

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*Ted Trakas*

We begin another active year.

We held our annual members meeting on Jan 22nd at the Colonies House on Colonies Drive. Special thanks to Victor Camacho for making the facility available, and Laura Saher for bringing refreshments.

Mr. Ken Lawrence, President of the Northside Neighborhoods for Organized Development (NNOD), gave a quick summary for the Voelcker properties, near Wurzbach Parkway and Military Highway. With NNOD's advocacy, the City is purchasing a good portion of these properties and will develop them as a new City park.

We received Woody Halsey's last Treasurer's report, and gave him an engraved clock and gift certificate for his many years of service to the neighborhood.

Association officers were nominated and elected. (See below.) And although not official positions defined in our charter, two other important jobs in the association are Newsletter Editor and mailing list Database Manager. Victor Camacho (Colonies North) volunteered for these positions.

Our guest speaker at the meeting was Mr. Rene Compose, Code Compliance Officer for the City. Rene gave an informative presentation about common compliance issues. Compliance Officers will investigate 'For Sale' vehicles that are parked on residential or commercial properties; the seller must have a sales permit and a notarized statement from the property owner. (Officers also track license plate numbers of suspect vehicles in the event they are moved from place to place in the City to avoid citation.) Bandit signs are ones posted on the public right of way that are not authorized by the City. (Signs having City decals are permitted on the right of way from Friday to Monday each week.) Compliance Officers can of course remove Bandit Signs, but as of last year, City ordinance allows ordinary citizens to do so too. Code Officers can order the towing of a junk (inoperable) vehicle from a property. The police are responsible for junk vehicles on roadways. To hold a yard sale, a citizen needs a City permit and can display one sign, which has to be on the property at which the sale is being conducted. (All other, off-premises signs are Bandits, sorry.) Rene also responded to a last minute request by the association to present information on the new, mechanized garbage collection system. The new system is being phased into various parts of the City. Our thanks to Rene and the other Officers for enforcing standards.

As always, if you want to make a positive contribution to the association, please contact us. Offer your time and talent.

### **2007 Officers:**

President – Ted Trakas (The Summit)  
Vice President – Ann Ryan (River Oaks)  
Secretary – Norma Baird (Charter Oaks Condos)  
Treasurer – Laura Saher (Oakland Manor)

*Newsletter Editor and Database Manager - Victor Camacho (Colonies North)*