



Duck Tales from

The Lakes

Volume 28, Issue 1

December 2018

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Calling All Homeowners! Committee volunteers needed!
- 'Nacho' Ordinary Neighbor - Meet Cillen & John Meisler

- Heritage Manor Site at Lonesome Rd. & Hwy59 Re-Zoning Approved by St. Tammany Parish Zoning Commission
Read more here:
https://www.theadvocate.com/new_orleans/news/communities/st_tammany/article_9b5ecd50-e392-11e8-81a7-33ba65cfc1bc.html

- **New Board Members:**
Pres. Linda Shanahan
V. P. Will Phillips
Treas. Cyndi Seruntine
Sec. Julie Jardine
Dir. Tracy Kern

- **December Board Mtg.**
Tuesday 12/11 @6pm
Gatehouse

- Please join us! This is your way to make sure what's important to you is conveyed, and you'll learn what's happening in the community. Bring your neighbor with you.

CALLING ALL HOMEOWNERS!

By: Julie Jardine

We need your time, talents & treasure!!

We are bringing our Committees back, and are looking for volunteers to make our Lakes community vibrant again.

THERE ARE ALWAYS WAYS TO HELP!

The first step is just making the decision to get involved. Think about what you can do to help out. These are some of the committee suggestions that came about from our walk around the neighborhood:

WELCOME COMMITTEE

Greet new homeowners, introduce them to the community. Provide directory and maybe a homemade treat.

(Barbara Beilman has graciously volunteered and would like one other helper!) Thank you Barbara!

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Holiday Party?
Block Party?
Back-to-School Party? Cookies with Santa? Progressive Dinner Party? Easter Party? Pancake Breakfast?

DECORATIONS COMMITTEE

Decorate the Gatehouse for the Holidays! Our own Cillen Meisler has volunteered to get this committee started, but will need more volunteers. Please read more



about her below!

This is just a small sampling, of course. It's at least a good place to start. What is important to you? Where do your talents lie....

I'm interested in your insights and ideas.

Please email me at:
Chaching40@aol.com

'Nacho' Ordinary Neighbor

Meet Us! [Cillen & John Meisler](#)

How fortunate am I to live across the street from the most fabulously decorated house for any holiday— and it's always been that way! Formerly owned by our beloved Mr. Fred & Mrs. Billie, it's now owned and loved for the past 4 years by Cillen & John Meisler. After living in Chicago for nearly 20 years, they both decided it was time to move home. John's mom lives nearby and on a Christmas trip to see her, (cont. pg 2)



REAL ESTATE NEWS!

By: Cillen Meisler, Gardner Realty
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Homes that SOLD in 2018

4/13/2018— 7012 Longvue Dr. \$410,000
3130 Sq. Ft. (price per sq. ft. = \$131.41)

6/29/2018— 8025 Elizabeth \$485,000
3627 Sq. Ft. (price per sq. ft. = \$134.82)

10/17/2018—8032 Winners Circle \$415,000
3437 Sq. Ft. (price per sq. ft. = \$120.74)

THE LAKES

Home is where our story begins...



The Wonders of Nature!



Winter is the best season for backyard

birding. Supplementing the usual group of year-round residents are migrants such as blue-headed vireo, ruby-crowned kinglet, cedar waxwing, orange-crowned warbler, yellow-rumped warbler, American robin, American goldfinch, pine siskin, and white-throated sparrow, among others. American goldfinches usually don't show up at seed feeders until Thanksgiving or so, after the sweetgum seed—their favorite fall food source—has played out in the wild. Use black-oil sunflower and/or thistle seed for the goldfinches. Use live or dried mealworms to attract Blue-birds—and suet to attract woodpeckers. Smaller millet-type seed will attract white-throated sparrow, along with other wintering sparrows, such as song sparrow, swamp sparrow, or even fox sparrow, that might occasionally show up at feeders.

Winter fruit sources are vitally important for attracting species such as woodpeckers, eastern bluebird, hermit thrush, American robin, cedar waxwing, yellow-rumped warbler, and white-throated sparrow, to mention a few. Most bird gardeners use various varieties of hollies, but hackberry is the undisputed winter fruit champion. (Bird Watcher's Digest)

Cillen & John (cont.)

this home caught their eye—and they decided they could wait no longer and bought it!

Both John and Cillen have old New Orleans and St. Tammany ties. Cillen's family moved to Metairie in the 60's. She's a Chapelle High and Tulane girl. She's spent most of her career in the spirits and wines industry and now is embarking on a rewarding career with Gardner Realtors, and is a chairperson with Northshore Board of Realtors.

John's family originally settled in Ponchatoula and Waldheim as well as Raceland and New Orleans. The JD Meisler School in Metairie is named for his father, a lifelong educator. His family tree includes names such as Zatarain, Perrin, and the founders of Delmonico's. John is the Director of Sales, Executive Chef and Director of Education for Destileria Serralles in Ponce, Puerto Rico—the

producers of Don Q Rum. Before that John was with Jim Beam Brands in Chicago. You can find John at food and wine festivals around the world, even Rouses, demonstrating his own creole recipes all made with Rum. John is a graduate of Archbishop Rummel, Tulane University and Loyola Law.

You may wonder why these neighbors have been selected to be highlighted in this newsletter? **Cillen** has selflessly volunteered to spearhead our Decorations committee, and as we speak, she is busily decorating our Gatehouse into a winter wonderland! How wonderful to once again see our Gatehouse transformed into a magical place, full of wonder and undiscovered mysteries—and maybe with some added cool weather, we might think of fireplaces, and hot cocoa.

She will be looking for volunteers to help her as this is a big committee with plenty of room for all that have a desire to decorate for the holidays. If you're entering or leaving the

neighborhood, and see her busily decorating—stop and say hello!

Thank you, Cillen, and her helpers: Mary Ellen Lozano, John Meisler, Patty Roushar, & Julie Jardine

As always, we appreciate your thoughts and comments.

What would you like to see in future newsletters?

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