlight an event, celebration, or other tidbit, contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com.

Sept. Meeting Minutes

Lori Kennedy

Welcome

President Sheila Briones called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The July minutes were accepted as published.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mike Dishberger provided a year-to-date income and expense report.

Standing Committee Reports

Beautification – Brenda de Alba announced two upcoming workdays: Saturday, September 16 at the Rose Garden (34th & Lawrence) and Saturday, October 14 at Friendship Park (Alba & Azalea). There will probably be a pruning workday for the Garden Oaks Boulevard in November, but the date has not yet been set.

Constable – Terry Jeanes requested help for the upcoming membership mail-out scheduled for mailing by the end of November. She reported that there was good participation by deputies and residents for National Night Out (NNO). Deputy Vest reported that he has been working on reducing the speeders and cut-through traffic from Yale and Ella. He has stopped a couple of speeders who were arrested for drugs and weapons. He has also been patrolling for speeders around the school zones. Deputy Vest reminded everyone to lock garages and outbuildings; thieves are looking for easy opportunities and stealing tools, lawn equipment, etc. Keep cars locked (even in the garage) and keep valuables out of sight. The GO deputy and the Shepherd Park Plaza deputy coordinate coverage to provide better protection for each neighborhood. There is a pack (or two?) of dogs roaming around Section 1 hunting and killing cats. The deputy doesn't really have any authority for this matter and it should be handled by the City's Animal Control. Keep your dogs on a leash. At the request of some Civic Club members, the deputy will gather information regarding possible purchase or lease of a hand-held radar gun and the "you are going this speed" trailers.

Gazette – No report. Submission deadline is the 15th of every month. *Continued on page 3*

Sept. Meeting Minutes

Continued

Home & Garden Tour – No report. There still needs to be a vote on the distribution of home tour proceeds.

GardenOaks.org – No report.

GO Citizens Patrol – Carl Waters reported that HPD has not yet posted the July crime numbers. There was an error in the last *Gazette* article; we now have more crimes through June of this year as compared to June of last year.

Membership – Dian Austin announced there are 308 paid members so far this year. She would also like help for the upcoming membership mail-out. Malcolm Taylor won the door prize, a \$25 gift certificate to Home Depot.

Other Reports

Garden Club – Chris Lindsay announced that Garden Club meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Next month's meeting will be on October 11 and is on chrysanthemums. There is a workday on Saturday, October 14 for Friendship Park (30th & Lawrence). The Garden Club is also pleased to be a co-sponsor of tonight's guest speaker, Mr. Randy Lemmon.

GOMO – Ed de Alba reported that after the Civic Club meeting there will be a plan review meeting and a special election to fill a director vacancy in Section 1.

Old Business

President Briones reported that the neighborhood had a successful NNO, with around 10 or 12 block parties and a neighborhood party at the Gazebo Park. Special thanks for sponsorship of the July Bike Parade go to Terry Jeanes of ReMax/METRO, and to Hartman & Associates as accepted by Pat Walker. The SPARK Park Committee has been formed and has about 12 members representing various groups of people. The committee will have a meeting on September 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library to discuss a wish list for the park. Kathleen Ownby, Director of the SPARK Park Program, will discuss the project at a September 12 meeting in the school cafeteria.

New Business

Committee chairs and officers need to

submit budgets by September 15. The Civic Club will recognize the neighborhood's veterans at the November 7 meeting.

The nominating committee for recommendation of the 2007 Civic Club officers has been formed and includes: Dian Austin, chair, Terry Jeanes, Craig Lee, Trish Ricklefsen, and John Bartos. They will provide a slate of officers for the December meeting. If you are interested in being an officer or wish to nominate someone, contact Dian Austin.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Randy Lemmon, host of GardenLine on 950 KPRC, was the guest speaker. Mr. Lemmon answered members' questions and provided lots of good gardening information. If you are going to use a lawn company, make sure they are using the right products for the gulf coast area and not just the products their corporate office promotes. Never use a tree service company that is not bonded and insured. People generally need to take better care of their trees by deep root feeding and watering and proper pruning. Don't use spike fertilizers for trees because first, it's the wrong fertilizer and second, it will not spread adequately in our clay soil. Companion planting can protect plants from certain insects. Following pre-emergent schedules is the best way to prevent weeds. If you are using products with live microbes to improve your soil, be sure to apply them before the microbes die (sometimes within hours). In addition to his show, Mr. Lemmon provides advice on the KPRC website (950KPRC.com) and has more detailed information in his latest book, *Gulf Coast Gardening*. Two drawings were held for an autographed copy of his book, and the winners were Shelley Rogers and Janet Cones.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. Meeting refreshments were graciously provided by Terry Jeanes of ReMax/METRO.

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424 N. 34th St.	815 Azalea
729 W. 39th St.	975 Gardenia
721 W. 41st St.	1043 Gardenia
750 W. 41st St.	839 Lamonte
818 W. 41st St.	3205 Lawrence
858 W. 41st St.	1325 Sue Barnett
862 W. 41st St.	1458 Sue Barnett
970 W. 41st St.	1506 Sue Barnett
718 W. 42nd St.	1575 Sue Barnett

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CONSTABLE PROGRAM – OPPORTUNITY – TAKING ADVANTAGE OF IT *Terry Jeanes & Susan Love – Saranie*

Opportunity has many meanings when it comes to security and our constable program. Deputy Vest first reminded neighbors at the Civic Club meeting to curb the opportunity for culprits by doing some basic things. Since recent burglaries have been of garages and out buildings, it is most important to limit access. Lock all sheds and outbuildings. Even if you are only away from your open garage for a few moments close the door. Open and unlocked garages and sheds provide easy opportunities for theft of lawn equipment, golf clubs and tools. In addition remove items from your vehicles.

Opportunity to get involved and support crime prevention in our area awaits you as a supporter of the constable program or a volunteer for the Citizens Patrol program. Most important is to remember all area residents are the additional eyes and ears for the success of our program. Please be alert and call constable dispatch 713.755.7628 on any suspicious activity. Your call could make a difference.

Here is your opportunity to join our program as a supporter. In this quarter, Garden Oaks mailers will be going out along with invoices for civic club dues. You can help with mailers by contacting Terry Jeanes, 713 812 9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com if you can lend a hand. Please send your civic club dues and constable supporter forms promptly. You will make a difference.

County Constable Patrol.

- Vacation watch by Harris County Constable. Forms available at: <http://www.gardenoaks.org/Resources/ContributorForm.pdf>
- Security check for insurance Discount.
- Alarm contact/ response by Harris County Constable
- Perceived value by prospective new neighbors considering buying in Garden Oaks, because the neighbors work collectively to make the neighborhood safer
- Low Cost. The annual fee is \$140 per year, which is less than 40 cents per day. There are two payment options. An annual check of \$140 or a bank draft option of \$15 per month. Contact Terry Jeanes at 713-812-9154 or terry@terryjeanes.com with any question

August 2006 Stats:

Miles Patrolled 1408
Court Citations 13
Alarm Responses 5
Written Warnings 0
Vacations Watches 17
Suspicious Vehicles 20
Criminal Offenses 2
Arrests 10

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Dinner's on Us! The GO Winer's and Diner's Report

Sue Schmidt

A few of us locals have gotten together to "cover" the latest restaurant happenings in the area. Seems folks have finally realized there are hungry people in the area, and more area restaurants are springing up on a daily basis. We figured who better to report back than a dozen or so hungry Garden Oaks food aficionados! Surely, we could venture out and scout the best and not so special eateries and report back each month. There are a wide variety of personalities in this group, so we won't hold back on yeah's or nay's.

Just to keep it official, we do have two with quite a bit of restaurant expertise! One was "born into it", and the other got there as soon as he could. Seems it is something you either love or hate as a trade. These two know the hard work, creativity and long hours it takes to make a go of it. Although our experts have since "retired", they still remember, although more fondly now, the challenges. In fact, these two are probably more forgiving than most with their opinions. We figured we needed at least a couple of voices that could judge the "back of the house". The rest of us, well, we just love to eat and laugh, laugh and eat! We are in it for the pure pleasure.

Our first outing was to The Boom Boom Room at 2518 Yale at Aurora. Open just a few months now, we decided it was time to give it a try. Many in Garden Oaks know Kat Mims through her catering business, Kat's Chow. She is now the general manager of this unique wine and panini bar. Jackie Harris, an original Art Car enthusiast and participant, is the owner. We decided to call ahead to see if they accepted reservations (this is a casual place, wasn't so sure a reservation would be accommodated), and as promised a table for 12 was waiting. Live music was playing, and a crowd had gathered.

We took a seat and checked out the wine list. Several felt the "buy the glass" wine was a bit pricey, so the group decided to order a few bottles to share. (It is our understanding that prices have been reduced since our visit.) The décor is a Shagalicious

Seventies feel. Think Austin Powers and lots of fun. As we checked out the menu a couple of appetizers were ordered. An Asian Munchie Mix and a wonderful brie pastry were brought and shared. All agreed the cheese pastry was delicious. Next were the paninis. I had read that men tend to go for the Martini panini and women the Tuna or Soprano panini. We seemed to follow that tradition. The paninis were fresh, flavorful and filling. All were served with a choice of chips. The only disappointment was the potato salad came highly recommended, and by 7:00 the kitchen had run out. Oh well, another reason to return!

Live music continued on as we dined. It was a bit hard to carry on a conversation with anyone other than those closest to you, but it is a casual atmosphere, and we mixed and mingled around the table. Several at our table had been previously and commented that the noise level was a bit quieter on other visits. All agreed though that the place is fun and very personal. The service was prompt.

Although none of the group had been for coffee or morning pastries, The Boom Boom Room does serve a full breakfast menu. Saturdays and Sundays, Mimosas are \$1.50 all day. There is outside seating to enjoy our great fall weather.

All in all, our inaugural dinner was a great success. Although a little loud, the coziness of The Boom Boom Room makes it a great place to unwind after work, have a tasty Panini, sip a glass of wine, and enjoy live music. All of us would venture out again to meet friends and relax. Several were making their second trip that week. Personally, I can't wait to make a morning stop and check out coffee at The Boom Boom Room!

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Terms expire at end of October of the
Year in parenthesis.

GOMO Notes

Ed de Alba

The Annual GOMO Members Meeting will be held October 3rd, right after the Civic club Meeting. At that time we will hold elections for two directors' positions whose terms will expire as of October 31st. We will hold an election for 1 seat in Section 1 and 1 seat in Section 5. Each of the positions has a 3 year term beginning November 1st.

The requirements of the position are:

- Must be 18 or older.
 - Must own property and live within the Garden Oaks Section for the Director's position that you are volunteering to stand election for.
 - If no Member residing in the Section stands for election, then a Member who is an owner in that Section, but lives in another Section, may stand for election as a "Non-Section Director", whose term is 1 year.
 - 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 sign a statement attesting to the above.

An Open Invitation to our Meetings

We would like to personally invite all GOMO Members to our meetings. Democracy works best in an open environment and that is as true at the neighborhood level as it is at the Federal and State levels. There is no better way for the people of our community to see for themselves how we evaluate the building plans brought to us and how we reach consensus.

It is also the best way to get your questions answered. The GOMO Board is made up of 12 people and

the Board doesn't have an "opinion" about a topic unless a majority of a quorum forms a consensus view. So no one Board Member is able to tell you what GOMO "thinks" about an issue or idea until we have an opportunity to deliberate and form a collective opinion. The formation of GOMO policy and opinion takes place every third Wednesday of the month at our business meetings. You are very welcome to attend, make suggestions, propose ideas, ask questions, clarify rumors, or simply observe the process.

GOMO Audit

All GOMO financial records are currently being audited by the firm of Mir, Fox, and Rodriguez. We budgeted for an audit in our current budget and have been working with the CPA firm regarding tax status issues. We are hopeful that the audit will be completed prior to our Annual Meeting; the results will be released upon completion.

GOMO in Good Standing

According to Carol Keeton Strayhorn, Texas State Comptroller, GOMO is "in good standing with this office having no franchise tax reports or payments due at this time." We have placed a link on our web page to help correct some erroneous information that had been placed in circulation.

A Variety of Viewpoints

The GOMO Board has approved dozens of sets of building plans in the past year. The average length of time for review is about 15 minutes. We have also addressed numerous deed restriction violations. Though the vast majority of GOMO business is conducted with little, if any, conflict, the activities of the Board, especially plan rejection and facilitating removal of deed restrictions can be contentious because of the nature of those actions. Conflict at some level invariably arises. While the free exchange of opinions and ideas is the basis for our democracy, most people agree that it is important to try to maintain some level of civility in the discourse.

GOES In Full Swing

School has started back smoothly at Garden Oaks Elementary with new students, a few new teachers and plans underway for a new SPARK Park. The school would like to thank Washington Mutual at 43rd Street for kicking off the fundraising of the playground with a check presented to Principal Ms. Thomas for \$650.00. At the September PTA meeting, this money was designated to go to GOES by neighborhood residents who have a checking account with Washington Mutual. We are so grateful for their contribution. If you have an account with them, be sure to register GOES as your designated organization. The PTA is enthusiastic to raise additional funds for our great school/neighborhood park!

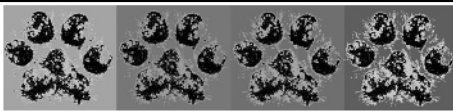
The Montessori program in its 13th year at GOES celebrated new and returning families by hosting an Ice Cream Social in the SPARK Park on Saturday, September 16th. A great time was had by all. We thank our organizers, Jessica Modad and Stephanie Acosta for planning the family fun. Thanks also go to Kroger on 43rd Street for generously providing ice and Tofu Bars and to former Montessori student now Waltrip freshman, Steven Roberts for all his help with set-up!

The Montessori program will have 2007-2008 applications available beginning November 5th. Interested Parents may attend an open house to talk with administration and parents, visit classrooms and enjoy a school tour anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. the week of November 5th through 9th. A "Hands On Night" is planned for late November. The community is invited to attend on this night and preview the Montessori Math curriculum used at GOES from age 3 through 6th grade. Contact the school at 713-696-2930 with any questions.



Pictures from GOES Ice Cream Social





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Citizens Patrol Program

Carl Waters Jr.

I don't know if it was the summer heat or not but we had good news regarding reported crime in the neighborhood for July. A total of four crimes were listed on the HPD report for the month. Our total for the year stands at 57. Last year only 50 crimes had been reported through July.

July crime statistics:

Robbery (1)

3100 block of Lawrence on Thursday, July 20th at 12:45 a.m. (Driveway).

Assault (1)

800 block of W. 42nd St. on Saturday, July 8th at 11:30 p.m. (Driveway).

Burglary (2)

900 block of Lamonte Ln. on Wednesday, July 26th at 10:30 p.m. (Residence).

1500 block of Sue Barnett on Saturday, July 29th at 8:00 a.m. (Apartment).

An old problem has returned to the neighborhood. A group, or possibly more than one group, of stray dogs has been roaming the neighborhood between 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. These dogs are responsible for the deaths of approximately ten cats, including my own, in our neighborhood, Shepherd Park Plaza and Shepherd Forest. If you see any dogs roaming unleashed please report them to the Bureau of Animal Regulation and Control (BARC) at 713-238-6900. We need to get these strays off of our streets before something more serious happens. Casey Jo Farris is

leading a group of concerned citizens in an effort to get these animals picked up by BARC. After you report sighting or stray dogs to the city please call my home and provide the same information you gave BARC so we can have the information for future reference.

As always inquires about joining the Citizens Patrol Program or about other community safety issues can be directed to me via neighborhood website GardenOaks.org or to the COP email account at GOCOP77018@AOL.com. or by phone at 713-864-1992.

Reference Numbers

Emergency Services

911

HPD Non Emergency Services

713-884-3131

All other City Services

311

Constable Dispatch

713-755-7628

GO Kids News

Tonya Knauth

Please join GO Kids for a Halloween Potluck Party! Kirsten and Patrick Co-hoon will host at 832 Fisher, on 10/28/06 from 4 -7. Bring a dish and your little ghouls and goblins in their costumes! Beverages will be provided.

GO Kids will have a regular Moms' Night Out on the first Thursday of each month. The location will be announced on the GO Kids Yahoo list serve the week before.

GO Kids was started by a group of parents who want to build a family-friendly neighborhood where children and parents know each other and grow together -- all Garden Oaks families are welcome! Aren't on the GO Kids list serve? Want more information about GO Kids? Contact Tonya Knauth at (713) 628-8243, or tknauth@houston.rr.com.

Come to Oktoberfest!

Bring your whole family for a great time at Our Savior Lutheran School's annual **Oktoberfest**, on Saturday, October 21, from 11:00am to 3:00pm, located at 5000 W. Tidwell, Houston, TX 77091. We have lots of games for winning prizes, outdoor activities like a hay-ride and rock-climbing wall, a huge silent auction, and great food catered by Demeris Barbecue. The Parent Teacher League sponsors this major fund-raiser for the school to purchase needed items in the classrooms and on campus. In the past we have been able to buy a school bus, install outdoor drinking fountains, upgrade administrative software, and add speed-bumps to promote safety for our students. So come out and enjoy the fun on our beautiful campus. For more information visit our web site:

www.oslschool.org .

Boy Scout Newsletter

Pamela Fickes-Miller

Boy Scouting: Strengthening

Youth, Families and

Neighborhoods

"A part of good parenting is making good choices for our children. Parents are not given a book of "How To" to rear them. Scouting provides the dialog, direction, activities and community to support my choices, for my child. It is a program I proudly support"



For More Information Call:
Pamela Fickes-Miller
713-863-1761

Honor a
Veteran for The
Veterans Day
Tribute
Tuesday,
November 7.

Please fill out the
form on page 13

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"For every house is built by someone, but he who built all things is God" -Hebrews 3:4

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713-686-6012

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Tina Nieto, Historian

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Critter Corner

Casey and Mau Mau Brown-Farris

Hi Neighbors! Several vicious dogs are running loose through our neighborhood. Many pet cats have been attacked and too many killed. Two incidents of humans being chased have been reported and the children at Wee Care Day Center have been scared. Please help us catch these vicious dogs as they now have the taste of "the kill" and will not stop on their own. **With your help we can stop this rampage!**

Pet of the Month: Death of a pet is never easy, but for families who have lost a pet due to a sudden and violent death, the grief is especially traumatic. This month I want to honor all the pets that have been injured or killed by loose dogs. These pets were cherished family members and will be missed. I pray there will come a time when the good memories will outweigh the pain of their death. The Pet of the Month sign will be put at the Gazebo Park in honor of all dog attack victims.

*"Not to hurt our
humble brethren (the
animals) is our first duty
to them, but to stop there
is not enough. We have
a higher mission:
to be of service to
them whenever they
require it."*

Francis of Assisi

Brillo Qualls - injured
Oscar Spear - injured
Midnight Gross
Mr. Max Waters
Mr. B. Flood
Ranger Thomas
Feral (abandoned or neglected) cats
who called Garden Oaks home

Critters 101: BEWARE - Vicious Dogs Running Loose in Garden Oaks

For the last couple of months we have had numerous (at least 15 reported) and frequent cat attacks from dogs running "at large" through all sections of Garden Oaks. Domestic animals running loose are absolutely against the City Ordinance. Specifically, there are one or two different packs of dogs hunting at night. Most attacks have occurred between 2am and 7am. **These attacks will not stop until the dogs are captured.** A group of neighbors have formed a task force to track these animals. We are hoping that we can find their home base so the City can capture them and return our neighborhood to a safe and peaceful place. These dogs move around at night and early morning so tracking them is difficult.

We need your help:

Keep your loved ones protected (especially at night and early morning).

Do not let your dogs run loose – the City is patrolling the area.

If you see a loose dog, report it to **B.A.R.C.** (Bureau of Animal Regulation and Control) at **713-238-9600**. The more we call them, the more help we will get.

Write a description down and call Leslie Waters at 713-864-1992 or Casey Brown-Farris at 713-688-6363.

Try to follow any loose dogs – the sooner we find their home base, the sooner we can stop this problem.

Casey Brown-Farris is owner/operator of Bone Voyage Pet Sitting Services and Go Dog USA, Home of the Go Dog Social Club and Go Dog Academy @ Urban Tails. Mau Mau is owner/operator of Casey. Please forward your questions and pet news to :

**Casey@GoDogUSA.com or
call 713-688-6363.**

Advertising & Article Submission Guidelines

The Garden Oaks Gazette is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published on a monthly basis. It is hand delivered to 1,550 homes the first week of each month.

The Gazette's primary purpose is to disseminate information about Civic Club activities and community events.

Advertising rates are shown to the right. If you would like to purchase ad space, please contact the Editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

All articles must be submitted by the 15th of each month for publication the following month. Contributing articles will be printed at the Editor's discretion and edited according to space availability. Publication of any article not related to the Civic Club does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

Size	Single	Six Months	Twelve Months
2 1/4 x 2 3/8	\$50.00	\$250.00	\$480.00
4 1/5 x 2 3/8	\$75.00	\$405.00	\$765.00
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Hollerin' in the Oaks

Mark Saranie

For most of us living in Garden Oaks, we have never known the neighborhood without Garden Oaks Cleaners. The closing of this neighborhood landmark is a sad one since the cleaners has been in the neighborhood since it's founding. I for one, lament the passing of the small town, first name basis atmosphere. Customers were known by their names and not their titles.

Upon entering Garden Oaks Cleaners, if you were not greeted by Prissy, the irrepressibly purring cat, (who unfortunately was put to sleep this year, the victim of kitty cat old age and renal failure), there was always the hand made sign taped to the old cash register which read: "If no one is at the front, go back to the center door and holler!" Prissy, by the way, was nineteen years old and brought to the establishment after being found out in east Texas. She had been abandoned out there by some uncaring soul.

On the piece of dirt currently occupied by Taco Cabana, and before Durham was cut through our neighborhood, there existed a business center in which operated a Star Furniture, a barber shop, Brinks Hardware, (remember them?), and Garden Oaks Cleaners.

Founded in 1938 by one Bryan Ewton, Garden Oaks Cleaners existed in its first location until 1987 and then moved to the location we are familiar with. O.E. Richardson, along with his wife, Reba, purchased the business in 1962.

The Richardson's moved from deep east Texas prior to WW II. Mrs. Richardson mainly did what women of those times did; she remained at home and kept the house running. When her daughter Bobbye was in her teens, Mrs. Richardson decided to get a job and was hired at Henke & Pillot to work in the cosmetics department. Henke & Pillot was the biggest store in downtown Houston. Mrs. Richardson has been at the helm of Garden Oaks cleaners along with her Daughter Bobbye and son-in-law

David since Mr. Richardson's passing in 1982

May 10th, of this year marked Mrs. Richardson's 100th birthday. For this occasion a grand party was held in the large room off the front of the business. Many past employees came to celebrate and if your itinerary that day included dropping off some clothes, you got invited to the celebration. Mrs. Richardson's work ethic was a simple but direct one: "get up, get dressed, and go to work." Could be this philosophy for work was instilled in Reba back during the times she attended college in Nacogdoches, and studied business later on in Droghna's, Texas.

Garden Oaks Cleaners was more than just a typical dry cleaner. Besides their core business they also provided dyeing, heir looming and restoration services. As a matter of fact, many of the surrounding dry cleaners would bring to Garden Oaks Cleaners, special jobs they were not equipped to handle. When I visited with both Bobbye and David to glean some of the information herein, I was shown a turn of the century linen apron that had been brought to them for restoration. It seems that when word got out that the closing was eminent, many special jobs began pouring in from long time customers. And speaking of customers, among the many, from time to time a Welch or a Hoffheinz dropped off some stuff. Even the owner of the now 'changed' Yale Street Pharmacy did business with Garden Oaks Cleaners.

So, as the corner of North Shepherd and West 34th gives way to, who knows what, life in our collective gardens will march on, and when you see another family owned business disappear, "Just Holler!"

**Don't Forget
The GOMO
Annual Meeting on
October 3rd.
Held after the Civic
Club Meeting.**



**VETERANS
DAY
TRIBUTE**

**Tuesday
November 7th**

**sponsored by the
Garden Oaks
Civic Club**

**The Garden Oaks Civic Club
is proud of our veterans!**

Tell us about a veteran (either yourself or someone else).
They will be honored at the Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting on
Tuesday, November 7.

Veterans Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Military Branch: _____

Rank: _____

Base & Duty: _____

Name of High School or College: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Phone: _____

Tell us a little about this veteran: _____

Fill out form and mail to: Sheila Briones, 412 W. 34th, Houston, Texas,
77018. Or you can drop off at 412 W. 34th.

For those who have access to a computer, download form at:
www.gardenoaks.org. You can fill out form and email it to:
sbriones@hotmail.com

DEADLINE to turn in form to meet November Gazette
publication deadline is Sunday, October 15th, 2006.



October 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Civic Club Meeting 7pm GOES Cafeteria & GOMO Annual Meeting	4	5	6	7
8	9		11	12 Columbus Day	13	14 Workday @ Friendship Park 9:00am
15 Deadline for Gazette Submissions	16	17	18 GOMO Mtg. 7 PM GOMO Office	19	20	21 Workday @ Triangle Park 9:00am
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Daylight Savings	30	31 Halloween				

Useful Numbers

All City Services (city information or services ranging from traffic court dates and sewer concerns to pothole problems and neighborhood complaints)	311
Emergency Services	911
Constable Precinct 1 Dispatch	713-755-7628
HPD Non Emergency Services	713-884-3131
One Call Program (Heavy trash and more)	713-956-6589
Recycling Hotline	713-837-9130
Deeds Restriction Violations City of Houston Legal Department	713-247-2000
Toni Lawrence (District A)	713-247-2010
Dwayne Bohac	713-460-2800
John Whitmire	713-864-8701

2006 Garden Oaks Civic Club Membership Form

Name(s): _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **Email:** _____

Annual Dues

\$25.00 Crepe Myrtle (Basic)
 \$50.00 Magnolia (intermediate)
 \$75.00 Golden Oak (Patron)
 Senior Citizen \$5.00
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Are you a ___ new or ___ renewing member? Do you ___ own or ___ rent your house?

Amount Enclosed: _____ (A)+ _____ (B)+ _____ (C) = \$ _____ Total

Make Checks payable to : Garden Oaks Civic Club

Mail form and check to : PO Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206

Suggestions for Monthly Meeting Topics: _____