

# Creek Chatter

2<sup>nd</sup> Half 2003

**PCE**  
PITMAN CREEK ESTATES

## President's Corner

By *Chris Witzke*



*Happy holidays at PCEHA!! This is always a great time of year, seeing the special decorating this neighborhood has become famous forgoing up. The estates have never looked so good, they just get better and better!*

*I urge you to make a special effort to make the year end Christmas Party and Annual Homeowners Meeting on Dec 13<sup>th</sup> at Kathy and Spencer DeShields (see page 7). Hedi Henderson and Lou Anne Bottone (our social VP's) are planning a great party. This annual event always has a great turnout. We have a number of new PCEHA residents so let's greet the new neighbors, and see your old friends as well.*

*An update on the 'Solicitation Issue' - I have had the occasion to meet with the mayor and some of her staff and we discussed 'No Solicitation & Handbills' solutions. The city planners had come up with the concept of a 'do-not-solicit-list' similar to the 'do-not-call list', however, the city council thought the administration of such a list was next to impossible (rightfully so). The City ordinance governing this issue says that the city issues permits (for a fee) for commercial solicitation or handbills, and permitted employees or contractors are required to show their identification if asked. Charities, religious, or political organizations do not require permits. Handbills may be placed on doors if secured by rubber bands. The only way to restrict handbills is to post a 3" x 5" No Handbills (or No Solicitation, or No-Trespassing) sign on each residence and to report any violations. Neighborhood entrance signs have no legal validity unless on a gated community. So...we are looking into an acceptable 'decal' or small post mounted sign for those PCEHA members desiring one. We will have more on this after we come up with a suitable design.*

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[WWW.PCEHA.ORG](http://WWW.PCEHA.ORG)



**Beautification Projects**  
See details on pages 5-6

## Holiday Events

**PC Women's Club**

**Tues. Dec 9<sup>th</sup>**

**PCEHA Christmas Party  
& Annual Meeting**

**Sat. Dec 13<sup>th</sup>**

*Details Inside*

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

# PCEHA 2003

## Board of Directors



### President

Chris Witzke 972-423-0329  
chwitzke@aol.com

### 1st Vice President (Membership & Directory)

John Byers 972-424-2716  
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### 2nd Vice Presidents (Socials)

Lou Anne Bottone 972-516-4736  
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Heidi Henderson 972-423-9475  
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### Treasurer

Bruce Parker 972-423-3301  
bhparker@hotmail.com

### Secretary

Jim Degnan 972-633-0401  
j.deg@verizon.net

### Architectural Control

Larry Chan 972-633-9366  
panda@ticnet.com

### Beautification

Chris Phipps 972-881-3884  
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### Children's Events

Katrina Keith 972-309-0054  
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Judie Rutherford 972-633-2710  
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### Crime Watch

Don Gates 972-422-5887  
d-gates@comcast.net

### Communications (Newsletter)

Chris Witzke (acting)

### Communications (Website)

Phil Tycz 972-578-7065  
pdtycz@verizon.net

### Welcoming / Hospitality

Ray & Peggy Ernst 972-881-9995  
peggygreenernst@att.n

# Treasurer's Report

By Bruce Parker

## PCHEA FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1/1/2003 TO 11/30/2003

Opening Balance \$11,502.56

### Income

Membership \$10,400.00  
Donations (Beautification) \$ 2,105.00  
**Total Income** \$12,505.00

### Expenses

Maintenance \$ 7,908.55  
Newsletter \$ 1,036.77  
Socials (Adult) \$ 316.49  
Socials (Children) \$ 197.97  
Directory \$ 323.10  
Misc \$ 370.17  
Sprinkler Systems Repairs \$ 713.75  
Beautification Acct Exp \$ 7,460.70  
**Total Expenses** \$18327.50

Ending Balance \$ 5,680.06

### CURRENT BALANCES

PCEHA Checking Account \$ 3980.76  
Beautification Account \$ 1,699.30  
**TOTAL** \$ 5,680.06

**TOTAL PAID MEMBERSHIP** 204

### *Presidents Letter cont...*

*We have a couple of city capital improvement projects scheduled. First will be repaving of the alley west of Monterey Circle, an approved city project scheduled in the next couple of months. Second, subject to funding availability, is the repaving of the alley south of Shadow Trail; the schedule for this one is somewhat in flex but some residents have been contacted by the city to standby for a future date.*

*Pitman Creek is still one of the sought out locations in Plano...the last three new families I've met have moved into PCEHA from other Dallas or Plano locations. After 20 years PCEHA still remains a highly desirable, premium neighborhood. The best evidence? I recently toured the neighborhood and counted only 6 of 321 homes on the market, less than 2% on the market!*

*And last, and most important... The PCEHA Board wishes every resident a happy holiday season and the very best in 2004!!!*

*Chris Witzke, President PCEHA*

## Newsletter Team

### Editor

Chris Witzke (Acting)

### Content Acquisition

Chris Witzke (Acting)

### Distribution

### Coordinator

Libby Crowley

### Distribution Assistants

Cindy Herndon

Kent Crowley

### Proofreader

Denise Cullers

### Photographers

Joe Jackson

Joanie Stephens

### **FYI**

*Creek Chatter is scheduled for quarterly distribution. It is distributed to all residents of PCE. It is the primary source of communication between the PCEHA and neighborhood residents.*

*Paid members of PCEHA are invited to submit articles for publication at any time. By policy of the PCEHA, an article must include identification of who has submitted it in order for it to be considered for publication. However, name of the author can be withheld from publication on request.*

# Crime Watch

We have had a couple of recent criminal incidents in PCE during October:

A resident had her car window smashed and a purse stolen while she momentarily went into the house. The thieves wired her gate shut from the outside so she could not surprise them. They escaped on foot. One was apprehended by police in the neighborhood and a second in an adjoining neighborhood where the suspects live. They had a prior record of criminal activity. The purse was not recovered. The police were aware of these individuals being active but have been unable to catch them in the act or with evidence to prosecute. Please be alert to unfamiliar young male adults in our alleys at any time of day...the police will be glad to check them out and they encourage us to call 911 immediately.

A second incident was probably averted by a neighbor who observed a pickup truck with a trailer loaded with lawnmowers and grills pausing at an alley exit. They saw her observing them (from her car) and took off. She got the trailer's license plate number and reported it to the police. Police records show that the trailer was reported stolen earlier.

Alert neighbors are one of our primary lines of defense to defeat crime. **DURING THE CHRISTMAS PARTY WE HAVE INVITED A POLICE REPRESENTATIVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND GIVE US MORE CRIME PREVENTION TIPS.**

See you there!!!

## Welcome New Neighbors !!

<b>Elwin &amp; Alice Petersen</b>	<b>1009 Sunswept Terrace</b>
<b>Rick &amp; Brenda Brudedi</b>	<b>1905 Garden Grove Court</b>
<b>Danny &amp; Lindesy Wade</b>	<b>1712 Fernwood Crive</b>
<b>Fred &amp; Annette Langford</b>	<b>1930 Carmel Drive</b>
<b>Charles &amp; Stephaine Mileby</b>	<b>1909 Shadow Trail</b>
<b>Steven &amp; Jessica Ho</b>	<b>1725 Peek Drive</b>

**Please be sure and make it a point to personally welcome them to PCE !!**

**Please report any new 'move in's' to the Membership VP (John Byers) or our Welcoming Team (Ray & Peggy Ernst).**

## Pitman Creek Women's Club

*By Suzanne Ferris, PCWC President (972) 881-9339*

After several fun meetings during the first part of the Woman's Club year (we begin our year in May) we are all looking forward to our next event....**The annual Holiday Party and Gift Exchange.** We will gather at Peggy Green-Ernst's home at 7:00pm on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Peggy's address is 1101 Westwood Drive, phone number 972-881-995. The meeting will begin with a potluck dinner and end with our usual Chinese gift exchange. Members and guests are requested to bring a side dish and wrapped gift (approximate value of \$15). **If you are not yet a member of the Women's Club and would like to join us for this festive evening, please call Maryann Ruppel at 972-423-6369.**

On **Jan 14<sup>th</sup>**, we will be making a trip to Lady of America Fitness Center for an evening of pilates!! Plan now on joining us and actually keeping one of those New Year's resolutions to get in shape!!

### **February 7, 7:00 p.m. Sweetheart Party**

This Saturday evening neighborhood party dedicated to all sweethearts is always a fun event. Great food and fantastic decorations always make this a fun annual event. We usually manage some good music too. Be sure to wear something red!

Hostess – **Sherry Shaw-Smith**  
Co-Hostess – **Pat Jackson**  
1801 Carmel Drive  
423-4241

### **April 13, 7:00 p.m. A Sparkling Evening - Diamonds, Gems and Color**

Catherine Hallberg, gemologist and owner of Karats from Catherine, will enlighten us on gems – from the mines to our fingers, ears and necks. View some precious & semi-precious stones and finish with a question and answer period.

Hostess – **Rose Akin**  
Co-Hostess – **Mary Ann Reder**  
1717 Edgewater Drive  
423-5497

### **March 9, 7:00 p.m. Bunko Party & Officer Nominations**

With only one Bunko night planned for this year – this is a must attend evening! No experience needed. Please RSVP for table planning and bring \$3.00 for the prize fund. Officer nominations will be made this evening too.

Hostess – **Leslie Cunningham**  
Co-Hostess – **Nancy Moderi**  
1928 Sandpiper Lane  
881-9576

### **May 11, 7:00 p.m. Officer Installation Dinner Summer Book Exchange**

Enjoy a casual evening with us before our summer break. Our new officers will be installed and you are requested to bring a favorite summer dish and current paperbacks to donate for our 3rd annual summer reading exchange.

Hostess – **Joanie Stephens**  
Co-Hostess – **Donna LeVecchio**  
1708 Glenwick Drive  
578-7613

### *Facts about the Pitman Creek Women's Club*

The Pitman Creek Women's Club is a social organization for our neighborhood. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month, September through May. (Please note: February meeting date is different). Meetings are hosted in our members' homes with occasional offsite events. While some business is conducted, our meetings are primarily social so that we can present a variety of programs throughout the year. In addition, we have had evenings of Christmas Caroling, sponsored the Adopt-a-Highway program for 15<sup>th</sup> Street, and provided plants and landscaping funds for neighborhood entrances. We encourage all ladies of PCE to join our organization. Come and get to know your neighbors! For additional information about Pitman Creek Women's Club, please contact membership chair, Maryann Ruppel at 972-423-6369.



## ***PCEHA Beautification !***

***Chris Phipps – Beautification Chairman***

***If you've driven into Pitman Creek Estates through our east or west entrances you have seen the results of the latest beatification projects.***

***Our plans are executed in phases as we have funds from Beautification donations (new construction) and from our general account (for maintenance). The first phase of our new plan was the medium entrance at Westwood and 15<sup>th</sup> which was completed in February. We secured a \$750 grant from the city in addition to our own funding for this project. Currently one of the garden columns was damaged by a truck bumper and this will be repaired soon.***

***Two significant landscape projects were completed in mid November. Both the north and south sides of our main entrance at Carmel & Custer were updated with fresh plants ( see photo above - of the north side).***

***The city of Plano has given us permission to beautify the remaining medium on Westwood.***

***Unfortunately the city cannot fund any more grant money. Additionally this work is complicated by the lack of a complete sprinkler system on the medium forcing design around hardy native plants. Luckily we have some beautiful Texas native plants to work with! The recently completed phase lies on the south side of the medium at Custer and Westwood. We expanded the raised bed and with Garrison Gardens' expert help in design and execution it resulted in a striking effect (see picture below).***

***Chris Witzke also sent a letter to the homeowners on the east side of Westwood offering to accept voluntary contributions if they would like to help.***

***We will be using volunteers to do some minor updating and trimming of the other landscaping beds on Pitman Drive and Westwood and 15<sup>th</sup>.***

***Future plans, depending on funding, include the south end of the Westwood medium at Janwood and north along the medium between Carmel and 15<sup>th</sup>.***

***Our thanks to Garrison Gardens for a great job!***





*PCEHA*

## *HOLIDAY PARTY*

*DATE: Saturday, December 13, 2003*

*TIME: 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm*

*PLACE: At the home of  
Spencer & Kathy DeShields  
1924 Carmel Drive*

*R.S.V.P. LouAnne Bottone (972)516-4736  
Heidi Henderson (972)423-9475*

*Please bring a Hors Doeuvre or a Dessert.*

*Beer, Wine & Soft Drinks will be provided.*

## *Holiday Lights Judging*

**Sponsored by the PC Woman's Club.....  
Will take place during the second week of  
December! You will be receiving a PCEHA  
phone tree message telling you the date so  
you can be all lit up when the judges make  
their rounds. If you have won an award  
within the last three years you will not be  
eligible this year...but light up anyway!**

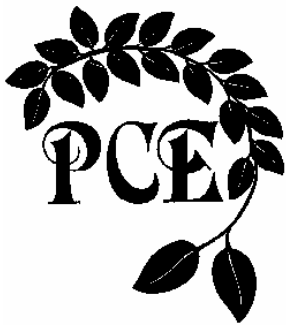
**Categories are:**

- *Best Theme*
- *Best Lighting*
- *Best Door*
- *Most Whimsical*

**Plus :**

- *Three Holiday Spirit Awards*

***Happy Holidays !***



*Pitman Creek Estates  
Homeowner's Association  
1924 Shadow Trail  
Plano, TX 75075*

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