



# East End Historical District Association's NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Vol. 35 No. 9 Bob Chapin & Lynette Haaga, Editors [www.eastendgalveston.org](http://www.eastendgalveston.org) September 2008

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 1<sup>st</sup> (Monday)

### LABOR DAY

*EEHDA activity*

September 4<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)

5:30pm - Refreshments at The Cottage

6:00pm - **Membership Meeting**

*EEHDA activity*

September 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> (Saturdays)

8:00am – outside work begins

9:00am – inside work begins

**COTTAGE WORK PARTY**

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

*EEHDA activity*

September 11<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) 6:00pm

**“Fabulous Fifties” Block Party**

17<sup>th</sup> Street between Winnie & Ball

September 13<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – 8:00 am – Noon

**Farmer’s Market** - Saengerfest Park

23<sup>rd</sup> Street at The Strand

September 15<sup>th</sup> (Monday) 4:00pm

**Landmark Commission** – City Hall

September 16<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) 4:00pm

**Planning Commission** – City Hall

**Mike Gilbert**

**EEHDA  
PRESIDENT**



Has this not been a great summer here in Galveston and in our neighborhood, or what? New families have moved in, homes are continuing to be restored, and our block parties have been fantastic. Only three more months of block parties to go before we pack up our tents & tables until next year. Hope to see you in September.

Our association recently received wonderful news from The Galveston Foundation. At our August meeting we learned that the property located at the Northeast corner of 16<sup>th</sup> and Broadway had been purchased by the foundation, and EEHDA is being asked to be the conservator of that green space. In the coming months EEHDA and the Galveston Foundation will be signing an agreement that EEHDA will assist in creating a green space, not only for our neighborhood, but for Galveston. We look forward to this new and exciting challenge of enhancing our area and to Broadway, the gateway to Galveston.

We hope that you will be in attendance at our September meeting as we will be presenting some suggested changes and updates to our By-Laws and asking for approval by the membership.

School is in session, so be sure to use extra caution as you drive in our school zones.

**See you around the neighborhood!**



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# AUGUST BLOCK PARTY HEATS UP

By Lynette Haaga

It was a sizzling time at the August Block Party at Alderdice Park but what's a little heat when East Enders have a chance to get together! Neighbors enjoyed good company and good food yet another evening and yes, there were a few breezes here and there too. Special thanks to Ralph and Lynn McMorris who have kept us supplied with icy frozen Lt. Blender's drinks all season to help keep us cool.

Special thanks are also due to George Mitchell for again donating a \$100.00 Gift Card for the beautiful new Spa at the Hotel Galvez. Robert Milhovil was our lucky winner at the Block Party drawing this time. Allison Brown and Cindy Buckley worked hard selling raffle tickets. Thanks to everyone for supporting our fundraising efforts!


We were pleased to welcome our new Galveston Police Chief, Charles Wiley. It was a pleasure having him with us as well as SAFEE officer Detective Blackwell and our GPD patrol officers who stopped by. We can thank Sheryl Rozier and Chris Keller for specially inviting Chief Wiley to attend.

One more round of thanks to our tireless crew who helped set up and tear down the party! We can always use a little more help at each party, so be at the Cottage next time by 4:30 pm to help set up or just meet us at the party location if it happens to be somewhere else.

Speaking of the next Block Party, it is on Thursday, September 11, on 17<sup>th</sup> Street between Winnie and Ball. Our theme is Fabulous 50's, so dress vintage or retro, dig out those recipes for 7-Up Cake and other Nifty Fifties treats you remember, and get ready to rock to some Golden Oldies while you're at it. Be there or be square!

## CONTACT US

Telephone - 409-763-5928  
Membership info - sheryleehda@swbell.net  
SAFEE Program - safee@swbell.net



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## NEW & RENEWING MEMBERSHIP

### New Regular and SAFEE members:

Wayne Norris Cox  
Paul & Leslie Lopez  
Denise Alexander  
Leonard J La Magna

### Sponsor members:

Carl Tapia & John Wilmore  
Larry Janzen  
Jerry & Irma Hite  
Mike & Pam Gilbert  
Herbert & Rosalind Mitchell  
Karen Derr  
Paula & Louis Reeg  
Ellen Morrison & Christian Robbian  
Robert Evans  
Terry Lee Wilson

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### Corporate Business members:

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## GOOD FOOD JUST PART OF THE ATTRACTION

Attendance was excellent at our last Neighborhood Meeting in August and a lot of important business got accomplished that evening. Marianne Miller, Paul Lyle, Karl Lewis and Sandy Hardin provided us with a scrumptious spread that gave everyone the strength to carry on through a longer than usual meeting. Our thanks go out to them for their contributions.

We had another drawing for a \$100.00 gift card at the new Spa at the Hotel Galvez, donated by George Mitchell. His continuing generosity and support of the East End is greatly appreciated. This time Barney Rapp was our lucky winner. Be ready to buy tickets for more Spa gift cards at future meetings and block parties.

Paula, Lynn, Allison, and Larry have volunteered to bring refreshments for our September meeting. If you would like to take a turn providing something for our meetings, call our Hospitality coordinator Lynette Haaga at 750-9441 and she will put your name on the list for which ever category and date you choose.

**East End Construction**

*Nelson Smelker*

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nsmelker@earthlink.net

## COTTAGE WORK SLOW

After the dedication of our Darragh Park's E. B. Evans Pavilion our members focused attention on some long overdue maintenance of EEHDA's Cottage. After a survey of its condition the Board of Directors approved a project plan that would include extensive cleaning, a good amount of carpentry work and finally, paint inside and out. It was a good plan but it needed funding that our budget didn't have. That's when Kathy Bass stepped forward to organize a yard sale.

### **ENTHUSIASM AT A HIGH**

Kathy's team worked for nearly two months preparing for the big Saturday that would hopefully fund the Cottage work. It was a success! We had the money and it was time to get to work!

It was an inspiration to watch the enthusiasm for the project but things changed, probably because summer was on us by then. Now only a small, hard core group show up for the scheduled "work parties" and progress is slow.

### **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Two Saturdays are scheduled this month – Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Work on the outside of the Cottage starts at 8 o'clock, the inside 9. With most of the repairs now out of the way the focus is on paint. That's the fun part folks, the final lap to the finish! ***Please join us!***

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Meet Carlos Guerguin, a true treasure of the East End Historic District Association. He was born on February 27, 1923 in San Antonio. His great-great-grandfather lived in the King William District of San Antonio and his grandmother had a home on the river there. His mother was a practitioner in Christian Science. His father was Episcopalian and when he became ill he was made better by a Christian Science practitioner and, thus, became a Christian Science member and met Carlos' mother. Carlos was five years old when his parents divorced and spent a lot of his time as a youth in his grandmother's home. This rich beginning produced a talented and productive young man.

Carlos graduated from Jefferson High School in San Antonio in 1939 at the age of 16. This was a new school and ushered in a new era for high schools in the country. Jefferson High School was featured in Life Magazine, March 7, 1938, with feature articles and pictures including one of Carlos and many of his friends.

He attended Corpus Christi Junior College and joined the Army Air Corps in the early 40's, a turbulent time in the life of this country. He worked in personnel at Harlingen Air

Force Base in Mercedes, Texas. He was sent to the Philippines and was on Okinawa when the atomic bomb was dropped on Japan.

In the meantime, John Crossman, another dear member of EEHDA and Carlos' friend, joined the Army Air Corps on April 12, 1945, the day President Roosevelt died. He was in Japan with the 5<sup>th</sup> Army Air Corps Fighter Command while Carlos was there with the 5<sup>th</sup> Army Air Corps Bomber Command. They did not know each other during this time. Both were discharged in 1947, Carlos going to the University of Texas and John to the University of Houston.

Carlos graduated from UT in 1949. His grandmother advised him to go to Houston to make a living, thinking there were better opportunities in Houston than in San Antonio. In Houston he worked in the insurance industry and soon formed his own company, Sentinel Insurance in the River Oaks area. He also met John when he came to Houston.

Being the social person we all know and

love, he became very active in the Junior Chamber of Commerce, working with other notables such as Jim Earthman, Marvin Zindler and Louis Welch. He enabled Fidel Castro to come to Houston soon after his assuming power in Cuba. Castro and his entourage stayed at the newly opened Shamrock Hotel and caused quite a stir as one might imagine.

In 1985, one of Carlos' neighbors wanted to sell their house in Galveston. John had ties to Galveston, his family had lived here since before the 1900 storm. Carlos bought the house where he still lives. This wonderful house had three apartments which were leased to medical students. In the early



Life Magazine featured his San Antonio High School. Carlos is pictured with a classmate in the story.

**SPOTLIGHT CONT.**

90's, when the lease on one of the upstairs apartments expired Carlos moved to Galveston. Now John has an apartment in the house, also.

Immediately, Carlos became active in GHF and EEHDA, serving as president several times. But his love was the EEHDA Block Party. He worked to enhance this important activity working with the city and neighborhood captains to send out flyers and plan the monthly meetings. He quickly became "The Block Party Czar." He also could be depended upon to look dapper at our Homes Tour and the GHF Homes Tour.



Block Party Czar Carlos made sure the event paid it's own way

Carlos is a beloved and respected member of EEHDA. When you see him be sure to ask, "How are you?" The answer will be "Charming as ever." And, indeed, we are lucky to have such a "charmer" as part of our lives.



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## **THE JOLLY SEASON IS COMING**

The jolly season seems light years away, doesn't it? It's not though. It's already here for some folks. Every year the East End Historical District leadership starts planning for Christmas while the rest of us swelter in the Island's oppressive mid summer heat and humidity.

### ***CHRISTMAS HOMES TOUR***

It's all about a Victorian Christmas, EEHDA's seasonal homes tour. For almost 20 years the event has spawned the spirit of Christmas in visitors who often have traveled great distances. Many have told us that their Christmas season always begins here - their spirit is lighted here each year by the glimpse of Christmas past.

### ***THIS YEAR'S ATTRACTIONS***

1202 Sealy  
1316 Ball  
1821 and 1823 Winnie  
1521 and 1523 Postoffice  
14<sup>th</sup> & Broadway (Sacred Heart Catholic Church – Caroling)  
1501 Postoffice (The Cottage – Rest stop and refreshments)  
15<sup>th</sup> & Church (Darragh Park and E.B. Evans Pavilion)

### ***VICTORIAN TREE IN COTTAGE***

Tour guests always enjoy the delightful refreshments and conversation break at the Cottage. This year, with the renewal project now underway finished, we will be especially proud to receive our guests. This time, though, the scene will be highlighted with our first Christmas tree.

This will be a very special tree – one that will reflect Christmas past. Kathy Bass is coordinating the project. She's asking all of us to participate with the donation of at least one ornament, preferably Victorian in style. You can bring your ornament to one of our block parties or to our monthly membership meeting. For more information contact Kathy. Her email address: [kbass@utmb.edu](mailto:kbass@utmb.edu)

## NEW & RENEWING MEMBERSHIP SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR

Betty & Ed Conner  
 Herbert & Rosalind Mitchell  
 Paul & Barbara Evans  
 David & Carlotta Barker  
 Dwight & Sandra Perrio  
 Charlie & Rose Marie Smith  
 Charlie Bresenhan & Jack Brooks  
 Karen Derr  
 Newman & Georgia Sharp  
 Robert Mihovil  
 John & Kathryn Petershagen  
 Kelly Chambers & Ed Sherwood  
 Mary E. Cridland  
 Gail Shook  
 Sandy & Jane Rushing  
 Marjorie Rasche  
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 Lyn & Scott Nichols  
 Paula & Louie Reeg  
 David Bowers  
 Richard & Linda Denson  
 Stephen N. Broadstone  
 Stanley & Susan Dudek  
 Steven Crorey  
 Bill Leopold  
 Donald & B.J. Peak

James M. & Nancy B. McGlathery  
 Robert Evans  
 Joseph Jaworski  
 Elizabeth DeKeyser  
 Melissa & Michael Jacobs  
 Lee & Jayne Davis  
 James & Elizabeth George  
 Ms. Terry Lee Wilson  
 Kenneth & Carol Bartz  
 Joey & Linda Cotton  
 Terri Wright  
 Arch & Sue Davila  
 Jerry Jackson & Nancy Peterson  
 Marcia Brassieur  
 Larry & Gail Holzer  
 James Hufnagle & Vicki J. Amundsen  
 Bob & Jane Chapin  
 Bob & Allison Brown  
 Stephen & Patricia Rennick  
 Mary B. Morrow  
 Mary P. Hodges  
 Ginny Adams  
 Ben & Gail Sodek  
 Kirby & Shirley Fortenberry  
 Steven Creitz  
 Kay Schwartz  
 Robert Couch  
 Debra & Donald Lewis  
 Michael & Debbie Box  
 Jody Phelps & James Heyland  
 Martha & John Smith

Golda Anne & Bob Leonard  
 David & Rebecca Hughes  
 Mercedes M. Cortez  
 Tom Thayer & Daniel Danford  
 Ron & Cynthia Gilroy  
 Roger & Mary Case  
 Rose Cole  
 George & Lizette Najarian  
 Martin & Cindy Buckley  
 Tim & Elizabeth Beeton  
 Ann Frye  
 Carlos L. Guerguin  
 TLC  
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 Terry & Gloria Brandburg  
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Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Names of persons covered by this membership:**

*Type of membership:*  
 Individual \$15       Corporate Business \$125  
 Family \$20       Life Member \$300  
 Senior \$10       Sponsor \$75  
 Senior Fam. \$15       SAFEE (see enrollment)

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

Memberships are for one year. 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 but only residents of the district are entitled to hold office or vote on questions. 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 5:30 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.

### SAFEE ENROLLMENT

The SAFEE program is a security program sponsored by EEHDA. SAFEE provides security patrols in the East End by uniformed police officers at random hours throughout the week. Security of neighborhood issues can be noted and left for the officers in the black mail box located on the front porch of the EEHDA Cottage, 1501 Postoffice. "Vacation Watch" is offered under this program. Membership in EEHDA is required for SAFEE enrollment.

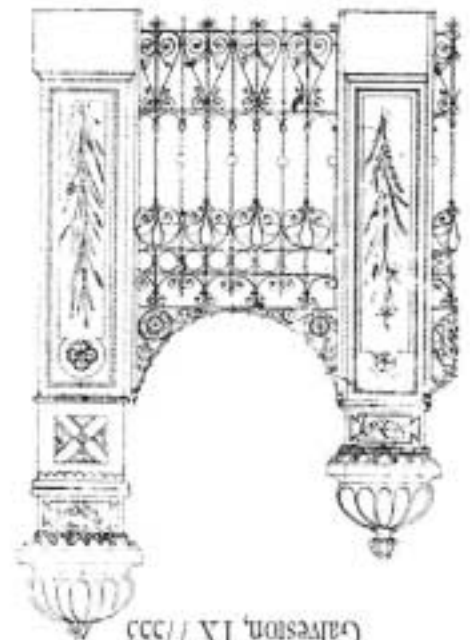
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