

MESA PARK MESSENGER

APRIL, 2006

A Mesa Park Neighborhood Association monthly newsletter for the residents of Mesa Park

Special Points of Interest:

- Board of Directors meetings are the 2nd Saturday of each month at Milwood Library, 10am. All are welcome.
- Neighborhood Association meetings are quarterly, and the dates will be published as they are set.

IT'S MY PARK! DAY, SATURDAY APRIL 22ND

It's My Park! Day, scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd starting at 9:00 am, is an annual community service day focused on improvements to Austin's park system. Over 1,200 volunteers will meet at park facilities throughout the city to paint, weed and plant, clear trails, repair playscapes, and have fun getting dirty.

Please join your neighbors at Schroeter Park on this day in helping to clean up our park. This can be as simple as 1/2 hour walking the park and picking up trash (perfect young child diversion!) to

helping put mulch on the inner trails (perfect for someone who needs a light workout!).

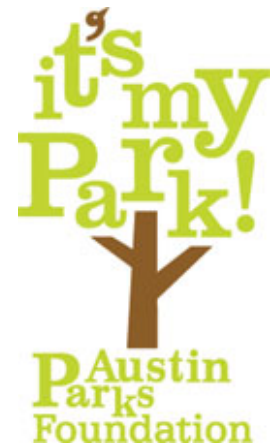
There is no established protocol or procedure and all help is welcome and GREATLY appreciated. We will have drinks and light snacks for everyone. If you cannot help with the work, then please come to the pavilion and visit when people stop for a short break.

The City of Austin has done a lot of work on our park since we had our 20th anniversary last summer, and they are currently in the

process of upgrading the play equipment, thanks to our ever vigilant Val Schroeter!

However, the trails have not been finished for a couple of years so the weeds have gotten out of hand. We also have a concern since there have been a couple of fires in the park lately.

Schroeter Park is one of our best assets here in Mesa Park, so let's all pitch in some time to clean it up. If you have any questions please contact Terry Tevis at mpnapres@yahoo.com or 736-8469, or Kendall Kelsoe at nimpo_ikkan@juno.com.



Celebrate Earth Day by giving back to the earth at Schroeter Park on April 22nd, starting at 9 am

GARAGE SALE

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL SALE:

- Make sure you have enough stuff to sell.
- Organize your sale items and put into one area.
- Every item needs to have a price tag.
- Get change from the bank, particularly ones, fives and change.
- Decide on a safe place to keep money.
- Feel free to bargain over prices if you want to but be aware that people will often offer a price that is too low.
- HAVE FUN!!!

SPRING GARAGE SALE, SAT. APRIL 29TH

The MPNA Spring Garage Sale is Saturday, April 29 from 8:00 am until 1:00 pm.

THE DEADLINE FOR PARTICIPATION AND PAYMENT IS TUESDAY, APRIL 25.

The fee is \$5. Please make your check out to MPNA and mail it, with your name and address, to:

Ruth Kidwell
11609 Blackhawk Drive
Austin, TX 78759

You may also drop it off at that address.

Balloons for you to tie on to your mailbox and maps will be available in Schroeter Park by the Bulletin Board on the day of the sale.

There will be no rain date and no refunds.

We respectfully request that in fairness to all, if you wish to have a garage sale on that date that you will pay the fee and participate in our neighborhood event. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, call Ruth at 343-1638.

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MESA PARK MESSENGER

MESA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING AND 12TH ANNUAL POLICE APPRECIATION

By Terry Tevis

We had a GREAT neighborhood meeting on March 28th.

The first speaker on the agenda was our own Mark Strama, State Representative for the 50th District, which covers part of our neighborhood. He explained the special session that the House of Representatives is about to start and an overview of Rick Perry's and John Sharp's new tax plan to help fund our school systems so that in the future we will be in compliance with regards to the ruling from Texas State Supreme Court.

Next on the agenda was our 12th Annual Police Appreciation, and it was the best yet. We were fortunate to get donations not only from Mesa Park residents and local businesses, but from Balcones Woods residents as well. This enabled us to give a lot more notebooks, pen, snacks of all kinds, cookies, breads, cakes and of course doughnuts to our Northwest Command Division.

And then a wonderful surprise came when APD Chief Stan Knee himself walked in the door. He told us that he was not having a very good week, since his cell phone was stolen out of his car, and that it was great what neighborhoods like MPNA did for the department.

After the Police Appreciation, we had a short meeting to go over some high level thoughts/ideas that the Board is hoping to address soon, and asked everyone to please communicate their thoughts to the Board.

The MPNA Board of Directors cannot possible express enough appreciation for all of the hard work that Bob and Jessie Grissom do in order to make the Police Appreciation Night so wonderful. Jessie delivers letters to all of the local business, and they know when she walks through their door with a piece of paper in her hand, they better reach into their pockets. She bakes for days, then both she and Bob do all the shopping of all

the snacks and whatnots. Bob and Jessie then make the boxes and decorate them with each shift's name and divide everything up equally. And in the middle of all that commotion, Bob is delivering our newsletter so that it can get out on time. So this month's "Neighbors in the Spotlight" are our hard-working Jessie and Bob Grissom.

Special thanks also go to the following for their gracious contributions: MPNA association; Albertson's—Paul McGowan; Krispy Kreme Donuts—Michelle; Costco—Suzanne Salvatore; Randall's—Sheldon Morgan; HEB—Mark Trafacanto; Sam's Club for the gorgeous cake; Balcones Wood: Tom Terry, Nancy Covert and many others for the baked goods.

Cindy Lindsay, displaying the cake provided by Sam's Club.



IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SEE HERE?

By Shawn McAdams

I haven't heard any feedback from the last newsletter, so I'm assuming that no news is good news. We are still tossing around the idea of increasing the size of the Messenger back to eight pages so that we can keep the neighborhood better informed of things going on that affect us. However, in order to do that, we will need a few more people to volunteer to contribute articles.

I have at least a dozen ideas in my head that I would like to share with everyone by way of Messenger articles, but unfortunately, I don't have the time to pen several articles plus do the editing and page layouts. So, if you don't know what to write, but wouldn't mind writing an article from time to time, shoot me an e-mail! (newsletter.mpna@gmail.com) I'd be glad to share my ideas and let you turn it into your own article. And of course, your ideas are always welcome as well.

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MPNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH

By Terry Tevis

It's been a busy month in our neighborhood!

The Board smoothed out details for our "It's My Schroeter Park" day event and we had a special visitor, Traci Reece, who is our neighborhood garage sale "expert". She had some great ideas on how to give our garage sale greater visibility, which will mean more buyers. Ruth Kidwell and Traci make a great team.

We also started working on ideas for the next quarterly neighborhood association meeting currently scheduled for June 27th. The current favorite topic is a "Home Improvement" expo style meeting. Send in your ideas to mpnapres@yahoo.com and let us know what you want to see and hear. We have also started filling in the MPNA

calendar and added the Fall Garage Sale for October 21st and Fire/EMS Appreciation for October 24th.

But one of the best ideas we tossed out that morning is having some themed Park Days to be held in Schroeter Park for our residents a couple of times this summer. Every other weekend we would have a casual event that neighborhood residents can attend for a portion of the day.

We will schedule the days during our next Board meeting, so look in the May edition of the Messenger for more details.

We are always striving for ideas to get our neighborhood more cohesive, to get the Neighborhood Watch program effective, and to make our National Night Out in August a great one.

WHAT'S BLOOMING IN THE PARK?

The winter months are gone, and Schroeter Park is coming alive with spring growth. One Mesa Park resident sent in the following photos of flowers they observed on April 5th along the park trails. Thanks for the pictures and the identifications, Susan!

Eve's Necklace



Antelope Horn



Texas Star



Hymenoxys



Wild Garlic



Also observed in bloom, but not pictured, are: Buffalo Grass (native and drought tolerant); Purple Three-awned Grass; Rain Lilies; Sotol (the flower stalk is 10 feet tall); Spiderworts (only in the mornings); and White Milfoil.

Your Mesa Park Resident Realtor



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APRIL 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

APRIL 22 — IT'S MY PARK! DAY, SCHROETER PARK
APRIL 29 — SPRING GARAGE SALE

MAY 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MAY 13 — MPNA BOARD MEETING
MAY 14 — MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 29 — MEMORIAL DAY

COMING SOON TO THE MESSENGER!

In May, the Mesa Park Messenger will be introducing a new service for the neighborhood, the Mesa Park Classifieds. The back page of the Messenger will have a section allocated for residents of Mesa Park to place short listings announcing services, etc. available within our neighborhood.

These classifieds will not replace the space currently allocated to advertising, and to make sure both the advertising and the classifieds are used appropriately, we will only be taking classified listings from residents, not from commercial businesses.

The listings will be \$5 a month for 20 words or less. If you are interested in placing a classified listing, or have a question about the classifieds or regular advertising, please contact Claudia at claudia.mpna@gmail.com. The deadline to place your classified ad in the May issue will be May 5th. Please e-mail your order by then and mail a check payable to "MPNA" to :

MPNA
PMB 104
PO Box 200255
Austin, TX 78720

Neighborhood Contacts

President:

Terry Tevis, mpnapres@yahoo.com, 736-8469

Board Members:

Claudia Ullrich, claudia.mpna@gmail.com

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Gwen Thompson, 343-6522

Cindy Lindsay, TreeTopProp@prodigy.net, 346-2232

Oscar Gonzalez, theoscarman@sbcglobal.net, 338-1083

Hon. Board Member:

Val Schroeter, 345-3314

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Ruth Kidwell, rkidwell@austin.rr.com, 343-1638

Newsletter Editor:

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Julie Kennedy, julie@digitalcitydesigns.com

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Marie Wilson, organize4u@prodigy.net, 343-2662

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator / Park Chairman:

Kendal Kelsoe, nimpo_iddan@juno.com

Emergency: 911

Police Non-Emergency: 311

NW Austin Police District Rep:

Officer Chris Keen, 974-5852

Christopher.Keen@ci.austin.tx.us

WWW.MAIN.ORG/MPNA