



# MAGNOLIA FOREST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.magnoliaforest.net

# Newsletter

• MAGNOLIA FOREST IS A RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS COMMUNITY •

### MFHA

P.O. Box 1624  
Pearl River, La. 70452  
www.magnoliaforest.net

### 2020 Board of Directors

#### President

Bob Meltz 285-8567  
rmeltz@bellsouth.net

#### Vice President

Peter Giuffria 445-7141  
petegiuffria@gmail.com

#### Treasurer/ Membership

Paul Rao  
985-707-3033

#### Newsletter Editor and Social

Gina Nash  
funkyjungal@yahoo.com

#### Covenants

Lynn Adams  
504-722-1450

#### Secretary

Tracy Sheffield  
sheffield\_mail@yahoo.com

#### Newsletter Distribution

Terry Becnel  
504-613-7474

#### Newsletter Publisher

Bob Meltz 285-8567  
rmeltz@bellsouth.net

#### Garden Club

Nancy O'Bryan  
nancyobryan1@gmail.com

#### St. Tammany Parish Council

District 9 Representative  
Mike Smith 985-788-3157

## MFHA GENERAL MEETING 12/9/21

Despite the foul weather, our annual general meeting had a great turnout at **Generations Church**. We had about 30 association members in attendance.

**Bob Meltz** read through the proposed by-laws change, redefining what constitutes a quorum during board meetings (Article 5, Section E), which was approved unanimously by present members. The by-laws change was printed in the November 2021 newsletter and will be edited to reflect these changes in early 2022. **Paul Rao** reported that the year-end HOA membership was 212 and gave a draft summary of the treasurer's report. **Gina Nash** reported on the 2021 Social Committee's past activities, including the Easter Scavenger Hunt and the Halloween Hayride, and discussed upcoming events, like Santa Claus in a Convertible on December 18<sup>th</sup>. She also discussed how the MFHA Facebook page has helped with advertising our annual MFHA Yard Sale and keeping our neighborhood family up to date.

**Sergeant Casnave** spoke on the behalf of the St. Tammany Sherriff Office on a range of topics, from camera monitoring options for neighborhood entrances to golf carts and safety issues. Sergeant Casnave frequently does the police patrols in Magnolia Forest and observed numerous motorized vehicles on the streets in Magnolia Forest that were not "street legal". These motorized vehicles need to be insured, the driver needs to have a valid driver's license, and appropriate tags and lighting installed.

The meeting closed with the presentation of the 2022 board, listed below.

**Bob Meltz** – President/Newsletter Publisher

**Pete Giuffria** – Vice President

**Paul Rao** – Treasurer/Membership

**Tracy Sheffield** – Secretary

**Gina Nash** – Newsletter Editor/ Social

**Terry Bechel** – Member at Large/Newsletter Distribution

**Lynn Adams** – Covenants

With her upcoming move, **Pam Howell** will be leaving the board.

Congratulations to **Janet Fouert** for winning this year's raffle, a festive Christmas entertainment basket. A Merry Christmas indeed! Thank you to **Dwayne Shockley** and **Pete Guiffria** for the raffle donation items. And a huge thank you to **Generations Church** for providing the meeting space and **Carl Smith** for helping the board make the connection with the church.



## SANTA COMES TO MAGNOLIA FOREST

Santa and his elves visited over 50 youngsters throughout Magnolia Forest on a beautiful Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> evening, passing out treats and providing numerous photo opportunities. Santa's ride was a beautiful bright red 73 Chevy Caprice convertible complete with a reindeer!

Thank you to **Pete Giuffria**, **Marelise Nash** and **Isabella Rougeau** for helping bring Christmas joy to our Magnolia Forest family and an extra special thank you to **Walter Williams** for providing Santa's stylish transportation!



Damon Romero and kids with Santa and his helpers

## POLICE PATROLS & GOLF CARTS/ATVs

Magnolia Forest had a scheduled police patrol in late January that resulted in 7 traffic stops. All 7 were speed related, with 4 citations issued and 3 warnings given.

MFHA is scheduling numerous police patrols as we move into the Spring season, with increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The St. Tammany Parish Sherriff's Office received an increased number of complaints in 2021 about children recklessly driving golf carts and ATVs in our neighborhood, including golf carts wrecked in drainage ditches, near misses with pedestrians and running through stop signs into on-coming traffic.

The Sherriff's Office notified the Board that officers will start issuing citations and warnings for non-compliant motorized vehicles. Since the roads in our neighborhood are "public" streets, all motorized vehicles on Magnolia Forest streets need to be registered with the DMV with mounted license plate, appropriate headlights and brake lights installed, and suitable insurance. This will apply to vehicles driven by adults and minors.

Parents, please be aware that if your child's actions result in injury to a passenger or other person, you can be held financially and legally responsible. Numerous citations may result in the impoundment of the non-complaint motorized vehicle. So please, make sure your motorized vehicles are "street-legal" and be courteous of our pedestrian and bicycle traffic!

## MARDI GRAS MAILBOX DECORATING CONTEST

It's that wonderful time of the year that makes Louisiana one of the best places on Earth! Let's have a little neighborhood fun and bring the festiveness to the streets of Magnolia Forest. We will have 3 categories for our competition:

- Most Original
- Most Traditional
- Most Extravagant

Please send us a picture, or two, of your fantastic decorations as well as your address by Friday, Feb. 18. Since the weather might be less than ideal, your pictures will provide a "baseline" for our judges to work from when they pick our mailbox category winners, to be announced the following week. Please send your pictures to the MFHA Facebook page or email Gina at [funkyjunkgal@yahoo.com](mailto:funkyjunkgal@yahoo.com).

*Laissez les bons temps rouler*

## MAGNOLIA FOREST CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AWARDS

By Lynda Donaldson

The results of this year's Christmas Awards for the Magnolia Forest Subdivision held on December 16, 2021.

**ARTISTIC AWARD:** The home of **Chris, Melissa, and Mark Richier** at 502 Versailles won the Artistic Award in Magnolia Forest Subdivision for its overall beauty in a classical set of decorations. They used traditional red and green lighting along the roof of the house and white lighting covering the shrubs at the entrance. White lighting on garlands surrounded each arched double windows as well as the doorway entrance area. Symmetrically placed lighted deer framed the beautifully decorated entrance. Lit red poinsettias added a pop of color to the entrance area as well as a lighted wreath on the door. An extra treat from the street for neighbors are the star-like sparkling lights placed high in trees along the front of the yard.

**NOVELTY AWARD:** **Michael and Michelle Trippe's** home at 125 Fischer Drive will especially appeal to the youngsters in the family. Bright lights outline the roof and cover the shrubbery forming a background for the lighted figures of Snoopy, Santa, angels, and snowmen. A bright "Merry Christmas" sign welcomes neighbors to enjoy their celebration of the Christmas holidays.

**DOOR DECORATION AWARD:** How can anyone not smile when passing **Faye Vogt's** home at 405 Parlange in Magnolia Forest. Faye's front porch and home lighting initially catch your attention, but then the large stuffed Santa smiling at you from the door just pops into view! The entrance is all well-lit, framed by a lighted garland, 2 Christmas soldiers on each side standing at attention, and a collection of lighted blue, red, and green wrapped packages wait to be opened on Christmas morning. What a delight!

This year's judges were **Lynn Brandt, Lynell Braun, and Lynda Donaldson.**

### LIGHTING SANTA'S WAY



A huge thank you to **Kristen and Cory Karl** for stepping up so Magnolia Forest could light Papa Noel's Way on Christmas Eve! We greatly appreciate you and your family volunteering to take on this project to help make Magnolia Forest seasonally festive and beautiful. Due to logistics, the MFHA was cancelling this event. Thankfully, the **Karl Family** stepped in and with a quick turn around, they were able to recruit about 20 families to light luminaries around their homes as well as set-up luminaries along the Oak Alley and Fischer entrances.

Save  
the Date

Apr. 9 – Easter Scavenger Hunt

May 7 – Wine and Cheese

Oct. 1 – MFHA Yard Sale

Oct. 29 – Halloween Hayride

## NOW COLLECTING 2022 MFHA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Help us keep Magnolia Forest beautiful and desirable! All Magnolia Forest residents benefit from the volunteer work of the MFHA board and committee chairs as they attend to our subdivision’s needs. Your dues show your support for our volunteers’ efforts. (All board and committee members are volunteers... no portion of your dues are paid to MFHA “staff”.) If you have available time and energy to devote to help keep our subdivision informed and looking good, please let a board member know! We would greatly appreciate the help. Contact information is listed on the newsletter cover.

All residents can help maintain and improve our property values, quality of life, safety, and community involvement by paying dues and/or making contributions to the beautification/maintenance or the extra sheriff’s patrols funds. Please renew your membership or join for the first time.

Primarily, our dues are used for:

- Lawn service and maintenance at the entrances
- Garden beds maintenance and new plantings
- Water bills for the landscaping
- Message boards and signs repair and maintenance
- Sheriff patrols in the subdivision
- Printing the monthly newsletter for all residents
- Printing neighborhood directories
- Office supplies, postage, post office box rental
- Legal expenses.

The annual membership in the Magnolia Forest Homeowners Association is \$50 per household. Dues for 2022 are currently due, since the 2021 annual membership expired on 12/31/21. If you haven’t already joined, PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR 2020 DUES or use Venmo, a new option to pay your HOA dues electronically.

Venmo is a mobile payment service owned by PayPal. Venmo does not charge fees for payments to and from a linked bank account, nor payments from a debit card or your Venmo balance. There is a 3% fee if you pay using a credit card. To set up payment through Venmo, setup an account using the <https://venmo.com/signup> website. Our username is [@MagnoliaForestHA](#) and our profile picture is a white magnolia. Save yourself some time and the cost of a stamp and pay your HOA dues with Venmo!

### MAGNOLIA FOREST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

<b>2022 Family Membership</b>	<b>\$50</b>	\$ _____	<b>Name(s)</b> _____
<b>Beautification Donation</b>		\$ _____	_____
<b>Donation for Extra Sheriff patrols</b>		\$ _____	<b>Street Address</b> _____
<b>Total Enclosed</b>		\$ _____	<b>Email address – For Neighborhood Watch</b>
<b>Make check payable to MFHA</b>			
<b>Mail to:</b>	<b>MFHA</b>	_____	
	<b>PO Box 1624</b>	_____	
	<b>Pearl River, LA 70452</b>	<b>Phone number</b>	_____