



East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 39 No. 4

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

April 2012

On the Calendar

EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting
April 5th (Thursday)
Refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 6:00
at The Cottage 1501 Postoffice

GAIN CANDIDATE FORUMS
April 3rd & 17th (both Tuesdays)
Grand Opera House
Admission is free
7:00 PM

BLOCK PARTY
April 6th (Friday)
1200 Block of Sealy
Starts at 5:30

EEHDA Garden Class
April 21st (Saturday)
9 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.
Darragh Park
Free to all East Enders. Everyone invited.

MAH JONG AT THE COTTAGE
Every Monday
1-4 p.m.
Everyone is welcome

The Block parties are getting ready to start. Our first one will be held in the 1200 block of Sealy, and we'll be

EEHDA
President
Bill
Beveridge



honoring Carlos Guerguin, who is a long time member of the East End, and Past President. Let's have a good turnout hoping the weather cooperates!! Lizett Gaudin has done a wonderful job getting the block parties for the year organized. We all owe her a big Thank You.

Darragh Park is starting to look much better. Doug Mclean and his helper cut back the Rangoon Creeper, totally removing it off the support columns to avoid further damaging the metal. There's more to be done in the park which will be completed soon. Alderdice Park is being care for by Mike Gilbert. Thank You Mike !

Our next Garden Class will be April 21st - weather permitting - at Darragh Park. It starts at 9 am. Bring your chair. We'll have Door Prizes, so come and enjoy. The subject will be small shrubs and hanging baskets that will do good in Galveston. Everyone who is a member is welcome.

I hope everyone that can will attend this April's meeting at the Cottage at 6 pm, as Betty Massey and Mr. Lowe will be speaking about the housing issue. Have your questions ready.

We are extending the date for the list of infrastructure repairs until April 20th. Please e-mail myself or Deanna Johnson specific addresses and/or street names where repairs are needed. Once these lists are completed they will be submitted to Mrs. Beeton.

We'll soon be putting together the East End Garden Tour. Hopefully this year will be a wetter one than last. The tour will be in October, but no exact date is set yet. If you are interested in showing off your garden please call Fran Kelly at 409-370-2306 and she can give you all the details and put your name on the list.

Critter Corner

Casey and Dorothy Dan Farris

April showers may bring May flowers, but they also bring thunder boomers. This month we have some tips for you to help your dog overcome fear of thunder. The outdoor birds are flocking in and are awful busy building nests so they can attract a mate and have babies. The female of some species of birds chooses her mate by the quality of the male's nest. So why not help the guys out and provide nesting material? Accumulate yarn, cotton string, lint from the clothes dryer, pet hair, straw, or batting. Place the nesting materials on a plate, suet holder or similar receptacle, and put it near your feeders or watering area where the birds frequent. Observe where the birds take the material and you can watch the nest building process, the courting process, and soon enough the hatch and fledge.

Pet of the Month: Dorothy Dan and Emily Ann Farris

Since this column is new to EEHDA, I would like to introduce my pets. Some of you may know "the Boss of Me – Dorothy." Seven summers ago, Michael and I, did the whole trap, neuter, release of a large feral cat colony in our previous Houston neighborhood. Dorothy Dan (black domestic) and her litter mate, Emily Ann (brown Tabby) were just seven weeks old at the time and the youngest of the 15 kittens we brought home to rehabilitate. Being the youngest, Dorothy and Emily, were also the sickest. My vet said if they lived it would be because of good husbandry. I stuck them both in my bosom and never took my eyes off of them for 3 months. With all of this coddling we ended up spoiling them rotten. Another excuse we have is that we are like grandparents raising children so everything they do is cute. Dorothy is my special helper while Emily is a Daddy's girl. They like to lounge in their sleeping porch overlooking the alley, and their favorite treats are tuna, catnip, and jelly.



Our first Pets of the Month, Emily Ann, above, and Dorothy Dan, right.

Critters 101: Fear of Thunder

When your dog becomes frightened, he tries to reduce his fear usually by destruction and escaping. Both behaviors can be dangerous for him and trouble for you. Fear of thunder is, and affects dogs of both sexes and all breeds. There is some speculation that the dog is reacting partially to the atmospheric pressure changes during a storm, as well as to the noise itself. Dogs that display no fear of storms as puppies may develop this fear later in life. There are several ways to help your dog cope with this fear.

If your dog is crate trained, or has a place that he considers his "safe place," you may find that he will ride out the storm better if he is confined to his safe place. Some dogs hide in the bathroom. Dr. Dodman, a Tufts University vet, proposes that frightened dogs are being affected by a build-up of static charge and seek out conductive surfaces such as sinks and pipes in the bathroom. A sink is typically supplied by metal pipes and therefore acts as an electrical grounding device.

Some dogs merely need to be reassured. However, you must be careful about the way you do this, and make sure you are not inadvertently rewarding the dog for a fear reaction. If you positively reinforce fear reactions with unintentional praise – such as softly crooning or stroking when the dog exhibits fear, it is likely that the reactions will continue. By simply ignoring the storm and carrying on with a normal household routine, you send the dog the message that the storm is no big deal. Another way to reassure the dog without inadvertently praising or reinforcing the fear reaction is to massage your dog or brush your dog in long even strokes.

One solution for mild fear of storms is to associate the storms with something wonderful. If your dog has

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a favorite indoor game, or a special treat, provide that during the storm. Many times they will get so absorbed with their game, or the possibility of a favored treat, that they will forget about the storm, and will start to associate the storm with good things. You can also play tapes of storms, starting at a low volume and working up to a high volume. As you stroke your dog and play with him you will be teaching him to ignore the sound.

Any panic behavior, such as uncontrolled running, foaming at the mouth, howling consistently, aggression, or violent shaking should be considered severe and you should consult with your veterinarian. Do not punish your dog for being afraid and do not force your dog to experience or be close to the sound that frightens him. This will not decrease your dog's fear.

Casey Farris has owned/operated a pet sitting business in Houston for 11 years. Dorothy Dan has owned/operated Casey for 7 years. They live in Galveston's East End. www.sealysuites.com.

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Advertising with the East End Historical District promotes your business and supports a worthy organization. Rates and an ad order form appear on the last page of this newsletter. Feel free to contact newsletter editor Margaret Hand for more information at newsletter@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.

Special note to political candidates: The EEHDA is happy to provide advertising space during election season. Business card sized ads are \$20/month; quarter page ads cost \$30. Quarter page ads should be 'vertical' orientation to fit the columnar layout of the newsletter. The quarter page ad is the largest available.

Nightmare on Elm Street: Tips to Survive Your Remodeling

Allison Brown

(This is the another installment in a series of articles by Allison on the extensive remodel that she and husband Bob have undertaken on their East End home on Sealy.)

Part III: Legal, Sane and Colorful

- Building Permits – yes you must have them before the job starts. The dollar threshold for having to have one for construction projects is pretty low. The city building department will help you navigate the process. If you plan on making changes to the outside of your house, start by getting with the planning department and discussing the changes you have in mind. This should be done right at the start of your planning not after you've put money into contractors and architects, or have already started work.
- Inspections – it's incumbent on you to keep track of when the various inspections are required by the city or insurance. Stay on top of these by talking to your contractor, and by contacting the city to verify them. Put in the contract who's going to pay for the inspections. If you can be there when they're done, you'll hear firsthand what the problems are. When you miss some inspections, you may find you have to rip off new sheetrock to get a look at plumbing, and rip off more if the plumber didn't do things to code.
- Painting can be fun and color selection hard. It's unrealistic to expect to pick a paint chip and have it look the same on your wall. Any paint store or paint department can make up little bottles of paint samples for just a couple or three dollars

that can allow you to test the paint in each room or on the exterior of your house. I've had paints that looked bluer in the bedroom, greener in the guest room, and an entirely different color in the living room. Fortunately I found these out before buying a couple of gallons of expensive paint. Worse yet, it'll be even more expensive if you get home after your paint contractor has painted and you hate the color.

- Perfection is a myth.

Best of luck to you as you make your place more livable and beautiful!

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281 460-4534 (cell)
aalmendarez@cityofgalveston.org
- City Council District 3 – Elizabeth Beeton
409-692-0698 elizabethbeeton@comcast.net
- Code Enforcement – need address & short description of complaint
cityplanningcounter@cityofgalveston.org
- GHF mattfarragher@galvestonhistory.org
- GAIN Ralph@LtBlender.com
- Storm Drain Problems – publicworks@cityofgalveston.org
- Report Streetlights Out (8am-5pm M-F)
409-765-4165 (Must get number off pole and an address or street corner location)
- Report Abandoned Cars on City Streets
409-765-3702 (Must get exact location plus car make, color, & license #)

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president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
secretary@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
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It's Block Party Time

Emmy Morrison

The 2012 EEHDA Block Party season kicks off on Friday, April 6th. A glance at the Block Party schedule included in this newsletter will show you that many of the block parties this year have returned to the neighborhoods. This is a welcome change and we hope it will increase neighborhood participation.

This first Block Party will be held in the 1200 block of Sealy Street; come at 5:30 p.m. for a cocktail and some socializing. The food line should start moving close to 6:00 p.m. and we'll eat and have fun for an hour or two!

Chris and I are sponsoring this event in honor of our wonderful neighbor, Carlos Guerguin, whose many years of EEHDA service and Block Party enthusiasm are legendary! As most of you know, with Carlos, it's always time to "party, party, party"! Let's have a great turnout and let him and his partner, John Crossman, know how much the EEHDA appreciates all that Carlos has done over the years.

Please bring a dish to pass and some stories to share. If you would like to help with setting up or breaking down, it would be much appreciated. Please contact me (Emmy Morrison) at sandbarhappy@gmail.com if you would be able to assist.



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Neighborhood Notes

Jonathon Tromm

GAIN will be having two candidate forums during April on the 3rd and the 17th at 6:30pm. The forums will be held at the Grand Opera House on Post Office St.

All four Mayoral Candidates will attend both forums. City Council candidates for Districts 2, 4, & 6 will be in the first forum April 3rd; Candidates for Districts 1, 3, & 5 will be in the forum on the 17th. East Enders Elizabeth Beeton and Sheryl Rozier are running for the District 3 seat.

There is need for volunteers to help in various ways. George Lee is the committee chair and can be contacted at georgedlee@sbcglobal.net.

There is a new Neighborhood in town and they are our neighbors. It is called the UTMB Corridor/Downtown. It stretches from 19th to 13th streets and also from 10th to 7th streets between Strand and Broadway.

A nice presentation was made by the City of Galveston concerning two features on the city's website. Internet permitting has information and activities available for both Contractors as well as the General Public. G.I.S. (Geographic Information Services) has reams of information available for the general public. Both features are located at icons along the right side of the main page of the website.

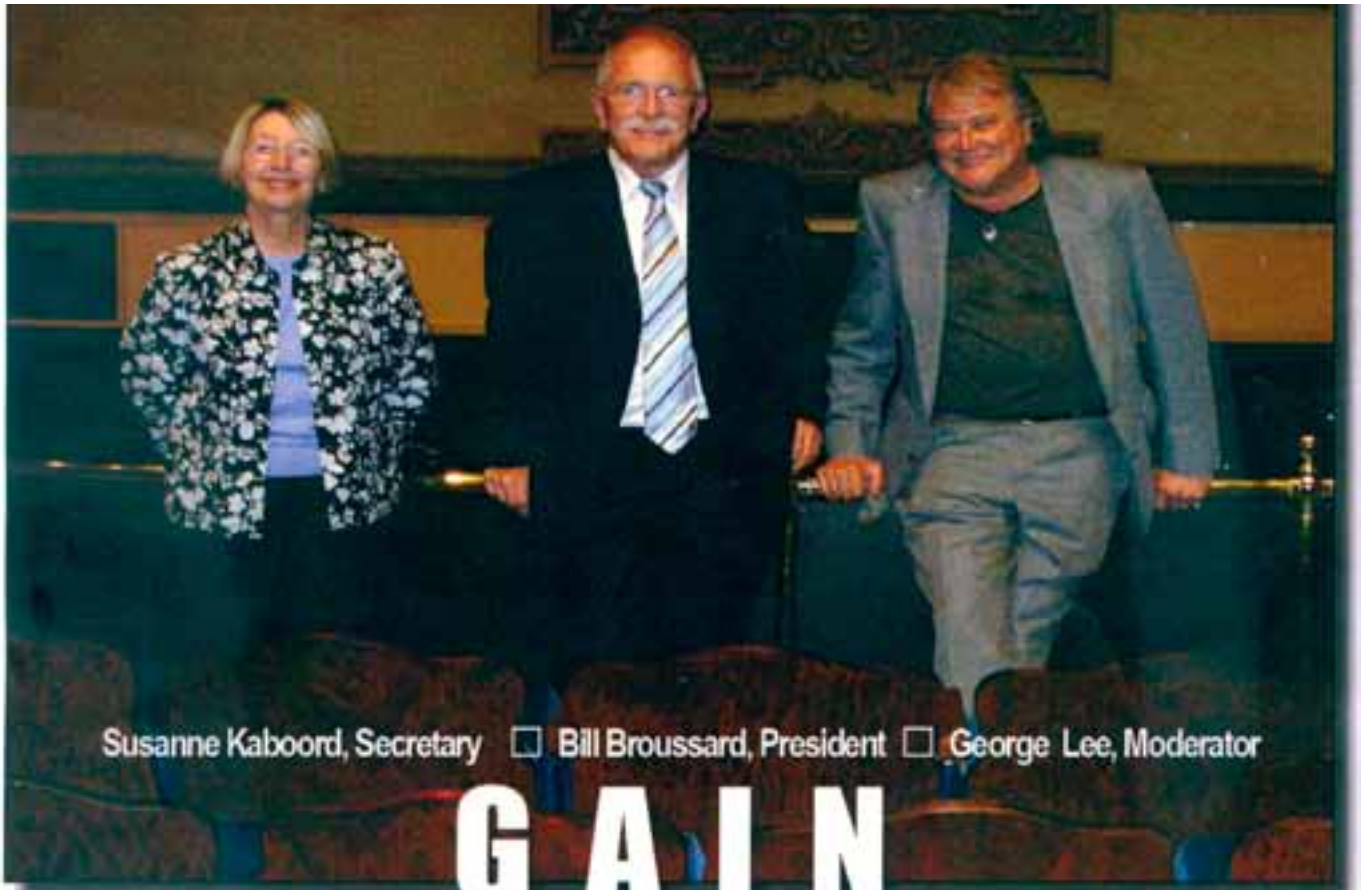
All EEHDA members are also members of GAIN and are welcome to attend the monthly meeting on the third Thursday of the month at 5:30pm at the Moody Mansion.



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DOORS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AT 6:30

TUESDAY April 3
7:00 - 9:30 pm
All Mayoral plus
Districts 2, 4
and 6 Candidates



TUESDAY April 17
7:00 - 9:30 pm
All Mayoral plus
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and 5 Candidates

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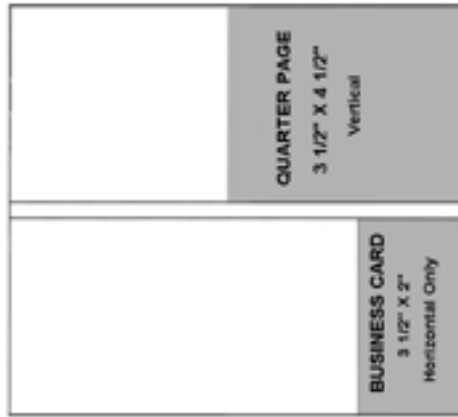
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- Political ads are limited to 1/4 page.

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 Contact our Membership Chair at membership@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.

I would be interested in donating to the EEHDA Casino Night Fundraiser

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Membership is open to everyone but only residents of the district are allowed to hold office or vote at meetings. Your membership supports a wide variety of services and programs dedicated to neighborhood improvement and historic preservation. Our Board of Directors holds regular neighborhood meetings at The Cottage, 1501 Postoffice Street at 6:00PM on the first Thursday of every month.

Meetings are open to all members and visitors to the district. The East End Historical District Association, Inc., is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to the EEHDA are deductible in the manner and to the extent provided by Section 170 of the IRS code. Rates are effective as of 10/1/2011.

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