# **THE ROOSTER**

# **CROSS GATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

P. O. Box 1133 Slidell, LA 70459

#### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:**

<u>WHEN:</u> Tuesday, July 25, 2017 <u>WHERE:</u> Saint Luke Catholic Church, 910 Cross Gates Blvd.

TIME: 7:00 pm this is a new summer month start time!

**<u>GUEST SPEAKER:</u>** This month will be a meet and greet the new board. NOTE: The meeting will start at 7:00 pm instead of 7:30.

MEET IN ROOM: 3

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**From the Pres:** June 30<sup>th</sup> will be my last official day as President of the Cross Gates HOA. I am honored to have had the opportunity to serve all our Cross Gates residents and I am especially thankful for those who have served with me and supported my agendas throughout my six terms. I'm certain that you can expect nothing less from your recently elected CGHOA board. Your newly elected officers for the coming year, July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 are:

Vice President: Jim McCarty	Member at Large: Ginger Smallwood
Secretary: Jodie Griffin	Member at Large: Chuck Livingston
Treasurer: Eve Bobbitt	Member at Large: Richard Wells
Member at Large: Pam Deese	Member at Large: Laurie Burleigh

The position of President is presently vacant, and will be filled on a temporary rotated base between members of the board, until which time the position can be permanently filled. Member at Large, Pam Deese, has volunteered to chair the position during the months of July and August.

The beginning of the fiscal year also brings with it the **annual Cross Gates HOA Membership Drive**. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of this drive. Membership dues are the HOA's only income and it takes all of 400-plus paid members to just maintain the services now being provided ... such a modest investment in the future of our subdivision.

During my tenure, the lack of ability to grow membership was my most disappointing achievement or lack thereof. I constantly struggled with the fact that more than half our residents refused to support the group that ensures the upkeep and maintenance of our subdivision. Several of the board members also represent you each month at the Military Road Alliance meeting.

In this newsletter you will find a Cross Gates Homeowners Membership Application. Please fill out the application, make out a check for \$75 to your CGHOA, and mail it in the enclosed self-addressed envelope. Your support is vital to the survival of Cross Gates HOA.

## \*\*\*\*\*JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> STARTED A NEW FISCAL YEAR - MAKE SURE TO PAY YOUR DUES\*\*\*\*\*

**WHO SAID?** "In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better."

### WE VALUE YOUR OPINION:

**The feature:** If you would rather communicate by dropping us a line you can send us a letter and we will select and print them as room provides. Please keep them short and to the point. Send your comments to our Cross Gates post office address. We encourage you to contact us when you have a concern, complaint or *question. It is also nice to receive a compliment from time to time. We will not post your correspondence* if you fail to identify yourself. Your name is necessary to verify your CGHOA membership and will not be publicly divulged.

#### **GENERAL TOPICS:**

- The debris from the big sign at Steele Road and Military that was destroyed by high winds a few months ago has been removed. We thank Mrs. Debbie Miramon McMath and her husband, Don McMath, for doing that for us. The board will be researching the possibility of erecting a new sign.
- 2) No parking on the grass in CG: Help us keep Cross Gates nice by keeping vehicles properly parked and stored. It is simple: Don't park on yours or any other grassy areas in the subdivision, and no vehicles are to be left parked on the streets over night.
- **3)** Boats, campers, motor homes, and utility trailers are to be **properly stored**. Again, never park on the grass and never in front of your home's building line. In some areas these items must be stored behind a fence. If you are not sure of the rules governing your property, please contact us. As adults, lead by example; do the right thing.
- 4) We appreciate those of you who want to help beautify Cross Gates by planting trees and bushes on the median and cul-de-sacs, but we need to keep control of this and make sure we do not restrict or make it more difficult for the grass cutters, which can affect cost, and that when we do plant, the plants are consistent with existing greenery. Please contact an HOA representative before planting anything on the common areas.

### Just a few reminders:

- 1) See trash, pick it up. Help keep Cross Gates clean and green. Don't litter!
- 2) Keep your doors on your home and cars locked at all times.
- 3) Report to the Sheriff all suspicious activities or individuals.
- 4) Obey all traffic signs and speed limits. Our children are out of school now!
- 5) Walkers and joggers, please wear light-colored clothing or carry a light after dark. Stay between the yellow line and the grass, not against the median. **Think Safety First!**

### NOTE: TAKE THE TIME TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:

### www.crossgateshoa.org & www.facebook.com/cghoa

THERE YOU CAN FIND:	Important dates
	Membership form
	Subdivision Violations
	Parish information from Gene Bellisario
	School Board information from Mary K. Bellisario

Guest speakers Board meeting notes Copy of the newsletter Updates and info on upcoming events Emergency community announcements

<u>Richard Wells, Data Base Administrator</u>: We are still fine tuning our new online membership system. The system is not yet ready to take online payments, although you may have received an automated email indicating so. If you did not receive said message, it means we do not have a correct email for you. You may correct this by:

Click on your name in the upper left corner of the website homepage, then click on "view profile" and then on "edit profile". Then you can verify or update your contact information. Accurate information is necessary for us to be able to communicate with you using this system. **NOTE**: You can pay this year's HOA membership by using the application form furnished in this newsletter. We hope you will choose to **support our efforts** by becoming a Cross Gates HOA member.

#### JUST A LITTLE FUN: This is something that happened in an assisted living center:

One morning one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so a staff member went upstairs to see if he was OK. She could hear him through the door as he responded that he was running late and would be down shortly.

An hour later he still hadn't arrived, so the staff member decided to go check on him again. She found him on the stairs where he was having a hell of a time. He had a death grip on the hand rail and was struggling to get his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her, "No," he wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. She helped him down the stairs where he had breakfast.

When it was time for him to return to his room he was completely unable to move and was unable to take a step, so they called an ambulance for him. A couple hours later the staff member called the hospital to find out how he was doing. The nurse said he was fine; he just had both of his legs in one leg of his boxer shorts.

#### This may have relevance to some of you. It is called; "Aqua-thermal treatment"

I called an old school friend and asked what he was doing?

He replied he was working on"Aqua-thermal treatment of ceramics, aluminium & steel under a constrained environment". I was really impressed.....UNTIL

On further inquiry, I learned that he was washing dishes with hot water ......under his wife's supervision!!!!

#### WAYS YOU CAN HELP MAKE CROSS GATES A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE

Serving on a board such as our CGHOA board may not be for everyone. However, that does not mean you cannot be a valuable contributor to the goals and objectives of our mission, which is to protect quality of life and property values for all the residents of Cross Gates. Here are ways you can help:

- 1) Pay your membership dues (only \$75/yr)
- 3) Follow the covenants and rules. Our main violations involve parking of cars / trucks / boats / trailers / RV's.
- 5) Attend the HOA meetings (only 4 a year)
- 2) Pick up litter when you see it
- 4) Volunteer to serve on a committee, such as beautification, covenants, signs, block captain, neighborhood watch, etc.
- 6) Be a good neighbor!

7) Maintain your property

There are times when the board is forced to make decisions that require legal consideration. If you are a lawyer residing in Cross Gates and would like to assist us from time to time, please contact one of the board members.

#### **History:**

July 4, 1776 - The Continental Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence while meeting in Philadelphia at the Pennsylvania Statehouse (now Independence Hall). The Congress declares the American colonies free and independent states. (Note: John Hancock signs on July 4<sup>th</sup> while everyone else signed on August 2, 1776.)

Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Roger Sherman, and Robert R. Livingston comprised the committee that drafted the Declaration. Jefferson, regarded as the strongest and most eloquent writer, actually wrote most of the document. The committee and Congress made a total of 86 changes to Jefferson's draft.

#### Declaration of Independence: (First two paragraphs)

"When, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bonds which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any form of government becomes destructive to these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness."

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Gene Bellisario: Have a parish issue or concern; contact our Parish Councilman Gene Bellisario. Dist. 9 <u>Genebell07@yahoo.com</u> 985-788-8186

<u>Speeders In Cross Gates:</u> Speeding continues to be a serious issue in our subdivision and especially along Herwig Bluff Road. I'm sure there are other problem areas but the vast majority of complaints I receive come from the Herwig Bluff Road area. Therefore, Parish Departments, myself and the Sheriff's Office are looking at various means to reduce the amount of speeding in this area. Very shortly, the Sheriff's Office is going to install a device that captures speeding data and will use it to take action. The Parish is moving forward to purchasing two speed limit signs that will use solar power to separately display the speed that a car is going to warn the driver that they are exceeding the speed limit and log the information for future use by the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office has been using similar equipment to reduce speeding in the Eden Isles subdivision.

Tammany Utilities East (T U East): In 2015 there was significant rain water infiltration into the T U East sewerage system in Cross Gates that caused the discharge of sewerage waste water to spill out on residential property and cause sewerage treatment facility issues. T U East management conducted a "smoke test' and 80+ homes and businesses had broken sewer clean outs that allowed rain water to infiltrate the sewerage system. These issues were rectified. Earlier this month, it happened again and caused the same problems. Therefore, T U East performed another "smoke test" on June 14<sup>th</sup> and ~25 homes and businesses had broken sewer clean outs that allowed rain water to infiltrate the sewerage system. The additional flows from rainwater into the sewerage system can overwhelm the sewer lift station pumps and cause backups in houses throughout the neighborhood, overflows of raw sewage from manholes and sewer cleanouts throughout the area. The residents and businesses will be receiving a letter from T U East concerning their violation, the need to take corrective action and possible citations for violating our ordinances. T U East plans to send a letter to all of their customers to explain the seriousness caused by these actions. Also, there has been an increase in the amount of maintenance of pumps in our lift stations as a result of customers flushing child and adult diapers down their toilets. These diapers are to be placed in the trash and not into toilets.

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#### **WELCOME COMMITTEE:** Mary K. and Gene Bellisario 985-641-2268 <u>bayouduo97@charter.net</u> <u>RECENT HOME SALES</u> : Please welcome the following new residents to Cross Gates.

If you are new, and don't see your name, please contact Gene or Mary K. Important: Block Captains please let us know if you have new neighbors moving in around you so that we can properly welcome them and deliver a welcome package.

Welcome to your new home and to Cross Gates Subdivision. Thank you for selecting Cross Gates.

Corona, Joseph III Douty, Daniel and Eve Guthrie Morrison, Steven and Monica Naquin, Robert and Jodi Hamberger Trupiano, Philip and Mary 520 Bradford Drive 102 Dublin Court 107 Herwig Bluff Rd. 290 W. Essex Drive 105 Dublin Court

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**It is everyone's responsibility to keep our community beautiful. Let's start in Cross Gates.** The cleanliness and beautification of St. Tammany Parish is the responsibility of every citizen. Teach your children to respect their community and avoid littering at a young age. Whenever possible, recycle. It is not our planet; we are only borrowing it, so let us all do a better job of protecting it.

Members of Cross Gates Homeowners Association in good standing may place free business ads on the Bulletin Board in the quarterly Newsletter. These advertisements should not exceed four lines of up to 26 characters each and should include your name, business name and address, phone number, and/or e-mail address. If interested, please send us your ad. Ads will be repeated through July and then must be resubmitted with your next dues renewal. The board and editor reserve the right to refuse any ad deemed to be in poor taste and to omit or modify ads because of space limitations. Ads will also be displayed on the CGHOA web site.

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CROSS GATES HOA BULLETIN BOARD		
Bouche' Hgt & A/C, Inc. Service & Sales Joey & Mike Bouche' 646-1191 since 1962 boucheac.com	THE COTTAGE Specializing in educational toys, books and tutoring 985-643-0104 Owner: Pamela Deese	Dream Maker Renovations for a complete renovation Kitchen/Bath Specialist – Tim January 504-453-3082 or 985-641-9389
GARAGE DOORS BY: <i>ELITE</i> Doors, Motors, Service, Repairs Free Estimates 985-639-9748 Licensed & Insured Slidell, LA.	APOLLO MARINE SPECIALTIES, INC. Specializing in wire rope, cable and nylon slings, webbing, offshore rigging and safety devices Yanni Fronistas 504-415-5247	STANDARD MORTGAGE CORP NMLS#44912 JOHN B. REMOND NMLS #1226071 Mortgage / Refinancing 985-847-0570 LA & MS licensed Mortgage Co Equal Housing lender
PROFESSIONAL Image BadgeTeam.com 1654 Front St., Ste. 5 985-649-5145 Get cool stuff with your logo	DC DESIGN LLC Graphic Design Specialist www.dcdesigngraphics.com	Answer to Who Said: President Harry Truman
Gayle Macomber RE/Max Real Estate Partners 985-690-1540 Premier Property Mgmt & Sales	SCOT DUBUISSON FINANCIAL ADVISOR 985-290-7030 scot.dubuisson@valic.com	Firearms Instruction Concealed Carry Classes Ron Usner 985-643-6855
James N. Pezant, NUMISMATIST COINS*JEWELRY*ANTIQUE GUNS* PURCHASED * SOLD * APPRAISED 985-643-9637	STEELE A/C & HEATING Luke Steele Licensed / Insured CALL: (985)-960-6416	MARY KAY By Joan T. Vincent Independent Beauty Consultant 985-649-0746 cell: 504-473-1789 joanvincentmk@yahoo.com Slidell LA.
OWN A BUSINESS? JUST PAY YOUR DUES AND YOU BECOME ELEGABLE TO ADVERTISE ON THE CROSS GATES BULLETIN BOARD	Camellia Landscape 985-445-9646 LA HORT#2929 camellialandscape@yahoo.com Owned & Operated by: Dylan Suarez	WHEN POSSIBLE SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBORS. CGHOA MEMBERS ADVERTISING ON OUR BULLETIN BOARD WHILE SERVING US "AND OUR COMMUNITY"

Cross Gates Homeowners Association P. O. Box 1133 Slidell, LA 70459

**THE ROOSTER HAS CROWED!** 

## **NEWSLETTER PROFESSIONALLY DONE BY:**

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