

# East End Historical District Association

*Celebrating thirty years of service to the residents in  
Galveston's historic east end*

Vol. 31 No. 3

Bob Chapin, Editor

[www.eastendhistoricgalveston.org](http://www.eastendhistoricgalveston.org)

March 2005

## COMING EVENTS

### **EEHDA**

**Mar 3 (Thursday) 7:00pm** - Wine & cheese Reception for members.

**7:30pm** – EEHDA Board of Directors General Membership welcome! This month's focus is on British Petro.'s proposal for a liquid natural gas depot on Pelican Island

**Mar 5 (Saturday) – Art Walk**

**Mar 7 (Monday) 4:00pm** – Landmark Commission – City Hall

**Mar 17 (Tuesday) – St. Patrick's Day**

**Mar 21 (Monday) 4:00pm** – Landmark Commission – City Hall

**Mar 21 (Monday) 5:30 – 6:30pm** - University Area Assoc. – Wm. Temple Epis. Ctr.

**Mar 27 (Sunday) - Easter**

## PARKING PERMIT CORRECTION

Your residential parking permits must be renewed annually. Last month's reminder in this newsletter did not show the correct location for application.

Take proof of address and vehicle registration to 5301 Avenue S. Each household is allowed as many as four permits for multiple autos and one visitor pass.



## EEHDA'S COTTAGE AND LOCATION PART OF GALVESTON'S COLORFUL HISTORY



### VICTOR GUSTAFSON HOME

This raised one-story cottage originally was located at 620 Market Street. Before the property was purchased by Victor Gustafson in 1895, it had belonged to Swiss immigrant Henry Rosenberg, who is remembered as a prominent businessman and public Benefactor.

The builder of this cottage, Victor Gustafson (1870-1956), was a native of Finland. He worked on the Galveston Wharves and constructed this home for his family during the last years of the nineteenth century. Although the house was partially destroyed during the 1900 storm, Gustafson was able to rebuild and to enlarge it as his family grew in number. A good example of a working class home in the 1880-1900 period of Galveston history, the structure was moved to this site in the East End Historical District in 1979.

From 1918 until 1965, this lot on Postoffice Street was the location of the Cordray Drugstore. Well known to Galvestonians, the business was begun by Pharmacist Edmund Joseph Cordray (1879-1965). Cordray was a native of Galveston and a graduate of the University of Texas School of Pharmacy. The drugstore closed upon his death. The structure

at the site was condemned and torn down, leaving an empty lot to which the Victor Gustafson Home was moved. Texas Historical Commission Marker 1985

See **Cottage**, page 2

**Cottage (cont.)**

According to an article written in the mid 80's for the Galveston Daily News by Dr. E. Wood Hall, the site of what we call "The Cottage" was once one of the principal slave markets in Galveston before the Civil War.

In the year following the Civil War, a building was constructed on the site and used as a carpenter's shop and later housed a grocery store. In 1918, it was purchased by Pharmacist. Edmund Joseph Cordray,



**1501 Postoffice –CORDRAY DRUGSTORE - 1975**

E. Burke Evans, M.D., an avid supporter of the newly formed East End Historical District Association, purchased the site of the old Cordray Drugstore and presented it to the membership of EEHDA for their use.



**SITE CLEARED AND READY FOR IT'S COTTAGE**

Shortly after demolition of the old Cordray Drugstore, Jake Posnick donated a small home located at University Blvd. and Market Street. The building was moved to it's new site in 1979.



**COTTAGE ON IT'S WAY TO NEW SITE - 1979**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The ornate glass in the front door of EEHDA's Cottage was donated by Robert Tucker, Island City Woodworking, in 1982



**Janice R. Coggeshall, CFM**  
Vice President  
Wealth Management Advisor

**Marcia L. Brassieur, CFM**  
Registered Sales Associate

Global Private Client Group  
306 22nd St.  
Galveston, Texas 77550  
409 766 2705 Jan  
888 686 6905 Toll Free  
409 766 2718 Marcia

FAX 409 766 2714  
janice\_coggeshall@ml.com



**Frost Bank**

2201 Market Street • 6801 Stewart Road • P.O. Box 179  
Galveston, Texas 77553 • Member FDIC • (409) 763-1151



*CARRIAGE HOUSE  
CLOCK SHOPPE*

SPECIALIZE IN ANTIQUE CLOCKS  
WORK GUARANTEED  
**CLOCK REPAIR**

RON & CYNTHIA GILROY  
NAWCC # 98464  
409•770•0852

Another chapter in East End living:  
from Chris Keller

## WE'RE HOME

"Hi! I'm 'Baby Dog', a Doberman...and I'm 'Punkin', a handsome young kitten. While Mom was away on vacation, we both got lost from 17<sup>th</sup> and Postoffice."

'Baby Dog' talking..."I ended up in Santa Fe where a nice man contacted Mom and she came and got me. I was very muddy, but I got a bath at the vet's and slept on Mom's bed that night. What a relief to be home!"

"Punkin" speaking..."I only got to 10<sup>th</sup> and Sealy, and that was after being injured. A wonderful family there found me, took me in to the vet for treatment and brought me home to Mom when they realized I was her missing kitten. That night we all slept on her bed together!"

## BLOCK PARTY PLANNING GETS HELP

When we put out the call for Block Party help last month, we didn't know that the call had already been answered! **Ginny Adams** raised her hand to help Carlos Guerguin with planning and public relations for the event. Thanks Ginny!



 **Barney Rapp, Inc.**  
REALTORS®  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

Visit our  
offices located  
in Galveston's  
famous East  
End Historical  
District at  
1703 Broadway



409-763-6555  
Toll Free 1-888-768-RAPP

Your Historical Home Connection!

## MARDI GRAS PARADE COST \$10,000 IN 1870 ANNALS OF GALVESTON HISTORY

by  
DON PEAK

"Galveston's main business street, the Strand, became known as the Wall Street of the Southwest, and its ornate Victorian buildings were the envy of all cities over the country. Five of the largest banks in Texas were located on the Strand, as were eight newspapers. The block between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> streets was known as Insurance Square. The city had six public squares, two parks, two miles of esplanade, street railways drawn by horses, thirteen hotels, three concert halls, and an opera house. Fancy shops sold English carpets; French china, wine and brandy; and German-made rosewood pianos. In 1858 alone, Islanders purchased twenty-three grand pianos. Galveston had the first gaslight, the first electric light, the first telephone, the first hospital, the first law firm, the first trade union, the first golf course – name a business institution or invention and Galveston probably had the first in Texas.

"The Strand was without question one of the most interesting streets anywhere. Restaurants like Monsieur Alphonse's specialized in dishes with names like *beefsteak goddam a la mode* and saloons like the Gem and the Age never closed, Sam's Club and Sample Room was a rendezvous for "mercantile gentlemen," and provided exchange newspapers, free meeting rooms, lunch and whiskey. The street stirred with activity and pulsed with strange sights. A long-haired wild-eyed drummer who called himself the King of Pain sold patent medicine from his wagon, and strolling show people with trained monkeys and bears performed for coins on street corners. Some of the street characters were nearly mythical. An old pirate called Crazy Ben, who wore an earring and claimed to have been one of Lafitte's corsairs, paid for drinks with gold doubloons. Another man ate glass for tips, and was reported to have consumed a half-dozen lamp chimneys in a single afternoon.

"There were Mardi Gras parades, some of them costing \$10,000 or more, and circus parades; and on New Year's Day there was an annual extravaganza called the Parade of Butchers, in which butchers donned masks and marched in formation from saloon to saloon."

Source: Cartwright, Gary, GALVESTON, A HISTORY OF THE ISLAND. Atheneum Press, New York, 1991, Pg. 118.

## RESTORATION OF THE MONTH



### 1122 Sealy

When it's current owners R.D. and Sue Kelly purchased this home in 1984, it had been condemned. It was once owned by brick mason, Thomas Lucas. Lucas was the contractor for "Lucas English Terrace Row" at 14<sup>th</sup> and Broadway. That project was built in 1894 and completely destroyed in the storm of 1900. Lucas served as both brick layer and architect in it's six year reconstruction.

The Kelly's restoration of 1122 Sealy started with demolition of 25 feet at the rear of the house. Care and sensitivity guided their restoration of features such as the high ceilings, central hallway and return to the original openings on the front and rear of the home. The original pressed tin roof highlights this home that will grace the East End of Galveston for many years to come.

**J. BANGLE**  
GALLERY  
ELAINE & J. BANGLE  
13708 FM. 3005 • Pirates Beach Shopping Center • 409-737-5333  
Local art, apparel, antiques, home decor & custom picture framing

HISTORIC REAL ESTATE  
David Bowers  
REALTOR  
Associated with  
THE HOUSE COMPANY  
409.771.4637  
dbowers-galveston@juno.com  
"Your Partner in Community Progress"

## NEW and RENEWING MEMBERS

Penny McBride  
 Paul & Gene Gonin  
 Elizabeth Darst  
 Donald & Deborah Lewis  
 James Grady  
 Bob & Jane Chapin

Ronald J. Seetoo  
 Kirk & Kathleen Weindorff  
 Stanley & Susan Dudek  
 James Heyland & Judy Phelps  
 Edward Sherwood & Kelly Chambers



This year's Children's Mardi Gras Parade wasn't Galveston fire fighter's first parade

### PHOTO RESTORATION

Reproduce Treasured Family Photos

- \* Enhance for fading and discoloration
- \* Remove scratches, spots and cracks
- \* Duplicate photos for family members

**Bob Chapin**  
**750-8232**



DIGITAL \* PRINTING \* GRAPHICS \* COPY CENTER

- FAX SERVICE
- PRINTING
- GRAPHICS
- COPYING CENTER
- PASSPORT PHOTOS
- COLOR COPIES
- BUSINESS FORMS
- INVITATIONS
- POSTERS

**SPEEDY'S**  
**PRINTING**

Email: [speedys@speedysprinting.com](mailto:speedys@speedysprinting.com)  
 Web: [www.speedysprinting.com](http://www.speedysprinting.com)

715 24th Street  
 Galveston Island

**409.763.1666**  
**FAX 409.763.8112**

DIGITAL \* PRINTING \* GRAPHICS \* COPY CENTER

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Names of persons covered by this membership:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Circle type of membership: Family \$15; Individual \$10; Senior \$6; Sponsor \$50; Corporate Business \$100; Life member \$250; SAFE E Program (see Option)

*Mail to:*

**EAST END HISTORICAL DISTRICT  
ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 2424, Galveston, TX 77553**

**SAFE E Option:**

The SAFE E 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 brass Security Box located on the front porch of the East End Historical District Cottage, 1501 Postoffice. The officers pick up the forms that are left there when they come on duty.

**Joining the SAFE E Program includes family membership in EEHDA.**

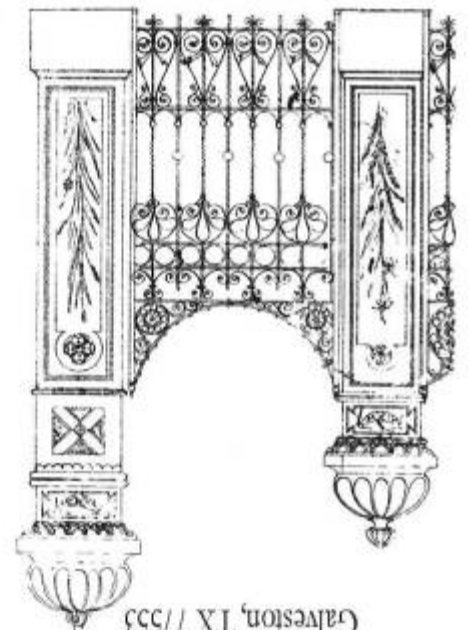
**3 months-\$60; 6 months-\$120; full year-\$240.**

**Help keep your neighborhood safe!**

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. We hold annual homes tours in December and a monthly block party from April through October. Our Board of Directors holds regular meetings at our meeting house, 1501 Postoffice Street at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of each month and 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 your organization are deductible in the manor and to the extent provided by section 170 of the code.

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



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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
GALVESTON, TX  
PERMIT NO. 100