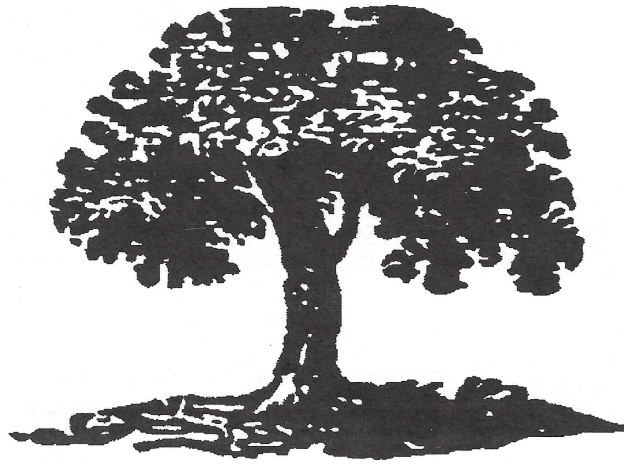


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# Garden Oaks Gazette

Vol. 12, No. 2

Circulation 1500

February 1990

## 1990 Civic Club Meeting Dates Confirmed

The Civic Club has confirmed the meeting dates for 1990. The first Tuesday of each month was adopted as the meeting dates for the rest of the year. All meetings will be held at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall on North Shepherd (unless otherwise noted in future *Gazettes*) with refreshments beginning at 7:00pm and the meeting convening at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be **Tuesday, February 6.**

Meeting dates for the remainder of 1990 are:

March 6  
April 3  
May 1  
June 5  
July 3  
August 7  
September 4  
October 2  
November 6  
December 4

Baby-sitting will be available during the business portion of the meetings for \$1.00 per child. Come join us and bring a neighbor with you!

## HISD Vanguard, SIGHTS Deadline

February 2 is the deadline for all applications for the HISD Vanguard and SIGHTS programs. For more information contact HISD schools.

## From the President...

A couple of unrelated incidents constituted a kind of regional revival for me last month and I wanted to share them with you all.

First, since meetings are sort of an occupational hazard of mine, I will confess that I trudged along to yet another one without much enthusiasm. The weather was bad and the turnout was sparse, and the few who did show up appeared bound to disagree. It seemed that once again we would listen to an idea, decide what was **WRONG** with it, what **OTHER PEOPLE** ought to do to fix it, and why we **ABSOLUTELY DID NOT HAVE TIME TO GET INVOLVED WITH IT.** Well we did listen to a proposal, but soon we had entered into a lively discussion of the pros and cons. Somehow, a spark of real excitement took hold and before reality anchored us, each of us was talking about what **WE** could do to help...what commitments **WE** would make to improve the whole project. Ideas shot around the room like fireworks and ignited a genuine enthusiasm. The good news? It was a Garden Oaks committee meeting. Nobody in the room was a "new" resident and we weren't discussing a "new project" and yet, once again, we found ourselves reveling in the unique nature of our community.

Later that week I got a phone call from a young man being relocated to Houston from Boston. Through a most circuitous route he has fallen for Garden Oaks and was thirsty for information about our history and our potential. I offered to give him a short guided tour and so we met one rainy Saturday over

breakfast and set out. I hadn't really done that in a long time and especially not from a fresh viewpoint. We slowly crept along, section by section, stopping to take in the many changes; admiring new construction, major remodeling, and just new paint. I saw some "sore thumbs" too, and held my breath a bit not wanting him to find fault with the skeletons in our closet. He didn't. He liked us "warts and all," and we parted several hours later with him clutching the latest copy of the Gazette anxious to start looking at the insides of some of what we had seen. I think he's going to make a great neighbor.

This just reconfirmed what we already know, we have a great neighborhood. Whether we read about it in real estate columns (sometimes authored by our own "resident experts"), see it on the front page of The Leader (thanks to an innovative resident initiated program), or just realize it in our own enthusiasm. Spread the news! We must continue to be our own marketing department for Garden Oaks, since demand for our limited commodity raises property values.

*Susan McMillian*

## Dear Santa,

Thank you for visiting Garden Oaks. We know you are very busy around Christmas, so we appreciate you taking time for us. Thank Mrs. Claus, all your helpers, and of course the reindeer. (The wassail was delicious!) Please come see us again.

Love,  
Garden Oaks Kids

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REVIVAL: March 4-7

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EVENING WORSHIP - 5:00 P.M.  
CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP - 6:00 P.M.  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE - 5:45 P.M.

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## Proposals Sought For Civic Club Building Salvage

When the Civic Club building was demolished in September, 1989 the City of Houston gave the Garden Oaks Civic Club some of the salvageable materials from the structure. The old oak flooring from the stage, some light fixtures, doors, firemen's pole, some windows, and the cupola are among the items saved.

The idea was to use these materials to benefit the Civic Club financially and toward that goal we would like to receive ideas from residents as to how this could best be accomplished. It has been suggested that a neighborhood craftsman could make small commemorative pieces from the oak stage flooring in return for a percentage of the sales or that someone might want to clean and repair all the items for an auction. The materials are not in good condition from the exposure to the elements while the building was vacant. Perhaps you think it best to just hold a sealed bid warehouse sale of the items in "as is" condition. Before we divest ourselves of this "one of a kind" memorabilia we would like to get your thoughts on the method we choose. Please call **Susan McMillian** at **695-8245** or send your ideas in writing to 718 W. 42nd Street. We will keep you posted on the results.

## Congratulations!

To the winners of the 1989 Garden Oaks Christmas Decoration Contest:

### "Best Home Decoration"

- 1st Place: 722 Sleepyvale
- 2nd Place: 1574 Sue Barnett
- 3rd Place: 705 W. 32nd Street

### "An Old-Fashioned Christmas"

- 1st Place: 1004 Sue Barnett
- 2nd Place: 523 W. 32nd Street
- 3rd Place: 4306 Apollo

### "A Child's Delight"

- 1st Place: 1026 Gardenia
- 2nd Place: 1459 Sue Barnett
- 3rd Place: 524 W. 31st Street

### "Best Entryway or Door"

- 1st Place: 741 Sue Barnett
- 2nd Place: 607 W. 30th Street
- 3rd Place: 1039 Lamonte

### "Most Original Decoration"

3206 Lawrence

### "Best Block"

1000 Block of Gardenia

Thanks to the sponsors of this wonderful annual contest: Garden Properties; Regency Title; Legato, The Hair Salon; and Suzanne Debien, Realtors.

Editor's Note: Please excuse the datedness of this article as the winners had not been selected by the deadline for last month's *Gazette*.

### Garden Oaks Runners ---

Let's ALL get together! Saturday, February 10 at 7:00am at the pocket park on Sue Barnett and W. 42nd Street. All caliber of runners are welcome. For more information contact **Tim Pagel** at **686-4424**.

## Membership Report

Yes, it's that time again. As the saying goes, "The only sure things in life are death, taxes and Civic Club dues." Dues are \$10.00 per dwelling (or \$5.00 for senior citizens over 65 years). You can pay at the next Civic Club meeting or send your check payable to Garden Oaks Civic Club to: **Terry Weinberger**, 831 W. 41st Street, Houston, Texas 77018.

The deadline for 1990 dues is **APRIL 15**. Remember... when you think taxes, think Civic Club dues.

Also, volunteers are needed for a Membership Phone Committee. So, if you want to practice your phone skills or just exercise your index finger, please call **Terry Weinberger** at **692-7248** and volunteer!

## In Appreciation of Good Neighbors

Thank you to **Kenneth Foyt** of Section 2 who personally maintains the pocket park on Sue Barnett and W. 42nd Street. Not only does he routinely mow and rake this pocket park, but he installed a swing for everyone's enjoyment donating his own labor and materials. Thank you for helping to preserve the beauty of Garden Oaks.

Thank you to **Apple Tree** on W. 43rd Street for donating the delicious cake for the January Civic Club meeting. Please show that you appreciate businesses who support Garden Oaks by supporting them.

Thank you **John Arnett**, a Garden Oaks resident who saved scrap bond paper from his business, Speedy Printing, for the Garden Oaks Recycling effort.

Thank you **David Horsley** for writing "Critter Corner" all these years. We enjoyed all your articles and appreciate your insight into the critter world. Garden Oaks will certainly miss you. Best wishes!

# Recycling Report Card

January figures are:

Paper			\$111.55
Newsprint	15,630 lbs	\$ 81.77	
Computer	100 lbs	\$ 8.00	
White Ledger	360 lbs	\$ 18.00	
Cardboard	280 lbs	\$ 3.78	
Metals			\$ 76.19
Aluminum cans	183lbs	\$ 69.54	
Other	13 lbs	\$ 3.65	
Batteries	3	\$ 3.00	
Glass	3250 lbs		\$ 97.50
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 285.24</b>

The next pick-up date is **Saturday, February 10**. (Raindate is the following Saturday.) Remember to set out your articles **BEFORE 8am**. You can also personally drop off your recyclables at Graham Park on the Recycle Pick-up day from 8am until the volunteers go home (between 10 and 11 am). Please be timely; the volunteers work very hard on this day and do not want to wait around anymore than they have to. If no one is at the park when you bring your stuff by, please keep it until the next pick-up. If you will be out-of town on the pick-up day or need special help with setting your items out on the curb, call **Sammie Broadrick at 686-1684** or **Pam Parks at 868-5223**. If you would like to help, come to Graham Park at 8am on the second Saturday of the month and ask for **Scott MacClymonds**. He will direct you where you will be needed. Or just come out to see our operation. We can use you!

The Recycling Committee volunteers can be identified by green "Garden Oaks Recycling" T-Shirts and matching magnetic signs on all "official" recycling vehicles. Anyone picking up your recyclables on Garden Oaks Recycle Pick-up Day without these distinguishing features should be reported. Take down their license number and call **Pam Parks at 868-5223**.

## ***Award Recognizes Good Neighbors***

The Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award is presented each quarter to recognize residents whose caring manner and good deeds make them a great neighbor. Please take the time to nominate someone who has been a good neighbor to you. The deadline for the 1990 First Quarter Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award is **February 16**.

This award, just for the Garden Oaks subdivision, was started in 1989 and is sponsored by Suzanne Debien, REALTORS. Nominations are made by letter and are reviewed by a committee of community leaders. Letters of nomination should be submitted to Suzanne Debien, REALTORS at 1235 North Loop West #1120, Houston, Texas, 77008. For more information call **697-5220**.

## Clip and Save Recycling

### Reminders:

**WHEN:** Second Saturday of the month 8am

**WHERE:** Curbside (by 8am) or drop-off at Graham Park at W. 34th Street and Lawrence (8am-11am)

### WHAT AND HOW:

**ALUMINUM CANS:** Non-magnetic, RINSED.

**NON-FERROUS (Not Steel) METALS:** Items such as copper, brass, and aluminum. No refrigerators, dishwashers or other appliances.

**GLASS:** Separated into clear and colored glass; RINSED and CLEANED; No LIDS; Labels can be left on; **NO PLATE GLASS!**; Please avoid using plastic bags for the glass.

**NEWSPAPERS:** Bundled or placed in paper grocery bags

**CARDBOARD:** Brown cardboard only (grey cardboard has already been recycled); Flatten and bundled or placed in paper grocery bags.

**COMPUTER PAPER:** Bundled, boxed or placed in paper bags; No carbon inserts.

**WHITE LEDGER:** Bond paper bundled, boxed or placed in paper bags; **NO** glossy junk mail, NCR (No Carbon Required) paper, or telephone books.

**BROWN PAPER GROCERY BAGS** are also recyclable so use them whenever you can.

Please follow these guidelines to make the recycling pick-up more efficient and pleasant. Cleaning glass containers and rinsing empty aluminum cans cuts down on the odor and mess. If you don't remove the lids or separate the glass, we have to and it slows the process down.

**QUESTIONS OR FOR SPECIAL PICK-UPS:** Call **Pam Parks at 868-5223** or **Sammie Broadrick at 686-1684**

# Count me in – I want to help!

**I want to support the Garden Oaks Civic Club in its efforts to create and maintain a great neighborhood.**

*Please fill in opposite side and mail to*

**Garden Oaks Civic Club**

**Terry Weinberger**

**831 W. 41st Street**

**Houston, Texas 77018**

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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30am (children's  
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CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:15am (all ages)

MOTHER'S DAY OUT - Thursday, Friday

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## Neighbors in Action

Editor's Note: This column is a repeat from last month's issue because the short time frame between the actual delivery date of the January *Gazettes* and the deadline for the February *Gazette* did not allow adequate response.

We have just entered the last decade of not only this century, but also this millennium. We are approaching the year 2000, which to us has always seemed both mystical and promising. Given what has happened globally in the latter half of 1989 (the uprising in China, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the new government in Czechoslovakia), the 1990's look as if they will be an exciting time to be alive.

And yet with all the promise of this decade, there are fundamental issues and concerns for us as neighbors in Garden Oaks, residents of Houston, citizens of the United States, and inhabitants of this planet, that have not yet been resolved. Issues such as our environment, education, the drug problem, the care of our children, elderly, hungry, and homeless, to name only a few, directly or indirectly touch all of us.

Maybe the opportunity of the 1990's is for each and every one of us to participate in some way in resolving our issues and concerns, so that by the year 200 we can say: "The tide has turned."

This new monthly column, "NEIGHBORS IN ACTION," will be a "bulletin board" for opportunities to volunteer and make a difference. Many residents of Garden Oaks are involved in volunteer activities, either right here in our neighborhood or in the Houston area at large. If you belong to a group or organization that has openings for volunteers, OR if you have a desire to participate in or start up a group or or-

ganization, call **Brian or Denise Sherwood** at **686-9643**, and we will make sure that you are included in next month's column.

There is no idea or opportunity that is too large or too small. Anything and everything you can do can make our neighborhood, thus our city, thus our state, thus our country, thus the world, a better place to live.

## The Good Times Roll at St. Matthew's

A community wide Mardi Gras Party will be held on Friday, February 23, 8:00pm until 1:00am, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 4300 N. Shepherd (at W. 43rd Street). Traditional Mardi Gras fun, good food, and music from all eras for dancing will be the order of the evening. Costumes are encouraged, but not mandatory.

Admission will be \$5 per person, \$10 per couple, \$15 single with children, or \$20 couple with children. All ages are invited to join in the fun. Baby-sitting will be provided. Make your reservations today by calling **Margaret Brewer** at **682-7641**.

## Garden Oaks Baptist Church Revival March 4-7

Garden Oaks Baptist Church will hold a revival entitled "Here's Hope. Jesus cares for you." March 4-7. Revival will begin on Sunday, March 4 with meetings at 11:00am and 7:00pm. Luncheon and worship service will be held at 11:50am Monday through Wednesday, March 5-7. In addition revival meeting will be held each night at 7:00pm Monday through Wednesday, March 5-7. For more information contact the church office at **864-4447**.

### GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Children/Birthdates: \_\_\_\_\_

Years lived in Garden Oaks: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership Fees Due**  
**April 15, 1990**

- \$10 Family Membership       \$5 Senior Citizens (Garden Oaks Roots)  
 \$25 Business Membership

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB  
MAIL TO: TERRY WEINBERGER, 1st V.P., MEMBERSHIP

## Critter Corner

by David Horsley

How did you come through the Big Freeze? We two-legged critters were reduced to the level of some of the four- and six- and eight-legged critters, as we hustled to protect our habitat from the effect of killing cold.

My assessment is that everything with fur or feathers came through the cold OK. Birds seemed to spend a little longer at the feeder, and some of our squirrels stayed in bed for several days. But then birds and squirrels were designed for cold weather.

Insects are another matter. While I was lying on my belly up in the attic crawlspace with a hairdryer (I always go there to dry my hair), I happened to notice several large but sluggish roaches who had come in from the cold. They were milling around down near the eaves of the house, talking quietly amongst themselves and blowing on their hands to keep warm. A well-aimed blast from the hairdryer got them moving, but to where? They surely didn't go back outside that day.

Some months ago we discussed how insects can somehow protect themselves from the killing effects of hard freezing. Their blood turns into Prestone II, I think, otherwise how could they survive in temperatures near zero? Mosquito larvae survive in Arctic mud frozen hard as stone.

Then there are the plants of our once lovely neighborhood. It is interesting to see which ones can bounce back after a freeze and which can't. A list of the dead: vinca, impatiens, ferns, wheeler pittisporum, philadendrons, anything succulent or blooming. Even the century plants, normally OK with cold, froze like sprays of spears and thawed to resemble dead octopuses. Our grass looks dead, but I am told that it's not. This year our star jas-

mine also froze and looks dead although I am afraid to prune it yet. Bob Flagg might be watching.

On the other hand, most of our plants came through just fine. Hardwood trees like cold temperatures — it helps them drop those leaves that had been hanging on, taking up space on the branch. Monkeygrass would seem fragile in a freeze but isn't harmed. Anything native to Texas does fine, such as yuccas, sages, hollies, and laurels. Azaleas are not damaged, though some of the flowers might be slightly nipped come March.

All these effects of the deep cold are especially interesting to me now because at the end of January I will be packing up my family and moving to the Texas panhandle, where cold is a way of life. I am sad to say this will be my last regular column here. Maybe I can send in an occasional report about critters and things from the North Pole, if our editor will permit it. It sure has been good to know you.

## Notes From The Garden

by Jan Koenig

Normally, this is the time of year when gardeners in Houston start thinking about spring planting. Mid-January isn't exactly spring (even in Texas), but it's close enough to the time when we no longer need to worry about frosts that we can start looking in that direction.

A lot of seed packets come with instructions to plant the contents directly in the ground "after danger of frost." Usually, that line is followed by another line to the effect that you can get a head start by sowing the seeds indoors 6 or 8 or 10 weeks (depending on the variety) ahead of the last frost. In Houston, history tells us that, on average, our last frost occurs about March 7. So if we subtract 6 or 8

weeks from March 7, we're right back in mid-January.

That's how I wound up with my hands full of potting soil on the back porch when Anita Scherer called me to remind me that the paragraphs which I am now composing were woefully overdue, as usual. Fortunately though, the timing of her call gave me the idea for a topic for this column.

Every time I plant seeds, I marvel at the diversity and elegance of these little capsules of suspended animation. The seeds of common vegetables and flowers come in an amazing variety of shapes and sizes - spheres, flat disks, needles, tiny specs, ribbed nuts (peach pits!), spiny balls, etc... What is even more amazing is the efficiency of these reproductive devices. Most varieties of seed will last for several years if they're stored in a cool dry space. Some species have been known to germinate after having been stored for decades! Seeds remain in a state of dormancy until a trigger is pulled in the form of some magical combination of moisture, temperature, and light — then, "Voila!, Let's Grow!"

A few weeks or months later, the lowly seed has turned into food. In fact, the food we eat is often the result of the plant returning to seed. Beans, peas, and nuts are the seeds themselves. Most of our fruits are the specialized protective casings for the developments of the seeds. Did you know that broccoli flowerets are just that - flowers that haven't quite yet bloomed.

The life cycle of our food plants is fascinating and what better way to observe it than to come by from time to time and watch the veggies grow, flower, and die. It might turn out that they give us more than just food to eat. They might give us some food for thought as well. See you at the garden!

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## Volunteers Sought

Volunteers are needed to help clean out the Garden Oaks Civic Club storage room. If you can spare an afternoon, please call **Sammie Broadrick** at 686-1684.

## Welcome

all new neighbors at:

419 Azaleadell  
719 Azaleadell  
723 Azaleadell  
423 W. 31st  
817 W. 31st  
871 W. 41st  
931 W. 41st  
915 W. 42nd

## February Birthdays

Birthstone: Amethyst for Sincerity

2: **Nicholas Day**, 2 yrs  
4: **Tom Rogers**, 30-something  
6: **Brett Sherwood**, 1 yr  
7: **Tim Pagel**, 30-something  
8: **Jane Sturges**, 2 yrs  
10: **Debbie Martin**, 30-something  
11: **Cheryl Luck**  
14: **Lauren Hall**, 11 yrs  
15: **Collin Jenkins**, 2 yrs  
15: **Andrew Bell**, 7 yrs  
15: **Susan Smith**  
21: **Georgann Paul**, 12 yrs

Belated birthday greetings to **Pam Parks** who on January 18 turned 36 and to **Darla Englert** whose birthday was January 22!

## Corrections

**Jaime Pierce**, 1990 Civic Club Secretary, is a resident of Section 4 not Section 5 as was stated in the last issue.

The Garden Oaks Civic Club would like to recognize first time attendees **Brian** and **Denise Sherwood** of Section 5.

Thank you for coming to the January meeting and we hope to see you there again.



Suzanne Debien  
Owner/Broker

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## Garden Oaks Civic Club Numbers

**Susan McMillan**,  
President  
718 W. 42nd Street  
Houston, Texas 77018  
695-8245

**Anita Scherer**,  
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Houston, Texas 77018  
956-7809

**Arthur Smith**, Advertising  
861-0321

**Arv and Barbara Vilutis**, Treasurers  
692-0581

**Terry Weinberger**,  
1st V.P., Membership  
692-7248

**Joe and Martha Rhea**,  
2nd V.P., Programs  
691-4433

**Jaime Pierce**, Secretary  
688-3237

## February Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Vanguard/ SIGHTS deadline	3
4	5	6 Civic Club 7:00 pm	7	8	9  <i>Gazette</i> deadline	10 Recycle Pick-Up 8:00 am
11	12	13	14  <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15	16 Good Neighbor Award deadline	17
18	19 President's Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Ash Wednesday			

**Gazette Ad Rates**  
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**Deadline for**  
**February Gazette**  
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