



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

L E T T E R

Vol. 9 No.17
February 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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Audubon Place Association

Audubon Place Association (APA) is a non-profit corporation organized to preserve the integrity of one of Houston's unique inner city neighborhoods. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. normally at The River Cafe, 3615 Montrose.

**THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF
APA WILL BE HELD ON
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2000,
AT THE RIVER CAFE**

*APA can be reached by mail at 2615
Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston,
Texas 77006. President - Pam
Thompson - Vice President - Dean
Johnson*

*The Newsletter is published monthly.
Articles or letters should be delivered
to 816 Kipling. For advertising
information call 524-8725.*

President's Message

Patti Thompson

Welcome to a New Year in Audubon Place! A new year, and a new decade all at once. We have elected new officers for the year. They are:

Patti Thompson – President
Dean Johnson – Vice President
Sam Bernstein – Secretary
Maiike Van Bommel – Treasurer

You can reach me via email at
ptbigred@gte.net

I look forward to a great year in the neighborhood. Some of my goals are to re-establish the monthly meetings at the River Café, finish our application for a Historic District, and add irrigation to our esplanades on Audubon. If you have other areas of interest that you would like to see addressed by the neighborhood association, please feel free to send them to us. In future issues, we'll include more contact information and useful phone numbers for reaching different city offices!

Esplanade Project

Most of the plantings in the esplanade survived the drought. Some of the esplanades received more water than the others, so we will need to replace some of the plants this spring. You may have noticed some digging in the

esplanade. Terry Baird took the initiative and contracted someone to install an irrigation system in her yard and in the esplanade in front of her house. I spoke with the contractor to go ahead and install irrigation in the rest of the esplanades, so hopefully, you won't see us dragging hoses around and the plants will look much better.

Garage Sale

As you put away the Holiday decorations back in the closets and attics, you might have noticed some items that you didn't want anymore and want to toss. Don't throw them away just yet. We have tentative plans to hold the garage sale in the late March timeframe. I will provide more details and contact information in the March newsletter.

In upcoming issues, we would like to feature articles on gardening tips, security in the neighborhood, and information on events and activities that effect our neighborhood.

New Member of Audubon Place!

Sam Bernstein and Karen Edelstein welcomed their daughter, Larissa Leanne Bernstein into the neighborhood on December 22, 1999. We all wish them well and a hearty congratulations!

Sketch-a-house

A young artist came through the neighborhood January 15 offering to make sketches of our houses. If you are interested, you can contact Stephen Timmons.



Stephen Timmons Home Renderings

Original Pen & Ink
\$40.00 each

Stationary Available

281-350-6084

281-350-5282

More news from Neartown:

Neartown has a web site. You can find it at www.neartown.org. They are willing to host a web site for the rest of the neighborhood associations in the neartown area. We may start posting the newsletter on their site.

One of the interesting links from their web page is a pointer to the Crime Statistics from the Houston Police Department. You can find that link at: <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/departme/police/stats.htm>. Our area is defined as 1A20 in the map section. For those of you who do not have internet access, the last data posted was for December, 1999:

900 Alabama	aggravated assault	11/16/99	2:40 a.m.
3200 Montrose	aggravated assault	11/26/99	8:30 p.m.
3800 Stanford	aggravated assault	11/24/99	7:30 a.m.
600 Marshall	burglary of a motor vehicle	11/3/99	9:10 p.m.
600 Hawthorne	burglary of a motor vehicle	11/21/99	4:00 a.m.
800 Hawthorne	burglary of a motor vehicle	11/23/99	6:00 p.m.
700 Alabama	auto theft	11/13/99	Midnight
800 Harold	auto theft	11/10/99	8:30 p.m.
3500 Stanford	auto theft	11/20/99	11:00 p.m.
3200 Montrose	narcotic drug laws	11/19/99	12:10 p.m.
300 Alabama	robbery	12/7/99	6:20 a.m.
300 Alabama	robbery	12/18/99	9:40 p.m.
800 Alabama	robbery	12/6/99	9:37 p.m.
600 Alabama	aggravated assault	12/4/99	1:30 p.m.
3400 Montrose	aggravated assault	12/14/99	8:45 p.m.
400 Hawthorne	burglary	12/2/99	9:15 p.m.
400 Hawthorne	burglary	12/18/99	2:00 p.m.
3500 Audubon	burglary	12/7/99	10:00 a.m.
600 Harold	burglary of motor vehicle	12/16/99	8:00 a.m.
700 Hawthorne	burglary of motor vehicle	12/14/99	8:00 p.m.
800 Alabama	burglary of motor vehicle	12/18/99	4:00 a.m.
3200 Montrose	burglary of motor vehicle	12/9/99	1:00 p.m.
3200 Montrose	burglary of motor vehicle	12/10/99	Noon
3400 Montrose	burglary of motor vehicle	12/20/99	10:30 p.m.
3400 Montrose	burglary of motor vehicle	12/20/99	10:00 p.m.
3700 Roseland	burglary of motor vehicle	12/16/99	11:00 p.m.
3300 Montrose	auto theft	12/11/99	10:00 p.m.
3400 Montrose	narcotic drug use	12/1/99	10:50 p.m.
3400 Montrose	narcotic drug use	12/19/99	10:33 p.m.

Neighborhood Dues

It's that time of year again for the neighborhood dues. You will find a form at the back of the newsletter that you can use to return your dues to the association. They are \$10, as usual. In the past, your dues have gone to fund street lights, neighborhood signs, and alley cleanups.

Historic Neighborhoods

If you want to know more about Houston's birth and how the neighborhoods grew, Rice is offering a continuing education class called: A Sense of Place: Historic Houston Neighborhoods – lasting over eight Tuesdays. Gary Coover will talk about our neighborhood on March 14. The cost of the series is \$98. Contact Rice University of Continuing Studies 713-348-4803, for registration information.

News from the Neartown Presidents Council

On January 25, Neartown Association will host its annual "meet your elected officials" at the Lovett Inn from 7pm to 9pm. Everyone is encouraged to come!

Many of us have heard about the I69 project to create an interstate from Mexico to Canada. Currently, the plan is to turn Highway 59 into this interstate. If that happens, hazardous cargo that has been banned on Highway 59 through downtown Houston will now be allowed! Tom DeLay is driving for this to happen. If you have opposition to this, please contact your U.S. Senator and House Representative to voice your concerns.

If you have been affected by the construction on Highway 59, just wait,

it will get worse! Right now, a few of the bridges over 59 are closed, but before long, all four bridges will be closed and the only way to go north or south across 59 will be at the Shepard/Greenbriar intersection or Montrose (Also Mt. Vernon and Graustark).

Monthly Meetings

We will continue to meet the first Thursday of the month at the River Café (assuming they have room). The next meetings are Feb 3, March 2, April 6. All are welcome to attend.

Planting for the drought!

Submitted by Vivian Leitner

The series of dry years we have had, particularly 1999, may kill some trees. In the Jan 1, 2000 Houston Chronicle, Brenda Beuth Smith suggests some shrubs and trees that are low maintenance, fairly insect and disease resistant, and survive drought and heavy rains. "Most need cold to set root systems strong enough to withstand our intensely hot, dry summers. The following are a few of the tree and shrub suggestions from the article.

Shrubs:

Hamelia (hummingbird bush) - 8 to 10 feet tall and like full sun.

Yellow bells (*esperanza*, *Tecoma stans*) - sun.

Barleria (*Barleria striata*).

Philippine violet, it takes part shade. Dwarf crape myrtle - sun.

Barbados cherry (*Malpighia glabra*) - to 4 feet. If it gets taller, it is easy to prune. Bright shade/sun.

Golden dewdrop (*Duranta repens*) - Full or partial sun; maintenance-free.

Firespike (*Odontonema stricta*) - Sun or shade, no diseases, draws butterflies.

Buford holly (standard and dwarf). Turk's cap (*Malvaviscus arboreus* var. *drummondii*) - shade-lover's; attract hummingbirds.

Anisacanthus (*Flame acanthus*) - May die back but is root-hardy; shade or full sun.

Strawberry bush (*Euonymus americanus*) - Shade; good drainage not necessary.

Angel trumpet (*Brugmansia*) - Not hardy in very cold winters - Sun. Walter's viburnum.

Beautyberry.

Oleander.

TAM juniper.

Dwarf yaupon.

Native dwarf palmetto.

Trees:

Cassia. *Corymbosa* grows lower; *splendia* is taller, ornamental; sun: Kumquat. sun.

Mexican buckeye; 15-ft; sun to semishade.

Crape myrtle: sun.

Chinese fringe tree 25-ft; shade- can take poor drainage.

Magnolia – "Little Gem", dwarf (10-15 ft) with large flowers.

Poplars

Oaks: Mexican, overcup, sawtooth, shumard.

Mexican Plum tree.

Texas Persimmon.

Possumhaw holly.

Esplanade Maintenance

February 14 not only marks Valentine's Day, it also marks the time for gardeners to start pruning roses and crape myrtles. The Saturday after Valentine's Day, February 19, weather permitting, help us trim our crape myrtles and shrubs in the esplanade to prepare them for the coming season. Let's meet at 9 a.m. near the intersection of Kipling and Audubon. In case of rain we will reschedule.

Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!

Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

Annual Dues: \$10 per Person _____

of Person _____

Total Dues Paid \$ _____

☐ Renewing Member

☐ New Member

Committee Interests: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Business Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Join Audubon Place Association (Use this form to join, renew, or change an address)

Audubon Place Association, Inc.
2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108
Houston, Texas 77006

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 7200

Neighbor
816 Kipling
Houston, TX 77006



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

L E T T E R

Vol. 10 No.2
March 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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**THE MARCH MEETING OF APA
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY,
MARCH 2, 2000, AT THE RIVER
CAFE**

APA can be reached by mail at 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. President - Pam Thompson - Vice President - Dean Johnson

The Newsletter is published monthly. Articles or letters should be delivered to 816 Kipling. For advertising information call 524-8725.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Patti Thompson

You can reach me via email at ptbigred@gte.net or by phone at (713) 520-8489. If you have ideas for neighborhood projects or articles for the newsletter, please contact me.

Esplanade Project

We now have water in the esplanade, so if we have a drought this year, the plants should survive. Even though they are drought resistant, they still need a little water. Thanks to Tony Herrada and Clay Sterling for their help in pruning the crape myrtle and shrubs.

Garage Sale

We would like to hold our Garage Sale on March 25. If you have items for the garage sale, please contact me and we can arrange to have them picked up. No clothes, please. Proceeds from the garage sale will go to funding projects around the neighborhood, including the esplanade project.

Neighborhood Dues

It's that time of year again for the neighborhood dues. You will find a form at the back of the newsletter

that you can use to return your dues to the association. They are \$10, as usual. In the past, your dues have gone to fund street lights, neighborhood signs, and alley cleanups.

Trash and signs

If you put out a sign for a garage sale or other activity, please remember to remove them after your event is complete. Trash pickup is every Friday, and recycling is every other Friday. Heavy trash day is the 4th Thursday of the month. Please remember to remove your trash containers from the street Friday evening and also pickup any trash that might have fallen out. We can all help to keep our neighborhood a cleaner place to live. More on trash on page 3.

Monthly Meetings

We will continue to meet the first Thursday of the month at the River Café (assuming they have room). The next meetings are March 2, April 6, and May 4. All are welcome to attend.

Historic Walking Tour

The Greater Houston Preservation Alliance is presenting a walking tour of historic buildings in the area of Enron Field. This neighborhood is part of the original plat of Houston and contains

several late 19th and 20th century structures. Many of these structures have sat vacant for a number of years. The tour will include Union Station, Enron Field, the Ben Milam Hotel, Annunciation Church, the Great Southwest Building, the William Penn Hotel, the King George Hotel, and the Texas Hotel. Tours will begin every 10 minutes from 2-2:30 on Sunday, March 26, 2000. They will meet on the corner of Crawford and Texas Avenue in front of the Ben Milam Hotel. The cost of the tour is \$7 for GHPA members and \$10 for nonmembers. The tour will last about 1 hour. No reservations are required.

Garden Tips

Even though the weather is warming up, don't be tempted to plant too early!

We can still get a freeze into March! Remember to wait until the first of April to fertilize the lawn. Texas A&M recommends a 3-1-2 ratio, so look for a fertilizer with a 19-5-9 ratio on the bag (or similar ratio). You can put out a weed killer now or a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent weed growth. Weed and Feed mixtures rarely do a good job of weed killing and fertilizing.

Wait to feed your azaleas after they stop blooming.

News from the Neartown Presidents Council Meeting

The Neartown Presidents met on February 16. The meeting was fairly short since many wanted to attend the PIP meeting that same evening. Some of the topics discussed were the Westheimer Street Festival and Chapter 42.

Chapter 42

The City's Development Ordinance, also known as Chapter 42, has been in effect for almost a year now. The Planning and Development

Commission is going to review how the new ordinance is working. The building developers are pushing for a higher housing density than what the 27 units per acre that is in the current ordinance. The GHPA is looking for feedback from homeowners as to what is working and not working with the ordinance.

Westheimer Street Festival Update

Houston City Council on Wednesday, 16 February, voted to uphold a hearing official's decision denying a street closure permit for the Westheimer Street Festival, and thus, effectively denying the event for this May. Council members are working with the festival organizers to come up with an alternative site for an event. The council voted 12-3 to deny the permit.

The 3 that voted for the festival were Councilmen Gordon Quan, At Large Position 2; Mark Goldberg, District C; and Bert Keller, District G.

Visit Neartown's Web site

Neartown has a web site. You can find it at www.neartown.org. They have several pointers to other interesting web sites. Annise Parker has a web site <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/citygovt/council/1/>

Her web site contains lots of useful information on different city and state issues that effect us.

Crime Statistics

One of the interesting links from their web page is a pointer to the Crime Statistics from the Houston Police Department. You can find that link at: <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/department/police/stats.htm>. Our area is defined as 1A20 in the map section. For those of you who do not have internet access, the last data posted was for December, 1999, and was in last month's newsletter.

Citizen's Complaint Form

If you would like to report overgrown lots, garbage or trash on private property, abandoned cars, suspicious people or graffiti, there is a Citizen's Complaint Form on line for printing and reporting these activities to the Police Storefront on Westheimer. The form can be found at the Neartown Web site:

<http://www.neartown.org/PIPComplaintForm.htm>

Some important phone numbers

Here are some important phone numbers provided by the Neartown Association

For dangerous buildings, abandoned or junk vehicles, high weeds, rodent control or illegal dumping, call the **Neighborhood Protection Team** hotline (713) 525-2525 (24 hours)

For help with potholes and street repairs, storm sewers and drainage ditches, water pressure and water leaks, or sewage problems, call the : **Public Works & Engineering Department** hotline: (713) 837-0600 (24 hours)

For parks maintenance requests and information, call the: **Parks & Recreation Department** hotline: (713) 645-4357

For information about solid waste collection call: **Solid Waste Department**: (713) 837-9100

MEETING NOTICE

Next meeting is March 2, 2000
at the River Cafe.

Let's Talk Trash

(An Article for Those Who Don't Know, Can't Remember, or Are Confused About Their Responsibilities with Respect to Trash Pickup) By John Unger

There are a few residents of the neighborhood that are either uninformed about or choose to ignore the City Ordinances and deed restrictions with respect to the placement of trash containers. I assume that everyone knows that regular curbside trash pickup is on Friday, that recycling pickup is every other Friday, and that heavy trash pickup is the 4th Thursday of each month.

The following Ordinances apply to trash pickup:

Section 39-62(g) provides: "It shall also be the duty of each person who receives automated collection service equipment to store the equipment in a secure place where it will not be visible to a person standing in the right-of-way of any public street adjacent to the property where the equipment is used; except while placed for collection in accordance with this chapter. It is a defense to prosecution under this subsection that the person's property is so configured that no location exists for storage of the equipment in a place where it is not visible to a person standing in the right-of-way of a public street adjacent to the property."

Section 39-65(c) provides: "It shall be unlawful to place or allow to remain any materials at the curbside for regular city collection service by the department prior to 6:00 p.m. of the day preceding a day designated by the director for collection service at that location. Collection service shall commence at 7:00 a.m. on the day designated by the director. It shall be unlawful to place or allow to remain any materials at the curbside on a designated collection day after department collection service personnel have passed the site for that day on their route, and the department shall not have any obligation to return to collect items not present at the curb when the department vehicle services the site. It shall be unlawful to allow collection containers or recycling containers to remain at the curbside, where the use of these containers is authorized, following 10:00 p.m. of the day upon which the waste or recyclables are collected by the department."

Section 39-77(d) provides: "It shall be unlawful to place or allow to remain any materials at the curblane for heavy or oversize collection service prior to 6:00 p.m. of the Friday next preceding a day upon which the collection service for the site is scheduled by the director."

Section 39-61 provides that no person shall use or cause to be used any garbage or rubbish container which (1) does not have a lid or other closure means that effectively prevents the spillage or airborne loss of its contents and the entry of vectors or elements of nature, or (2) is overloaded so that the lid will not fit securely.

Section 10-341(c) provides: "Every owner of a building shall be responsible for maintaining a clean and sanitary condition the shared or public areas of the building and premises thereof." Paragraph (d) provides; "Every occupant of a dwelling or dwelling unit shall keep in a clean, sanitary condition that part of the dwelling, dwelling unit and premises thereof that the occupant occupies or controls."

Section 39-4 provides that the penalties for violating Chapter 39 is punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 nor more than \$2,000.00 and upon each subsequent conviction a fine of not less than \$250.00 nor more than \$2,000. Each day is a separate violation.

To summarize:

- It is unlawful to put a trash container out before 6:00 p.m. on Thursday or to leave it out after 10:00 p.m. Friday.
- It is unlawful to put out heavy trash before the 3rd Friday of the Month.
- It is unlawful to leave trash containers so that they can be seen from the street between 10:00 p.m. on Friday until 6:00 p.m. the following Monday.
- It is unlawful for a resident to maintain unclean and unsanitary premises.
- It is against the Audubon Place Association deed restrictions for a trash container to be visible from the street.

The foregoing applies to tenants as well as owners!

Next month pictures, names, addresses, and telephone numbers of those residents that regularly violate Houston City Ordinances and Deed Restrictions with respect to trash pickup.

Neighbor
615 Marshall
Houston, TX 77006

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 7200

Audubon Place Association, Inc.
2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108
Houston, Texas 77006

Join Audubon Place Association

(Use this form to join, renew, or change an address)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone: _____ Business Telephone: _____

☐ Renewing Member ☐ New Member Committee Interests: _____

Annual Dues: \$10 per Person # of Person _____ Total Dues Paid \$ _____

Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

LETTER

Vol. 10 No.3
April 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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PATTI THOMPSON

You can reach me via email at ptbigred@gte.net or by phone at (713) 520-8489. If you have ideas for neighborhood projects or articles for the newsletter, please contact me.

Esplanade Project

I have been in contact with the City concerning the water in the esplanades. We have low water pressure in the esplanade between Kipling and Marshall, and we can't seem to find the one in the esplanade near Hawthorne. We are on their work list to get the meters replaced, so hopefully, before summer, we will have working sprinklers all the way down the street. In the meantime, pray for rain! We will replace the dead shrubs and ground cover later this spring.

Garage Sale

We held the Garage Sale on Saturday, March 25. Thanks to Tony, Peter, Dean, Sam, Karen, and Larrisa for helping. Thanks to all that contributed items for the sale. Even though we had a small contribution, we made \$400. We had a lot of traffic through the neighborhood. If you missed out this time, save your items for next year's sale!

Neighborhood Dues

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Monthly Meetings

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Garden Tips

April is the time to fertilize your lawn. Texas A&M recommends a 3-1-2 ratio, so look for a fertilizer with a 19-5-9 ratio on the bag (or similar ratio). Don't forget to feed your azaleas after they stop blooming. Start feeding your crepe myrtles, and watch for mold and mildew later this spring. You can treat the crepe myrtle with the same chemicals that you treat your roses.

St Patrick's Day

If you had any problems around your property during Grif's St Patrick's Day event, please let me know so we can address them and have them on file before next March's event.

News from the Neartown Presidents Council Meeting

The Neartown Presidents met on March 15. Did you know that there are over 21 associations in the Neartown Association? Neartown meets every month and usually discuss issues that effect the entire Neartown area. The next Neartown meeting is April 25th. Please check the Neartown web site for the location of the meeting. The Neartown Board is proposing to not hold their own meeting during the summer months and attend one of the member association meetings instead, to learn about our neighborhood concerns.

Westheimer Street Festival Update

Even though the permit closing the street for the Westheimer Street Festival was denied, organizers are still trying to stage an outlaw festival on Westheimer. If you have concerns about this outlaw festival, you should send letters or emails to our council members, the Mayor, and the police chief, urging them to not allow this renegade festival. The organizers want to continue to have their bands play on private property, and have the vendors sell their wares on private property. The targeted date for the festival is May 6th and 7th. The event is being promoted on web sites.

MEETING NOTICE

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AT THE RIVER CAFÉ**

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2/19/00	Burglary	3700	Montrose Blvd.
2/6/00	Burglary	4000	Roseland
2/14/00	Burglary	4400	Montrose Blvd.
2/24/00	Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	300	Hawthorne
2/18/00	Burglary of a Motor Vehicle	3200	Montrose Blvd.
2/24/00	Auto Theft	300	Hawthorne
2/10/00	Auto Theft	3300	Montrose Blvd.

Citizen's Complaint Form

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For parks maintenance requests and information, call the: **Parks & Recreation Department** hotline: (713) 645-4357

For information about solid waste collection call: **Solid Waste Department:** (713) 837-9100

We Are Here to Serve

If you have noticed the change of scenery at 804 Hawthorne Street and wondered who has moved into the neighborhood, the answer to that would be the Montrose Community Church. My name is Mark LeCrone and my wife's name is Renita. We have lived in the Audubon community for almost two years now and have really grown to love not only the beauty of the neighborhood, but also our neighbors. Our hearts desire is to be a part of the community by serving the neighborhood. One of the ways we would like to serve the community is by having a community prayer and meditation garden located in the backyard of the house. This would be open to any resident of the Audubon area for personal reflection and prayer. We are still working through the logistics of how to facilitate the prayer garden. We will be announcing in the near future the hours of availability. If anyone has any feedback for us in how we can help serve the community, please feel free to call us at 713-529-5223. Our meeting times are as follows:

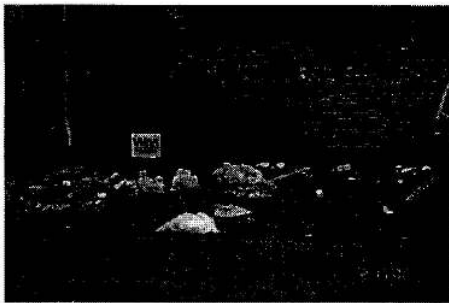
- Sunday @ 11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M. with lunch afterwards
- Tuesday @ 7:30 P.M. - Discovery/Home Meetings

We are a fellowship that is focused upon not "having" church, but being a community. You are welcome to come and visit. For more information on our home group meetings or for any other questions, please call us at the number listed above. We look forward to getting to know you.

Mark and Renita LeCrone
Montrose Community Church

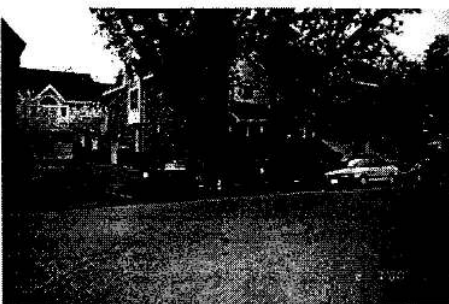
Golden Trash Can Awards

Category: Worst Absentee Apartment Owner Who Pays A Management Company That Pockets the Money and Does Not Do Its Job



The winner is: 820 West Alabama. Owner: Henry T. and Jesse K. Chua, 95-291 Hakupokano Loop, Mililani, Hawaii 96789-1301.

Category: Absentee Owner and Tenants Who Do Not Understand the City Ordinances Concerning Trash Equipment and are Too Lazy to Put the Bins in their Garages.



The winner is: 623 Hawthorne. Owner: Hawthorne Investment Inc., 6666 Harbor Town Drive, Houston, Texas 77036-4000.

Category: Worst Absentee Owner Who is an Attorney and Violates Both the Deed Restrictions and City Ordinances Concerning Trash Containers and General Unsanitary Conditions of the Premises



The winner is: 805 and 809 Hawthorne. Owner Zoe Littlepage, 603 Peden Street, Houston, Texas 77006-1423, telephone 713-520-1048.

Let's call or write to congratulate the winners.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HOUSTON, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 7200

Audubon Place Association, Inc.
2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108
Houston, Texas 77006

Join Audubon Place Association (Use this form to join, renew, or change an address)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone: _____ Business Telephone: _____

☐ Renewing Member ☐ New Member Committee Interests: _____

Annual Dues: \$10 per Person # of Persons _____ Total Dues Paid \$ _____

Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

L E T T E R

Vol. 10 No.4
May 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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Audubon Place Association

Audubon Place Association (APA) is a non-profit corporation organized to preserve the integrity of one of Houston's unique inner city neighborhoods. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. normally at The River Cafe, 3615 Montrose.

**THE MAY MEETING OF APA
WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY,
MAY 4, 2000, AT THE RIVERCAFE**

APA can be reached by mail at 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. President - Pam Thompson - Vice President - Dean Johnson

The Newsletter is published monthly. Articles or letters should be delivered to 816 Kipling. For advertising information call 524-8725.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Patti Thompson

You can reach me via email at ptbigred@gte.net or by phone at (713) 520-8489. If you have ideas for neighborhood projects or articles for the newsletter, please contact me.

Esplanade Project

The City replaced the meter in the esplanade between Kipling and Marshall, but failed to improve the water pressure, so it's back to the phone to straighten it out! They also didn't locate the meter in the esplanade between Hawthorne and Harold.

Fire in Alley

On Friday, March 31, we had a little excitement in the neighborhood. A fire was started in the alley behind the di Bagno's house on Harold. It must have been a slow night at the fire station because 4 trucks responded. Even the large ladder truck came. Thanks for the prompt response, HFD!

Other alley news - seems someone complained to the mayor's office about the alley between Audubon and Garrott. One day the week of April 17th, several young men were

out under the supervision of HPD clearing the brush. Now, if it will just stay clean. Thanks to whomever complained to get the alley cleaned!

Monthly Meetings

We will continue to meet the first Thursday of the month at the River Café (assuming they have room). The next meetings are May 4, and June 1. All are welcome to attend. Gary Coover has agreed to be our guest speaker at the June meeting. He will present his slide show on the historic background of our neighborhood. It is always an enjoyable session. Please try to join us. We will not have a July meeting and our August meeting will be the Neighborhood Night Out, where we all meet outside to get to know each other and meet the HPD officers that patrol our neighborhoods. We traditionally meet in the esplanade and bring food to share with each other. Watch the next newsletters for more information.

Garden Tips

Now would be a good time to mulch the garden beds before the weather gets too hot! Mulch keeps moisture in the ground and helps

keep the temperature lower for the roots. Pinch back your annuals to encourage bushier growth. Feed your azaleas after they bloom and feed crepe myrtles and other summer flowering shrubs now.

Birds in the neighborhood

We are lucky to have several variety of birds in our neighborhood. Cardinals, Blue Jays, whitewings, and sparrows are regular visitors to my bird feeder. The hummingbirds are starting to come through now. One bird that is new to the neighborhood is the Yellow-Crowned Night Heron. Last year, the neighborhood was treated to the large birds roosting on Audubon. Their location is

usually marked by the large "droppings" under the tree where the birds are nesting. The herons have returned this year. Rick and Valerie Greiner's girls have written a story about the birds visit last year and have promised to provide it to me for inclusion in the newsletter soon.

News from the Neartown Presidents Council Meeting

I was out of town and missed the last meeting. I'll catch up this next month!

Visit Neartown's Web site

Neartown has a web site. You can find it at www.neartown.org. They have several pointers to other interesting web sites. Annise

Parker has a web site <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/citygovt/council/1/>

Her web site contains lots of useful information on different city and state issues that effect us.

Golden Trash Awards Correction

Thanks to John Unger for pointing out some of the more unsightly trash around the neighborhood in the last newsletter. Unfortunately, 805 and 809 Hawthorne were incorrectly listed as offenders. The photos and the real offenders are 805 and 809 Marshall. These houses are owned by Zoe Littlepage. Our apology to the owners on Hawthorne for the error on the street address.

Crime Statistics

One of the interesting links from their web page is a pointer to the Crime Statistics from the Houston Police Department. You can find that link at: <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/departme/police/stats.htm>. Our area is defined as 1A20 in the map section. For those of you who do not have internet access, the last data posted was for February, 2000.

3/2/00	Robbery	400	Hawthorne
3/21/00	Robbery	800	Marshall
3/11/00	Auto Theft	800	Alabama
3/14/00	Auto Theft	3600	Audubon

Citizen's Complaint Form

If you would like to report overgrown lots, garbage or trash on private property, abandoned cars, suspicious people or graffiti, there is a Citizen's Complaint Form on line for printing and reporting these activities to the Police Storefront on Westheimer. The form can

be found at the Neartown Web site:

<http://www.neartown.org/PIPComplaintForm.htm>

Here are some important phone numbers provided by the Neartown Association:

For dangerous buildings, abandoned or junk vehicles, high weeds, rodent control or illegal dumping, call the Neighborhood Protection Team hotline (713) 525-2525 (24 hours)

For help with potholes and street repairs, storm sewers and drainage ditches, water pressure and water leaks, or sewage problems, call the : Public Works & Engineering Department hotline: (713) 837-0600 (24 hours)

For parks maintenance requests and information, call the Parks & Recreation Department hotline: (713) 645-4357

For information about solid waste collection call: Solid Waste Department: (713) 837-9100

■ 3 May 2000

AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

MEETING NOTICE

**Next meeting is May 4, 2000,
At the River Cafe.**



805 Marshall



809 Marshall

Owner: Zoe Littlepage, 603 Peden Street, Houston, Texas 77006-1423,
telephone 713-520-1048

Neighbor
615 Marshall
Houston, TX 77006

BULK RATE
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2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108
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Address: _____ **Zip Code** _____

Home Telephone: _____ **Business Telephone:** _____

☐ **Renewing Member** ☐ **New Member** **Committee Interests:** _____

Annual Dues: \$10 per Person **# of Person** _____ **Total Dues Paid \$** _____

Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

LETTER

Vol. 10 No.5
June 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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Audubon Place Association

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THE JUNE MEETING OF APA WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2000, AT THE RIVERCAFE

APA can be reached by mail at 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. President - Pam Thompson - Vice President - Dean Johnson

The Newsletter is published monthly. Articles or letters should be delivered to 816 Kipling. For advertising information call 524-8725.

President's Message Patti Thompson

You can reach me via email at ptbigred@gte.net or by phone at (713) 520-8489. If you have ideas for neighborhood projects or articles for the newsletter, please contact me.

Alley News

Last month, I reported on the alley cleanup between Audubon and Garrott. Turns out that the Westmoreland neighborhood association sponsored this cleanup. Let's all try to keep the weeds down so we can keep the alleyway safer for those that use it.

Monthly Meetings

The next meeting is June 1. All are welcome to attend. Gary Coover has agreed to be our guest speaker at the June meeting. He will present his slide show on the historic background of our neighborhood. It is always an enjoyable session. Please try to join us. We will not have a July meeting and our August meeting will be the Neighborhood Night Out, where we all meet outside to get to know each other and meet the HPD officers that patrol our neighborhoods. We traditionally meet in the esplanade and bring food to share with each

other. Watch the next newsletters for more information.

Garden Tips

Pinch back your newly planted annuals to encourage bushier growth. Fertilize your roses monthly and watch for powdery mildew on your roses and crepe myrtles. Treat with a systemic fungicide. Fertilize your azaleas, if you didn't already, and keep them watered. They are setting blooms for next year.

Birds in the neighborhood

A new bird visited my back yard recently. It was a beautiful blue colored bird. From researching bird books and the web, I believe that it was an indigo bunting. It was about the size of a finch and a vibrant blue all over! It was a very shy bird so I didn't get too close of a look! Small yellow finches have also visited the yard. Be careful when you are spraying for bugs not to contaminate any food or water areas that are visited by the birds.

News from the Neartown Presidents' Council Meeting

The Neartown Presidents' Council has started meeting at the River Café, too. Several neighborhoods are represented and it is always

interesting to hear what is happening around the inner loop. Two topics that came up were the Chapter 42 status and our property taxes! Chapter 42 describes different types of neighborhood designations – urban and suburban. The density of housing in an urban area is 27 units per gross acre. There are some motions from builders to designate an “ultra-urban” classification to increase the number of units allowed per acre. There is also discussions from the neighborhoods to opt-out of the urban designation and propose a suburban designation to preserve the current density in neighborhoods such as ours. I’ll keep you informed on this subject. Three ways that we can help preserve our neighborhood from overbuilding are by deed restrictions, historic neighborhood designation, and by establishing prevailing building lines. We have deed restrictions on some of our properties. We are still pursuing a historic designation.

Most of us received our property tax appraisal this month and I’m sure many of us were hit with a higher tax bill. If you would like to protest your bill, you will need to file a protest by May 31st – probably too late by the time you receive this newsletter. A “Notice of Protest” form was included with the mailed appraisal or you can download the form from www.hcad.org.

Visit Neartown’s Web site

Neartown has a web site. You can find it at www.neartown.org. They have several pointers to other interesting web sites.

Crime Statistics

Unofficial crime statistic prepared on 05/11/00 for the HPD show that during April, there occurred in Audubon Place:

Burglary: 800 block of Harold
Burglary of Auto Vehicle:
800 block of W. Alabama
3500 block of Audubon
600 block of Kipling

At the May 17, 2000, meeting of P.I.P., various scams targeting old people, Latinos, and businesses were discussed. Beware of the stranger in a “tight” spot who eventually utters the words “trust” and “money” in the same spiel! We have already had some in our neighborhood.

You can find the complete listing of crime statistics at the following link: <http://www.ci.houston.tx.us/departme/police/stats.htm>. Our area is defined as 1A20 in the map section.

Citizen’s Complaint Form

If you would like to report overgrown lots, garbage or trash on private property, abandoned cars, suspicious people or graffiti, there is a Citizen’s Complaint Form on line for printing and reporting these activities to the Police Storefront on Westheimer. The form can be found at the Neartown Web site: <http://www.neartown.org/PIPComplaintForm.htm>

Some important phone numbers

Here are some important phone numbers provided by the Neartown Association

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For parks maintenance requests and information, call the: **Parks & Recreation Department** hotline: (713) 645-4357

For information about solid waste collection call: **Solid Waste Department**: (713) 837-9100

Historical Perspective

For the next few months page 3 will be devoted to a reprint of an article or item that has previously appeared in the APA Newsletter concerning various historical facts with respect to Montrose and the homes in our neighborhood. I will devote the whole page to this topic so readers may tear it off if they would like to save it for future reference.

Meeting Notice

The next meeting will be Thursday, June 1, 2000, at the River Café at 7:30 p.m.

"MONTROSE PLACE"

(reprinted from a full-page ad in the Houston Daily Post, Sunday, June 18, 1911)

We are frequently asked the question why we named our beautiful South End addition MONTROSE PLACE. We can better answer this by the following brief statement:

The Royal Borough of Montrose is situated in historic Scotland, at the mouth of the South Esk River, about equal distance between Aberdeen and Dundee. It is a place frequented by tourists, and is one of the beauty spots of that country.

The town was chartered in the 12th century, and was the birthplace of the great Marquis James Graham Montrose, one of the most celebrated military commanders of his age, his most important operations being in the stirring times of 1638 to 1650, embracing the closing reign of Charles 1, Protectorate of Cromwell, and the beginning of the reign of Charles 11.

Montrose was also the birthplace of Andrew Melville, one of the most eminent scholars and theologians of any age. Because deemed lacking in the reverence due an Anointed Monarch, Melville was exiled by King James, and spent the last years of his brave, active and useful life as a professor in the University of Sedan.

It was from Montrose that Sir James Douglas, in 1330, embarked for the Holy Land, and carried with him the heart of Robert the Bruce, which, in a critical moment - when his ranks were hard pressed by Saracens, he threw into their midst, and with a cry, "Go, heart of Bruce, I will follow", rallied his knights to deeds of desperate valor and turned the tide of battle, thus winning the victory.

The name Montrose is also made historic by one of Sir Walter Scott's charming romances.

We are endeavoring to lay out and beautify this subdivision in a manner befitting the name it bears, that those who build homes there will feel proud to state that they reside in Montrose Place.

We again invite you to go and look for yourself. Don't get the idea that our prices are going to be unreasonable, for they are not. A little later on we would be very glad to have you interested with us if you so desire.

Houston Land Corporation
Second Floor, Scanlan Building
Preston 1823

OFFICERS: J.W. Link, J.S. Rice, R.E. Brooks, Jno. H. Kirby, Wm. Malone, H.B. Jackson, C.M. Malone, D.A. Ford, J.D. Staples

DIRECTORS: J.W. Link, R.E. Brooks, Wm. Malone, Geo. E. Holland, W.M. Rice, W.T. Carter, B.F. Bonner, R.H. Baker, J.S. Rice, John H. Kirby, H.B. Jackson, Frank Andrews, Thos. M. Taylor, Abe M. Levy, C.L. Neuhaus, Thos. H. Ball, Niels Esperson

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Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

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AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

L E T T E R

Vol. 10 No.6
August 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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THE AUGUST MEETING OF APA WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2000, AT THE ESPLANADE AT KIPLING AND AUDUBON PLACE

APA can be reached by mail at 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. President - Patti Thompson - Vice President - Dean Johnson

The Newsletter is published monthly. Articles or letters should be delivered to 816 Kipling. For advertising information call 524-8725.

President's Message

Patti Thompson

Thanks to Gary Coover for the presentation at May's meeting. Gary is so knowledgeable on the history of our neighborhood and of Houston in general. We have wonderful homes in Audubon Place and so many of them are still with us, unlike other neighborhoods that have succumbed to the building craze. Did you know a railroad once ran through our neighborhood? Changes in neighborhoods happen for different reasons. Some of them are good and some are not. I'm sure most of us would not enjoy having a railroad running next to our homes. In a city with no zoning, there are only a few things we can do to help direct the changes in our neighborhood. Deed restrictions and historic neighborhood designations are a few of the tools that can help us set a plan for our development. Some structures have been neglected over time and there is no hope to save them. For safety reasons, these structures should be removed. What is created in their place is important to all of us. Dwellings that blend with our architecture add to the quaintness of the neighborhood. Our deed restrictions define setbacks from the street and height restrictions. Just these two items can help limit the density of new construction. I do

not think many of us like structures that extend all the way to the sidewalk with inadequate parking. Historic Neighborhood designation can set guidelines for the style of new structures. There are builders in Houston that are choosing to design and build new houses that look like some of the four-squares in our neighborhood. The builder is advertising these homes as the "front porch series." How wonderful that we already have the originals in our neighborhood! With a few modifications, some of the mass production builders could create structures that blend instead being cookie cutters from every other neighborhood around town. I live in the neighborhood for several reasons. One is the fact that most of our houses are unique, and I do not see the identical house to mine three doors down. We have been lucky so far and the new buildings in our neighborhood are not unsightly.

So, how can we keep the current character of our neighborhood and still encourage new development and new blood? We can support the current deed restrictions. - if your property is not covered by deed restrictions, you can sign up. You can also support our petition for Historic Neighborhood designation. Many of you have signed up over the last year, but we need more signatures

before we can submit our petition to the Planning Commission and City Council. During Neighborhood Night Out on August 1, we will have more information on deed restrictions and Historic Neighborhood designation.

Esplanade Maintenance

As you walk your dog or just stroll through the neighborhood, please take a moment to help us police the neighborhood. If you see trash in the esplanade or other public areas, please pick up and dispose of it properly. Any help pulling weeds is also appreciated. The regular maintenance of the esplanade is paid for by a few neighbors on Audubon Place. Extras, like mulch, plants, and the sprinkler systems, are paid out of the APA funds. If you would like to help with regular maintenance fees, please send a contribution made out to Audubon Place to our mailing address. It costs approximately \$25 for mowing and edging each esplanade (we have four). Currently we are mowing the esplanades every two weeks.

Email Campaigns

In the past, I have received several emails from other neighborhood associations for support on one issue or another. The request is usually for an email to City Council or the Mayor voicing support or disapproval of an item under review. If you would like to be informed of such requests in the future so you can add your voice – either pro or con– please send me your email address and I will forward such items to you. I

will not share your email address with others without your permission.

Neighborhood Night Out

Every year, Houston participates in Neighborhood Night Out in August. It is a chance to meet your neighbors and the members of the Houston Police Department that patrol our neighborhood. We usually meet in the esplanade and share food and drinks. We would like everyone to bring something to eat and share – usually finger food. Tables will be provided. We will start gathering around 7 p.m. and stay until 9 p.m. Come and join us and meet your neighbors.

Garden Tips

As the heat of summer begins to beat down on our homes, our plants start to suffer. It is not too late to mulch! Mulching helps to preserve moisture for the plants.

As hurricane season starts to build, you might look at the trees in your yard to see if you have any branches that might break and damage your home or a power line in a storm. Major pruning is best done while the tree is dormant in the winter, but a little grooming could save your property during a storm. The large oak at the corner of Harold and Audubon Place lost a major branch recently.

New Trash Days

Our regular trash pickup has changed from Fridays to Tuesdays. Heavy trash has moved to the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Recycling

days stay the same, every other Friday with the next recycling day being Friday, July 28, 2000. (Wouldn't it have been nice if the Solid Waste Department had made more than a feeble effort to notify everyone!!)

Parking

If you are not fortunate to have a regular off-street parking spot and must park in the street, please remember to leave plenty of room for homeowners to place the trash containers on the street for easy pickup. Also, please be careful of homeowner's plantings as you enter and leave your car.

Message from the Secretary Sam Bernstein

In addition to being Audubon Place's Secretary, I am also Secretary of Neartown Association, and have some news to pass on from the Harris County Mosquito Control District. The County is not regularly spraying now because such spraying has been found very ineffective at controlling mosquitos. The County's mission is to take steps to curb disease carrying mosquitos and to merely monitor the presence and intensity of the "pest" mosquitos we all know and love so well. They actually have a monitoring station in the sewer under Audubon Place somewhere.

The County wants to spread the word, which we all probably know already, that is to decrease mosquito breeding areas by eliminating places of standing water; repairing leaky faucets or garden hoses, changing water in

bird baths or plant pots once a week, filling low areas in the yard with sand, etc. They also say that since mosquitos rest in tall grass and shaded areas, it is best to keep grass and shrubs well trimmed. Also, mosquitos will come into the house at night to bite you (feed), so they recommend repairing window and door screens and sealing any openings in the home – as we live in older homes, there are probably more holes/openings in Audubon Place than in most neighborhoods.

Another interesting item is that if you collect rainwater for your plants, you are advised to place some oil (cooking oil is fine) into the container. The oil will float on top and will not allow the mosquito larvae to breathe – or so I was told at this meeting. If you have any questions for the County Mosquito Control office, their telephone number is 713-440-4800.

Meteorologist's Unique Bungalow Withstands Test of Time

In 1915, the year in which Houstonians were reading about the tragic sinking of the Lusitania, and debating the future U.S. involvement in the escalating war in Europe, the City Directory listed only four homes on Harold Street. This street like many in Houston, would experience dramatic and often painful changes during the years that followed. Although Harold would eventually be extended a full nine blocks beyond the original Montrose subdivision, and lined with numerous charming houses representing a variety of eclectic architectural styles, it would also be scarred by the uninspired plans of future entre-

preneurs. Of the four original houses, two have been demolished, and one has been subjected to the indignities of several insensitive modifications. Fortunately, the delightful Craftsman style bungalow at 809 Harold remains with its raised stone porch, its stick-work gable supports, and its multi-paned windows, fundamentally unaltered, for this generation to admire.

The home's first resident was Edward A. Flewellen, who was born near Washington on the Brazos in 1871. Mr. Flewellen's great-grandfather, Colonel John D. Andrews, arrived in Houston in 1837, and served as the city's second mayor. It is generally believed that Colonel Andrews built the first two-story residence in Houston, Lucius and Julia Talmage lived at the home listed in the National Register at 410 Austin, with lumber and accessories shipped from Baltimore. Unfortunately, this historic structure, which sheltered and entertained six generations of the Andrews Family, was razed in 1937. A later residence of E.A. Flewellen and wife Claire, at 4201 Caroline, was eventually to suffer the same fate.

In 1918 the bungalow was occupied by the Houston Chronicle's chief financial editor, Lucius C. Talmage, his wife Julia, and her illustrious father, Dr. Pernard Bunnemeyer, who was, in 1909, placed in charge of Houston's first regular bureau of weather observation, which had, as a result of his investigations, become the headquarters of the Texas section. Dr. Bunnemeyer was born in

Oldenburg, Germany in 1854, but journeyed to Texas after completing college in order to escape compulsory service in the German military. Ironically, shortly after his arrival he joined the U. S. Army. As a member of the signal corps he learned the rudiments of meteorology and experienced, first-hand, the American Frontier. During the Spanish American War he was chief clerk to General J. C. Breckenridge, inspector general of the U. S. Army. Although Dr. Bunnemeyer graduated from George Washington University in 1892 with an M.D. degree, he never practiced medicine. Instead, he returned to the Weather Bureau, then a part of the Department of Agriculture. Following assignments in Jacksonville, Providence, and Galveston, Dr. Bunnemeyer was transferred to Houston, where he spent the remaining thirteen years of his life.

Lucius and Julia Talmage lived at 809 Harold for 36 years. Since 1954, however, the house has been sold many times. Nevertheless, Audubon Place is fortunate that, throughout its history, the home has remained a single family dwelling, ready to shelter, with elegance, another Houstonian who may someday occupy a place of leadership in our community.

Ed Muraski

MEETING NOTICE

NATIONAL NEIGHBORS' NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, August 1, 2000
(Kipling @ Audubon Place)

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Audubon Place Association, Inc.
2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108
Houston, Texas 77006

**NATIONAL NEIGHBOR'S NIGHT OUT
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2000
7:00 P.M., AUDUBON PLACE ESPLANADE@KIPLING
COME AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS!!!!**

Join Audubon Place Association (Use this form to join, renew, or change an address)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone: _____ Business Telephone: _____

☐ Renewing Member ☐ New Member Committee Interests: _____

Annual Dues: \$10 per Person # of Persons _____ Total Dues Paid \$ _____

Tax-deductible donation (thanks from Audubon Place) \$ _____

Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

LETTER

Vol. 10 No.7
October 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

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OCTOBER 5, 2000, AT THE
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Articles or letters should be delivered
to 816 Kipling. For advertising
information call 524-8725.*

President's Message

Patti Thompson

Fall is here – rustling leaves, football games, and cooler air! The October meeting is Thursday, October 5th. The new officers for next year will be presented, and we will vote on the slate at the November meeting. You need to be a member of APA to vote. You do not need to be a homeowner to belong to the Association – it is open to all who live in the neighborhood.

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 2. The December meeting will be our annual Christmas/Holiday party. Look for details in the November newsletter. Daylight savings time ends on October 29.

Meeting Notes from September PIP Meeting

The September 20, 2000, PIP meeting was chaired by Matt Tyler. The presentation topic was "Harris County Mosquito Control."

There are three species of mosquitos, only two of which we ordinarily can control. Luckily, they are the species that "just" bite, but do not carry disease. Change your bird bath water twice a week. Cover standing water, or crumble a mosquito "donut" into it, or spread a drop of cooking, machine, or mineral oil on it. Directions for mosquito donuts are on packages obtainable at Home Depot. Cut and trim grass and shrubbery. Screen any rain barrels. Wear light colored clothing in preference to dark. Wear slacks and long sleeves. Experiment with repellants before buying large quantities, as not all of them work for everyone. Repellants containing "DEET" seem quite helpful.

One species, the Culex, may carry the St. Louis Encephalitis virus. It breeds in storm sewers. Harris County Mosquito Control has chosen two monitoring sites. One of these is in Audubon Place. You may be asked to allow them to set a trap in your backyard. Mosquitoes and trapped birds will be tested for the virus and antibodies to it, respectively, and the results will determine whether biochemical control (biodegradable and nontoxic to animals) will be used. Fogging is done only on an "as needed" basis, as it eliminates "only adult mosquitoes" on the wing.

Culex mosquitoes like to come into homes, so keep your screens repaired, windows closed, and holes plugged. For information, call 713-440-4800.

Neighborhood Night Out

Thanks to everyone who came out August 1 for National Night Out. We had a good turnout of our neighbors on the Audubon Place esplanade. Remember to mark the date for next year.

Garden Tips

October is time to plant trees. It is also time to put down a winterizer on your grass. The winterizer helps the grass develop a stronger root system so it comes back stronger in the spring. As the nights get cooler, watch for brown patch or other fungal diseases. If you had brown patch last year, you will probably get it again this year. There are several fungicides available, but if you are looking for a more natural solution, try one of the cedaricide products. There is a granular type of cedaricide that you can put down on your lawn to help prevent chinch bugs. There is also a cedar oil available in spray that is an

excellent mosquito repellent. Places like Southwest Fertilizer on Bissonnet carry the Cedarco products.

Medina is good to periodically spray on your plants and grass. It helps break down the minerals, chlorine, and other junk in our city water that is transferred to our gardens and lawns. See directions on the bottle for proper use.

This month you can plant perennials for next year. The root system will develop much stronger over the winter. To get early color while the perennials are growing, you can also sow seeds of delphiniums, hollyhocks, larkspur, and snapdragons over the same area. October is also time to plant spring blooming bulbs, such as daffodils, hyacinths, and tulips.

Volunteers Needed

If you are looking for a way to contribute to your neighborhood, we need volunteers in several areas. People are needed to assist with our Historic District designation. The requirements would be to call on a few neighbors door-to-door to educate them about the designation and to encourage them to sign the petition for designating their support for the Historic District.

We are also looking for volunteers to assist with the maintenance of the esplanade. If you want to give a few hours one Saturday once a month to pull weeds, and trim plants, let me know and we will form a team to maintain the esplanade. No experience necessary!

If you have a desire to become involved with the workings of the Association, we are in the process of selecting officers for next year. The Association has a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. If you are interested in one of these positions, drop me a line and I will pass the names on to the nominating committee.

Sign Watch Program

Did you know that certain signs are prohibited in public areas? These types of signs include political, real estate, developer, and garage sale signs and other

similar signs placed in public areas. Public areas include: public streets, public sidewalks, public alleys, public rights-of-way, public curbs, or any other public improvement in any public street or grounds, on any public bridge or part thereof, or on any public building or structure of any kind belonging to the city or in any public place or on any public improvement.

What can you do if you see a bandit sign? You can call Scenic Houston - a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of our city's visual environments. They will contact the City of Houston's Sign Administration Department to investigate. They can be reached at 713-629-0481 or send an email to scenic@scenictexas.org.

Remember, if you place a garage sale sign out for the weekend, please remove it, so that we can keep our neighborhood looking nice!

Can You Offer a Home to a Timid Kitten?

Over the summer, I have been embroiled in a lengthy effort of feeding, catching, medicating, and taming a family of stray cats who appeared under our house in late spring.

Rescuing the mother and 3 kittens has become an enormous undertaking, but a rewarding, heartwarming one, as well.

I've placed the mom and the friendliest kitten with wonderful homes, and am continuing to work to tame the remaining 2 shy kittens. They are about 4 months old, and both need an understanding and warm, loving home. The male kitten is a black/gray tabby with big feet (!); the female is a very pretty, silky black with white face, legs, and belly. I'm making progress in taming them, although it's a little slow, due to their age. Re-conditioning them will simply take some time. The male has just begun to purr, allows holding and petting, and plays a bit. The female tolerates petting, but is still pretty frightened of people. They would probably prosper in a relatively quiet setting with someone with cat experience and the time to continue the taming

process. Probably best without loud dogs or very young children. Any takers?

Contact Bonnie Goodrich, 804 Kipling, 713/526-885

Please Spay/Neuter Your Pets (and Strays)!

When a very young stray female cat in our neighborhood had a litter of 3 kittens under our house this spring, Gary and I heaved a collective sigh. He knew I couldn't sit by and watch them sicken and die, and we both knew what a money- and time-consuming endeavor a rescue attempt could be. Sending them to the SPCA was not an option - all shelters are currently overflowing with stray cats and these four would certainly have been euthanized almost immediately.

The entire family was feral and sniffly, and one kitten had sustained trauma to an eye, which looked horrible. I was convinced he'd lose the vision in that eye, if not the eye itself.

After weeks of feeding them and lurking in the bushes (and being feasted on by misc. insects), I eventually managed to catch them all and take them to the vet for treatment. During this process, the most hysterical kitten bit me, requiring 10 days of quarantine for rabies. (neg.)

All have now received their shots, been tested for FIV, FIP, Feline Leukemia, etc (all neg.), been treated for their upper respiratory infections, rabies quarantine is over, mother has been spayed, and the eye injury has healed beautifully. Two have been placed with good homes, and the 2 remaining skittish kittens are in the process of being tamed. All good news, right?

But at a price, folks. All would have been unnecessary if someone had spayed his pet.

It took many hours of feeding, cajoling, stalking, capturing, transporting to and from vet, follow-up administration of medicine and eye ointment (If anyone's wondered why I'm covered in healing

punctures and scars....), and ongoing "cat therapy" to tame the remaining 2 feral kittens. Not to mention that this has cost me a small fortune!

All of this time, money, effort, energy, and emotion expended because someone didn't bother to spay/neuter their cat. I have not minded caring for these poor little creatures. I DO mind that they're the product of the irresponsibility that ultimately fills the animal shelters with hundreds of unwanted kittens and puppies every week in the spring and summer. No exagg'n.

Please do the humane and responsible thing: spay/neuter your pet (and strays)!

If money is a consideration, **Please remember: inexpensive services exist and can be recommended by the SPCA.** Some vets and shelters will spay/neuter a stray animal for free.

A serious mistaken notion is that **feeding but not spaying** a stray animal is kind. This is a terrible misplaced compassion and a disservice to the animal in the long run.

If you take on the responsibility to feed an animal, please finish the job with spaying/neutering. Otherwise, whether you admit it or not, you are contributing to future euthanasia of dozens of unwanted creatures, as well as the ill-health and shorter life of the animal you feed. Let's avoid the sad, unnecessary end of so many innocent creatures.

Bonnie Goodrich

MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, October 5, 2000
(The River Café)

The Streets You Live On (Article Reprints)

How much do you know about the person, place, or thing that your street is named after or how much do you remember? This months featured streets are:

KIPLING, which was named after Rudyard (Joseph) Kipling (1865-1936), English writer and Nobel laureate, who wrote novels, poems, and short stories, mostly set in India and Burma during the British rule. Kipling is regarded as one of the greatest English short-story writers. As a poet he is remarkable for rhymed verse written in slang used by the ordinary British soldier. His writings consistently projected three ideas: intense patriotism, the duty of the English to lead lives of strenuous activity, and England's destiny to become a great empire. His insistent imperialism was an echo of the Victorian past of England. Important works: *The Jungle Book*, *The Second Jungle Book*, *Just So Stories for Little Children*, *The Light that Failed*, *Captains Courageous*, and *Barrack-Room Ballads* (verse), which included "Mandalay" and "Gunga Din."

HAWTHORNE, which is named after Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804-1864), American novelist, whose works are deeply concerned with the ethical problems of sin, punishment, and atonement. His early works, *Fanshawe* (1828) and *Twice-Told Tales* (1837), dealt with historical sketches and symbolic allegorical tales of moral conflicts and the effects of Puritanism on colonial New England. In 1851 he wrote *The House of the Seven Gables* in which he traced the decadence of Puritanism on an old New England family. The in 1852 under President Pierce, Hawthorne held the post of consulship in Liverpool, England. In 1860 on the eve of the American Civil War, he returned to the U.S.

With modern psychological insight Hawthorne probed the secret motivations in human behavior and the guilt and anxiety that he believed resulted from all sins against humanity, especially those of pride. His emphasis on allegory and symbolism often makes his characters seem shadowy and unreal, but his best characters reveal the emotional and intellectual ambivalence he felt to be inseparable from the his Puritan ancestry and heritage of America.

STANFORD, which is named after Leland Stanford (1824-93). An American statesman, capitalist, and patron of education. He was born in Watervliet, New York. In 1948, Stanford was admitted to the Wisconsin bar and in 1952 started his own business in San Francisco. A strong supporter of the Pacific Railroad scheme, he was president of the Central Pacific Company from 1861 until his death. From 1862 to 1863 he served as governor of California and from 1885 until his death he was a member of the U.S. Senate. Stanford founded and endowed Leland Stanford Junior University near Palo Alto, California, in memory of his son Leland Stanford. The popular school is now known as Stanford University.

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Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!



AUDUBON PLACE ASSOCIATION

L E T T E R

Vol. 10 No.8
December 2000

A Deed Restricted Community

INSIDE:

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Audubon Place Association

Audubon Place Association (APA) is a non-profit corporation organized to preserve the integrity of one of Houston's unique inner city neighborhoods. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. normally at The River Café, 3615 Montrose.

THE DECEMBER MEETING OF APA WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2000, AT 3701 AUDUBON PLACE

APA can be reached by mail at 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. President - Tony Herrada; Vice President - Clay Sterling

The Newsletter is published monthly. Articles or letters should be delivered to 816 Kipling. For advertising information call 524-8725.

President's Message

Patti Thompson

Holiday Party

The December meeting will be our annual Christmas/Holiday party. The open house will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. David and Zoe Thompson have volunteered to host the party at their house at 3701 Audubon Place. Please bring an appetizer dish to share with your neighbors.

New Officers

At the November meeting, we elected our new officers for next year.

Tony Herrada – President
Clay Sterling – Vice President
Patti Thompson – Secretary
Maaiké Van Bommel – Treasurer

Thanks to all members of the association that voted – we had a good turnout, and no recounting was necessary!

This is my last newsletter for the year. It has been an enjoyable experience serving as your president this past year. We didn't have any neighborhood crisis to fight this year, as our house prices have kept most of the developers from purchasing property just to

tear it down and build wall-to-wall townhouses. We all must work to keep our neighborhood free of graffiti and crime. Watching out for each other is what neighborhoods are about. If you see suspicious activity, call the HPD storefront at (713) 284-8604.

Garden Tips

November and December are great months to plant an herb garden. The cold winter months will help to set the root system for next year. Plant artemisia, bee balm, chicory, cumin (seed), curry (plants), yarrow, bay, catnip, coriander, dill, fennel, garlic chives, lemon balm, oregano, onion chives, parsley, rosemary, thyme, and wintery savory. Most herbs need full sun and good drainage.

As you rake your leaves this month, put them in a black plastic bag and stash in an out-of-the-way place that gets sun. Over the winter, the leaves will start to decompose and by spring you will have a nice mulch to add to your beds to enrich the soil!

Continue to plant cool weather color, like pansies, primrose, and Gerbera daisies. Feed the pansies regularly! Feed

your pansies every 6 weeks with blood meal for more blooms.

If you buy a live Christmas tree this year, remember that the City of Houston sponsors recycling after Christmas at several locations. I've always taken my tree to the recycle site in Memorial Park.

Recycle

Recycling Days this month are:

Dec 1, Dec 15, and Dec 29.

January recycling days are:

Jan 12, and Jan 26.

Some important phone numbers

Here are some important phone numbers:

For dangerous buildings, abandoned or junk vehicles, high weeds, rodent control or illegal dumping, call the **Neighborhood Protection Team** hotline 713-525-2525 (24 hours).

For help with potholes and street repairs, storm sewers and drainage ditches, water pressure and water leaks, or sewage problems, call the: **Public Works & Engineering Department** hotline: 713-837-0600 (24 hours).

For parks maintenance requests and information, call the: **Parks & Recreation Department** hotline: 713-645-4357.

For information about solid waste collection call: **Solid Waste Department**: 713-837-9100.

[The following article first appeared in the APA Newsletter in February 1993]

THE COHEN RESIDENCE by Ed Muraski

Although Audubon Place and Montrose Boulevard, with their esplanades and generous lots, were designed to accommodate the mansions of Houston's burgeoning upper-class, some of our most famous residents chose to live on the quiet, tree-lined streets in between. Among these were George and Ester Cohen, who bought the house at 607 Kipling shortly after their marriage in 1921. George Cohen was president and general manager of Foley's, our city's first fully air-conditioned store. He was born in Galveston, in 1885, and worked in his father's store as a boy. Much of his formal education and early business experience was acquired in New York City.

In 1917, Cohen gave up a flourishing window trimming service and moved to Houston. With his father, he purchased the Foley brother's store at Main and Preston. Under Cohen, Foley's had become, by 1927, a nine-story department store, the city's largest, rising story by story, at night, so that business could continue during the day. According to Cohen, Foley's "made money each and every year despite all of the economic ups and downs." Even during the depression, Foley's solvency was secure.

In addition to his retailing empire, George Cohen was active in other commercial enterprises involving petroleum, cattle, timber, and real estate. He served on the Municipal Aviation Committee, which, with the help of Captain Eddie Rickenbach of Eastern Airlines, put Houston on the air map, and he was a principal organizer of the famous 1928 Democratic Convention in Houston, along with such notables as Jesse Jones, Will Hogg, Will Clayton, and W. S. Farish. The Cohens were major supporters of the Museum of Fine Arts and the Houston Symphony, and they were active members of the River Oaks Country Club and the Congregation Beth Israel of Houston, the oldest Jewish religious organization in Texas.

To devotees of local architecture, however, George Cohen may best be remembered for the lovely Cohen House, donated to Rice University in 1927, in honor of his parents Agnes Lord and Robert I. Cohen. This picturesque building serves as a faculty club, and it incorporates Byzantine elements similar to those employed in the original buildings at Rice. It is truly a sensitive testament to filial devotion. The gift was announced on his mother's 70th birthday, the building was dedicated on his father's 71st birthday, and George Cohen was personally involved in all phases of planning and construction. He even accompanied the architect, William Ward Watkin, to Chicago to select the furniture and accessories for the interior,

which includes embellishments by famed woodcarver Peter Mansbendel.

The relationship between George Cohen and William Ward Watkin would endure. Watkin came to Houston to supervise the construction of the first buildings at Rice and later became head of that university's department of architecture. He was one of the best of an elite group of traditional architects working successfully in Houston. In addition to his work at Rice, Watkin developed the plan for the Broadacres subdivision, and he designed the 1929 neoclassical wing of the Museum of Fine Arts, the Palmer Memorial Chapel, and the elegant homes at 1318 North Boulevard (for Brian Brewster Gilmer), #2 Sunset (for H.C. Wiess), #11 Shadowlawn Circle (for Dr. E. M. Armstrong), and #1 Longfellow Lane (for F.A. Heitmann). In 1938, Cohen commissioned Watkin to coordinate a series of renovations on the house at 607 Kipling. Watkin ultimately transformed this once modest residence into a mini-mansion that now includes a fantastic Art Deco room in the shape of a ship's interior.

In 1944, George Cohen sold Foley's to the Federated Department Store chain, and in 1947, the store was moved to its present site at 1100 Main. Its opening generated tremendous excitement.

According to HOUSTON magazine, the new store,

designed by Kenneth Franzheim, was the first complete department store to be built in the country since 1929. It incorporated numerous innovations, including a dramatic, vertically divided stone and aluminum exterior bathed in indirect neon, a 5-story parking garage, connected to the main building by an underground tunnel, and a stylish, distribution-efficient, climate-controlled interior. Judging from the enthusiastic commentaries of the day, no one could possibly have imagined that the new Foley's was to be the last of its kind in downtown Houston.

The Cohens lived at 607 Kipling until 1970. Following George's death, Mrs. Cohen, known affectionately as "Sister" to her many friends, sold the house to Kenneth Peden, a relative of Houston hardware mogul, E. A. Peden.

MEETING NOTICE

**HOLIDAY PARTY
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2000
3701 AUDUBON PLACE**

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Annual Dues: \$10 per Person # of Persons _____ Total Dues Paid \$ _____

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Mail to: Audubon Place Association, 2615 Waugh Drive, No. 108, Houston, Texas 77006. Thank you!