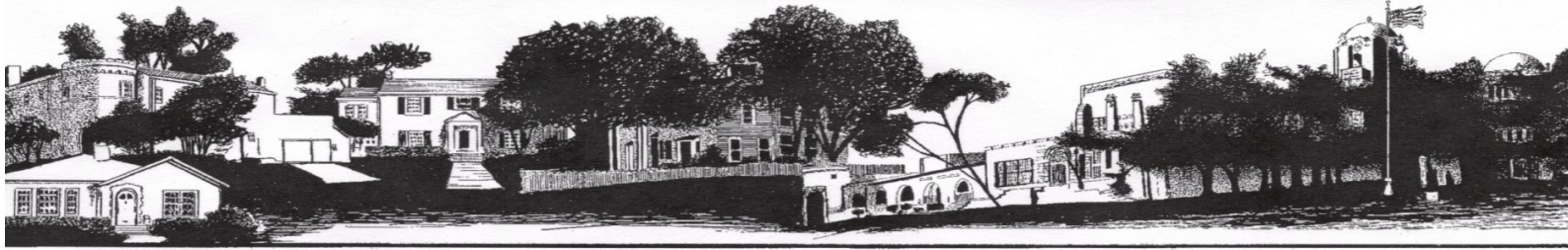


Monticello Park
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



September - October 2013

FOOD!
MUSIC!
FELLOWSHIP!



**FACE
PAINTING!**
**MOON
BOUNCE!**

Tuesday, October 1st, 6:30pm
Monticello Pocket Park (444 Club Dr)

Monticello Park and Jefferson Neighborhood Associations will provide a meat dish and drinks. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MPNA WILL NOT HOLD A GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 30 DUE TO THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT THE FOLLOWING DAY.

President's Message

I have to tell ya'll... it's eerie how we get a rainstorm every time I have to write an article. Or maybe it's just the wrath of the newsletter editors because I have once again waited until (literally way too often) the last minute to submit my article. Nah... it's just rain... I think.

Because of an unusual calendar coincidence (I wonder if it involves the migration schedule of our Monticello Park parrot colony), San Antonio's National Night Out event will be happening the very next day after our regularly scheduled General Assembly Meeting. So... we've decided to simply give some quick neighborhood updates during Tuesday's NNO and **not** meet on Monday. In other words, we will be essentially **canceling** this month's meeting. Meet us at the gazebo in Monticello Park around 6:30 in the evening, and have some fun and visit with your neighbors. We will once again be partnering with our friends in the Jefferson Neighborhood Association. We usually have attendance in excess of 100 people, so bring a side dish or dessert to share (MPNA will provide a meat dish and drinks) and catch up on all of the neighborhood gossip!

Back in August, a few board members met with VIA to discuss various items and concerns. We noted that our Mary Louise BRT station has never been finished, i.e., trees and landscaping were never planted, and the mosaic tile "Deco District" sign was never re-installed. Unfortunately (despite multiple emails), the VIA representatives have still not come back to us with a timeline for completion. VIA did, however, share their plans to improve the standard bus stop at the HEB. It will be a brand new shelter with a significant increase in seating. VIA also promised that the shade canopy will have artwork relating to the neighborhood and Fredericksburg Road. We will see.

By the way, speaking of Fredericksburg Road, the UTSA College of Architecture is mounting an exhibit at the Institute of Texan Cultures titled, "Traveling on Fredericksburg Road". Running through December 15th, the exhibit will look at how the thoroughfare has changed over time. I look forward to seeing it.

Our Beautification Scholarship program was a huge success again - in fact, I believe we had more applications than ever! This time we awarded money to three households, and each project that won showed a significant improvement to the street presence of their home. To those that did not win, I encourage you to resubmit for our fall award.

Coming very soon in November will be elections for next year's neighborhood board of directors. If you would like to serve on the nominating committee, or know of someone having interest in serving on the board, please contact us.

I hope to see you not Monday, but Tuesday evening at National Night Out!

Rob Sipes
MPNA President

2013 Monticello Park Neighborhood Association

Board of Directors

President: Rob Sipes
738-0379
V. President: Frank Ramirez
734-0999
Secretary: Ferne Burney
734-2445
Treasurer: Richard Weik
731-0780

Board Members

Adrian Contreras
Gary Hudman
Bianca Maldonado
Ressie O'Connors
Sarah Rice
Michael Robbins

Newsletter Committee

Editors: Ferne Burney, Sarah Rice
For article and event submission
please call 734-2445 or email
monticelloparkna@yahoo.com

Advertising Mgrs: Board Members
For pricing info call 734-2445 or
visit monticelloparkna.com

MPNA
P.O. Box 5851
San Antonio, TX 78201

HELPFUL PHONE NUMBERS

District 7 Council Office 207-7044
SAWS 724-7097
CPS 353-2222
Officer Joey Vidal 207-1363
SAPD, West Substation 207-7420
Non-emergency 207-7273
SAISD Police 271-3124
SAISD Truancy Office 223-2360
VIA Transit 362-2019
Code Compliance 311
Animal Control 311
Office of Historic
Preservation 215-9274

BACKYARD BLUEGRASS CONCERT AND POTLUCK

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 12.
Food & Fellowship start at 6:30pm and
the Slick Little Jackrabbits will start
playing at 7pm
WHERE: 340 Mary Louise



WHAT TO BRING:
Lawn Chairs, BYOB, and a heavy
hors d'oeuvre to share.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS! THESE
CONCERTS ARE A MONTICELLO PARK FAVORITE!

This is a family friendly event.

DONATION OPPORTUNITY

Used sneakers, work shoes and undergarments in any condition are being collected by Monticello Park neighbors Wayne and Brandyn Thomas for folks in Prospect Hill. Recently Brandyn took a pair of used sneakers to their church there and was swarmed by folks who were awaiting a food bank distribution. The Thomases also collect garage sale leftovers and other donations for the Jefferson Outreach for Older People thrift store, which benefits frail seniors in our neighborhood and beyond. Contact Wayne at 732-3230 or drop off any donation on their porch at 212 Furr. He can give you an acknowledgment for your taxes. Thanks!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BEAUTIFICATION AWARD WINNERS!

\$500 - Tom Simmons & Mark Skruhak on Club
\$300 - Ressie & Charlie O'Connors on North
\$200 - The Cuellars on Furr
More details/photos on
MonticelloParkNA.com

CELLULAR ON PATROL

Are you interested in participating in a crime watch program that consists of responsible citizens patrolling with cellular phones that have a direct line to emergency assistance? Through our neighborhood association, District Council representative, and the San Antonio Police Department, you can be an asset to your police service area by becoming a member of a neighborhood based group, Cellular On Patrol (COP).

To become involved with COP, you must attend two separate four-hour classes, scheduled approximately one week apart, totaling eight hours of training. You also have the opportunity to ride along with a police officer for up to eight hours. A cellular phone will be furnished to a designated COP participating group.

We are trying to gauge the interest of our residents in forming an MPNA COP group. If you are interested in participating please email MonticelloParkNA@yahoo.com or call Sarah at 738-8772.

*Monticello Park Ladies feel refreshed
after an August water aerobics class in
neighbor's backyard.*

Goodbye Summer. Hello Fall!





Basil Scaljon Rugs

2420 N. Main, San Antonio 78212
210.734.3711 • basilscaljonrugs.com

Dear Friends:



After a 35-year involvement with the Oriental rug, both as a business and a passion, I have decided to close my rug gallery.

Over the last three decades the study of oriental rugs and carpets has been a significant part of my life and I still firmly believe that the best carpets and rugs offer spiritual and aesthetic content that transcend decorative floor covering. My fascination with the "life in the carpet" and the fundamental truths these weavings portray have been an incredibly fulfilling and moving experience for me. I embrace it as an honored gift from those anonymous weavers who labored often in the most impoverished conditions to create meaningful and beautiful works of art. **As I end one life and enter another, I want to acknowledge and thank the truly wonderful friends and colleagues I have met during the 35 years I have been in business.** Your friendship has enriched my life.

As part of this farewell, I am conducting a major and comprehensive sale to announce my retirement and thank my valued customers for their trust and patronage. This sale will be an opportunity to buy great rugs and carpets, both antique and decorative, at a hugely reduced cost. The consistent beauty and cost of these rugs on sale, both old and new, go far beyond what one encounters in estate sales, auctions, the internet and any other rug selling venue. **This is a real and honest opportunity for my friends and clients to purchase extraordinary rugs at the lowest possible prices.**

As for my future, I plan to spend time with my family, continue my study of the martial arts, travel and study. Additionally I will be available for rug consultation, assisting clients in rug searches and buying good antique rugs.

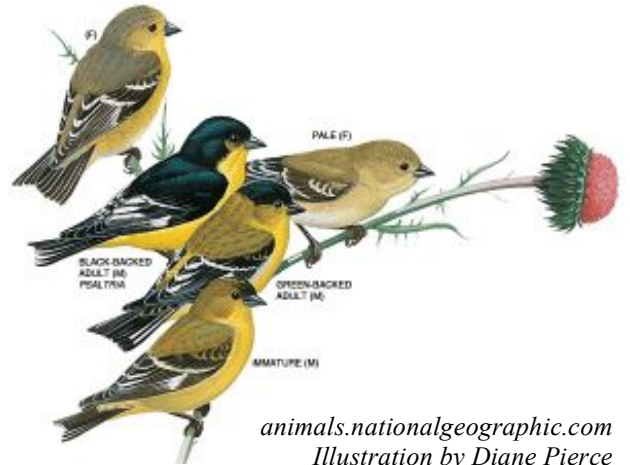
My retirement sale begins on October 4 and will continue until the entire inventory is sold. Come early for the widest selection.

Yours truly,

Basil

What's the Word, Bird?

The Finch Who Stole...Your Breath Away! Three colorful finches frequently visit our backyards and open spaces – particularly around feeders or sprawling stands of sunflowers. As with many birds, the males flash the bright colors, while the females exhibit less dramatic markings. The **House Finch** and **Lesser Goldfinch** are common year-round, with males of the former sporting a reddish forehead, throat and chest and the latter with a bright yellow chest, black cap, and black/dark green back with white patches. The **American Goldfinch**, more common as a winter visitor, has similar coloration as the Lesser Goldfinch, but with more overall bright yellow feathering.



Ready for the Fall[ou]t? Be on the lookout for waves of migratory birds such as **warblers**, **tanagers**, and **orioles** that will be passing through our area over the next few months. “**Fallouts**” occur when weather events such as colliding fronts, heavy fog, high winds, or heavy rains force migrating birds to seek shelter on the ground – somewhat of a misnomer, these are traditionally associated with spring migrations...but don't be surprised if you wake one morning this fall to see some brightly feathered visitors outside the kitchen window! Texas is within the Central U.S. flyway and has recorded more bird species than any other state. About 2/3 of all birds in the U.S. migrate – the fall migration is often prompted by cooler temps and shorter days. These birds head south to winter in the Southern U.S., Mexico, Caribbean, and Central and South America – Panama has the highest diversity of winter bird residents in the world. The need to find more abundant food, less competition for nesting space, milder climates, and longer daylight hours drive the migrations. Swift, strong fliers and hunters like hummingbirds and hawks tend to migrate during the day, while many birds that live in thick vegetation (ex. warblers) often fly by night.

en.wikipedia.org
Photo by Arthur Singer



Who's That Knockin'? A light, rapid hammering sound in the trees or on a telephone pole might signal the presence of a **Golden-Fronted Woodpecker**. These handsome birds frequent Monticello Park throughout the year and have a black-and-white barred back, buff colored chest and head, and yellow marking on nape and above bill – the males also don a small red cap. Insects are the preferred food of choice, but they'll also feed on seeds, nuts, and berries and may even seek a sweet drink at your hummingbird feeder.

Please share any unusual sightings with me at justrice@yahoo.com.

Justin “J-Bird” Rice

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Monticello Park Cruisers

By Jan Peranteau

The romance between a car, a man or woman and the open road intrigues the soul. It is the call to the open road, to places familiar and unknown. Part of the journey though begins with the car.

Wayne Ehrisman began his love affair with cars as a child. "I could tell the make and model of every car. I built models of cars and when I got my license I knew what kind of car I wanted." He bought a 1954 Oldsmobile Super 88 for \$600.00. It was red, he explained. In college, he became interested in sports cars. His first sports car was a Renault 4CV. Then there was the Triumph TR 3. "I married in that car." Then came an Austin Healey 3000. "I had an orange Fiat Spider for a while but then when the girls were born we drove vans and sedans.

And now with children grown, Ehrisman has a new fleet of fabulous cars. His first sports car post-children was a 1978 Porsche 911 Carrera S. The official color he said, "Guard's Red." "I bought it in 1990 after my oldest daughter, Sarah, went to Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. I wondered how I could afford the university, so I gave myself a car." His second luxury car, a 1996 Jaguar X-12 sedan, was purchased for his wife, Emily. "It is a burgundy red with a wood interior. It was the last V-12 engine Jaguar made." He added, "Emily loved Jaguars and I loved Porsches." It was purchased in 1998. The latest dreamy auto is a 2008, 911 Turbo Porsche Cabriolet (convertible). He said, "I looked on line for it for 2 years. " It is Artic Silver with a Terra Cotta interior. " Purchased in the fall of 2011, after the death of his wife, this car provides a fast ride about town.



Our second sports car aficionado, Ferne Burney, loved sports cars from an early age. "When I learned to drive my brother and I shared a 1951MG-T.D. classic. We bought it for \$500. My dad said if we came up with half the money, he would supply the other half. My grandfather had it painted and upholstered. " Years later Burney's mother saw the same car. Burney explained, "In Arizona, the license plate stayed with the car--that same license plate appeared on a showroom floor and the same car was selling for \$30,000."



She also owned a TR-3 and a Volvo P-1800. After completing 31 years of work with Abbott Research and driving company cars, Burney decided to get another sports car. She purchased a 2001 Porsche Boxster. "It was 9 years old when I bought it. I found it on line at Car Max. It had 27,000 miles on it. A fire engine red, Burney with her deep red hair, gets quite a few stares when she drives by. "The thing I find most fun is when I deliver the newsletters to Lanier High School for printing. I always get some boys who help me and bring the printed copies to the car. They are fascinated when I open the hood for them to put in the newsletters. If there is not enough room, I open the trunk and have them put the rest in there. They look puzzled, "Where is the engine?" they ask. Burney explained, "It is a mid-mount engine, so there is trunk space as well as space in the front."

Charlie O'Connors purchased his 1960 Austin Healey 3000 in Charleston, South Carolina. Bought in 2005, he transported it to Orlando, Florida where he had it restored. The process took about three years and a bunch of dollars. When asked, how much, he said, "I don't know and I don't want to know." He said it was originally a primrose yellow but he has restored it to a silvery blue and cream. Describing the condition of the car when purchased, he said, "It didn't have floors or a trunk. The frame was bent and there was no upholstery. That was done in Vancouver, Canada. " Now O'Connors belongs to the Austin Healey Club of South Texas. "We have about 40 members, mostly from the Central Texas Area. There are national meets as well as area meets." He said he tries to drive his car every other week. O'Connors reiterated a familiar theme. "This is my 6th



British sports car. I've had Triumphs and MG's. But this is my first and last Austin Healey."



Linda Atwood, on West Kings Highway, definitely got the best deal on the purchase of her first car. "When I was 16 and learning to drive, a family friend, Rocky, sold me the car for \$1.00." This 1960 Karmann Ghia definitely been around a block or two. It has been passed from sister to sister and put out to pasture at The Atwood's parents' farm in Cosby, Missouri where it rested in a barn along with the dairy cows. Having gathered its share of cobwebs and cow manure, Atwood's husband, Michael, resurrected it and



brought it back to Texas in 1998. After cutting off the rusty rear of the car, the engine with gleaming exhaust pipes, took its place. Atwood had the car painted a deep orange with smoky fogging at the bottom. Huge wheels with shiny rims adorn this hot rod. Linda purchased these for her husband for Christmas one year. "It needed some jewelry." And those wheels do make a statement. Fenders were replaced, new upholstery with racing harness installed; this car seems ready for a beach. Has it been there? Michael said, "No we mainly take it to Volkswagen shows. This Baja Racer has trophies to show for all the hard work and money the Atwoods have poured into this auto.

David Guerrero is much more than a car collector. He is a former teacher and principal, an artist and a sculptor. He has restored a 1981 Silverado Chevy pickup that makes one want to laugh when they see it. It is an electric blue with hints of purple and tangelo pearl in combination. It's right out of the crayola box of colors and just makes you happy to look at it. Guerrero said this is his 8th car to restore. He does most of the work himself. In his workshop he has pictures of other cars he has restored. They include a 1952 Chevy Sedan, 1954 and 1955 Ford pickups a 1957 Belaire Chevy, a 1963 Mercedes Sedan and a 1962 Karmann Ghia. In his shop trophies abound for his restorations.



These are just a few of the hidden gems tucked away in garages or covered with tarps. There are others waiting to be discovered on a sunny fall day when the air is crisp and the owners are out for a Sunday drive.



Speaking of cruisers and cruising....there's an exhibit at the Institute of Texan Cultures

Traveling on Fredericksburg Road

September 19, 2013 - December 15, 2013

801 E. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd

Hours: Monday - Saturday: 9am - 5 pm

Sunday: Noon - 5pm;

Since the 1840s, Fredericksburg Road has been a trail to the Texas Frontier. To museum visitors and San Antonians, this exhibit is an opportunity to look back on places they remember, miss, and treasure.

From an architectural perspective, Fredericksburg Road is a living timeline of the city's development. For the UTSA College of Architecture, it's a case study for graduate students to observe changes in land use, building typology, residential densities and lot sizes, historic events and notable places.

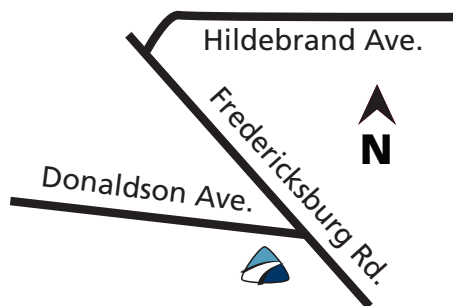
The exhibit includes maps, photographs, analytical diagrams, economic data, morphological data and population data. Videos featuring oral histories from residents and business owners, and a drive along Fredericksburg Road will offer additional perspective on the road's history and change over time. (http://www.texancultures.com/traveling_on_fredericksburg_road/)

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