

East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 37 No. 12

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendgalveston.org

December 2010

On the Calendar

EEHDA NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING
December 2nd (Thursday)
5:30 - at the Cottage

CHRISTMAS HOMES TOUR
December 3rd (Friday)
6:00 - 9:30 p.m.

COFFEE AT THE COTTAGE
December 18th (Saturday)
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
at the Cottage
Stop in for a cup on your way to
Christmas shopping!

Merry Christmas
December 25th

LOOKING AHEAD
CASINO NIGHT
January 29, 2011 (Saturday)
Watch for details

I can eat a pretty amazing number of Christmas cookies when I put my mind to it, and it looks like it's about time for me to get snacking for

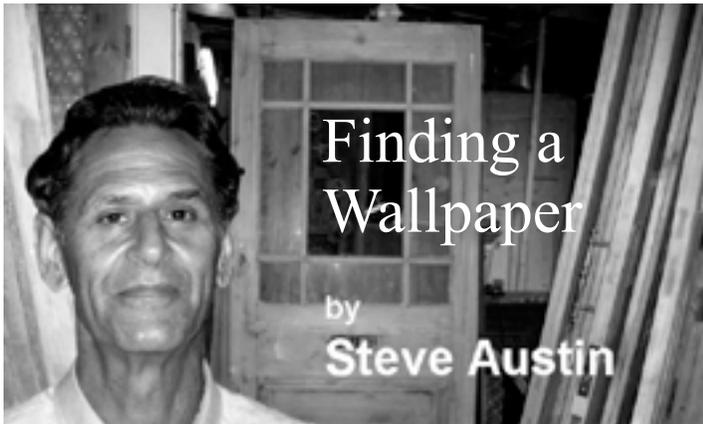
another season! My favorites are Swedish spritz and my godmother Margaret Magnuson's special sugar cookies. I've been baking Mrs. Magnuson's cookies myself since I was eight years old, and I remember how excited I was and how grown up I felt that she would trust me with her recipe. I still have that original recipe card in her careful writing. I'm so glad my Mom set me loose in her kitchen to learn to bake like that too.

So when I'm in my own kitchen baking now, and in my friends' kitchens sampling their Christmas goodies, I love to think about all the many Christmases that have come and gone in these old houses we love! How many turkeys roasted, how many gifts wrapped, how many mistletoe kisses, and how very many cookies baked?

When we first moved into our house, we found the strangest thing in our attic! It seems that sometime in decades past, a previous family must have opened their gifts upstairs for some reason then shoved all the torn gift wrap through one of the attic doors and just left it. The empty boxes and crumpled ribbons gave us a quick glimpse into one family's happy Christmas morning. From the packaging, Santa had brought some lucky little girl a nice doll, for one thing! Another time, way back in the attic, we found a tarnished and long-forgotten silver tree ornament.

Take a break with me from all the busyness and project to-do lists, put on your Christmas finery, and spend a little time to try to imagine all the many holiday celebrations in your house since it was built. Now it's your turn to add to the legacy of festivities. A Merry and Bright Christmas to everyone, and please do have some cookies! A lot of cookies.....





At a recent GHF class on wallpapers, the featured speaker failed to show up. This may have been a blessing for those of us who attended because Tom Schwenk (real estate agent, former interior designer, and recent president of GHF) presented a last-minute stellar PowerPoint presentation on historic wallpapers. I doubt the featured speaker would have done as well.

One of the points Tom drove home was the importance of finding an experienced paperhanger. For ordinary wallpapers, any paperhanger will probably do. Indeed, I've seen competent work done by do-it-yourselfers.

For anyone wanting their walls covered with authentic reproductions of Victorian papers, however, the situation gets complicated, as Tom correctly pointed out. For example, some high-end papers are not colorfast. When such papers are wiped with a sponge (required to remove excess paste), the pattern disappears and the paper turns white. I've seen this happen.

All high-end wallpapers come untrimmed, requiring careful cutting of the edges with a razor. I'm not sure all paper hangers are used to doing this because so many modern papers now come pre-trimmed.

Decisions about whether to butt paper edges together or overlap seams can only be discussed with someone familiar with historic applications. Most paper hangers are not.

Victorian ceiling papers are sometimes very elaborate and require a facility for math and an unusual level of experience. When we hunted for a paperhanger who could apply complicated Victorian ceilings, we couldn't find anyone on the island. In the end, we only found two people in Houston capable of doing this work. Both were expensive. Others are probably available, but I suspect they are few in number.

In the end, we went with a bid from Jeanette

Gilbraith (713-392-7238; jahgilbreath@comcast.net). She did a great job and allowed us to control costs by turning me into an assistant. (Rare is the paperer capable of installing complex ceilings as a one-person operation.) Jeanette further reduced our costs by allowing me to cut out the complex shapes in the ceiling corner block papers, saving several hours of labor billed at \$75/hour.

In the end, Tom Schwenk's message is one I heartily endorse: when considering fancy reproduction Victorian wallpapers, don't cut corners when finding the paperhanger. Saving money up front is likely to result in separating seams, poor pattern matches, uneven applications of ceiling papers, and an overall unhappy outcome.

East End Construction
Nelson Smelker
409-457-6350 — 409-497-4709
nsmelker@earthlink.net

Inside the Cottage

Dave Schuler

The year is coming to an end and it's time to look back and reflect on all the projects accomplished at the East End Cottage in 2010. So many people participated that it's impossible to name them all, so if you helped, please know that your efforts are highly appreciated and reflect well on the organization and its members.

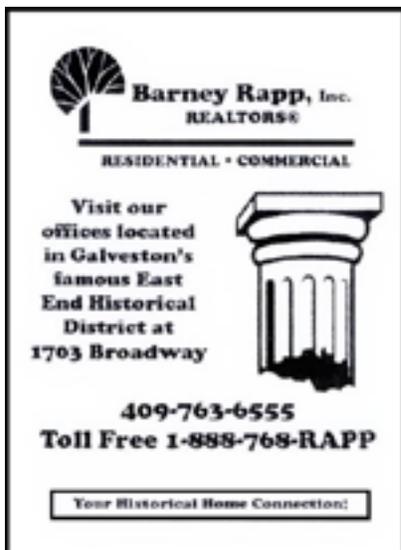
The most significant upgrade was the new air conditioning and heating system. In June, the 20+ year old A/C compressor finally gave up. It had been flooded in Hurricane Ike but had been brought back to life thanks to new relays, starting capacitor and wiring installed in early 2009. A bid process was initiated, contractor identified and new AC unit installed. And then an even newer unit was installed. And then reinstalled a third time (actually, the 3rd time was a recall). However, thrice proved to be the charm and we've now got both cool and heat that should last for another twenty years – or so we hope. The outside unit is now on a raised platform should floodwaters return (dare I say?).

Inside, most of the work on the new kitchen

cabinets, countertops, flooring and appliances was thankfully completed in 2009. However, a second major project was the installation of functional picture rail and chair rail in the main meeting room. The picture rail has now allowed us to hang historic paintings and photographs in a style more in keeping with the cottage history.

Many thanks to Bob Chapin and Bill Haaga (ok, I had to name someone!) for their work in fabricating and installing new shelves in the storage room. Always a frightful mess, the storage room's new – and amazingly strong - shelving allow the numerous cottage accoutrements – chairs, folding tables, tents, ice chests, Victor Gustafson Day materials and other critical items – to be organized and accessible by all.

Finally, during the November 13th Cottage Work Day, the new mail drop was installed properly, new “stop” and weather-stripping were installed on both the front and back doors and the floor and countertop tiles were resealed in preparation for the long-anticipated *New Kitchen Spaghetti Dinner* celebration coming in 2011.



New Years Resolutions 2011

Recycling 101

by Pam Gilbert

This month will be a time for reflection. The challenge? Make 10 New Years Resolutions related to your commitment to recycling. For those new to recycling baby steps are great, for others you may want to consider adding some more challenges. For the January newsletter we will share our upgraded recycling plans for next year.

Happy Holidays.

New EEHDA Board Election Set For December Meeting

The Nominating Committee (Jane Rushing, Ron Gilroy, David Schuler, Jim Cantrell, and Chair Lynette Haaga) has prepared a slate of EEHDA Officers and Board Members for 2011. This list will be presented for formal approval by the Board at our regular Neighborhood Meeting at The Cottage on Thursday, December 2nd, 2010.

Voting will take place at our January 6th, 2011 meeting with the new Board and Officers assuming their duties immediately. Our Bylaws 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, 2010.

Proposed EEHDA Officers and Board for 2011:

President – David Schuler

Vice President – Jonathan Tromm

Secretary – Mary Case

Treasurer – Emmy Morrison

Past President – Lynette Haaga

New Two Year Board Members: Jerry Hite, Margaret Hand, Pris Files, John Allums, Sandra Pollock.

Returning One Year Board Members - Charlie Smith, Karl Lewis, Nelson Smelker.

Note: Jonathan Tromm and David Schuler both had one year remaining in their regular Board term, but will now be officers. Two new one-year interim Board members are needed to take their places to finish out their terms.

New One-Year Board Members – Fran Kelly, Leonard Sweet.



More Fun with Robert's Rules

By Lynette Haaga

There will be no naming names here, but some of us are very fond of "calling the question" during our meetings. This is one of several finer points about motions that are helpful to review.

A main motion is the basic way to bring an item of business to the floor of the meeting for discussion. Before you present a motion, make sure it includes all necessary information such as who, what, where, and when. Motions should be stated in a positive way, such as "I move that EEHDA put on a fund-raiser garage sale on April 16th, 2011." (You wouldn't move to not have a garage sale, in other words.) It's a good idea to write down more a complex motion and hand it to the President to be sure it's recorded in the minutes exactly as you intended. If you second a motion, it means only that you agree that it should be discussed, not that you agree with the motion itself.

The motion "previous question" is a subsidiary motion used to stop debate and take an immediate vote, but is often misused and misunderstood. You can't just shout out "I move the previous question" and expect all discussion to cease. It isn't proper or fair to make this motion before everyone has had their right to discuss, or to shut down people you happen to disagree with. A point of order can be called if calling the question violates parliamentary rules or any rule that protects an individual's rights.

If debate is getting tedious and just rehashing the same old thing, then calling the question is in order. Since this is a motion that takes away members' rights, it needs a 2/3 vote to pass instead of just a majority. Moving the previous question requires a second, but there is no debate allowed on it. If moving the question does not pass, which can happen, then discussion on the main motion can continue.

There is an incredible amount of detailed information on various types of motions and their

uses, not all of which is really useful for our meetings. Watch for upcoming articles on more familiar actions we tend to use such as amending, tabling, rescinding, and referring items to committees.



EEHDA Membership

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

Deanna and Terry Johnson
Sharon and Emmett Strain
Carol Luck

Special thanks to our Business members:
Mosquito Cafe

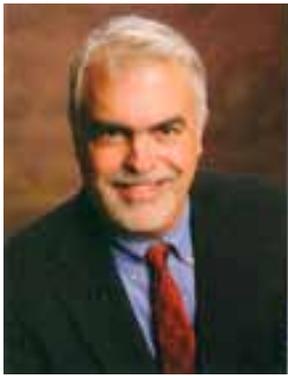
Special thanks to our Sponsor members:

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

Kwik Kar.
On Broadway

Kwik Kar. Lube & Tune	Larry Stanley Owner	Kwik Kar. Lube & Tune
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3115 Broadway • Galveston, TX 77550
409-763-1533 Fax 409-763-2277



The House Company
DAVID BOWERS
 Realtor

2615 Broadway
 Galveston, Texas 77550
 E-Mail: david@davidbowers.com
 Cell Phone: 409-763-2800

RE/MAX
 Green

Last Block Party Shines Brightly

by Lynette Haaga

Our last Block Party of the year on Friday, November 12th was a great ending to the season. A large group of East End neighbors enjoyed a big picnic spread made all the more festive by many kinds of different lighting. Daylight savings time may be over, but that didn't stop us from enjoying our extra bonus Block Party! Special thanks to Robert Mihovil for providing our red floodlights. They were accented by strings of cantina lights, Christmas lights, table lanterns, and unique individual illumination. You could see Anita Schuler coming a long way off all lit up in blue, while David Schuler had a bright idea going. Alison Brown's personal lantern was downright charming and hooked very handily right on to her drink cup. Thanks to everyone who came for really getting into the spirit of the evening!

Using The Cottage back yard several times has worked out very well this year for Block Parties, as well as saving us many hundreds of dollars on city permits and barricades. There have been numerous suggestions that we hold all of next year's parties on our own grounds, which makes sense for a variety of reasons. As your Block Party Chair, I recommend we seriously consider this for 2011.

A question arises from time to time why we don't have Block Parties year round. It's generally because

December is too busy, and January through March have iffy weather as well as Casino Night and Mardi Gras to entertain us. Coffee at The Cottage was conceived as an alternate get-together for the off season, and has gone over quite well so please join us for our once a month Saturday morning coffee time.

Many thanks to everyone who has helped to make this an extremely successful Block Party season by donations, set up and cleanup help, making us your favorite recipe, and yes, even by stopping at the fried chicken place! Next Block Party is April 8th, 2011 (second Friday in April) so mark your calendars.



628 14th Street
 Galveston, Texas 77550
 409.763.1010 (café)
 409.763.5251 (fax)
 www.mosquitocafe.com

CASINO NIGHT 2011

Fran Kelly

Hello everyone, hope you all have a very Christmas!!

Casino Night will be January the 29th, 2011. Be sure to save the date. We will be looking for volunteers to help set up and take down. We will also be needing dealers, food and drink servers and a few waiters and waitresses.

There will be Bingo, Roulette, Craps, Black Jack, Texas Hold'em and Poker, with our Live Auction at the end of gaming. A Silent Auction will go on throughout the evening and there will be plenty of door prizes.

If anyone is ready to put their name on the volunteer list you may call me at 409-370-2306. More to come in the January newsletter.

Thank you!!!!

Selected by GHF for Green Revival House



Historic home? High energy bills?

Save money heating & cooling by sealing your windows from *inside*. Magnetite creates a sealed airspace that cuts down drafts by 98% and silences street noise by 50 – 90%.

Save more with a Federal Tax Credit if you act before December 31st. Give Dennis Farrell a call today for your free evaluation. Call Toll Free 1-800-494-9237



Baker Brassieur & Associates Global Wealth Management

Marcia Brassieur, CFM, CRPC 306 22nd St.
 Financial Advisor Galveston, Texas 77550
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 877 766 2718 Toll Free

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 Registered Client Associate FAX 409 877 4307
 marcia_brassieur@ml.com
 jennifer_travis@ml.com

EEHDA 21st Annual “Victorian Christmas” Homes Tour

Mike Gilbert

Galveston’s East End Historical District Association will for the 21st year host “A Victorian Christmas” Homes Tour on Friday, December 3, 2010.

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 examples of 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 p.m.

Also featured on the tour will be First Presbyterian Church, located at 19th and Church. The church is a restoration in progress due to Hurricane Ike.

Seasonal music will be preformed at the church, and refreshments will be served at the 1896 East End Cottage, located at 1501 Postoffice.

Decorated homes on this year’s tour 1301 Market. This lot was originally owned by Galveston’s great benefactor Henry Rosenberg, and sold to Louis H. Runge for the Mediterranean Revival home that remained in the Runge family for 70 years.

Located at 1122 Sealy is the Thomas Lucas home built between 1871-1886. Lucas was the brick contractor for the Galveston Daily News building and built this high raised cottage. It served as rental property for many years.

The 1907 Morris and Rachel Wansker home is located at 1817 Sealy. Architect Donald McKenzie designed this home for the Wanskers and their family of 11 children.

Built by tailor John F. Michels as rental property, this newly raised home is located at 1616 Ball (not shown) and was the home of music teacher, Miss Mary M. Graves for almost 30 years.

A limited number of tickets priced at \$ 15.00 must be purchased 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. We look forward to sharing our neighborhood homes with you.



1301 Market



1122 Sealy



1817 Sealy

NeighborWoods II Update

EEHDA NeighborWoods Program

Dave Schuler

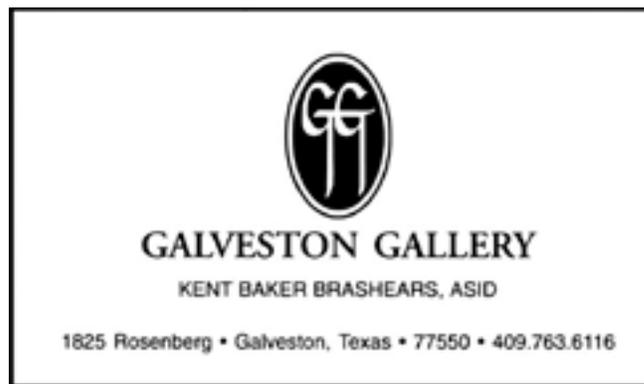
Trees! More Trees! Once again, the East End Historical District Association, in close cooperation with the Texas Forest Service, City Tree Committee and Galveston Island Tree Conservancy (GITC) will be participating in – no, wait, that’s running – a program to plant replacement shade trees in the East End. Last year we were able to plant over 190 fifteen-gallon street trees in a single day. This year, EEHDA is shooting for the same number – but we’ll be joined by volunteer groups in the San Jacinto, Lasker Park, Silk Stocking District and Old Seawall neighborhoods in an attempt to plant more than 700 new trees on March 26th, 2011.

Thanks to a generous \$50,000 grant from the Texas Forest Service, the NeighborWoods program that was proven successful by the EEHDA in 2009/2010 is being run simultaneously across five separate neighborhoods. While each group is doing their own neighborhoods maps, street signs and door hangers, overall coordination is now the responsibility of Priscilla Files, the new GITC Tree Planting Coordinator. Priscilla is a new East End resident who is already involved in numerous East End activities. Welcome Pris!

This year, the EEHDA NeighborWoods II program will focus on tree replacement on the North / South numbered streets. This is expected to prove more challenging given the number of impediments – tree stumps, alley openings, power lines and such. However, with our tree loss documented to be in excess of 80% there should be a sufficient number of available spaces. Once we’ve completed the numbered streets, we’ll go back to the avenues and look for additional in-fill locations. We’ve been very lucky with the trees planted last year, as there are only one or two known dead.

With regards to tree species, we will work from the same list of trees as we did last year, and will offer a selection of both large and small / medium trees based on height and tree lawn restrictions. Everyone involved – especially the City of Galveston - has been very supportive and we hope this year’s program will turn out to be as successful as last.

This year’s planting day (March 26th) is three weeks earlier than last year, so expect to see door hangers and “Free Street Tree Here!” signs in early to mid December.



New Lampposts for Alderdice Park

EEHDA volunteers have been hard at work preparing Alderdice Park for the installation of the new lights going in there. Next month we’ll have a report on the work and some pictures of the installation. In the meantime, walk by the park. It really shines.



Above: Digging trenches for electrical lines.
Below: Preparing to set the concrete posts.



Important Contact Information

Galveston Police – Non Emergency 409-797-3702

SAFEe – safee@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org
(also leave comments in Cottage black mailbox)

Galveston Police – Officer Tommy Maffei

281-734-0931 (day)

281-755-1969 (night)

TMaffei@cityofgalveston.org

Sgt. Chapman

409-765-3616 (ofc)

409-750-0243 (cell)

ACChapman@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

409-797-3702 (Must get exact location plus car make, color, & license #)

Application for Membership - East End Historical District Association

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Names of persons covered by this membership:

Type of membership:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Business \$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Family \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member \$300
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$75
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Fam. \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> SAFEe (see enrollment)

Mail to: East End Historical District Association
P.O. Box 2424
Galveston, TX 77553

Memberships are for one year. Your address label will display the year of your last payment. You need not reside in the East End Historical District to become a member but only residents of the district are entitled to hold office or vote on questions. Your membership supports a variety of services and programs devoted to historic preservation. Our Board of Directors holds regular meetings at our meeting house, 1501 Postoffice Street at 5:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. All members are urged to attend these business meetings which often feature speakers and programs on current issues in the district.

East End Historical District Association, Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. This exemption was granted February, 1978 and remains in full force and effect. Contributions to E.E.H.D.A. are deductible in the manner and to the extent provided by section 170 of the code.

SAFEe ENROLLMENT

The SAFEe program is a security program sponsored by EEHDA. SAFEe provides security patrols in the East End by uniformed police officers at random hours throughout the week. Security of neighborhood issues can be noted and left for the officers in the black mail box located on the front porch of the EEHDA Cottage, 1501 Postoffice. "Vacation Watch" is offered under this program. Membership in EEHDA is required for SAFEe enrollment.

3 months - \$60.00 6 months - \$120.00 12 months - \$240.00

Mail check to:

EEHDA; Attn: SAFEe; PO Box 2424; Galveston, Texas 77553