

NORHILL NEWS

NEWS FROM NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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The Importance of Membership

You've heard the expression, "every vote counts," and sometimes in close elections it's easy to see the truth in that. But in a neighborhood association, you vote with your membership — and every "membership vote" counts all the time, in every possible way.

Firstly, your membership dues help fund the various activities of Norhill Neighborhood Association. This newsletter, for example, costs about \$850 to print and mail every other month. Many of our social activities are supported, in part, by funding from the general NNA budget. We have legal and insurance expenses, and we make contributions to support area activities that are good for Norhillians.

But more importantly, you "vote" by choosing to donate your time and energy to make things happen for NNA. It takes a lot of volunteer time to organize holiday parties, crawfish boils, sportaculars, ice cream socials, happy hours, dinner clubs, cycling clubs, tree planting projects and the many informative programs we offer at the monthly meetings.

An active, vibrant neighborhood association makes life

better for everyone, and the more people who step forward to help support these activities, the better it gets. In fact, it really can't be done successfully with a handful of hardy souls. We're getting ready to stage another Norhill Bungalow Home Tour in October (see article on page 2) and we will need dozens of people to help support that event. Our last home tour in 2012 generated enough money to purchase the five historic district signs we have installed throughout the neighborhood.

On a personal level, the friendships you make with your Norhill neighbors provide more than enough value to justify membership in NNA. But if you're still not convinced, the free barbecue at our annual Member Appreciation Dinner should seal the deal!

We have more than doubled membership in NNA over the past year, and we're hoping to add at least 100 new members in 2014. If you've been meaning to join, this would be an excellent time to make that decision. You can join online at www.norhill.org/membership, or you can print out an application form from the website and mail it along with your check to our post office box.



Membership committee members and Block Captains wanted

Membership V.P. Chris Lang is seeking volunteers to serve on his membership committee. This would involve making occasional phone calls and delivering membership information to interested Norhill neighbors. He is also putting together a network

of Block Captains who will be responsible for getting the word out about important NNA activities and helping us identify new neighbors. If you're willing to help, please call Chris at 281-222-2629 or email him at johnclang86@gmail.com.

President's Message

I am very pleased to report that Norhill is bustling with activity as we approach our 90th birthday. Did you know the original plat of East and North Norhill was accepted for use by the public on June 16th, 1924? I truly believe the Varner Realty Company folks would be proud of the manner in which we Norhillians have cared for this neighborhood over the past 90 years. Your volunteer NNA board is working hard to create events and activities to bring neighbors together and keep NNA relevant to the modern times we now live in.



I enjoyed visiting with many of you at recent NNA events, like the membership appreciation dinner in March and the first annual NNA crawfish boil in April (see photos page 3). Our Social Events Director Dave Hamilton is planning a long list of social events throughout the year. Stay tuned!

Membership V.P. Chris Lang reports that we have surpassed the 200 mark in paid memberships so far this year, and we're well on the way to reaching our goal of 300 members by year-end. Don't forget to join or renew if you haven't already.

Deed Restrictions V.P. Lawrence Febo and his deed restriction committee are seeing an ever increasing number of applications for improvements to these historic bungalows. This is a tough job and I'm very pleased and gratified at the conscientious effort they are putting in.

For those of you who have yet to become involved with NNA activities, now is your chance — there are more ways than ever before. You can attend a social gathering or NNA meeting, host a happy hour, take a bike ride, join the dinner group, volunteer on a committee (deed restrictions, bungalow tour), provide maintenance of our historical signs or even serve on the board!

It's going to be a fun year. I hope you'll join us.

—Tom Patton

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Date Announced for 2014 Bungalow Home Tour

Saturday, October 18 has been selected as the official date for our 2014 Norhill Bungalow Home Tour according to event chairperson Rebekah Mayfield. Tour homes will be open to the public from 1-6 p.m. on that day.

We are planning to have six shining examples of arts and crafts, bungalow style architecture on display for Norhill neighbors and visitors from Greater Houston. As we discovered at the 2012 tour, many people are curious what can be done to make gracious and comfortable living possible in a smaller bungalow-type home. This is especially true for people who have lived for years on the outskirts of our metro area and now wish to be closer to the many amenities in Downtown Houston.

Rebekah reports we already have commitments for three of our six houses, and several key committee positions have been filled. However, we still need help on the sponsorships and docent committees. If you're willing to help, please give her a call at 832-439-7219 or email her at rebekah.mayfield5000@gmail.com.

Crawfish Boil, Member Dinner Attract Hungry Norhillians

Dave Hamilton and his social events committee have been cranking out a steady stream of enjoyable social activities to bring Norhill residents together. Attendees at the March 25th Member Appreciation Dinner were treated to free barbecue from Mark's.

Ten days later, we gathered at the Febo and Jorgenson homes on West Cottage for some tasty crawfish and fixin's. Then we went to the gym to work off a few pounds!

Our First Friday Happy Hours are now fully subscribed for the balance of the year, but Dave can always use help organizing and staging our many events. Call him at 281-413-6338 if you can help.



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NORHILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2014 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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**Second Vice President,
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Director**

Mike Clennan
713-864-1204

Director-at-large

Daryl Sinkule
832-465-1051

Director-at-large

Pedro Ayarzagoitia
281-808-8748

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 11** Norhill Cycling Club monthly ride
- **May 27** NNA Monthly Meeting – Roland Altinger, HCAD on “Your Property Taxes.”
- **June 6** First Friday Happy Hour, Phillip Schaider and Sam Jameson’s, 1131 Winston Street, 6:30 p.m.
- **June 8** Norhill Cycling Club monthly ride
- **June 20** Norhill Diner’s Group
- **June 24** NNA Monthly Meeting – Ginnie McConn, President, Houston Heights Womans Club

NOTE: No First Friday Happy Hour in July due to holiday



Norhill News
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 facebook.com/norhill.org

NORHILL YARD OF THE MONTH

Submitted by Linda Marx (713-503-0424)

We are pleased to recognize these Norhill Yard of the Month recipients. Thanks for helping keep Norhill beautiful!



April: Bob and Melissa Suhr, 703 W Cottage



May: John and Barbara Little, 1039 Key Street