

vccahouston.org
PO Box 130891
Houston, TX 77219-0891



September
2013

CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Support the VCCA

Thanks to all of you who continue to make our neighborhood a better place and for supporting the Vermont Commons Civic Association, (VCCA) by paying the annual dues. The VCCA is seeking greater participation so that we can continue our efforts in the community.

The annual dues of \$30.00 are payable the first of September. You may pay at the September meeting or log on to our website, vccahouston.org and pay through PAYPAL. Alternately, you may contribute by mailing your check to the VCCA at P O Box 130891, Houston TX 77219. Clip, fill out, and send the form below with your payment in the envelope included with this issue.

Your dues allow the VCCA to send out this newsletter, organize social activities, and to address the multiple needs of this community. By sending in your payment you can show your appreciation for all that VCCA has done to improve our neighborhood during this time of change and growth. Your financial support makes it possible to continue the process of improvement.



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Vermont Commons Civic Association
PO Box 130891, Houston, TX 77219
Issue No. 36

Monthly Meeting

VCCA Meetings are the 2nd Monday of each month (Sept. thru June) at 7:00 p.m.

Plan to attend the next meeting on Monday, September 9th at Kenneally's Irish Pub, 2111 S. Shepherd & Welch. There will be a brief business meeting followed by a social gathering. Come meet your neighbors and tell us about your summer vacation.

*National Night Out -
October 1st
see Page 3 for details*

Got News?

We welcome your news, photos, and editorials, but reserve the right to edit for clarity, style, and length. Send questions and contributions to vcca.newsletter@gmail.com. Articles and ads do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vermont Commons Civic Association, nor is the VCCA responsible for errors that may be expressed by writers or advertisers. Submissions are due the 15th of the month preceding the newsletter.

Michael Forlenza & Karen Kane, Editors

Vermont Commons Civic Association Membership Form

P.O. Box 130891, Houston, TX 77210

Name(s) _____ Names of Others in the Household _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Interested in Volunteering? Yes Maybe (circle one)



Clip and Return with Dues Payment in the Enclosed Envelope

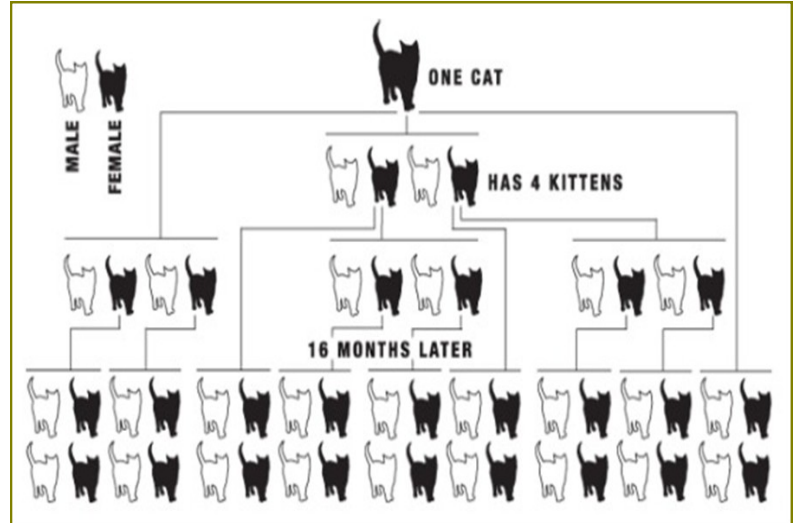
Cats, Cats, and More Cats

Our Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) successes over the past couple of weeks on Huldy Street have provided us with a powerful reminder of why we need to spay and neuter the free-roaming cats in our neighborhood. An elusive cat named Dorian has been having kittens on Huldy Street for the past two years. Just last week we trapped and spayed two of her most recent kittens that are 14 weeks old. Then our persistence paid off and we trapped Dorian! As it turned out she already was two weeks pregnant with four more kittens. The illustration below probably underestimates how prolific the cats are here in Houston's warm climate, but you get the idea...

If you have unaltered cats/kittens around your house or a neighbor's house, they need to be spayed/neutered. You can identify a cat/kitten that has already been spayed/neutered by looking at its ears. A spayed/neutered cat will have the tip of its left ear clipped off.

If you need assistance getting neighborhood cats fixed, we can help and it's FREE! Contact:

Carolyn Levy houstoncatlover@gmail.com,
Jane Crowder Schmitt jlc2728@gmail.com, or
Lisa Rainey blrainey2@sbcglobal.net



If you'd like to make a tax deductible donation to help pay for getting Vermont Commons' neighborhood cats spayed/neutered, please send your check made out to Rescue Bank (with Vermont Commons on the note line at the bottom) to: Ms. Elizabeth Asher, Executive Director, Rescue Bank, 6363 Woodway, Suite 975, Houston, TX 77057.

BOOK'EM !

NEW NEIGHBORHOOD BOOK GROUP

Interested in joining a VCCA neighborhood book group?

Please join us on Wednesday, September 18th at 2:00 - 3:30 PM at Te - House of Tea, 1927 Fairview.

Please read the book *The Cuckoo's Calling*, by J. K. Rowling, under the pseudonym - Robert Galbraith, for discussion at this meeting. We will also decide on future books, so bring suggestions.

To facilitate ease of discussion, the group will be limited to 15 members.

Please R.S.V.P., by September 15th, your intention to attend, or send questions to SueAttoe@gmail.com.

Ahhhhh...Morning Coffee

Craving caffeine and good conversation? Then come meet your neighbors at the monthly Morning Coffee! The



hostess for the September event will be Jessica St, John. The coffee with be held at

1901 Vermont (which is the condo next to hers) on Tuesday, September 24th at 10:00 a.m.

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Secretary: Kit Muire kit.77019@gmail.com

Treasurer: Andy Tallin atallin01@yahoo.com

Newsletter: Michael Forlenza & Karen Kane
vcca.newsletter@gmail.com

Message from the VCCA President

Jeanette Hix

Through the years, the VCCA and the neighboring Park Civic Association (PCA) have collaborated on many activities. Some of you may have attended some of those activities which included wine tasting, morning coffee, National Night Out, and picnics. In the past year, VCCA and PCA have been working to merge the two associations. Geographically, it is the logical thing to do, since there are not any real boundaries between the two areas.

To keep residents updated and informed, PCA residents will receive the VCCA newsletter for the rest of the year. PCA raised money to cover their share of the production and mailing cost by selling additional advertising space in the newsletter.

However, the merger will not happen without the support of both communities.

To Park Civic Residents, I am requesting the following:

- Renew your PCA membership by paying the \$30 annual dues
- Volunteer for any committee that is of interest to you. Note: Block captains are needed.

If you have any comments or concerns or questions that you want addressed, please email Cindy Brown at cb2021@sbcglobal.net

September Yard of the Month

The winner is the lovely xeriscaped grounds at 1710 Driscoll Street, home of Erica and David Ruck. They moved to our neighborhood from Montclair, NJ, in January to be closer to their two grown daughters, one with grandchildren in the Woodlands. When you pass by, be sure to notice the unique sculptures and yard art in addition to the plantings.



Yard of the Month

National Night Out - October 1st

Want to stay connected when it comes to crime in our neighborhood? Join us on Tuesday, October 1 at 6 PM for National Night Out. We'll meet in the parking lot of the of VCCA newsletter-sponsor Dr. Rebecca Harvey at 2025 Fairview, between Huldy and Brun. Please bring your own snacks and drinks and a chair.

What is NNO? It's a fun way to get community members and law enforcement agencies to get to know each other even better and to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

We want to see VCCA members from every street. Please tell your neighbors about the gathering and tell them to tell a neighbor. Bring your spouse, partner, children and well-behaved dogs and let's find out about what's going on and what we can do to make it a safer place for everyone.

HPD Officer Wayne Pate will be stopping by to shake hands and talk about crime prevention.

Citizen Patrol Update

Linda Perez, Coordinator

Thank you, all for keeping an eye out for your neighborhood and the HPD. Despite the heat, we patrolled our neighborhood for 281 hours in July. An open garage door was reported to a grateful neighbor.

Below are the people that patrolled:

Andy Tallin	Katie Baehl
Bob Costantini	Lillian Skogsberg
Brenda Rojas	Linda Perez
Cathryn Gabor	Maria Rodriguez
Cindy Brown	Paula Holton
David Hoyer	Rob Fuller
Debbie Cody	Stehen Baehl
James Skogsberg	Tim McWilliams
Karen Kane	Tom Hix

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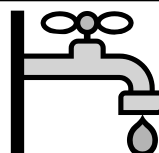
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