

East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 38 No. 9

Margaret Hand, Editor

www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org September 2011

On the Calendar

EEHDA Neighborhood Meeting September 1st (Thursday)

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

Block Party

September 8th (Thursday)

6:30 p.m. (note later start time)
at The Cottage 1501 Postoffice

GAIN MEETING

September 15th (Thursday)

All East Enders invited
5:30 p.m.

Moody Mansion lower level
27th & Broadway

Movie Night at The Cottage September 20th (Tuesday)

7:00 p.m.
Movie TBA

COFFEE AT THE COTTAGE

will return in October

Looking Ahead

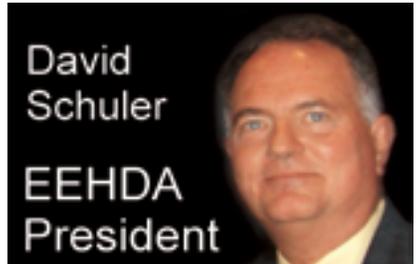
EEHDA 3rd Annual Fall Garden Tour

- Cancelled due to the drought -
Please see the article in this edition.

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

6:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Tickets available October 1st at
The Grand 1894 Opera House

Water has become quite the discussion topic. First designated watering days, then back to normal, then – surprise - ‘you can’t water at all’, and now back to designated days. So what’s going on? And what can we do?



Galveston’s water comes from the Brazos River, and rainfall in the river basin has been far lower than normal. Galveston uses 17 million gallons of water per day, with about 1/3 of that used for irrigation. So the fastest way to reduce consumption is to restrict watering. Pumped well water from the coastal aquifer is available, but could cause subsidence (i.e., we’d sink!). So until it rains please conserve water while doing your best to keep your new trees alive. For water saving ideas, contact Pris Files at treesforgalveston@yahoo.com or email me at president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.

On Saturday, September 10th, GHF will host the 3rd Annual Galveston Revival Race. The course starts downtown and winds through the East End Historical District on Sealy, Ball, Winnie and Church streets. Please note there will be street closures during the 7pm to 9pm race. EEHDA is sponsoring a Water Station you’ll hear more about in an upcoming blast. Please plan to cheer the runners and showcase our fine neighborhood!

The Cottage hosted an extremely colorful group of neighbors at our August tropical-themed block party. Check out the online copy of this newsletter for color photos! Many thanks to Chairman Lynette Haaga and all those who participated.

I’m sad to announce that the Board of Directors has voted to cancel the planned Third Annual Fall Garden Tour. Chair Fran Kelly had everything ready to go, but the combination of watering restrictions, extreme heat and lack of rainfall has left the gardens in less than showcase condition. Read more inside.

Visit our website at www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.



Design
Standards
Basics III
by
Steve Austin

The Standards do not allow for changes that make a house look older or newer than it is. For example, you would not be permitted to add Victorian gingerbread to a 1915 bungalow “to make it fit in better with the rest of the neighborhood.” This directive also prohibits installation of plastic siding, plastic-sashed windows or metal doors.

What happens when something looks close to the original but is made of a different material (e.g., “HardiePlank” siding)? The Standards call for use of materials “appropriate to the building and the neighborhood.” The Standards specifically exclude cinder blocks, fiberboard, corrugated metal, but also “synthetic siding.” In this case, our commissioners appear to focus on the *intent* of the Standards. HardiePlank is synthetic. Technically, therefore, it is disallowed except for new construction. However the purpose of saying “no” to synthetic siding to an existing building is to protect the neighborhood from an inappropriate appearance. As EEHDA member and alternate Landmark commissioner Nelson Smelker told me, “you can see the difference between HardiePlank and original wood siding but you need to get close to see it and it probably won’t bother you.” He’s right.

Our neighbors the Roziers were recently allowed to use HardiePlank on a rear-extension they’re creating. In the ensuing Landmark discussion, it became clear that at least some commissioners would have changed their vote to “no” if the siding had been slated for the front of the house. This raises an important point: commissioners follow the Standards more precisely when changes are visible from the street. The Standards themselves emphasize what’s visible from the street over what is not.

When something looks inappropriate as far as Landmark is concerned but looks fine in the eyes of people who are, shall we say, aesthetically challenged, trouble ensues. Sometimes, despite the arguments that occur in these situations, the Standards are surprisingly clear. For example, they say, “Synthetic fencing materials including but not limited to vinyl and/or PVC is [*sic*] not permitted within any historic district.”

Yet, Landmark ruffled feathers a few years back by simply enforcing that rule, as they must do by law. (If you can’t tell the difference between a phony plastic fence and a real wooden fence maybe it’s time to see an optometrist.)

Play it safe while keeping the East End looking good. If you’re wondering whether an external alternation will be granted a permit, call the Planning Department first and discuss the changes you’re contemplating.



EEHDA Membership

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
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
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
Carl Tapia & John Wilmore
Tom Thayer & Daniel Danford
James Tucker & Renee Magee
Larry & Diane Woodcox

2011 Garden Tour Cancellation

by Fran Kelly

Hello to everyone. In case you haven't already heard, we have cancelled this years East End Fall Garden Tour due to the extreme drought and heat we have been under for months. Our gardens have lost so many of the plants and would need tons of replanting before the tour. With no guarantee that we would be able to continue watering on our scheduled days, it doesn't make sense to carry on. Even though we are back to watering, my grass is turning a nice shade of brown and has become quite crunchy. The only thing that's seems to be thriving are those insufferable weeds.

I have spoken to all of the homeowners who were to be on the tour and they concur. They have all agreed to be on next year's tour, which is only fitting. I would like to thank all the homeowners for offering up their homes and I appreciate all they have done so far. I know the struggle to keep everything alive has not been easy.

Here's hoping for a very wet winter and spring with no freezes.

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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.

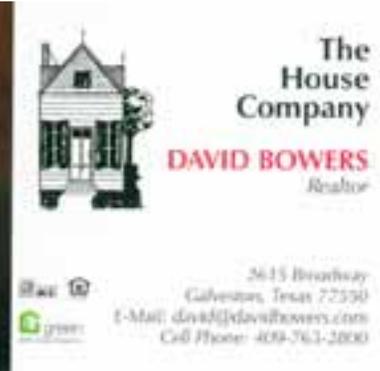
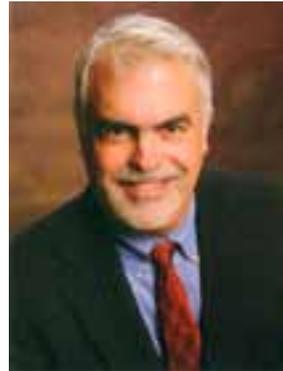
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CONTACT US

Phone - 409-763-5928

president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org

Visit us on the web at www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org



Important Contact Information

Galveston Police – Non Emergency 409-765-3702

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

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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FAX 409 877 4307
marcia_brassieur@ml.com
jennifer_travis@ml.com

EEHDA Membership and Advertising Changes

by Emmy Morrison

At the last EEHDA Board meeting on August 4th, the Membership Committee presented their recommendations to the EEHDA Board. All the recommendations were unanimously approved. Thanks to the following East End members who took the time to help out: Margaret Hand, David Collins, Chris Robbian, Anita Schuler, Dave Schuler, Kay Schwartz and Jonathon Tromm.

The following annual membership levels and prices will remain the same:

Senior Membership - \$10

Individual Membership - \$15

Senior Family Membership - \$15

Family Membership - \$20

Lifetime Membership price will be increased from \$300 to \$500, starting October 1st of this year. The October date gives members who might be considering an upgrade a chance to do so at the current price.

A new level of Sustaining Membership was formed at an annual cost of \$100. This level combines current Sponsor and Business levels and will also commence on October 1st. Don't forget that you can automate a small monthly bank draft of \$8.33 as an option for this membership level!

A second new membership level was created because we here in the East End dream big! Benefactor Membership is now available for \$1000. Don't forget we are a 501(c)(3) and you can deduct your donation!

The term "Sponsor" will be reserved for future project-oriented fundraising use in support of substantial, long-term neighborhood programs

that focus on historic preservation, education and neighborhood enhancements.

In addition, it was approved that the Membership Chair position becomes a Membership Committee, consisting of 2 permanent positions. The current position performs simple membership accounting tasks on a monthly basis such as collection of dues, printing of newsletter labels and sending out annual renewal reminders. This position will now be called the Membership Secretary, and will be combined with the office of Treasurer. To this end, the EEHDA Board approved the purchase of Quickbooks for the Treasurer position; many, if not most, of the current duties of the Membership Secretary would be automated using this software.

The biggest news is the creation of a brand-new Outreach/Development/Marketing/Publicity position – so new it doesn't even have an official name! It is hoped this position will greatly expand the scope and impact of the EEHDA. This new position would work closely with the Welcome Wagon and the Special Events coordinators. The EEHDA has quite a few dynamic personalities and we are hoping that we can compile a list of multiple candidates over the month of September to present to the EEHDA Board at the October meeting. If you think you might be interested, please contact any EEHDA Board member or officer to put your name in the hat!

As a final note to highlight our progress, look for a PayPal button on the website very soon!

Newsletter ad rates and policy changes as follows:

Business card (1/8 page) - \$20/month, \$215/year.

1/4 page - \$30 month, \$325/year.

1/2 page - by request only, on a space available basis as determined by the editors - \$50 per month. (This option is not advertised in the newsletter.)

Eliminate full-page ads.

Limit political ads to 1/4 page.



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About the East End Historical District Association

The East End Historical District Association is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to preserving the heritage and livability of Galveston's historic East End. EEHDA volunteers maintain Darragh and Alderdice parks, implement historical preservation programs and organize community-wide projects such as NeighborWoods tree planting. Members also maintain The Cottage at 15th and Postoffice, our historic community center that acts as the focal point for many regular EEHDA activities, including the Annual Victorian Christmas Homes Tour, Fall Garden Tour, and a variety of social events such as Coffee at The Cottage, game and movie nights, and summer time Block Parties. All activities are open to members and non-members alike. The East End Historical District is bounded roughly by Broadway, 10th Street, Market Street and 19th Streets in Galveston, Texas. To learn more about the EEHDA, please visit our website at www.eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.



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- Jason T.
Galveston, TX

Fall Block Parties Ahead

By Lynette Haaga

We're coming up fast on our last three East End Block Parties of the season! You won't want to miss out on the fellowship and the good food, especially as the weather will start to get cooler this fall. (And yes, it really will!) East Enders are also starting to bring out some of their special recipes that will appear in our new cookbook later this year, so this is a great time to come and be a taste-tester as well as share with us what you can do in the kitchen. You're invited to bring one of your cookbook recipes to the September party, and there will be materials on hand for you to label your recipe as an EEHDA cookbook special if you choose. If cooking's not your thing, you know we all love those buckets of fried chicken and can never get enough of that!

Sunglasses were in order at our August Block Party with a lot of neighbors wearing very colorful tropical shirts! As you can imagine, Ralph McMorris' Lt. Blender's icy-cold frozen drinks were in high demand, and we thank him for his generous ongoing donations. Once again we had a great group of energetic people to help set up and tear down, and special thanks go out to all of you as well! The Block Parties couldn't happen without many people working together to make it all a success.

Mark your calendar for our September Block Party on Thursday, September 8th, at The Cottage at 1501 Postoffice. Please note the later start time of 6:30 pm, and we'll see you there!



East Enders line up for the goodies at the August Block Party.

Save the Trees

by Jonathon Tromm

As we deal with the effects of drought and water restrictions, innovative thinking is suggested. One East Ender commented that he was getting approximately one gallon an hour of condensation water from each of his central air conditioning units. The city mentions utilizing just that as #7 of their Ten creative ways to reuse water. <http://www.cityofgalveston.org/news/default.cfm?ID=4976>. Also, the city recommends tips concerning watering trees. <http://www.cityofgalveston.org/news/default.cfm?ID=4994>.

Remember the great effort our community has made to plant trees to replace our salt water killed trees and don't let your trees die. Water your trees.



Top: Jane Chapin, Mike Gilbert & Donna Liebert
Bottom: Bob Chapin & Chuck Lawrence



Volunteers Needed for EEHDA Revival Race Water Station

We need volunteers to help staff the official EEHDA Water Station on Saturday, September 10th, as part of the 3rd Annual Galveston Revival Race. The 5K course winds through the East End on Sealy, Ball, Winnie and Church Streets and our water station will be located on Ball Street between 18th and 19th. The race starts at 7:00 pm and lasts until the final exhausted runner crosses the finish line, probably around 9pm, so we'll need volunteers to be in place starting at 7pm. If you can volunteer, please send an email to president@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org or call 409-599-7578. For more information on the race and to see a map of the race course, visit the GHF website at www.galvestonhistory.org.



Above: Charlie Smith, Jim Cantrell & Ed Conner at the August Block Party.



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Top: Lynette Haaga can cook.
Bottom: It's never too hot for potluck.



Top: Denny & Charlotte Kelley
Bottom: Jane Rushing & Billie Rinaldi



Advertise in the EEHDA Newsletter

Advertising with the East End Historical District promotes your business and supports a worthy organization. Rates and an ad order form appear on the last page of this newsletter. Feel free to contact newsletter editor Margaret Hand for more information at newsletter@eastendhistoricaldistrict.org.



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East End Historical District Association's
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Name: _____ Phone: _____
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Months to appear (12 issues per year) _____

RATES:

Business Card (1/8 page):

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 months @ \$ 20.00 / month or
 \$215 / full year

Quarter page:

3 1/2" W X 4 1/2" h
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 \$325 / full year

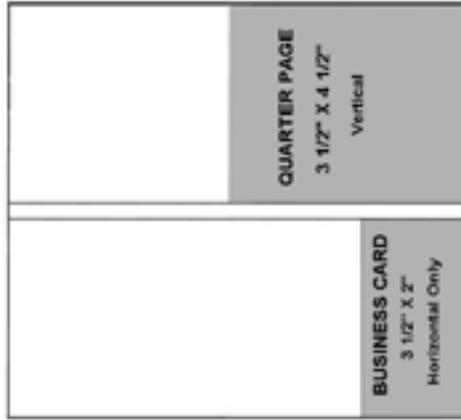
• 12 issues per year.

• Ads must be paid for in advance.

• Ad deadline is the 15th of the month.

• 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.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____
 Zip Code: _____ Phone: () _____
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 Member(s) Names: _____

- Select Membership Type (1 Year)
- ___ Individual \$15
 - ___ Family \$20
 - ___ Senior (65+) \$10
 - ___ Senior Family \$15
 - ___ Sponsor \$75
 - ___ Corporate \$125
 - ___ Life Member \$300



Please return this completed form with your payment to:
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