

East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 38 No. 12

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

December 2011

On the Calendar

EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting December 1st (Thursday)

Refreshments at 5:30, meeting at 6:00
at The Cottage 1501 Postoffice

EEHDA 22nd Annual Victorian Christmas Homes Tour Friday, December 2nd, 2011

6:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Tickets available at
The Grand 1894 Opera House
All the homes are listed in the article by Mike
Gilbert in this month's issue

GAIN MEETING

December 15th (Thursday)

All East Enders invited

Moody Mansion lower level
5:30 p.m. 27th & Broadway

COFFEE AT THE COTTAGE **December 17th (Saturday)**

9 a.m.

MAH JONG AT THE COTTAGE **Every Monday**

1-4 p.m.

Everyone is welcome

SEASONS GREETINGS

FROM

***THE EAST END HISTORICAL
DISTRICT ASSOCIATION***

As I write this, I can report to having heard my first Christmas carol of the holiday season – “Deck the Halls”. Driving around the East End, you can already see

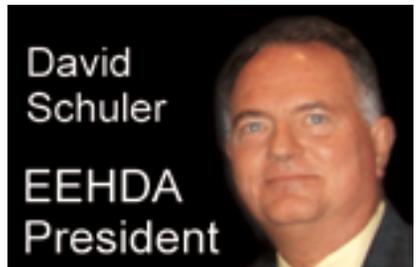
homes decked out in lights, garlands and other festive regalia. Carriages filled with visitors are a regular sight now that fall weather has arrived and they help remind us why we love living in the East End Historical District.

By the time you receive this month's newsletter, the 2011 Victorian Christmas Homes Tour will be right around the corner. Tickets are available at The Grand 1894 Opera House. Only a limited number are sold, so be sure to get yours before they're all gone. The 22nd Annual Homes Tour starts at 6:00pm on Friday, December 2nd and features four wonderfully restored homes along with our very own East End Cottage at 15th and Postoffice. Contact long-time Homes Tour chairman Mike Gilbert for additional details.

I want to sincerely congratulate the Cookbook Committee on the successful completion of the new East End Edibles cookbook, which features more than 300 recipes from residents and visitors to the East End. The new printing is here and copies will premiere at the Victorian Christmas Homes Tour, so plan to stop by, visit the houses and purchase a cookbook or two – they make fine Christmas presents. Contact Jane Chapin for more information or to purchase a cookbook after December 2nd.

Our final Block Party for 2011 was held at The Cottage on Friday, November 11th. The weather was perfect, we had a great turnout for “Light Up the Night”, and many folks stayed to watch our featured movie. Block parties will restart in April 2012. Got ideas for future parties? Look for a Block Party Committee meeting to be held early next year.

Speaking of 2012, our fun Casino Night party and fundraiser is scheduled for February 4th, the Saturday evening before Superbowl Sunday. Plans are underway to make this event the best yet, with prizes, gambling, bingo, craps and many more games (with play money, of course). More information will be available in the January newsletter as well as in upcoming email blasts.





Design
Standards
Basics VI
by
Steve Austin

Already-existing features that do not fit the Standards are grandfathered in, meaning you can keep them. However, they may not be replaced in kind. For example, if the appearance of your Victorian is already defaced with historically inappropriate Aramco blinds, you may keep them. However, if they are removed and at a later time you want to reinstall them or install new ones, you would not be permitted to do so. Similarly, if your house has a 1970s metal front door you will not be forced to replace it. However, if you decide to change doors, you would not be allowed to install another metal front door.

After Ike, several East End property owners installed metal front doors, either out of ignorance or in hopes that all the chaos surrounding the recovery would hide their action until the modern and inappropriate-looking doors had been on the house long enough so that they will be viewed as grandfathered existing features. In this case, when the attempt to skirt around the law is discovered, the property owner is typically forced to undo the damage. Whenever this happens, the property owner inevitably had no permit. (Permits are not issued in the East End for metal doors facing the street.) Any time a property owners makes changes that require a permit and doesn't get the permit, the Planning Department can legally stop what is happening (by "red tagging" the property). In those cases, the property owner has to pay three times—once for the ugly metal door, once to have that door removed, and finally to have a more appropriate door installed. The best way to avoid these unhappy situations is to talk with the people in the Planning Department first. They'll tell you if you need a permit. They may also be helpful in advising you about the likelihood that the alterations you're contemplating are likely to ultimately be viewed as being in line with the Standards. When the situation is cut and dried, the issue never gets to the Landmark Commission. Example: you have a rotten wooden-sashed window and you want to replace it with an exact duplicate. In other cases, it may have to go before Landmark, but even here you may find it helpful to bend Planning's ear as your first move.

**22nd Annual
"Victorian Christmas"
Homes Tour
by Mike Gilbert**

Galveston's East End Historical District Association will for the 22nd year host "A Victorian Christmas" Homes Tour on Friday, December 2, 2011. The architecture of the East End reflects some of the city's most notable examples of residential Victorian architecture, a variety of styles and periods with the earliest being the Greek Revival style built during the 1850's. This year's tour will feature four East End homes decorated for the Christmas season. The event will be held from 6:00 – 9:30 PM.

Also featured on the tour will be First Presbyterian Church, located at 19th and Church. The church has completed its restoration from Hurricane Ike damage and has been returned to its original 1873 splendor. The church construction was supervised by Galveston's well known architect, Nicholas J. Clayton, at a cost of \$ 90,000 and was dedicated in 1899. Tours of the church and seasonal music will be provided during the evening.

Decorated homes on this year's tour include the 1897 William F. Beers Home located at 1516 Ball. Architect Charles Bulger was commissioned to design this Queen Anne house that maritime insurance man, William Beers built for his family.

Located at 1616 Winnie is the 1886 Matilda V. Wehmeyer Home. Architect Alfred Muller, designed the porch and balcony of this Classical Revival house for teacher Matilda Wehmeyer. This home has recently been featured in the national restoration magazine "Old House Journal".

Rebuilding after the devastating 1885 fire, Rosa

Kay Schwartz
713 542-7509
kayschwartz@yahoo.com

BOULEVARD
REALTY

Peete had architects redesign her house, located at 1618 Church, of brick and slate with a Mansard or "French" roof. The home was completed in 1887.

County treasurer, Allen E. Cameron built his home at 1126 Church. This 1891 house was built with an exterior stairway. Cameron also built the adjacent house for his mother, Mary Cameron.

Refreshments will be served at the 1898 East End Cottage located at 1501 Postoffice. The Gustafson cottage was moved to this location and serves as a community center for the association.

The second edition of EEHDA's "East End Edibles" cookbook will be previewed and available for purchase throughout the evening at the Cottage. Favorite recipes from the association's membership are featured in the latest edition.

A limited number of tickets priced at \$15.00 are available in advance. Tickets will not be sold at the homes. Tickets are only available for purchase through the Grand 1894 Opera House by calling (409) 765-1894 or (800) 821-1894 or through their web site: www.thegrand.com. We look forward to sharing our neighborhood homes with you.



**The best opportunity
to visit Galveston's historic church
restored to its 1889 splendor
is any Sunday at 11 am**



Come see the amazing restoration of First Presbyterian Church, painstakingly renewed by our finest artisans and committed Presbyterians. See three Tiffany stained glass windows that rival those in any museum. Marvel in the restoration of the rich woodwork, intricate stenciling, extensive gilding, and carved ceilings. And worship with folks who live their commitments. Dr. David H. Green, our pastor and the entire congregation will welcome you - any Sunday. Founded in 1840, we are Galveston's first church.

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The 1897 William F. Beers Home at 1516 Ball is featured on this year's "Victorian Christmas" Homes Tour



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Pruning Your NeighborWoods Tree – Part II

by David Schuler

So far, so good – While we've not 'out the woods yet', so to speak, Galveston has had a couple of good downpours this fall, and it looks like we're due another rain event in a few days. We'll take all we can at this point, and hope the winter continues to be wet. Long range forecasts still call for less rain than normal, so keep your fingers crossed.

This month we want to look at pruning the smaller trees that were planted as part of the NeighborWoods program. These smaller trees are not expected to grow over thirty feet tall, so the guidelines we discussed last month can be modified a bit.

It will help to review a few of the basic guidelines we touched on last month:

Prune in late fall or winter, before new shoots bud out in the spring.

Always wear protective eyewear and gloves
Don't use power tools!



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Limit yourself to five cuts – choose wisely!

Try not to remove more than 25% of the total foliage

Maintain one-half to two-thirds of the overall height in branches and leaves.

Also, as we mentioned last month, there are a number of different goals for pruning: 'pruning for aesthetics' where overall shape is considered, "pruning for safety", where branches that extend into the walkway or street are removed, 'pruning for lift', where the objective is to remove lower branches and promote growth higher up, and 'pruning for structure', where the goal is to establish a tree's primary trunk and branch structure

For oaks and other tall trees, pruning for structure is the primary goal in early years. For smaller trees, structure is important, but aesthetics and safety can be of equal concern given the proximity of branches to walkways, driveways and traffic line-of-sight.

When pruning for aesthetics, consider the following guidelines: remove dead or broken limbs; remove any crossing limbs; remove limbs that turn inwards instead of outwards away from the trunk; and remove limbs that extend beyond the natural outline of the tree's crown.

If your tree does have more than one 'central



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Jennifer Travis, CFM 409 766 2722 Jenny
Registered Client Associate FAX 409 877 4307
marcia_brassieur@ml.com
jennifer_travis@ml.com

leader', or trunk, spend some time considering which one should end up as the primary trunk and prune accordingly – remove the competing leaders, or remove branches connected to the competing leader. Removing branches will slow the growth of the competing leader and allow the primary leader to dominate. Remember, you only have five cuts, so plan ahead. It's OK to take longer to plan where to cut than to perform the task.

While you work, don't discard the cut-off branches until you are completely done – the size of the pile helps you keep track of how much has been trimmed off – remember Rule #5 above!

Finally, make sure that string trimmers are kept well away from the trunk. Even light impact, repeated hundreds of times in a growing season, can do extensive, permanent damage to the tree.

Look for a "Prune Your NeighborWoods Tree" class to be held at The Cottage in early 2012. For more information from the Texas Forest service, go to <http://texasreeplanting.tamu.edu/PruneY-oungTree.html>.





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409.763.5251 (fax)

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Important Contact Information

- Galveston Police – Non Emergency 409-765-3702
- Galveston Police – Sgt. 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
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 #)
- EEHDA Officers:
president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
secretary@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
treasurer@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
visit our website at www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org



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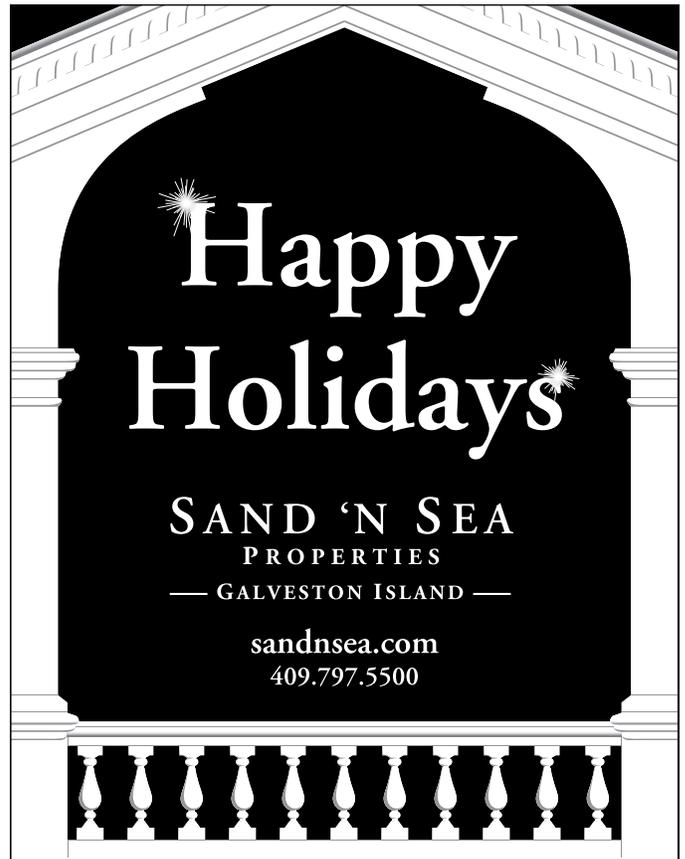
Block Party Season Wrap-Up

by Lynette Haaga

Thanks to everyone for a great 2011 Block Party season! Our last one of the year was a “bonus” November party after Daylight Savings Time ended, so we simply lit up the night and partied on together. It was a clear, cool evening with lots of neighbors coming together to enjoy one final outdoor get-together till next April. Later on it became a little brisk for the outdoor movie we had in mind, so somewhat ironically (as several pointed out) we moved into The Cottage to watch the comedy “The Great Outdoors”. Very special thanks to each and every person who helped with planning, set-up, teardown, and special activities this year! We also say thank you to the many very generous donors who helped us keep well within budget with much-appreciated contributions of supplies, drinks, door prizes, entertainment, decorations, and yes, to the drink kitty.

Each party this year reflected a different theme that was suggested by one of our members. We hope to continue that next year, refreshing the parties with some new themes along with annual favorites. Ideas are already popping up, such as a Mexican Fiesta/Cinco de Mayo theme in May, some unique musical entertainment, and (my favorite) “Ears and Beers” with a summertime corn-on-the-cob boil for everyone. Watch for Block Party planning meetings early next year.

While we wait for April 2012 and the beginning of our new season, plan on checking out Coffee at The Cottage, usually the third Saturday morning of the month, for your wintertime dose of potluck socializing. Plenty more good times are ahead next spring as we continue to build on one of our finest and most famous traditions – the East End Block Party!



East Enders take advantage of the nice weather at National Night Out, the EEHDA Block Party for October 2011



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New EEHDA 2012 Officers and Board Proposed

by Lynette Haaga

The Nominating Committee (David Collins, Emmy Morrison, Floyd Pollock, David Schuler, and Chair Lynette Haaga) has prepared a slate of EEHDA Board members and Officers for 2012. This list will be presented for formal approval by our Board at our regular Neighborhood Meeting at The Cottage on Thursday, December 1st, 2011. Voting will take place at our January 5th, 2012 meeting with new Officers and Board members assuming their duties immediately. All EEHDA members in good standing who reside within the boundaries of the East End Historical District are eligible to vote in the election.

Our By-Laws state that additional nominations may be made from the floor at the January meeting. Any additional nominations must be accompanied by a petition of six (6) member signatures submitted at least fifteen (15) days before the election, to be given to the Nominating Committee Chair by 5:00pm, Wednesday, December 22nd, 2011.

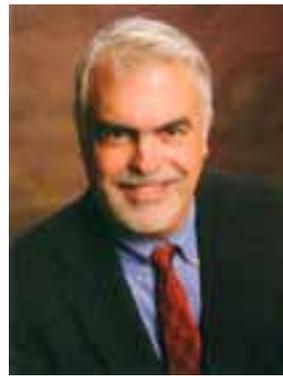
Proposed EEHDA Officers and Board for 2012:

President – David Schuler
Vice President – Jonathan Tromm
Secretary – Deanna Johnson
Treasurer – Emmy Morrison
Past President – Lynette Haaga

New 2-Year Board Members: Mike Box, David Fortenberry, Leonard Lamagna, Sharon Mims (pending), Larry Stanley

Returning 1-Year Board Members: Jerry Hite, Margaret Hand, John Allums, Sandra Pollock, Jim Cantrell

Serving as an EEHDA Officer or Board member takes an increasingly thoughtful commitment of time and talent in these changing times we find ourselves in post-Ike. Speaking plainly, you need to really be prepared to roll up your sleeves and jump right in! We thank these individuals for stepping forward to meet the expanding responsibilities and challenges that lie ahead for our neighborhood here on the island, and we can also assure them that they'll likely also have a very good time working together along the way.



Advertise in the EEHDA Newsletter

Advertising with the East End Historical District promotes your business and supports a worthy organization. Feel free to contact newsletter editor Margaret Hand for more information at newsletter@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.

EEHDA Membership

Special thanks to our newest Sustaining members:

Mike and Debbie Box

Ongoing thanks to our Sustaining members:

Mosquito Café
Sand 'n Sea Properties
Carol Bartz, via an ExxonMobil Matching Gift
Harry Behal
Pamela & Billy Burge
Gerald Campbell
John C. Crossman, Jr.
Elisabeth Darst
Paul & Shannon Evans
Mike & Pam Gilbert
Erhard Goerlitz
Donna & Ken Goode
Carlos L. Guerguin
Margaret Hand and Dave Collins
Denny & Charlotte Kelley
Fran, Martin & David Kelly
Karl Lewis & Sandy Hardin
Herbert & Rosalind Mitchell
Ellen Morrison & Christian Robbian
Jody Phelps & James Heyland
Dixie Posert
Paula & Louis Reeg
Sally Robinson
Sharon & Emmett Strain
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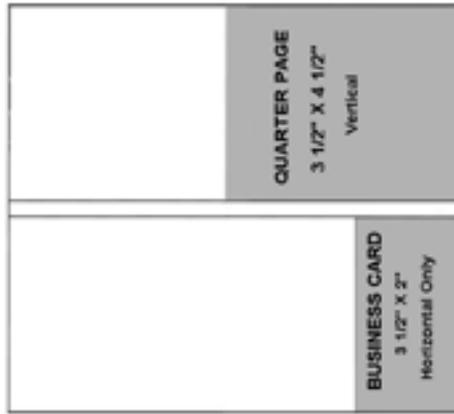
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- Political ads are limited to 1/4 page.

Ads must be camera ready and proportional to dimensions listed above.



The EEHDA Newsletter reports news and events related to The East End Historical District Association, and is distributed monthly to approximately 300 members, libraries and civic organizations in Galveston.

Make check payable to:

East End Historical District Association
PO Box 2424, Galveston, TX 77553

e-Mail: Margaret Hand, newsletter@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org, 409-762-0567

Consider becoming an EEHDA Sustaining Member for \$100 per year.
 Contact our Membership Chair at membership@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.

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

(Office use only: Amount paid: _____)

Join the East End Historical District Association

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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- ___ Sustaining \$100
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