

Whispering Lakes Ranch Newsletter

A Quarterly Update from the Maintenance Association Board of Directors

Volume 2, Number 2

APRIL 2012

ANNUAL MEETING: MON APRIL 23, 2012

We invite you to join us at the WLR Annual General Meeting on Monday, April 23, 2011 at 7:00PM CDT in the HCMS building, 17049 El Camino Real, Houston. We suggest you arrive by 6:30PM to sign in and be ready to vote.

The final agenda will be posted at wlrhome.com at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Among other important agenda items, there will be a general election for two positions on the Board of Directors. If you would like your name on the printed ballot, please contact HCMS by Apr 20th.

Candidates are also welcome to post information on the WLR message board. Please remember, however, that our web site terms of service do not allow disparagement or personal attacks against other people.

All homeowners will receive another mailing from HCMS at least 10 days prior to the meeting. It will contain further election information and a proxy form that you should promptly fill out and mail back to HCMS.

HAVING YOUR VOICE HEARD AT THE MEETING

If you wish to speak and/or have your topic discussed by the Board of Directors at the meeting, you MUST notify us prior to noon on Friday, April 20th to allow us time to finalize and post the agenda on the WLR web site at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. This is required by state law and therefore not flexible. Any non-emergency topics not on the agenda must be deferred to the next meeting.

If you decide you'd like to address the board after the agenda is finalized, you will have an opportunity to sign up just prior to the meeting. We will reserve time for up to five people to speak at the end of the meeting for up to three minutes each. However, if the topic is not on the agenda, the Board can only listen, and may NOT take any substantive action on it until the next meeting.

While the Board may, at its discretion, recognize people to speak during the course of the meeting, please remember that ONLY the person recognized may speak and the Board may terminate discussion at any point in order to maintain order and not deviate from the agenda.

GOOD WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Steve Glenn

Spring is here! Have you noticed the dozens of trees that have popped up! WOW! The neighborhood is really starting to mature. Special thanks go out to Frank Prisco and all of the neighbors serving on the Landscape Committee. Thank you for your ideas, your time and your persistence to help make Whispering Lakes Ranch look greener and grander!

Soon, you will also notice that we have made needed improvements at the pool. The waterfall pump has been replaced and the waterfall on the side wall is now working. The broken coping around the waterfall wall has been repaired. We also had some holes in the cement decking repaired and we replaced the broken step ladder on the far side of the pool.

We are all working hard to make Whispering Lakes Ranch look better by making improvements and we are certainly consistently working on maintaining the lakes, pumps, lights and timers, electrical systems, bridges, gates and landscaping. Thank you all for your help and support.

The next project on deck, for which we will be looking for as much community involvement as possible, is the review and discussion of the Reserve Study. Stay tuned and stay involved!

SPRING FLING ON APR 7th

Pete Bauer, Social Committee

Mark Saturday, Apr 7th, the day prior to Easter Sunday, on your calendar!

The WLR Social Committee is organizing our very first Annual Spring Fling event. Please see the attached flyer; the most up-to-date details will be found on the **wlrhome.com** web site, but already we have lined up:

9:00 AM: Informal fun WALK around the lake
9:20 AM: Informal fun RUN around the lake
10:00 AM: Festivities begin at the community pool:

-  Easter Egg Hunt for the kids
-  A visit by the Easter Bunny
-  Face painting
-  Popcorn, cotton candy
-  Pot luck brunch

The Social Committee is doing the heavy lifting on this event but they won't turn down any help offered! Especially needed are parents to make up some Easter Eggs and deliver them ahead of time so we can hide them for the hunt, as well as your most famous pot luck dish.

Along with the Spring Fling is a toy collection for the B.I.G. Love charity for Texas Childrens' Hospital Cancer Clinic. Toys will be collected at the WLR community pool from 9-11am, April 7th.

See the attached flyer, go to biglovecancercare.org, or contact Nina Olson for more information.

To make toy donations prior to April 7th please contact Nina at **olsonkw@verizon.net**.

Again, check the web site for the latest information on the Spring Fling, the charity toy drive, and everything else going on around WLR.

Your Social Committee is:

Heather Monteleone (*Committee & Welcoming Subcommittee Co-Chair*)
Lisa Heifner (*Committee Co-Chair*)
Cheryl "Dee" Stephens (*Welcoming Subcommittee Co-Chair*)
Ginny Bergmann
Charlotte Burns
Molly Zolas, MD

SPEEDERS: READ AND HEED!

You may have noticed that traffic speed radars have recently appeared along neighborhood streets. The current devices are short-term loaners kindly provided by the League City Police Department at no cost to WLR.

Certain vehicles and drivers are being noticed in the community for their grossly excessive speeding and reckless behavior.

Just in the past couple of years, there have been:

- Several close calls with pedestrians
- At least one pet run over and killed right in front of the family's children
- At least two auto accidents; amazingly enough, one was severe enough to require Life Flight

All of these incidents were related to excessive speed on our private community streets!

You darn well know if you or your family members are among the few egregious speeders or reckless drivers in our neighborhood. ENOUGH! It is time to

behave like responsible members of the community and drive safely on our streets.

The Board of Directors has not previously exercised the right that it does have to fine homeowners for a number of violations within the community, including speeding on our streets.

We are currently looking at integrated solutions to better control vehicular access to the community and to increase surveillance of our valuable common property. That may well include “photo-cop” type of enforcement along our streets.

LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Frank Prisco

Over the last twelve months we have planted 33 large 6+ inch caliper Oak Trees. We have also transplanted from their original locations eight medium sized <5 inch caliper Oaks trees. We have planted for screening purposes over ninety new large Wax Leaf Ligustrums, and over fifteen Butterfly Irises.

We partially rehabilitated the front entrance by removing the sixty dwarf and diseased Crape Myrtles and replaced them with twenty one 45+ gallon much larger and robust Natchez White Crape Myrtles. In addition to those Crape Myrtles we installed another fourteen 45 gallon Natchez White Crape Myrtles around the concrete bridge. We added one 18 foot tall California Palm next to the entry gate to match the one next to the exit gate. Also at the front gate we removed two rogue growing Mexican Fans Palms that had years ago been originally planted in the wrong place. The Mexican Fan Palms had been growing directly into the much more expensive and preferred Medjool Date Palms.

At the pool we just recently concluded multiple cosmetic repairs and upgraded some of the pool systems. We also replaced a diseased Queen Palm

with a more robust and tolerant 10 foot Florida Sable Palm. Unfortunately we had to remove a Mexican Fan Palm that had been poorly placed years ago. It seems it was placed just off the edge of the concrete parking lot slab and directly beneath a light fixture. We have much more work to do with regard to the pool landscaping because we seem to be losing most all of the Queen Palms.

Over the last year we have worked diligently to repair and improve WLR electrical, fountain and irrigation infrastructures. We have also created a targeted fertilization plan for the region encompassing the front entrance; established fountain seasonal lighting and decoration themes; and rebuilt and improved the rock retaining walls on both sides of the gate areas.

Many thanks to the committee for a lot of hard work:

Frank Prisco (Committee Chair)
Su Curley
Johnnie Persons
Rhonda Phillips
Nicolas Arnao
Fred Bergman
Stephanie Eader

KEEP YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS UP TO DATE!

Your email address is a part of the informatioun in your User Profile on the web site. Only one email address per account is supported in the software we use.

It is important to keep that email address up to date because we occasionally send out “all members” emails about current events and emergencies. The software will use the email address in your profile; if it is out of date, you won’t get the information.

Also, the software allows other homeowners who are members of the forum to send you an email

How to get help...

For an emergency: 911

Routine LC Police: 281-332-2566

For community maintenance problems:

Call HCMS : 832-864-1200

Or

Email: contact@wlrhome.com

without revealing the email address of either party to the other. Obviously, if the email address in your profile is not correct, your neighbor won't be able to contact you this way.

WEB SITE IS YOUR GO-TO PLACE FOR WLR NEWS

The WLR web site at:

<http://wlrhome.com>

The web site has two parts: a public area that contains general information and a private message area not accessible to anyone who is not a WLR homeowner.

In the public area is a DOCUMENTS page that has PDF copies of our dedicatory papers like deed restrictions, a downloadable copy of the "Architectural Standards Change" form to request review and approval for improvements to your property, agendas and minutes to Board meetings, and other useful stuff.

The private part of the site, accessible only to WLR homeowners, contains informative articles posted by the HOA, blogs by the Board of Directors, and a tightly moderated message board where we can all POLITELY communicate with each other.

If you are having technical troubles with the web site or want to create an account, please contact:

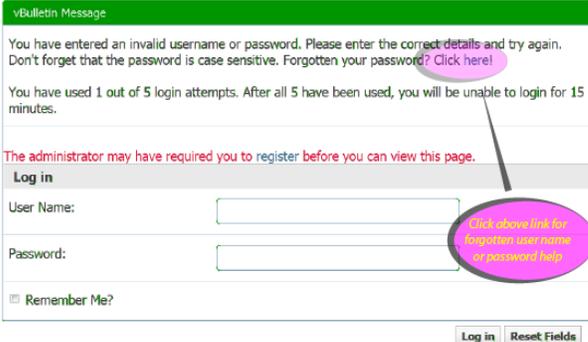
admin@wlrhome.com

For new accounts, please provide us your real name (First and Last Name), street address, and the email address you want us to reply to. We'll set you up with an account. We do hand-verify that each request is actually from a WLR homeowner so it will take from hours to a couple of days for us to do that and email your new account information.

To contact the HOA about community matters, please use the address:

contact@wlrhome.com

Forgotten User Names or passwords can be retrieved by typing incorrect information, then clicking on the link for this dialog box:



The screenshot shows a "Bulletin Message" dialog box with the following text: "You have entered an invalid username or password. Please enter the correct details and try again. Don't forget that the password is case sensitive. Forgotten your password? [Click here!](#)" and "You have used 1 out of 5 login attempts. After all 5 have been used, you will be unable to login for 15 minutes." Below this is a red message: "The administrator may have required you to register before you can view this page." The dialog box contains a "Log in" section with fields for "User Name:" and "Password:", a "Remember Me?" checkbox, and "Log in" and "Reset Fields" buttons. Two callout boxes are present: one pointing to the "Click here!" link and another pointing to the "Log in" button with the text "Click above the Log in button to get user name or password help".

See you online!

Maintenance Association of Whispering Lakes Ranch Board of Directors

Steve Glenn, President
Frank Prisco, Vice President
Peter Bauer, Secretary
Jeff Farmer, Treasurer
Roy Hunter, Director

Whispering Lakes Ranch

1st Annual

SPRING FLING

Join your WLR neighbors for some spring-time fun!

Saturday April 7th

10am

Near the Pool

**** FUN RUN ****

(meet at 9am in front of the pool)

**** POTLUCK BRUNCH ****

(bring your favorite dish to share)

**** EASTER EGG HUNT ****

(please bring 2 dozen filled plastic eggs and a basket for each participant)

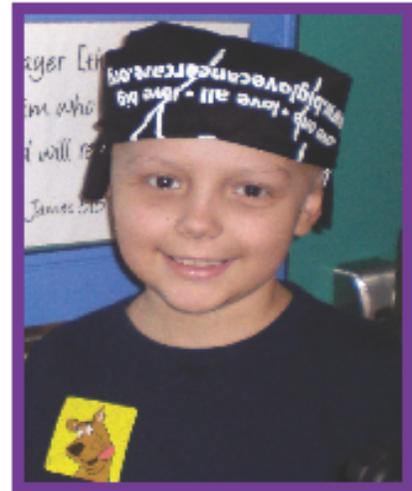
**** FUN ACTIVITIES ****

Brought to you by the WLR Social Committee

Contact Heather Monteleone at 832-722-7141 for more information or to volunteer



B.I.G. Love
www.biglovecancercare.org



Help us collect toys for the Cancer Clinic
at Texas Children's Hospital.

TOYS DUE
APRIL 7TH!

Thank You!



Collect toys and other fun items for cancer kids!

Ages: Birth - 20 years old.

Suggested items: I-tunes cards, movies, games, matchbox cars, trucks, airplanes, colors and coloring books, art sets, fun jewelry, baby toys, nailpolish, sports magazines, playdoh.

Gift cards to Wal-Mart, Target and McDonalds.

No small, choking hazard items. No latex.

Providing love and support to cancer kids.