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> **OBPOA** PO Box 541346 **Houston TX 77254** www.OldBraeswood.com 713-807-1787

# Letter from the President

Dear Neighbors,

Happy 2023 to the residents of Old Braeswood! I wish each and every one of you a year filled with continuing successes, good health, and neighborhood friendship. As the new president of the Old Braeswood Property Owners Association (the "OBPOA"), my goal and mission for our wonderful neighborhood in 2023 is peace and happiness.

During the first quarter of 2023, the Executive Committee will be focusing on finalizing an update of the Architectural Guidelines of the OBPOA (the "Project Update"). The following is an outline of the progress we have made on the Project Update to date.

At the end of 2021, an Ad Hoc Committee for the Improvement of ARC (the "Improvement of ARC Committee") was appointed by then president of the OBPOA, Samia Khalil. The Improvement of ARC Committee members conducted interviews of homeowners who had completed a review of plans by the ARC after the 2019 Architectural Guidelines had been implemented. These homeowners were asked to comment on the guidelines and their experience with the approval process. After the interviews, the Improvement of ARC Committee met several times to evaluate the responses and prepare recommendations. A report was sent to the Executive Committee of the OBPOA in early May 2022. The Improvement of ARC Committee proposed six recommendations for the improvement of the ARC. Two recommendations suggested further evaluation of the Architectural Guidelines:

### **Recommendation 2:**

Review and update the Architectural Guidelines - Review the guidelines periodically for compatibility with new construction methods and technology, city ordinances and state laws. Start an initial review now.

### **Recommendation 4:**

Observe the big picture – The Guidelines and ARC decisions should focus on clarifying deed restrictions and providing guidance on frequently encountered issues of major significance to the neighborhood. The Guidelines and ARC decisions should avoid overregulation of small-scale issues, aim to give deference to owners' preferences on style, and be mindful of the neighborhood's architectural diversity.

See "President's Letter" continued on Page 4

# Membership and Patrol Subsription Drive Underway

Old Braeswood thrives because so many residents contribute time, effort, and funds to accomplish our work. And we need all three. Without membership dues, we cannot afford to hold park parties, welcome new neighbors, prepare newsletters, spray for

mosquitos, coordinate with the patrol, pay our part-time association manager, and defend deed restrictions. Without Patrol subscriptions, we cannot continue to fund our contract with S.E.A.L. Security.

All of our very small budget is supported with voluntary dues, and over the past few years participation has declined. Please contribute to our neighborhood's well-being by paying BOTH the membership dues and the patrol subscription. The sums are modest, and the rewards are great.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a 2023 membership and patrol subscriber form. Please complete the form and return it with your payment or pay online via our website. For those renewing, please use the form to provide any changes to your contact information.

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# Your House Has A History (#70) by Susan Froehly Teich

A house ages somewhat like a fine wine. The wine takes on its character from its container, whether oak or steel. A house is a container that takes on its character from its contents, the personalities and events that occur within it.

A new house is raw and waiting to be given a history. This is the 70th (and last) in a series by me about old houses in Old Braeswood that have been given their histories already.

Rather than single out a house for this last article, I made a stab at identifying the first house to be built on each of Old Braeswood's 13 streets. An enticement for others to expand on my record. The resulting list is culled from Houston City Directories and from Stephen Fox's fine book *Braeswood: An Architectural History*. These are houses with histories waiting to be told or enlarged upon.

There were challenges in assembling the list below. Fox's book focuses on the architectural history of the neighborhood, but in so doing he leaves heavy clues as to which houses came first. Often a house was built and occupied before, even years before, appearing in the Directories. Fox's book and the Directories can be in conflict regarding that "first" house.

Also, Old Braeswood covered a larger area initially than it does now. Some of the early houses sat on land no longer part of the neighborhood. As Fox writes: "By 1955 all of the nine houses on the east side of Main had been converted to commercial uses, and an office building had been constructed at 7311 Main." (Fox, p. 45)

The shrinkage occurred when deed restrictions were not renewed and enforced. With the formation of the Property Owners Association (POA) in 2004, and its vigorous enforcement of deed restrictions, the size of the neighborhood stabilized and can no longer shrink.

### BELLEFONTAINE BLVD.

In **1938** the Borden Construction Company built a spec house at **2229 Bellefontaine**, designed by architects Sam H. Dixon, Jr., and A.B. Ellis. It has been demolished. (Fox, p. 31) The same contractor and architect built a **1939** house at **2215 Bellefontaine**. (Fox, p. 35)

### BLUE BONNET BLVD.

Architect Carl A. Mulvey designed a house at **2309 Blue Bonnet** for Thelma and C. H. Hardison, built in **1929**. (Fox, p. 14) The garage apartment was occupied by Oscar Lott. Most, if not all, of the early houses in the neighborhood had such quarters for their domestic servants.

Mr. Hardison was Superintendent of Houston Oil Company of Texas, founded by John H. Kirby. It was Kirby who sold Braeswood Corporation the 456 acres that it would subdivide for residential housing and name Braeswood. (Fox, p. 6)

Another Mulvey house, built later that year, was at **2329 Blue Bonnet**. (Fox, p. 15) It was owned by Ada and Leon E. Delcuze. He was Assistant Vice President of Gulf Pipeline Company and numerous other related Gulf companies.





### **BRAESWOOD (NORTH) BLVD.**

The house at **2330** (North) **Braeswood**, designed by architect Joseph Finger and built in **1939**, was the largest house at that time in the neighborhood. (Fox, p. 24) It is nearly 6,000 square feet in size and sits on over an acre of land. When it was built, Braeswood did not connect to Kirby, but ended at the Glenlee estate of legendary oil tycoon Glenn McCarthy. Braeswood was a quiet cul-de-sac.

The owner of this magnificent residence was Evalyn Davis, the mistress of oilman T. P. Lee. He lived with his family in an even more magnificent house, the Montrose mansion now serving as the executive offices of the University of St. Thomas (3800 Montrose). His niece, Faustine Lee, married to Glenn McCarthy, was practically next door to Evalyn Davis. [For the full story on Miss Davis, see *Your House Has a History #28*, Fall 2013.]



### **BRAESWOOD COURT**

The grounds of the Evalyn Davis house abut Braeswood Court, but other than her house, the first house would have been at **2322 Braeswood Court** not built until **1951**. (Fox, p. 51) It was designed by its owner, J.S. Brochstein, who had owned the land since 1947. He was founder of Brochstein, Inc., a nationally prominent millwork firm. After Brochstein's death, his estate sold the land and the house was demolished to make way for five new houses. Brochstein's family is remembered at Rice University with the Brochstein Pavilion, the Brochstein Wing of Anderson Hall, and the Brochstein Visiting Professorship. [See *Your House Has a History #14*, Summer 2010.]

### DORRINGTON BLVD.

The first house on this street to appear in the City Directory was at **2220 Dorrington**, designed by architect Otto F. Woestemeyer for Elaine and David Minchen, and built in **1941** at a cost of \$4,800. (Fox, pp. 38-39) Mr. Minchen was president of David Minchen, Inc., purveyor of "ladies' clothing" at 1005 Main St.

Stephen Fox identifies another house from **1941**, at **2222 Dorrington**. Designed by architect Sam H. Dixon, Jr., it was a spec house built by C. Mike Murphy and then occupied by him and his family. (Fox, p. 38).

Although not documented in the City Directory, Fox identifies an even earlier house at **2212 Dorrington**, designed by architects Sam H. Dixon, Jr., and A.B. Ellis, and built in **1937.** (Fox, p. 35)

### GLEN HAVEN BLVD.

The house at **2115 Glen Haven**, designed by architect Harry D. Payne for the Braeswood Corporation, was completed in **1929**. It was the first house sold in Braeswood. Gov. William P. Hobby bought it upon completion (Fox pp. 13, 14, 19) Besides being a former Governor, Hobby was publisher of the *Houston Post* and a director of Braeswood Corporation. His wife Oveta Culp Hobby was called upon by President Dwight Eisenhower to organize and head the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) and the Federal Security Agency (FSA).

She directed the Women's Army Corp. (WAC) during WWII and succeeded her husband as publisher of the *Houston Post*. [See *Your House Has a History #4*0, April-May 2016.]



### **GRAMERCY BLVD.**

Gramercy first appears in the Houston City Directory in 1948 with two houses listed, one of which appears in Fox's book.

**2311 Gramercy** was built in **1948**, first occupied by Isabelle E. and Frank A. Reinhart. (Fox, p. 49) Mr. Reinhart was co-owner with Richard Duff of Duffy Realty Co., which sold and managed residential properties. It had offices at 2517 University and 2250 Holcombe.



The house at **2326 Gramercy**, apparently also built in **1948**, was purchased by Shannon and Frank J. Kelly. He was the Personnel Director of Superior Oil Company.

### **GREENBRIAR DRIVE**

Fox identifies the house at **7404 Greenbriar** (at Main St.) as being built in **1929** and as the first house completed in Braeswood. It was constructed by the developer Damon Wells for his mother, Mrs. J.M. Wells. (Fox, p. 19) Damon Wells was president of Damon Wells Company, Inc., owners and builders of warehouses for lease.

Another house, built by Braeswood Corporation, and completed at about the same time, is at **7319 Green-briar.** (Fox, p. 13)





### KELVING DRIVE

If there were a contest for the most famous resident of Braeswood, it would be a toss-up between Oveta Culp Hobby and the oil wildcatter Glenn McCarthy, who was fictionalized in the book *Giant* by Edna Ferber, and in the Hollywood movie by that title (based on the book), with James Dean playing Glenn McCarthy.



McCarthy's house and grounds, known as Glennlee, was at **7500 Kelving** and covered 18 acres. The house was built between **1937-1938**. (Fox, pp. 31-33) McCarthy's wife, Faustine Lee McCarthy, had two brothers, heirs to the Lee oil fortune, also living in Braeswood (W. Howard Lee at 2330 Blue Bonnet and Donald A. Lee at 2329 Underwood).

The site of Glennlee is now mid-rise condos and no longer part of Old Braeswood.

#### MARONEAL BLVD.

The first houses for this street appearing in the City Directory are earlier than any mentioned in Fox's book. They both appear for the first time in the **1931-1932** Directory.

**2205 Maroneal** is listed as owned by Mrs. L. P. Russell, widow of Joseph Russell, with Carlisle Wright living in the rear apartment.

**2301 Maroneal** was initially owned by Helen and Dr. William Lapat. His medical practice was in the Medical Arts Building, an Art Deco skyscraper at 1215 Walker, now demolished. Their servant in the rear apartment was Margo Douglas, later replaced by Harris Rhiddle.



### MORNINGSIDE DRIVE

The house for Selma and Leo M. Levy House was designed by architect William Fred Gray and built in **1937** at **7506 Morningside**. (Fox, pp. 27, 31) The City Directory describes Mr. Levy as a "broker."



#### SOUTH MAIN BLVD.

This street is particularly hard to track in the City Directory. The earliest houses identified in Fox's book are at **7244 Main Blvd.**, designed by William G. Rothermel, and **7310 Main Blvd.**, designed by Joseph Finger. Both houses were built in **1930-1931**. The first house was owned initially by C.A. Nichols, and the second house by Julius M. Edel. (Fox, p. 24)



#### **UNDERWOOD**

Mention is made above of John H. Kirby, whose family name is memorialized by Kirby Drive. The house at **2330 Underwood** was built in **1930** for Walter W. Fondren, Jr., another name memorialized with a street. The architect was Cameron D. Fairchild. (Fox, p. 19) Walter Jr.'s father was a co-founder of the Humble Oil Company. [See *Your House Has History.#67*, Fall 2021.]



All of these houses can be summarized with a quote from Stephen Fox, who wrote in 1988:

"From Mulvey, Wirtz and Calhoun, Brochstein, Lázlo, and Bolton and Barnstone to the architects of the 1980s, Braeswood has continued to be a place where architecturally important houses are built in Houston. As long as this tradition is maintained, the historic standing and distinction of Braeswood will be assured." (Fox, p. 61)

[Editor's note: This is the concluding article in a series on houses and people in Old Braeswood. We are deeply grateful for Susan Teich's substantial research and the resulting articles, which have added greatly to our understanding and appreciation of Old Braeswood's history. A new series of historical articles contributed by the Preservation Committee will be launched in the next newsletter.]

"President's Letter" continued from Page 1

In late May 2022, the above referenced recommendations prompted the Executive Committee to create an ad hoc committee, the Architectural Guidelines Review Committee (the "AGRC"), which was assigned the task of updating the Architectural Guidelines in accordance with the spirit of Recommendation 2. There were six members on the AGRC which included four architects, two of whom were outside architects. The AGRC was fortunate to have architect members with experience working in other neighborhoods, including West University, Tanglewood, Avalon Place, Southampton and River Oaks. Beginning in June of 2022, the AGRC met several hours a week for many weeks. The AGRC addressed implementation of new legislation passed in the last session of the Texas Legislature. It was the AGRC's goal to add clarity to the existing Architectural Guidelines and remove language that was considered vague and confusing. The ARC Guideline Exhibits were also revised to comply with current city ordinances. The AGRC's final draft of the Revised Architectural Guidelines was completed in November of 2022.

In late December of 2022, the draft of the Revised Architectural Guidelines was circulated to the newly elected Executive Committee members of the OBPOA for their review. The Executive Committee is evaluating the proposed changes to the existing Architectural Guidelines as well as implementing Recommendation 4 from the Improvement of ARC Committee's report. On January 10, 2023, members of the Executive Committee, ARC and new members of the Enforcement Committee met informally to discuss and evaluate the draft Revised Architectural Guidelines in light of Recommendation 4. Members of the Executive Committee and Enforcement Committee have been asked to help gather feedback from neighbors and submit additional comments to the draft. After comments are compiled, members of the Executive Committee and ARC will work together to prepare an improved draft of the Revised Architectural Guidelines that will be distributed to all Old Braeswood residents for review and comment.

The Executive Committee, including myself, want you to know that a great deal of time, effort and consideration has been given to the Architectural Guidelines update. The Executive Committee wants you to know the steps we and our committees have taken so the process is as transparent as possible. We are making steady progress toward our goal of a better set of guidelines and look forward to presenting the new draft of the Revised Architectural Guidelines to you.

In addition to Project Update, the Executive Committee will continue to evaluate and implement four additional recommendations from the Improvement of ARC Committee's report, including recommendations regarding ARC's membership. As we progress on each of the four additional recommendations, we will share that information with you.

I look forward to working with each of you during the upcoming year!

Ann Garnett, President

# Old Braeswood Patrol: SEAL Activity Report

SEAL reports that crime continues to remain low in Old Braeswood and even declined last year. There were no robberies and only two burglaries of a habitation in Old Braeswood. Auto burglaries have also declined. The Summary of SEAL's activity and crime incidents over the past five years is included below.

We thank you for your support of the Old Braeswood Patrol staffed by SEAL Security and encourage you to subscribe again for 2023. Please program the patrol number (at 713-422-2770) in your phone and call the patrol dispatcher if you see any suspicious activity.

SEAL Data 2018 throug	gh 2022						
Category	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Aggregate	Average
Alarm	12	18	17	14	11	72	18
Animal	5	1	4	1	1	12	3
Arrest	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Assault	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Assistance	34	8	46	9	12	109	27
Burglary of Habitation	1	1	4	4	2	12	3
Burglary of MV	2	0	6	3	1	12	3
CTW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Damage/Defacement	1	4	3	2	0	10	3
Dispute	0	3	3	0	2	8	2
Disturbance / Noise	1	1	0	1	0	3	1
EMS/FD/PD	0	3	9	4	9	25	6
Information	6	12	11	13	9	51	13
Robbery	0	1	2	0	0	3	1
Solicitor	1	6	8	0	9	24	6
Suspicious Activity	4	1	7	8	1	21	5
Suspicious Person	20	31	43	14	28	136	34
Suspicious Vehicle	13	14	18	13	21	79	20
Theft	2	3	14	11	9	39	10
Vacation Watch	47	91	57	80	118	393	98
Vehicle Collision	1	1	2	0	4	8	2
Total Incidents	150	199	255	177	238	1019	255
Reported Incidents		64	53	44	7	168	

# Flock Safety Camera Update

Fundraising for the Flock Safety Camera 2-year project, approved by the Executive Committee, continues. So far, nearly 75 percent of the \$22,400 required to install four cameras (at the entrances to the neighborhood on Greenbriar and Morningside) has been raised. To encourage residents to donate, a member of our neighborhood has offered a "matching gift" to help bridge the remaining funding gap. Please consider supporting the project and donating toward the remaining funds needed to enhance safety in Old Braeswood. Donations can be made via PayPal or credit card through the "Payments" page on the Old Braeswood POA website, under the "Special Projects." Thank you in advance for your support.



# Old Braeswood Welcome Four New Executive Committee Members for the 2022-2023 Term

### Paul Danziger (2335 Blue Bonnet Blvd.) – At Large

Paul and his wife Susan have lived in Old Braeswood for the last 17 years and have enjoyed raising their four children here. Paul is a lawyer by trade and focuses on mediation and dispute resolution. Paul hosts the annual blowing of the shofar to which the neighborhood is invited. He looks forward to getting to know more neighbors and work on projects to enhance Old Braeswood for everyone.

### Erin Orzeck Goldman (2330 Blue Bonnet Blvd) – Secretary

Erin is a native Houstonian and loves this great city. After flooding in Hurricane Harvey, she and her family moved a couple of miles east from Braeswood Place to her current home on the Triple B. The wonderfully gracious neighbors, fascinating history, and neighborhood charm exceeded every expectation of what a community is. Before long, aspirations of getting involved in preserving and progressing the neighborhood took hold. Prior to her new positions as OBPOA Secretary and President of the Old Braeswood Park Corp., Erin has served as an Old Braeswood block captain, a member of the Old Braeswood Garden Club and Book Club, and is a member of the National Charity League. For the past 25 years, she has served as CFO for a community-based psychiatric clinic. She has been married to Brian for 22 years and is the proud mom of four girls. Erin looks forward to working with her neighbors to benefit this amazing community.



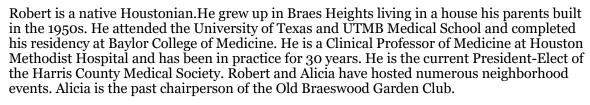
### **Sharam Honari** (2212 Glen Haven Blvd.) – Vice President

Sharam welcomes the opportunity to serve the neighbors as one of three Vice Presidents. He, his wife Lindsey, and daughter Zoe (now 20 and in college), moved to Glen Haven Blvd. in 2012, having previously lived a few blocks from Rice Village. Sharam works in the investment management field focusing on public and private energy-related investments. He is also a Board member of the Halo House Foundation, a local non-profit which provides housing for blood cancer patients that travel to Houston for medical care. Sharam has served on the Patrol committee and is leading the effort to install Flock Safety cameras. He has also served on the Nominating committee.



### Robert E. Jackson MD, MACP (7505 Morningside) - Vice President

Robert and wife Alicia moved to Old Braeswood in 2017. This neighborhood has a very special meaning to them, not only because it is beautiful with amazing neighbors but also because it became their refuge, having been flooded out from their previous neighborhood, compliments of Hurricane Harvey.





# Beautification Committee Seeks Funds and Leadership

The Beautification Committee reports that maintenance on surrounding streets (Main, Kirby, Greenbriar) to clean up trash, debris and dirt along the esplanades and curbs continues as funding allows. Each clean up costs approximately \$250 to \$500 depending on the work to be performed. There is currently about \$1,800 in the fund. If you would like to see the maintenance continue, and new projects launched, please consider making a donation to the fund. Mail a check with "Beautification" in the memo line to the PO Box, or make a payment online at www.OldBraeswood.com under the *Payments* tab. The committee hopes to schedule a Saturday workday in the spring, neighborhood-wide, on each block to help make blocks more presentable. Recurring payments can be set up at <a href="https://beautifvoldbraeswood.com/">https://beautifvoldbraeswood.com/</a>

The Committee is also seeking new members. Contact <u>Beautification@OldBraeswood.com</u> if you are interested in serving.

# Plan Review Required for ALL Exterior Changes: The ARC is Here to Help!

The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) encourages you to set up a preliminary meeting to discuss your project in advance of finalizing its design. This step can help ensure your plans are able to move quickly through the review process and may even help save you money on your project. While most preliminary meetings are held via Zoom, the ARC is open to meet on site if that helps with understanding the proposed project.



Please remember to consult with the ARC in advance of beginning any updates. All exterior alterations must be reviewed and signed off on prior to construction. If in doubt, contact the ARC at <u>ARC@OldBraeswood.com</u> to verify submission requirements and for help before and during the design phase to ensure plans are approvable before they are formally submitted. Visit the deed restrictions page of the website for more information.

Per the deed restrictions, home improvement projects requiring ARC review include new construction of homes and changes to existing homes involving building footprint, roofs, fences, doors and garage doors, window rehab or replacement, paint color changes, decorative elements, driveways, landscape elements, awnings, solar panels, projections, balconies, additions, new garages, carports & porte-cocheres, and outbuildings such as gazebos, greenhouses, or toolsheds. Fines may be levied for projects that are not submitted before implementation.

## Flood Control Update by Debra Balthazar

This update reflects October through December 2022 posts of the Brays Bayou Association (BBA).

According to the Brays Bayou Association in an October post, Harris County Flood Control District plans to implement its Federally funded Tree Planting Plan that calls for the installation of an estimated 2,000 one-inch caliper (1-inch diameter/trunk thickness) with the vast majority being proposed for the Mid-Reach area along Brays Bayou. Options are under consideration to replace the large volume of smaller trees with larger and fewer trees.



November and December posts of the BBA track the status of the new TxDOT 610 Southbound Feeder Road Bridge Construction Project. The project is scheduled to commence in January 2023 and is slated for completion in the Fall of 2023 (November/December). The project is estimated to cost over \$3 million. The current southbound bridge along Loop 610 over Brays Bayou in SW Houston is set for demolition starting in January 2023.

According to TXDoT, the initial phase of construction requires demolition of half side of the bridge resulting in a one-lane closure with one-lane remaining open to cross the bridge. Subsequent construction phases will result in the first half of the bridge being constructed where traffic will be switched over to the new construction segment during the remainder of the project. Overall project improvements include expansion to 3 lanes with widening from 11 to 12 feet along with the addition of shoulders and the widening of sidewalks from 4 to 6 feet that connect to hike/bike trails.

These projects are part of ongoing capital improvement mitigation efforts along the Brays Bayou watershed to manage flood control.

(A special shout-out to Len and Susan Teich for graciously providing a seamless transition to represent the Old Braeswood POA at Brays Bayou Association meetings and as the recipient of posts.)

# Maroneal Street Reconstruction Project

Several months ago, the City of Houston began reconstruction of the 2400 through 2500 block of Maroneal. The project was originally planned as a concrete panel replacement of only the compromised concrete in order to help restore the surface and prevent severe ponding. However, the Public Works & Engineering (PWE) discovered multiple infrastructure failures, in addition to the degraded roadway condition, and determined the street needed to be fully rebuilt with the addition of new storm drains, water lines and the addition of sidewalks on the south side of the street.

Crews are rebuilding the south side of the street first, to ensure there is one lane of access for vehicles and trash trucks. Neighbors have been patient and working together to ensure trash is collected. The project is expected to take another 4 to 6 months, weather



permitting. The project also involves tying in the new larger storm drain into the system along Morningside. Please drive carefully through the area. Workers are now parking along Morningside and visibility can be limited.

The next street to be addressed by the city is Glen Haven between Kelving and Kirby, once funding is available.

# In Memory of Carroll Shaddock, Renaissance Man and Stalwart of Old Braeswood

Residents of Old Braeswood mourn the loss of our distinguished neighbor Carroll Sidney Shaddock on December 4, 2022. Carroll was a Houston lawyer and civic leader who made enduring contributions to the beauty and culture of Houston and, as a resident of Old Braeswood since 2006, to that of our neighborhood.

Carroll was born in Beaumont in 1940, grew up in Orange, Texas, and attended Rice University (BA 1962) and Yale Law School (JD 1965). He enlisted in the Texas Army National Guard and later received a direct commission as an officer in the Judge Advocate General Corps of the U.S. Navy. Carroll practiced law for 45 years and was a partner at the law firm of Liddell, Sapp (later known as Locke, Lord) in Houston.



As his obituary notes, Carroll was a man of many interests. He worked tirelessly for civic causes. He was founder and chairman of Scenic Texas, which fought billboards successfully in cities throughout the state, eradicating more than 13,000 billboards in Houston alone. He became a founder and chairman of Scenic America and worked for billboard control and beautification throughout the nation. Carroll also cofounded Trees for Houston, which focuses on lining the roads and parkways in and around the city with trees. A direct outgrowth of this was his efforts in creating and chairing Trees for Old Braeswood, which has been responsible for planting over 1000 trees that line our neighborhood's streets, providing a shady canopy of stunning beauty.

Another lasting contribution by Carroll and his wife, Dorry, has been to church music. They sponsored the creation of the Bach Organ at Christ the King Lutheran Church on Rice Boulevard, and Carroll served as director of music and choir director from 1982 to 2003. Under his leadership, the choir and organists recorded a CD, *Music of the Lutheran Tradition*, and traveled to Germany sing at Johann Sebastian Bach's church, St. Thomas in Leipzig. He then served as music director at First Lutheran Church of Houston (2004–16) and helped to build a historic-style pipe organ at that church. Carroll also founded the Bach Society Houston, a professional choir and orchestra that presents the music of Bach and his contemporaries, and the Melanchthon Institute, a Lutheran theological center.

Carroll's kind and charming presence will be greatly missed. We extend our sincere sympathy to Dorry and to their sons, Christian, Peter, and Matthew; their nine grandchildren; and their extended family. We will ever remain grateful for Carroll's legacy, which will live on in Old Braeswood.

# Book Club News

The Old Braeswood Book Club gathered for its December holiday party at Julie Cohn's house. Members enjoyed a fabulous holiday dinner prepared by Julie and a fun book exchange. At the January meeting, we discussed *Circe* by Madeline Miller at the home of Amy Markwort. Upcoming discussions at our monthly meetings include *Horseman*, *Pass By* by Larry McMurtry; a historical novel by Robert Harris; and *Rin Tin Tin: The Life and the Legend* by Susan Orlean.



On December 18, 2022, the Old Braeswood Garden Club celebrated the holidays with its annual Holiday Party. Once again Ann and Joe Garnett graciously provided their home along with a wonderful meal for the dozens of guests. A big thank-you goes to Ann and Joe. Debra Balthazar and Maribel Reuter baked amazing desserts to top off the meal. It was a wonderful end-of-the-year celebration.



## Old Braeswood Park Corporation News

The Old Braeswood Park Corporation was established in July 2005 due to the vision of one of our former neighbors, Bob Thompson. The purpose of setting up this Texas nonprofit was to provide a vehicle to enhance our neighborhood by maintaining Braeswood Park, a City of Houston park in the center of our community. The Park Corporation also maintains and landscapes the two other, smaller green spaces in our community: the Bluebonnet at Greenbriar triangle, and the triangle next to the main park known as Katy's Corner). The original park corporation directors were Gene Boisaubin, Bob Birenbaum and Bob Thompson.

The Park Corporation's initial project was a total renovation of the park and its playground equipment. Over the next three years the Park Corporation raised over \$50,000 for the renovation. Many in our neighborhood reached out to assist in raising the funds, including Kathy Lord, who obtained significant financial support from the Wortham Foundation and Kathrine G. McGovern. Several City of Houston Matching Grants were also awarded. Officers of the Park Corporation, especially Chris Robins, obtained City of Houston approval for the required park design and improvements.

In October 2008, we celebrated the grand reopening of the park, attended by neighbors, our city council member, and others in the community who had contributed to the project. The Old Braeswood Park Corporation was honored to receive a Park Beautification Award from the City for the park upgrades.

Old Braeswood Park Corporation continues to raise funds annually for park maintenance (weekly mowing, sprinkler repair, fire ant control) and modest upgrades (such as installation of pavers, sprinkler system modifications, landscape plantings). The Park Corporation has also repaired and replaced brick monuments at Old Braeswood entrances and periodically communicates with the City to procure certain services (mulching, tree trimming, fence painting, sidewalk repair). Contributions can be mailed to PO Box 541346, Houston Texas (77254-1346).



# Welcome, New Neighbors!

### **Russell Content & Pamela Soliman**

2404 Glen Haven Blvd.



# Trash & Recycling Schedule

**Recycling** Every other Tuesday (B) Jan. 4, 17 & 31 Feb. 14 & 28 Dates

Mar. 14 & 28 Apr. 11 & 25

Tuesdays (in city provided bins) **Household Trash** 

**Yard Waste** Tuesdays (in biodegradable bags)

**Junk / Tree Limbs** 3rd Monday of each month

Junk Waste (+ tree limbs) in Even months

Tree waste only in Odd months

Place household garbage or recycling at the curb in the city-provided automated bins no earlier than 6 p.m. the evening preceding collection and no later than 7 a.m. on the day of pick up. Remove bins from curb no later than 10 p.m. on collection day. Bins left on the street beyond these times are subject to city fines. Ensure bins are accessible and not blocked by vehicles. Space bins a minimum of 3-feet apart.

Yard waste must be contained in city-approved biodegradable bags and placed at the curb. Branches must be tied into 3-4 ft. bundles. Visit www.houstontx.gov/solidwaste for more information.

# 2023 OBPOA Officers Standing Committee Chairpersons & Liaisons

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PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

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### Yard of the Season

As you walk or drive through Old Braeswood, be sure to look at 2412 Glen Haven, selected by the Garden Club as the Yard of the Season. This is the home of Jen and Mark Stewart and their children, Oliver (5) and Sebastian (2), who have lived in Old Braeswood for three years. You will find beautiful roses and colorful vincas. Nestled among the flowers during the holidays are white lights and poinsettias, making this home one of lovely winter color and sparkle.



