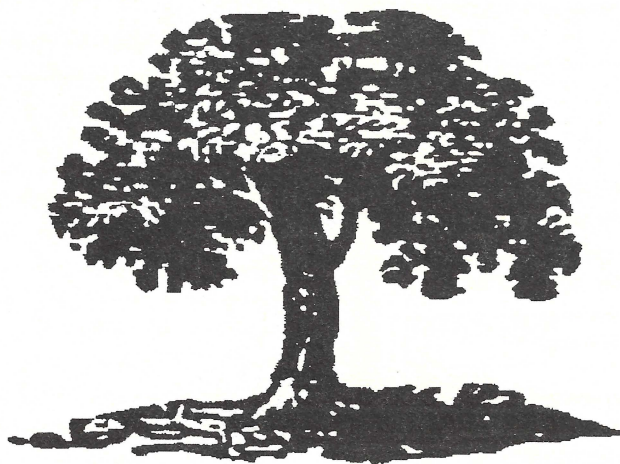


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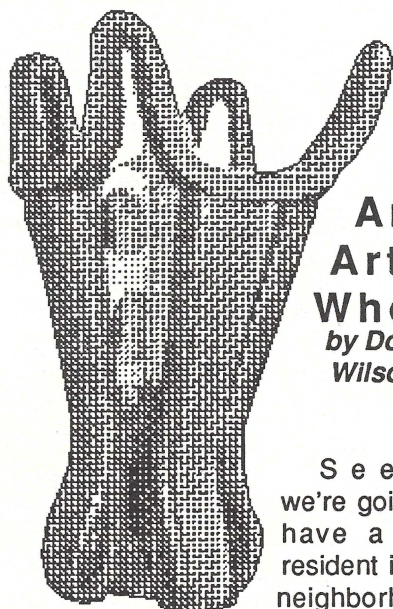
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Garden Oaks Gazette

Vol. 12, No. 8

Circulation 1500

August 1990



**Art?
Art
Who?**
*by Doug
Wilson*

Seems we're going to have a new resident in the neighborhood; hopefully just the first of a whole family.

The Garden Oaks Beautification Committee has achieved something of a coup in the "pounce-on-the-opportunity-when-you-can" category. Rusty Day happened to be in the right place at the right time to secure for our neighborhood a major piece of contemporary sculpture.

As presented at last month's Civic Club Meeting, the concept was enthusiastically approved to install the piece in the pocket park esplanade bordered by 43rd and Sue Barnett. Thanks to some tireless efforts by **Marian Mabry** and other dedicated members of her committee, city permits are already approved and by early Fall we will

have it installed.

Created by noted sculptor Chain Goldberg (with an estimated value equal to... oh, never mind), the ten foot tall pigmented cement form celebrates the birth of Spring with an abstract symbology of four dancers around a maypole; but having once said that, the piece offers plenty of opportunity for a person to enjoy some subtle character in its curves and textures as well as visualize other figurative possibilities.

Perhaps our only regret is that it is on loan for just a couple of years. Another facet of the good side to the installation of abstract art in our neighborhood is that it is sure to bring out a plethora of vociferous art critics to join the Beautification Committee in hopes of affecting our future acquisitions (maybe on your block). Bravo! You V.A.C'S.

In addition, the sculpture will be honored by new landscaping based on the recent xeriscape philosophy of low maintenance and indigenous planting which require less attention and watering. Which reminds me, there's literally hundreds of neighbors working in some small capacity every month to help keep your property values sound. Why don't you join the group doing the landscaping and meet some of the best people you'll ever enjoy knowing. Don't be shy. New people are getting involved in Garden Oaks every month. Call **Ann Kilgore** at 691-3020.

Civic Club Meets August 7, National Night Out

The next Garden Oaks Civic Club meeting will be held **Tuesday, August 7, 7:15 pm** at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. No refreshments will be served at the August meeting, due to National Night Out.

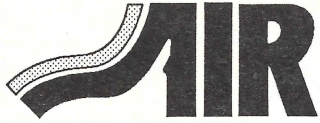
Babysitting will be available at \$1.00 per child. Come to the meeting and bring a neighbor with you!

Recycling Wins EPA Environmental Award

The Garden Oaks Recycling Committee has been honored by EPA Region VI with an environmental excellence award. This award will be presented at a ceremony in Austin, Texas on **Thursday, August 23**. The Garden Oaks Recycling Committee is the only non-business, non-government organization to receive this award out of the three Houston organizations receiving this honor. The award is designed to recognize organizations, municipalities, industries, etc. which have excelled in addressing the issue of solid waste management.

A contingent is getting together to attend this event. If you are a recycling volunteer or a recycler, this award is for you! If you wish to attend the award ceremony, call **Scott MacClymonds** at 691-3020 for details.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 am

CHURCH SCHOOL - 9:15 am (all ages)

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From the President...

This month's meeting will be decidedly abbreviated to accommodate "NATIONAL NIGHT OUT". We will begin promptly at 7:15 pm with our business meeting and adjourn as quickly as possible so that you may go home and meet your neighbors. Many years ago law enforcement agencies recognized that the biggest single contributing factor to safe neighborhoods was how well residents knew each other. From this knowledge the Houstonians On Watch program and others which encourage the familiarity that was once a given in a community were created. "National Night Out" is endorsed by all major law enforcement agencies as an evening dedicated to renewing that old fashioned custom of neighborly visits.

Garden Oaks has a big head start. We have a strong sense of community... family, if you will, that allows us to have different ideas but still appreciate our common goals. It is primarily those common goals that have allowed us to know most of our surrounding neighbors. Although I am a forty-something year resident of Garden Oaks, I never attend a meeting for a new committee or interest group that I don't meet someone new. Each new project or idea draws a few new participants. That benefits our community in both the resulting improvements and in the increased familiarity with each other. There is, however, always room for improvement.

On Tuesday, August 7, 1990, come to Civic Club, at Garden Oaks Baptist Church, but don't expect to find refreshments. We are asking you to provide your own refreshments on your own block; to take those "goodies" out into your front yard and invite your neighbors to join with you in celebrating "National Night Out in Garden Oaks". As the C.O.P. patrols make their rounds that night, we will ask them to take note of each celebration spotted and you will be recognized in next month's Gazette. We are hoping for a 100%! Meet each other, make friends, swap emergency phone numbers, or just swat mosquitoes together. For those of

you already involved in Civic Club, invite those who are not. Recyclers, remind non-participants about the August 11th pickup.

Use this opportunity to the fullest and enjoy yourselves, after all we don't turn you loose early that often on the first Tuesday!

Susan M. Millian



Heard Under The Oak Tree

Congratulations to **Scott and Jaime Pierce** of Section 4 who will celebrate their 5th wedding anniversary on August 17.

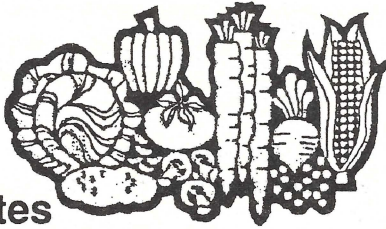
Twenty-one years ago on August 4 **Sammie and Carol Broadrick** of Section 4 exchanged vows. Congratulations and best wishes for many more years to come.

Congratulations and thank you to the newly formed Garden Oaks Plaza Civic Association which adopted bylaws and elected officers last month. The "thank you" is because they have decided to participate in our monthly recycling project. They noted that the only way into their neighborhood is through ours and they appreciate the fine improvements that we have made on our esplanades.

Congratulations to the Recycling Committee and all recyclers for winning the EPA environmental award. Good work!

Civic Club Bylaws To Be Reviewed

A five member Bylaws Committee will be appointed to consider and make recommendations for amendments to change or clarify the existing Bylaws for the Garden Oaks Civic Club as discussed at last month's meeting. Those recommended amendments will then be published in the *Gazette* and voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting following that publication. If you are interested or have any suggestions, please call **Arv Vilutis** at 692-0581.



Notes From the Garden

by Jan Koenig

The garden is coming back to life! Last month, the situation looked pretty dismal - particularly for the tomatoes. The cucumbers, green peppers, and butternut squash were suffering as well. Over the past few weeks though, everything seems to be perking up, including the tomatoes!

All of the beds are irrigated, but the severe heat and dry weather we had in June still hit the plants pretty hard. The cucumbers were discolored, misshapen, and bitter to the point of being inedible. The peppers were stunted and withering. The butternut squash was still producing, but the fruits were a lot smaller than they should have been. The tomato plants were barren and lifeless. Everything looked so bad that I was just about ready to call it quits for the summer and focus instead on the plans for relocating the garden this fall.

As a last ditch effort I decided to crank up the water flow on the irrigation system and see what happened. After about a week, everything seemed to jump back to life. All of the plants have put on new growth. The fruits are larger, healthier and more numerous. Even the tomato plants show new vigor. We don't have any new tomatoes yet, but I'm hopeful that the plants will flower and fruit again as the summer winds down. Apparently, the garden was just very, very thirsty.

During the heat wave, we did have one plant that grew spectacularly well (aside from the weeds in the beds that were not in use). About a month ago, a rogue seedling sprouted in the pepper plot. The young plant looked like something from the squash or melon family, so I decided to let it grow. And grow it did!

The intruder nearly took over the bed - growing over, around, and between the pepper plants. Judging

by the shape of the leaves, I thought it might be a watermelon plant. After a few weeks, blooms appeared, followed by a few small green fruits. I had visions of succulent, monster watermelons maturing among the peppers.

But alas, the small green fruits matured into small yellow fruits. Just imagine a honeydew melon the size of a golf ball. The one I tasted wasn't bad - better than a golf ball, but not as good as a honeydew. Somewhere along the line, a seed from a grocery store melon got into the soil. Since most of the fruits we buy at the grocery are hybrid varieties, the seeds may sprout but they produce distorted offspring.

I pulled the melon plant out of the bed this past weekend. If we had let it grow, that vine might have taken over the entire schoolyard, but the volunteer was so aggressive that I feared it would sap all of the nutrients and moisture out of the soil and away from the peppers. The pepper plot looks a lot better now, but I'm going to miss the Teenage Mutant Mini-Melons.

See you at the garden!

Beautification Committee Update

I hope you were one of the many that got a first glimpse at "Art in Garden Oaks" presented at the Civic Club meeting at Graham Park. Special thanks are in order for many Beautification volunteers; **Rusty Day** for seizing the opportunity and making magic; **Scott MacClymonds** for being the catalyst in this effort; **Doug Wilson** for his professional graphic art skills; **Diana Conover** for her artistic skills; **Anne Kilgore** for committing to this effort as administrator; and **Janis Bohan** for professional engineering service. This is a great project and you have one more chance to get in on it... Beautification Meeting Friday evening **August 10, 7 to 8 p.m.** at the pocket park on 43rd and Sue Barnett (where the new sculpture is located.) Be there or be square.

For information on Sculpture Project call **Anne Kilgore, 691-3020**. For information on new or other beautification projects call **Marian Mabry 695-2157**.

GARDEN OAKS REAL ESTATE REPORT

PRICE RANGE	SOLD YEAR-TO-DATE	CURRENTLY ON MARKET
0-40	1	1
41-60	11	14
61-80	10	7
81-100	12	8
101-120	7	5
121+	6	6

David Ballard

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BIBLE STUDY - 9:45 A.M.
MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.
CHURCH DISCIPLESHIP - 6:00 P.M.
EVENING WORSHIP - 7:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE - 5:45 P.M.

Jerry W. Lemon, Ph.D., Pastor

Reader's Forum

Readers' Forum is a column designed for you to express your opinions, ideas, or just if you would like to share something with the rest of the neighborhood. The ideas and opinions expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by the Civic Club or the Gazette.

by Martha Kennedy

Garden Oaks is a great place to live. One of the many appealing things about this neighborhood is our school. In last month's *Readers' Forum*, Scott MacClymonds, wrote you his opinion of Garden Oaks Elementary School. As a concerned and active parent at Garden Oaks Elementary, I would like to voice a very different opinion of the school.

I agree that a large number of parents send their children to private or public schools other than Garden Oaks. Unfortunately, many of those parents have never even visited our school or spoken to those of us who have **CHOSEN** this elementary school for our own children. Garden Oaks Elementary is an inner city school and most of the students there are not from upper middle class families. Many of our parents, including myself, feel strongly that this is not a drawback, but rather another and very valuable learning experience for our children.

My daughter is receiving a good education at this school. As the Houston coordinator for Hands on Science, an enrichment program funded by the National Science Foundation, I have the unique oppor-

tunity to visit and observe many public and private Houston elementary schools. The teachers and facilities at Garden Oaks compare favorably to most of these schools. In addition, we have many hard working parents who volunteer endless hours of their time to our students.

Many wonderful things are happening at Garden Oaks Elementary. This past year we were awarded five Apple computers and an Apple printer from Apple Tree Markets for collecting grocery receipts. In the next couple of months you will be seeing the neighborhood Spark Park, as well as two other new pieces of playground equipment being built on the school grounds. The majority of the necessary fund were raised by activities coordinated and supported by parents, faculty, and other interested residents.

Everything is not perfect at our elementary school, or at any other school for that matter. But if all of the parents in our neighborhood would consider sending their children to our school, it would only improve the quality of education at Garden Oaks Elementary. Our school board representative, Paula Arnold, says "Schools are what communities make them", and I agree. We need your support and involvement.

No school can hope to service all of the needs of every family in a community, but Garden Oaks does a very good job of educating many of our children. Between our special education classes, our SIGHTS classes, and English as a second language classes, we offer many

opportunities for our neighborhood children. This is not just a "tax supported day care" but a fine school with nurturing educators. We invite you all to visit and to speak personally with the faculty and parents.

Martha Kennedy - 864-0038

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 Third Quarter Garden Oaks Good Neighbor Award is **August 17**.

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

Garden Oaks Runners Club

Garden Oaks runners- let's ALL get together! All caliber of runners are welcome. Questions or comments? Call Tim Pagel at 686-4424.



KATHLEEN STIVENDER REALTORS

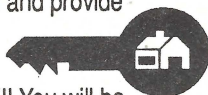


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Citizens on Patrol (COP)

by Teresa Coleman

May Crime Statistics

Patrol Area 1 = Section 1	
Auto Theft	1
Burglary	6
Narcotic	1
Total	8
Patrol Area 2 = Sections 2 & 3	
Auto Theft	1
Assault	1
Burglary	1
Total	3
Patrol Area 3 = Sections 4 & 5	
Burglary	1
Total	1

The above is to make you aware of the number and types of crimes committed in Garden Oaks. Compared to surrounding areas our crime rate is fairly low. But we can reduce it further. COP is one way that every resident in Garden Oaks can help reduce the crime whether or not they volunteer. I will periodically give suggestions on what you can do in your home to prevent crime. If you follow these suggestions not only will the COP patrollers have an easier time observing and reporting incidents but you will also be a less likely target.

You should be seeing the COP patrollers regularly by now. The patrollers have blue and silver COP signs on the car doors and CB radios. We had a great turnout for our first training session-93 people. If you missed the session and want to help reduce our crime rate call David

Epstein at 869-0128 or JoAn Fudge at 692-8822 and they will tell you how you can get on the schedule. Only a few hours each month is required. If you have 3-4 hours of time from 6 P.M. to 9 A.M. a few days a week we could really use your help to man a base station. You only have to be within ear shot of the radio in case there is an incident. The radio is easy to use after 5 minutes of training.

Since there are more burglaries than other types of crimes in Garden Oaks, I will start off with a partial list of what you can do to make your home more secure.

1. Keep doors and windows locked at all times.
2. Install solid core or metal outside doors. Glass near the door handle can be easily broken to unlock the door. 26% of burglars enter by destroying the door.
3. Put supplementary locking devices on all windows. 43% of burglaries are made through a window.
4. Always keep your garage closed and locked-lawn mowers and tools are popular items with thieves.
5. Have a trusted neighbor watch your home and pick-up your mail and newspapers when you are away and/or call **Teresa Coleman** (COP chairperson) at 868-5223 so that the patrollers can help watch your home.
6. Engrave your driver's license on all valuables. If a person is observed walking down the street with a TV, then the police can quickly check to see if it is theirs.

Additional items that Garden Oaks residents can do are: 1) purchase Garden Oaks car stickers to differentiate your car(s) from others wandering the neighborhood casing out your home; 2) install large address numbers in a plainly visible, day and night, location. This will enable the patroller to report an incident faster; 3) get to know your neighbors. **August 7 from 8 to 10 P.M. is National Night Out** and provides a perfect time to meet your new neighbors or ones that you haven't talked to in a while.

Combat Houston Auto Theft (CHAT)

Beginning August 1, 1990, the Houston Police Department will begin a new program called **Combat Houston Auto Theft, or CHAT**. If you do not routinely operate your vehicle between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. you may wish to obtain a sticker which authorizes HPD to stop your vehicle and ask for identification from the driver during those hours. Without the sticker an officer must have probable cause to legally detain the vehicle. All too often a vehicle is missing for hours before it is discovered, so this may prevent that time lag in reporting the crime.

To obtain a sticker you must take your automobile, your registration, and your driver's license to the nearest police substation or storefront and complete the necessary forms. They will apply the sticker and if the car is sold the sticker must be removed.

Recycle Plastics Now!

Certain plastics can now be recycled. Milk, water jugs and plastic soda bottles will be picked up for recycling beginning with the August 11 pick-up. So, set out these items along with your glass, aluminum, computer paper and newsprint.

With the addition of new materials, volunteers and trucks are sorely needed. If you can spare a few hours on the second Saturday of the month, we sure could use you. Call **Pam Parks** at 868-5223 or come out to Graham Park on pick-up day and we will put you to work.

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 975 Gardenia
 3201 Lawrence
 1315 Sue Barnett
 1535 Sue Barnett
 1559 Sue Barnett



New Babies

Welcome **Lauren Alexandra Pierce** who was born on June 15 weighing in at 7 lbs. 3 oz and 21 inches long. Proud parents are **Scott and Jaime Pierce** of Section 4.

Also, welcome **Caitlin Elizabeth Rudin**, born on May 23 weighing 6 lbs. and 19 1/4 inches long. **Julia and Michael Rudin**, Section 2 residents, are the proud parents.

The Garden Oaks Civic Club would like to recognize first time attendees:

- Paul Bick**, Section 1
- Mary Ann and Earl Thomas**, Section 1
- Robbie and Carrie Epstein**, Section 1
- Diana Conover**, Section 2
- Judy and Ted Hackworth**, Section 3
- Ellen Klimenko**, Section 5.

Thank you for coming to the July Civic Club meeting, and we hope you continue to participate in making Garden Oaks a better place to live.



Suzanne Deblen
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Susan McMillian, President
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 Houston, Texas 77018
 695-8245

Anita Scherer, Co-editor
 4223 Apollo
 956-7809

Cindy Ballard, Co-editor
 717 W. 41st Street
 697-6244

James Doyle, President, Board of Trustees
 694-4134

Arv and Barbara Vilutis, Treasurers
 692-0581

Terry Weinberger, 1st V.P., Membership
 680-9757

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

Jaime Pierce, Secretary
 688-3237

August Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 Volleyball 4 pm	6	7 Civic Club 7:15 pm	8	9	10 Beautification 7 - 8 pm	11 Recycle Pick-Up 8 am
12 Volleyball 4 pm	13 Gazette deadline	14	15	16	17 Good Neighbor Award deadline	18
19 Volleyball 4 pm	20	21	22	23 Recycle Award in Austin	24	25
26 Volleyball 4 pm	27	28	29	30	31	

August Birthdays

- 4: James (III) Mabry
- 16: Amy Marek, 5
- 17: Brooke Alexander, 3
- 17: James Mitchell, 6
- 17: Laura Rhea, 6
- 29: James (IV) Mabry, 4

Belated birthday greetings to the **McMillians**. **Bill's** was July 15 and **Susan's** was July 28.

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