



Orchard Hills Neighborhood Quarterly Newsletter

Third Quarter 2019 | School is back in full swing which means summer is almost over and fall is on its way. Look at all the fun we had this summer and the great accomplishments of our neighborhood association in this quarter's newsletter. We look forward to seeing you this Fall!

Upcoming Events

September

9/5 and 9/15 Recycling Days
9/9 Board Meeting
9/14 Garden Work Day

October

10/3, 17 & 31 Recycling Days
10/5 Garden Work Day
10/11-12 Annual Garage Sale
10/14 Board Meeting
10/17 Crime Watch Meeting

November

11/11 Board Meeting
11/14 Recycling Day

December

12/7 Christmas Party
12/9 Board Meeting



Neighborhood of the Year

First Place - Physical Revitalization

OHNA is Recognized Nationally...

On June 18th, the City of Garland recognized the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association for their national award in the '**Neighborhood of the Year in the Physical Revitalization**' category for their efforts with the Saturn Hills Community Garden. Read more about this achievement in this quarter's newsletter!

Photo courtesy of <https://www.garlandtx.gov/622/Garland-Neighborhood-Awards>

We would like to thank the Saturn Church of Christ for providing a convenient location for our monthly board meetings. Everyone is invited to our gatherings.



OHNA Recognized at City Hall

On June 18th, at the Garland City Council Meeting, OHNA was recognized for their 1st place national award in the NUSA (Neighborhoods, USA) '**Neighborhood of the Year in the Physical Revitalization**' category. This award was given because of all of the association's efforts with the Saturn Hills Community Garden.

In 2017, the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association discovered that their neighborhood church, Saturn Road Church of Christ, had a garden but needed gardeners; and the neighborhood had gardeners, but no garden.

In 2018, we partnered together with the goal of revitalizing the garden and building community. Now "Saturn Hills Community Garden" is a thriving communal space where people are able to meet, share knowledge (and sometimes seeds and produce), get advice and cultivate the social aspect of growing a community.



Photos and excerpt courtesy of <https://www.garlandtx.gov/622/Garland-Neighborhood-Awards>

OHNA Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale Save the Date: October 11th-12th

The annual Orchard Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale is about 6 weeks away. In six weeks, a person can do a lot of clearing, cleaning, packing, unpacking, pricing and displaying.

It's time to get ready for the garage sale and if you want to participate, make sure you have renewed your membership dues. This is an opportunity to spotlight and sell your treasures while we do all the promotion and marketing for you to ensure the event is a big success for all.

This is not a trash to treasure event but a treasure to treasure! We are surprised every year by the variety and uniqueness of the goods that are for sale. Sometimes they are fine items, rare finds, family heirlooms, golden discoveries and even entries for Antique Roadshow. Other times, you might find a little more practical but still wonderful items that you can wear, cook in, eat on, play with, sit on, decorate with, give away, upscale, downscale, paint, repurpose, or put in your next garage sale.

All of you who live on Treasure, this is an event especially for you, treasure to treasure on Treasure. It is also the event for the rest of us who live in Orchard Hills. It is a treasure in many ways: things to sell, things to buy, friends to greet, neighbors to meet. It is a fun two-day event – so please save the date!

Flyers will be delivered around the neighborhood soon and also posted on social media with more information.



Charlie Axe Reminisces on His Memories in Orchard Hills

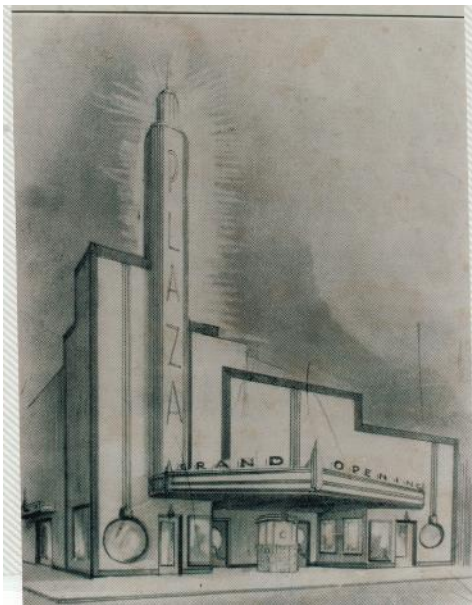
The Beginnings

In 1949, Charlie Axe was only three years old when his father was transferred from Odessa, Texas back to Garland. He had an older brother and sister who were much older than he was. They moved into 1105 Carney, which is only one of the three homes he lived in here in Orchard Hills.

They lived opposite his father's cousin, Fred Axe, and opposite J. D. Carney. There were no city services yet and the closest general store was on Centerville Road, which was reached by crossing a bridge over Duck Creek lined with spooky underbrush. Cotton fields and Johnson grass ran along Kingsley Road. Charlie recalls seeing an elderly man using a black scythe cutter pulled by mules.



Charlie Axe recalls his most memorable Orchard Hills experiences with Jan Alexander



The Plaza Theater in downtown Garland opened on April 4, 1941 and featured a showing of "Western Union".

Fun & Games

The local creek system, both Axe Branch Creek (which runs parallel to Saturn Springs Road) and Duck Creek, was a favorite destination. He loved playing in them except when it rained. Not only were there exposed pipes running in the ditches to Axe Branch Creek carrying the storm water, these ditches were dumping grounds. A rusty abandoned car was the source of a nasty cut on his head that required stitches.

One memory he fondly recalls is when he ran away from home on his pedal car.

Charlie remembers that getting a red soda pop at the general store was a real treat as well as getting to go to the Plaza Theater to see a movie, going swimming in the fan shaped pool at Central Park and later at the Lon Wynne park pool. When he was older, he got a Sears 250 Eagle Cushman Scooter. He remembers jack rabbits and possums in the neighborhood.



Orchard Hills Memories Continued...

Family

His mother, a homemaker to their three children, never learned how to drive. Charlie's sister contracted polio but remained active throughout her young life. She eventually attended Texas Tech University and married a Methodist minister. Charlie remembers his older brother at 12 chasing him while he was riding his tricycle down the hill towards Saturn Springs and into the ditch. His brother grew up to become a builder, designer, and welder. His Uncle Cecil Cooper, married to Gladys, sold the house to them. Cecil and Randall were brothers.

Memories of milk delivered in a wire basket and the Manor Bread man making deliveries to the door were a significant help for Mrs. Axe. The mail was delivered to a line of mailboxes at the corner of Saturn and Carney, where the Lutheran Church is located now. Charlie remembers having to walk to pick up the mail and bring it home. He also remembers seeing some water moccasins in the creek where he rode his bike along the creek bed until the sewer lines were laid there in the mid to late 1950s.

Check out the new ACU Website!

America's Credit Union's new website offers a fresh look and a number of new features. The responsive design makes it compatible with a variety of mobile devices, while navigating the site is easy with all product and service information right at your fingertips. You can also view the ACU Blog for news-you-can-use on many helpful topics.

Have a look!

www.americascu.org



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Charlie Axe, Garland HS Senior Photo

photo credit: <https://www.garland1965.com/>

Orchard Hills Memories Continued...

Education

Charlie attended Daugherty Elementary in 1st & 2nd grades, Caldwell Elementary in 3rd & 4th grades, and Warren Elementary in 5th & 6th grades.

Getting to school at Daugherty Elementary was an adventure for him. Charlie remembers riding his bike up and down the walls of the creek. He also remembers jumping on his bike off the edge of the bluff of Duck Creek with his friend Kendall causing his bike tire to come off.

Charlie is a 1965 Garland High School graduate and is very active as an alumnus. He still has very good friends from his Garland H.S. years. While in elementary school, he was in Cub Scouts. He remembers a trip to the Fire Tower with his pack of Cub Scouts.

The Growth of Orchard Hills

Harris Street was paved when the Cooper Brothers built the Austin Stone house at the corner of Carney and Harris. Mr. Mitchell moved into the Harris Street home and was an employee of First National Bank, which later became Garland State Bank. Soon, more homes were built by the Cooper Brothers of Austin Stone in Orchard Hills with 6" thick exterior stone walls.

As they built out the area towards Saturn Springs, they then turned towards the east where Glenbrook Drive ran to build new homes. The police chief, Chief Ashley's home was built at the corner of Carney Road and what became Ashley Drive. Charlie liked to play with Bobbi Ashley, who was his age. The Ashley family also adopted four or five Korean orphans. They loved to fish in the pond behind their home which is now called Reflection Pond.

Hugh Morrow and his wife owned a grocery store at the corner of Dairy and Miller Roads. Charlie played with Kendall Morrow, who was a year younger in school than him. He also had a friend, David Mitchell, whose father was a banker. As a child, Charlie had a dog, Snuffy, whom he tied to his red wagon, so the dog could pull Kendall in the wagon on dog patrol. Snuffy pretended to be a fierce watchdog.





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Orchard Hills Memories Continued...

New Infrastructure & Buildings

Eventually businesses were built close to the neighborhood including the Safeway Food Store, which was closed to make way for Saturn Road Church of Christ. Paved roads were now encompassing the neighborhood and Kingsley Road was widened. Charlie remembers going to school at Caldwell and getting his feet all muddy walking to school during the road construction.

The land was given by the Axe family at the corner of Carney and Saturn Road to build a church. At first it was just a portable building before the current A-Frame sanctuary was built.

Charlie remembers thinking as city leaders moved into the neighborhood and bigger, fancier homes were built that he would one day own one himself here in Orchard Hills.

The Axe family put down its roots in Garland by purchasing the large tract of land sloping into both Duck Creek and Axe Branch Creek.

(If you have memories to share about Orchard Hills Neighborhood, please email them to history@ohna.us)



Annual OHNA Picnic Wrap Up

The annual Orchards Hills Neighborhood Picnic in June at Rick Oden Park was a rip-roaring success. We know this BECAUSE...

Firefighters from the Garland Fire Department joined us and gave us one on one tours of their wonderful equipment. They stayed as long as possible and then waved goodbye as they left to go tend to a fire.

Representatives from Garland Animal Control visited with us about the value of our pets and the importance of having them spayed and neutered. We love our pets; they love our pets, and we all want the best for them.

Our **Neighborhood Police Officer Matt Pesta** was there – which is always fun and games when he is around at the picnic.

There were so many games! The kids played games all afternoon, especially the boys from the Brown Family. They even walked home to get a football so they could continue the fun. There was some kind of game going on the whole time.

The **face painting business** was open all day and included “tattoos” on the hands, arms and legs of many kids. They were a colorful group.

The food was plentiful and delicious. Bob King and Ray Bice were in the “kitchen” serving up pulled pork sandwiches and hot dogs with all the trimmings. And don’t forget the popsicles! Nobody went away hungry.



Everyone was a winner for coming but there were **door prizes** given away in a series of drawings as well as hand painted rocks for every family, created and donated by Betty Roberts.





Annual OHNA Picnic Wrap Up Continued...

And the grand finale, **a water balloon fight**. What fun! Kids went on the attack of their siblings, parents and a few innocent bystanders.

The event was such a blast, people wouldn't go away. Although the picnic officially ended at 1:00, people wouldn't leave. At 2:00, we started cleaning and folding up tables – having a great time to the very end.



Neighborhood Membership Update

Do you want to join the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association, or do you still need to renew for your annual membership? Well, we just made it easier!

OHNA now accepts credit card payments online. Membership fees are \$20 a year per household.

Option 1: Go to ohna.us and click "JOIN"

Option 2: Go to the direct link, join.ohna.us

OHNA Annual Picnic Appreciation

Intrinsic Brewing

Migalitos Supermercado

Rosalind Coffee

City of Garland Grant

City of Garland Fire Department

City of Garland Police

City of Garland Animal Services

Betty's Grandkids





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Upcoming Garden Work Days | September 14th & October 5th

Come help us get the neighborhood gardens in shape for Fall. Meet at the entrance to Rick Oden Park at 8:00am. Bring your gardening tools, water and a sense of humor.



Nut Grass and Native Morning Glory seem to be on a mission to take over the neighborhood. We always need help to deal with these invasive species.

Don't know much about gardening? No problem! We will be happy to help you identify Nut Grass from Echinacea. Had a bad week? Pulling weeds is very cathartic. Take your frustrations out on the weeds.

Come and meet your neighbors and enjoy the cooling temperatures. Remember that gardening is cheaper than therapy!



A Community Gathering Place

When Charlie and Eula Axe decided they were going to move to Minnesota to be closer to their daughter and her family, they knew that they would leave many friends and great memories behind.

What could they do to let their neighbors and community know how much they cherished them?



Our neighborhood turquoise table, donated by the Axe family, sits at the front of the First Sagrada Familia Church.

After Eula read “The Turquoise Table” by Kristin Schell, she knew what they would do. They painted their seasoned picnic table turquoise and moved it to their front yard. It attracted many comments and much gathering at the table followed. As the time neared for their departure, they had to decide where their table would go now? With so many great shared memories at First Sagrada Familia Lutheran Church with neighbors and church members, it was the perfect destination for the table. Several church members came to pick it up and placed it on the church property. Charlie and Eula asked Jan Alexander to paint a sign to be hung by the table. The Church members and neighbors gathered to celebrate the table and its meaning.



However, a month after the Axes moved to Minnesota, the table began to show its age. What could be done? Unexpectedly, one of the church members stepped up and completed the repairs and two of our OHNA board members painted the table turquoise once again. This fall, “Gather and Love, Stop and Stay a While” at our neighborhood’s turquoise table.

OHNA Board

Co-Chairman: Margi Bice
margi@ohna.us

Co-Chairman: Betty Roberts
betty@ohna.us

Secretary: Cathy Stark
cathy@ohna.us

Treasurer: Rhonda Spence
rhonda@ohna.us

Member at Large:
Jan Alexander, jan@ohna.us

Member at Large:
Mike McBride, mike@ohna.us

Member at Large: Open

Stay Connected

OHNA Historical Committee
Email: history@ohna.us

Website: history.ohna.us

OHNA Website: ohna.us

OHNA Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/groups/ohna.us

OHNA Garage Sale
garagesale@ohna.us

OHNA Flag Committee
flags@ohna.us

Celebrating America in Our Neighborhood!

Over the last couple of years, the OHNA has distributed American Flags throughout the neighborhood to be proudly displayed on July 4th and Labor Day.

This year, OHNA purchased 144 new flags. 15 of these flags were given away at the annual picnic and the rest were used to expand the distribution of flags across the neighborhood for this year's July 4th celebration.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who helped distribute and pick up the flags! It's an amazing sight to drive down our streets and see the flags all in a line. If you are interested in volunteering on the flag committee, please reach out to Shellye Scott, at flags@ohna.us.



Important Contacts

Garland Non-Emergency:
(972) 485-4840

Neighborhood Patrol:
Officer Matt Pesta
(972) 485-4896
PestaM@GarlandTx.gov

Code Enforcement:
(972) 485-6400

District 5 Councilman:
Rich Aubin
(972) 325-2529
council5@garlandtx.gov

