

MARCH/APRIL 2014

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#### From the PRESIDENT.....



Every new Board member's mission should be to leave the Board in better shape than when they took office; two years ago we had that as our goal. The main job of the Board is the day to day management of the Fleetwood Association and to protect the assets and interests of the homeowners. This Board developed the position that the Board should not be involved and control all of the different activities in Fleetwood, especially those of a social nature, since those groups were doing just fine. We were focused on the management and fiscal responsibilities, first and foremost.

We are very pleased with the dramatic accomplishments over these past two years but there still remains work for the next Board to continue.

Two years ago our main focus was to return any overpayment for the Special Wall Assessment to the homeowners and to update the Bylaws. We were successful in getting both of those missions accomplished. Your Board then turned its attention to other matters. We felt transparency and communication was paramount to being an effective Board and therefore decided to hold semiannual Town Hall meetings. These were not "official" meetings but meetings for the community to come together to discuss issues that affected Fleetwood. To enhance the format we had guest speakers that were chosen to address topical issues such as security and the boom of development going on in West Houston. Security came to the forefront and we enhanced our security with the installation of surveillance cameras that were paid for by voluntary donations from homeowners. This also opened the way to have better cooperation, coordination and communication with our neighbor, Fleetwood West. Two years ago the current vendor contracts we had were lacking in completeness. Currently all of the vendor contracts have been revised and updated, with proper insurance documents, clear delineation of what is expected and have properly approved and executed.

We are always looking for ways to save money and enhance our services and thus we made a decision to change management companies. We feel the service we are getting from Crest Management is much better and more efficient and obtained at a cost saving to the Association. The last bit of housekeeping was accomplished this month when we revised the Architectural Control Guidelines. This was something that needed to be done so all homeowners are aware of what is necessary and expected when making changes to the exterior of your home or property. We have mailed these and an Application Form to all residents of Fleetwood.

I want to address the alleys. We delayed alley repairs as we moved through the system of determining ownership and responsibility. While we fully believe the City of Houston owns the public alleys it would be a very costly fight to convince the City of their responsibility for their maintenance and, even if successful, there would be no guarantee when they would actually be repaired, if ever. We resumed the repairs of the alleys on a priority basis. This will be an ongoing issue for many years as the alleys age and continue to deteriorate. While the Association has reserve funds they will be insufficient to replace all that needs to be done. We were all excited about the advent of recycling coming to Fleetwood. We had great input from many residents and moved forward. The residents that wanted this service agreed to pay a nominal annual fee for it and we negotiated and signed a contract for the service to begin in 2014. A little over one-third of the homes in Fleetwood currently participate in this program. What we did not know was that TrashPorters was selling their business to WCA. The timing of the sale could not have been worse and resulted in a very poor start of the program. After many discussions with WCA (some very heated) the program finally seems to be working.

### From the PRESIDENT..... Continued

What is left for the new Board? The decision was made to have the newsletter go from paper to an electronic format. There is much more to this than we originally imagined and we wanted to make sure residents still got the newsletter. Advertising and electronic delivery needs additional review. We have been working on a redevelopment of the Fleetwood POA website and this is still a work in progress. Hopefully this mission will be successfully accomplished this year and will improve our communication system with our residents. There will be other issues that arise that will demand the attention of the newly elected Board and I have confidence they will do a fine job.

It has been a pleasure serving the homeowners and residents of Fleetwood for the past two years. Your Board has worked very hard to keep Fleetwood as a premier community in the West Houston and Energy Corridor District. We believe we have been successful. We all thank you for your support and wish the new Board well.

Andy Nunmaker President, Fleetwood POA

### SUNDAY MARCH 9th

## **Less sleep Sunday**



REMEMBER TO SPRING FORWARD!



Monday, March 17th





### Fleetwood POA Board of Directors 2014 - 2015

The four Directors elected at the February 27th Annual Meeting are JimAinsworth, Brian Hefty, Richard Ogrin and Charles Sandel

The positions of President, Vice President and Treasurer are currently vacant.

New officers will be elected by the Board at its meeting later this month.

GARY MUSLIN, Secretary
Walls, Streets, Alleys, Sewers & Lights

PHYLLIS WELLER
Security

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RICHARD OGRIN
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P.O. Box 219320 Houston, TX 77218-9320

SECURITY GUARD (direct line) 281-224-3048

FLEETWOOD HOTLINE 713-867-3979

TRASHPORTERS 713-733-1600 (Trash & Recycling)

FLEETWOOD WEBSITE <u>www.fleetwoodpoa.com</u>

MEMORIAL SUPER NEIGHBORHOOD 16

Website: www.memorialsn.org

FLEETWOOD NEXTDOOR NEIGHBORHOOD

(Fleetwood and Fleetwood West)

Website: <a href="https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/">https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/</a>

#### ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

As you probably know by now, the revised Architectural and Landscape Guidelines for Fleetwood have been published. Each resident was mailed an individual copy. If you didn't receive one, please contact Liz Trapolino at <a href="mailto:liz.trapolino@crest-management.com">liz.trapolino@crest-management.com</a> and request a copy. We hope you will read the information contained, especially when planning your next home remodeling project or other changes to the exterior and definitely before submitting your request for Architectural Control Committee approval. It should make the process much simpler.

These Guidelines could not have been completed without the tireless contributions of two Board members: Stephanie Quade, Vice President, and Fred Coveler, Treasurer. They would much rather remain in the background, but their contributions to the Board and Fleetwood have been innumerable; we owe them a big thank you and will miss their presence on the Board.

In case you are interested, the Architectural Control Committee, presently comprised of three residents (Jerry Montgomery, Richard Ogrin, and Lourez Bullock, Chairman) processed 62 requests in calendar year 2013 and have already handled 12 in 2014. It is our goal to give each application full consideration in a timely manner, since most residents are eager to begin work on their project. If there are issues to resolve (property lines or easements, choice of materials or color, etc.), we are committed to working with each resident to resolve these while achieving the desired effects.

Lourez Bullock, Director Chairman, ACC



### Fleetwood Garden Club

### Next Meeting!

March 4<sup>th</sup> 814 Daria Drive at 10 am

The club will be going on a trip to Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary April 1st. If you are interested in going <a href="mail...janet1465@sbcqlobal.net">e-mail...janet1465@sbcqlobal.net</a>

Janet Miller, Ph.D <u>janet1465@sbcgloval.net</u>

#### HAPPY MARDI GRAS!



"FAT" TUESDAY, MARCH 4TH

### BEGINNING OF SPRING!



THURSDAY, MARCH 20th 2014

## FLEETWOOD FUN EVENTS!







ANNUAL BUS TRIP / DAY TRIP
MESSINA HOF WINERY & BRENHAM, TEXAS

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

### Meet at Bear Creek Community Center Parking Lot 3055 Bear Creek Drive 8:15 AM Sharp!

Bring your spouses, partners, family and friends. Everyone is invited.

You do not need to live in Fleetwood to attend

The bus is free, however, I must guarantee at least 15 people or the trip will be cancelled.

Please do not park near the entrance of the Community Center

The wine tasting at Messina Hof Winery consists of 5 tastings for \$12.

Check out the website www.messinahof.com.

Lunch will be in Brenham, Texas at "Must be Heaven" or any restaurant of your choice.

The Blue Bell Creamery tour is \$6 for adults and \$4 for seniors (55 and older).

RSVP please. Reservations are required for groups over 15 people.

To reserve your seat on the bus, contact Carolyn Haynes at <a href="mailto:chaynes82@hotmail.com">chaynes82@hotmail.com</a> or 281-497-7338.

Please leave your email and phone number.

### **Welcome to the Neighborhood!**



## JOIN US FOR A FLEETWOOD WELCOME PARTY TO HONOR OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Hosted by Fleetwood Fun

Sunday, April 27th, at 4 PM at Tad and Suzanne's house, 1103 Crossroads Drive

Everyone in Fleetwood is invited to attend. We especially encourage those new neighbors who have recently moved to Fleetwood. We hope you will stop by and meet your Fleetwood neighbors, socialize and learn more about our wonderful neighborhood.

Please bring Wine and Hot or cold Hors d'oeuvre. Newcomers do not need to bring anything!

Come and Have Fun!

Please RSVP to Suzanne Smith <a href="mailto:smithsb099@gmail.com">smithsb099@gmail.com</a> or call <a href="mailto:281-797-9219">281-797-9219</a>



### **Treasurer's Report**



This will be my last report to you as Treasurer of the Association. By the time this is published in the Fleetwood newsletter, new Board members will have been elected at the Annual Meeting and new officers will have been chosen by the new Board. All that was set out to accomplish two years ago has been finished and I believe the Association is in the best position it has ever been.

Now I must issue the same reminder that goes out every year. As of mid-February, there were still about 85 property owners who had not yet paid their 2014 Maintenance Assessment or made payment arrangements through Crest Management Company, the Association's management entity. I strongly urge anyone reading this column who has not yet paid to do so promptly or if unable to pay all that you owe at one time to call Crest Management Company and arrange a payment plan. Failure to do either will result not only in interest charges accruing but expensive collections costs and legal fees will soon be incurred and added to what is due. Continued failure to pay the Association what is owed will result in legal action including possible foreclosure of the Association's lien against the delinquent property owner. This is all avoidable and unnecessary.

The certified audit of the Association's financial statements has been completed for 2013 and the Association's auditor, Elaine Combs, CPA, issued her report in early February. Those who attended the Annual Meeting received a copy at that time. If you would like a copy of that report please call or email Liz Trapolino of Crest Management Company and ask for a copy to be sent to you.

Although we had a surprise change in ownership of our trash collection contractor and after the expected usual transition problems our trash and recycling programs seem to be back on track. If you have not already signed up for the recycling service but would like to do so beginning with the second quarter of 2014, please complete the necessary form and submit it, along with your payment of \$37.50 for the balance of 2014, to Crest Management Company. The form you will need can be found on the Association's web site <a href="https://www.fleetwoodpoa.com">www.fleetwoodpoa.com</a> under the "Documents" tab.

As I said in my last newsletter article, it has been a privilege to serve on the Association's Board for the last two years and as Treasurer of the Association.

Regards,

Fred Coveler Treasurer

Email: fcoveler@coveler.com Office Phone: 713-984-8222 Home Phone: 281-493-6619



April 18th

School Holiday



Sunday, April 20th

### FLEETWOOD NEWSLETTER INFORMATION



Please see our website (<u>www.fleetwoodpoa.com</u>) for current news and alerts. The Newsletter is also available on the website and back issues are posted there.

If you have any information for the newsletter, send to me, Suzanne Smith at <a href="mailto:smithsb0929@gmail.com">smithsb0929@gmail.com</a>. Jeffrey Roeth, <a href="mailto:jeffrey@roeth1.com">jeffrey@roeth1.com</a> handles the website.

Please help your next door neighbors and make a copy for those that have no access to a computer. You are always welcome to email me and we can make further arrangements.



## NEIGHBORHOOD PLAYGROUP Come and join the fun!

If you have kids and want to meet others in the area who also have kids, this is an easy way to get connected. We are growing group of friends who have kids of all ages, living in Barker's Landing or Fleetwood (and a few friends from nearby neighborhoods).

Friday afternoons we will meet at a host's house, at a neighborhood pool or playground or at another fun location. This is a great way for our kids to grow up together, and to further enrich our sense of community. It is also a wonderful way for moms and dads to meet other parents.

If interested in joining the email list, Please contact: <a href="mailto:donni.blair@blairevolution.com">donni.blair@blairevolution.com</a>



### TAX DAY!



TUESDAY APRIL 15th





MAΥ 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2014



MAY 11th, 2014

### Fleetwood Neighborhood Nextdoor

A great way to keep up with what's going on in the neighborhood. It is a great place to discuss topics of concern or interest to the neighborhood, find contractor recommendations, and to share upcoming events.

To join, visit:

https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/join

or send and email to

fleetwoodnextdoor@gmail.com

This is a separate website from the official website:

www.fleetwoodpoa.com

where you will find Board meeting notices and minutes, Architectural Control forms, Deed Restrictions, By-Laws, and other forms and documents.



EARTH DAY!
APRIL 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

#### **PLANT A TREE!**



**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2014** 

### **Memorial Super Neighborhood 16**



Fleetwood is in Memorial Super Neighborhood 16, which meets monthly, every 4th Monday of the month, to discuss important issues relative to our neighborhoods. Currently we have 26 Home Owners Associations present at these meetings. We have monthly updates and input on crime from Houston Police Dept. and local Constables, City Council Representatives, along with reports on drainage, infrastructure and beautification. Next, meetings are:

Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

13194 Memorial Drive MDUMC "The Gate" (on the west end of the TJ Maxx shopping center) For more information on Memorial SN 16, go to: www.memorialsn.org For more information on our district, go to: www.houstontx.gov/council/g/

MaryAnn Sterrett-Russell Fleetwood Super Neighborhood Representative (volunteer)

# THINK WHEN DRIVING IN FLEETWOOD!!





**THANKS!!** 



Monday, March 10 - Friday March 14th



### Fleetwood Security

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we have implemented a vehicle sticker program. The vehicle stickers will assist our security guards with identifying non-resident vehicles. It is also a big help if there is an incident and we need to review video footage. If you did not receive yours or need more, please let me know.

Last month, we had an attempted mid-day break-in in which the man fled when he realized someone was home. The vehicle has been identified but unfortunately had no license plate. There was a break-in, also mid-day, for which we have identified the vehicle as well as an accomplice vehicle. The accomplice was a teenage girl who said she was selling magazines for her high school and that she lived on Crossroads. She served as the lookout. The police have received all of the vehicle information.

If you are home during the day, please continue to assist your neighbors that work outside the home by being an extra pair of eyes for our guard. If you see something unusual, or a car without a license plate or a temporary plate, please alert the security truck and our guard will check them out. Also, please don't engage solicitors. Let them know you are home but tell them through your closed door that they need to get off your property and leave the neighborhood. Legitimate companies do not – or at least should not – go door-to-door. At best, they are a nuisance; at worst they are casing the neighborhood looking for empty homes. And, we get reports occasionally of someone claiming to need access to your home or backyard and they look legitimate because they have your personal information, which they can easily find online. Alert security and don't let anyone bully you into anything. Tell them to leave their information, and you'll call their office.

I will continue to communicate security issues through the newsletter, hotline sign, and "Fleetbook", our neighborhood's informal forum. If you have not already signed up there, I encourage you to do so. It is a great way to meet your neighbors and to exchange information. You can sign up here - <a href="https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/">https://fleetwoodneighborhood.nextdoor.com/login/</a> We are also working on a master email list to further communicate timely information.

I think it's important to keep residents informed so that we are all reminded to be vigilant and remember to lock our doors, set our alarms, not leave valuables in our vehicles, etc. Other surrounding neighborhoods, including those that are gated, have the same frequency of incidents but may not communicate them as openly as we have been. Perception and misinformation can cause us to be incorrectly viewed as having a crime problem, which can affect how others view our neighborhood. Fleetwood always has been and continues to be a low crime neighborhood in a low crime part of Houston.

Please contact me with your comments or questions – 832-229-8839 or pgweller@gmail.com

Phyllis Weller Security

## Join The Barker's Landing Swim Team



Online Registration NOW OPEN! www.swimbarkers.org

Register in person or just come hang out with the team at Watson's Backyard Grill on Grisby Road~

Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 12-2pm on the party patio!

Register in person and enjoy the team playdate at The Barker's Landing Playground ~ Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2-4pm

Meet our Excellent Coaching staff, Helpful Volunteers, Friends New and Old! Welcome Head Coach Jessica Mosholder, Katy Taylor HS Mustang Swim Coach!

The Barracudas extend a warm invitation to you to join our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season of summer swim league fun! Practice begins after school in late April and runs weekdays through June. We will also have a mock meet, four dual swim meets, two championship meets and several social activities during the season. The End of Season Awards Party will occur on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Swimmers as young as 4 and as old as 18 are welcome to join the team! Participants of all abilities are encouraged to sign up; all you need is to be comfortable in the water and able to cross the width of pool unassisted. We have excellent coaching! Rookies will start with basic stroke mechanics while more advanced swimmers can fine-tune their skills.

The Barracudas have been very successful in competition, winning our Division Meet of Champs and placing second out of twenty five league teams represented at ALL STARS!

So join us! Swim Team is a great way to make neighborhood friends, to improve in a sport that you can enjoy all of your life, as cross-training for general fitness and other sports and it's definitely a lot of fun!

Please visit our website at <u>www.swimbarkers.org</u> for more information. For questions: please email us at <u>communications@swimbarkers.org</u>.

Barkers Landing Swim Team is a 501 C 3 organization and your donations are tax deductible! Please take advantage our great sponsorship opportunities! We appreciate your support!