

Castle Hills Forest News

The Castle Hills Forest Newsletter is Published Quarterly by Neighborhood News, Inc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to take this opportunity to say "THANK YOU" to all the homeowners and residents who have paid their annual dues. You are the reason this neighborhood continues to be a choice place to live. I'm not sure of the time frame, but homes for sale in CHF don't stay on the market very long. For those who have not joined yet -- it is not too late to join. Just write a check for \$55 payable to CHFHOA and mail it to our membership director:

Jimmy Ruthven
2406 Wilderness Hill
San Antonio, Texas 78231

Answer the call. Support our neighborhood fundraising drive.

Now that winter has apparently passed and we are all getting back to our regular routines, it's time to think about the year ahead. We still have many challenges facing us: NW Military Highway road construction, residents driving too fast in our neighborhood, barking dogs, garbage and recycle bins left at the curb for days, car break-ins, and residents ignoring the stop signs on our streets. We are fortunate to live in a neighborhood where most of us care about our neighbors, our lawns, and our house upkeep. Take a moment and think about what you can do in the coming months to improve your house, street, and neighborhood.

Many thanks to our volunteers who help maintain our neighborhood. You probably have seen them at work on our common areas and our park/recreation area.

Our social activities committee is busy planning events that will take place throughout the year. One catch--you must be a member of the HOA to attend.

David Present, President

HOA MEMBERS



A Master Gardener will be speaking to our HOA members on June 14th from 7-9PM in our Recreation area. Bring a lawn chair and a bottle of water. This event is for HOA members only. RSVP required by June 6 to Marge 492-5153. Another reason to join the HOA.

Board Meeting

Monthly Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 PM at Oak Meadow United Methodist Church. All current HOA members are encouraged to attend.

CHF ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President: David Present
492-5153
Vice President: Beth Morse
493-2582
Treasurer: Larry Morgan
493-6410
larry-marie-morgan@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Sue Gregory
479-3307
Sgregory10@satx.rr.com

DIRECTORS

Communications Director:
Jennifer Guillen, 744-9312
communicationsdirector@castlehillsforest.org
Webpage Director: Chris Corbett,
748-2105
mailto:chfweb@castlehillsforest.org
Membership Director:
Jimmy Ruthven, 408-1436
jruthven@satx.rr.com
Pool Director: Beth Morse, 493-2852

COMMITTEES

Social Committee: Marge Present,
492-5153
Children's Activities: OPEN
Women's Club: Ellen Brient,
493-9549
Landscaping/Maintenance Committee:
Lori Chapa, 878-7258
Fiesta Committee: Alan Futrell,
493-4395

Additional helpful numbers:

Pool Manager: Kim Aiken
479-1823
aikga@aol.com
Eels Swim Team: Norma Wood
492-3250
tonkatoy78641@yahoo.com

Code Compliance

As the new Communications Director, I have received many emails concerning code compliance. I would like to take a moment to review a few of the most common code compliance regulations. This list is by no means a complete list, but rather are some of the ones that the city considers "most common".

Maintenance of Fences/Walls: All walls or screen fences shall be maintained in a neat, solid, substantial and safe condition. No wall or screen fence shall be kept in a listing, damaged, or decaying condition.

Junked vehicles: Inoperable vehicle cannot be stored on private property in excess of 10 days.

Broken-down, junked vehicles should not be parked in yards, on the street or in any location that can be seen in ordinary public view. A fine may be imposed for this violation and the vehicle may be towed by the City and destroyed if, after notification, it is not repaired or removed from these locations.

Lot Maintenance: Property's weeds and grass not to exceed 12 inches and kept free of trash and rubbish.

Outside storage: Yards should not be used as storage areas for vehicles, building materials, tires, indoor furniture, appliances, boxes or other items. Outside storage is a violation of the City's zoning code.

Obstructions on City property or rights-of-way: Sidewalks, streets and other public rights of way must be kept free of obstructions. Overhanging tree limbs, basketball goals, fences, dumpsters, shrubbery or other obstructions in City-controlled rights-of-way are prohibited and must be removed by the owner of the abutting property.

Premises (Maintenance): Premises must be clear of trash, debris, and overgrown vegetation.

Storage (Outside): Storage bins, rooms, and areas shall not be used for accumulated garbage or refuse. Inflammable or combustible liquids or other materials may not be stored on the premises unless they are of a type approved for storage.

Trees (Dead): Maintaining a dead tree on private property is prohibited.

All of the above information was taken from the City of San Antonio website. The city has a very informative brochure which highlights some of the most common compliance codes and provides instructions on how to file a report with the city. It is located at: <http://www.sanantonio.gov/hns/Publications.aspx>. or call 311 (or 207-6000) and ask to have one to be sent to you.



WOMEN'S CLUB

CALENDAR

Contact: Ellen Brient, 493-9549

All women residents of Castle Hills Forest are invited to join the CHF Women's Club. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:15 PM in a member's home. Also, the Club schedules a luncheon for its members and guests on the last Monday of each month, with the exception of November and December. Dues are \$10.00 per year. For more information call Ellen. Coming meeting dates are as follows:

Monday, May 10th - Picnic in the park. Bring your spouse, a neighbor, or a friend. Bring a dish to share, a chair, a table (if you have one). All are welcome.

Monday, June 14th - 14206 George Road

Monday, July 12th - 2306 Shady Crest

Monday, August 9th - 13623 Pebble Way

Donate

Did you know we're in your neighborhood? Donate at our donation station near Huebner & Churchill Estates Crossing, or at our store at 281 & Bitters. Your donation helps Goodwill change lives through the power of work! For more information, call (210) 924-8581 or visit goodwillsa.org.



Landscaping News

Contact: Lori Chapa , 878-7258



I am happy to announce that our neighborhood landscaping/clean up day on March 6 was a great success. We had approximately 35 hard working neighbors attend that day to help beautify our neighborhood. Some of

the larger tasks that were accomplished included laying flagstone for a walk way, planting trees and plants and lots and lots of weeding and raking. The pool/recreational area looks wonderful and I have received many compliments from the neighborhood on how well it looks. I want to THANK all the volunteers who worked so hard that day and I am especially proud of all the younger volunteers who also helped out. What a wonderful lesson they are learning to take pride in the neighborhood they live in. Thank you again to all the volunteers big and small.

A special thanks to Jerry Schot for keeping our drainage area trimmed off of George Rd. It not only looks nicely trimmed but when we do get those heavy rain showers it helps with the drainage, so we all say thank you Jerry.

The medians in our neighborhood can always use some extra attention such as weeding or watering. We are always looking for volunteers to help out in that area, if you would be interested in doing so please contact me.

Any questions/suggestions, please contact me.



Social Activities

Contact: Marge Present, 492-5153



Our beer-tasting event was held on Saturday, February 20th at the home of Donna & Alan Futrell. I would like to thank them for being such wonderful hosts. The event was attended by 19 HOA members who sampled 10 different Shiner beers. A good time was had by all with six packs, beer glasses, and a commemorative Shiner history book to take home.

BOOK CLUB

Meets second Tuesday of each month. Location varies. HOA members welcome. Call Marge 492-5153. Another reason to join your HOA.

BUNCO GROUP

Meets the 4th Monday of the month. Each player hosts a month in their house. HOA members only. Call Marge 492-5153. Another reason to join the HOA.



To all residents: Messages of concern regarding our neighborhood cannot be addressed by our HOA if the messages do not include the name and address of the person concerned. The HOA holds all communications in confidence.

311 Call Center hours--7AM - 11PM. After hours leave a message for a call back.

Check out these websites:

- For Voelcker Park updated info - www.voelckerparksa.com/home
- For filing police reports online - www.sanantonio.gov/sapd
- Questions about code compliance? - www.sanantonio.gov/hns/

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Message From Our Webpage Director

Chris Corbett

I am pleased to announce our new www.castlehillforest.org web site!

This website has all of the information that our old website had, plus a lot more. Our initial objective is to create multiple ways to use the web site to increase communication and the feeling of community for CHF.

1. Newsletters - We have begun posting both the monthly and the quarterly newsletters. So if you lose this copy, you can find it online. We have also created a way for people to subscribe/unsubscribe to Jennifer's emails. If you aren't on her email list, then you don't know--Jennifer sends monthly newsletters by email and also informational emails about important events. You can subscribe and unsubscribe to her email list from the web site. If you want to stay in the loop for what is going on around you, please subscribe to the Email list.

2. Board member list. - We show all of the Board members and Directors along with their email and phone numbers.

3. Surveys - The HOA Board wants to know what you think. So we will be posting periodic surveys asking for your thoughts. Don't just let your neighbors get to have their say. We want your opinion as well. Our current survey was written by Marge Present, our Social Chairperson and it is all about what social activities people might be interested in. We will post the results of each survey when it is complete. So please give us your thoughts.

4. We can now take Paypal credit card payments online. So far we are taking payments for Membership dues and the Swim team fees. You can also donate money towards anything that you have a special interest in such as landscaping, pool resurfacing or this web site.

5. Member Forums - This is what I'm most excited about. We have our Member Forums bulletin board that allows anyone to post messages readable by our community. The current topics include General Talk, Neighborhood News, Book Club, Advertisements, Landscaping, Cooking and Crafts, and Sports and Recreation. As I learn more about what topics people are interested in, we can add more topics or remove the ones that aren't active.

This is just the start of what we are doing with the web site. Feel free to email me at chfweb@castlehillforest.org with any ideas or suggestions. Come and check it out. And keep coming back to see what else has changed. This is just the beginning.



May 31, 2010

CASTLE HILLS FOREST EELS SWIM TEAM

Contact: Norma Wood, 492-3250

Swim Team is back in full swing! We will accept swimmer registration until May 13th.

Practice schedule is as follows:

Evening Practice May 3rd – June 3rd Morning Practice June 8th – June 24th

Mon – Thurs 5:00 - 5:45 White Tues – Thurs 8:30 – 9:15 White
Mon – Thurs 5:45 - 6:30 Blue Tues – Thurs 9:15 – 10:00 Blue
Mon – Thurs 6:30 - 7:30 Gold Tues – Thurs 10:00 – 11:00 Gold

Registration Fees – Must pay HOA dues of \$55.00

1st child - \$80.00, 2nd child - \$70.00, 3rd child - \$60.00*

We now accept credit cards. Please log in to castlehillforest.org. There will be a \$2.00 service charge added to credit card transactions.

Non-residents do not need to pay HOA – If you have a friend, niece/nephew, or grandchild, please refer them to our team.

SWIM TEAM FUNDRAISING EVENTS

May 15th – BBQ plates – Pre-sale tickets are being sold. Plates are \$6.00.

Please contact Norma if you would like to purchase tickets.

Plate pickup will be at 13630 Stoney Hill from 12:30- 2:30.

June 19th & 20th – SWIM TEAM GARAGE SALE

We are in need of donations! Please contact Norma if you have items to donate. Donations can only be accepted as early as the week of June 7th due to limited storage.

We have 2 home meets scheduled for June 5th and June 12th. Please stop by the pool to see who benefits from your generous donations.

Please contact Norma Wood if you have any questions. Thanks!

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Small Groups Survey

Contact HOA Social Director: Marge Present; 492-5153

Dear Castle Hills Forest Resident:

I am in the process of identifying the interests of our residents in order to form several small social groups. These groups are open to those who have paid their 2010 HOA dues. Please take a minute to complete this survey and return it to the address listed below.

Please place an 'X' by the program(s) you would like to participate in.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES & GROUPS:

- Angels of CHF** – Prepare and deliver food to CHF residents in time of need; possibly help residents in need with errands or simply visiting.
- Play Group** - Children of similar ages and their caregivers meet to play and/or participate in other activities.
- Walking Group** - People of all ages with a love for the outdoors can get together and walk our beautiful neighborhood and/or nature trail. May also visit other walking venues.
- Dinner Club** – A great opportunity to meet neighbors. Dinners held at members' home on a rotational basis and participants bring portions of the meal.
- Couples Night Out** - Join other couples for dining out.
- Hobbies/Crafts** – Beading, scrapbooking, knitting, crocheting, etc.
- Table Games** – Bridge, Scrabble, Trivial Pursuit, cards, etc.
- Mens' Sport Night Out** – Male members of the HOA get together to watch various sports games.
- Tennis Players** – HOA members get together to play tennis.
- Singles Group** – Meet other singles in our subdivision.
- Other** – I'm open to suggestions! _____

ONGOING/CURRENT ACTIVITIES & GROUPS:

- Women's Club** – Women of all ages welcome.
- Book Club** – Meets once a month and discusses a selected book.
- Bunco** – A fun dice game; no experience needed.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
 Address: _____
 Email: _____

Please send completed survey to : Marge Present, 13743 Cedar Canyon, San Antonio TX 78231

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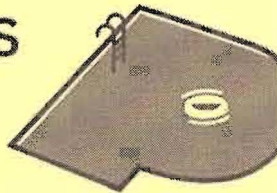
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**CASTLE HILLS FOREST
HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
INCOME STATEMENT
February 28, 2010**

REVENUES

	Month	YTD	Budget
HOA Memberships	5,230	15,980	20,625
Swim & Tennis Memberships	0	0	15,500
Swim Lessons	0		0
Party & Pool Rentals	0		1,200
Guest Passes	0		25
Interest	1	2	5
Miscellaneous Donations	0		0
Pool Renovation	0		0
Fund Raising	2,540	2,540	5,000
Total Revenues	7,771	18,522	42,355

EXPENSES

HOA Activities			2,000
Postage			44
Contributions			400
Office Supplies & Mailings	40	40	500
Grounds Maintenance			2,000
Capital Purchases-Pool	875	875	0
Pool Renovation			0
Repairs			1,000
Supplies			5,000
Utilities	204	801	9,000
Insurance			6,500
Salaries		2,100	11,900
Payroll Taxes		161	1,000
Swim Lesson Cost			0
Lawsuit			0
Fund Raising Expenses			2,500
Total Expenses	1,119	3,977	41,844

NET INCOME OR (LOSS)

	6,652	14,545	511
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**CASTLE HILLS FOREST
HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION
BALANCE SHEET
February 28, 2010**

	As of Dec. 2010	As of Dec. 2009
ASSETS		
Petty Cash	150	150
Checking Account	24,383	22,002
Money Market Account	37,622	37,618
Deposits	700	700
Retainers	0	0
Prepaid Parade Expenses	0	0
Total Assets	62,855	60,470
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	0	4,867
Deferred Parade Income	0	
Lawsuit Contingency	0	0
Deferred HOA Dues	0	5,565
Payroll Taxes Payable	161	1,891
Total Liabilities	161	12,323
EQUITY		
Surplus	48,149	45,813
Current Earnings	14,545	2,334
Total Liabilities & Equity	62,855	60,470

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HELPFUL NUMBERS

Police (Non-emergency): 207-7273
 District 8 Councilman: W. Reed Williams, 207-7086
 SAFFE Officer: Hank Quiroga, 207-5820, M-F 7 AM-3 PM
 henry.quiroga@sanantonio.gov
 To follow-up after making a police report
 Park Police: 207-8590
 To report incidents related to Salado Creek Greenway
 Poison Center: 1-800-222-1222
 Code Compliance: 311 (or 207-6000)
 To report the following: Front-yard parking, illegal trash dumping, junked vehicles, loud noise, weeded and overgrown lots, potholes, drainage issues, etc.

It's that time of year again!

You will soon be receiving a tax assessment of the value of your home. If you would like to compare your home value to recent home sales in your neighborhood, please give me a call. Accurately assessing your home value may help to lower your property taxes.



Carla Haley
 210-614-1300, ext 101
 carlahaley@satx.rr.com

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Please call me with any of your real estate needs or questions.

Happy Mothers Day
 MAY 9, 2010

Contact: Kim Aiken, 479-1823 or aikga@aol.com

POOL NEWS

Please join us on May 22nd from 12:00 to 6:00 at the Pool for a free swim and snacks. Please know that payment plans will be accepted as long as we receive post-dated checks. *We are also now accepting payments online!* Simply log onto our website at castlehillsforest.org. All pool members must pay their HOA dues. We look forward to meeting you and your family. If you have any questions, please call Kim at 479-1873 or aikga@aol.com.

Lifeguards and Gate Attendants are needed!

If you are interested in working at the pool as a lifeguard this summer, are 15 years old or older, and are lifeguard certified, please call Kim Aiken at 479-1823.

A Reminder:

According to the San Antonio City Ordinance, our trash bins are not allowed to block any public right-of-way. "Public right-of-way" includes both our alleys and our streets. ***On the designated pick-up day, the trash bins are to be put out no earlier than 6 am and must be put away no later than 10 pm.*** Please do your part to keep our neighborhood clean and safe.

Brand New Sprinkler System added to our Rec. Area!

You've probably noticed all the hard work and effort that has gone into our rec./ playground area recently. The icing on the cake to all of that hard work is the new sprinkler system that was recently installed by our HOA. This new sprinkler system will help our neighborhood to comply with all water conservation ordinances and will also free up our volunteers to utilize their time elsewhere. We want to thank everyone who spent time last summer standing with a water hose out by our rec. /play area in order to keep our grass and plants alive and looking good. Your help was greatly appreciated.

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CASTLE HILLS FOREST NEIGHBOR 30 20
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CHFHOA 2010 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____
Address _____
San Antonio, TX 78231
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Work Phone _____
E-mail _____

Annual dues: \$55.00 (includes FREE tennis/basketball membership)

I would like to make an additional contribution: ___ \$5.00 ___ \$10.00 ___ \$20.00
Other _____
(Please specify amount)

I would like my additional contribution to be used for:

___ Children's Activities ___ Landscaping ___ Pool/Recreation Area
___ Pool Resurfacing ___ Swim Team

Make check payable to CHFHOA
Send to: Jimmy Ruthven, 2406 Wilderness Hill, San Antonio, TX 78231

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED

NEWCOMERS INFORMATION PACKET

Welcome to Castle Hills Forest! Lindsey Nix will deliver a Newcomers Information Packet provided by the CHF Board of Directors and the Homeowners Association to your home. If you have recently moved into the neighborhood and would like a packet, please contact Lindsey Nix at 818-0099.

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