

T H E H E I G H T S

Newsletter of the Houston Heights Association



Volume Thirty, Number Eleven, December 2004

December: It's a Merry Time to be in Houston Heights

Dec. 3 and 4 – Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction

The annual Houston Heights Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction will be held on Friday, December 3, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., and again on Saturday, December 4, 3:00– 9:00 p.m. The six featured homes are:

- 1312 Cortlandt
- 1539 Allston
- 1433 Harvard
- 829 Waverly
- 121 E. 16th Street
- 838 Ashland

Advance tickets, which are \$13 each, are available at Buchanan's Native Plants, Hickory Hollow and Karen Derr Real Estate. Day of the tour tickets are \$15 each and will be available at the Heights Fire Station and each home. A trolley ride on Saturday is included in the ticket price. Trolleys will be running between the homes all day Saturday but will not be available on Friday.

Wreaths will be available for silent bidding during the Holiday

Home Tour at the Heights Fire Station Friday, December 3, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., and Saturday, December 4, 3:00 – 9:00 p.m. Tour participants can also bid on wreaths displayed at individual tour homes. Final bidding will take place at the Fire Station on Saturday, Dec. 4, 9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. with complimentary drinks and party food.

For more information, please call 713-861-4002 or visit www.houston-heights.org.

Dec. 13 – General Meeting, Food Basket Preparation and Cookie Swap

The Monday, December 13 general meeting of the Houston Heights Association will be an all day affair, beginning with the preparation of holiday food baskets.

Once again, the Houston Heights Association will join Heights Rotary in funding, assembling and distributing holiday baskets to the needy. Names of 100 qualified families in zip codes 77007, 77008 and 77009 are being furnished by Family Services.

The schedule is as follows:

- 10:00 a.m. – groceries will be delivered from HEB to the Heights Fire Station. Volunteers are needed at that time to assemble our "grocery store."

- 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Volunteers are needed to assemble grocery baskets. A light supper will be provided.

If you are able to help or have any questions about the holiday food baskets, please call Lauriel Hindman at 713-868-4727.

The regularly scheduled general meeting will begin at 7 p.m. with

recognition of the Holiday Home Tour homeowners and volunteers. Be sure to attend this meeting, and bring cookies or other sweets for the cookie exchange.

Mark Your Calendar!

Dec. 3 & 4 Holiday Home Tour and Wreath Auction

Dec. 13 General Meeting

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

Platinum



January Restoration/Historical Committee Meeting

The next Houston Heights Restoration/Historical Committee Meeting will be on Jan. 29 at 7:30 p.m. at 501 East 18th Street. This is the location of 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 Heights 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. That

store allowed customers credit on open accounts. Demolition of the store building uncovered windows and an 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 would follow. However, the venture never took root for lack of members. 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. Recently, extensive work has been undertaken to add formal parking as well as additional brick and an enclosed garden. The complex is now available for weddings, seminars and other ceremonies.

Meeting attendees will enjoy seeing 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.

For more information about this meeting, email restoration@houston-heights.org or call committee chair Dean Swanson at 713-880-2832.

Heights Residents Honored with Good Brick Award

Karlene and Geoffrey Poll were chosen as one of the winners of the 2005 Good Brick Awards for their work at 1605 Heights. Sponsored by the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, the jury was particularly impressed with the Poll's "sensitive restoration that maintained the character of this important building."

Those of you who attended the Houston Heights Association's 2004 Spring Home and Garden Tour had the pleasure of seeing the Poll home. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



HHA 2004 Board of Directors

Donna Bennett (2004)
Kathy Butler (2005)
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(The year each Director's term ends is in parentheses.)



Thanks to the generous donations of mulch throughout the year by San Jacinto Stone, volunteers such as Mary Carr and Bob Mahlstedt keep Heights Boulevard spruced up. Thanks to San Jacinto Stone for their donations of mulch, as well as Jim Bennett and his crew of volunteers for their donations of time and muscle.

December Yard of the Month



On a neighbor's suggestion, the Flower Power Patrol awarded the December's Yard of the Month to 1820 Columbia, which is the home of John Pavlicek and Micki Fine. Their yard was designed by August Coerver Design, located in the Heights.

"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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**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

Susan Fowler
James A. Hood
Sherry and Bob Hughes
Nadja Pollard
Stephen A. Sandberg and April Dierck
Irene Sasaki and Tim Richey
Isaac Tapia



Thanks for Your Generous Donations

- Another Place in Time —
Flower Gardens
- Anne M. Rodgers —
Boulevard Beautification (Maple)
- Suzanne Labarthe and
John Rogers —
*Boulevard Beautification
(Redbud)*
- McGinty Family —
*Boulevard Beautification
(Redbud)*
- Catherine Wiejaczka —
Flower Gardens

Calendar of Events for December 2004

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 Holiday Home Tour & Wreath Auction 6:00 - 9:00 PM	4 Holiday Home Tour & Wreath Auction 3:00 - 9:00 PM
5	6 HHA Land Use Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Fire Station	7	8 <i>Hanukkah</i>	9	10 Submission Deadline for January Newsletter	11
12	13 HHA General Meeting 7:00 PM Fire Station	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 HHA Board Meeting 6:30 PM Fire Station	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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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