



ROCK HILL GARDENS

R • G • N • A ROCKHILL GARDENS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Volume 19, Issue 9

<http://www.rockhillgardens.org>

December 2008

Special Thanks to Martin Tennant

For more than 12 years, Martin Tennant has been an active member of the Rockhill Gardens Board of Directors. He served as Director of Property Maintenance from 1996 to 2007, when he then became President of the neighborhood association. This is an incomplete, though certainly not brief, listing of some of his accomplishments over the years.

As Director of Property Maintenance, Martin oversaw extensive work on the rebuilding and maintenance of the RGNA brick and stone markers. He was the principle author of a 1999 grant from the KC 150 Foundation to completely rebuild the marker at 71st Terrace and Oak. He's done numerous inventories of the markers and spent time reattaching urns that have snapped off. In 2005, Martin was the administrator for property improvement grants distributed through RGNA and also for a cooperative agreement with the Kessler Society for getting new trees planted at reduced rates to residents. This latter effort had the direct benefit of showing the neighborhood's commitment to reforestation, which in turn led to a \$33,500 PIAC grant for over 100 new trees for the neighborhood.

Easily our most prolific writer, Martin has contributed a wide variety of articles to the monthly newsletter. These concern everything from parking to tree trimming to grass clippings to noisy neighbors. Just his articles on neighborhood fauna alone include information on rats, owls, dogs and ants. His experience and contacts at City Hall made him the expert on getting information related to property issues.

Martin has also been an invaluable resource in dealing directly with City Hall. He has coordinated efforts such as Clean Sweep cleanups in the late 1990s, the continuing saga of issues with the property at 75th and Holmes, and issues regarding tree trimming and brush pickup. He's attended numerous meetings, dealing with such issues as the radio tower in Tower Park and the postal distribution station on Gregory Boulevard.

(article continued at www.rockhillgardens.com)

New Board Members

Please join the RGNA Board of Directors in welcoming our newest members: Kumar and Christa Venugopal as Directors of Membership, Tim Ahlenius as Director of Crime Prevention and Jane van Tassel as Director of Property Management. Jane took over for Sarah who was elected our new board president, succeeding Martin Tennant. Thanks to them and everyone who contributes to the success of our neighborhood association.

Graffiti

Our neighborhood suffered some graffiti over the Thanksgiving week. The neighborhood markers on 74th Street at Holmes and Oak were spray painted, as well as a stop sign at 74th Street and Cherry. We're working on returning them to their previous condition.

Please keep an eye out for such minor vandalism, as it can significantly degrade the look of the whole area. Contact Jane van Tassel with anything you come across.

RGNA Web Site

All Rockhill Gardens residents are encouraged to visit our updated Web site, www.rockhillgardens.org, for an events calendar and copies of all newsletters from this year. Please let us know about important news and events of which our neighbors should be aware.

You can also sign up for the RGNA Yahoo Groups listserv so that we can communicate more effectively about important neighborhood matters.

Holiday Decorations Prizes

Members of the RGNA Board will be out looking for exceptional Halloween and Christmas decorations and awarding RGNA gear to the winners. Call Jane van Tassel at 444-9553 with your nominations.

Crime Prevention

Safety Tips for December

The holidays are upon us. People are traveling, shopping, caroling, etc. In general, our neighbors are leaving their homes for a good period of time.

There are things you can do to prevent advertising your home as empty:

- Ask a neighbor to take your trash or recycling out on the pick-up date if you are gone. It is so easy for a would-be burglar to recognize the house left empty just by watching the neighborhood trash day.

- With snow on the ground and more surely to come, if you know a neighbor to be out of town, drive up their driveway once or twice after a newly fallen snow. Don't give thieves any reason to think no one is home.

In essence, be a good neighbor. Watch out for the people around you and they will watch out for you!

Director of Crime Prevention Tim Ahlenius will provide periodic tips on safety and crime prevention. Check the newsletter or Web site for more information.

Advertisements

TIMMY-DO LIST

Our Neighborhood Handyman

From roofs to basements; bathroom remodels to installing a ceiling fan; and everything in between.

FLAT HOURLY RATES!

Contact Tim at tdahlenius@everestkc.net or 816-516-2165



Heather Cigas

Babysitting / Mother's Helper
(816) 363-7178

Resident of Rockhill Gardens
Certified through Red Cross

This newsletter was printed courtesy of Meyer Brothers Building Company.

Important Dates

- December 4:** Brookside Christmas Tree Lighting
December 21: Hanukkah begins at sundown
December 25: Christmas Day

If you have dates you would like to add to the RGNA calendar, please contact Patrick Tuohey at 268-1296. Check the RGNA Web site for additional events.

RGNA Officers

President	Sarah Blasi	361-9856
Communications	Patrick Tuohey	268-1296
Crime Prevention	Tim Alhenius	516-2165
Events	Ronda Sprick	333-9265
Finance	Christine Ritchie	361-6262
Marketing	Kristen Williams	361-5155
Membership	Kumar and Christa Venugopal	547-4159
Property Management	Jane van Tassel	444-9553
Public Affairs & Development	John Cigas	363-7178
Special Needs & Family Network	Janie Weeks	363-3388

Useful Numbers

Emergency	911
Police (non-emergency)	234-5111
KCMO Action Center	513-1313
Mayor Mark Funkhouser	513-3500
Councilwoman Beth Gottstein	513-1616
Councilwoman Jan Marcason	513-1617
Parks & Recreation	513-7500
Animal control	513-9800
Curb and sidewalk repair	513-7951
Waldo Area Business Association	523-5553
Waldo Library	701-3625
Cleaver YMCA	285-9622