



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

2023 Board of Directors

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Sheriff's Office Dispatch

985-898-2340

Parish Barn on Military

985-863-5392

MFHA GENERAL MEETING 12/8/22

Our annual general meeting had a great turnout at Generations Church with 23 association members and 5 guests in attendance.

Sergeant Risey spoke on the behalf of the St. Tammany Sherriff Office on a range of topics, especially Magnolia Forest's low crime rate. Waste Management's Donald Hains answered numerous questions from residents about the trash contract, shared that holiday delays are limited to Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, and Waste Management will pick up whatever is in WM's garbage bin and two separate trash cans. Councilman Mike Smith commended Magnolia Forest for being one of the better managed HOAs in his district and said it makes his job easier! Mike discussed ongoing projects along Military Road as well as issues concerning the new Bonterra development. He also answered numerous questions from residents and the Board.

Paul Rao reported that the HOA membership is 195 and gave a draft summary of the 2022 treasurer's report. Gina Nash reported on the 2022 Social Committee's activities, including Bike & Ice and Halloween Hayride, and discussed the upcoming Santa in a Convertible and Lighting Papa Noel's Way events. She thanked our neighbors for volunteering and participating to make our social events a huge success. Bob Meltz introduced present Board Members, including new member Adrian Render, and thanked Pete Giuffria and Paul Rao for their service to Magnolia Forest as they are ending their terms.

The meeting closed with the presentation of the 2023 board, listed below. Bob, Tracy, Gina and Terry are returning board members. Adrian was unanimously voted in by the HOA members. (Specific board assignments noted below were made at the January 11th, 2023 board meeting.)

Bob Meltz – President/Newsletter Publisher

Adrian Render – Vice President

Kristen Karl – Treasurer/Membership (also appointed to board at Jan. meeting)

Tracy Sheffield – Secretary

Gina Nash – Social/Newsletter Editor

Terry Becnel – Member at Large/Newsletter Distribution

Congratulations to Percy & Jill Courseault for winning this year's raffle, a festive Christmas entertainment basket. A Merry Christmas indeed! Thank you to Bob Meltz and Adrian Render for the raffle donation items. And a huge thank you to Generations Church for providing the meeting space.

SANTA COMES TO MAGNOLIA FOREST

Santa and his elves visited over 40 youngsters throughout Magnolia Forest on a beautiful and cold Dec. 16th 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 **Lillie Sheffield** for helping bring Christmas joy to our Magnolia Forest family and an extra special thank you to **Walter Williams** and **Danny Keicher** for providing Santa's stylish transportation!



LIGHTING PAPA NOEL'S WAY

Over 30 Magnolia Forest homes helped to light Papa Noel's journey with brightly lit luminaries, filling our neighborhood with a warm, peaceful Christmas Spirit. The luminaries at our neighborhood's entrances gave an elegant and inviting appearance! Thank you to **Alexander Nash** and **June Barrelle** for setting-up luminaries along the Oak Alley and Fischer entrances and to our wonderful neighbors who helped light luminaries for other neighbors. We look forward to an even larger turnout to light Santa's way next year!



CONCERT AT GENERATIONS CHURCH

Jason Crabb concert : Saturday, Feb.25, 2023 at 7pm. At Generations church 62340 La 1090 (Military Rd) Pearl River La. Tickets are \$25, and can be purchased on I-Tickets.
(<https://www.itickets.com/events/470783?aff=BIT#> =)

President's corner:

Drainage

Now that a wetter weather pattern has returned, it's time to re-evaluate the health of our neighborhood drainage systems. Several culverts have become clogged with the accumulation of leaves and debris. If you're able, clean things out yourself. If your ditches or culverts need clearing, you also can call the "Parish Barn" at 863-5392 to have them inspected and/or cleaned, as well as street sign replacement and any other types of maintenance. Also, if you have a damaged culvert, contact the Barn so they can help you decide what size and type of culvert you will need to purchase and schedule an installation date.

Police Patrols, Golf Carts and ATVs

MFHA is scheduling numerous police patrols as we move into the Spring season, with increased pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office will continue to issue citations and warnings for non-compliant motorized vehicles (i.e., missing mounted DMV license plate, appropriate headlights, installed brake lights, and suitable insurance). If you observe vehicles driven dangerously or other non-emergency crimes, please contact the Sheriff's Office Dispatch at 898-2340.

MAGNOLIA FOREST CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AWARDS

By Tammy Artalona

The Magnolia Forest Garden Club had their annual Christmas Decorating Contest on December 15, 2022. The judges were **Lynn Brandt, Judy Cogle, and Lynda Donaldson.**

Three categories were awarded:

DOOR DECORATION AWARD: Denny & Kathy McDowell, 706 Ashland - A beautiful entryway and doors featuring tall, lighted Arch-angels standing on each side. Large linear swags of red and gold fabric loops centered each of the beveled glass doors. Spotlights illuminated the entire area of the entrance creating a dramatic formal affect well suited to the home.



ARTISTIC AWARD: Max & Barbara Boos, 411 Ormond -

A panorama of multi-colored lights and vignettes create a lovely Christmas story. The many -colored lights that lined the A-Frame style of the home transports the viewer to a feeling of an Evergreen Chalet, Light wrapped trees of green, white and colored lights with icicle lighting dripping from the roof-line surround and frame the sweet creche that calls to the meaning of the story.

NOVELTY AWARD: Mrs. Darlene Fuller, 937 Morgan Bluff - A holiday Wonderland is waiting for you at the corner of Morgan Bluff and Oak Alley. A different vignette appears on each side of the 2-story home which is covered with multi-colored lights, with a driveway framed by chubby, lighted Santas. An adorable lighted cottage on the Morgan Bluff side is cozy and inviting. The driveway on the Oak Alley side is imaginatively framed with lights and the lighted Santas created by the owner from tomato cages. The entire setting is a feast for the eyes and imagination.



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. 17. 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.

Laissez les bons temps rouler!

