



Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association



Volume 22, Issue 1

www.springbrancoaks.com

January-February 2013

SPECIAL SPEAKERS SCHEDULED FOR 2013 GENERAL MEETINGS

Your civic association is only as good as you make it. Make 2013 the year that you get involved! ...and start by attending the General Membership meetings.

We will start off the new year with two great speakers.

Special police unit

On Tuesday, January 15, Sgt. Tracy Hicks from the Houston Police Department's Auto Theft and Burglary Motor Vehicle Division will be our speaker.

This is a special unit funded by a state grant, with money provided from the \$2 fee included on your auto registration. Sgt. Hicks will have a PowerPoint presentation on the units' work and some give-aways. Come and get some good tips on keeping your cars safe!

What's new at MAM

For our April 16 meeting, Martha Macris, executive director for Memorial Assistance Ministries (MAM) will come with her volunteer co-ordinator to talk

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PEN

Happy New Year!

SBOCA's Board was very productive in 2012 for the betterment of our neighborhood by establishing, presenting to the residents, and filing with Harris County new Guidelines and By-Laws. I want to thank the Board and Committee Chairs for all of their hard work they volunteer and contribute to SBOCA.

We welcome the addition of our newly elected Board member, Dan Hollingsworth. He joins me, Carolyn Schooley,

Linda Lochli and Linda Cover to the 2013 Board of Directors. Our first Executive Committee meeting is Tuesday, January 8, 2013, where we will elect officers and plan for the year.

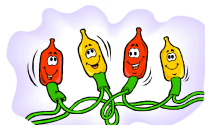
Our next General Member meeting is Tuesday, January 15, 2013, and we will share with our residents the 2013 SBOCA goals for the year. **Please mark your calendars for our first meeting at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church starting at 6:30 p.m.**

Sheree Speck

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE WINNERS OF THE SBOCA YARD DECORATION CONTEST!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our neighborhood festive for the Christmas holidays and to our judges for making the selections. Here they are:

- 1st. place winner – Don & Claudia Siems - 9310 Willowview
- 2nd. Place winner – Winston & Yvonne Hall - 9305 Walterville
- 3rd. place winner – Misty Derouen - 9406 Willowview
- Honorable mention - John & Stacia Gollihar – 9327 Willowview
- Honorable mention - Wallace & Viola Schelnick – 9362 Livernois



Upcoming Meetings

General Membership and Executive Committee meetings are held at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Latham Hall, 1656 Blalock Road, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Annual Membership Meetings

January 15

April 16

October 15

Executive Committee Meetings

January 8

March 19

June 18

September 17

National Night Out - Monday, October 1

Details will be announced later.

DROCOM

Meetings are held on the second Thursday each month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Trini Sosa Community Center, 1414 Wirt at Westview.

SPECIAL SPEAKERS

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about the wonderful community services that MAM provides. The Houston Chronicle featured their enlarged facility on Blalock in its Ultimate Memorial section on December 27. Come and hear how they help others, and how you can help them.

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Friday, January 11
Recycle

Thursday, January 24
Tree trash

Friday, January 25
Recycle

Friday, February 8
Recycle

Friday, February 22
Recycle

Thursday, February 28
Junk trash

Friday, March 8
Recycle

We love our
pets in Spring
Branch Oaks!

Does everyone
on your block
love them too?
Please be con-
siderate of

your neighbors and carry a
plastic bag with you to clean up
after your dog if you walk it on
others' yards and the street.



Invoices for the annual \$20.00
assessment fee will be mailed
soon. Payments are due by
February 28, 2012, and should
be sent to:

Attention: Treasurer
c/o SBOCA
P.O. Box 801562
Houston, TX 77280



TREES CAN BE AN ISSUE FOR NEIGHBORS

Our subdivision is
blessed to have so many
beautiful old trees!
However, they can be-
come a problem, espe-
cially as they age and are not kept pruned.

In a recent newspaper article, attorney
Ronald Lipman answered a question regard-
ing a large tree whose branches hang over
into the adjacent yard. The homeowner
whose tree it is refused to trim the branches
or to allow her neighbor to have it
trimmed, even though large branches and
lots of leaves and acorns are falling into the
neighbors' yard.

Mr. Lipman responded that a homeowner
has the right to cut back your neighbor's

tree to the property line, whether permis-
sion is granted or not. Professional tree
trimmers would have to use tall ladders on
your side of the property line and not go
over into the adjacent property.

Another option is to call the City of Hous-
ton Inspections & Public Services depart-
ment at 311. If the city determines that the
tree is a nuisance, it will issue a notice to
have the tree removed within 10 days or
face a fine. The city could then remove the
tree at the owners' expense.

We hope that none of these measures would
be necessary in Spring Branch Oaks, and
that all our residents will be respectful of
each other as they maintain their property.

UTILITY CONSTRUCTION IS UNDERWAY

Most SBOCA residents are aware that the City of Houston has begun a comprehensive project to replace the sanitary sewers in our area, being carried out by Portland Utilities Construction Company. Workers may be expected on the streets and side and backlot easements any time from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. over the next 90 days, beginning December 28, 2012. During these times, please restrain pets and limit water use. Work being performed may include:

- installing new pipe inside existing sanitary lines
- excavations to reconnect sanitary services
- surface restoration (sodding, plants, etc.)
- remove and restore fence to allow for equipment and materials
- clean and TV line segments
- installing new manholes
- smoke test sewer main for leaks

The civic association has no jurisdiction here, but if you have a question or an issue with the construction, these contacts for the project are available 24 hours a day:

Superintendent - Randy Higginbotham (281-733-7425)

Foreman - Robert Smith (832-370-5029)

Foreman - Josh Higginbotham (281-635-3917)

SBOCA Officers for 2012

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Sheree Speck | shereespeck@speckinsurance.com | 713-647-0088 |
| Carolyn Schooley | carolynschooley@sbcglobal.net | 713-464-2931 |
| Linda Cover | cover.linda@yahoo.com | 713-464-7787 |
| Linda Lochli | lindalochli@sbcglobal.net | 713-461-6504 |
| Dan Hollingsworth | haul_e@mail.com | 214-585-3140 |

Other contacts

| | | | |
|---------|----------------|--|--------------|
| DROCOM: | James Beuchele | scouts251@yahoo.com | 713-973-9312 |
| COP: | Jim Majsterski | JimMajsterski@aol.com | 713-973-0740 |