

04

# Galindo

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC.  
gena.org



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER: TWO SIGNS

I was killing time in a junk shop a few months ago when I saw a funny sign. *Be Nice or Leave*, it said. Wow, I thought, I need that for our Neighborhood Meetings! I ended up not buying it. However much it was, it was too much. But I haven't forgotten about it. As it turns out, I haven't needed it either.

The thing is, in a room full of reasonable people being civil to one another, a rude person comes off sort of ridiculous. It's hard for me even to take them seriously at this point. The last time I recall someone going after me in a meeting (and I only remember because it was my birthday) I honestly thought it was a joke at first; it was so random and unexpected, and strangely not that unpleasant. It wasn't a joke, of course. But I don't care.

It is now. And it's been a very nice year of meetings since then.

The other sign I have in mind is an advertisement for a new residential development in the neighborhood. Unlike a lot of the promotional claims I hear about local real estate, it didn't mention hip SOCO, hot SOLA, or anything at all about the East Side. Instead it read simply, "the location is hard to beat . . . in the beloved Galindo Neighborhood". That's it. They nailed it. This is the beloved Galindo Neighborhood. Glad you're here. Glad I'm here, too.

Kirk Smith  
GENA President



National Night out is an opportunity for our neighborhood to promote police-community partnerships, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie by coming together for an educational and fun experience. While one night is certainly not the only answer, National Night Out represents the kind of spirit, energy and determination to help make neighborhoods a safer place year round. The night celebrates safety and crime prevention successes and works to expand and strengthen programs for the next 364 days.

GENA and SARC are teaming up for a second year for GENA's National Night Out on Tuesday, October 1, 2013 from 5:00-8:00 PM at the South Austin Recreation Center (1100 Cumberland, Austin, TX 78704).

If you or your business would like to donate raffle items, food, sodas, bottled water or a table to promote your business, please contact Janet Mash MAXNBIGBOY@aol.com (512)917-3540.

## South Austin Park Update

**South Austin Park** ... What does it mean to you? To our neighborhood? To our City? As one of the neighborhood parks operated and maintained by the City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department (PARC), South Austin Park is a gem at the heart of the Galindo neighborhood. Complete with both passive and active recreation space, it is an opportunity to sooth the soul and eyes, ears, and lungs. Austin is the fastest-growing city in the nation. All this growth means that open green space is in high demand. We are lucky to have neighborhood park with a recreation center, tennis center, open playing field area, space to fly a kite, hula hoop, or run with your dogs, and green space to lay in the sun (or shade), enjoy a picnic, read a book, or just sit amidst trees and enjoy some open space.

GENA has accomplished a lot to preserve our neighborhood park. At the end of 2013, we eagerly await the City's installment of a trail through South Austin Park that will provide connectivity and a bit of structured walking/jogging area on a crushed granite surface.

The GENA Parks Committee received a grant a few years ago to beautify the area that faces S. 5<sup>th</sup> St. The plan was to xeriscape the area at the eastern fence of the tennis center in order to better incorporate the chain link into a park setting and beautify the "face" of the park to passersby. That plan got put on hold when PARC changed setback requirements.

Recently, the Urban Forestry division of PARC selected South Austin Park as one of the handful of city parks where they'd like to plant trees this fall. The plan should be completed by the time this newsletter has been delivered to your door, and we hope the plan satisfies the desire for trees in the park at high-pedestrian areas such as along S. 5<sup>th</sup> St, Cumberland Rd., and Herndon Ln., and on the eastside of the playing fields.

Stay tuned to the GENA yahoo group for more South Austin Park information and to volunteer to help plant trees in November. E-mail kawazoe7777@yahoo.com with park questions or concerns.

### Tawny Crazy Ants

Tawny crazy ants are a new invasive ant species which form large, very dense, interconnected infestations. These ants nest and feed inside houses as well as outside.

#### Identification

- You see a whole lot of ants running around.
- They are all small to medium sized ants (1/8" long). And they are all roughly the same size.
- They are yellowish-reddish-brown in color and the same color over their whole body.
- They do not sting ("bite") like fire ants.
- They form loose trails. The ants run around erratically. They are not out in the middle of a hot day.
- Squash a couple of ants between your fingers and smell them. Tawny crazy ants will have a slight acrid smell (like acid), NOT the strong odor of blue cheese. "Smells like acid, send it in. Smells like blue cheese leave it be."

#### You can find out more information here:

- [www.facebook.com/tawncrazyants](http://www.facebook.com/tawncrazyants)
- <http://urbanentomology.tamu.edu/ants/rasberry.html>
- [www.tsusinvasives.org/database/rasberry-crazy-ant.html](http://www.tsusinvasives.org/database/rasberry-crazy-ant.html)

Also there will be a fact sheet with more information about identification, prevention and treatment at our next Neighbors' Meeting, September 23.



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**"You name it, we coat it!"**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**September 23 & November 25,**  
6:45 pm. Galindo's last two  
Neighbors' Meetings of 2013.  
Mixing business with pleasure,  
we kick off our meetings with  
an original song by a local  
musician. We meet at **South  
Austin Recreation Center** in the  
heart of our neighborhood  
(1100 Cumberland). See you  
there!

male or female worker behind the counter) and say, "I grew up on drip Folger's. I'm trying something new today. What do you recommend?"

Here are twelve coffee houses in our zip code, with distances to each from the approximate center of Galindo at S. 5<sup>th</sup> and Terrell Hill.

**Summermoon**, 0.4 miles, roasts its beans over a wood fire and specializes in sweet drinks made with their "moon milk."

**Thrice**, 0.9 miles, is attached to the Thai restaurant and also serves such wonders as a basil ginger agua

fresca.

**Mystic Java**, 1.0 mile, has a beautiful patio location looking over the Great Outdoors nursery.

**Once Over**, 1.0 mile, is serious about its good coffee and often shows especially interesting local artists' work.

**Fair Bean**, 1.0 mile, emphasizes fair trade coffee and practices, and offers perhaps the finest espresso frappe available in Austin.

**Opa**, 1.1 miles, serves Greek food, has a great patio and indoor space, and turns into a wine bar at night (or earlier if you've had that kind of day).

**Irie Bean**, 1.3 miles, is a small, friendly place with regulars at the bar most mornings.

**Ruta Maya** trailer on S. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1.5 miles, is another outfit that's

**Looking for a Cup of Joe?**

Ah, the modern coffee house, where you can get a good cup of joe and read a book, or visit with friends, or work for a while on your laptop. A "third space," neither home nor work, where you can enjoy being out in the world with other people who are also happily doing their own thing. Did you know that there are a dozen neat coffee houses in 78704? Most of them have some kind of light food in addition to drinks, they usually display local art on the walls, and all of them provide free wifi.

While Seattle and Portland may have gone gaga for espresso first, Austin has had a robust java scene since the 1990s. If you regularly haunt such places, maybe there's one listed here you hadn't noticed before. If you've never been to a coffee house, try one of these! No one will make fun of you for not knowing how to order a fancy pants triple mocha latte skinny half-caff frappa-lappa-ding-dong. Just walk right up to the barista (the name for the

serious about the beans. Go here and you can be part of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century mania for food trailers that we'll all be so nostalgic for in 20 years.

**Jo's** on South Congress, 2.1 miles, has outdoor seating only, so get one of their "Iced Turbos," and hyper-caffeinate while you watch the sidewalk scene on SoCo.

**Austin Java** on Barton Springs, 2.2 miles, has a full kitchen.

**Dominican Joe**, 2.2 miles, doesn't have abundant parking, but is worth it for the pleasant ambiance and for the fact that some of its profits go to poverty relief in the Dominican Republic.

**Flipnotic's**, 2.2 miles, is a funky place with a collection of patio decks that gives it a cool tree house vibe.

**SCOOP THAT POOP!** DOG AND CAT WASTE LEFT ON THE GROUND IS MORE THAN SMELLY AND UNSIGHTLY...IT POLLUTES OUR WATER AND POSES A HEALTH RISK FOR PETS AND PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN! PLEASE REMEMBER TO ALWAYS SCOOP THE POOP AND TO DISPOSE OF PET WASTE PROPERLY! IT ADDS UP! ONE PILE OF PET WASTE MIGHT NOT SEEM LIKE A LOT; HOWEVER, MORE THAN 215,000 DOGS LIVE IN AUSTIN, GENERATING 100,000 POUNDS OF WASTE THROUGHOUT THE CITY EVERY DAY. WHEN NOT DISPOSED OF PROPERLY, THIS WASTE WASHES INTO LOCAL WATERWAYS AND CAUSES PROBLEMS WITH: HUMAN AND PET HEALTH: GIARDIA...ROUNDWORMS... SALMONELLA...OTHER VIRUSES AND PARASITES WATER QUALITY: ALGAE AND AQUATIC WEEDS...REDUCED OXYGEN FOR FISH...UNSAFE RECREATIONAL AREAS FOR FISHING OR ENJOYING

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## GENA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

**The Galindo Elementary Neighborhood Association's** members are neighbors like you who have an interest in area issues like traffic, crime, environmental issues, etc. The success of our Neighborhood Association relies on participation from as many neighbors as possible. Your voice and ideas are important in shaping the future of our great neighborhood. **General Meetings** provide a forum for public officials to visit with us about neighborhood-specific issues. The meetings are also

great ways to meet and visit with your neighbors.

**Membership in GENA** is open to all residential property owners and residents residing within the Galindo Elementary Neighborhood boundaries; Oltorf St.; Ben White Blvd.; S. 1<sup>st</sup> St. and the Union Pacific Railway Line.

**The Association's operating budget is funded by member dues.** Annual dues are \$10 per household. Anyone may request a dues waiver by contacting the executive committee. To be a voting member at a General

Meeting, the neighbor must have paid dues, or had their waiver granted, at least 10 days prior to that meeting.

**There are several ways to become a paid member:**

- Send a check to Galindo Elementary Neighborhood Assn:  
GENA  
PO Box 41232  
Austin, TX 78704  
attn: Treasurer
- Bring your dues to a General Meeting (our next meeting is September 23<sup>rd</sup>)
- Contact our treasurer to make other arrangements; treasurer@gena.org



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