

# Trail Writer

The Official Publication of the  
Winchester Trails  
Maintenance Assoc. Social Committee

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www.winchestertrails.com

May 2010

## Letter from the President

*Greetings Winchester Trails Residents,*

The Board met on Wednesday, April 7 with attendance by a number of residents. We addressed several items including repairs and security at the pool area following the vandalism incident in February, the need for volunteers, the upcoming swim season and other issues.

As noted last month, the pool area was vandalized considerably, but repairs have now been completed at a cost of several thousand dollars. These costs are borne by the Home Owners' Association, which is all of us. The Board has moved to increase security in this area to help prevent this from happening for a second time and to help apprehend those who might try to vandalize the property again. We will not only increase security at the pool but will extend these measures to the tennis courts also. Look for more on the measures being taken in future newsletters.

We hope you were able to attend the Easter party, as turnout was good. Many thanks to the volunteers who made it happen. The Fourth of July party is next on our social agenda. We will need a couple of volunteers to help chair this event as well as others to help make it happen. In the past few years, we have had the same folks set up and coordinate the Fourth of July event, but this year those cannot do so due to other obligations. Please contact Paulette Walker as she can help you with this. The neighborhood will certainly appreciate the effort. In addition, we are looking for a few volunteers to help with various activities such as the administration of the website. Please contact any Board member if you would like to know more about the positions or how to help. Please feel free to offer your help with the party if you have the time.

The pool opens on May 8 and will be open every weekend afterwards with a full daily schedule after school is out in June. Pool tags will be available on April 24 and May 1. Afterwards, tag can be obtained through PCMI. All residents of the Trails in good standing can obtain tags to go to the pool. We look forward to a fun and safe season.

Finally, we had a pretty harsh winter, and our lawns and trees have suffered. Please tend to your gardens as dead trees or limbs detract from the neighborhood. If you notice a residence in need of attention, please give PCMI a call and they will contact the homeowner to resolve the situation. Economic times are difficult, but we need to maintain the integrity of our neighborhood.

Until next month...

Walter

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*May/June*

### MAY

- May 1 - Community pool tag registration at the pool (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM)
- May 8 - Pool opens on weekends from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM
- May 9 - Happy Mother's Day!
- May 31 - Memorial Day / CFISD Student Holiday
- May 31 - Memorial Day / CFISD Student Holiday

### JUNE

- June 2 - Board Meeting 7 PM at the clubhouse
- June 2 - Last day of school!
- June 3 - Pool opens with standard hours. Please see pool schedule.
- June 2 - Board Meeting 7 PM at the clubhouse
- June 2 - Last day of school!
- June 3 - Pool opens with standard hours. Please see pool schedule.

The 2010 Pool Registration  
Form and Schedule  
can be downloaded at  
[www.winchestertrails.com](http://www.winchestertrails.com).



# Winchester Trails

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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 Melissa Zmerzlikar ..... directory@winchestertrails.com  
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 Walter Sonne ..... 281-894-7117  
 Paulette Walker ..... 281-894-5708

Jim Malone is the security representative for WT.  
 His email can be found on the Security page of the Trails website.

## MUD #9 OFFICERS

David Gurghigian, President ..... 281-894-4140  
 Jeff Ottmann, Vice President ..... 281-469-1465  
 Wayne Wilcox, Secretary ..... 281-894-6233  
 Jim Giese, Assistant Secretary ..... 281-890-5207  
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## Milestones

### New Teenagers - Happy 13th!

05/14 - Julia Santell  
 05/23 - Lillie Dixon  
 05/28 - Cullen Cadena

### New Drivers - Happy 16th!

05/02 - Wesley Hood  
 05/06 - Joshua Penafiorida  
 05/20 - Connor Henderson  
 05/26 - Nicholas Boyd  
 05/30 - Madeline Heard

### New Voters - Happy 18th!

05/01 - Matthew Griesbach  
 05/10 - Nicolas Dutcher  
 05/10 - Michael Kelley  
 05/15 - Kelsey O'Briant  
 05/25 - Meagan Cooney

### New Adults - Happy 21st!

05/15 - John Williams  
 05/18 - Erica Kuch  
 05/24 - DiMarris Carr  
 05/28 - Trey Formas

### Happy 10th Anniversary!

05/26 - Joshua & Dana Hong

### Happy 20th Anniversary!

05/19 - Kyle & Stacy King

### Happy 25th Anniversary!

05/04 - Brian & Betty Rothenberg  
 05/18 - Mike & Diana Brinkmeyer

### Happy 30th Anniversary!

05/31 - Steve & Anne Beck

### Happy 55th Anniversary!

05/21 - Richard & Alice Barone

*Melissa Zmerzlikar*  
*directory@winchestertrails.com*



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## The Easter bunny hopped through the Trails!

The Easter bunny visited Winchester Trails and hid tons of eggs! Smiles abounded as the egg baskets overflowed.

We had face painting, crafts, cookies, and an awesome egg hunt for children. Thanks to Kerry Thomas and Linda Wheelock for chairing this wonderful event. Thanks also to Girl Scout troop 15010 (Sydney Dean, Carly Mark, and Randa Poor) for taking pictures.



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# Winchester Trails

## *Yard of the Month*



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## Many Thanks to Our Neighborhood Volunteers

Two of our volunteers have let us know that they are moving out of our neighborhood, and we are sad to see them go. They have been great neighbors and excellent volunteers. Many, many thanks to the great job that Melissa Zmerzlikar has done with the website, marquee, and eblasts. Thanks for all of her time, her dedication to the neighborhood, and for all of the innovations she has brought to us. Linda Van Zuilekom has managed the clubhouse for several years, and we will miss her friendly smile and the gracious and capable manner in which she managed this task.

We are also happy to announce that we have some new neighbors that have kindly agreed to volunteer their time to take over these and other responsibilities. Susie Mallory has agreed to manage the neighborhood eblasts, Kristina Soliz is now managing the clubhouse, Tracy Wormuth is responsible for the welcoming committee, and Julie Fletcher is managing the marquee. Please thank those individuals the next time that you see them.

We are also looking for additional volunteers. We are still in need of a social chairperson. This is a coordinating role, as we already have volunteers to manage most of the individual neighborhood events. We also need someone to manage the neighborhood Fourth of July event. This is a great summertime parade and pool event that many of our families look forward to throughout the year. This event can be managed easily by one (or shared by two) individuals, and we have many experienced individuals that are able to provide guidance.

Finally, we are looking for someone to manage the neighborhood website.

Please consider sharing your time to manage (or co-manage) any of these jobs. Our volunteers are what make our neighborhood a great place to live! Contact Paulette Walker or Ron Matthews at [stork@winchestertrails.com](mailto:stork@winchestertrails.com) if you are interested or need more information.

## Yard-of-the-Month Changes

Winchester Trails has been extremely lucky to have such excellent support for our YOM program. Sandra Keyser of Century 21 has financially supported this program for many years, most of those years after she moved from the subdivision. As we all understand and experience the financial situation in our economy today, there is a requirement to cut back this program. In the future, instead of two YOM winners each month, there will now be a single winner for the Trails.

We want to thank Sandra and Century 21 for continuing the program in such a difficult period.

*YOM Committee*

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# Winchester Trails

## Green Thumb Corner

The weather is warming up, and the colorful bedding plants of spring and early summer are making a welcome appearance to provide color throughout the neighborhood. Don't worry if you haven't had chance to get your yard in shape yet - there's still a good selection of bedding plants at the nurseries, and May is a good time for planting annuals (or perennials) to provide summer color. Summer bulbs may still be planted, but make sure you plan the appropriate plant height for your intended location and take account of exposure. Vinca, petunia, lantana, marigolds, and begonias are sun loving favorites, but keep impatiens and caladiums to the shaded areas. Consider plants like euryops (a yellow daisy like evergreen shrub), Dahlberg daisy (a low growing daisy with a profusion of yellow blooms) and Mexican heather, all of which have become popular in recent years. And don't forget reliable standbys like shasta daisies (actually a chrysanthemum) and Gerber daisies.

Keep beds well mulched to preserve soil moisture as the weather warms up, and stay on top of the weeds by pulling a few at a time whenever you have a few moments to spare - don't wait until they become a major problem.

This is a good time to feed crape myrtles with a balanced fertilizer to promote summer bloom. This shrub is very susceptible to white powdery mildew, but you can take care of it with Consan Triple Action 20, which delivers a "quick kill" and biodegrades within 24 hours. Or you can use a general-purpose fungicide (such as Daconyl) that will have

a longer lasting effect. Also watch out for powdery mildew on golden euonymus.

If you fed the lawn in early spring, you can consider supplementing with a high nitrogen fertilizer or with the usual 15-5-10 or 16-8-8 ratio recommended for Texas grass. And it's often worth paying an extra couple of dollars to get a fertilizer with added nutrients such as iron and sulfur to increase acidity - particularly useful around the pine trees if they're looking "tired" and showing yellowish needles. Treat with pesticide granules for chinch bugs and to control fleas and ants; apply Terraclor granules if you have a problem with brown patch fungus.

Azaleas can be pruned and should be fed lightly every few weeks until the end of June (but no later than that), preferably with one of the special high-acid formulas. Or you can use general purpose 12-24-12 and add a soil acidifier such as copperas. The high-phosphorous 12-24-12 is also good for roses and hibiscus, both of which benefit from a monthly feeding schedule. You can save yourself a lot of time and trouble with roses if you use one of the products that contain systemic fungicide and pesticide, so that you don't have to mess with regular spraying. All spring flowering shrubs may be safely pruned after blooming.

**THIS MONTH'S TIP:** Marigolds are reputed to be effective natural pest repellents when planted amongst the tomatoes.  
Phil Richards

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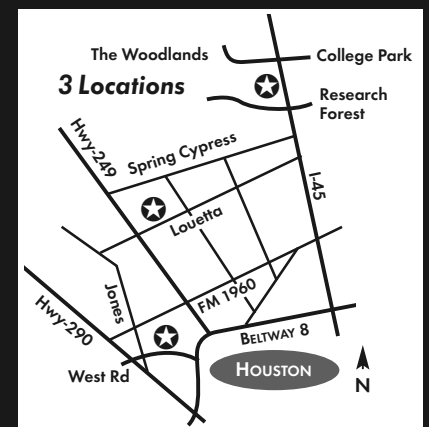


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