



## Castner Heights Neighborhood Association Newsletter September 2012

**President-Joe Molinar**  
**Vice President-Mark-Thomas Bray**  
**Secretary-Kay Lambert**

**Treasurer-Kendra Bray**  
**Membership Officer-Vacant**  
**Member at Large-Regina Meigel**

**Next General Membership Meeting** will be at:  
Northeast Regional Command Center , 9600  
Dyer Street, Thursday, October 18, 2012, at  
6:30 pm with guest speaker Jose Minjarez from  
Code Enforcement.

**Elections** Exercise your right as a citizen and  
get out and vote this November.

**Webmaster or Facebook Master Needed** If you  
would be interested in developing and  
maintaining a website or Facebook page for  
CHNA, please contact any of the officers.

**National Night Out**-Old Glory reigned over our  
ice cream social last month. Mother Nature  
tried to rain us out, but we called in law  
enforcement to save the day. The storm made a  
beautiful back drop for our annual celebration  
to law enforcement and the neighborhood. All  
pictures courtesy of Glenn Meigel.



El Paso's finest investigated a case of suspected  
ice cream overdosing to no avail.



The DJ rocked but the grass was a bit too high  
for the Boot Scootin Boogie.



During NNO a drawing was conducted for those  
folks that renewed their memberships or  
became a member that night. The winner of a  
CHNA Polo Shirt was Mr. Billy White - New CHNA  
Member.

Kids explored all that law enforcement and firefighters had to offer. EPFD had the best, hands on tour of their equipment



**New Association E-mail Address-**You can use one address to contact all the Board members, even when we elect new members. New e-mail address is [chna.elp.tx@gmail.com](mailto:chna.elp.tx@gmail.com). Please accept the address on your computers.

**New Secretary-Kay Lambert-** I was not born in Texas but, as the bumper sticker said, I got here as soon as I could. I have lived in the Castner Heights area since the summer of 1984 and have been a member of the CHNA for the past two - three years (?). After retiring from the U.S. Army in June 1991, I was employed by El Paso Community College and worked there for the next seventeen years. When my husband, Dean, retired from EPCC in late 2006, I decided that I didn't want him having too much fun in retirement without me. I left EPCC in January 2007 to see if I would enjoy not having to get up every day and head into the office. I liked it - I liked it alot. We bought a new RV and headed out each summer to see the parts of the USA we hadn't seen while we were in the Army. I joined the CHNA to stay informed on what's happening within the neighborhood. I look forward to participating more in the CHNA as I temporarily fill the role of the association secretary until a new one is elected.

**New Member at Large-Regina Meigel-I,** Regina (Gina) Rose Meigel, was born in Attleboro, MA and have a twin brother. Also have a sister plus 2 half brothers along with 2 half sisters that are deceased and one living half sister. I grew up in a little town of Rehoboth, MA graduated from Our Lady of Fatima High School, attended the University of Lisbon, Portugal for a summer on a Gulbenkian Grant while there I was able to tour Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and Italy along with a having a private audience with the Pope at his summer home. Attended Saint Anne's School of Nursing, Johnson and Wales Business College, University of Alaska and El Paso Community College. Graduated from American Travel College.

Married my husband Glenn J. Meigel in 1974, who is now a retired Lieutenant Colonel. We traveled or lived as far west as Hawaii/Alaska to Austria plus south to the Caribbean. Of all the places we lived or traveled to, we like El Paso the best mainly due to the weather, having access to the military facility being nearby and lower cost of living compare to where our relatives are living.

Presently I am Member-At-Large of CHNA, member of the West Side Welcome Club, Military Council of Catholic Women (MCCW) on their Board and also Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist (EME) at Chapel #2 on Ft. Bliss. Also for the MCCW I make preemie caps, rosary beads for deploying soldiers and missionaries plus prayer shawls for cancer patients or the homebound.

I enjoy walking and exercising and while walking around our neighborhood park I pick up trash or remove graffiti. I enjoy being involved with CHNA in helping to keep the neighborhood safe, in good shape, pretty and clean.

### **Last General Membership Meeting Summary-**

Mr. Martin Jacquez, of the City Transportation Department discussed plans for the city lot and community gardens near the corner of Stahala & Hondo Pass. Currently the community gardens separate the Department offices from their supplies and materials. The leading proposal for reconfiguring the lot moves the gardens to the north end of the lot (along the back of the homes on Gen Maloney Cir). The city would place approximately 118 planting plots (more than now) and replace the existing soil with suitable soil two to three inches deep. In addition, the city will place watering lines to the plots. The resulting location will provide an increased opportunity for citizens to take advantage of the gardens. Moving the gardens creates a buffer between the residents on Gen Maloney and the stockpiles of materials. Furthermore, the city will create concrete bins with 15 foot high walls to contain the material. The city may be done with relocating the gardens by the spring of 2013. Most of the area that is dirt right now will be paved, reducing the dust problem. The city's heavy equipment will be brought in to the parking area from Hondo Pass. Once completed, the city will complete the sidewalk along Stahala Drive.

Several CHNA members have attended presentations by the city on the possibility of bringing a Triple-A Baseball Team to El Paso and building a new stadium on the current site of City Hall. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that CHNA take a negative stance to razing City Hall and building a new stadium downtown.

**El Paso's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Summit-**The El Paso Neighborhood Coalition & the City of El Paso hosted the Summit on August 4<sup>th</sup> with the theme:

**STAND  
UP FOR  
CIVIC  
ENGAGEMENT**

Several residents of Castner Heights attended this informative day, including Joe Molinar, Kendra and Mark-Thomas Bray, Gina and Glen Meigel and English Burnett.

The summit included information tables where we met reps from Adult Protective Services, County Dispute Resolution Center, City Community Development, YMCA, United Healthcare, Salvation Army, Police Department, and the Neighborhood Watch Association.

The summit included workshops on Website Creation for Neighborhood Associations, the Rio Bosque Wetlands, Keep El Paso Beautiful / Neighborhood Pride, Protecting a Neighborhood Association's Right to Civic Engagement, and Your Neighborhood – Your Health. CHNA members participated in a session with Neighborhood Associations in Northeast to discuss common topics of interest.

Summit participants heard from Mayor John Cook and City Manager Joyce Wilson as they touched on the upcoming Bond Election and the Ballpark project. The Keynote Speaker for the day was Mr. Mathew McElroy, the Director of City Development Services. Mr. McElroy discussed the city's Master Plan and pending development projects and timelines. For information on these areas, you can visit the City Development Services website at <http://www.elpasotexas.gov/ped/>.

Overall, the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Summit was viewed as a success. Being able to meet and interact with governmental organizations and agencies from many levels serves to create a more informed citizenry and helps to promote positive social discourse and civic engagement. Hopefully next year many more Castner Heights residents will be able to participate and share their ideas on how to improve our community.



## Business and Selected Honorary Members



4545 Hondo Pass, 915-834-2203, Fax: 915-834-2222, Debbie Mendoza, Branch Manager, [dmendoza@wsfcu.org](mailto:dmendoza@wsfcu.org), [wsfcu.org](http://wsfcu.org)

**Victory Chapel Ministries**, Women with Purpose, 4601 Hondo Pass, 915-751-6399, [carolyneredic@att.net](mailto:carolyneredic@att.net), [www.victorychapelwomen.com](http://www.victorychapelwomen.com)

**Victory Warriors Drill Dance and After-School Academy**, 4601 Hondo Pass, 915-751-6399, [victorywarriors@att.net](mailto:victorywarriors@att.net), [www.warriorsafterschoolacademy.com](http://www.warriorsafterschoolacademy.com)

**Club 54**, 4875 Rutherford, 915-755-9972, M-F 11 AM-2 AM, Sat-Sun 1 PM-2 AM

**Avon**, to buy or sell, Toni Lunsford, Independent Sales Agent, 9540 Robert Holt, 915-759-6408 / 915-226-6960, [toni1618@aol.com](mailto:toni1618@aol.com)



**Village Inn Pancake House**, (under reconstruction) 4757 Hondo Pass, 751-3455, [hondopass@yourvillageinn.com](mailto:hondopass@yourvillageinn.com)



**LPL Financial**, Freedom Financial Services, 4717 Hondo Pass, Suite D, 915-755-4180, Robert H Sweet, [robert.sweet@lpl.com](mailto:robert.sweet@lpl.com)



**Flags Across America**, PO Box 640112, 79904, 915-751-8718, Jimmy K Melver, [JKMelder@yahoo.com](mailto:JKMelder@yahoo.com), [www.ElPasoFlag.org](http://www.ElPasoFlag.org)

**Tony Lewis Collision & Paint**  
  
Phone (915) 755-4321  
Fax # (915) 755-8549  
9400 McCombs St.  
El Paso, TX 79924

**Rocks**  
**T-SHIRTS**  
4727 Hondo Pass Suite H.  
(915)-562-4798

Heaven Sent



Treasures

Thrift Shop and Consignment

4727 Hondo Pass, Ste. D  
El Paso, TX 79904  
915-757-4365  
Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00AM-6:00PM

Mike Bearce, Editor