

**RPENA BOARD
MEMBERS**

PRESIDENT:

LAURA BIGI

VICE PRESIDENT:

DAVID BUHLER

SECRETARY:

CHERYL RIELLY

TREASURER:

CALLIE SALLEE

ACTIVITIES:

MEGHAN GILMORE

BEAUTIFICATION:

**SAM PUENTES and
JIM HAMBAY**

CRIME WATCH:

DIANE MOTT

MEMBERSHIP:

AMY and TIM GILL

MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

CINDY GAUTREAUX

NEWSLETTER:

BROOKS SNYDER

Richland Park Estates Neighborhood Association

July 2023

President's Message

Dear Neighbors,

Part of the charm of this neighborhood is that we are a small cluster of homes. There are just 5 streets, 141 single family homes and a smattering of duplexes in Richland Park Estates. You can't get lost here! And, even if you did, your neighbors would help you find your way home.

Many of us have lived in Richland Park Estates a long time 23 years for us, *many* more for some.

But, its exciting that we have many new neighbors also! Some neighbors might not yet know we have a Neighborhood Association.

WE DO and we need your help!

In a small neighborhood, such as ours, it can be difficult finding volunteers to fill Board and committee positions. Many times, the same people volunteer on a regular basis. That is very appreciated! However, sometimes, volunteers get worn out. It would be amazing to have new and different volunteers, also! Everyone brings something different to the neighborhood, a new idea, a new viewpoint, energy, enthusiasm, leadership, people skills, computer skills . . . we need all of these!

This newsletter is dedicated to the many volunteer opportunities available in Richland Park Estates. Please take a moment to see if you might find a way to contribute. Approximate time commitments are listed for each position.

Many thanks, neighbors, for allowing me to be your president. Contact me anytime at rpena.president@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you!

— Laura

**Neighbors are gathering
for a casual get together!**

When: Tuesday, July 18 7-8:30pm

Where: Tuscany Italian Bistro

743 Brick Row #400
(intersection of Spring Valley Rd.
and Brick Row)

SEE YOU THERE!

Election of RPENA Board of Directors for 2023-2024

See page 5 for details

VOLUNTEER for 2023 — 2024

JOIN RPENA!



Dues drive begins on September 1, 2023. Membership dues are \$110 per year. Your dues money allows your Neighborhood Association to pay for lighting at the front entrance, landscaping, mowing, watering, security camera maintenance and special projects.

Time commitment: 5 minutes to pay online at www.rpenatx.org or by check

BOARD MEMBER:

President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are officer positions that need to be filled every year. Committee Chairpersons are also board members. Committees include Beautification, Activities, Crime Watch, Newsletter, Membership and Member-At-Large.

Time commitment: Average 3-4 hours per month, varies with position. Attendance at monthly board meetings is encouraged.

COMMITTEE MEMBER:

Committee members would help the committee chairpersons with specific tasks.

Time commitment: Varies on the assignment accepted.

FLAG PERSON: Place (later, remove) flags on your street during selected holidays such as Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and July 4. There is a current supply of flags that have been donated by your neighbors, so the only cost to you would be for flags that need replaced through loss or breakage.

Time commitment: 1 hour to place (and remove) flags on your street 3-4 times per year.

BLOCK CAPTAIN:

Block captains connect with neighbors on their block and collect dues and contact information.

Time commitment: Less than 2 hours per week in the months of September & October.

WEBSITE: RPENA currently has a website built on the WIX platform. This is a trial website; we are in year 2 of our 3 year contract. There is a possibility we would need to rebuild the website at some point in the future.

Time commitment: unknown.

OFFER TO HOST AN

EVENT: If you would like to host a meet and greet in your home, please let us know. Sometimes, we need a place for an indoor casual gathering of neighbors or a place where we can gather and listen to a speaker.

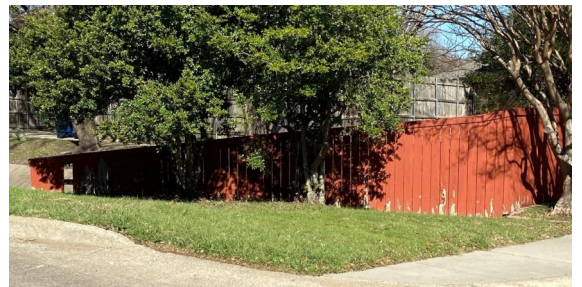
Time commitment: Less than 3 hours.

In the beginning

It was 1978 when residents first started settling into what had once been a cotton field. Claymore Drive, the entry road to Richland Park Estates, crossed a creek (drainage ditch). An ugly, gray standard galvanized highway style guard rail protected the Claymore traffic from the treacherous deep drop off. Thanks to the



RPEHOA (now RPENA) a wooden fence was built to screen the view of the creek. Crape myrtles and other shrubbery were planted. A battery operated irrigation system was installed. More recently bricks were laid to edge the area around the crepe myrtles, ground cover was established, and this year Sam and I added hostas and caladiums.



Over the years the wooden fence has been repaired and repainted but was eventually reaching the end of its useful life.



The biggest improvement came this spring when volunteers spent 4 Saturdays rebuilding the fence with fiber cement building material. This is what RPENA does to improve our neighborhood. Your annual dues of \$110 make it all possible.

Yard of the Month

We have honored two homes thus far for their outstanding yards, both were first time winners. In May we honored **Joe & Cindy Gautreaux (RPE residents since 1996) at 13121 Halwin** for their outstanding job working with a heavily shaded and sloping terrain. Over a period of several years they have turned this challenge into a truly unique yard for RPE. The project includes the use of steel as well as river rock and offers an inviting sitting area with a great view of the entire street.

Our June winner was **Bill & Karen Fuhr (RPE residents since 1978) at 9920 Claymore** who are the original owners of their home. Last year they took out all their worn out shrubbery (except for one bush) and replaced them with shade loving plantings creating a beautiful bed of color across the front of their home. They also installed an irrigation system making it much easier to keep everything green in our scorching climate.

WHO will be our winner for July ???

Jim Hambay & Sam Puentes

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

	Scheduled Collection	Unscheduled Collection Instructions		Comments
Regular Trash & Recyclable Pick up	Tuesdays ----- Leave 2 ft space around carts (ex: fence, shrub, gas meter, etc.)	Roll carts not set out in time for collection will not be collected until the following week	If missed, call 311	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close cart lids • Report damaged carts to 311 • <u>Yes Recycle</u>: Paper, plastic, glass, metal cans, metal cans • <u>No Recycle</u>: Pizza boxes, metal hangers, diapers, clothes
Brush & Bulky Trash (curbside)	4th Monday (Set out on Prev Thurs)	<u>Take to:</u> NE Transfer Station 7677 Fair Oaks 214-670-6126	(M-F) 7am-9am (Sat) 7am-4pm	Must show proof of Dallas residency at Transfer Station
Hazardous Waste	None	<u>Take to:</u> Dallas County Chemical Collection Center 11234 Plano Rd 214-553-1765	(Tu) 9am-7:30pm (Wed-Th) 8:30 - 5:00 (2&4 Sat) 9am-3pm	chemical products for home use; paint & home repair products; lawn & garden chemicals; aerosol sprays; pool chemicals; craft & hobby supplies; cleaners & polishes; batteries of all kinds; auto fluids & oil filters; fluorescent light tubes; computers & cell phones
Questions? https://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/default.aspx , or Call 311				

For information regarding events happening in our area of Dallas

- Dallas Police Department—Northeast Division Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/DallasPD.NE>
- Facebook page for our City Council Member – Kathy Stewart
<https://www.facebook.com/KathyStewartD10>
- Subscribe to the Lake Highlands Advocate Newsletter (free - sent to your email inbox)
<https://lakehighlands.advocatemag.com/our-newsletters/>

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER! PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY.

STAY SAFE



WATCH FOR CHILDREN and PETS



2023-2024 RPENA Proposed Slate of Officers

- Submitted by the Nominating committee July 12, 2023

President: Laura Bigi

Vice President: Sam Puentes

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Callie Sallee

Activities: Meghan Gilmore

Beautification: Jim Hambay

Crime Watch: Diane Mott

Member-At-Large: Cindy Gautreaux

Membership: Brooks Snyder

Newsletter: Tim Gallegos

Voting will take place at the RPENA Annual Meeting.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING TO ELECT OFFICERS

DATE ,TIME and LOCATION to be announced soon! Please check your email.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!

ASHLEY and CODY TRAIL (Halwin)

JENNIFER and SCOTT McGRAW (Halwin)

BLAKE STRODE and FAMILY (Fall Manor)

LEVI and ANGELA THURMAN (Fall Manor)



**Thank
you!**

MIGUEL SOTO for volunteering to make repairs to the lighting at the front entrance to the neighborhood

BOBBY BROOKS for donating a sprinkler system control box at the Claymore bridge