

Date: 4/20/99  
Subject: Glenlake Neighborhood Association General Meeting  
Location: Shepherd of the Hills Church  
Attendance: Sign-in sheet: 12 names

Keith Youngren (KY), GNA Vice President, called meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

KY introduced presenters:

Rafael Cruz (RC) and William Dobrowolski (WD), Travis County Representative, Issue: Traffic Concerns  
Ed Linde (EL), GLWSC, Issue: Y2K and Glenlake's Water Supply  
Lisa Lennon (LL), TX (Travis Co.) Agricultural Extension Service, Issue: Fire Ant Project

KY introduced:

webmaster for GNA's web page (Laura Hewett, LH) and URL ([www.austin360.com/community/groups/GNA](http://www.austin360.com/community/groups/GNA))  
editor of GNA Newsletter (Carlin Bird, CB); CB stated newsletter would publish 4 times a year; next issue end of May; CB encouraged input from members via GNA phone (505-4800)

KY reviewed upcoming dates:

7/4/99: parade; asked for host house volunteers  
8/3/99: National Night Out (Neighborhood Watch event); need host house  
GNA's Ski Shores Night Out; need to set date

KY presented RC of Travis Co.

RC summarized Glenlake's recent past history with traffic problem (speeders):

1. Travis Co. conducted study (8-10 mos. ago), and determined that Glenlake Drive was too wide, giving the driver a false sense of a "fast" road. Bike lanes were painted on the road, narrowing the road. Speeders continued to be a problem.
2. Dana Parker (DP) contacted Travis Co. about a month ago?, requesting additional Stop Signs. Co. not approve additional signs.

Co. can set up:

1. traffic counters (have ability to analyze traffic flow, such as type vehicle, date/time of day, speed)
2. radar
3. speed notice board (calculates speed of oncoming vehicle and displays on large sign).
4. Co. suggested members distribute notices to neighbors, asking them to slow

RC opened up discussion for questions from members:

?: Member asked about installing speed bumps.

RC: Co. does not install speed bumps (WD added the EMS and Fire Dept. discourage speed bumps).

?: Pros & Cons of traffic counter vs. speed notice board.

RC: Traffic counter gives more information, speed notice board gives immediate feedback; could install either one in the next few weeks.

?: Install rumble strips?

RC: Co. has had mixed results with rumble strips. Neighborhoods first want them, but, then, want them removed. Disadvantages: slick when wet; hikers slip on them; bikers are thrown off by them.

?: Does speed notice board have memory (ability to track data)?

RC: Traffic counter can keep detailed data.

Steve Dobie (SD), Travis Co. Sheriff's Office Deputy, added that some speed notice boards were ordered with extra memory capability, but SD was not sure which boards were equipped. He would check into it.

WD: Speed sign board is not as accurate as traffic counter, and traffic counter provides unbiased data.

RC: Co. could have traffic counter installed on Glenlake Drive as early as next week, perhaps.

SD: Co. could have speed notice board installed with 2 weeks, perhaps.

?: Could Glenlake get more speed limit signs?

RC: Will ask sign shop for some soon.

?: What is the determining criteria for a Stop Sign?

RC: GNA requests a count, and Co. studies data.

Minimum requirements:

1. 500 cars/8 hr. ave.
2. bad line of sight (yielding street cannot see along either side of main road)

?: Member spoke with Leander ISD school bus driver, and member asked if Leander ISD could investigate concern over school bus-loading situation along Glenlake Drive.

RC: Suggested Leander ISD talk to the Co. GNA member will pass information along to school bus driver.

?: Back to speeding along Glenlake: EL suggested GNA ask Travis Co. Sheriff's Office neighbor to park his unit in plain sight; perhaps neighbors would get the message to slow down.

?: Member asked if radar could be set up on streets other than Glenlake, like curve on Turkey Creek.

SD: Yes. Suggested members purchase bright-colored beach ball and throw it in the path of an oncoming, speeding vehicle.

?: Is speeding ticket data public information?

SD: Yes.

?: LH suggested data be added to GNA web page. Liability issue cited. LH suggested only general data be published, and LH asked SD how this information could be gained.

SD: DP could send e-mail to SD and request such.

?: Member asked if excess gravel on roadway could be removed.

RC: Yes, and locations cited (Glenlake Dr. at bottom of dip by guardrail; Turkey Crk. at Ranch Crk, low intersection; and Far View at Glenlake). EL suggested sweeper make round on all roads.

KY thanked RC and WD for their presentation.

KY presented LL of TX Agricultural Extension Service.

LL explained her position with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, assigned to Travis/Williamson Co. and provided:

1. URL for fire ant information ([fireant.tamu.edu](http://fireant.tamu.edu); no www. necessary)
2. her phone number (708-4797)
3. her e-mail address ([li-lennon@tamu.edu](mailto:li-lennon@tamu.edu))
4. TX Agricultural Extension Service pamphlets containing information on fire ants. Copies can be obtained by contacting GNA at 505-4800.
  - a. Managing Red Imported Fire Ants in Home Lawns and Ornamental Turf
  - b. The ABC's of Fire Ants and Their Management
  - c. Fire Ant Control Methods for Pets
  - d. A Review of "Organic" and Other Alternative Methods for Fire Ant Control
  - e. Survey-Based Management of Red Imported Fire Ants
  - f. Organizing an Area-Wide Fire Ant Suppression Program
  - g. Know Your Fire Ant Baits From The Contacts!
5. slide presentations available for public meetings

LL handed out a fire ant survey, asking for input from Glenlake members by the end of the meeting. Survey is part of a newly-funded Texas state project for fire ant research.

Highlights of LL's presentation:

1. Suggestion for community-wide fire ant strategy: conduct Fire Ant Day, using hand spreaders loaded with fire ant bait. 90% participation is best, but ANY participation helps.
2. Main problem with fire ants: multiply rapidly (600 eggs/day), especially after a rainfall in spring and fall (best time to treat)
3. Methods for exterminating fire ants:
  - a. bait, two kinds:
    1. fast-acting, like Amdro; kills workers and queen

2. slow acting, Insect Growth Regulators (IGRs), like Logic, Extinguish, Award, Distance; kills queen only; cannot product eggs
  - b. temporary, contact insecticide, like Orthene, Diazinon, Sure Stop; kills only those it touches
4. Best approach, 2-step:
  - a. broadcast bait (community-wide on same day, Fire Ant Day!)
  - b. use contact insecticide
5. Fire ants attracted to open, sunny areas and disturbed ground.

LL opened discussion for questions from members:

?: What is the best way to involve the whole community?

LL: Get information out (flyers offered by TX Agricultural Extension Service), take survey of who would participate (families with children probably most interested), pick a weekend day (end of April or any time in May, and again in fall, mid to late October) to have unified activity (whether just purchasing bait or GNA providing hand spreaders, or community hiring contractor). If community hires contractor, be sure to inquire as to what type bait, chemicals, etc. the contractor uses. Treat common areas plus homesites.

?: How do you protect yourself from being attacked by fire ants when working outside, and how do you treat fire ant bites?

LL: For protecting yourself, dust your boots and garden tools with talcum powder. Ants cannot get traction on the powder.

For treating fire ant bites, besides letting time take its course, several "home" remedies have been suggested:

1. meat tenderizer applied to bite
2. treat as you would a bee sting
3. apply mixture of peroxide and vinegar to bite

?: Is there research being done about using a parasite, not natural to this area, to combat fire ants?

LL: Yes. So far, it is only 1-2% effective in killing ants, but presence of parasite limits fire ant activity to night, and fire ant unable to gather food supply during the night. More research to be done.

KY thanked LL for her presentation.

KY presented EL, GLWSC.

EL received a 23-page request, asking if GLWSC is Y2K compliant. In an effort to answer this request, EL created and handed out a three-page summary of the Y2K problem, its effect on the Glenlake water system, what can fail, and GLWSC's conclusion as to the outcome, and a detailed diagram of Glenlake's water system, showing all components with any Y2K issues. EL also had an aerial photograph of Glenlake neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods, which showed extent of the Glenlake water system.

EL outlined parts of GLWSC which might have any Y2K issues:

1. billing computer (PC); worst-case scenario: bills would be late :-)
2. RVS?: Y2K compliant
3. tanks & vessels are all controlled by relays and wires; no Y2K issues

EL:

1. What could fail? City of Austin; most likely will NOT fail. Installing generators could cost \$100K. Even if Glenlake had a problem, River Place could cover us. If River Place had a problem, River Place can go to the City of Austin.
2. Essentially, there's no Y2K problem with any GLWSC component.
3. GLWSC will publish an EPA-required report (Consumer Confidence Report) in mid summer.

SD asked if he could present Travis Co. Sheriff Office's (TCSO) concern about Y2K issues.

1. The database used by TCSO can read into the future so many months, so it was tested for 01/01/2000. It shut down when it reached that date. TCSO is 1/3 of the way online with new database.
2. 911 system is Y2K compliant, but any panic on the part of the public on 1/1/2000 by "testing" the 911 system could result in an overload and subsequent shutdown. PLEASE DO NOT MAKE TEST CALLS TO 911 on 1/1/2000!
3. TCSO is preparing for some failures, but general panic by the public is highest probability of any problems (possible riots, etc.). All officers will be on duty.

KY asked Janelle Imken (JI, GNA Treasurer) to go over budget (which JI handed out prior to the start of the meeting).

JI reported:

1. Current membership total: 102, 8 short of yearly goal
2. Expenses year-to-date: \$1100

KY offered pamphlets left by LL; requested GNA Board to set date for Fire Ant Day. Board will consider conducting Fire Ant Day in May. KY adjourned meeting.