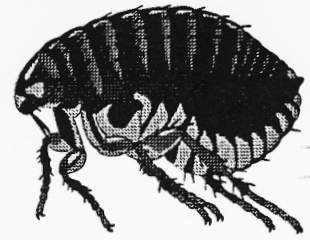


The Flea



The Newsletter of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association
Vol. 2, No. 1

October 1996

Austin History Center ☆ Austin Public Library

Dear Neighbor,

We have worked hard over the past year to get the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (CNA) back on its feet, and now it's time to celebrate our success. On October 19, we will have a party with food (pot luck), music, children's activities, and lots of fun and socializing. Please see below for the details and make plans to attend.

Please also take time to read and fill out the survey (on page 4) measuring neighborhood opinion on the desirability of an NCCD (Neighborhood Conservation and Combining District) for Cherrywood. A dedicated group of residents would like to preserve what they consider special about Cherrywood by proposing zoning guidelines for the neighborhood to consider. They do not want to devote their valuable time to drafting such a plan, however, if the concept in general lacks support.

1996 CNA Annual Party

It's party time!

Date: October 19, 1996

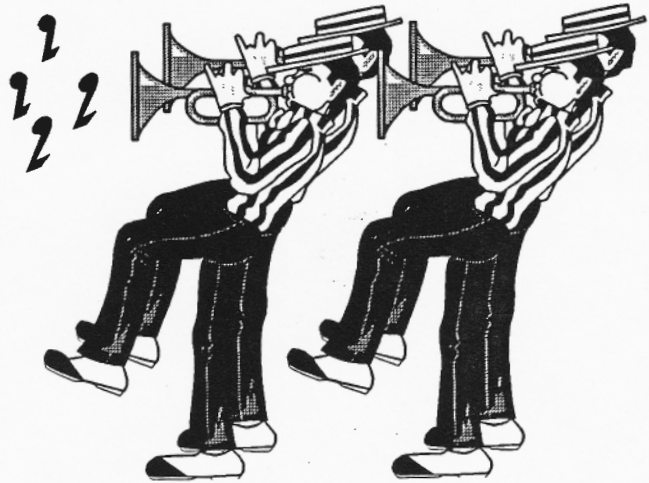
Place: Patterson Park (We will try to be under the covered pavilion near the playground, but since we cannot reserve it, there are no guarantees. Just look around, though, and you'll find us).

Time: 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Activities:

- (1) Facepainting and treasure hunts for children.
- (2) Live music from neighborhood musicians. David Armstrong and Aditi Gowri will bring their fiddle and guitar, and all musicians, amateur or professional, are encouraged join them in a neighborhood jam session: Cherrywood Unplugged.
- (3) Swap Meet. Bring that item or several items you have been trying to get rid of for ages, and maybe someone will have something to trade for it. No professional vendors please.

Food: Pot Luck. The CNA will provide cups, napkins, paper plates, plastic utensils, and non-alcoholic beverages. You, as a partygoer, should bring food in the form of a prepared dish, dessert, salad, homemade salsa, snack items, beer, etc. Hopefully we won't end up with 100 bags of chips, although we will need a few bags of them. Be sure to label your crockery.



Cherrywood Neighborhood Association

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Send your letters to the Editor to 3706
 Clarkson Avenue, Austin, TX 78722 or
 fax them to 474-2895.

Summary of the August 15 meeting

The Cherrywood Neighborhood Association met August 15 at Asbury United Methodist Church. About 20 neighbors attended and Buzz Avery presided.

Tree-trimming by the electric utility

Jerry Favel, a representative of the City of Austin Electric Department spoke about tree-trimming around utility lines.

Because of last year's severe storm and the resulting large number of branches which fell into power lines, the electric department's new policy is to cut back *five* years of growth on trees near lines and to *remove* obstructing trees which cannot be reasonably trimmed.

The city has contracted with Blume Tree Services to do the trimming, and they will be working on and off in our heavily forested neighborhood.

Mr. Favel said that the city attempts to notify residents of impending trimming by leaving notices on doorknobs and marking trees targeted for removal with bright pink ribbons.

If you receive such a notice and are concerned about your trees, you can call the City of Austin Tree Line at 322-6455 or our neighborhood tree inspector at 750-5146.

ACC East Austin campus

Buzz announced that he had received a letter from Austin Community College about their plans to build an eastside campus. ACC is inviting the public to participate in the early stages of the process and held an open meeting at the Carver Library on August 27.

More meetings are sure to follow, so keep your eyes open and call ACC if you want to have a voice in its east side campus selection and planning.

Airport update

Gerard Kinney, one of Cherrywood's representatives on the Mueller Airport Redevelopment Task Force, described the City Manager's slow pace in reviewing the task force's recommendation for an independent airport redevelopment authority.

The City Council appears to support the idea, but is awaiting staff review. The longer the City Manager holds on to it, the more momentum the idea loses.

Gerard thought that a formal letter from the CNA in support of the separate management entity might help. A brief letter was drafted and a unanimous vote was taken to send it to the City Manager's office.

Other news

- A three-member subcommittee was set up to plan the October 19 neighborhood party. The members are David Armstrong (708-1877), Patricia Arredondo (708-8431), and Bennett Donovan (473-2089). Please call one of them if you want to participate in planning for the party.
- Jim Walker gave a progress report on the NCCD subcommittee meetings. See the related survey in this edition of *The Flea*.
- Stephen Kreger showed off the CNA's new engraver. Any neighbors wanting to borrow it to mark their valuables should call him at 477-4216.
- Stephen described the low level of the CNA treasury, which along with advertisements, funds *The Flea*. Anyone wanting to make a donation or place an ad should call him at 477-4216.

Last issue's puzzle solved



Kinney honored for architectural renovation

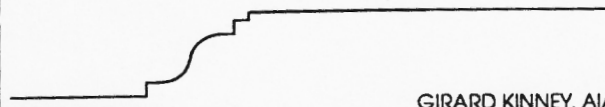
The Austin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects recently honored Cherrywood architect Gerard Kinney with a Merit Award for his renovation of a 1950s commercial building at 701 West Fifth Street. One feature of the renovation was the retention of fragments of the original neon sign above the building's entrance.

Neighborhood sites score in *Chronicle* poll

In the recent *Austin Chronicle* reader's poll, Cherrywood businesses ranked at the top of several categories.

Congratulations to Pato's for "Best Neighborhood Beer Garden," to Cafe Armageddon for "Best Restaurant Sign," to East Side Cafe for "Best Garden Supply," and to Dreamers for "Best Adult Bookstore."

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PROPERTY OWNERS OPINION POLL

To: Property Owners in the Cherrywood Neighborhood (If you are not the property owner, please forward this survey to the owner or landlord.)
 From: G.P. "Buzz" Avery, President of the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (476-1889)
 Subject: Possible Creation of a Neighborhood Conservation Combining District (NCCD)

It may be in the best interest of Cherrywood Neighborhood to create a NCCD. If a NCCD is created, legal changes will be made to the City of Austin Land Development Code that will permit and/or restrict how land is used in the area currently covered by the Cherrywood Neighborhood Association (CNA). But before going any further with developing a NCCD, it has been decided to survey property owners to see if there is sufficient interest to continue with the project. The following summarizes the pros and cons of an NCCD.

Pros: Changes to the land use Codes would require or recommend uniform neighborhood standards for all property. The purpose is to preserve the present character of the neighborhood while removing some restrictions on land use that discourage a "sustainable" community. Possible changes may include more of mixing homes with businesses, allowing detached duplexes, setting architectural standards, creating micro-parks, or establishing landscaping guidelines. Owners may exclude their property from the NCCD.

Con: Existing land use Codes are sufficient and work fine. Private property owners know what's best for their property and shouldn't be required to conform to unique neighborhood standards. To some degree, legal procedures already exist that allow property owners the means to control and change how their land is used. Variances from code requirements can be requested from the Planning Commission or from the Board of Adjustment. There, disputes between adjacent property owners can also be resolved.

Are you in favor ____, opposed ____, or indifferent ____ to the creation of a NCCD? Questions? Call Jim Walker (Pro): 499-0526 or Michael McClendon (Con): 482-0016. Give your address in the following space.

Mail your responses to Buzz Avery, 3503 Lafayette Avenue, 78722-1807, or hand deliver to the silver mailbox by curb in front or bring to picnic. Your name is optional. Use separate page for comments.

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