

NewsLetter

SPRING 2012

A Letter from CGA President Steven King

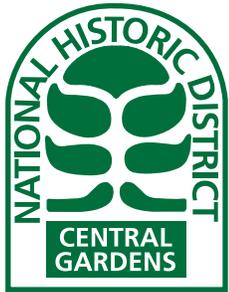
It has been my privilege to serve you as the president of the Central Gardens Association for this past year. The Association does many things for the neighborhood but, ultimately, it is the people who make Central Gardens such a wonderful place to live. I have often described Central Gardens as a “front porch” neighborhood when pitching Central Gardens to my friends who are house-hunting. Whether enjoying a glass of lemonade or wine with a neighbor or watching children play in the street, Central Gardens is truly a place where we all feel connected to one another. We utilize our front porch as an additional living room, and this allows us to connect to our neighbors, making them friends. It is this spirit that is the essence of living in Central Gardens.

The Central Gardens Association simply seeks to magnify that essence. Whether by planting shade trees, organizing a 4th of July Parade and Springfest, or inviting greater Memphis to our annual Home Tour, the Central Gardens Association takes what is special about Central Gardens and amplifies it. I am so thankful to all of our volunteers, board members and especially our committee chairs who make great things happen in Central Gardens.

Two unique opportunities came our way this year to enhance our neighborhood. The Central Gardens Association was able to donate funds to help refurbish Peabody Park Pavilion. This summer, through a partnership with Cooper Young groups, the underpass on McLean will get a mural, which was paid for, in part, with Central Gardens Association funds.

The Association Board has also kept in touch with leaders regarding issues of concern. Transition Commission Member Chris Caldwell discussed with us the progress of the school merger. The leaders of Immaculate Conception Cathedral provided us with an update on their hopes for future expansion.

I am confident in Nancy Willis, your newly-elected president of the Association for 2012-13. Thank you for the opportunity to serve. I will see you out on your front porch.



...If the world had a front porch like we did back then, we'd still have problems but we'd all be friends...

— Tracy Lawrence,
Songwriter



*Outgoing CGA President
Steven King*

To sign up for E-News and receive monthly emails about what's happening in our neighborhood, go to www.centralgardens.org



A Streetlight Named After Me!

by Kay Price

Yes, Streetlight No. 235520 on Linden Avenue is named after me, Kay Price. I notified MLGW in January 2012 that the streetlight was out. After a week or so, I noticed that the light was still dark. I missed the wonderful light and warm glow on the surrounding yards and street — the safety of the light from dusk to dawn. How charmingly regal the streetlight was!

I called again and reported the outage. On a Saturday morning, a few days later, I heard the rumbling of a large truck. MLGW pulled up to the streetlight, replaced the bulb, and was gone as quickly as they had come.

Little did I know that I would be receiving a certificate in the mail naming the stoic streetlight for me. If the repair isn't completed within a seven-day deadline, the person reporting it for the first time is rewarded with the streetlight being named after them through MLGW's Streetlight Challenge.

You can be on the lookout for dark streetlights and leased outdoor lights, too. When you find an outage, get the number on the tag and report to Customer Care (901) 820-7878 or www.mlgw.com. 🍷

Centennial Central Gardens Photo Exhibit and Home Tour

by Marsha Hayes

In 1912, the Gravure Illustration Company of Chicago published the *Art Work of Memphis*, a nine-volume architectural portfolio, which featured photographs of houses in the Central Gardens Historic District. The photographs were printed using the rotogravure process and stochastic screening, considered by many experts to be *the* innovative printing method of the early 20th century. On Sunday, Sept. 9, six of the fine architect-designed houses in the portfolio will be on the 36th annual Central Gardens Home and Garden Tour. Prior to the tour, Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects will exhibit enlargements of the beautiful 100-year-old photographs in their gallery. Was your house photographed by Gravure in 1912? Attend the opening night reception of the exhibition at 1500 Union Ave. on Friday, Aug. 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to find out and to purchase tickets for the 2012 Tour. 🍷

Flag Etiquette

by LaUna Brubaker, Chair Beautification Committee

With various patriotic holidays approaching, here are a few quick reminders about proper etiquette for flying the American Flag, as found in *The Flag Code of the United States*, Public Law 94-344, July 7, 1976:

- When flown from a staff, the union should be at the peak of the staff, unless it is flown at half-staff.
- When flown against a house, the union should be at the uppermost and to the flag's right (observer's left — outside the house looking in).
- When it is displayed on a staff with other flags, it is always to be flown on the top.
- If the flag is flown on its own pole, but with other flags on their own poles, it should be on its own right, at the same height as the other flags, and no flag should be bigger.
- It is always the first flag raised, and the last lowered.
- It should be flown from sunrise to sunset, unless properly illuminated and then it may fly through the night.
- It should never touch the ground.
- If red, white and blue striped bunting is used, the blue stripe should be placed on top.
- When a flag is needing to be retired, please contact the local American Legion Post as they regularly conduct a dignified flag burning ceremony to dispose of them properly. 🍷

A Tree to Consider

By Sharon Burch

We have a new and rare addition to the Central Gardens Arboretum, a Three-Flower Maple (*Acer triflorum*). It was planted within the center median at 590 S. Belvedere this past winter in memory of noted forester, friend, neighbor and fellow arboretum committee member, Plato Touliatos.

This multi-season tree has displayed its winterscape of exquisite exfoliating bark. During the spring, its bright velvety new leaves are unfolding from blackish-brown buds, which are to be followed by the emergence of three-flowered clusters, hence the source of its common and botanic names. Through the long summer, its rich green foliage will offer shade to the hot and tired. Then at last, as the cool days of late autumn arrive, the leaves will meld to spectacular golden yellows, pumpkin oranges with tinges of reds. The autumn beauty of the Three-Flowered Maple is purported to challenge the sugar maples of the eastern United States landscapes. Indeed, that is a bold statement, and I will be pulling for it.

Three-Flowered Maples were imported in 1917 from the Korean peninsula by way of the famed Arnold Arboretum. This maple has since proven to have near limitless landscape potential, from garden focal points to tough streetscape trees. Many horticulturists and arborist would love to have this tree in their gardens. However, propagation difficulties are reported and supplies remain limited. You'll not find this tree in any big-box store and you'll have to look long and hard in specialty nurseries for any chance of discovering another. It is fitting that we planted such a rare tree in memory of a rare gentleman. 🍀



*Three-Flower Maple (*Acer triflorum*) planted beside Plato Touliatos' favorite stone that carries the markings of a butterfly.*

Property Code Violations

Do you have concerns about properties in need of cleaning up, cutting weeds, etc.? Unfortunately, some of these properties are foreclosed and the banks see no need to keep them tidy. Memphis city's website has the 10 most common violations and helpful numbers for you to call (www.cityofmemphis.org search for code enforcement). In addition, folks may contact the Mayor's Action Center (576-6500) or they can register a complaint online at www.cityofmemphis.org, where they can track the progress. 🍀

City of Memphis Code Enforcement Important Telephone Numbers

- Animal Control: 362-5310
- Drain Maintenance: 357-0100
- Mayor Service Center: 576-6500
- MLGW: 544-6549
- Public Works: 576-6866
- Shelby County Code Enforcement: 379-4237
- Shelby County Health Department: 324-5922
- Solid Waste: 576-6851

Central Gardeners Club News

Central Gardeners Club had a fabulous season with garden parties and mini-lectures on a variety of gardening topics. If you would like to join the Gardeners



Club, please contact Elise Frick at (901) 276-5527 or elisefrick@aol.com. "Yard of the Month" Recipients for spring 2012 are:

- Gordan and Joy Wills, 1759 York
- Anni Hannegan, 1870 Harbert
- Chris Wood and Crista George, 205 Kimbrough

Recycling Reminder

by Frank Stubblefield

Every Friday, Central Gardens' residents have an opportunity to set an example for the rest of the Memphis community for proper recycling. The city of Memphis curbside recycling guidelines include:

- **Recycle Steel Cans:** All steel food, beverage and empty aerosol cans are accepted. You can even leave the labels and lids attached. Rinsing is recommended but not required.
- **Recycle Aluminum Cans:** All empty aluminum food and beverage cans accepted. Leave the label attached and rinsing is not required.
- **Recycle Plastic Bottles:** All empty plastic milk, soda and other bottles and small food containers with the recycling symbol #1 PETE or #2 HDPE (usually printed on the container side or bottom). Remove caps and leave labels attached. Rinsing is recommended.

Many residents are not aware that the following are NOT acceptable for recycling in Memphis at this time:

- Plastic bags
- Styrofoam
- Pizza delivery boxes
- "Cardboard" milk cartons

The plastic shopping bags with which we are all so familiar are particularly problematic as they tend to become entangled in the sorting equipment. Stores like Target and Kroger now have bins for the proper recycling of plastic bags located near their entrances.

Please pass this information on to your friends and families. For more information about recycling go to www.cityofmemphis.gov. ♡

Central Gardens Homes in Publications During 2012

This year, there have been three stories published about our historic homes in Central Gardens. This is over the usual press coverage that we get surrounding our Home Tour. See highlights below:



Home of Dr. and Mrs. Benton Wheeler, 1560 Central

Memphis Magazine, May 2012: *The Glory of Beverly Hall, An inside look at one of Memphis' most famous mansions.* By Anne Cunningham O'Neill



Home of Ms. Elizabeth Byrd, 1677 York

Commercial Appeal: *Byrds of a Feather, Central Gardens home's history spans four generations,* By Suzanne Thompson/Special to My Life, May 16, 2012



Home of Christina and Jim Hall, 1566 Carr

This Old House, online: *Best Old House Neighborhoods 2012: The South, Thank you to Christina Hall for submitting this article for publication on behalf of our neighborhood.*

Annual Meeting Recap

Photo by Brian Johnson



Memphis City Mayor A C Wharton speaks candidly to Central Gardens neighbors about local issues.

Steven King, outgoing president of the CGA kicked off the association's annual meeting by welcoming a crowd of almost 200 neighbors. Below are some highlights:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

35th Annual Home Tour 2011

Chair: Susie Jabbour

- Six lovely homes that had never been toured before were opened by their generous owners.
- Close to 1,000 guests visited our neighborhood
- Over 200 volunteers supported the home tour
- All proceeds are directed to fund neighborhood projects

Beautification

Chair: LaUna Brubaker

- Planted over 20 canopy enhancement trees
- Added trees to our Arboretum
- Assisted with clean-up of streets

- Successful holiday season wreath put-up and take-down

Communication

Chair: Nancy Willis

- Quarterly Newsletter
 - Delivered to all residents in the neighborhood
 - New: recognition of Home Tour Sponsors
- Monthly E-News
 - Everyone with a computer can subscribe to E-News
 - Reaches 900+ residents
- Website
 - Position CG as #1 neighborhood in Memphis
 - Service vehicle for membership, CG Patrol and store
- Facebook
 - Reaches a more diverse audience

Fourth of July Parade

Chair: Holly Hagan

- A tradition that is a well-known hallmark for our neighborhood.

- Attendance was very high and all enjoyed the food music and the family friendly parade.
- Thank you to all the new and repeat volunteers that continue to make this event wonderful.

Landmarks, Zoning and Compliance

Chair: Christina Hall

- Central Gardens was selected for the State of Tennessee and the article is listed as Best Old House Neighborhoods 2011: Gardening <http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/photos/>
- Offered our assistance to Immaculate Conception Cathedral, their architect, Memphis Landmarks and the Central Gardens Neighborhood on the proposed new building to meet the Central Gardens Historic Guidelines for the best possible fit for the neighborhood.
- Guideline revisions to include clearer information, including existing construction as well as new, and tightening up the rules on front yard fences.
- Downloadable copy of the Design Guidelines at www.centralgardens.org

Membership

Chair: Keith Cole

- We continue to use our salesforce.com database and provided membership information to the Home Tour Committee along with other committees seeking volunteers.
- Collaborated with the CGA Security Committee to create tactics to grow the CGA Security subscribers.
- We also continued to supply "New Resident" kits to our new neighbors. Please remember to let
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us know of new neighbors who should receive a kit.

- The CGA had a total of 463 households as members for the 2011-12 year.
- Patron Level (\$175 per year) at 48 memberships represented 10.4 percent of our total memberships and an increase of 26 percent over the previous year!

Safety

Chair: Mathew Domas

- Sustained minimum subscriptions to the CG Patrol managed by Phelps Security so we don't lose the service.
- Increased marketing of the CG Patrol.
- Maintained relationship with Phelps Security to assure viability.
- Assisted residents with neighborhood concerns.
- Maintained lines of communication with Union Station leadership.

Springfest

Chair: Tracy Wiswall

Each year this is a fun and festive day to be outside with friends and neighbors.

- Neighborhood event which provided free hotdogs, popcorn and lemonade, a moonbounce and a giant slide for the kids, and live music.
- Thank you again to Grace-St. Luke's Church for the continued use of their lot. Thank you to everyone who helped out at this event.

Neighborhood

Appreciation Awards

The following individuals and organizations were honored at the meeting for their years of support for Central Gardens.

Neighbors

- Steve Collins
- Mike and Elise Frick
- Leigh Martin
- Darrel McGee
- Plato and Greg Touliatos
- Mike Williams

Friends

- Memphis Botanical Gardens
- Fire Station No. 11
- Union Station Supervisor of the Year: Lt. Daniel Barham
- Union Station Officer of the Year: Officer Kevin Barrett
- Undercover Operator Medal of Merit: Officer Brandon Harder

Thank you to our donors who offered door prizes or in-kind donations for the meeting. If you have the chance, say thank you to these sponsors and please, give them your business!

- Grace-St. Luke's
- Alchemy
- Playhouse on the Square
- Stone Soup Kitchen
- Joe's Liquor
- Holiday Ham
- Opera Memphis
- Central BBQ
- Slider Inn
- Mulan
- Central Gardener's Club
- Easy Way
- Dr. Reggi and Sharon Burch
- Gigi's Cupcakes

CELEBRATING SPRINGFEST



A Central Gardens family enjoying free hot dogs.



The bluegrass band, Two Mule Plow, performed live.

Big Winners Announced!

Congratulations to Berzin Devlaliwalla on Peabody who won the new iPad at the Annual Meeting for joining CGA. Madonna Paul on Harbert won two free tickets to the home tour in September for completing the eNews survey.

Thank you to these sponsors of our Central Garden Home Tour

Drs. Acree & Brasfield

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SAVE THE DATE

July 4: Fourth of July Parade

August 17: 5:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.

Opening Night Reception

Photo Exhibit

Homes of Central Gardens

Askew Nixon Ferguson Architects

1500 Union

September 9th:

36th Annual Home Tour



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Noon - 9 pm Sat & Sun



2192 Central Avenue
901-274-1444
www.midtownvet.com

Volunteers Needed:

Want to get more involved in the
neighborhood and meet new people?

Both the Fourth of July Parade and
the Annual Home Tour need

volunteers. Contact Susie Jabbour
at (901) 848-8820 or email at

sjabbour@earthlink.net

Central Gardens Home Sale Information

ADDRESS	SPECS	STYLE	AGE	SALE PRICE	\$ PER SF
January					
572 S. McLean	4 BR, 3.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1922	\$465,000.00	\$111.00
1564 Eastmoreland	3 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c. 1926	\$151,000.00	\$78.00
1786 York	5 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1927	\$104,500.00	\$36.00
February					
1770 Carr	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1914	\$282,000.00	\$134.00
1947 Harbert	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1910	\$260,000.00	\$132.00
March					
1500 Vance	5 BR, 4.5 BA	English	c. 1921	\$636,500.00	\$165.00
1516 Harbert	4 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1922	\$340,000.00	\$110.00
1430 Goodbar	4 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1915	\$300,000.00	\$94.00
1961 Harbert	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1920	\$258,000.00	\$113.00
1609 Carr	3 BR, 1.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1920	\$210,000.00	\$114.00
1373 Peabody	4 BR, 3.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1912	\$150,000.00	\$45.00
756 Barksdale	2 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1916	\$172,500.00	\$95.00
April					
1900 Peabody	4 BR, 2.1BA	Traditional	c. 1922	\$395,000.00	\$131.00
1915 Cowden	4 BR, 3.1BA	Traditional	c. 1910	\$375,000.00	\$129.00
1867 Vinton	4 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1921	\$330,000.00	\$97.00
1606 Goodbar	3 BR, 3 BA	Traditional	c. 1920	\$270,000.00	\$100.00
1797 Carr	3 BR, 2.5 BA	Traditional	c. 1916	\$213,250.00	\$80.00
1349 Vinton	2 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1910	\$174,900.00	\$75.00
1930 Harbert	3 BR, 2 BA	Traditional	c. 1922	\$175,000.00	\$96.00

Information deemed reliable but not warranted.

Leigh Martin, Central Gardens resident, 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 13 years. If you need to contact Leigh, please call 901.351.3877 or email her at martlei@aol.com.



New board members, above left to right: Brent Kernodle, Katie Savage, Leigh Martin, Ham Smythe, Cindy McBrayer (inset). Pictured at left: Gayle Christensen, Rob Yelle.



New officers: Nancy Willis, President; Susie Jabbour, Vice President (shown at bottom left); La Brubaker, Secretary; Holly Hagan, Treasurer. For a full listing of CGA board members and the area that they serve, visit www.centralgardens.org

Susie Jabbour, Nancy Willis

Message from Nancy Willis, incoming CGA President

I am honored to serve as CGA's president for the second time and look forward to working with our strong board. We have several board members returning for a second term after reaching the six-year term limit and being off the board for several years. I'm also delighted that Susie Jabbour was elected to the position of vice president/president-elect. Susie served as chair of last year's Home Tour and stepped up to chair this year's July 4th Parade. Most of our officers began as contributing committee members.

I encourage each of you to consider volunteering for a committee, which will be rewarding to both you and your neighborhood. To volunteer for a committee, email me at ncw1895@aol.com or call me at (901) 274-2979. 🍷



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The *Central Gardens Association Newsletter* is published quarterly. **Please visit our website:** www.centralgardens.org. Neighborhood events or articles of interest may be submitted for consideration in the newsletter to barbsysak@gmail.com

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