



EAST END HISTORICAL DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Vol. 33 No. 12

Bob Chapin, Editor

www.eastendgalveston.org

December 2006

COMING EVENTS

Nov 25th (Saturday) 6:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Galveston Art Walk

EEHDA activity

December 1st (Friday) 6:00pm – 9:30pm

17th Annual EEHDA Christmas Homes Tour

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Dec 2nd & 3rd (Sat & Sun) 10:00am – 9:00 pm

GHF's Dickens On The Strand

Dec 4th & 18th (Monday) 4:00pm

Landmark Commission – City Hall

Dec 5th & 19th (Tuesday) 4:00pm

Planning Commission – City Hall

EEHDA activity


December 7th (Thursday) 7:00 pm

Wine & Cheese Reception for members.

7:30 pm – EEHDA Board of Directors.

Members encouraged to attend!

Dec 25th (Monday) - CHRISTMAS DAY



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Jamie Grady



**EEHDA
PRESIDENT**

Last month we had a great time at Casino Night held at the old Purity ice cream factory. Ralph McMorris hosted the event, and it was one of the best in memory. Many gamblers came arrived in 1940's and 50's theme costumes. Lots of great door prizes and auction items were given away. It was a total success.

DECORATION CONTEST

Please join us in decorating your house in the holiday spirit. The **two top houses** will receive \$50. Also get your neighbors involved, as this year we will have a **Best Block winner** as well. Block winners will get 3 bottles of Champaign to share with the neighbors.

See you at the Victorian Christmas Homes Tour Friday, December 1st. Tickets are still available.



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Your Historical Home Connection!



17th Annual Victorian Christmas Homes Tour

The East End comes alive with the sounds of carolers, horse drawn carriages, and beautiful Christmas decorations, as the 17th annual Victorian Christmas Homes Tour takes place on Friday, December 1. The event begins at 6:00 PM and concludes at 9:30.

Chairing the event, **Mike and Pam Gilbert** are putting the finishing touches on this year's event. This year's house chairs include **Sandy Hardin, Carl Lewis, Fran Kelley, Jim Cantrell, Paul Evans**, along with **Debbie Box** and her daughter **Angie Brown**. We are grateful to them for recruiting docents to assure the evening goes smoothly for our estimated 500 guests to East End.

George and Lizzett Najarian will once again chair Sacred Heart Church where the entertainment for the tour will take place. The Moody Handbell Choir, under the direction of East Ender, **Marjorie Rasche**, along with the Galveston Children's Chorus, the All American Singers, and the Belton High School Choir will provide wonderful Christmas music throughout the evening.

Pam will again chair the refreshments at the Cottage, along with **Don Peak** and his wonderful wassail. We are still looking for volunteers to provide refreshments for the evening. Please give Pam a call (763-2597) if you would like to donate some fresh baked goodies. **Paul Evans** will decorate the cottage and Darragh Park and **Ed Conner** along with **Bob Chapin** will take care of the physical arrangements. Thanks to **Jane Chapin** for providing the historical information on the selected homes.

Homes on tour this year are located at 1212 Sealy, 1428 Church, 1520 Church, and 1705 Ball. **Our thanks to our homes owners for opening up their homes for this great event in our neighborhood.** A limited number of tickets are available and only through the 1894 Grand Opera House. Be sure to get yours before they are all sold out for the 17th consecutive year.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

14th & Broadway (1903)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, one of the treasures of the island, was built after damage during the 1900 Storm. Modeled after the Alhambra in Spain, the interior is the only Roman Catholic Church in the United States with Islamic architecture.

1212 Sealy (1877)

This large elegant Eastlake style home was built for George T. Bondies as a double gallery home and enlarged in 1886 by cotton broker Joseph Robertson for his growing family adding the Eastlake elements.

1428 Church (1882)

The large double gallery home replaced a smaller home built by Captain Rufus Jameson, a Galveston harbor pilot.

1520 Church (c.1876)

Severely damaged by fire, this simple cottage was originally a 4-room structure on only 2/3 lot.

1705 Ball (1886)

This large Victorian home was built after the 1885 Fire that destroyed a 40 block area from 16th to 21st from the bay almost to the Gulf.

1501 Postoffice (1898)

Moved to this location by EEHDA this cottage serves as a community center for the East End Historical District Association. Refreshments served, restroom facilities available.

15th & Church

A cast iron fence designed by Alfred Muller surrounds the EEHDA's Darragh Park, the site of the J.L. Darragh mansion.



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RECORD CROWD TURNS OUT FOR CASINO NIGHT



Lt. Blender earned a snappy salute for Casino Night this year. The lighted ramp and red carpet was entrance to a more heavily decorated casino this year, evoking memories of a different era on the island.

A vigorous campaign by the ticket sales squad filled the glittering casino with folks anxious to run their play money in to big bucks at the poker and black jack tables, roulette wheel and the always noisy craps table.

Floor space expanded this year with a lounge for quiet visits and dancing to the tune of 40's and 50's music with Fred Astair in life size video leading the swing. The much expanded food and drink menu was a hit, keeping the tummys full and spirits high throughout the evening.

Over 80 prizes were taken home – some from the silent auction, others went to the highest bidder at the live auction and about 45 were given as door prizes.

EEHDA proudly pins the Hero Badge on Casino Night Chairman, **Ralph McMorris and Lynn and the whole Lt. Blender family** for a very successful event.

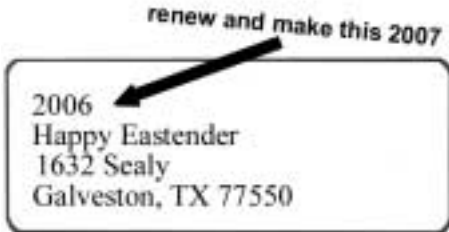
CASINO NIGHT - GALVESTON VICE OF THE 50's



TIME TO RENEW?

Take a moment to look at the address label on this newsletter. If 2007 isn't printed above your name **it's time to renew your membership!**

No, we're not going to cut you out of the herd just yet. You're part of the East End family and we don't want to lose you. Remember though – we're all volunteers and it makes it much easier for EEHDA's bean counters if you renew on time.



BLOCK PARTIES COST MONEY

Carlos Guerguin approaches you at one of our block parties and asks you to “put something in the pot”. Have you ever wondered if it really pays the bills? At a meeting of his Board of Directors on November 2nd, EEHDA **President Jamie Grady** presented a detailed block parties expense report that revealed Carlos has been very successful. Voluntary contributions nearly offset costs in this year!



The block party tradition is the most effective tool EEHDA uses to bring neighbors together, and it costs money. This year the bill came to \$1,814.

Seven times in 2006, EEHDA has supplied a wide variety of liquid refreshments, plasticware, plates, napkins, table cloths and table canopies for you and over a hundred of your neighbors. Your contributions and Carlos's persistence almost paid the bill in '06. Total collected in that pot came to \$1,425.00!

When we gather in April next year for our first block party, keep your eye out for that pot and maybe reach just a little deeper into your pocket. It's worth it!

notes from

Juan Pena
City Council Representative
District 3



Parking fine collections have netted the city \$30,905 in new parking fines and \$14,095 in old fines. Fifty-four vehicles have been booted and at this time there are 121 on the boot eligible list.

MUD 1 had two hearings regarding annexation. MUD 1 includes Pirates Beach. The first hearing was November 9 and the second hearing was November 16. The annexation will be voted upon December 15th by Galveston City Council.

Drake Leddy, President of Presidian, and Corey Miner have shared their idea of a proposal to develop the area South of the Seawall between Stewart Beach and 10th Street. They stated they have 4 partners and would like to construct 6 20-40 story buildings on the sand as Hotels and/or Condominiums. They did not have any drawings to share of their vision. However, they did comment that they are aware the area is zoned with a three story limitation and they would be seeking rezoning for their project.

The Mayflower hotel located at 8th and Seawall will be demolished following asbestos abatement.

The Galveston Police Department currently has a total of thirteen vacancies within the sworn ranks of police officers. The Police Department has aggressively sought to fill vacancies. Normally the Police Department has a test once a year, with twice a year being unusual. Three tests have been given this year. It is expected that some of the thirteen vacancies will be filled with persons that have completed those exams, passed the physical agility and the background check. Another exam will be given in the first quarter of the year 2007.

I want to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving! Thank you District 3 for electing me your Council Representative. My e-mail is juanpena@cityofgalveston.org please contact me with concerns, ideas, suggestions. I am Juan Peña, your neighbor at City Hall.

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Application for Membership - East End Historical District Association

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Address _____

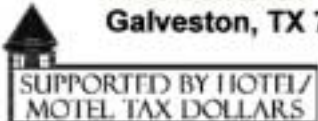
City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Names of persons covered by this membership:

Type of membership:
 Individual \$10 Corporate Business \$100
 Family \$15 Life Member \$250
 Senior \$6 Sponsor \$50
 Senior Fam. \$12 SAFEE (see Option)

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



Memberships are for one calendar year beginning January and ending in December. Membership includes a subscription to our monthly newsletter. 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. 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 7:30 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 manor and to the extent provided by section 170 of the code.

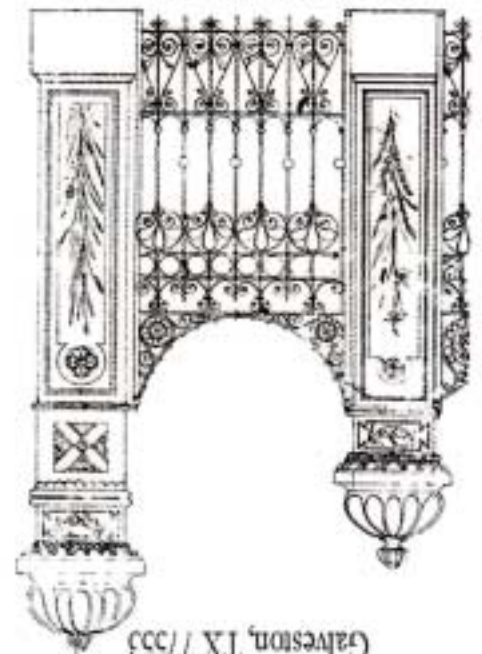
SAFEER MEMBERSHIP OPTION

The SAFEER program option provides security patrols in the East End by uniformed police officers at random hours throughout the week. Also any security or other neighborhood issues can be noted and left in the security box located on the front porch of the EEHDA Cottage, 1501 Postoffice. Officers pick up the forms that are left there when they come on duty.

Joining the SAFEER Program includes

**Family membership in E.E.H.D.A.
3 months \$60; 6 months \$120; full year \$240**

An association of residents of an area
recognized as a National Historic Landmark



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