



Garden District News

Roseland Terrace, Kleinert Terrace and Drehr Place Historic Neighborhoods

Spring 2011

Garden District is Goin' Green for St. Pats!

By: MINDY PIONTEK

What's loud and long and green all over? The St. Patrick's Day parade, of course. This year's parade will commence at 10 AM on Saturday, March 19, rain or shine, and meander from the corner of South Acadian Thruway and Hundred Oaks, along Eugene, up Terrace, until it takes its final turn toward the Perkins Road overpass. As usual, it will feature marching bands, bagpipes, horses, and tons of floats whose riders have a liberal hand with the throws.

A St. Patrick's Day Parade has rolled in Baton Rouge off and on since the 1960's as part of the yearly celebration of Irish groups like the Sons of Erin and the Baton Rouge Irish Club. Originally, parades were downtown and traversed Third St. The end of the 1970's saw interest in those parades fade.

What can be considered "our" parade began again in the 1980's with Pat Shingleton's help. It started as a walking parade with a route that began at the City Park Golf Course and ended at the far side of the overpass, near Zee Zee Gardens. A few years later, the route was extended to its current start, adding a couple of miles to the parade. For additional information on the parade and its history, see parade-



Michael Bardwell anticipates beads at last year's parade.

group.com .

The parade has grown longer and longer with every year, and it has acquired something of a split personality. Through most of our neighborhood, it's a family affair in which more than half of the throngs lining the streets seem to be children.

According to eight year old Caroline

Bardwell, the highlight of the parade is "yelling and catching stuff," especially the stuffed animals. "I'm always hoarse by the end of the parade."

As the parade reaches its culmination, however, the rowdiness increases. If you've

See GOIN' GREEN, page 5

The 2011 Garden District Centennial Tour of Homes

By: FLO ULMER

As a homeowner on one of the previous Garden District Tours, I can report firsthand: One of the best things about being on tour is the motivation you have to FINALLY get all of those little "honey do's" done.

On May 1st, a signature event will be held within our neighborhood: The 2011 Garden District Centennial Tour of Homes. Hundreds of folks will be walking the streets as they visit the 8 homes on tour. This gives

us a perfect opportunity to show Baton Rouge the wonderful place we live. This is also the perfect time to GET MOTIVATED and get our own yards (mine included) ready to show off.

Not only will 8 homes be on tour – but the entire Garden District. Plan to mow the grass, trim the bushes, weed the beds, and finish that project you started over Thanksgiving.

In support of the 8 homes on tour on May 1st - Let's all get ready.

Homes on Tour:

Liz and Milton Spaulding, 2161 Terrace
Mark Kantrow, 1229 Drehr
Maxine and Greg Watts, 718 Camelia
Sandi Lucas, 2172 Cherokee
Lisa and Albert Pellissier, 2231 Cherokee
Katie and Chris Alexander,
2247 Oleander
Martha and Mark Upton, 1921 Myrtle
Barbara Gray, 2201 Myrtle

Volunteer Spotlight

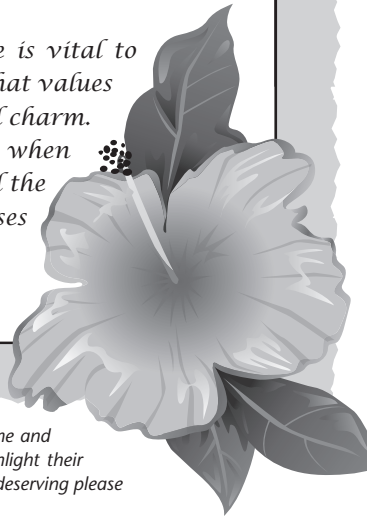
CINDY ELLIOTT

If you live in the Garden District, you probably know Cindy Elliot. She has lived in the Garden District for many years and has been active in improving the neighborhood since she arrived. She has been described as a "perfect neighbor," a great friend and an inspiration. She teaches at Southeastern Louisiana University and is an avid walker.

Cindy has served on the board of the Garden District Civic Association and has volunteered for many projects over the years. In 2003, with Heather Westra, she revived the Holiday Lighting contest, one of the most popular annual neighborhood activities. She also inspired Flo Ulmer to tackle the Tour of Homes and has helped coordinate the docent volunteers needed to make the Tour a success.

Most recently, Cindy has been the woman behind the Centennial Celebration activities. She came up with the idea and has gathered the many people needed to accomplish such an ambitious project, which includes a neighborhood cookbook, another Tour of Homes, an updated neighborhood directory, block party progressive dinners, a fun run and champagne stroll, a children's pet show and parade, and more.

With her gift of neighborhood spirit she is vital to keeping the Garden District a community that values both its rich history and its inimitable social charm. And she just makes it look more glamorous when she cruises through the neighborhood behind the wheel of her vintage convertible, sun glasses on and scarf waving in the breeze.



To help thank those Garden District neighbors who volunteer their time and energy to our neighborhood, we're presenting this regular feature to highlight their contributions. If you would like to submit a name or story about someone deserving please contact Greta Corona at gretacorona@cox.net.

Car Key Alarm Security Tip

Put your car keys beside your bed at night!

If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get into your house, just press the panic button on your keychain remote. It will set off your car alarm, and the horn will continue to sound until you either turn it off, or the car battery dies.

Your car keys are a security alarm system that you probably already have, and it's one that requires no installation.

Test it! You can set off your car alarm from almost everywhere inside your house.

It works if you park in your driveway or garage. If your car alarm goes off while someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the intruder won't stick around.

And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there.

This can also be useful in an emergency; if you can't reach a phone, you can activate your car alarm to attract attention.

If you have any great security ideas, tricks or other useful information please send it to us at www.gdcabr.org!

Sign Up for the New Neighborhood Directory!

By: MARY FONTENOT

Won't it be nice to grab an up-to-date directory and find the neighbor you want? If you haven't yet entered your info, there are three ways you can do it.

First, and best, go online at http://gdcabr.org/hood_members_signup.php and fill in whatever info you wish to list. Or, send it to me at mufont@cox.net, or call me at 288-1950.

There are volunteers going door-to-door collecting data for the newsletter. Please help us by giving us your information one way or another. If you do not wish to be in the directory please let us know.

NEWS BRIEFS

Stabbed In The Art

Stabbed in the Art celebrates local, emerging artists and hosts a monthly opening each first Friday of the month at 1284 Perkins Road, at the corner of Perkins and Terrace. Jared Loftus, who owns Taco de Paco and Ninja Snowballs, graciously invites local artists to exhibit new work. There is an application process, and artists must submit examples of their work at stabbedintheart.com. Mix and mingle with your fellow Garden District neighbors and check out our corner of the Baton Rouge art scene. See you the first Friday of the month!

Easter Egg Hunt Planned

The annual Garden District Easter Egg Hunt is back in action. Join your neighbors on Sunday, April 10, at 714 Drehr (the southwest corner of Drehr and Oleander) at the home of Amy and Mike Cave. Kids should bring a basket for their goodies. The hunt will begin at 3:00, and the eggs always go fast.

Call for Docents

Get a free ticket and volunteer for a 1 ½ hour shift on May 1st. Either from 2:00-3:30 or 3:30-5:00. Email: [Beryl Mack at: rayberyl.mack@yahoo.com](mailto:BerylMack@yahoo.com)

What do docents do? They are volunteers who make sure the homes stay secure, but they really just stand around in one of the houses and visit with everyone who is touring. Then they go and visit with everyone at all the other houses (or vice versa – depending on your shift). It's a moving social event of friends and neighbors.

Saving the Windows to Our Neighborhood's Soul

By: MINDY PIONTEK

We live in a neighborhood full of colorful characters. You see them whenever you stroll along our oak lined streets. There are brightly bedecked extroverts, stately octogenarians, and they come in every shape, size and hue. For those of us who live in the Garden District, they are what make our neighborhood special--the houses. With all of the different styles, our homes are as varied as the people who live in them, and our homes' street appeal is enhanced by the character of their windows. They are one of the most visible architectural details that help make up for a dearth of closets.

Much of what gives old windows their charm is the fact that glass is an imperfect solid. Over time, the glass "runs" and thickens toward the bottom, creating the wavy look of old glass. Besides the glass itself, the construction of wood windows reflects the craftsmanship of older homes.

"The biggie is the exterior mullions," says Scott Bardwell, a developer and Garden District resident. "When a window has divided lights, those windows have wood that protrudes on the inside and outside with one pane of glass."

Unfortunately, for all their beauty and character, old windows can be drafty and inefficient. With today's "green" emphasis on efficiency, many people replace their house's original wood windows with more efficient, double paned aluminum ones.

Bardwell bemoans renovations that replace historic windows with modern insulated ones "that do not maintain the same character of the home. Today's cheaper,



The Noland's house, post-renovation. The replacement sunroom windows (lower right) match the original windows of the facade.

energy efficient windows have two panes of glass with aluminum strips that only look like divided light." Bardwell calls the new windows "a replacement in size only."

There are other options, as Bardwell is quick to point out, "For a little more money, the manufacturer can make an extruded divided light window and achieve both efficiency with two panes and historical accuracy with extruded mullions."

Jay and Elizabeth Noland, who recently renovated a house on Kleinert, chose to preserve the historical accuracy of the windows in their two story Arts and Crafts style tudor. They chose to preserve the wood windows in the original part of the house and simply painted them. An enclosed sunroom presented its own challenge.

According to Jay Noland, "There was an amalgamation of different window styles, different pane sizes. Our window company, Lamaison Complete, did a good job of measuring the pane sizes in the rest of

the house and choosing a pane that helped unify the windows."

To replace the plate glass windows installed when the sunroom was enclosed, the Nolands chose double paned windows with wood on both sides and a bronze colored spacer bar inside. "The new windows and insulation in the ceiling have really improved the comfort of the room," says Noland. "Now the sunroom is pretty close to the temperature of the rest of the house."

If you prefer to avoid the cost of replacing the windows in your home, another option is window repair. According to an article in the April/May 2010 issue of Fine Home Building, there is minimal financial advantage to replacing old

windows versus refurbishing. The article cites a joint study in Vermont involving the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, the University of Vermont's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and a department of the US Army that compared various window renovation and replacement options.

According to the study, when properly repaired, old windows can be refurbished to be almost as efficient as modern ones, with modern windows providing a yearly efficiency savings (in icy Vermont) of only about \$40 dollars a year. One advantage to refurbishing wood windows is that they were originally constructed to last and to be repaired when damaged.

Unlike our too frequently disposable society, the mindset that built the original wood windows expected that over time the windows would deteriorate. Accordingly, their construction lends itself to repair. The article in the April/May 2010 Fine Home Building article, "Should Your Old Wood Windows Be Saved," offers instructions on how to address common problems in wood windows and says that many repairs can be performed by homeowners with good carpentry skills.

Some of our houses might have creaky floors, small closets and creative wiring, but they have beautiful, old windows, and with a little extra effort or cost, we can help maintain the historical integrity of our neighborhood and the individual personality of our homes.

Find Information about Property SOLD in the Garden District:
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Spending A Lifetime in the Garden District

By: MINDY PIONTEK

Sis McIntire Pegues has lived in her home on Terrace Avenue near the corner of Eugene for all but thirteen years of her life. "My parents, Klein and Alice McIntire, built the house in 1941. My brother, Ronnie, was born in '40, so he was one when they moved in. I was born at the old Our Lady of the Lake hospital in '42. Other than when I married and moved away, I've lived here all my life. I came back in 1978, when Dad died."

The Garden District was a much different place when Sis was growing up. "Behind the house there was just a field. You could look behind us to the old Perkins home on Kleinert."

All the open space made it seem like the country, a feeling enhanced by some of the neighbors. "If you stood on the corner of Kleinert and Eugene and looked toward Myrtle, you could see a barn where people kept horses."

Sis and her friends, like Nita and Pat Wilson, Berlin Perkins, Hans Sternberg, Dickie Myer, Charlie and Geannie Kantrow, and Donnie Gauither used to love running around catching lightning bugs, "You know, the green ones," in a jar. "I remember how much fun we had—our parents didn't worry about the dark." When she and her friends got tired, they would just lie on their backs, watching the lightning bugs. For most of her childhood, Sis's house was the gathering spot for many of the neighborhood kids. "It was the house to come to, because Mom would just let us play. We'd drag the dining room chairs into the back yard, bump, bump, bump, down the cement steps with the screen door banging on them." Then she and her friends built

forts and tents in the back yard.

Sis's mother also opened her house to the local Girl Scout troop from St. Joseph's Academy, Troop 154. "It was huge to be a Girl Scout back in the late 40's and early 50's," says Sis. Back then, there were mostly fields between the Academy and the McIntire house. Sis and her fellow Girl Scouts would walk "in a drove from the Academy and come here and my Mom would have 2 dozen cupcakes and homemade lemonade waiting."

After the refreshments, the girls would work on merit badges, led by Mrs. Alice McIntire. "Mom would put all the leaves in the dining room table and just let us spread out," says Sis.

Today, Sis keeps alive one of her mother's passions—her old fashioned roses. With the help of her college roommate at USL, Kathy Myer, Sis has grafted canes of her mother's Cecile Brunner sweetheart roses onto more vigorous stock. "I still have three canes from the original bush that Mama planted after moving into the house."

The roses were not merely an addition to the landscape. "When my brother was at Catholic High, Mom got involved in making corsages for my brother's and his friends' dates for all the dances," of which there were many, since both Sis and her brother took ballroom dancing as kids.

Sis can still see her mother's corsages "plain as day. She'd get the little pink rose buds, with little blue streamers pulled through, and she'd use a lot of tulle. I remember thinking they were just a miracle."

Over the years, Sis has seen the neighborhood catch hold and flourish, like her

mother's roses. Houses have replaced the fields, the horses are gone, and Perkins is no longer the gravel road on which she learned how to drive. The neighborhood, however, is still filled with friends, and Sis is still caring for her home and the roses.



GARDEN DISTRICT
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Garden District News

The Garden District News is published quarterly by the Garden District Civic Association and is edited by


Mindy Piontek

If you have comments or story ideas that you would like to submit to the publication contact Mindy Piontek at mmpiontek70@yahoo.com.

You can also mail submissions to:

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UPDATED PHONE NUMBERS FOR GARDEN DISTRICT SECURITY

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, or if you see a crime in progress, call BR Police Dispatch at 389-2000, or call 911.

If a GD security patrol officer happens to already be in the area, Dispatch will call them.

TO DISCUSS ONGOING SECURITY CONCERNS regarding criminal activity, Sgt. Don Stone, BRPD and head of the GD security patrol, is available at 389-5247 (office) or 571-7244 (cell). Please begin all messages with your name, address, and phone number.

Sgt. Stone is happy to talk about security concerns, but he should not be called for emergencies, traffic or parking violations, or other non-threatening matters. For those concerns, please call BR Police Dispatch or the appropriate EBR agency.

If you would like to inform the GD Security Patrol that you'll be out of town, you can submit a house vacancy notice at the Garden District website: http://www.gdcabr.org/form_outOfTown.php

Continued from Page 1

seen the detritus in the parade's wake, both in terms of trash on the streets and weaving masses of people, you know that the parade takes more than a geographical turn heading over the Perkins Road bridge.

Once the street sweepers follow the last fire truck, though, it's amazing how quickly the city's workers get to work cleaning the broken strands of plastic beads, the crushed candies, the errant Frisbees, and the discarded bottles and wrappers littering the parade route. By early in the week, our neighborhood is back to normal with only a few beads snagged in the branches of our beloved trees and the bright green shamrocks stenciled on the streets to remind us of the frivolity.

Keep your eyes open—when you see the barricades stacked on Hundred Oaks,

Brandy Milk Punch

In honor of the St. Patrick's Day Parade, which will be held this year on Saturday, March 19, Greta Corona has shared a favorite parade day recipe. Who says everything has to be green?

- 1 ½ oz. brandy
- 1 tsp. sugar
- Dash of vanilla
- 2 ½-3 oz. half and half

Serve over ice and garnish with freshly grated nutmeg.

If you have a favorite recipe that you'd like to see here, email it to mmpiontek70@yahoo.com. Also, don't forget to submit recipes for the Garden District Centennial Cookbook. Contact Heather Westra at 2335 Oleander St., 344-5634, or email your recipe to gdcookbook@gmail.com.

Eugene, Terrace, and Perkins, you know the parade is almost here. Then on March 19, at the 26th St. Patrick's Day Parade, help the neighborhood celebrate a part of

Baton Rouge's history. Put on your finest green, dye your beer, and get ready to yell, "Throw me something mister" with an Irish accent.

Etiquette for Keeping the Garden District Pet Friendly

The Garden District is a very pet-friendly neighborhood. Here are some "canine etiquette" tips to help us all keep it that way:

- It's not courteous to let your dog walk on people's front lawns, or urinate on their landscaping. Instead, walk your dog on the sidewalk and allow access only to "rough" areas to eliminate.
- Don't leave your house without a

plastic bag for picking up after your dog! Or try one of those handy refillable bag dispensers that attach right to the leash.

- And don't forget to use it, even if your dog eliminates in the space between the sidewalk and the street. Remember, people DO walk in those areas to get to their cars. You wouldn't like a "surprise" stuck to your shoe when you're hurrying off

to work; why would anyone else?

- When approaching another person walking their dog, tighten up on your leash to make your dog walk by your side, especially if the other person is already tightening up as a courtesy to you and your dog. This is usually a sign that their dog likes to pull toward oncoming dogs.

If you allow your dog to remain on a long leash and run into the path of a dog that is restrained, you are risking a confrontation.

- Most people out walking their dog are interested in allowing their pet to socialize with other dogs, but be sure to gauge their interest before approaching.

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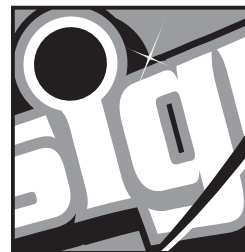
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Join the GDCA Board and make a difference

The 2011 Annual Meeting of the Garden District Civic Association was held on February 13, 2011, at the First Church of Christ, Scientist Church on Park Blvd.

The first speaker for this year's event was Steve Shurtz, Urban Forestry & Landscape Manager - Department of Public Works. He discussed the condition of the trees in the Garden District and suggested the best thing for the median oaks is their own natural mulch. Tempted as we might be to rake and bag the leaves, we take away Mother Nature's fertilizer.

The second speaker was Marlo Hill from the Baton Rouge Sanitary Sewer Overflow Capital Improvement Program. The program, mandated by the EPA, will directly affect the Garden District. More to come on this.

We heard from Cindy Elliott about the 2011 Centennial events, Flo Ulmer on the Tour of Homes, Heather Westra with the Centennial Cookbook, Mary Fontenot about the GD Directory, and last but not least, Sgt. Don Stone from the Baton Rouge City Police. Rosary Beck gave the financial report.

The board presented the slate of new board members which was voted on by the members present. New board members are as follows; Beverly Arceneaux, Rosary Beck, Susan Bergethon, Erin Michelle Brush, Beth Floyd, Willie Fontenot, Trisha Fos, Da-

vid Franz, Nancy Grush, Andy Johnson, Ray Mack, Jay Noland, Tim Page and Mindy Pi-ontek.

The board will officially elect officers at the first board meeting in March. Welcome to all the new members.

In Memory of Philip Kirkpatrick

The Garden District has lost a long time resident. On Saturday, February 19, 2011, Philip Kirkpatrick Jones died peacefully in his home.

Jones was born in 1920, raised on the edge of the Garden District, Roseland Terrace as it was then known, and attended DuFroq Elementary. He graduated from the University High School in 1937, received a

B. A. from LSU in 1940, and earned a law degree from LSU Law School in 1948. He and his wife, Mary Jane Kincade, raised three children and moved to the Alfred John house at the corner of Camelia and Wisteria Streets in 1972. Jones had a distinguished career and was a model of the perfect gentleman.

The Garden District will miss him.

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Green T-shirts with GDCA crest on the front, and a drawing of Park Boulevard by neighbor Jon Emerson (pictured above) on the back.

Order online at http://www.gdcabr.org/board_tshirts.php or call Alex at 267-5408; \$12 each.

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