



GARDEN OAKS GAZETTE

January/February, 1981

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbor:

Throughout the coming year I sincerely hope that this bi-monthly newsletter will become a source of information and a means of communicating with each other. I think we all feel we have something very special going for us here in Garden Oaks but, unfortunately we are fragmented and many new comers are unaware of the many benefits living here affords them and the restrictions which have kept this area what it is. It is my goal and the goal of all the new officers to increase civic pride and awareness and to make this truly a neighborhood of homes. Your deed restrictions are very viable and enforceable and only by your cooperation and assistance can we help in protecting your investment.

Our property values, within the inner city, are escalating at an exciting and unbelievable rate per year. If we do not protect our investment we face a very real danger of a situation such as the Greenway Plaza residents faced, or even those residents of the Tanglewood area, where high rises have been built in the middle and right next to established quiet residential areas; where traffic now chokes off access and where storm sewers are taxed beyond their capacity.

But, this does not have to happen if you will take an active part and interest in the various programs we hope to initiate. Remember, the civic club is your organization and we are simply the means by which your desires are acted upon. Any organization is only as strong as its weakest link.

Ruth Blanchette
President
Garden Oaks Civic Club

MEMBERSHIP

Becoming a member of the Civic Club is simple. The cost - cheap by today's standards - only \$5.00 per family, per year. But don't let it stop there, our meetings need your support also. Meetings are held the 1st Tuesday of every month with refreshments at 7:00 p.m. and general business meetings starting at 7:15 p.m. We try hard to be through by 8:00. Except for major planning meetings we will try to present programs of a very broad general interest utilizing guest speakers. This year we have initiated a door prize which will be given at the end of each meeting. These will be various gifts solicited from different area merchants. So, be there this Tuesday, February 3, at 7:00 and meet your neighbors.

HOUSTONIANS ON WATCH - NOT INVOLVED YET?

When the Houstonians On Watch program was initiated, Garden Oaks was like a kid with a new toy. Now that the program has been around for awhile, just like that kid's toy, the newness has worn off. During the early days of H.O.W. attendance at Civic Club meetings was up, concern for security in the neighborhood was up, and willingness to work for the success of H.O.W. was at its peak. But that's not good enough! Sure, the concern for security in the community is still there, but what happened to the willingness to work? The success of H.O.W. is dependent upon more than just a handful of people. This program can and likely will fail if the majority of residents decide to let "Someone Else Do The Work". Additional block captains are needed for the program to function properly. This is not to say that H.O.W. has not shown some success, because it has. But, consider this, IF A FEW HARD WORKERS CAN ACHIEVE A SMALL AMOUNT OF SUCCESS, WHAT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY TWICE THAT NUMBER?

The Houstonians On Watch program is no cure-all. There are no guarantees, written or implied, that it will rid the community of all crime and/or evil. But, it's the best thing we have been able to come up with so far, and we feel the effort is worthwhile. You can become involved in one of two ways: EITHER as an active participant OR as the victim. THE NEXT MOVE IS YOURS!!

CRIMESTOPPERS

Have you been contacted regarding the Houstonians On Watch Program? If not please contact the section leader responsible for your area:

- Ruth Blanchette - Section 1 - 864 8810
- Marie Gibson - Section 1 - 864 8769
- Susan McMillan - Section 2 - 695-8245
- Glenda McKenney - Section 3 - 692 2447
- Willard Mills - Section 4 - 686 6592
- Judy Scruggs - Section 5 - 681 4796

We need your help - will you consider being a block captain, simply responsible for helping us gather information regarding your street? You don't have to stand guard at night - you won't have people calling you at all hours - this is simply a position where you will act as source of information to your neighbors and to the various section leaders. With your information, each homeowner will then be responsible for himself and his neighbors. Thanks - please consider it and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to call.

Did you know that we have electric engraving tools available for the marking of your personal property with your drivers license and decals that can be affixed to all entrances notifying any uninvited guest that your possessions have been so identified. These engravers are available through your respective Section Leader on a loan-out basis. The cost - a simple \$5.00 deposit which is returned to you when you return the engraver.

A VERY, VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO Beverly Rhial, who followed a suspicious pickup seen cruising our neighborhood late one evening and got their license number. When they realized they were being followed they left. THAT'S A GOOD NEIGHBOR.





GARDEN CLUB



In addition to your civic club, Garden Oaks also has a very active Garden Club. Throughout the year, on a monthly basis, a yard of the month is honored and monthly informative programs are presented. In fact, January's meeting was a slide presentation by Pauline Lapetina on Exotic Plants That Can Be Grown In Houston. Our special thanks to her for her time and beautiful slide presentation.

R E M E M B E R - - These meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month - with refreshments at 7:30 p.m. and general business meeting starting at 8:00. Look forward to seeing you February 12th.

Kay Paul 861 - 0328
President
Garden Oaks Garden Club

IT'S RODEO / GO TEXAN TIME

Attend the February 3 meeting and get in on a Group outing. Word has reached us through very reliable sources that advance ticket sales have been tremendous and there now exists a severe shortage of good tickets. In fact, many performances have already been sold out and are no longer available. We will have available 50+ tickets at \$7.00/per ticket. The * marks the performances which will be easiest to attend.

- | | | | |
|---------|------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Feb. 27 | Ann Murray | Mar. 4 | Mac Davis * |
| Feb. 28 | Charley Pride | Mar. 5 | Larry Gatlin |
| Mar. 1 | Crystale Gale | Mar.6/7 | Dolly Parton/ <u>Sold Out</u> |
| Mar. 2 | Charlie Daniels Band * | Mar. 8 | matinee Don Williams * |
| Mar. 3 | Oakridge Boys * | Mar. 8 | evening Wylan Jennins |

HEARD UNDER THE OLE OAK TREE

Congratulations to Robert & Leslie Taylor whose baby daughter, Natalie Ann was born January 16.

Special thanks to Diane Austin, Dennis Alexander, Tommy, Betty & Jennifer Cole and Judy Scruggs for their help in putting up all the yellow ribbons to celebrate the release of the hostages.

A great big WELCOME to our new neighbors:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Joe & Marie Reese | 212 West 33rd |
| Mike & Carol | 706 West 32nd |

We're happy to have you!

Did you know the U.S. flag that flys at Garden Oaks Boulevard and N. Shepherd once flew over our nations capital and was recently presented to the Civic Club by Representative Bill Archer? HOWEVER, if it had not been for the willingness and perserverance of Leonard L. Ball, a local businessman, we won't even have a flag pole to fly it from. His many long evening hours paid off with the development of a collapsible flag pole which allows for easier maintenance. T H A N K S ! !

Our best to the newly elected officers for 1981:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Ruth Blanchette | President | 864-8810 |
| Robert Taylor | Vice President | 686-2752 |
| Cindy Murphy | 2nd Vice President | 688-7337 |
| Marie Gibson | Corresponding Secretary | 864-8769 |
| Willard Mills | Treasurer | 686-6592 |
| Loma Wetsel | Recording Secretary | 681-2623 |

Congratulations to Kathy Hawkins whose baby girl was born December 26 and best wishes to her in her new home in Damon Texas.

A special thanks to Judy Scruggs, past President for the initiating and following through with the Houstonians On Watch program and our entrance signs and to her husband Jerry, for his patience and help in installing them and a great big CONGRATULATIONS to her daughter Jackie on her 4th place in the 6th grade Science Fair at Black Middle School. GOOD LUCK at the HISD Area 1 Competition.

HELP - We need your news - new neighbors - births - weddings - anniversaries - school awards - any and all celebrations - or, even just to say thanks to a special neighbor. Call Marie Gibson, 864-8769 or Ruth Blanchette, 864-8810.

 R E M I N D E R

February Meeting



Tuesday - February 3, 1981
 Time: 7:00 p.m.
 Place: Civic Club Building / located next to the Fire Station on 34th.
 Subjects: The History of Garden Oaks
 (a planning and discussion session on how information will be gathered and from where, for the publication of "The History of Garden Oaks")
 Rodeo Tickets
 Spring Festival

GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

WANTS
 TO
 HEAR
 FROM
 YOU!



Support your neighborhood!

and

Become a member of the civic club



MEMBERSHIP

Cost \$5.00 per family

Please make checks payable to Garden Oaks Civic Club and mail to :

Mr. Willard Mills, Treasurer
 907 West 41st
 Houston, TX 77018

JOIN BY MAIL
 GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB

NAME : _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: _____

TOPICS YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE DISCUSSED OR HEAR MORE ABOUT: _____
