

# SOUTHEAST SEMINOLE HEIGHTS

## CIVIC ASSOCIATION

# Neighborhood News

A Publication of the Southeast Seminole Heights Civic Association    Circulation 2000    Supplemental Issue • January 2009

## 2009 Officers

### President

Sherry Genovar-Simons  
789-9849

### Vice President

#### Public Relations

Frank Roder  
238-1772

### Vice President

#### Communications & Advertising

Maria Garcia-Gutierrez  
727-9567

### Treasurer

Randi Raaen  
238-7143

### Secretary

Suzan Martin  
236-7355

### Historian

Pat Benjamin  
234-2449

### Directors/Trustees

Glenn Cable  
679-9672

Sylvia Vanacore  
238-3445

Rich Guagliardo

rich@myhomeintampa.com

## Our Neighborhood Boundaries

Hillsborough Ave South  
to Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd  
& I-275 East to 15th St

## Holiday Home and Garden Tour ... a great success!!!

After a year off, this year's tour, titled -- "Going Green for the Holiday's" -- was all we could have hoped for, and then some! Our guests (more than 200 of them) toured eight beautifully decorated 1920's bungalows, while enjoying one of the most beautiful "Florida winter" days this year! While many guests chose to walk the tour, we had quite a few ride their bikes. Others made use of the complimentary transportation provided by Green Go's Tampa and Board members who



volunteered to shuttle guests from the Seminole Heights Baptist Church to the Tour homes and back.

Another new and innovative feature this year was the addition of food stops at some Tour homes, hosted by local eateries, Bungalow Bistro, Reservations Gourmet To Go and Ella's. The food was fantastic and many guests were quite impressed by the level of culinary fare available right here in our little corner of the world!

A HUGE thank you to all those who helped make the Tour possible! From our food vendors to all our neighbors who volunteered their time and talents -- we couldn't have done it without you! And let's not forget the homeowners (pictured here and on page 3) who graciously opened their homes for our guests to admire.

Plans are already underway for the 2009 Tour, so if you are interested in being a part of the planning, or would like to nominate your home or someone else's, please contact Sherry Simons at 789-9849 or email silversunD@aol.com. *more homeowner pictures on page 3*

## General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 20 • 7pm

KATHRYN MALONE CENTER AT GIDDENS PARK

■ Corner 12st Street and Giddens Avenue ■

### Guest Speakers

Phil Compton • Sierra Club

Subject: Hillsborough River: What Each of Us Can Do to Make It Viable & Beautiful  
Officer Jason DeGagne • Tampa Police Dept. Crime Prevention

**Come at 6:30 for Refreshments! • Door prizes and silent auction, too!**

## Important Numbers

TPD Non-Emergency .....	231-6130
TPD Dist 1 (W of Nebraska) .....	354-6600
TPD Dist 2 (E of Nebraska) .....	931-6500
TPD Dist 3.....	276-3700
QUAD Squad .....	276-3443 or 3444
(Investigates street level drugs)	
Police Chief Stephen Hogue .....	276-3200
City Council .....	274-8131
Mayor Pam Iorio.....	274-8251
Animal Services.....	744-5660
Code Enforcement.....	274-5545
City Clerk .....	274-8396
Garbage Pick-Up .....	348-1146

## Committees

### Membership/Welcome Neighbor

Rue MacKenzie.....	237-4944
Jerry Beeman.....	385-6508
Betty Dowd.....	996-2964
Alexis Donahoe.....	468-8883

### Neighborhood Watch

Bill Metler, Chair .....	731-4246
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### Vehicle Patrol

Sherry Simons.....	789-9849
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### Newsletter

Maria Garcia-Gutierrez, Editor.....	727-9567
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### Paint Your Heart Out - Tampa

Frank Roder.....	238-1772
John Buhl.....	234-2164

### Home Tour

Stan Lasater.....	381-5855
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### Social

OPEN .....	
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### Home Improvement Team (HIT)

Maria Garcia-Gutierrez .....	727-9567
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### B'GoSH - Business Guild of Seminole Heights

Rich Guagliardo, Rep. ....	244-7424
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### Land Beautification/Greenways

Diane Jenkins.....	237-0287
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### VOZO - Variance, Overlay, Zoning Oversight

Beverly Morrow .....	237-2213
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### Plant Exchange

Randi Raaen.....	238-7143
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## From the President ..... Sherry Simons

It's a new year and a tough one for a lot of us. The challenges which face each of us also are of concern to the Association. At a time when it seems we must work harder and be more careful with both our time and our money, the community around us needs attention more than ever.

More empty houses, and more absentee landlords means an increase in crimes of opportunity and non-community minded neighbors. The good news is that although it is hard to handle at the moment, history tells us, it will get better and we will get our neighborhood back. But what we do about it in the meantime is important.

One of the most effective ways to maintain some control over what goes on in our neighborhood is to care. Some can do more, some less, but all can do something. It can be as small as keeping an eye on not only your house, but that of your immediate neighbors and being willing to take the time to react to things which seem out of place.

Taking care of your property is important. Lock your car. Don't leave purses, computers, spare change, etc. on the seat. Park off the street whenever possible. Light your home's exterior. None of this is news, but time after time when you read about a crime, it is one of opportunity. If you make it easy for someone to take advantage of you ... THEY WILL!

Connecting with the community past your home and your street makes a huge difference. A busy viable, positive-thinking community which is visibly alert is far less attractive to the negative element and far more attractive to new residential and business neighbors. Believe it or not, porch parties serve a larger purpose than just to eat, drink and be merry! They are the one place where you can have fun meeting neighbors from all over Greater Seminole Heights. You'd be amazed at the cool people you will meet and the valuable information you will pick up while just relaxing.

I urge all of you to really dig in and meet your neighbors and communicate with them and all of the various city departments that serve our neighborhood. Don't sit at home and wonder. Don't look for others to do all the care taking. To someone else, you ARE the others! Join in on whatever level works for you. Together we can build on the progress made by those who came before us and maintain our hard-earned reputation as a neighborhood that cares and works every day to maintain a good quality of life.

Here's wishing for a prosperous and safe 2009 for everyone!

*Sherry*

### City of Tampa Water Restrictions Continue to be Strictly Enforced

The Southwest Florida Water Management District has declared our region to be in an extreme water shortage, in effect through June 30, 2009.

By using water efficiently you may also save money. Tampa's Schedule of Rates includes a multi-tier rate structure where the price of each billing unit of water increases as the quantity of water used in a billing cycle increases, meaning that using more water will result in a higher utility bill due to the increased tier charges.

Current restrictions apply to all users of all water sources inside Tampa city limits including, but not limited to, private wells, surface water, and public or private utility-provided water. Additionally, Tampa is required to enforce any water use restrictions put in place by the SWFWMD that are more stringent than those in City Code. Violating these restrictions may result in fines ranging from \$100 to \$450 and a mandatory court appearance.

#### One Day Per Week Irrigation Restrictions:

Addresses ending in an even number, or the letters A-M, may water on Tuesdays only. Addresses ending in an odd number, or the letters N-Z, may water on Sundays only. Watering on the designated day is allowed between midnight and 8 a.m. or 6 p.m. and midnight. Any one zone of a property may only be watered once during the allowable day, NOT both in the morning and again in the evening. Restricted hours apply to all irrigation with potable water - including automatic sprinklers, hose-end sprinklers, hand watering, micro-irrigation and other low volume methods. Low volume irrigation and low volume hand watering of new and established non-turf landscaping is not restricted to the day of the week.

# The View from Down Here

by Eddie Martin  
Canine SESH Resident

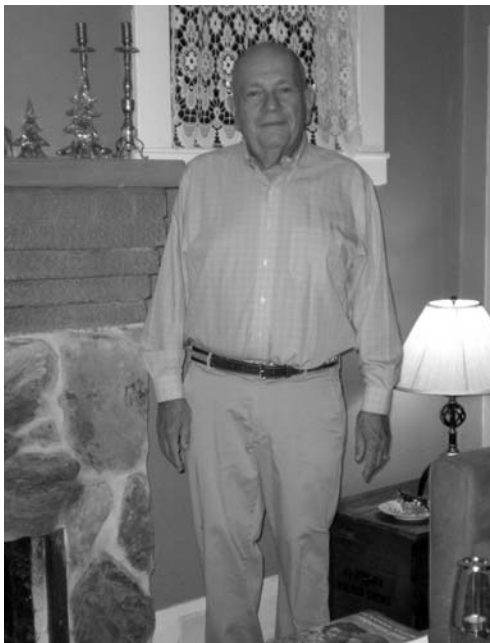


2009 finds me wishing the best to all my neighbors -- the both the 2 and 4-legged kind! Word on the street is that several of our neighbors have had their holidays made lots less jolly when they became victims of crimes of opportunity.

While on my daily walks, my biggest PET peeve is that our neighborhood suffers from a serious lack of sidewalks. Because of this, my humans have to walk me along the curb, a task made even more unpleasant for us because so many folks park their cars on the street. I notice many times that these cars can just as easily be parked in the driveways, most of which are almost, if not completely, empty.

Does it take a 15-pound furry creature with bad hair and a weird smile to remind you humans that when you park your car on the street, it makes it real easy pickin's for would-be car thieves? Don't you see that these people don't need to trespass on your property to make off with your car? Not to mention that the farther your car is from your home -- walls and windows -- the less likely it is that you (or your neighbors) will hear that glass breaking, that door lock being punched out, or the car alarm sounding?

Be smart and play it safe. Use your driveway. Even if it means that you and the other drivers in your home need to get up a little earlier in the morning to jockey cars around so everyone can get out when they need to, DO IT! Hey, you may even see me on my early morning walk ... I can't think of a better way to start the day!



## **PAINT YOUR HEART OUT 2009:**

If you would like to nominate a house to be painted for PYHOT 2009, please contact Frank Roder, 238-1772 for qualification information. This year's PYHOT will be held in April 2009. This will be the 21st year for PYHOT and we are looking for homes of low-income, elderly to be nominated for painting.



## The Hand That Feeds, Could Be Bitten ...

Today, in these troubled times, some of us may feel that we want to help others who are less fortunate. Some of us may attempt to assist a homeless person in need by providing them with odd jobs around our house/yard. This in turn compensated usually by a monetary donation. By allowing homeless that you do not know on your property can lead to problems. There are a number of homeless in our community with criminal backgrounds. There is no way the unsuspecting homeowner can determine whether they are hiring a homeless person who has a criminal record or with a clean record.

I am seeing that the people who believe that they are doing something nice are becoming victims. By providing an odd job for a homeless person that you do not know can increase your chances of becoming a victim of a theft, burglary or other crimes. A lot of times, the homeless person may feel that you did not compensate them enough for the amount of work they did. In turn, they will steal property of yours without remorse. If you allow someone on your property, they start to feel comfortable and experience feelings of entitlement. Once you let them into your community, they could begin to solicit other jobs from neighbors putting them at risk. The homeless person could become a familiar face in the neighborhood causing residents not to question some otherwise suspicious activity. Finally, by allowing them access to certain areas of your property, it gives them the ability to case the area and come back at a later date to commit a criminal act.

There are alternative ways to help the homeless without putting yourself at risk. Please pass this on to your neighbors so that we can prevent these types of crimes from occurring.

Ofc. Jason DeGagne

.....  
stay on top of  
neighborhood  
events ...  
check out

[www.seshca.com](http://www.seshca.com)

## Got News?

Promotions, births, marriages, engagements, anniversaries, graduations ... you name it, we want to hear about it!

Send information and/or pictures via e-mail to [2dgdsgnstudio@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:2dgdsgnstudio@tampabay.rr.com) or mail to SESHCA, Attn Newsletter Editor, PO Box 7298, Tampa, FL 33673.



## 2009

### General Membership Meeting Schedule

The Association has six meetings a year. The months are slightly different if it is an off election or election year. 2009 is an election year and the meeting dates and general subjects are as follows:

#### ■ January 20th

Appreciation Awards, general announcements and presentation of 2009 plans

#### ■ March 17th

General Meeting with Speaker

#### ■ May 19th

General Meeting with Speaker

#### ■ July 21st

General Meeting with Speaker  
Beginning nominations for Board positions.

#### ■ Sept 22nd

General Meeting  
Final nominees address members

#### ■ October 20th

General Year End Meeting  
Ballot counting and announcement of new Board members.

Throughout the year as issues present themselves, they will be addressed at the General Membership meetings. In addition, if required, additional special meetings might be held.

## 2009 PORCH PARTIES

**PORCH PARTIES** are open to ALL residents of Southeast Seminole Heights and their guests. They begin at 7pm and last until ???!

All we ask is that you bring an appetizer, snack, salad, dish, side or dessert to share and your choice of beverage.

Get to know your neighbors and just unwind on a Friday night!

### Interested in hosting a porch party in 2009?

If so, please contact Sherry Simons at [info@seshca.com](mailto:info@seshca.com) or 813-789-9849.

Currently available months can be viewed at [www.SESHCA.com](http://www.SESHCA.com).

Look for the Yellow Porch Party link on the left side of the page.

Upcoming Porch Parties

January 16 • Home of Mike Ferlita & Joel Mesa • 1012 E. Chelsea

February 6 • OPEN

March 6 • Home of Maria & Manny Gutierrez • 910 E. North Bay

April 3 • Home of Susan Ladika • 1109 E. Chelsea

May 1 • Home of Bob Simon • 1014 E. Chelsea

June 5 • Home of Ames Myer & Nancy Acosta • 1219 E. New Orleans

July 10 • OPEN August 7 • OPEN September 4 • OPEN

October 2 • Home of Sherry & Kristina Simons • 911 E. Shadowlawn

November 6 • Home of Glenn Cable • 901 E. McBerry

December • Annual Membership Holiday Social