

Glenlake Neighborhood Association (GNA) Newsletter

January 2007

Glenlake Neighborhood Association

GENERAL MEETING

Monday, February 5, 2007
7 p.m.

Shepherd of the Hills Church
6909 West Courtyard Drive

AGENDA TO INCLUDE:

Discussion and approval of 2007 dues
and budget

Neighborhood Events for 2007

Controlling neighborhood solicitations

Neighborhood Watch program

Update on LCRA Water Tank expansion
project and other issues of interest

*****Drawing for Free Gift*****

Please submit any additional agenda
items to president@glenlakehoa.org by
28 January 2007.

2007 GNA BOARD MEMBERS

Carol Lee – President

Mari Barreda – Treasurer

Jeannette Burger – Vice President

Susan Cooper – Vice President

Eric Dorris – Vice President (interim)

Tom Pullum – Vice President (interim)

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Past GNA board members say that the best thing about participating on the board is that you get to know the neighborhood better. I've lived in Glenlake since 1994 and one of my personal goals as the new incoming president of the GNA is to meet every resident in our neighborhood. The large lots and natural beauty of the Hill Country attract us to Glenlake, and it also makes it easy to go about life without knowing your neighbors.

Past-president Tom Pullum and fellow board members did an outstanding job serving the neighborhood last year. We intend to carry through on many of the goals that were initiated last year, including:

- Unification and simplification of the multiple sets of Deed Restrictions
- Modernizing and updating the GNA Web site to be a dynamic hub of communication for the community
- Maintaining and expanding the landscaping at the gatehouse entrance
- Establishing a useful sharing library for neighbors to exchange books, videos, puzzles, etc.

We'll also try new ideas to enhance the community and improve our ability to maintain and promote the neighborhood interests, such as expanding the type of social activities, reducing the cost and effort of providing the newcomer's notebook, establishing an active discussion board, promoting the Green Neighbor and Neighborhood programs, and improving the safety of Glenlake Dr. and City Park Road.

The GNA also participates in the 2222 Coalition of Neighborhood Organizations (2222CONA) to leverage our influence in how the 2222 Corridor is developed. Our membership in 2222CONA has helped establish contacts and relationships with other neighborhoods in the area, which helps coordinate on common issues such as coyote attacks and local roadway repairs and safety. We will continue to participate in 2222CONA, and to leverage our relationship with Jester Estates, Long Canyon, River Place, Westminster Glen, and Austin City Park Road Neighborhood Association representatives to monitor and act on issues important to our collective community.

There are unlimited opportunities for involvement from any Glenlake residents who are interested. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any board member if you have ideas or want to be more active in making Glenlake an outstanding neighborhood in which to live. I look forward to meeting you, and to serving the neighborhood this year.

Best regards,

Carol Lee

president@glenlakehoa.org

GARDENING IN THE HILL COUNTRY

Plant Trees Now for Shade Next Summer

Garden centers are filled with the scent of cut evergreens at this time of year and this can make searching for the perfect shade tree a festive experience.

Winter is the perfect time to plant trees in Central Texas. Planting at this time of year gives trees a chance to get established before the blowtorch of summer returns.

Strategically planted trees that shade the west and southwest sides of our homes can lower cooling costs by 8 to 18 percent, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Those of us who have survived a Texas summer know that a bit of afternoon shade also helps our landscape plants look better. Shade can help lower water bills by keeping soil moist longer, reducing the need for irrigation.

There are many beautiful native shade trees from which to choose. Majestic **bur oaks** have huge acorns; **cedar elms** turn a beautiful apricot color in the fall; **chinquapin oaks** are elegant and relatively fast growing. Whichever tree you choose, look for trees grown on tree farms in the western two-thirds of the state. These will be well-suited to our alkaline soils. Trees from East Texas are best suited to acid soils and my turn yellow when planted in our area.

When looking for the perfect spot for your new shade tree, avoid overhead and underground utility lines. Stay about 15 feet out from the side of your home, and 5 to 10 feet out from sidewalks and driveways.

Dig your planting hole to the same depth as the tree's root ball. Be sure to pack the soil firmly around the root ball when you refill the hole, but do not put soil on top of the root ball. Use 4 to 6 inches of mulch around the base of your new tree to help keep the roots moist.

Although there is no need to water the established plants in your landscape at this time of year, you will want to water your new tree slowly and deeply about once a week through the winter. Continue to water your new tree about once a week for its first year, and it will reward you with the gift of shade for years to come.

This article was provided by Elizabeth Drozda-Freeman, who is a conservation landscape specialist for the Lower Colorado River Authority. She can be reached at (512) 473-3200 Ext.2230 or elizabeth.drozda-freeman@lcra.org if you have comments, questions or suggestions for future gardening topics.

Glenlake Neighborhood Association

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THANK YOU, NEIGHBORS

In October the neighborhood children once again enjoyed their annual Halloween Hayride, thanks to Myra Harold who organizes it each year. Arthur McLean made several trips to pick up and return the hay, which was especially scare and expensive this year. Many neighbors helped out as drivers and spotters or by contributing refreshments or funding. Thank you to these volunteers for once again making this fun event such a success.

There are some great photos of the event, contributed by Tanya Busch, posted at the GNA Web site. Check them out!

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

The Glenlake Architectural Control Committee (ACC) is responsible for reviewing plans for all new construction, modifications of or additions to existing structures, and the construction of fences and outbuildings to ensure they comply with the deed restrictions.

The deed restrictions vary slightly among the different phases of Glenlake. Some of them will come up for renewal soon and the GNA Board and ACC may take this opportunity to develop a uniform set of restrictions for all of Glenlake. The goal would be to simplify the restrictions, and residents will of course be consulted about any changes that are proposed.

For the past several years, Robert Floyd has chaired the Glenlake ACC and we thank him for his years of service in this capacity despite his busy professional and travel schedule. We also thank Richard Yoder, another long-time Glenlake resident, for his willingness to replace Robert as chair of the ACC. Robert will continue as a member of the committee, along with Jim Lax, Stanley Saikin, and Tom Pullum.

If you have questions for the ACC, about a construction project or anything else, you can send an email to acc@glenlakehoa.org or drop a note in the GNA mailbox at the north end of Glenlake Drive.

BOOKMARK THE GLENLAKE WEBSITE

<http://www.glenlakehoa.org>

This past year the GNA hired professional Web designer Troy Warr to give the Glenlake Web site a makeover. We have transferred the content from the prior Web site and look forward to working with the new design.

We hope the new GNA Web site can become a hub for communication in our community. Add it to your list of favorite sites and check it regularly. We will continue enhancing the site, including the addition of interactive features, and welcome your comments and suggestions for how it can best serve our residents

HELP KEEP OUR DATABASE CURRENT

Send email to info@glenlakehoa.org if you have information about new owners, change your email address, or need to submit changes for the neighborhood directory.