

East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 38 No. 5

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

May 2011

On the Calendar

EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting May 5th (Thursday)

Refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 6:00 at the Cottage

WORKDAY AT THE **C**OTTAGE May 7th (Saturday)

9:00 a.m.

Come out and help.

Block Party May 12th (Thursday)

5:30 p.m.

At the Cottage

Cinema Under the Stars

presents

Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull

starts at 8:30

GAIN MEETINGMay 19th (Thursday)

All East Enders invited 5:30 p.m.

Moody Mansion lower level

COFFEE AT THE COTTAGE
May 21th (Saturday)

9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Stop in and have a cup! As one of my favorite writers once said, "I love deadlines! I love the *whooshing* sound they make as they go by!" And we've certainly had our share! Casino Night! NeighborWoods



Planting Day! April Block Party! Yard Sale! Could it be we've been a bit busy? At the turn of the century we had two big events – Lemonade Stand and Homes Tour, plus our traditional Block Parties and a few cleanup days. It is a testament to the strength of the East End organization and the commitment of our volunteers to realize that we've already done – in four months – what we used to do in an entire year. So relax, enjoy the upcoming Block Parties and gather your strength for October's Garden Tour and December's Victorian Christmas Homes Tour.

We still have to survive the summer's heat to get there, though.

Thanks to Angelo Grasso for presenting information on the City of Galveston street sweeping plan at the April meeting. Angelo has agreed to notify EEHDA several days before a run is scheduled so we can blast an email to our membership asking they move their cars, allowing the street sweeper to more effectively remove trash and debris that collect near the curb. Look for these notices in our weekly emails.

Thanks also to everyone who participated in the NeighborWoods II tree planting day on March 26th. We planted 140 trees – so our total, between April 17th 2010 and March 26th is 305 trees. Wow! Including the East End, this year's Planting Day totals were 456 trees planted by 271 volunteers in six different neighborhoods.

Finally, as you'll read inside, we successfully kicked off the Block Party season and just this past weekend executed a very successful Yard Sale, making *almost* enough to pay for the new air conditioning & heating system installed last year in The Cottage.

Don't forget to visit our web site at <u>www.</u> <u>eastendhistoricaldistrict.org</u> for all the latest information.



The Decorator and Furnisher by Steve Austin

Architectural Digest ("A.D." in the decorating world) has been disdainfully called the bible of recreational greed, but for decades it's also been America's leading high-end interior decoration journal. This was not always so.

Back when much of the East End was rebuilding following the 1885 fire, the A.D. of its day was a magazine called *The Decorator and Furnisher*. The only way most people can look through that magic window into the world of high-style American Victoriana is by scheduling an appointment at one of a few specialized libraries. Generally only scholars do this, but anyone can.

Years ago, Cathy and I did just that, putting on the mandatory white gloves before pawing through a bunch of *Decorator and Furnishers* at the Philadelphia Athenaeum while a librarian nervously watched over our shoulders. Later, we bought some copies from the internet before they all vanished. Let's walk through an issue . . .

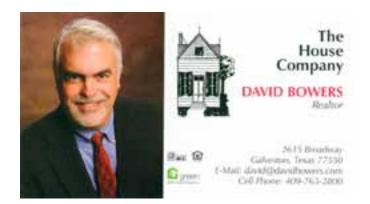
The cover shows a young woman holding a Japanese fan while looking wistfully toward her highly-decorated fireplace. She sits on an overstuffed sofa framed by potted palms near an oriental rug. We view her through a partially opened portiere surrounded by elaborately-carved hardwoods, English tiles, and busy wallpapers topping an elaborate wainscot.

Inside, most of the articles are verbose and of limited interest. But the ads—ah, the ads! An ad for cloth shades shows a woman trying to pull down the shade of a competitor, only to have the whole thing come down, smashing the window in the process. The ad promises us "no more broken windows." In another ad, Lincrusta, as found in the Bishop's Palace, is touted as "indestructible." (For the most part, it is.) Few familiar names show up, but Pratt & Lambert, Minton tiles, Morris & Company, and Columbia bicycles are all represented. If a magic wand could make these

suppliers reappear, at 1880s prices we could all afford to transform our homes into micro Bishop's Palaces.

The engravings are also rare treats. Intricate designs for ceilings, mantel pieces, parlor cabinets, stained glass, iron fences, and oriental rugs are accompanied by a fixture to house the latest invention, the light bulb.

Let us know if you'd like to see an old issue. You won't need gloves, but it's fine to use the experience as an excuse to wash your hands in our old marble sink, just as East Enders might have done when our homes were new.



Important Contact Information

Galveston Police - Non Emergency 409-765-3702

SAFEE – <u>safee@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org</u> (also leave comments in Cottage black mailbox)

Galveston Police – Officer Annie Almendarez 409 765-3616 (office) 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

City planningcounter@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 #)

EEHDA Officers:

president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org secretary@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org treasurer@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

So What's Going on with our "Norfolk Pines"

Pam Gilbert Galveston County Master Gardener

As you most likely have noticed, throughout our neighborhood and all of the island, our Norfolk Pines are in serious trouble. Many of them date pre-Ike, many afterwards. Theories advanced by friends and neighbors include the drought, soil conditions left over from the storm, beetles, and the freezes.

Being a perennial graduate student, I decided that research was in order. First order of business was to contact Pete Smith from the Texas A&M Forestry Department (and very good friend of the EE) and Dr. William Johnson, our Galveston County Extension Agent.

There was no longer a mystery. Both concur that the trees are dying from the freezes of the past two years. We do need to remember that Norfolks are not pines at all but are Norfolk Island Conifers, and their natural habitat is in the very mild climate of the Norfolk Islands.

Those of us who where here in 1983 remember that we had Hurricane Alicia in August and that was followed that winter by devastating extended freezes. Very little was left alive. The catch phrase at that time was "What Alicia didn't kill, the freeze did." Fortunately our oaks did fine.

To make a long story short, in that aftermath we all replanted, and many Norfolk Pines were included. They did very well in the ensuing years, but we had no severe freezes until after Ike.

Both Pete Smith and Dr. Johnson remind us that the Norfolk was not on the list of trees suggested for the replanting of Galveston. Dr. Johnson said yesterday that the trees are dying and will not recover. He will be writing an extended article on this topic for his regular column in the Galveston News. In fact you may see it the News before you get this newsletter.

As we all know too well, it is heartbreaking to lose trees, but we will recover.



Container Terminal

Jonathon Tromm

East Enders, lately, you may have heard about possible future development of container terminals on Pelican Island or at the Port of Galveston and concern that they be properly planned to mitigate negative impacts to our neighborhood. On Thursday, April 14th, the City Council voted to change the Zoning Standards to add a definition of Container Terminals. At this time, a Specific Use Permit will be required for any proposed development larger than 250 acres in order to allow the city government to ensure that the design and planning of large container terminals include minimum standards of protection. The city plans to draft a detailed set of land use ordinances to replace the Specific Use Permit requirement and allow developers to know requirements in advance.

Mayor Jaworski has invited GAIN to provide input to the city staff in drafting the ordinances. The GAIN representatives will be Jonathon Tromm and Emmy Morrison as alternate.

For more information, contact Jonathon Tromm at 409 771-5255.



May Block Party to Feature Outdoor Movie

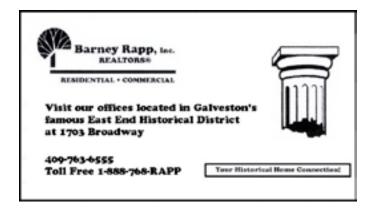
Lynette Haaga

Block Party season got off to a great start with our first party on Friday, April 8^{th.} Neighbors gathered among the beautiful roses in Darragh Park to say a friendly thank you to longtime friend and East End benefactor Dr. E. Burke Evans. Ed Conner won our Santa Fe Trails raffle gift certificate, so we know Betty will have a good time shopping down on the Strand. Weather couldn't have been more cooperative, and it was a very pleasant evening all around.

There will be a special treat at our next Block Party coming up on Thursday, May 12th, in the back yard of The Cottage at 1501 Postoffice! Join us for an outdoor movie on the big screen as the sun goes down. "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" will be the feature film for our first East End Cinema Under the Stars. In the spirit of Indiana Jones, why not dress up in your favorite adventure/safari gear, or at least wear your fedora! The party will start up at the usual 5:30pm but plan ahead to stay a little later, pull up your lawn chair, and enjoy the movie together after we eat. If possible, we'd like to have a raffle at each Block Party this year so if you can help secure donations of gift certificates or other nicer items, please let me know (409-750-9441). Watch for May's raffle prize.

Special thanks to those who helped with setting up and cleanup for the April party! Your efforts are very much appreciated, and even though it may appear that way a Block Party just doesn't happen by itself. Anyone who can lend a hand in May, please be at The Cottage at 4:45 on party day to set up canopies, tables, and coolers.

We're off to a great start on another season of one of the East End's most popular events, and we want you to be part of it!





April Block Party guest of honor, Dr. E. Burke Evans.



Ed Connor won our raffle gift certificate from Santa Fe Trails.



As usual, the block party had plenty of food.

EEHDA Membership

Special thanks to our New Regular, Sponsor and SAFEE members:

Harry Behal Erhard Goerlitz Rebecca (Becky) Smith

Special thanks to our Business members:

Mosquito Café Sand 'n Sea Properties

Special thanks to our Sponsor members:

Carol Bartz, via an ExxonMobil Matching Gift Ken Bartz, via an ExxonMobil Matching Gift Pamela & Billy Burge Gerald Campbell John C. Crossman, Jr. Elisabeth Darst Mike & Pam Gilbert Donna & Ken Goode Carlos L. Guerguin Denny & Charlotte Kelley Karl Lewis & Sandy Hardin Herbert & Rosalind Mitchell Ellen Morrison & Christian Robbian Jody Phelps & James Heyland Dixie Posert Paula & Louis Reeg Sally Robinson Sharon and Emmett Strain Carl Tapia & John Wilmore Tom Thayer & Daniel Danford James Tucker & Renee Magee Larry & Diane Woodcox





Please Consider SAFEE Sheryl Rozier

The SAFEE program has been in place since 2002 and has been an important part of the East End. Members have been able to take advantage of the extra patrols, personalized vacation checks, and near real-time communication with SAFEE Officers via email and through the use of the drop box at The Cottage. Unlike GPD Officers assigned to the East End, the SAFEE Officers have been with the program since the beginning and have a unique working knowledge of the East End.

The SAFEE program is facing some challenges in 2011. Since the beginning of the program, the SAFEE program has been paying Officers \$20 an hour. This rate has increased to \$25 an hour through GPD and has resulted in a larger draw on SAFEE funds. Also, the number of active SAFEE members has dropped, possibly due to success of community policing.

Although the membership dues are \$240 a year, have you ever though of it as \$20 a month? We are looking for new members and trying to find ways to keep our current membership roles active. \$20 a month is possible if you set up an automatic bill pay through your bank to the SAFEE Program. Is it time to upgrade your membership or join the SAFEE Program? Please consider it. Annual membership dues in EEHDA are required for SAFEE enrollment and are not included in your SAFEE membership. Please contact safee@swbell.net with questions or comments -- P.O. Box 2424, Galveston, Texas 77553.



Yard Sale Thanks

Kathy Bass

Yard Sale Chair

I want to thank everyone who contributed in some way to the HUGE success of our 2011 Yard Sale. Many of you donated your items, time and sweat to make this happen in Post-IKE times and we ALL deserve a pat on the back for our efforts. The total take for the Champagne Preview Sale (72 tickets and sales) and Saturday's Bake Sale and Yard Sale was \$4,572.10!!!! After minimal expenses we cleared a little less and a full report will be submitted at the next board meeting.

I would like to give a very special thanks to a few who went above and beyond:

- * Fran Kelly for the many hours she helped price and collect items every Friday for the past 3 months and for organizing the bake sale.... everything was yummy.
- * Lynette Haaga for organizing the Friday night champagne and food extravaganza, which was enjoyed by all and very much appreciated AND for feeding the Saturday workers.
- * Bill Beverage for his willingness to do whatever was needed for the past 3 months and for always being there for me.
- * AND a VERY BIG THANKS to Karl Lewis & Sandy Hardin and Dean & Kay Kinsey for the use of their garages to collect, price & store items for the past 3 months!!!

We could not have done this so smoothly and efficiently without your sacrifice, so thank you, thank you!!!!!

To ALL the many volunteers who helped set up, worked the sales, baked goodies and take down the tents and tables and haul the remainder to Goodwill, you are in my debt and I appreciate you SO much! And a BIG thanks to all who donated items for the sale.... there would not have been a sale without YOU!





Friday night's Yard Sale Champagne Preview began with...champagne.



A good crowd turned out at the preview for the chance to get the good stuff first.



Preview guests congregated in the back yard after shopping.

YARD SALE'S BAKE SALE

Fran Kelly

I just wanted to say thank you to everyone who baked goodies for our bake sale this year. The cakes and the cookies looked really good as did the very fast selling Key lime pie. To all of you who worked in the booth a great big thank you too. We could not have done it without all of our great volunteers .



Yard Sale volunteers congregate early in the morning near the donuts.



CONTACT US

Telephone - 409-763-5928

Membership Info - membership@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org SAFEE Program - safee@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org



The crowd was steady all day Saturday.

Recycling at East End Events

Pam Gilbert

Hello fellow recyclers. We have reached an impass with our event recycling. Events include large events such as block parties, neighborhood meetings, tree planting and work days, Mardi Gras, yard sale preview and sale day, plus small events such as game and movie night at the cottage, and mahjong day.

Most people are more than willing to use recycling containers if they are out and even help to take already bagged items to the recycling center. It is important to note that, like garbage, we cannot leave recyclables inside the cottage to attract pests, or even on the back porch.

We need someone, or group to commit to coordinating this effort which includes scheduling volunteers to do the work. The job entails

- 1. Before each event taking out the recyling containers from the back storage room of the cottage, and making sure they are labeled and bagged with extra bags at the bottom.
- 2. Maintainence of those containers during events.
- 3. After the events collecting bags and hauling away.
- 4. Cleaning the containers and putting them back in the storage room.

Yes this is alot to do, and quite frankly at some of the minor events, to most it might seem easier just to pitch the few recyclables in to the trash, But at our larger events we generate mulitples bags of plastic, cans and bottles. This will all going to the landfill unless we can find a committed individual or small group who will take ownership of this project. If you are interested in more information you can contact Dave Schuler.



Eastenders enjoying the food at the first block party of the year.

Join the East End Historical District Association

Membership is open to everyone but only residents of from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal 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 in the EEHDA. (Note: SAFEE dues are not tax deductible.)

Revenue Code. Contributions to the EEHDA are deductible in the manner and to the extent provided by Section 170 of the IRS code.

SAFEE is a long-standing EEHDA program that provides additional police patrols in the district by uniformed officers. SAFEE members can directly contact the officers involved in the program and enjoy such benefits as Vacation Watch. Membership in SAFEE requires a membership

 _ Select Membership Type (1 Year)
 Individual \$15 Family \$20 Senior (65+) \$10
 Senior Family \$15 Sponsor \$75
Corporate \$125 Life Member \$300
EEHDA SAFEE Program (requires EEHDA membership): One Year \$240 Six Months \$120
State: