



garden oaks *Gazette*

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

March 2025

Volume 47 Issue 3

Introducing the GOCC Social Committee

Emily Stephens - I've been acting as social chair for the Garden Oaks Civic Club for the last two years, bringing events such as the Wakefield Shuffle, the Garage Sale, and the Azalea Street Beer & Wine Extravaganza. There are a lot of volunteer hours required and I'm grateful for the assistance I've had in the past, but with two committed volunteers to help, we are now excited to call ourselves a "committee". In addition to the events mentioned above, we have plans for quarterly social gatherings, park cleanup days and much more!

To stay informed of all the exciting things to come, please follow us on instagram @GardenOaksHouston and make sure you are registered to receive our monthly neighborhood e-blast. (Sign up at gardenoaks.org; scroll down to the "register" button.) With that, allow me to introduce to you our two new social committee members: Kate Gould and Melissa Brady!



Kate Gould - We relocated from Calgary to Houston a little over two years ago and felt incredibly fortunate to discover Garden Oaks. We instantly fell in love with this hidden gem, charmed by its welcoming residents, proximity to downtown, and the tranquil, slow-paced atmosphere right in the heart of the city. We cherish our time spent strolling through the neighborhood with our Frenchie, Bruce, and enjoy socializing with neighbors. We have met many incredible families, and we enjoy watching our daughter create new friendships with other Garden Oaks friends! I absolutely love meeting new people and am eager to connect with more wonderful community members.



Upcoming Events

GOCC Meeting:
March 4 at 7 PM
Great Heights Brewing
Guest Speaker - Betty Heacker -North Shepherd District

GOMO Board Meeting
March 19 at 6:30 PM
Urban Office --
1100 W. 23rd St.

(Continued on page 3)

2025 Garden Oaks Civic Club CommUnity Partners

Thank you to the following neighbors and neighborhood businesses who are supporting our new CommUnity Partnership Program for 2025.

If you/your business is interested in joining our annual program, please email membership@gardenoaks.org.

Nationwide Tools & Supplies
NationwideDist.com

Deanna Zugheri, Keller Williams Metropolitan
Gardenoakshomes.com

Stephanie Pribble, The Pribble Group
www.Pribblegroup.com

Geordie Hrdlicka, Verde Wealth Group
www.verdewealth.com

Katie Hilburn, Katie Hilburn Interiors
Katiehilburninteriors.com

Great Heights Brewing Company
Ghbrewing.com

Shane Davis, First United Mortgage Group
www.shanedavishomeloans.com

Frost Bank, 4606 N. Shepherd
Frostbank.com

Article Submission Guidelines

1. MS Word or text document as an attachment (not the body of the email), left justified, no headers or footers. Keep formatting to a minimum.
2. Photos need to be sent separately. You may embed photos to show where they go with the article but separate full size and resolution photos must also be provided outside of the document.
3. Articles should be titled. These can be as simple as the name of the committee or the event, but a concise title should be provided for all other articles.

Civic Club Officers

President – Mike Stephens 303.886.1870
president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Paul Vincent 713.834.7249
vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Brian Rabe
treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – Bill Shaughnessy 713-504-8336
secretary@gardenoaks.org

Committee Chairs

Beautification – Pam Parks 713 686 7728
beautification@gardenoaks.org

Constable Program - Terry Jeanes
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constable@gardenoaks.org

Membership – Dian Austin 713 691 6505
membership@gardenoaks.org

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(Continued from page 1)

Melissa Brady - Nathan and I lived in the Heights/Independence Heights before recently moving to the Garden Oaks area. In November 2024, we tied the knot here in Houston and couldn't be happier to start this new chapter!

I grew up in Houston, always admiring the Heights and Garden Oaks neighborhoods, knowing that one day I'd love to live there. I've always been drawn to the beautiful homes, welcoming atmosphere, and great neighborhood spots. Nathan, on the other hand, is originally from Grand Rapids, Michigan, but after three years in Texas, he's a full-fledged Texan now! We love hosting get-togethers and making great memories with friends and family. You'll often find us at an Astros game, spending time with loved ones, or exploring new places around the world. We're excited to be part of the community and look forward to meeting more neighbors.



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Garden Oaks Civic Club Minutes

Bill Shaughnessy, GOCC Secretary

Tuesday, February 4, 2025 @ Great Heights Brewing

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 pm by President Mike Stephens.

A motion to accept the minutes from the January 2025 meeting was made, seconded, and approved.

Russell Etherton, Chief of Staff from CM Mario Castillo's office (District H), provided an update to the Phase 3 drainage project. The City recently announced that funding for the drainage improvements along Sue Barnett and 43rd Street had been approved. However, Russell said the project may be paused until Mayor Whitmire reviews the current plan, specifically the lane and sidewalk configurations. Russell also reminded us of a District H Town Hall meeting on February 15th, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church from 10:00-11:30AM.

Robert Nnake, Director of Community Relations for Harris County Judge Lina Hidalgo's office, introduced himself and

asked for questions and comments. The ongoing drainage issue at Graham Park (Section 1) was mentioned. He stated this would fall under flood control for the County, and the city park would fall under the City's Park Department. Concerns for the flooding were duly noted.

Jacob Mata, Communications Manager for CM Abbie Kamin's office (District C), said the drainage/flooding issues at Graham Park are on the radar to be addressed by the city. He mentioned that there will be an E-Cycling event for the district on February 15th at All Saints Catholic Church on 215 E 10th Street.

Treasurer Brian Rabe was pleased to announce that GOCC will be getting \$10,000 in grant money from City of Houston District C and District H offices to help fund the new neighborhood signage. Each of the two districts will be donating \$5000. There was much jubilation, and Brenda de Alba recognized Brian's efforts to secure the funding, through the perseverance and collaboration he had with Mr. Castillo's and Ms. Kamin's offices.

(continued on page 5)

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(continued from page 4)

Terry Jeanes announced that the annual cost of the Harris County Constable contract has risen by \$270/year to \$99,280. This is the cost for one constable patrol. Garden Oaks pays 80% of the full rate for a single deputy. Terry also stated that Real Estate/Probate/Corporate Law firm of Murphy & Vickers (Section 4 resident Patrick Murphy) has once again generously donated \$1000 towards the Constable Program signs, and recognition for this donation will be reflected with their logo on the new yard signs.

Social Committee Chair Emily Stephens was not present, but it was announced GO resident Kate Gould is the new assistant social committee chair. Kate stated that planning for the Wakefield Shuffle fundraiser is underway, with a tentative date of April 13. She also said that there is high interest in repeating the neighborhood garage sale in 2025. Stay tuned for more updates.

GOMO President Stuart Arouty mentioned that 5 new board members were added at the annual board meeting held in January. GOMO and GOCC are still looking to obtain contact information (email addresses, etc.) for residents. Please register at the gardenoaks.org website if you have

not already. This will help us inform you of pertinent neighborhood events and information.

Alex James, GO resident, and Marcus Williams, Staff Service Consultant for CenterPoint energy, talked about the electrical issues and collaboration between GO and CenterPoint Energy. Marcus gave a brief presentation about the improvements CenterPoint is making to the electrical grid's infrastructure, including but not limited to automatic (humanless) fuse resets and tree-trimming efforts. He encouraged customers to sign up at the CenterPoint website for power alerts, to be informed of power outages, time estimates for outages, and even the cause of the outage (storm, wind, wildlife, etc.).

Garden Club President Chris Lindsay mentioned their collaboration with Beautification to help support local and migrating Eastern Monarch butterflies through the planting of their host plant, milkweed, at specific common areas and/or pocket parks throughout the neighborhood. Donations to this effort are appreciated and can be made at gardenoaks.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 PM.



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2025 DUES STATEMENT (January – December)

Civic Club membership is open to all residents. While membership is voluntary, you must be a paid member to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Constable Dues are also voluntary and help pay for our Precinct One Constable Deputy on patrol.

Civic Club:

\$ _____ **Individual Membership \$50** (\$25 for seniors 65+)

\$ _____ **Community Household Membership \$125**

Constable Program:

\$ _____ **Annual Constable Supporter** (\$300, w/yard signage)

Other:

\$ _____ **Contribution to Beautification** (maintain area green spaces)

\$ _____ **Contribution to Garden Club** (Friendship Garden, Section 1)

\$ _____ **GO Kids Membership \$85**

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:
Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206

-OR- **Pay online at gardenoaks.org**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

opt-in for monthly emails re: neighborhood news and meeting notices

The Wakefield Shuffle

Emily Stephens, Social Chair

Garden Oaks Civic Club is happy to announce the return of our annual spring fundraiser - **The Wakefield Shuffle!**

Join us on Sunday, **April 13th from 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM** as we shuffle down Wakefield and enjoy complimentary beverages from participating vendors while catching up with neighbors.

Date: Sunday, April 13th

Time: 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Where: 900 block of Wakefield Drive

Tickets can be purchased ahead of time for \$25 each. Tickets purchased the day of the event will be increased to \$40; however, GOCC members will still receive the early bird pricing of \$25.

You can purchase tickets ahead of time using this QR code or head to our website www.gardenoaks.org -> events tab -> Wakefield Shuffle, to be routed to the EventBrite site for ticket sales. We will have tables and tents outside of William Price and Great Heights Brewing for you to check in and receive your drink vouchers, as well as purchase any additional tickets needed.

A special "Thank You" to these neighborhood businesses that are making this possible!

Walking Stick

d'Alba

Wakefield Crowbar

Great Heights Brewing

Decant Urban Winery

William Price Distillery

Cheers!

Wakefield Shuffle

One ticket gets you a complimentary drink at all of the participating venues



**April 13th
3PM-6PM**



**d'Alba
Walking Stick
Wakefield Crowbar
Decant Urban Winery
Great Heights Brewing
William Price Distillery**

GOKids Update

Sara Mathias, Outgoing President

GOKids celebrated our first event of 2025 with a Valentine's Day Party at GOMM Spark Park. About 20 families attended and enjoyed cotton candy and riding the train. The kids made Valentine bags with their hands or footprints for their parents. Our next event is an Earth Day Celebration, and we have plenty more fun events planned for 2025.

If you are interested in joining and meeting new families in the neighborhood, annual dues can be paid at <https://www.gardenoaks.org/memberships-3/>

Our Instagram page @GOKids77018 features our past events and sponsors.

Many of our members are selling Girl Scout cookies so look for them around the neighborhood!



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Garden Oaks Neighborhood Garage Sale

Emily Stephens, Social Chair

Get ready to shop and sell because The Garden Oaks Neighborhood Garage Sale is coming! Mark your calendars for April 5th and 6th from 7Am to 11AM. To have your address featured on the website and social media, please email GoSocial@gardenoaks.org with your address including a brief description of what you will be selling.

To enroll as a GOCC member - head to our website: www.gardenoaks.org -> select "\$\$Pay" and you will find various membership options.

We look forward to another successful neighborhood garage sale!

You **MUST** be a member of the Garden Oaks Civic Club to have your address featured. ANYONE is welcome to have a garage sale - only civic club members will get advertised. So, this is your chance to finally get that membership active!

Example: 123 XYZ street- maternity clothes and household goods

**Garden Oaks
Garage Sale**

visit GardenOaks.org for
more info

April
5-6 | 7AM-11AM
Any Garden Oaks
Driveway

To get your address featured
on our socials and GO
website, email
GoSocial@GardenOaks.org

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair M'lissa & Craig Dilley –Vice Chairs

2025 Stickers are in. Our Sign Volunteer Team of Amanda Carlin, Jeremy Williams, Betsy Stein, and Meagan Twomey are updating for 2025. Thanks to the sign team and also to GO Constable supporters.

A big shout out to Patrick & Brooke Murphy (Section 4 residents) as Patrick’s law firm, Murphy and Vickers, has stepped up once again to underwrite the cost of a new order of Constable Supporter signs. Thank you for your \$1000 contribution!

2024-2025 Contract The FY2025 rate is \$124,100 with the GOCC contract amount at \$99,280 (80%), for one Deputy, a \$6160 increase per year. FUNDS are Important!

New Contract prices as passed by Commissioners Court are in for 2025 – 2026 and thankfully there is only a \$270 increase per year. We still need your support.

Have you supported the Constable Program yet? We need you! Pay your dues via the mail OR pay online. Payment of at least \$300 per household will get you a GO Constable Supporter sign. That’s a mere 82 cents per day!

If you need a new sign, please email constable@gardenoaks.org. A roster of current supporters is available at gardenoaks.org. Signage and stickers will be placed for all supporters of \$300 & higher. We do appreciate your patience in allowing time to have these installed.

Reminder: The Constable Program is paid only by residents’ contributions. There is **no mandatory fee** collected.

Pay your dues today. Why wait until you become a crime victim before contributing?

Become a Constable Program Supporter: <https://www.gardenoaks.org/go-constable/>

Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>

Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>





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Constable Statistics January 2025

Data are provided monthly for the contract with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputy who patrols Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

- Alarm Local - 1
- Burglary of Habitation - 1
- Check /Park/School/Business – 13
- Civil Process - 4
- Contract Check – 82
- Information Call -3
- Follow Up -5
- Meet the Citizen – 16
- Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 11
- Theft Other - 1
- Traffic Hazard – 2
- Traffic Initiative – 3
- Traffic Stop - 4
- Vacation Watch –17
- Vehicle Stickered - 1
- Welfare Check - 2



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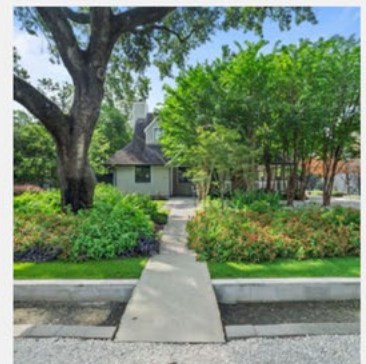


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"Stephanie is excellent. Prompt communication, clear on expectations, and made the process simple and transparent from the beginning."

"Stephanie was fantastic to work with. Very attentive, responsive and knowledgeable. She made us feel like we were her number one priority and made the home buying process a breeze. Would highly recommend. Stephanie and will absolutely reach out in the future."



The HTX Collects App

Excerpted from houstontx.gov/solidwaste

The Houston Solid Waste Management Department has launched HTX Collects, a mobile app that will allow residents to stay better connected with the City's waste and recycling collection programs.

The Solid Waste Management Department collects curbside service for over 395,000 residential homes within the city limits. With both garbage (black can) and recycling (green can) as the core operations for curbside collections, the mobile app will help residents keep track of weekly services, updates, and collection delays.

HTX Collects, will include collection reminders for garbage, recycling, yard waste and tree/junk waste specific to their service address. The mobile app will also send a reminder to residents of their collection days.

This user-friendly mobile app has many features available to residents, giving them the ability to stay up to date on the department's core services. Residents can sign up for service alerts and know what goes where. This is a seamless

way to stay connected with the City's waste and recycling programs. Download the app or visit the website HoustonRecycles.org to get more information.

Residents can find and download the mobile app for Apple and Android devices via the Apple App Store or Google Play Store by searching for the keywords Houston Trash and Recycling. We encourage residents to use the following features of the new app:

- **Collection Calendar:** Trash, Recycling, Yard Waste, Junk/Tree Waste services. Set reminders and receive alerts via email, push notifications, and phone call.
- **Waste Wizard:** Searchable solid waste directory, curbside services, and drop-off location information.
- **Waste Sorting Game:** Fun, interactive educational tool to engage, challenge and change recycling behavior.
- Residents can also search the Waste Wizard on HoustonRecycles.org to learn how to recycle or dispose of materials properly.

www.eatatlocaltable.com

[@localtablegotx](https://www.instagram.com/localtablegotx)



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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a civic club meeting soon.

915 West 42nd

4215 Apollo

1054 West 41st.

910 West 41st

1071 West 43rd

211 West 34th

717 West 30th

963 Lamonte

4314 Apollo

1010 Gardenia

519 West 30th

Happy Birthday

Ollie H. 3rd.

Sydney Grace N.3rd.

Dodie Davis 11th

Susan Kostelecky 26th

Robb Bunge 15th

Sharron Sanborn 26th

Curtis Hall 15th

Nathan S. 26th

Angelica Sullivan 16th

Lindsey Bartlett 27th

Joann Jones March 19th

Happy Anniversary

John and Nhilka Murphy 15th



Out and About

Terry Jeanes & Patrick Kelley enjoyed lots of Super Bowl activities in NOLA, including a private dinner with Emeril. **Jaime & Celeste Zamore** along with their daughters were in Isla Mujeres Mexico for a destination wedding. It was a really cold time in Chicago for **Craig & M'lissa Dilley**. The **Carlins** visited Costa Rica with son **Cameron**. They also got a special welcome back home to their fully restored house following derecho's wrath. It was fun times for the entire **Stephens family** in Playa de Carmen.

Tina Sabuco & Shellye Arnold visited Lafayette, Louisiana for a special celebration of life for Tina's mentor and friend. **Tina Rowe & Jim Dicola** took a service trip to Cuba. It was a fun time at Kojak's for Thursday evening music, arranged by **Ed Amash**....in the crowd: **Suzanne Ryan, Terry Jeanes, Peri Mashburn, Suzanne Debien, and James Elmore**.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com

GOMO Directors 2025

Section 1

Gary Ingram (2025) V. President
James Elmore (2026) Treasurer
Sara Miller (2027)

Section 2

Sue Schmidt (2027)
Vacant (2025)
Vacant (2026)

Section 3

Jonathan Luquette (2025)
Bob Foglesong (2026)
Stuart Arouty (2027) President

Section 5

John Alvar (202?)
Dillon Baker (202?)
Gary Lenz (202?)

GOMO Board Meetings

Propose 3rd Wednesday 6:30 pm of each month:
Location: 1100 W 23rd St in the conference room

2025

- March 19
- April 16
- May 21
- June 18
- July 16

Meetings are open.

Questions: manager@gardenoaks.org

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A/C Maintenance Tips to Do Before Summer Begins

Auggie Reyes, new owner of AirWise

Although temperatures are mild now, our humid Houston summer is just around the corner. Before the demand for cool air kicks into serious overdrive, take a look at these maintenance tips. Doing them now will go a long way toward keeping your system running smoothly and efficiently all summer long.

(1) Schedule a spring tune-up. This is the single most important tip of all. During the tune-up, your A/C service technician will check freon levels, adjust belts, examine the wiring and connections, etc. A tune-up will help catch most small problems before they become big ones and maintain your cooling system at its peak operating efficiency.

(2) Examine your filter every month and replace as needed. A clogged filter forces your air handler to work harder and allows particles to build up on your system's components. This can shorten its lifespan.

(3) Be realistic regarding your thermostat settings. The lower you set your thermostat, the harder your A/C system works. Ease the load on it and your wallet by setting the thermostat to the highest temperature at which you are comfortable. Also, use ceiling fans and programmable thermostats to help stay cool.

(4) Keep your thermostat at a normal setting. Some people crank their thermostats down as low as possible when they first arrive home. This puts undue stress on the air conditioner. Instead, keep your thermostat at a normal setting whenever you turn it on.

(5) Change your thermostat's batteries. Spring is the perfect time to replace the batteries in your digital thermostat so it functions properly throughout the year.

(6) Keep the area surrounding the outside condenser free of debris. Throughout the year, overgrown plants, shrubbery, weeds and leaves can build up. For optimum airflow, your outside condenser needs about three to five feet surrounding it to be clear. Also, use a hose to wash away the accumulated dirt and grime on the condenser's fins.

(7) Call your A/C technician as soon as you suspect a problem. Although these tips can significantly reduce possible problems with your A/C system, there's always a chance that something can still go wrong. Get a professional opinion right away so a small problem won't end up being a big, expensive one.

Auggie Reyes is the new owner of Air Wise™

Air Wise delivers superior service and reliability. *Judy B., Alief*



Auggie Reyes, new owner of Air Wise

"For over 23 years, I have used the air-conditioning and heating services provided by Air Wise and could not be happier. As a longtime homeowner, I have deep appreciation for them providing unparalleled peace of mind in an industry rife with dishonesty and incompetence.

Air Wise service technicians are punctual, polite and patient. They stay until the problem is resolved, even on weekends and holidays. When the job is completed, the work site is spotless, and the price is fair."



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License #TACLA020081C • Regulated by the Texas Dept. of Licensing & Regulation

March

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						1 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
2	3	4 GOCC Meeting 7 pm Yard Waste, & Garbage,	5 Ash Wednesday	6	7	8 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
9	10 HISD Spring Break	11 Yard Waste, Garbage, & Recycling	12	13	14 Holi	15 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
16	17	18 Yard Waste, & Garbage,	19	20	21	22 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield
23 30	24 31	25 Yard Waste, Garbage, & Recycling	26	27	28	29 FarmStand 9am to 1pm 949 Wakefield

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