



Garden Oaks Gazette

Volume 19, No. 1 Circulation 1550 January 1996

To The Residents of Garden Oaks:

On behalf of the G.O. Caroling committee, may I express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous response to the 2nd Annual G.O. Caroling project benefitting Loving Arms Foundation.

Despite the inclement weather (we'll have a rain plan next year!), many carolers arrived to spread holiday cheer to the neighborhood collecting grocery bags full of needed items for Loving Arms Day Care. The "soggy" but cheerful carolers returned to a nice reception afterwards at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church with piano entertainment provided by students of Kenneth Santos. The following day we received many more bags of people that we missed due to the rain. Once again, Garden Oaks came through! Details of the contributions will follow in next month's Gazette.

Many thanks to all the carolers and drivers that braved the weather Friday night - members of the Greater Houston Chorus, Garden Properties, my students, friends and neighbors, and especially Tina Sabucco's "Angels of Azalea!"

Special thanks to the corporate sponsors that helped make G.O. Caroling a success:

Garden Properties
St. Matthew's United Methodist Church
Watson Moving and Storage
N. Shepherd Police Station
Office Depot (Kirby at Richmond)

Prince Street Market
Fiesta #2 on Shepherd
Thrifty Car Rental
O.D.'s Printing

Thanks also go to the bag deliverers and the People With AIDS Coalition Volunteer Program at Thomas St. Clinic, as well as Carol Myers, editor of the Gazette, for providing a front page story for us each month.

Finally, I'd like to express my deep gratitude to the committee who worked so hard to make this such a wonderful event - Rhonda Cain, Robert DeVeau, Michelle Franke, Kenneth Santos, and Jay Slemmer. We all look forward to an even bigger and better event next year.

You have touched many people's lives with your generosity. May your new year be filled with wonder and prosperity.

With Sincere Thanks,

Audrey Vallance
Chair
G.O. Caroling



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*Texas Department of
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Dear Audrey:

SECRETARY
HAZEL LESTER
Fort Bend Health Dept.

The Garden Oaks Caroling Festival in 1995 was an integral part of our ability to provide services to our children here at Loving Arms. As a non-profit organization, our resources are limited and any contributions we receive from the community helps us to continue to provide free quality care and support to women and their children who are infected/affected by HIV/AIDS.

TREASURER
MARK SOLOMON
City of Houston

We are aware that professional accomplishments are not the result of a single day's work. Carefully considered actions build upon one another until the goal is achieved. The key is finding a group of complimentary individuals who are committed to achieving their goal. The Board of Directors, staff and children at Loving Arms take this opportunity to express special thanks and appreciation to you and your team for the hard work that accomplished such a large task.

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR
CATHERINE WILEY
*University of Texas
School of Public Health*

Our special thanks to Michelle Franke, Robert DeVeau, Rhonda Cain, Kenneth Santos and Jay Slemmer who were instrumental members of the team, who assisted the project by organizing the carolers event. A thanks to the sponsors of the event: Prince Street Market, Garden Properties, Thrifty Car Rental and the United Methodist Church, for their support. Also a great big thanks to the Garden Oaks community for their generosity for without them this would not have been possible. Please know that your dedication and hard work are appreciated, and we look forward to next year's event. Thank you again for sharing the expertise that helped bring Garden Oaks Caroling Festival to a positive conclusion.

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Audrey Gassama
Executive Director

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Get the magnifying glass out or put your glasses on so you can read the two scaled down versions of the letters above. The one on the left is to the residents of Garden Oaks from the Chair of the Garden Oaks Caroling Committee. The one on the right is from The Loving Arms Foundation, the beneficiary of the Garden Oaks caroling event, to the Chair and her committee. They were included in their entirety to give you the big picture. The bottom line though, is everyone involved did a great job for a good cause!

Carol Meyer



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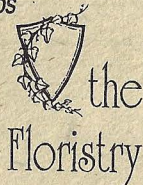
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

For doing an excellent job as editor in '95, the civic club owes **Carol Meyer** a great deal of gratitude. Her hard work and dedication should be commended. She'll be a hard act to follow and I personally would like to thank her for helping me get started with my new found duties.

In performing those duties, I need informative, useful articles. If you have some neighborhood news or information Garden Oaks residents would be interested in, please forward that information to me. You can fax it to me @ 868-2263 or mail a hard copy to 419 W31st Street. If you have access to a computer, you can mail me your information on a disk. Acceptable formats for the PC are Word Perfect for Windows (5.0 or higher), MS Word for Windows (6.0 or higher) or Claris Works for the MAC.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged but will only be considered if your name and address is included.

I would like to thank you in advance for your participation and look forward to hearing from you.

Alex Martinez

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Winston & Joyce Barton celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on December 24, 1995. We wish them many more years to come. Way to go Winston & Joyce!!

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations are in order to B.L. & Diane Perez, the proud parents of Myria Lillian Perez. She was born December 1, 1995 at 9:23pm weighing in at 8lbs. 9 ozs. and 21 inches long. They are very excited to have this new addition to their family. The Perez's have lived in Garden Oaks for about 4 years.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's a new year with new challenges and opportunities! I, along with the rest of the community am ready for them. Even though all of last year's problems haven't gone away I'm excited because... It's a new year and the new year always brings surprises.

First and foremost I want to thank you for reelecting me. Just like last year we have a solid civic club officer team with some new faces. Craig Lee returns as Vice President for Memberships and Ray Housley continues as Treasurer. I'm very glad that Craig and Ray are joining me this next year as officers bringing the Civic Club some much needed continuity. I also want to welcome Lynn Sievers as Secretary and Alex Martinez as Gazette Editor. New people bring different perspectives and ideas and I look forward to the contributions both Lynn and Alex will make to the neighborhood this year. Lynn replaces our two term and rock steady Secretary, Sheila Briones. Sheila is pursuing an advanced degree and we wish her the best of luck. Alex takes up the pen (or is it the keyboard?) from Carol Meyer who did a fine job on the Gazette last year. We'll miss you both.

New stuff: We're making a plan. Few of us in Garden Oaks are here for the short term and that means that almost every resident cares what this neighborhood will look like in the future. I've asked Rob Stanchi to assemble a small team to develop a vision of the neighborhood in the five, ten and twenty year horizons and to make recommendations on what would have to be done to maintain and enhance the quality of life in Garden Oaks.

We're also looking at some novel ways to promote Garden Oaks, to market it better, and to make it THE neighborhood of choice in Houston. More about that in the future.

Make one of your 1996 New Year's resolutions to further your involvement in the neighborhood!

Ed de Alba

Please Recycle this Gazette!

**DECEMBER'S CIVIC CLUB
MEETING/ANNUAL COVERED DISH
DINNER**

If you didn't go to the annual dinner meeting, you missed a good one! Not only was there good food and drink, the membership elected the officers for the coming year. The new officers, elected by acclamation, for the civic club in '96 are as follows:

Ed de Alba, President
Craig Lee, Vice-President, Membership
Lynn Sievers, Secretary
Ray Housley, Treasurer
Alex Martinez, Editor

President Ed de Alba thanked all of the volunteers that put their time and effort into making Garden Oaks a better place to live.

The next civic club meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, February 5th, at the Garden Oaks Baptist Church at 3206 N. Shepherd.

INCIDENT REPORT

Crime stats for the month of October:

Burglaries of a motor vehicle
200 Blk. of W. 32nd.
on 10/17/95 @ 10:00 PM
400 Blk. of W. 33rd.
on 10/13/95 @ 2:00 AM
1000 Blk. of W. 41st.
on 11/14/95 @ 12:00 Noon

Auto Theft
600 Blk. of W. 34th
on 10/01/95 @ Midnight

GO COP REPORT

by Bill Chastain

In last months Gazette, I incorrectly spelled **Susan Kostelecky's** last name. She's one of our new patrollers. Sorry about that Susan!

At a Garden Oaks patrollers meeting on the 30th, I announced I would be stepping down as coordinator. **Jinny** will be retiring soon and we plan to move to Huntsville. I have enjoyed all of the contact that I have made over the years, and all of the folks in Garden Oaks I have met to make this COP program a success. It will be a while before we leave, but the friends and acquaintances we have made in over 35 years spent in Garden Oaks will not be forgotten. In the meantime, I'll be around to ensure a smooth transition.

The GO COP's will be short another longtime watchful pair of patrollers, **Dennis & Doris Koebelen**. At a GO COP meeting they were presented an appreciation certificate in recognition of their efforts to help protect Garden Oaks. Also honored with certificates for 6 years of service were **Wayne Armstrong, V.D. & Lavern Kelly, Edith Rider, and Mildred Warhol**. Certificates for 5 years of service were given to "**Woody**" Mehrkam, and **Johnny Murphy**.

Recently the residents in the 700 block of W 41st. & W 42nd. had an example of cops and robbers. A chase took place, shots were fired and some residents wondered what they should do. I would like to stress at this time that if more people would attend the PIP meetings on the third Thursday of the month, they will be better informed on the police procedures. Attending PIP will not stop you from being alarmed, but you might know a little more of what will take place.



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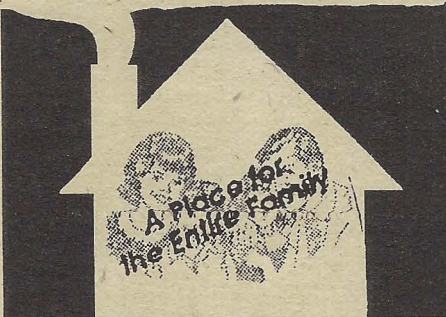
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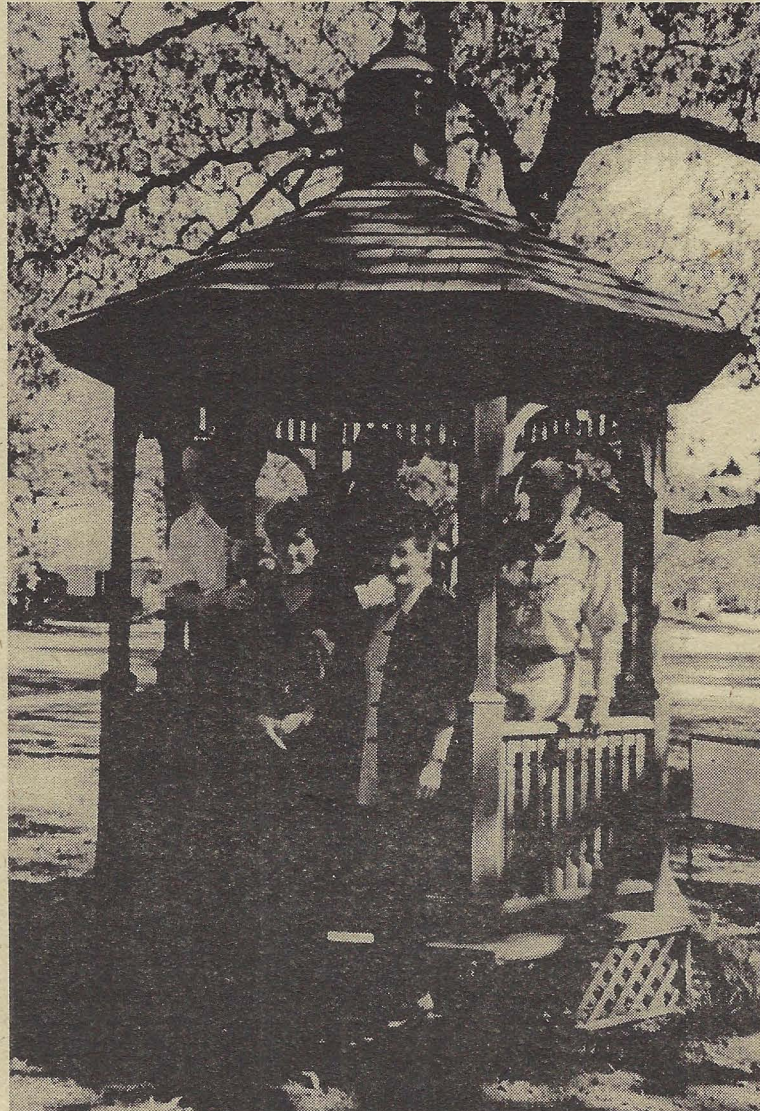
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THE NEW GARDEN OAKS GAZEBO

On November 18 & 19, there was a general clean up that took place for the dedication ceremonies of the gazebo. The helpful crew consisted of **Ed & Brenda de Alba, Shawn Forney, Bill & Jinny Chastain**, and three men from **New Direction**. We are ever so grateful to **Earl Dragic**, and **Mike & Caroline Dragic** to have made the gazebo a reality. It seems nothing could enhance the community more. There are others that have contributed financially to the Gazebo, they are **Amy Blaine, Bill & Jinny Chastain,**



Mrs. Betty Cornelius, Ed & Brenda de Alba, Kenneth & Donna Homfeld, Mr. & Mrs. H. Hutto, Spencer Jeffries, Mrs. "Squatty" (Fern) Lyons, Mrs. D. C. McMillian, Chris & Carol Meyer and Glenn Shepperd. **T h e Homfelds'** are not only financial donors but **a l s o** supplying electricity to the gazebo for Christmas. We are very grateful for **t h e i r** contributions.

Attending the dedication ceremony was from left to right; Earl Dragic, daughter-in-law Caroline, son Mike, Council Member Helen Huey, and Bill Chastain.

THANK YOU ONE AND ALL

To those who have contributed for a "Marker" and are wondering about them, I have waited to make sure no one else wanted to be in on the original placing. I plan to order the markers in January and place them as soon as they are finished.

The dedication on Saturday, November 25, took on an air of warmth and togetherness. **Earl Dragic's son, Mike and his wife Carolyn**, were here from Cleveland, Ohio. I would like to list everyone that attended, but because I could leave someone out unintentionally, I will not attempt it. I will say that we had a good turnout of very nice people in our area. We were honored by the presence of **Council Member Helen Huey**. With her usual exuberance she complimented our accomplishment and pointed out that Garden Oaks is one of the few areas that have kept the land value high, and projects such as the Gazebo are helpful.

MONTESORRI SIGN-UP

Registration will begin March 1st for the Garden Oaks Elementary School Montessori Program. To be eligible for the program the students must be zoned to Garden Oaks. Acceptance is on a first come, first served basis within ethnic age- groupings as defined by the school's demographics. In the past parents have camped out to assure their child a slot in the program.

This year, the program will expand to include an upper elementary class serving third, fourth and fifth graders. Currently there are two 3-6 year old classes (pre-K thru kindergarten) and two 6-9 year old classes (1st thru 3rd grade). These classes are open for observation. Please call the school to make an appointment.

For further information or camping arrangements please contact the school 696-2930.

CLIP AND SAVE RECYCLING REMINDERS

WHEN: Second Saturday of the month from 8 to 11 a.m.

WHERE: Drop-off at the Garden Oaks Theater parking lot

WHAT AND HOW:

Aluminum Cans: Non-magnetic, RINSED.

NON-FERROUS 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;

NEWSPAPERS: Bundled or placed in paper grocery bags; no plastic bags please.

COMPUTER PAPER: Bundled, boxed or placed in paper bags; no carbon inserts, no binding, and no staples.

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

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

PLASTICS: Milk jugs and plastic soft drink bottles rinsed and cleaned.

ENROLLMENT FORM - GARDEN OAKS CONSTABLE PROGRAM

Yes, I would like to enroll in the Garden Oaks Constable Program.

Name: _____ \$200.00 annual dues

Address: _____ Amt. Enclosed: \$

Phone: (hm) _____ (wk) _____

Make checks payable to: **Garden Oaks Civic Club**

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SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:15 & 10:30 am

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Preschool - Mon -Fri 9-2

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Lynn Sievers, Secretary
851 LaMonte Ln 691-4789

Ray Housley, Treasurer
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419 W. 31st St. 862-1927

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Neighborhoods to Standard:
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Neighborhood Traffic Program:
Marc Roberts 861-8512

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Anne Kilgore 697-0069

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JANUARY CALENDAR

January 2	Civic Club Meeting	7 p.m.
January 10	Gazette Deadline	.
January 11	Garden Club Meeting	6:30 p.m.
January 13	Recycle Drop-Off	8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
January 16	Heavy Trash Pick-up	
January 19	Positive Interaction Prog.	7 p.m.

CIVIC CLUB MEMBERSHIP "DUES ARE DUE"

Civic Club dues are for each calendar year (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31). For your convenience, we have enclosed return addressed envelopes in this issue of the *Gazette* to facilitate your effort to join by returning a check for annual dues inside this envelope.

PLEASE PAY 1996 DUES NOW.

Please fill out the coupon below and send to **Craig Lee, V.P. of Membership, 212 W. 34th St..** Resolve to attend at least one Civic Club meeting every six months (first Tuesday of each month from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Garden Oaks Baptist Church on Shepherd.)

**GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB
MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM**

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Children/birthdates: _____

Year moved to Garden Oaks: _____ Paying Dues for: 19 _____ Section #: _____

ANNUAL DUES (Jan. 1 - Dec. 31):

Household \$10 _____ Senior Citizen \$5 _____ Business \$25 _____

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE:

Garden Oaks needs voluntary financial assistance beyond the amount of dues payments it receives. Below are some suggestions for programs needing such assistance:

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Plant Co-Op \$6 _____ GO COP (Citizens' Patrol) \$6 _____

Garden Club \$6 _____ Gazette (Newsletter) \$6 _____

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