

Creek Chatter

Year-End Issue, 2004

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 for. The estates have never looked so good, and 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 11th at Joanie & Tom Stephens' home (see page 5). This annual event always has a good turnout. I know the holidays are crammed with other events but many still manage to drop by before or after another event.. We have a number of new PCEHA residents so let's greet the new neighbors, and see your old friends as well. The major item of PCEHA business will

be the election of the Board members for 2005. Claudia Giehl, our VP for Socials, is moving back to Germany; we wish to thank Claudia for a job well done and great success for the Giehl family on their return to Germany. And special thanks to Joanie Stephens and Mary Ann Ruder for stepping in as hostesses for the Christmas Party in Claudia's stead.

Bring your prepayment for 2005 dues to the Christmas Party and your eligible for a door-prize drawing!

In October I attended a very interesting meeting with the Plano City Property Standards and the Plano Neighborhood Policing Division representatives. The meeting was sponsored by the Plano Homeowners' Council and oriented to homeowner associations'

concerns. Most of the meeting was on who and how the applicable City Ordinances are administered. We met most of the 'who-to-go-to' people at the City. This should help us get better response to the City issues that come up (such as wall repair, capital projects, property standard enforcement options, etc)

I also met with the executive director of the Heritage Farmstead Museum concerning the deterioration of the landscaping around the farmstead, particularly along Garden-grove Court. We brainstormed several potential solutions, including combination brick and ironwork fencing and set back plantings. They will involve us in their 2005 planning and

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We're on the Web!
WWW.PCEHA.ORG

Special points of interest:

- Oktoberfest Party & pictures
- PCE Women's Club Activities & Calendar Events
- Yard of the Month pictures
- Condolences to our neighbors
- Safe & Happy Holidays!

Upcoming Events



Holiday Events

PCEHA Christmas Party & Annual Meeting
Saturday, Dec 11th

PC Women's Club Party
Tuesday, Dec 14th

See inside for more details

Upcoming Events

PCEHA 2004

Board of
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Associate Member-PC Woman's Club President

Mary Ann Ruppel 972-423-6369

Treasure's Report

By Bruce Parker

PCHEA Financial Summary for 1/1/04 to 11/30/04

Beginning Balance		\$ 4,882.53
Income		
Membership	\$ 9,625.00	
Donations (Beautification)	\$ 2,340.00	
Total Income		\$11,965.00
Expenses		
Maintenance	\$ 5,684.28	
Beautification	\$ 1,201.33	
Sprinkler System Repair	\$ 522.84	
Newsletter	\$ 757.37	
Socials - Adult	\$ 946.74	
Socials - Children	\$ 345.52	
Directory	\$ 75.00	
Website	\$ 18.00	
Miscellaneous	\$ 11.00	
Total Expenses		\$ 9,562.08
Ending Balance		\$ 7,285.45 *
Current Balances		
PCEHA Checking	\$ 4,447.48	
Beautification Account	\$ 2,837.97	
Total		\$ 7,285.45 *
Total Paid Members	2003	2004
	198	202
		2

* Includes \$100 prepaid dues for 2005

President's Corner, cont ...

approval cycle. Currently they are awaiting capital funds from the planned 2005 Bond election in the spring (so get out and vote!)

After two terms as president I will be stepping down at the end of this year and giving someone else a shot at this opportunity. I have found it personally rewarding to meet and work with many of you on various projects and problems. As a result I have made a lot of new friends and a greater sense of 'belonging' to our great neighborhood. Very special thanks to all the other board members in 2003 and 2004...they certainly picked up their areas of responsibility and ran with them, making my job all the easier. I look forward to working with the new board in an ex officio capacity.

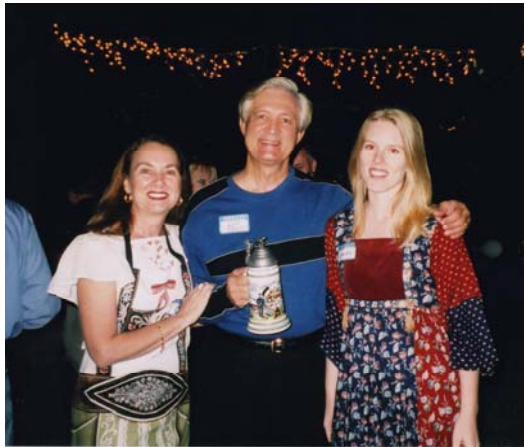
And last, and most important... The PCEHA Board wishes every resident a happy holiday season and the very best in 2005 !!!

Chris Witzke, President PCEHA

OKTOBERFEST!

Everyone at our Fall OCTOBERFEST Party had a great time. Outstanding German beer and grilled wursts ! Special thanks to Ray and Peggy Green Ernst for the loan of their backyard along the creek; and to Claudia Giehl, our VP of Socials, for the super arrangements. (Unfortunately, Claus & Claudia are moving back to Germany this fall...our loss and Germany's gain!)

If our photographer didn't get your picture...sorry...but of course that also means nothing incriminating was recorded! *'What happens in Pitman Creek stays in Pitman Creek' !!!*



Our hosts Peggy Green Ernst and Ray Ernst & Socials VP Claudia Giehl



Carol Matesic, Zee Askari, Gary Matesic, Sharon Teffeteller



Libby Crowley, Jerry Teffeteller, Robin Derouen, Toni Degnan



Kathy Askari, Pat Jackson



Nancy & John Byers, Cleveland & Sherry Shaw Smith, Ted Anderson & Ann Lily

Newsletter Team

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Chris Witzke

Sharrie Wagner

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Sharrie Wagner

Chris Witzke

! TEENAGERS . .

If you are interested in contributing to a teen page, please forward your information:

- **Short Stories**
- **Important events, News, Cool Stuff**
- **Photos with/description**
- **School Trip Stories, i.e., Europe with/photos**
- **Theatre Productions, reviews**
- **Quotes**

More OKTOBERFEST Pictures!



Valerie Kirkpatrick, Claudia Giehl, Betty & Chris Witzke, Ray Ernst & Peggy Green Ernst



Bob Kirkpatrick, Lea Randolph, Joanie & Tom Stephens, Gary Randolph.

BEAUTIFICATION UPDATE

Fall landscape work has been completed and focused on three areas: Carmel and Custer corner, Pitman Drive and the Westwood and 15th corner. The work was contracted to Garrison Gardens. In addition to changing out the seasonal plantings for color, we have added some permanent plantings for long term beauty.

It takes a lot to keep our landscape beds looking nice, and I thought I would share with you the work that was done:

The plantings along Pitman Drive include: 12 gulf stream nandinas, 9 dwarf fountain grasses, and 39 flats of pansies. At Westwood and 15th, 3 flats of pansies were used. And the main entrance, Carmel and Custer, we planted 8 flats of pansies, 3 burford hollies, 8 holly ferns, 7 gulf stream nandinas, and 2 dwarf maiden grass. The permanent plantings were done at no charge by Garrison Gardens as part of a plant warranty from work done last spring. All the beds were rota-tilled (with 12 bags of peat moss for new plantings), fertilized, and mulched (60 bags worth).



The next opportunity to do work will be in March next year. Please let us know what is on your mind and what you would like to see, please send them to chrisdphipps@yahoo.com, or call me at [972-881-3884](tel:972-881-3884). Ideas for improvement may include the corner at Dolphin and Custer, and continue with planting more perennials along Pitman Drive. And, finally, if you notice something that is in need of repair - such as a sprinkler head, give me a call.

Chris Phipps
972-824-8977



HOLIDAY Party & ANNUAL MEETING!



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11TH, 2004
7:30—TO 11:30 p.m.

AT
Tom & Joanie stephens home
1708 glenwick drive

RSVP: Joanie stephens 972-578-7613
mary ann reder 972 423 1955



Please bring hors d'oeuvre or a dessert
Wine, beer, & soft drinks will be provided

PITMAN CREEK WOMEN'S CLUB ACTIVITIES

Thanks to Mary Ann Reder for opening her home to us for the November meeting and to Debra Bagley for serving as co-hostess.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM PRESENTED:

Dr. John Whitaker of Metroplex Hypnosis, presented our program for the November meeting. Dr. Whitaker is a licensed social worker, graduate of University of Texas, and is also licensed to practice hypnosis. She uses hypnosis as a therapeutic tool to help overcome barriers to success and happiness: such as negative emotions, worrying, lack of self-esteem, negative habits (overeating, smoking, nail biting) manage tension and stress and develop good sleeping habits. She gave us practical tips on relieving stress during the upcoming holiday season.

COOKBOOK:

Toni Degnan, in charge

of the PCWC Cookbook committee, reminds us to send her recipes. (E-mail: toni.deg@verizon.net)


GARAGE SALE:

The PCWC garage sale was held at Debra Bagley's home on Saturday, November 6th from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm and was very successful, raising \$367.

Thanks to those who worked the sale and to those who donated items for the sale: Debra Bagley, Ruth Tycz, Suzanne Ferrio, Sandra Rohde, Toni Degnan, Mary Ann Reder, Julie McCurry, Rose Akin, Ann Lilly, Karen Gedemer, Joanie Stephens, Su Gates and Betty Witzke.

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Our December Christmas party will be at Rose Akin's home with Suzanne Ferrio co-hostess.

We will again support Hope's Door  by bringing donated items and money to the Christmas meeting. Joanie Stephens will contact Carol Matesic for a list of items they are requesting this year. This list will go out with the December invite.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AWARDS:

Debra Bagley, Suzanne Ferrio and Joanie Stephens volunteered to judge the lights on Sunday, December 12. Toni Degnan agreed to be the substitute.





PITMAN CREEK WOMEN'S CLUB

December 14, 7:00 p.m. Holiday Party & Gift Exchange

Don't miss this evening! Our annual holiday dinner and "Chinese" gift exchange is all about fun and fellowship in celebration of the holiday season. Bring a side dish and a wrapped gift (approx. \$15 value) to exchange.

Hostess - **Rose Akin**

Co-Hostess - **Suzanne Ferrio &**

Toni Degnan

1717 Edgewater Drive

972-423-5497

March 8, 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 - **Donna LeVecchio**

Co-Hostess - **Toni Degnan**

1706 Carmel Drive

972-881-1218

January 11, 7:00 p.m. Fitness and Nutrition

"New Year, New You, Shape Up" Reggie Bryan, a certified trainer, will present this topic which we'll all be very interested in especially after the holidays. Start off 2005 on the right foot by eating healthy and, for those of us who aren't there already, getting fit.

Hostess - **Jane Shea**

Co-Hostess - **Su Gates**

1912 Glenwick Drive

972-424-5150

April 12, 7:00 p.m. Face Reading, Handwriting, Body Language

Barbara Benson is skilled in the areas of face reading, handwriting analysis and body language. This should be a fun evening where she'll cover these topics and answer our questions.

Hostess - **Nancy Moderi**

Co-Hostess - **Julie McCurry**

1924 Sandpiper Lane

972-424-0135

February 11, 7:00 p.m. Sweetheart Party

This Friday evening 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 - **Ann Lilly**

Co-Hostesses - **Suzanne Ferrio &**

Sandra Rohde

1920 Shadow Trail

214-552-4663

May 10, 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 annual summer reading exchange.

Hostess - **Valerie Kirkpatrick**

Co-Hostess - **Judy Deal**

1800 Carmel Drive

972-424-7301

Pitman Creek Women's Club

The Pitman Creek Women's Club is a social organization for our neighborhood. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, September through May. (*Please note special meeting date in February!*). Meetings are hosted in our members' homes with occasional offsite events. While some business might be 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 15th Street**, and **provided plants and landscaping funds for the neighborhood entrances**. We encourage all ladies to join our organization. Come and get to know your neighbors! For additional information about Pitman Creek Women's Club, please contact membership chair, Ruth Tycz at 972/578-7065.

YARD OF THE MONTH AWARDS

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER, 2004



September's Yard of the Month Award, Terry Traveland
1936 Shadow Trail

September's "Yard of the Month" Award

presented to **Terry Traveland, 1936 Shadow Trail.**

Caladiums of various colors and shapes added variety to this gorgeous landscape along with the groupings of colorful begonias, crape myrtles, green plants and very unique fringe plants. A well-manicured lawn set off this beautifully landscaped yard. Yea! Shadow Trail

October's "Yard of the Month" Award

presented to **Robert and Carol Griffis, 1221 Monterey Circle.**

Their walkway was framed with shrubbery, well trimmed into a cone shape. Junipers and other shrubbery were well placed throughout the landscape. Flowering plants were featured including lilac colored mums, white and pink begonias, azaleas, hydrangea, hibiscus, hostas, and cockscombs. Carol came to the door and was very pleased to receive this honor after working so hard to maintain everything.



October's Yard of the Month Award, Robert & Carol Griffis
1221 Monterey Circle

CONGRATULATIONS to our September and October "Yard of the Month" winners!

REMINDER: Judging will start again next May!!

! TEENAGERS . . .

This is your page!! Please forward your information to the teen page: _slwsharrie@aol.com

- Short Stories, Poems, Quotes
- Important events, News, Cool Stuff
- Photos with/description, optional
- School Trip Stories, i.e., Europe with/photos
- Theatre Productions, Dates, Reviews



! PHOTOS & FRIENDS



2004: Megan Shea, Chloe Sikes, Jessica Wagner at the Irish Pub, Mockingbird Station



2001: Lauren Metesic, Megan Shea, Jessica Wagner, Ashima Gupta, last day 8th grade at Wilson, eating at the Pancake



2001: Megan Shea, Chloe Sikes, Jessica Wagner, Lauren Metesic having fun at the Dallas Arboretum



Scruff not having fun in her Halloween costume



Flopser & Sugar, "The Girls" playing aound in the back yard

! THEATRE

Productions:

A Christmas Carol, Nov 26—Dec 24
at Dallas Theater Center

Mystery Dinner Theater at Vines High School,
Agatha Christie, Witness for the Prosecution,
Feb 17, 18th at 6:30/7:30pm performance



Jessica Wagner
Performing "The Music That Makes Me Dance" at the Arts Magnet (Booker T. Washington School for Performing & Visual Arts) annual event called Taste of The Arts.

QUOTES

**... Do all you can with
what time you have
In the time you have
In the place you are ...**

by Kosi Johnson, 11 years old,
lived in Africa. Quoted
in a book entitled
"We Are All The Same"

We deeply regret the loss of three of our neighbors and extend our condolences to their spouses and families

Paul Willette

Of 1304 Gardengrove Court passed away on May 10th, 2004. Our heartfelt compassion is extended to Paul's wife, Donna, and their family. Paul earned a doctorate degree in petroleum geology from Syracuse University and was an active member of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. After working for Arco a number of years Paul started his own business in international petroleum exploration. Paul and Donna were married 14 years and have two young children; Michael and Sarah. They moved into Pitman Creek in 1990.

Derle Rudd

Of 1908 Gardengrove Court passed away suddenly on October 31st. We express our deepest sympathy to Derle's wife, Patsy and their family. Derle was retired from the U.S. Treasury Department and was working for the Collin County Election Office, preparing for the November election. He was also an active member of Saint Andrew United Methodist Church here in Plano. Derle and Patsy were married 36 years and have a son and daughter, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Shirley Edwards

Of 1916 Gardengrove Court passed away on November 12th. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her husband Dick and their family. Shirley was active in the Grace Presbyterian Church choir, a Library volunteer, and as an elementary school tutor at Mendenhall Elementary here in Plano. She was also a past president of the Mobil Wives Club. Dick and Shirley were married 47 years and have a son and daughter, and two grandchildren.

*With our deepest sympathy and compassion,
Your friends and neighbors of Pitman Creet*

PCE Real Estate Year-End Update

Dear Neighbors,

Here it is – just a few days past the Thanksgiving holiday - as I review Pitman Creek Estates real estate activity for the past 11 months and I cannot help but feel grateful (and proud) to be a resident of this beautiful neighborhood.

My husband and I were the lucky recipients of gabion wall work this past summer, which was done behind ours and our neighbor's homes to prevent any further erosion from occurring into our mutual back yards from a constantly meandering creek. The contractor did an admirable job and we ended up with a brand new & improved aggregate driveway for the inconvenience. There were a few problems: the last leg of our driveway removal also removed phone service to several of our neighbors up the street – yikes! This experience serves to remind me to remind those of you who own a creek lot that the City of Plano no longer allows lots to be developed along creeks due to the expense the city has incurred to stop erosion. That makes our property all the more valuable as it is a rare find for a buyer to locate a house on a creek lot. The City of Allen no longer develops creek lots for the same reason.

Since the last report date of August 6th, 2004 we have the following PCE activity to report:

ACTIVE LISTINGS:

- 1.) 1728 Sandpiper Lane – List Price: \$240,000; Asking PSF = \$88.72; Reduced from \$275,000; 2705 Sq.ft.; 4/2.5/2LA's/2car; Yr.Bl. 1979; DOM = 129; Pool; Cul-de-Sac
- 2.) 1909 Carmel Dr. – List Price: \$244,500; Asking PSF = \$85.31; 2866 Sq.ft.; 4/2.5/2LA's/2car; Yr.Bl. 1982; DOM = 26; Pool

ACTIVE CONTINGENT:

- 1.) 1913 Edgewater Dr. – List Price: \$250,000; Asking PSF = \$91.58; 2730 Sq.ft.; 3/3/2LA's/2car; Yr.Bl. 1979; DOM = 92; No Pool; Creek Lot

CONTRACT PENDING:

- 1.) 1805 Sandpiper Lane – List Price: \$184,800; Asking PSF: \$70.91; Reduced from \$199,900; 2606 Sq.ft. per appraiser; 3/2.5/3LA's/2car; Yr.Bl. 1979; DOM = 83; No Pool; Koi Pond

SOLD:

- 1.) Sales Price: \$314,000; PSF = \$93.40; Type: Owner; 3212 Sq.ft. Yr.Bl. 1983; DOM = 120

As you may note, PCE picked up only 1 sale since August 6th. A total of only 4 PCE houses have sold a this year (reported through the MLS)! Thus this has been an incredibly slow market year for Pitman Creek (in both offerings and sales). The good news is that 2 homes should be closing shortly, and now that the presidential elections are over, we are starting to see unusually brisk buying activity.

Please feel free to inquire with any questions you have as they relate to real estate and I will try to get answers to you or to direct you to someone who can.

May God bless everyone! Peace & Joy to you and yours!

Valerie Kirkpatrick, Broker

Covenant Realty Corp.

1800 Carmel Dr.

Plano, TX 75075

972-424-7092, Bus Direct 972-365-7301

Holiday Lights Judging

Sponsored by the PC Woman's Club . . . Judging will take place Sunday evening, the 12th of December! You will be receiving a PCEHA phone tree message reminding you 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 your home!

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

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PLANO, TX
PERMIT #473