



# THE DHTC TREE GUARDIAN

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December 2002

## WHITE ROCK HERITAGE DISTRICT NEWS

The White Rock Heritage District (WRHD) was founded in 1995 as the Coalition for the Protection of Lower White Rock Creek. The mission defined was to preserve, restore, and enhance the greenway of White Rock Creek and connect White Rock Lake, Fair Park, the Great Trinity Forest, and the Trinity River with this greenway. In October of 2001 organizers secured the assistance of the National Park Service's Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program. The name—but not the mission—changed with a NPS assisted charrette (planning and design workshop) in May 2002.

Since the charrette, several working committees have been formed and much progress is underway for trails projects, historic preservation projects, and ecotourism development. DHTC, a sponsoring organization of the WRHD, hosted the Fall Foliage Tours of the Great Trinity Forest in November. These tours introduced many new visitors to the area and recruited new volunteers.

A grant was submitted by Kathryn Nichols, our NPS representative, to fund the creation of a trail on White Rock Creek near the Larry Johnson Recreation Center. Kathryn also applied for consideration of the WRHD as a GroundworkUSA pilot project. This innovative program is uniquely suited for assisting with WRHD goals. We are hopeful that we can bring this program to Dallas in 2003.

## ATTENDANCE INCREASING AT QUARTERLY MEETINGS

It appears that we've found a formula that works for getting members and other interested individuals to our meetings! The attendance doubled again for our September meeting at the historic California Crossing of the Trinity River. We preceded our meeting with refreshments at a picnic table next to some large persimmon trees and then walked to see the pecan tree that was recently identified as another Indian Marker Tree (research is in process to get it on DHTC's Historic Tree Registry). Then we took a short walk to see the Elm Fork of the Trinity River as it passes through California Crossing Park. We concluded our meeting in a classroom inside the adjacent National Guard Armory (which is a very interesting, labyrinth-like building that added to the sense of adventure in exploring). Paul and Jan Lorrain from the Dallas Archeological Society shared slides and stories from their work in Dallas County archeology. Their very attentive audience stayed late to ask more questions.

We are now planning new "adventures" for each of our 2003 Quarterly Meetings and will provide details in our next newsletter. Each meeting will include a visit to one of Dallas' Historic Tree sites. We will partner with other organizations for each of these meetings to provide an opportunity for members of groups with common interests to interact with and learn from each other.

## Party on December 3rd

This year DHTC and White Rock Heritage District friends will celebrate the holidays together. The party will be held on **Tuesday, December 3, from 5 pm until 8 pm** at the Grover C. Keeton Golf Course in Southeast Dallas at 2323 Jim Miller Road (about 2-1/2 miles south of the Jim Miller Road exit of I-30; Mapsco 48W). We've met at this location for several of our tours of the Great Trinity Forest. With pleasant, dry weather we can explore the grounds after the golfers leave and as the wildlife (coyotes, owls, raccoons, and other evening "patrons" of this golf course) becomes active. We may also dedicate the old pecan orchard surrounding the clubhouse and add it to our Historic Tree Registry. As we promised, there will be an opportunity to do a little holiday shopping that will also assist programs with fundraising. This should be a wonderful networking event as supporters of both programs discover how very much they have in common. *Eat, drink, be merry...and be there!!* It's been a very productive year and there is much to celebrate.

## UNDER THE STREET TREE

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the last few days of the year. But as we do, it is appropriate that we spend the days reflecting on what has happened—what we have accomplished, and then focus our thoughts on what we plan for the future.

The Dallas Historic Tree Coalition will note 2002 as a pivotal year. We started the year with a commitment to fund and hire a full-time executive director, and with that move, set the pace for the following months. A large portion of our resources has been spent on the proposed revisions to Dallas' Landscape and Tree Preservation Ordinance. The revisions have traveled through a labyrinth of political and bureaucratic review over the past year, and a handful of dedicated DHTC volunteers have followed it closely. While it was originally thought the Ordinance would come to a council vote in August, it now looks as if the vote may not happen until January. My thanks to all who have been a part of this process and an additional thanks for the rapport that has been established with Dallas city staff, commissioners, and councilmembers.

"Partnering" would be DHTC's most important word for 2002. In May, we partnered with the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and the Lower White Rock Creek Coalition to establish the White Rock Creek Heritage District. DHTC's role in fostering this important community project will only continue to grow.

With Friends of the Trinity, we co-hosted The Seventh Annual Trinity River Earth Day Citizen's Exhibit at Dallas City Hall, celebrating the river component of our urban forest. The two-month exhibit was seen by thousands of visitors to city hall.

We partnered with the City of Plano, celebrating Arbor Day and adding their Bi-centennial Bur Oak Tree in Bob Woodruff Park to our Historic Tree Registry.

Our quarterly membership meetings have had a partnering element, too. We partnered with the National Park Service, and planer Kathryn Nichols, for our June Meeting, and with Paul and Jan Lorrain and members of the Dallas Archeological Society in September. We will partner with our White Rock Heritage District friends for our December holiday party/meeting. You will find details regarding the part in this newsletter and on our website, at [www.dhtc.org](http://www.dhtc.org).

And we will have the opportunity to partner in 2003. Hopefully, when you receive your next newsletter, it will contain information on what will be the most exciting project the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition has ever participated in. On this project we will be partnering with our friends at the Texas Forest Service and the Trinity Blacklands Urban Forestry Council.

We will continue to benefit from partnerships. Particularly, our most important partner—YOU! Thank you for your continued support through your memberships and the time you have generously volunteered. We continue to do great things with minimal resources. Please consider giving DHTC Memberships as gifts, this year. And join us for our holiday party on Tuesday, December 3rd. And as always, keep up the good tree preservation efforts in your neighborhood.

*Remember, we all breathe the same air.*

Bill Seaman, *President*

*Dallas Historic Tree Coalition*



*Almost without  
exception, there is a  
lack of current  
knowledge at the  
heart of every  
tree-related conflict.*

*--Steve Houser*



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**December 3, 2002, Tuesday** — DHTC Membership Holiday Party, from 5 pm until 8 pm, at the Grover C. Keeton Golf Course, 2323 Jim Miller Road. 214-739-5886, [treesavers@yahoo.com](mailto:treesavers@yahoo.com)

**February 20, 2003, Thursday** — North Central Texas Urban Forestry Conference, Texas A&M Research Center, 17360 Coit Road, Dallas. 214-953-1190 or 817-926-8203.

**March 18, 2003, Tuesday** — DHTC Spring Membership Meeting, time and place to be announced.

**March 29, 2003, Saturday** — Texas Tree Climbing Competition, Texas Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture, Reverchon Park, 3505 Maple Ave., Dallas.



*Human progress is a  
race between  
education and  
catastrophe.*

*--Sanderson of Oundle*



# FORT WORTH ENACTS PROGRESSIVE TREE ORDINANCE

Dallas and Fort Worth have always been involved in healthy competition—trying to out-do each other. But one aspect where Fort Worth has Dallas beaten by years, literally, is recognizing the worth of trees and the need for a tree preservation ordinance. Dallas' first tree ordinance was passed in 1994 while Fort Worth's City Council enacted their ordinance in 1873. Yes, that is 1873, 121 years ahead of Dallas. The text of the ordinance is as follows.

## ***Ordinance No. 19***

### ***An Ordinance for the protection of shade and ornamental trees within the City***

#### ***Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Ft. Worth:***

Sec. 1 — *No person shall cut, deface nor in any way injure any tree or sapling used for shade or ornamental purposed standing or growing in any of the streets or alley, or along the sidewalks or within any of the public places belonging to or within the city of Ft. Worth. Nor shall any person hitch or cause to be hitched any horse, mule, and or other animal to any such tree or saplings standing or growing as aforesaid, or to any boxing which may be placed around said trees or saplings for their protection. Nor shall any person not being the owner or agent thereof commit any of the offenses aforesaid, upon such trees as my be standing upon any lot within the City.*

Sec. 2 — *Any person violating this ordinance upon conviction thereof shall be fined not exceeding ten dollars, one half there of to go to the informer and the remainder to the city.*

Sec. 3 — *This Ordinance to take effect and be in force and after its publication as required by law.*

*Passed April 9, 1873*

*Attest*

*J.F. Swayne*

*Secretary*

*Filed April 10, 1873*

*Recorded June 23, 1873*

*Approved April 10, 1873*

*W.P. Burts*

*Mayor*

## RENEW YOUR DHTC MEMBERSHIP NOW

If you have not renewed your membership for 2002, now is the time to do so! If you are not a member, now is the time to join. The Dallas Historic Tree Coalition has never been busier. Your financial support will enable us to do more to protect our urban forests and the trees in your neighborhood. Also, consider giving a DHTC membership as a gift to a friend or family member. Thanks to a matching grant from the Texas Forest Service, your contribution at the \$50 Friends level will generate \$100 for the Coalition. Likewise a contribution

at the \$100 Patron level will generate \$200. So, please join or renew you membership while your contribution will be doubled.

In addition to financial support, DHTC needs your support as a volunteer. Whether it is one hour a month or one day a week, we have numerous projects and activities where you can make a difference by putting your time to work. Please check the box on the Membership Form to indicate you would like more information on volunteer activities, or call the "Tree Line" at 214-739-5886. If you have e-mail, contact us at [TreeSavers@yahoo.com](mailto:TreeSavers@yahoo.com).

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ City Council District \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed please find my annual membership dues of \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ level of membership.

Individual/Family - \$10    Friend - \$50    Patron - \$100    Bronze Leaf - \$250    Silver Leaf - \$500    Gold Leaf - \$1000

I would like more information on volunteer activities.

*(DHTC is a non-profit organization.)*

200212

Please complete form and mail to: DHTC - P.O. Box 670512, Dallas, Texas 75367-0512 - Phone: (214) 739-5886 - e-mail address: [TreeSavers@yahoo.com](mailto:TreeSavers@yahoo.com)



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

P.O. Box 670512

Dallas, Texas 75367-0512



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# THE GUARDIAN: A Quarterly Newsletter by the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition

DHTC - P.O. Box 670512, Dallas, Texas 75367-0512 - Phone: (214) 739-5886 - e-mail address: TreeSavers@yahoo.com



*No place is complete without trees.*

*A home without trees is charmless;*

*A road without trees is shadeless;*

*A park without trees is purposeless;*

*A country without trees is hopeless.*



—Anonymous

## TRINITY RIVER EXPEDITIONS

Canoe Rental • Shuttle Service

Canoe Trips on the Elm Fork • Main Stem

West Fork of the Upper Trinity River

Charles Allen 214-941-1757

## M E M B E R S H I P F O R M

- ✓ Join or renew your membership today.
- ✓ Indicate if you would like more information on volunteer activities.
- ✓ Include your current Dallas City Council District.
- ✓ Include your e-mail address so we may notify you of tree issues that need immediate attention.

*The DHTC Membership List is private.*

*We have not given our mailing list to other organizations or individuals in the past. We will not do so in the future.*