

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
Greater Houston Preservation Alliance

CO-CHAIRS

Cora Sue & Harry Mach Annette & George Strake Nancy Ames & Danny Ward

AND HONORARY CHAIR

Barbara Bush

welcome you to the

2009 National Preservation Month Luncheon

The White House - Through the Ages

WELCOME

Larry Whaley

GHPA PRESIDENT ELECT

RECOGNITION

Martha Peterson

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER SERVICE

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

William Seale

AUTHOR, "THE PRESIDENT'S HOUSE: A HISTORY"

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Madison Benefits Group

West Wing

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Strake Foundation

East Room

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Rose Garden

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Lunetta Dahl Erwin

Dr. Mary Ann Reynolds

Pippa Wiley

Lily & Charles Foster

Sally Reynolds

Joanne G. Wilson

Madeleine Hamm

Underwriters received as of our printing deadline.

PROGRAM

We're going to begin our program now.

Before I introduce our special guest speaker, it is my privilege to recognize one of our most outstanding volunteers.

Many of us cannot remember a time when Martha Peterson was not volunteering for G-H-P-A.

For many people, Martha is the face of G-H-P-A and we couldn't have picked a better representative.

It's not just Martha's hard work and dedication, it is the high spirits and good humor that she brings to all her efforts.

The Houston Chronicle recently described Martha as philosophical and funny, which I imagine are two important traits for her job at historic Glenwood Cemetery.

As G-H-P-A's Walking Tours chair, Martha contributed greatly to the program's success and popularity.

She did it all – researching and writing scripts, recruiting, training and rehearsing docents, selling tickets and leading tours.

She generously shares her extensive knowledge and enthusiasm for Houston history.

If the staff has questions about some obscure local landmark, the answer can usually be found with just a phone call to Martha.

It's a happy coincidence that William Seale is our guest speaker this afternoon.

Martha was a student in William's class when he was teaching at Lamar University in Beaumont, Martha's hometown.

Her friends thought she was crazy for enrolling in an 8 a.m. class, but she says William Seale's early morning classes inspired her love of history.

Years later, when Martha was working at Glenwood Cemetery, she had the opportunity to collaborate with her old college professor, who was researching a book that included a family interred at the cemetery.

I should probably point out that Martha got her job with the Glenwood Cemetery Historic Preservation Foundation through her work with G-H-P-A.

While Martha was organizing a walking tour of the cemetery, Glenwood general manager Dick Ambrus recognized the same outstanding characteristics that G-H-P-A had known about for many years.

I'm sure Martha will tell you she is absolutely mortified by all this attention, but we consider Martha family and sometimes families do embarrassing things.

Please join me in thanking Martha Peterson for her dedicated service to Greater Houston Preservation Alliance.

[applause]

SEALE INTRODUCTION

As you've heard, William Seale is an inspirational teacher.

He is also an acclaimed author and historian, and a respected preservationist.

His projects include the restorations of several of America's historic state capitol buildings.

He has written extensively about the White House and has published books on historic interiors and Mrs. Sam Houston.

He's currently working on a new book called "Massachusetts Avenue," a history of Washington, D-C in the 25 years leading up to World War One.

You may have seen William on Book-TV and during "White House Week" on C-SPAN discussing the latest edition of his landmark work, "The President's House: A History."

It is particularly appropriate that he's with us today, because the new edition of "The President's House" includes the years that President and Mrs. Bush called the White House home.

Ladies and gentlemen, William Seale.

CLOSE

Thank you, William, for an outstanding program.

We once again want to thank Barbara Bush for being with us this afternoon and ask that you all remain seated until Mrs. Bush has left the room.

Afterward, William Seale will be in the lobby signing copies of the latest edition of, "The President's House: A History."

The two-volume set is on sale for \$75.

I encourage you to purchase the books today for yourself and as a Mother's Day gift.

If you are a member of Greater Houston Preservation Alliance, thank you for your continuing support.

If you are not a member of G-H-P-A, I encourage you to join today using the membership form in the brochure at your table.

Thank you all for coming to the 2009 National
Preservation Month Luncheon.

We appreciate your support of G-H-P-A and historic preservation in Houston.

Enjoy the rest of your day.

WELCOME

Good afternoon, I am Larry Whaley, president elect of Greater Houston Preservation Alliance.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to G-H-P-A's 2009 National Preservation Month Luncheon.

Thank you all for coming and supporting historic preservation in Houston.

Please join me in thanking Cora Sue and Harry Mach, George and Annette Strake, and Nancy Ames and Danny Ward for their generosity in making this event possible.

[applause]

We are also delighted to have as our honorary chair, former First Lady Barbara Bush.

Mrs. Bush, thank you very much for gracing us with your presence today - we are especially grateful for your amazing

recovery from your recent surgery and are continuing our prayers for your good health.

[applause]

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has designated May as National Historic Preservation Month to spotlight grassroots preservation efforts.

G-H-P-A is Houston's Local Partner of the National Trust.

Since 19-78, G-H-P-A has advocated for the preservation and appreciation of Houston's architectural and cultural historic resources.

With more than one-thousand individual, family and business members, G-H-P-A is dedicated to improving quality of life for all Houstonians.

Good public policy is one of the most important tools we have to promote historic preservation, so we're very happy to welcome

Harris County Judge Ed Emmett [applause]
and Harris County Clerk Beverly Kaufmann. [applause]

As with most non-profit organizations, G-H-P-A depends on its outstanding Board of Directors. Would the Board members here today please stand so that we can recognize you? [applause]

The printed program on your table includes the names of the luncheon underwriters. Please take a moment to look through the list and thank the people who made this event possible.

William Seale, our guest speaker will begin his presentation a little later. Enjoy your lunch.

Martha Peterson

From: David Bush [dbush@ghpa.org]
Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2009 10:46 AM
To: marthapeterson@glenwoodcemetery.org
Subject: Bill Conner

He donated \$200 in your honor, not \$100 like I think I sent yesterday.

David Bush
Director, Programs and Information
Greater Houston Preservation Alliance
713-216-5000

Martha Peterson

From: David Bush [dbush@ghpa.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2009 2:58 PM
To: marthapeterson@glenwoodcemetery.org
Subject: Another one

Joanne Wilson also donated \$100 in your honor.

Guess I should just accumulate these.

David Bush
Director, Programs and Information
Greater Houston Preservation Alliance
713-216-5000

MARTHA

4.22.09

I just recently received an invitation to the GHPA 2009 National Preservation Month Luncheon making note that your being honored for your volunteer effort.

Well that's more than great as the card says "that's terrific!"

No wonder awhile back when I telephoned you to assist in setting up the Sunday tours -- not conducting them -- you never returned my calls. You needed those volunteer hours for yourself!?

(LAUGH)

May I escort you to the River Oaks Country Club, Martha?

By the way in checking the GHPA web-site I didn't know that there's an ongoing petition to save the Astradome. I signed the petition; however I didn't give a donation.

I sent in membership to the MFAH.

Sorry.

Maybe in the future I'll become a member of the GHPA. Afterall dues with GHPA is cheaper than with the MFAH!

(SMILE)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Edward G. Lara

NOTE:

Whether I attend with you or not: a final reminder to you asking for help if you know of anyone needing "a part-time personal chauffeur, live-in or at hand at a moments notice."

I APOLOGIZE FOR BRINGING THIS UP.

EL

EDWARD G. LARA

832-512-4107
changing_faces@sbcglobal.net

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(SMILE)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Edward G. Lara



May 5, 2009

Dear Martha,

I am sorry that Sims + I have to miss the Preservation Luncheon this year primarily because we will miss the official, much-deserved tribute to your work for GHPA. I hope you will let Sims and me give you an "un-official" tribute at a less formal meal of our own very soon.

Congratulations and best wishes,
Margaret

Sims



Congratulations

you should
really
celebrate!



Becker
9131 Westview Dr.
Houston, TX 77055

HOUSTON TX 772
19 MAY 2009 PM 8 T



Martha Peterson



EVERY
DOG HAS
HIS DAY!

May 2009

Dear Martha.

At last others see you
the way I do and
have celebrated your
unequaled dedication
towards preservation.

You're the sweetest
person and I think
about you often.

I'm going to do some
research on the Ellsbury
clan. They as you know
are related closely
with Tw Hulse. She
enjoyed getting to know
Sarah Duncan. Do
you remember her?

And I saw Jim P. on
TV. He looked good

TODAY
it's
YOURS!

Congratulations!

and surely learned.
I still remember both
of you visiting me at
the store. Congratulations
to you.

Miss you.

Love Ann

Martha Peterson

From: David Bush [dbush@ghpa.org]
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2009 2:56 PM
To: marthapeterson@glenwoodcemetery.org
Subject: William Conner

Hi, Martha.

William Conner just donated \$100 in your honor.

David Bush
Director, Programs and Information
Greater Houston Preservation Alliance
713-216-5000