

NewsLetter

SPRING 2014

A Letter From CGA President, Susie Jabbour

I come away from serving as president of Central Gardens Association fully realizing how very fortunate I am to live in a neighborhood full of caring, enthusiastic, and talented volunteers. There is a tremendous level of loyalty and dedication demonstrated by our neighbors and every accomplishment made is by volunteers who have jobs, families, and responsibilities galore. Each one of the people I have had the fortune to associate with during my presidency has been extremely devoted and they have accomplished great feats:

- An amazing and well attended CGA Annual Home Tour.
- The creation of a simple yet sophisticated Central Gardens Walking Tour app, available for Smartphones.
- Constant watch over, and progress made, regarding safety issues in our neighborhood.
- Ensuring our neighborhood's heritage and design guidelines through the scrutiny of building requests and code parameters.
- Successful and well-attended events like the Fashionably Green workshop, the 4th of July Parade, and SpringFest.

Thank you. A very large and sincere thank you to you, my neighbors and fellow board members, for doing what you do best. Serving as president has been a good learning experience for me. I attended many committee meetings and learned some of the inner workings of how much is accomplished to benefit our neighborhood. I met and spoke with many neighbors and tried my best to help them resolve problems—from getting a broken utility pole removed, to talking to the city sanitation department about garbage truck damage, to making connections with the appropriate committees with the specific skills necessary to assist with remedies.



Susie Jabbour

As my term comes to an end, many changes are in store. A significant change is our shift to “green” communication. In a neighborhood known for our trees, it seems apropos that we turn to technological forms of sharing information. This newsletter is the last of the formally printed and mailed version. If you have not already, please visit our website and provide us with your email address so that you will receive our monthly eNewsletter and occasional eAlerts. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

My friend, and your new president, Matthew Domas, is already hard at work and is very excited about taking on this new challenge and responsibility. His years on the board and as Safety Committee Chair have given him the experience and desire to do more for you and our neighborhood.

I'd like to make one more very important point. Every neighbor is important. Every effort and contribution is helpful. If you can volunteer an hour or simply share a positive story with a friend, it all benefits our home, Central Gardens.

—Susie Jabbour



“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

—Henry Ford

Hundreds of Central Gardens residents were in attendance on May 12 at Grace-St. Luke's Church to commemorate a year of hard work, great accomplishments and neighborly camaraderie. Central Gardens' outgoing president, Susie Jabbour, kicked off the evening with a presentation of committee achievements and goals for the coming year. The full presentation can be found on our website.

A recognition certificate was given to the following individuals and organizations for their outstanding contributions:

- **Josh Whitehead**, Planning Director/Administrator, Memphis & Shelby County, Office of Planning and Development
- **Nancy Jane Baker**, Manager at Memphis Landmarks Commission
- **Denise Bollheimer**, Community Volunteer
- **Kathy Kelley**, Graphic Design
- **Col. Houston**, Crump Police Station
- **Judge Larry Potter**, Dedicated advocate to issues dear to Central Gardens residents.



Kemp Conrad speaks to hundreds of engaged Annual Meeting attendees.

Thank You to our Donors!

The following businesses offered door prizes or in-kind donations for the Central Gardens Annual Meeting. Thank you to these generous donors who helped make this wonderful evening possible!

- **Grace-St. Luke's**
- **Joe's Wine & Liquor**
- **Soul Fish Café**
- **Muddy's Bake Shop**
- **Memphis Pizza Café**
- **Chick-fil-A**
- **Jim's Place Grille**
- **KT's Nails**
- **Esthetiques Skin Spa**
- **The Burch's**
- **Opera Memphis**



Left to right, Holly Hagan, Barrie Simpson, Matthew Domas, Susie Jabbour, Stephany Goodnight

Winner of "Go Green" Campaign Announced

Virginia Taylor is the winner of two tickets to the season opener for Opera Memphis! We want to thank all of you who have provided your email address and are thus helping in our efforts to "Go Green."

This issue is the final quarterly print edition of the newsletter. The transition to a monthly eNewsletter will begin in June. To continue to receive news and updates from Central Gardens, please subscribe to our eNewsletter by visiting www.centralgardens.org. Simply fill in your email address in the box provided.

You can also call (901) 343-6CGA (6242) and leave a message with your mailing address if you would rather receive a print out of the monthly eNewsletter.

Central Gardens Announces New Executive Leadership

Join us in congratulating Central Gardens' newly elected Executive Committee. While these talented leaders are new to their posts, you will recognize their names and faces, as each has been an integral part of the Central Gardens board in some capacity for years.

- **Matthew Domas**, President
- **Barrie Simpson**, Vice President
- **Holly Hagan**, Treasurer
- **Stephany Goodnight**, Secretary
- **Susie Jabbour**, Ex-Officio

New Opportunities to Help with Safety

Since the inception of the Central Gardens Association, safety has been a chief component of our goals and mission. The original by-laws of our association included language specific to the importance of safety and security. Our current Safety Committee, led by Dan Reid and Tracy Wiswall, has been hard at work helping to improve the reality and perception of safety in the neighborhood. This year's accomplishments include:

- Supported our local police and fire departments by promoting National Night Out and honoring our firefighters with baked goods at Christmas.
- Maintained Central Gardens Patrol

subscription and set goals to promote membership subscriptions.

- Worked with Membership committee to establish a common goal to increase membership in both CGA patrol and CGA membership.
- Successfully responded to neighborhood issues concerning parking, speed, vagrants, and unlawful activity at residents' houses.

This committee is always looking forward, staying on top of trends in criminality, researching advancements in technology and reviewing reports from local and federal agencies. But they know that to stay ahead of neighborhood crime, individual support from dedicated volunteers is necessary.

This coming year, the Safety Committee will re-establish "Block Captains" in our neighborhood. Block Captains serve as neighborhood liaisons and report to the Safety Committee on specific issues, block by block. Another new initiative being led by the Safety Committee is a neighborhood canvassing campaign. Committee members will travel door-to-door to meet each neighbor and address specific issues related to safety.

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain, would like to volunteer to canvass with the committee or for any other property of personal safety question, please contact Dan Reid at dreid@renasant.com or Tracy Wiswall at twiswall@aol.com.

Central Gardens Home Sale Information

	ADDRESS	SPECS	STYLE	AGE	SALE PRICE	\$ PER SF
JANUARY	1506 Linden	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1926	\$310,000.00	\$173.00
	1484 Rosemary Ln.	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1940	\$220,000.00	\$130.00
	1796 Peabody Ave.	5 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1912	\$132,500.00	\$44.00
	2053 Central Ave.	2 BR, 1 BA	Bungalow	c.1910	\$86,500.00	\$87.00
FEBRUARY	1522 Goodbar	4 BR, 3.5 BA	Traditional	c.1910	\$751,000.00	\$172.00
	1791 Carr	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c.1923	\$325,000.00	\$137.00
	1403 Peabody Ave.	4 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c.1902	\$313,900.00	\$125.00
	1890 Harbert	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1922	\$285,000.00	\$124.00
	1436 Carr	4 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c.1902	\$275,000.00	\$112.00
	1901 Vinton	4 BR, 3.BA	Traditional	c.1917	\$240,000.00	\$75.00
	1924 Cowden	2 BR, 1 BA	Traditional	c.1902	\$217,500.00	\$131.00
	786 Roland	3 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c.1934	\$82,500.00	\$39.00
MARCH	667 S. Mclean	3 BR, 4.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1912	\$650,000.00	\$130.00
	1475 Harbert	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1925	\$359,900.00	\$155.00
	1780 Vinton	2 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1916	\$293,000.00	\$159.00
	1628 Peabody	5 BR, 4.5 BA	Traditional	c.1928	\$278,500.00	\$61.00
	1581 Linden	2 BR,1 BA	Traditional	c.1942	\$162,000.00	\$112.00
APRIL	1478 Goodbar	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c.1918	\$470,000.00	\$159.00
	1747 Peabody	4 BR, 4 BA	Traditional	c.1912	\$280,000.00	\$92.00
	1942 Higbee	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1910	\$198,500.00	\$87.00
	1793 Vinton	3 BR, 2 BA	Bungalow	c.1920	\$176,904.00	\$114.00
	762 Barksdale	2 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1926	\$168,500.00	\$111.00
	1584 Vance	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c.1922	\$150,000.00	\$95.00

Information deemed reliable but not warranted.

Leigh Martin, Central Gardens resident and a board member of CGA, is a Life Member of the Memphis Area Association of Realtors Multi-Million Dollar Club. Leigh has also been a real estate agent with Sowell and Company for 14 years. If you need to contact Leigh, please call 901.351.3877 or email her at martlei@aol.com.

CGA Membership Is On the Rise

There are many qualities that make our neighborhood unique: century-old homes with a variety of architectural styles, a suburban feel in the center of the city, the canopy of old growth trees, narrow alleyways and carriage steps that serve as reminders of our area's historic past. We are a neighborhood that is rich with history yet we are always looking toward the future. We know that, in order to preserve what was built, loved and maintained by those before us, we must step forward and get involved. And this year, we stepped forward in a great way. Membership in our association, which is voluntary, grew at a tremendous rate with 200 additional households signing on. This significant increase in association membership shows that neighborhood pride is alive and well! Listed below are some of the ways our members' contributions help the association:

- Beautification efforts, including the tree replacement program
- Maintenance and promotion of our Level 3 Arboretum
- Community events such as the July 4th Parade, the Annual Home Tour, SpringFest, and our new, upcoming Holiday event
- Neighborhood communication through eNewsletters, the annual report, our website, and Smartphone app
- Maintenance of architectural integrity through coordination with the Memphis Landmarks Committee

A sincere "thank you" to the following neighbors for financially supporting our neighborhood through their 2014 Central Gardens Association Membership. If your name is not included and you would like to contribute, you may do so on our website, www.centralgardens.org, by selecting the Join/Renew button on the top right of our homepage.

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Robbie & Michael Weinberg
Regan Williams
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Tracy Wiswall
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LEADER: \$100

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GENERAL: \$25

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Daniel & Blakely Fletcher	Jim & Barb Lindstrom	Stephanie Riggs	Jason Young	

Mother Nature Provides for SpringFest

The 2014 SpringFest was held on Saturday, April 26, a beautiful sunny day. The Vintones—the name comes from our very own Vinton Avenue—played rock-n-roll favorites from the '60s through current hits for four hours. Two of the band members are Central Gardens residents.

Face painting, a balloon artist, a moon bounce and a slide entertained the children while hot dogs roasted on an open flame and the smell of popcorn filled the air. It truly was a family friendly event as children played and neighbors shared stories about what makes Central Gardens so great to call home.

Events like this help promote a small-town environment in the middle of the city. To help with the festivities for next year, please contact Stephanie Zimmerman at stephaniekayzimmerman@gmail.com.



Anna-Caroline, Elizabeth and Nolan Domas enjoying a day in the sun.

Grace St. Luke's Has a Spot for Your Child!

Spaces still available in selected grades. Contact us today for more information. Coed. Midtown. From Age 2 to Grade 8. enroll@gslschool.org or www.gslschool.org

Summer Fest 2014 at GSL: June 2 - August 1
Weekly day camps for rising JK-8th grade (age 4-13)
Something for everyone to enjoy!
Register online today at www.gslschool.org.

Immaculate Conception Celebrates Early Success of Capital Campaign

The IC campus supporters gathered on Feb. 6 to kick off the public phase of the \$6.5 million *Faith in Our Future* campaign and to celebrate the campaign's early success. At the kickoff event, Cathedral rector Fr. Val Handwerker announced that more than \$5.2 million had been raised in pledges and gifts from foundations and individual donors.

The campaign will fund a new Cathedral Center, which will house the school's Early Childhood program, library, multi-purpose theatre, and meeting rooms. More than \$1.1 in renovations to existing school facilities were made last summer.

Thank you to these sponsors of the Central Gardens Home Tour



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Beautification Committee Shines

The Central Gardens Beautification Committee continually looks for opportunities to enhance and maintain the inherent beauty of our neighborhood. Our immaculately beautiful streets could be taken for granted if one did not realize the hours of work this committee contributes to preserving their exquisiteness. By rolling up sleeves and literally digging in dirt or through educational programs, the committee works tirelessly to make our surroundings pristine.

This fiscal year, the Beautification Committee conducted their first-ever landscape workshop, *Fashionably Green: Color Central Gardens Beautiful*, which was sponsored by a grant from The Memphis City Beautiful Commission and from donations by several generous Central Gardens neighbors. During the four-hour morning program, four very experienced gardeners gave superb presentations. Suzy Askew, Greg Touliatos, Diane Meucci and Carol Reese shared their wealth of gardening knowledge.

The Beautification Committee also surveyed the perimeter of the neighborhood to find that some of the signs that mark our boundaries were missing or damaged. These signs were swiftly replaced. The committee also solicited volunteers to hang, and then remove and store, approximately 250 wreaths on our historic light poles last holiday season. And, the committee continues to support the Free Tree Program, which was developed to help replace and add trees in our neighborhood. This year, 15 free trees were added to the neighborhood. To request a tree, visit our website (<http://www.centralgardens.org/treereplacementform>) for details.

Looking forward, the Beautification Committee is working with the CGA board to review short-term, economically feasible enhancements to the Belvedere median. They are also coordinating with the City of Memphis for any future plans for enhancements to medians in our neighborhood.

If you would like to get involved, please contact Matthew Domas at gmdomas@northwestms.edu.

Central Gardens Announces New Holiday Festivity

Even though temperatures are warming and summer is just about here, Fara Captain and Sarah Pospisil already have sugarplums dancing in their heads! The Central Gardens Association, under Fara and Sarah's leadership, is planning a new holiday activity and is looking for volunteers to help make this event a success. A visit from Santa, carriage rides and caroling will all be part of the offering for a winter wonderland event that all neighbors will enjoy. If you have a talent for music or singing and would like to volunteer, please contact Fara Captain at fara.captain@crye-leike.com to get involved. Thanks to Fara and Sarah for all of their hard work.

July 4th Parade Tradition Continues

For more than 30 years, Central Gardens residents and friends from all over the city of Memphis have gathered at the 1500 block of Carr Avenue to celebrate our country's independence. This landmark event for our neighborhood attracts more than 300 revelers and includes free refreshments, children's and pets' patriotic costume competitions, music, door prizes and more. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up and take down, to man refreshment and registration tables, to operate snow cone machines, to cook hot dogs, to serve as judges and to gather the children in line for the different contests.

If you'd like to make volunteering a part of your patriotic tradition please contact Susie Jabbour at sjabbour@earthlink.net.





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Newsletter Staff

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This is the final print edition of the quarterly Central Gardens Association Newsletter. To receive our forthcoming monthly eNewsletter, please visit our website: www.centralgardens.org and give us your email address. To contact Central Gardens Association: Admin@centralgardens.org or call (901) 343-6CGA (6342)

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Eighth Annual Belvedere Chamber Music Festival

If you happen to hear beautiful sounds of music among the glorious oaks of Central Gardens early in June, do not be alarmed. Your hearing is just fine! Central Gardens residents will be serving as host families for guest artists and student contest winners for the Eighth Annual Belvedere Chamber Music Festival. Led by Patricia Gray, a Central Gardens resident of 38 years, Luna Nova

Music will present the festival at Grace-St. Luke's on June 18-21. All are invited to this free series of high standard performances brought to you by the most talented composers and students from all over the country. Designed to be engaging for music lovers of all kinds, this is sure to be a great date-night or evening with friends. To learn more, visit <http://www.belvederfestival.org>.

