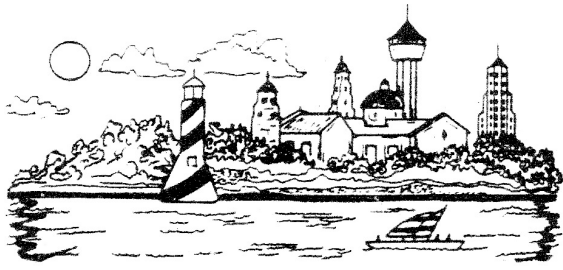


WLCA NEWSLETTER



Woodlawn Lake Community Association

Keeping Woodlawn Wonderful

Published Bimonthly

March–April 2021

San Antonio, Texas

NO MARCH MEETING; POSSIBLE APRIL MEETING OUTDOORS

WLCA will not hold a March meeting this year. As the restrictions on social gatherings remain in place, we will continue to communicate with our members via our newsletter and by email. As the weather warms, and with daylight savings time bringing us later sundowns, we are considering holding an outdoor meeting in April. That will depend on certain factors, as City rules at the time, weather, and member interest. If we are to meet on April 27th, we will give notice by email, postcard, or telephone.

ALAZÁN CREEK TRAIL EXTENSION

Currently, the Alazán Creek Linear Trail begins at the Woodlawn Lake Casting Pond and ends at Lombrano Avenue, a distance of about half a mile. Construction is now underway to extend the trail another 2.9 miles to the confluence at Apache Creek. The original segment was completed six years ago. The new work began a year ago and should be completed this summer.

The ongoing project includes excavation up to Colorado Street, new fencing along the San Antonio Housing Authority apartments, and stone seating at Elmendorf and Popular. The concrete hike and bike trail is 10 feet wide and will be for hikers, runners, dog-walkers, and bicyclists. Ultimately, the trail will connect with the San Antonio Mission Reach Project at the confluence of San Pedro Creek and the San Antonio River.

GRADUATES

If you or a member of your family is graduating or receiving a degree this year, or recently received the honor, please let us know. Tell us who it is, your relationship to the person, the accomplishment and where it is being (or was) received, and the honoree's next step (school, job). We will recognize the graduate in our next newsletter.

CITY & SCHOOL ELECTIONS

Last day to register to vote – Thursday, April 1

Early voting – Monday, April 19, to Tuesday, April 27

Elections office must receive:

- Application for ballot by mail by Tuesday, April 20
- Ballot by mail by 7 p.m., Saturday, May 1

Election Day – Saturday, May 1

FREEZE, FUTURE, FRIENDS

Alejandro Soto, WLCA President

The frigid week following Valentine's Day will be talked about for years. A month later, we are still dealing with its aftermath. The City and our utilities have stepped in to help with issues as broken pipes and water damage. The great unknown is what our next CPS Energy bill will look like. Many of us are still trying to understand just what a fuel charge is about and how a few can make so much profit as many are suffering. I hope our legislative representatives can take on the issue on behalf of consumers.

Around the neighborhood we see the damage to our plants. We wonder which ones survived. While some of our trees and shrubs are sprouting new leaves or flowering, others remain a lifeless brown. We are waiting to see if these will recover. Some of our showy plants, as palm trees, orange trees, and sagos, might not come back. We are left with having to remove an extraordinary amount of landscape matter from our yards. Normally, we cannot set brush out by the curb until we receive a notice of scheduled collection. Our area is coming up this May. I asked that we be allowed to start piling our brush now to avoid piling in the backyard only to move it again to the front, waiting to try to clear all the dead growth at pick up time, or paying to have it hauled away. The City will not budge from its standard practice.

In our last Newsletter (JanFeb'21) we listed improvement needed in our area. I discussed some of these with District 7 staff. One item, rehabilitation of Lake Blvd from Quentin to W. Woodlawn, is scheduled for 2023. We gave priority to three projects: replace the sidewalk on the perimeter of the triangular block of S. Josephine Tobin, Adaes, and Texas Ave.; improve Cincinnati from Zarzamora to Alexander, to include sidewalks, drainage, and landscaping; and create a continuous bicycle lane adjacent to Woodlawn Lake Park. We will continue to pursue all items we listed. Some of the areas needing improvement are in District 1 and some involve both Districts 1 and 7. I do appreciate the attention that District 7 appears to be giving to our issues.

We have lost several WLCA members in the past year and a half. These include Victor and Alice Almaraz, Darlyne Cox, Miguel Gomez, and Silvia Reyna. We extend our sympathies to their families and friends.

This is your LAST NEWSLETTER if you have not renewed your membership.
Your 2020 membership ends on April 17th. Please renew now.

Woodlawn Lake Community Association--Membership 2021

Name: _____ DOB Mo & Day: _____

Name: _____ DOB Mo & Day: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership type: _____ Individual (\$5 per year) _____ Family/Household (\$10 per year)
(please check) _____ School, _____ Non-Profit, or _____ Business (each \$10 per year)

Make your check payable to the Woodlawn Lake Community Association

CLIP OR COPY

If your member information has not changed, send your payment (only) annotated "2021 dues." If it has changed (or if a new member), please send the Form above with your dues to WLCA, P.O. Box 28374, San Antonio TX 78228. You can also bring your dues to the Centennial Garden on April 17th, between 9am and 12 noon (see "Garden") below.

WORKING EARTH DAY AT GARDEN

The nation's Earth Day is on April 22nd. San Antonio celebrates it as a Fiesta event at Woodlawn Lake Park on a Saturday near to the official date. This year, the event would have taken place on April 17th. Like Fiesta, the current pandemic has forced its cancellation. WLCA will, instead, celebrate Earth Day by holding a work day at our Centennial Garden from 9 am to 12 noon.

The February freeze has damaged all gardens. By mid-April, we should have a better idea of which plants have survived and which will have to be removed and replaced. Our volunteers will clip and trim existing plants, remove weeds, add new plants, spread mulch, and do general cleanup. The Parks Department will do temperature checks of all workers. Also, workers must wear face masks and we will observe social distancing.

We can use a couple of helpers with string trimmers. The Parks Department will furnish garden tools, but you can bring your own, including shovels, rakes, and clippers. Also, we recommend garden gloves, head wear for shade, and eye protection. Please help us celebrate Earth Day at the Garden on April 17th.

WLCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President: Alejandro Soto.....485-6168
wlca@att.net

Vice President: Sally Avila.....734-2093

Secretary: Ester Soto

Treasurer: Elia Reyna.....279-7204

Board Members:

Marcy Gutierrez.....313-8296

Charles Oisten.....702-234-0604

Vicki Wright.....286-7222

JD Morales.....885-7146

Scheduled 2021 WLCA Meetings

Apr 27, May 25, Jun 29, Jul 27, Aug 31, Sept 28, Oct 26,
Nov 30; all at 6:30 pm; Woodlawn Lake Park Wi-Fi Room

POISONOUS BERRIES

Nandina (*nandina domestica*), also known as sacred bamboo or heavenly bamboo, is commonly grown in San Antonio. Its bright red berries and contrasting dark green foliage add color and texture to our landscapes. Nandina berries last for months and attract hungry birds. That can be fatal. The berries contain cyanide and other alkaloids that produce highly toxic hydrogen cyanide that is extremely poisonous to all animals. Sudden death may be the only sign of cyanide poisoning and death usually comes in minutes to an hour.

The US Department of Agriculture and most states classify *nandina domestica* as a noxious, non-native, invasive weed from China and Japan. It has naturalized and invaded our national parks, national wildlife refuges, national forests, city parks, and other habitats throughout the US. Yet homeowners and commercial landscapers are still planting this toxic species without constraint. You can help by removing nandinas from your yard and replacing them with native plants. If you don't want to rip out your nandinas, please prune the berry laden branches.

WLCA Birthdays

March: flower - jonquil; birthstone - aquamarine

Diane Bertrand, Bertha Diaz, Gilbert Gonzales, Vivian Olmos, Richard Holgin, Fernando Rocha, Yolanda Santos, Rosemary Shear, Derek Wauson

April: flower - sweet pea; birthstone - diamond

Humberto Guerra, Chuck Harvey, Isabel Herrera, Dina Saad, Ronald Shaffer, Daniel Silvas, Pelham Spong, Oralia Torres