

T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association



Volume Thirty-One, Number One, January 2005

From Kent Marsh, 2005 HHA President

The “changing of the guard” has taken place, and once again the great programs and activities started by those before me will happen with the help of the many volunteers of our organization. I look forward to working with each of the members of the Houston Heights Association. I promise when we look back at the end of this year, we will all agree that we accomplished even more than we expected when we started.

While our main activities, the annual Volunteer Dinner, the Spring Home and Garden Tour, the Fun Run, the Fall Festival and the Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction, will

take place as usual, we will be placing a special emphasis on two areas that need our attention: membership and education.

Our organization cannot thrive without new and more members. Membership is our lifeblood. Extra attention will be given to both a formal membership drive and informational recurring reminders to get new members. There is plenty to do and we need more people to do all the things that need to be done.

The second area of special attention will be education. Our children are our legacy. Their quality education must be our focus. With the upsurge

in both building and programs in our public schools, we must support that effort. It’s great to live in a neighborhood such as the Houston Heights. It’s even better when we have first-class, top-notch schools.

In closing, I’d like to personally thank Chris Silkwood for her untiring efforts in obtaining sponsors for 2005. Even though we are a volunteer organization, it takes money for our programs. Chris has helped the HHA leap forward with many great sponsors. We are all encouraged to visit our sponsors and give them our support for supporting HHA.

Lastly, let’s have a little FUN!

Annual Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Dinner Scheduled

Houston Heights Association hosts its 31st annual Volunteer Appreciation and Awards Dinner on Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Fire Station. This year’s

event will have a Mardi Gras theme, with social hour beginning at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and the recognitions and awards presentation at 7:30 p.m.

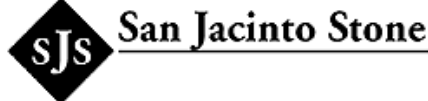
Reserved tickets are \$15 for individuals or tables of eight are \$120.

To nominate a home or business for a Community Improvement Award, see the enclosed form or download a form from the HHA website at www.houstonheights.org.

Mark Your Calendar!

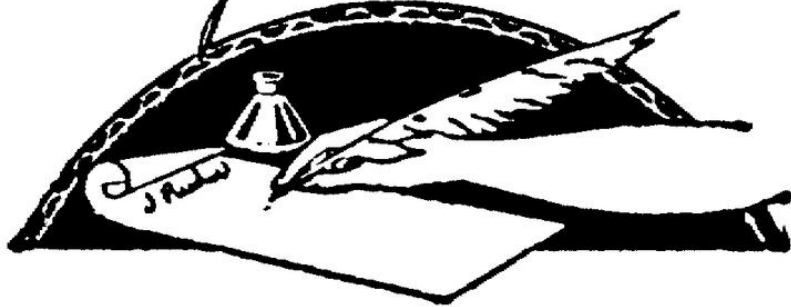
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|----------|---------------------------|
| Feb. 14 | General Meeting |
| Feb. 27 | Volunteer Dinner |
| Apr. 1-3 | Spring Home & Garden Tour |

The Houston Heights Association is proud to have the following 2005 Platinum sponsors:



Make Volunteering One of Your New Year's Resolutions

New Year Resolutions



One of the many benefits of living in a “small town within the big city” is that people come together and make a difference in the quality of life in which they live. The Houston Heights Association is a “volunteer-based organization” that relies on many

people to preserve this atmosphere.

When you volunteer with HHA, you choose your level of involvement. It can be from being an attendee at a committee meeting to being a docent/ticket seller to serving as a co-chair or event chair.

Pick an area and let us know where your interests lie.

HHA committees include:

- Beautification
- Business
- Education
- Festival
- Fun Run
- Holiday Food Baskets
- Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction
- Land Use
- Membership
- Park Maintenance
- Spring Home and Garden Tour

To learn more, please go to the HHA website at www.houstonheights.org. Get involved and make a difference!

January Heights Restoration/Historical Committee Meeting

The next Restoration/Historical Committee meeting will be on Jan. 20 at 501 East 18th Street. Arrive at 7:30 p.m. at the Houston Chapel, previously known from the late 1920s until the 1980s as the Heights Missionary Baptist Church. An adjacent corner building was the site of one of the many neighborhood grocery stores in the 1920s. As a young man, one recent visitor to the site remembers working in that store for \$1 per week and that the storeowner had him deliver groceries by bicycle after school. Demolition of the store building uncovered windows and entrance door confirming its use as a grocery store and the gas company further substantiated records dating to 1929.

The current Houston Chapel property was bought sometime in the 1930s by the Harris County Baptist Missionary Association, which began



the Heights Missionary Baptist Church. Their chapel structure was built in brick in the 1940s under the assumption that a congregation could follow. However, the venture never took root. The church removed one of the four early structures on the corner to build a small parking lot with the minister living in a second corner house. Extensive work has been recently underway to add formal

parking as well as additional brick and an enclosed garden. The complex is now available for weddings, seminar and other ceremonies.

Attendees will enjoy looking at the before and after photos of the work completed on the complex as well as the beautiful trim work and fine cabinetry and stone that add eye-appeal to the functional areas of the chapel.



**Wrap-up:
2004
Heights Holiday
Home Tour
&
Wreath Auction**

We cannot say thank you too many times to all the people who worked so hard to make the 2004 Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction a success. We love showing off what a great place the Houston Heights is to live. And there were many compliments from attendees.

We would like to again express our appreciation to the many volunteers who gave so much of their time. In addition to the many docents who guided our visitors, we wish to acknowledge the following people:

Homeowners

Amy Blumrosen and Shari Heyen
Carey Jordon and Brian Simmons
Barbara and Jim Potter
Anne Sloan
Todd, John and William Sullivan
Laura and Charlie Thorp

Head Docents

Donna Bennett
Patricia Brison
Katy Bomar Childs
Hilary Parr Cobb
Pamela Dreef
Diane Easley
Melinda and Lee Gaskill
Sheila Tybor
Kathleen and Mark Williamson

Committee Chairs

Collateral – Irene Nava,
Nava + Associates
Florists Coordinator – Kim Jozwiak
Home Tour Advisor – Julie Pettit
Trolleys – Dean Swanson and
Addie Ann Spicer
Wreath Auction – Susan Marsh

We would also like to thank the following businesses for their support:

Ticket Locations

Buchanan's Native Plants
Hickory Hollow
Karen Deer & Associates Real Estate

Printing

Malone Printing

Transportation

METRO

Platinum Sponsors

Prime Way Federal Credit Union
San Jacinto Stone

And a great big thank you to Viki and John Hennessey for serving as chairs of the 2004 Holiday Tour and Wreath Auction. It takes months of preparation time and hundreds of hours to chair one of HHA's fundraising events. The Hennessey's did a fabulous job and HHA appreciates their volunteerism!

Another big THANKS to Susan Marsh who coordinated the wreath auction. It was a fun event with lots of beautiful wreaths, great food and jolly attendees. Along with Susan, thanks also to the following people for their time and talents:

Sharie and David Beale
Kathy Butler
Karen Cambien
Katy and John Childs
Julie Dowell
Sue and Jim Fisher
Robin Franklin
Kathleen Galbraith
Alyssa and Travis Graham
Viki and John Hennessey
Honi Knowles
Charla Macicek
Kent Marsh
Damian Ogier
Cynthia Parker
Julie and Byron Pettit
Martha and Ivan Pieratt

Thanks also to the creative wreath donors:

Ashley's Attic*
Sharie Beale
Donna Bennett
Cindy Babbitt
Katy Bomar-Childs
Buchanan's Native Plants*
Kathy Butler
John Childs
Morgan Childs
Children from Harvard Elementary School*
David Dodge, David, Etc.*
Karen Derr, Karen Deer and Associates*
Pamela Dreff
Julie Dowell
The Cassidy Family
Keith Crane
Jason and Wendy Drouin, J. Harding & Company*
Neva Dupius
Diane Easley
Eclectic Home*
Linda Eyles
Representative Jessica Farrar, State of Texas*
Susan Fisher
Councilman Adrian Garcia*
Comacho Gonzalo
Susan Green
Viki Hennessey
Cheryl Hensley
Historic Heights Antiques*
Amanda Horak
Susan Jennings
Robin Franklin and Honi Knowles
Sharon Kopriva
Pamela Kunkemoeller and Barbara Kogut
Kiah Lang
Charla Macicek
Debbie Markey
Susan Marsh
Martin Mercader, Mercader Antiques*
Rikki Mitman, Fireborn Beads*

Lucinda Homfeld and Stacie Mensik, Brooke and Linden*
Carli Mosier and Dustin Faigen
Hope Namken
Jenny Newton
Connie Nobles, Noble Decorating*
October Gallery*
Megan O'Neal
Past Connections*
Cynthia Parker
Stephenie Parker
Byron Pettit
Julie Pettit
Martha Pieratt
The Potters
Pat and Faye Rollins, Marc Schwetman, Barnard Park Development*
Ken and Karen Scott, Ken Scott Communications*
Chris Silkwood
Joellen Snow
Addie Anne Spicer
Tansu*
Connie Taylor
Laura Virgadamo, Old Fashioned Things*
Laura Virgadamo, 17th Street Community Garden*
Tim Womble
Cynthia Parker and Jim Wombie
Yarns 2 Ewe, Inc.*

** Denotes business, school or community organization*

Thanks also to Angela & Co. for the use of t-stands and easels during the auction, and to Sweet Adelines for music on Friday night.

If you missed the 2004 Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction, be sure to mark your calendar for this year's event, which will be held on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 4 and 5.

Work Begins on 2005 Spring Home and Garden Tour

The 2005 Spring Home and Garden Tour steering committee, lead by chair Kelly Simmons, has selected the homes for the upcoming tour and is also working on added attractions for this year's event. The theme is "Home is Where the Art Is" and the committee is very honored that Sharon and Gus Kopriva have agreed to be honorary chairs for the upcoming Friday night dinner.

Read upcoming newsletters as details unfold. And for now, mark your calendar for the festivities:

- Friday night dinner, tour and silent auction – Friday, April 1
- Home and garden tour – Saturday and Sunday, April 2 & 3

To volunteer for the 2005 Spring Home and Garden Tour, email Kelly Simmons at info@houstonheights.org.

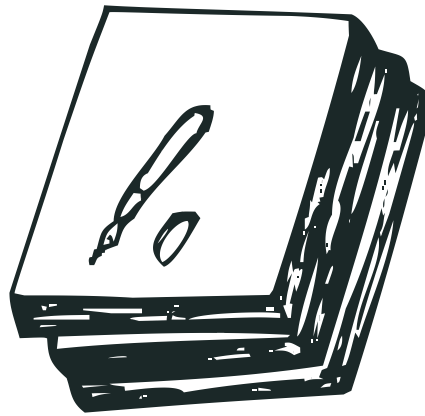
"The Heights" is a monthly newsletter distributed by the Houston Heights Association. Submission should be made by the second Friday of each month to editor@houstonheights.org.

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Heights Group of Houston Great Books

In case you're interested in a monthly book group, the Heights Group of Houston Great Books meets the second Saturday of every month at 2 p.m. in the Heights Library at Heights Blvd. and 13th Street.

This group has been meeting for more than 20 years at the same location and usually has an attendance of 10-15. To learn more, including a schedule of readings, please go to www.houstongreatbooks.net/groups/Hts.html.

A VISION FOR HOUSTON HEIGHTS
A diverse, small-town community in the heart of Houston where neighbors and businesses thrive, children learn and play, and history lives.

New Members

Marlene D. Adams & Carol Ursell
 Thomas Claffy
 Law Office of Marie Louise Crozat, P.C.
 Kevin Laudadio
 Patti and Jim Mishler
 Holly O'Dell
 Heather and Rhett Rentrop
 William Samohy
 Chris and Paul Sanchez
 John K. Spear



Hamilton Middle School PTA to Host Sweetheart Dance

The Hamilton Middle School PTA is hosting a Sweetheart Dance on Friday, Feb. 11. Grab your sweetheart and come laissez les bons temps roulez! The fun will happen at Treebeard's downtown. Tickets are \$50 per couple and include a delicious Cajun dinner, dancing and lots of fun with your neighbors. There will also be a few "sweet" auction items to bid on during the evening.



HHA 2005 Board of Directors

David Beale (2007)
 Kathy Butler (2005)
 Gonzalo Camacho (2006)
 David Cassidy (2005)
 Karen Derr (2006)
 Angela DeWree (2007)
 Robin Franklin (2006)
 John Hennessy (2005)
 Gus Kopriva (2006)
 Pamela Kunkemoeller (2005)
 Suzanne LaBarthe (2007)
 Kent Marsh (2005)
 Tony Riedel (2006)
 Jonathan Smulian (2007)
 Jo Ellen Snow (2007)
(The year each Director's term ends is in parentheses.)

Thanks for Your Generous Donations

- Stephanie and Paul Babb – *Parks, Beautification and Flower Gardens*
- Lynda and John Cates
- Ruth S. Davis – *Parks, Beautification and Flower Gardens*
- Cheryl and Robert Ketchie – *Parks, Beautification and Flower Gardens*
- Patti and Jim Mishler
- Nicole and John Ridgway - *Parks, Beautification and Flower Gardens*

Calendar of Events for January 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	31					1
2	3 HHA Land Use Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Fire Station	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 HHA General Meeting 7:00 PM Fire Station	11	12	13	14 Submission Deadline for February Newsletter	15
16	17 HHA Board Meeting 6:30 PM Fire Station	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

HHA Headquarters: The fire Station is on the corner of Yale and 12th Streets.

HHA web site: <<http://www.houstonheights.org>>

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