

# Garden Oaks Gazette

Circulation 1500

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MEETINGS: 7:00 P.M. FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH  
GARDEN OAKS BAPTIST CHURCH 3206 NORTH SHEPHERD

JUNE, 1988

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The City has a new Assistant Attorney, Edwin T. Grauke, specializing in Deed Restriction Enforcement. We are fortunate to have him as our guest speaker at the JUNE 7 Civic Club meeting. Mr. Grauke will discuss the City's enforcement process as well as the private sector's role. He will also go over Garden Oaks' specifics. Come join us for this interesting discussion.

Summer is here. Let us all be especially attentive to the playing children now that school is out.

Hope to see you at Civic Club.

Grace



**REAL ESTATE  
UPDATE  
697-5220**

Hooray for our civic club on a successful Home Tour. Tell your friends 1022 W. 42 nd. 3-1 greenhouse, hot tub and more for sale.

**SUZANNE DEBIEN, REALTORS - 13 years Real Estate/14 years Garden Oaks**

Garden Oaks is a very special neighborhood. It contains homes with unique architecture, larger-than-average lots, wood triangular esplanades and a tree-lined boulevard. Most residents feel Garden Oaks has a lot to offer. Some of them have not only grown up here, but have returned to raise their own children.

A few years ago, some dedicated residents wanted to get involved in a worthwhile project. They wanted to create a visual symbol to distinguish Garden Oaks from other neighborhoods. They wanted to achieve this through beautification -- landscaping common areas, defining neighborhood boundaries with new entry signs, and supporting clean-up days. The Beautification Committee at Civic Club is achieving these goals.

Five entry signs have been installed and landscaped. A pocket park has been planted with various shrubs, an irrigation system and benches. Home Tour signs were purchased and clean-up days continue to be successful.

Beautifying our neighborhood provides many benefits: it creates an aesthetically pleasing environment for both young and old to enjoy; it provides residents with a sense of neighborhood pride and unity, and it increases our property values.

The Civic Club has also benefitted from beautification through increased membership. Residents are becoming more aware of Civic Club projects because they see results.

The success of the Committee's efforts depends on the continued support of the neighborhood for:

- 1) Exchange of ideas and moral support at Civic Club meetings.
- 2) Help with the installation of shrubs, benches, signs, etc.
- 3) Support with fundraisers so projects can continue and be maintained.
- 4) Support through property maintenance, deed restriction enforcement, and verbal promotion of Garden Oaks within and outside of the neighborhood.

Let's continue to make Garden Oaks a special place to live. Help the Beautification Committee and Civic Club with your support. Get involved in this fun and worthwhile effort.

Just a reminder: the next Beautification meeting will be held at David Veselka's home, 847 LaMonte, JUNE 12, at 7 P.M.

Lisa Miller  
788-2382 (Work)



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GARDEN OAKS ELEMENTARY VICTIM  
OF BURGLARY

Concerned Parents of Garden Oaks Elementary School have established a fund for replacement of a computer "system", color television and VCR recently stolen from their library. Devastated by the loss, parents are actively seeking donations from anyone interested in the well-being and future of our neighborhood elementary school.

For more information, please contact DANESE McWHORTER 864-6021. Donations are now being accepted.

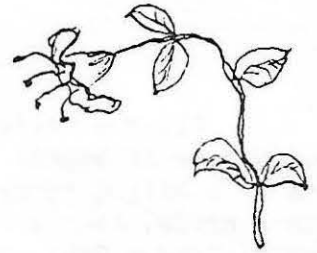
GARDEN CLUB NEWS

Garden Oaks Garden Club will meet for a covered dish supper on Thursday, JUNE 9 at the home of Judy and Jerry Scruggs, 1031 W. 42nd. All are invited, just bring your favorite meat, vegetable, salad or dessert

Yard of The Month for May is 511 W. 33rd, the home of BOB and NORA ACKERLEY. Drive by and take a look at your neighbor's hard work.

We would like to Thank PAUL and KATHY MAREK, MARY and FLOSSIE BLUMBERG, JUDY and JERRY SCRUGGS, JO ANN STONE and JANE LITTLE, and MYRTLE and RAYMOND SHORE for opening their yards for the Annual Backyard Tour. It was very inspiring to see the results of their hard work.

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## CRITTER CORNER

Did you notice the awesome termite swarm around the first of May? It was over before it began, but what entomological glory while it lasted! I was sitting out back on a bright sunny day when a few winged insects began to appear, then a few more, then a horde, then a veritable cloud of six-legged home-eaters. It covered Section Five of Garden Oaks, and probably went a lot further. The swarm extended vertically for as far as the eye could see, maybe hundreds of feet.

Birds were going nuts trying to see how many of the termites they could eat. I never realized termites were that tasty. Those little green lizards we have were also in a frenzy (we call them chameleons but they are not true chameleons but rather anoles, but of course I don't need to tell you that), chasing the termites on the ground and flicking them down with their prehensile tongues. The lizards became so involved in eating termites that they lost all normal fear of me, also of my cat, who took advantage of the situation to torment several before I could stop her.

I had never seen a termite swarm before then. In about three hours it was all over with, and hardly a termite to be seen anywhere. What worries me is this: where did they go? Doesn't that make you a little uneasy? It does me.

To change the subject, there are a lot of owl sightings lately. Practically everyone I know has owls in their yard or their neighbor's yard. Lots of the nesting boxes have owls in them, and mine has two fuzzy-headed babies peering out the hole in the evenings. Marshall Lighter on Gardenia reports that his box has been shunned by the owls so he walks three houses down the block to watch the owls in his neighbor's box.

Danese McWhorter gave a good tongue-lashing to the boys at Garden Oaks Elementary who knocked down a bird nest containing three tiny babies. Then she valiantly administered CPR to the trio of nestlings, only to lose one right away. The other two accepted a little ground beef from her and seemed reasonably all-right so she returned the nest to its original position under a window awning and hopes for the best. Shouldn't we be giving out awards to people like her?

Now we turn to a subject which I suppose relates indirectly to critters, namely, setting out household trash for the garbagemen to pick up. On my street they pick up trash on Tuesday and Friday. Invariably, someone will inexplicably put out garbage on Saturday or Sunday, which means it sits there for everyone to admire while the sun ripens it. Then along comes a dog and does what comes naturally, decorating the street and adjacent yards with household garbage, and whatever was too small for the dog proves just right for Mama Rat and Pappa Rat on Monday night. So by the next pickup time, there's not much left to be picked up. Wouldn't it be better to set out trash the same day as the pickup, or maybe the night before? Rats are one critter I prefer not to encourage.

Somebody said why don't I talk about proper techniques for trimming trees, so I will, although I don't know what it has to do with critters. You already know that a big healthy tree adds thousands of dollars to your property value. What you may not know is that you can introduce diseases into the tree's system by sloppy trimming, and hasten the tree's demise. The worst thing in the world you can do to a tree is saw off a limb and leave a short stump. Cut that stump off flush with the trunk of the tree, or nearly flush, so the tree can grow tissue over the wound. Otherwise it becomes an entryway for bugs and disease. Savvy?

Anything else you'd like to know?

DAVID HORSLEY

GOOD NEIGHBORS

THANK YOU TO:

WALTRIP MARCHING BAND, U.S. MARINE CORP RESERVE HONOR GUARD, SEARS and WINNIE-THE-POOH, CHICK-A-FIL and "DOODLES", SAMMIE and CAROL BROADRICK, RIC LUCK, and VERONICA MAYA for their special help with the Co-op Parade. It was such a success we're planning to make it an annual thing.

TOBY ETHRIDGE on your donation of time and talent for the photos presented to Home Tour home-owners.

SAMMIE BROADRICK, STACIE and the BOY SCOUTS' Food Drive. We appreciate your time and effort on this worthwhile project.

A BELATED THANK YOU TO:

GAIL VAN NEST for her work on the HOME TOUR map.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Jean Dodd, Principal of Garden Oaks Elementary, and her family on the loss of her son, Mark Dodd.

HELP WANTED

Gazette Advertising Committee - People willing and able to sell ads and collect fees for the monthly Gazette. Call Martha 864-0038.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Allison Weed	5 Years	June 8
Brett Hartmann	5 Years	June 21
Alexander Wolaver	3 Years	June 26
Catherine Keegan	2 Years	June 30



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HEARD UNDER THE OLD OAK TREE

Congratulations to BILL ECKERT on his new job in Pennsylvania. We will miss you BILL, PAT, JULIE and CHRIS.

Congratulations to PAT ALONZO on the new addition to your family. We all welcome your son, MATTHEW BRANDON.

Good Luck to MELODY BLACK on her promotion. She and DEVIN are moving onward and upward. We'll miss you.

A Fond Farewell to TOMMY, BETTY, JENNIFER, DAVID and JESSE COLE. We will miss you when you move to Dallas.

Congratulations to KAYE PARISI on her 3 Hour and 35 Minute finish on the Boston Marathon. All of your neighborhood running has certainly paid off.

FOUND in SECTION 1 an Orange Persian cat. For information call CHRISTINE ADAMS 869-2501



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GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM  
Membership dues become due on January 1, 1988

( ) New Member                      ( ) Renewal                      ( ) Change of Address

NAME: ----- ADDRESS: -----

PHONE: -----

CHILDREN/Age: -----

YEARS LIVED IN GARDEN OAKS: -----

I would like to assist in the:

- ( ) Neighborhood Cleanup                      ( ) Beautification Project
- ( ) Membership Drive                              ( ) Refreshments for Meetings
- \$10.00 per Household    \$5.00 for Senior Citizens

Make checks payable to: GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB  
Willard Mills, Treasurer  
907 W. 41st St., Houston, Texas 77018