



Willowlake Watch

www.willowlake.siteblast.com

January 2013

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The Official Publication of the Willowlake Homeowners Association

Annual Meeting Recap 2012

By Debi Bon, President

We held our annual homeowners' meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2012. This meeting is required as a part of our By Laws and a minimum representation of 10% of our residents needs to be met or the meeting has to be rescheduled. Thankfully, we had more than enough participation with 63 home owners represented through their presence at the meeting or by turning in a proxy. Thank you to those of you who attended or signed and mailed in a proxy! This saves the association from needless expenses associated with additional meetings.

The annual dues that you pay every year to the HOA pays for the management and upkeep of all of the amenities in Willowlake and helps to enforce the deed restrictions that are in place according to our bylaws. These are in place to maintain the appearance of our neighborhood and its value. As of the writing of this article, 2012 dues have been collected on 95% of our homes. That sounds pretty
(Continued on Page 2)

New Member of the Board

By Travis Guinn, Secretary

I would like to introduce myself and tell you a little about myself. My name is Travis Guinn. I was nominated to the board October 25, 2012 and now hold the Secretary position of the board of directors. I have lived in Willowlake for five years and have lived in Houston my entire life. My hobbies include spending time with my family and enjoying the outdoors. I look forward to serving the residents of the community by ensuring that we are fiscally responsible as a homeowners' association and that we meet the overall needs of the neighborhood.

Introducing the Willowlake Board of Directors

By Linda O'Pry, Editor



It is my pleasure to introduce our Willowlake Board of Directors. They serve our community well and their time and efforts are greatly appreciated! We can look forward to interesting articles from them throughout the coming year. If you have any questions, concerns, have feedback or would like to volunteer in any capacity in our community, please feel free to contact them. Their contact information is now listed in the January newsletter.

In order as they appear in the picture, the board members are: top from left to right are David Bannen-Vice President, new member Mark Hubenak-Director, and new member Travis Guinn-Secretary. Bottom left to right are: Debi Bon-President and Nancy Kapell-Treasurer.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

All Emergencies.....	911
Bratton Pools.....	281-988-7700
Cypress-Fairbanks Hospital	281-897-3300
Harris County Sheriff.....	713-221-6000
Department of Public Safety	281-890-5440
Fire Department (non-emergency)	713-466-6161
Center Point Energy - Power Outages Only ...	713-207-2222
Center Point Energy - Gas.....	713-659-2111
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Memorial City Hospital	713-932-3000
MUD #11	281-807-9500
Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Willowplace Post Office	281-890-2392
Harris County Road & Bridge	281-353-8424
VF Waste Services, Inc.	713-787-9790
Harris Co. Public Health & Environ. Svcs.	713-920-2831
District 5 Vacation Watch	281-290-2100

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Jane Godwinjgodwin@randallmanagement.com, ext. 11

Asst. Manager

Miguel Trevino.... mtrevino@randallmanagement.com, ext. 15

Deed Restrictions

Lucy Sandovaldeed@randallmanagement.com, ext. 18

Collections

Jennifer Phillips.collections@randallmanagement.com, ext. 22

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For information on your homeowner's assessments, deed
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Phone: 713-728-1126 Fax: 713-728-5015

www.rqsmith@randallmanagement.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Debi Bon debibon@sbcglobal.net

Vice President - David Bannen.....dbannen@att.net

Treasurer - Nancy Kapell nancykapell@yahoo.com

Secretary - Travis Guinn tmguinn@gmail.com

Director - Mark Hubenak..... mhubenak001@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER INFO

Newsletter Publisher

Peel, Inc. 888-687-6444

Sales Office..... advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

Meeting Recap (Continued from Cover Page)

good; however, that still leaves 25 homes that have not paid. This means that all the other residents have to pay not only for their own share of management, landscaping, pool service and waste collection expenses, but also for those of their unpaid neighbors. We can keep our dues down when everyone pays and we do not have to incur the added expense of attorney fees. Be responsible and pay your dues so that your neighbor does not have to pay for you!

During the annual meeting we reviewed the current year's activities and financial statements. These financial statements are available to all homeowners by calling the management company. We also discussed the improvements that were made this year to the community including work done on the light poles at the park and pool, new light fixtures at the park, new landscaping and irrigation systems at the pool and repairs to the fountain and lake bulkhead system that is being destroyed by an over abundance of ducks. We will continue to make improving the appearance of our neighborhood a major focus and also bringing down the duck numbers to a reasonable amount. This is necessary for many reasons including the health of the ducks and our residents, the destruction of our property and the increased expenses of cleaning up the mess this current volume of ducks creates.

This year we said good bye to Stacey Ward and Daniel Flores. Stacey has been on the board for the last three years serving as our treasurer, and his knowledge of our community, due to the number of years he has lived here and has been involved, has been a great asset. Daniel Flores has also served on the board for three years, the last two as our secretary. We will miss you both, thank you for your service to our neighborhood!!!

The board would like to welcome Mr. Mark Hubenak and Mr. Travis Guinn who were successfully elected to three year board terms. We look forward to working with you both and know that you will serve our community well. We also want to welcome Ms. Phyllis Cutrer and Ms. Tammy Steffen who have agreed to take over the Yard of the Month position. They have a lot of great ideas to motivate everyone to take exceptional care of their properties!

Please contact the management company if you are questioning something in the neighborhood. If your questions are not properly resolved, any one of our current board members should be notified.

2013 COMMITTEES

Architectural Control Chairman

Mark Lackey melackey@comcast.net

Social Events Chairman

James Deitikerdeitiker@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

Linda O'Pry.....mermaid400@sbcglobal.net

Yard of the Month

Phyllis Cutrer phyllis.cutrer@yahoo.com

Tammy Steffen

Neighborhood Watch Chairman

Dave Bannen dbannen@att.net

Gazebo Rental

Randall Management.713-728-1126

Pool Chairman

Lynn Piwonski.....LMP4040@yahoo.com

Park Chairman

Diego Lamacchiadlamacchia@hotmail.com

**NOT AVAILABLE
ONLINE**

Holiday Decorations: Remove by January 31

Now that the holidays have ended, the Willowlake Board of Directors would like to remind residents that the deadline for removing holiday decorations is January 31, 2013. After this date, citations can be issued. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

Willowlake Communication To-do List:

- Sign up for a Facebook account (FREE)
 - Search for Willowlake HOA
 - Join the Willowlake HOA group
- Receive important notifications via email!



Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Willowlake residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail mommyma1422@sbcglobal.net.

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales at 888-687-6444 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

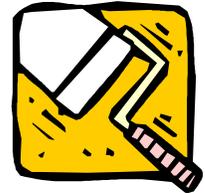
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- Roofing
- Gutter Repair/Replacement
- Faux Painting
- Door Refinishing
- Window Installation
- Trash Removal
- Ceiling Fan/Light Fixtures

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Open House
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9am - 2pm and 6 - 8pm

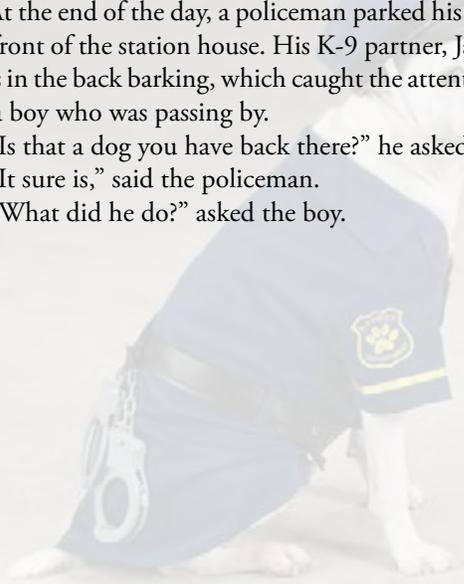
Kids' Corner

At the end of the day, a policeman parked his van in front of the station house. His K-9 partner, Jake, was in the back barking, which caught the attention of a boy who was passing by.

"Is that a dog you have back there?" he asked.

"It sure is," said the policeman.

"What did he do?" asked the boy.



PERFECT TIME FOR COOL SEASON HERBICIDE

It's finally time to use the cool season herbicides I've referred to on the GardenLine radio program. If you know what I'm talking about but just need the names of the products, they are Fertilome's Weed Free Zone and Bonide's Weed Beater Ultra. These herbicides are specific for broadleaf weeds like Clover and Virginia Buttonweed. They will not control any "grassy" weeds. The perfect temperature range for usage of these two cool-season herbicides is roughly between 75 degree highs and 40 degree lows.

But there are some caveats that must be respected for these herbicides to work properly. The one constant in weed control, whether it's a cool season herbicide or a regular post-emergent herbicide, is to use a surfactant. Surfactants help herbicides do their job because most water in our area is considered hard. Hard water tends to just roll off leaf surfaces. There are two ways of adding a surfactant to most herbicides. The simple way is add about a tablespoon per gallon of dish soap to the mix. The professional grade way is to use a relatively inexpensive commercial surfactant like Hi-Yield's Spreader Sticker or Bonide's Turbo. The other important step would have to be "HOW" it is applied. You should use either a pump-up sprayer or a hand-held trigger sprayer. Avoid the use of Dial-N-Spray hose sprayer because you cannot be as precise with the spray, and over-use of such products on the entire yard can cause a yellowing of the grass. Spot treating is paramount with these controls. There are some concentrates available in a "Ready to Spray" formula that you hook on the end of the hose. If this is the only thing available, concentrate on that spot treatment. That means you've got to be quick on the switch with the ON and OFF lever.

Excerpts from this tip sheet are reprinted by permission from Randy Lemmon at www.randylemmon.com.

GardenLine with Randy Lemmon Exclusively on NewsTalk 740 KTRH Saturdays&Sundays6-10a.m. Call In at 713-212-KTRH (5874) Joins us on Facebook at www.facebook.com (type in: GardenLine)

Recipe of the Month

Coca-Cola Chicken

Ingredients:

- 1 chicken, cut up
- 1 cup ketchup
- 1 cup Coca-Cola
- 1 Tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- Salt and pepper to taste

Instructions:

1. Place chicken in large frying pan or electric cooker, and salt and pepper.
2. Mix ketchup, Coca-Cola and Worcestershire sauce together and pour over chicken.
3. Simmer for 1 hour covered, turning once during cooking time.
4. Serve over rice.

Mark Your Calendar

- Jan. 1.....New Year's Day
- Jan. 1.....HOA Assessments Due
- Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.....Waste/Recycle Pickup
- Jan. 17.....Board Meeting
- Jan. 31.....Christmas Decorations Down

Harris County Sheriff's Office Crime Report

Willowlake (10-1-2012 - 10-31-2012) *Willowlake (11-1-2012 - 11-30-2012)*

911 Hang Up	0
Alarm Local	6
Alarm/Sil/Pan/HU	0
Burglary/Motveh	0
Burglary/Habitation	0
Check Park	45
Contract Check	70
Crim Mischief	1
Disch Fire Arm	0
Dist/Family	0
Dist/Juvenile	0
Dist/Loud Noise	1
Dist/Other	1
DWI	0
Illegal Dumping	0
In Progress	0
Meet the Resident	3
Mud Bldg Chk	6
Solicitors	0
Susp Person	2
Theft/Other	1
Traffic Hazard	0
Traffic Initiative	1
Traffic Stop	1
Vacation Watch	0
Veh Abandon	0
Veh Suspicious	0
Vehicle Stolen	1
Welfare Check	1



911 Hang Up	2
Alarm Local	4
Alarm/Sil/Pan/HU	0
Burglary/Motveh	0
Burglary/Habitation	0
Check Park	84
Contract Check	71
Crim Mischief	1
Disch Fire Arm	0
Dist/Family	1
Dist/Juvenile	0
Dist/Loud Noise	1
Dist/Other	0
DWI	0
Illegal Dumping	0
In Progress	1
Meet the Resident	0
Mud Bldg Chk	12
Solicitors	0
Susp Person	0
Theft/Other	0
Traffic Hazard	0
Traffic Initiative	1
Traffic Stop	1
Vacation Watch	0
Veh Abandon	0
Veh Suspicious	3
Vehicle Stolen	0
Welfare Check	2



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WHAT YOU MISSED

If you forgot to read the December newsletter, here are some of the articles you missed:

- Yard of the Month Holiday Judging Contest
- Holiday Safety
- How to Dispose of Christmas Trees
- Bread and Ducks-Breaking the Bread Habit
- (10) Items Food Banks Need
- Recipe, Kids' Corner and more...

You can still read these articles on line at Peel, Inc.com or go to our website.

Charitable Giving



The following websites can provide additional information on charitable giving and charity fraud:

www.give.org

The Better Business Bureau reports on national charities, including contact information, how much of your donation will go to administrative costs and more.

www.charitywatch.org

The American Institute of Philanthropy is a national charity watchdog service whose purpose is to help donors make informed giving decisions.

www.ftc.gov

If you suspect charity fraud, you can file a report online with the Federal Trade Commission.



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No-Tsu-Oh Carnival (Lesson in History)

Like the New Orleans Mardi Gras, No-Tsu-Oh was a carnival that was celebrated in Houston from 1899-1917. Even in 1899, generating commerce was important and the carnival was a week-long festival bringing people to Houston in November. No-Tsu-Oh featured parades and a football game between the University of Texas and the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas (now Texas A&M University.) No-Tsu-Oh is Houston spelled backwards. Backwards spelling was a character of No-Tsu-Oh, with the King of the festival being Nottoc (cotton) until King Nottoc was replaced by King Retaw (water) in 1914 in honor of the completion of the Houston Ship Channel. With the beginning of World War 1, came the end of the carnival. Now we know.

(Published by the Texas State Historical Association)

Submitted by Linda O'Pry

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