

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

January 2012

Volume 7, Issue 1

#### 20 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

#### Thank You, Phil! by Jennifer Wood

Our deepest heartfelt thanks go out to Philip Kolman as he is retiring from the Jester Homeowners Association Board after 20 years of service. Philip is the current President and Treasurer of the Board. He became a member of the Board and Treasurer in 1992 and President in 1999. He has volunteered countless hours in those years for the benefit of Jester residents. Among the many projects he has worked on during his tenure, Phil served as our leader when the neighborhood was able to stave off a massive development effort along 2222. He has been very good at identifying what JHA has been able to do within our covenants and ordinances. Philip has been a very dedicated, fair and diplomatic member of the Board. He has exhibited integrity in his oversight and management in all of the leadership roles for which he has volunteered. We truly owe Philip a tremendous thank you for all of his efforts!



Phil was presented a beautiful clock to pay tribute to the countless hours of volunteering in service of our neighborhood.

# WINNER OF JESTER LIGHTS CONTEST

6807 Jester Blvd

#### WOW! The neighborhood looked amazing this holiday. Thank you to everyone who decorated their homes and yards sharing the spirit of the holidays.

Congratulations to our 2011 winners, Edward Mokarzel and Donna Miller of 6807 Jester Blvd, who won an array of gift certificates (see below). Their yard was beautifully decorated and lit up with an array of lights, providing enjoyment for all who drove by. Selecting just one winner was a tough task for our 5 judges. Everyone that participated in our contest put a lot of time into decorating their homes and lawns, and the entire neighborhood appreciates their efforts. They are all winners in our eyes! THANK YOU for brightening up our lives during this holiday season! We encourage all of you who read this to enter the holiday lights contest next year.

## Please support these businesses who donated prizes for our lights contest. We appreciate all they do for our neighborhood!

Omega Stone Design & Remodel \$50 G	ift Certificate to Olive Garden
My Place Sports Bar & Italian Grill	
Waterloo Ice House	\$50 Gift Certificate
Red Brick Pizza	
Sylvan Learning of Austin	\$100 Gift Certificate
Southern Painting Gift Cert	ificate for exterior power wash
	of house and attached garage
ASPIRE Salon	\$50 Gift Certificate
JW Tumbles	\$50 Gift Certificate
Mighty Human Performance	Gift Certificate for
-	two personal training sessions



<u>Jester Estates</u>

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#### **ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS**

Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing diana0777@att.net or by going to:

www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php. All news must be received by the 9th of the month prior to the issue.

# NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE



## Jester Estates

# **SANTA IN JESTER!** By Teresa Gouldie, Social Chairman

Our Jester kiddos had an amazing time on December 10th as Santa stopped by our neighborhood via an Austin Fire Truck! Our residents' excited children and grandchildren had an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and tell him what they hoped would be waiting for them under the tree this holiday season. A huge thank you goes out to the firemen; Trapr Swonson, Mario Gonzales, and Willie Cook who helped answer all the kids' questions, posed for pictures, and even let the kids climb all over and through the fire truck! The prize walk was a huge hit as always, as well as the coloring sheets and holiday tattoos.

As always, we want to thank all our volunteers who continue to make our events possible. These include Eva Wisser, Steve Guiterez, Heather Wood, Chase Meyers, Ray and Anita Deveau, Scott Martin and Alejandro Davila. We also would like to express our appreciation to Jester Club and manager Terri Milan who graciously allow our neighborhood to host events at their location.





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# Welcome a New Addition

#### TO THE JESTER NEIGHBORHOOD!



Mona and Steve Phillips (6802 Tree Fern Lane) are the proud grandparents of David Cash Phillips, 'Cash' as he'll be called! He was born on Dec 2nd, weighing 7.6 lbs. and was 19 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in. long. Both Mother, Abby Phillips, and Cash (1week old) are doing great. Abby and Cash will continue living at home with Grandpa (Steve) and Mimi (Mona), until Abby gets further along with her college studies.

This little bundle could not have blessed their lives at a better time of year!

If you have a new arrival (baby or grandbaby), email us the pertinent information along with a photo and we'll publish it in the Warbler. Let your neighbors share in celebrating your happiness! Email info on the arrival of your little one to Teresa at tgouldie@gmail.com.

#### BUNKO

by Christina Taylor

The Jester Bunko Babes had a fantastic Christmas gathering! Maria Miller hosted the group in her beautifully decorated home. The group was thrilled when she served her world famous lasagna accompanied by anti-pasta and wine, of course. The ladies enjoyed the evening so much that they decided to skip the Bunko game and take advantage



of the food, friendship and merriment that was being offered, instead! The evening included a high spirited Christmas gift exchange, in which gifts were enjoyed and stolen, with much laughter. Diana Miller entertained the group when she chose an electronic Santa hat that played "Shout". The night's finale included homemade sweet potato pie, made by Vallie Marana, topped with hand whipped cream.

It was, indeed, a night that embodied the Christmas spirit, filled with friendship & joy!





<u>Jester Estates</u>

#### Jester Uncorked

Jester Uncorked rang in the holidays with a wine party hosted by Jeff and Tanya Andrien. The theme was "Napa Valley" wines, which is home to a diverse variety of fine wines. There was a great turn out, wine flowed freely, and everyone truly got into the spirit of the evening! Thank you to all who participated and made the evening such a wonderful success!

If you are interested in joining Jester Uncorked or hosting the next wine evening, please email Tanya Andrien at tandrien@yahoo.com











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Visit Jester Homeowner's Association website and sign up to receive pertinent neighborhood email alerts. www.JesterNeighbors.com

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#### <u>Jester Estates</u> NATURE WATCH Rubies & Gold

by Jim and Lynne Weber

Take a walk in the bare winter woods and you'll undoubtedly notice kinglets – tiny, highly active songbirds feeding high in the trees. They are in the Regulidae family, which comes from the Greek meaning 'petty king or prince', and refers to their regal, brightly colored crowns. Legend has it that these little kings derived their names from a fable about the election of the king of birds, defined as the bird that could fly the longest distance. In the fable, while the eagle was able to outfly all other birds, he was beaten by a tiny bird, the kinglet, that had hidden itself in his feathers.

Here in Central Texas, you can find both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets most reliably from November through March. The Ruby-crowned kinglet is about 4 inches long, an olive-gray color overall with darker wings and white wing bars. The males have a ruby crown, which is often barely visible and usually covered by other head feathers, until responding to aggressive encounters by other males or even curious humans. They sometimes forage in mixed flocks of chickadees and titmice, and may also show their crowns when in close proximity to other birds.

Golden-crowned kinglets are similar but slightly smaller than their rubycrowned cousins. The males have an orange crown patch bordered in yellow and black, while the females have crowns that are yellow and black. The males also raise their crowns during aggressive encounters. Both species of kinglets sing fairly frequently even in the winter, with Ruby-crowned Kinglet the male ruby-crowns having a complex, rich warbling song, and the male golden-crowns having a much higher pitched, shorter song.

Kinglets have a very rapid metabolism and their tiny size means they must constantly forage to keep up with their energy needs. In fact, they are so small that it would take 3 to 5 birds to total a mere ounce!

They are always in motion and continuously flicking their wings. While seen most often gleaning insects and their over-wintering eggs from tree branches, they can forage anywhere from the ground to the treetops, and often catch active prey while hovering or flycatching. If prevented from feeding for even twenty minutes, they may lose a third of their body weight and could starve to death within an hour. Golden-crowns are the smallest birds to routinely survive freezing winter temperatures, and huddle together in protected areas at night. Their populations decrease during severe winters, particularly when ice storms make foraging much more difficult.

In this winter season, take the time to walk through the woods and listen for

the gift of song given to us by these littlest of kings. Take your binoculars, and see if you can spot their crowns of rubies and gold!

Send your naturerelated questions to naturewatch@austin.

rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, look for our book, Nature Watch Austin, published by Texas A&M University Press.

Golden-crowned

Kinglet

#### **Pick up the Pile**

Happy New Year to all! As we embark on 2012's journey, some will think of ways to improve upon themselves. I'd like to offer an idea to those that still think dog poop is fertilizer, let's try picking up after our dogs. In case you were not aware, scientists have established the fact that the dog's gut harbors a particular type of bacteria known as the coli form bacteria. This bacterium includes the dreaded E. coli bacteria and also contains strains of salmonella and giardia. Now, since the rains have finally come, all the piles that have been left behind will be washed into our storm drains and contaminate our water supply. Not only is our water supply affected but perhaps even the air we breathe...I came across this article:

#### SCIENCEDAILY (AUG. 18, 2011)

"Bacteria from fecal material -- in particular, dog fecal material -may constitute the dominant source of airborne bacteria in Cleveland's and Detroit's wintertime air, says a new University of Colorado Boulder study."

This was the first test conducted, for air borne disease so far, however, scientist presume other cities, with an abundance of the canine kind, will show similar results. Please be kind, don't leave it behind. To those that pick up....THANK YOU

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#### WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

Last month the Jester Welcome Committee delivered welcome packages to:

Russell, Melissa and son Harrison on Curly Leaf Cove. They recently moved from Chicago but have lived in Austin before. Bill and Bernie on the 8100 block of Asmara Drive. Bill and Bernie moved from another neighborhood in Austin.

Stephanie and Kevin, with their two dogs, on the 7200 block of Rusty Fig. They recently moved from Phoenix but have just moved from an apartment in Austin. Marylene and Alexis with their children on the 8100 block of Bottlebrush. Their children are Maylis and Zachary, both 6 years old, and Claire 9 years old. Several of these new homes were sold earlier in the year but renovations were done before the new residents moved in.

Please contact JoAnn Welles at (512) 346-0349 or joannn-welles@sbcglobal. net if you've moved to Jester lately and we haven't welcomed you officially. We may have tried to deliver a package but not found you home!

(bottom left:) Marylene, Alexis, Maylis, Zachary and Claire on Bottlebrush - (top right:) Melissa, Russell and son Harrison on Curly Leaf Cove - (bottom right:) Bernie and Bill on Asmara









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## <u>Jester Estates</u>

#### PAST BOARD MEMBERS



# Spring Baseball and Softball Register Now!

Open to ages 5-15 for baseball and grades K-12 for softball, Northwest Little League is accepting online registrations through February 2nd.

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# RECIPE OF THE MONTH

#### EARTHQUAKE CAKE

- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1 2 layer pkg. German chocolate cake mix
- 8 ounces cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup melted oleo
- 1 1lb. pkg. confectioners sugar

Sprinkle coconut and pecans in greased and floured 8 x 14" cake pan. Prepare cake mix using package directions. Pour into pan. Beat cream cheese and oleo in mixing bowl. Add confectioners sugar; mix well. Pour over batter. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until cake tests done. Yield 15 servings.

or 45 minutes or until cake tests done. Yield 15 servings.

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# <u>Jester Estates</u> SOCIAL GROUPS - CONTACT INFO

- **BUNKO** If you'd like to join or be put on the list as a sub, contact Carol Biggar at cabiggar@ austin.rr.com or 512-795-8446 (home) or 512-914-7517 (cell). They are a lively group and play on the 1st Thursday of every month at 7 pm.
- **CYCLING** Want to join a Jester road biking group and participate in organized rides? Contact Troy Reish at troy.reish@gmail.com or call 241-0592.
- **FOODIES OF JESTER** Join our new group...meet friends and enjoy great food! Contact Rachelle Abercrombie at 512-779-5298 or rabercrombie@hotmail.com.
- HILL 2011 KINDERGARTEN GROUP -This group is helping connect Jester families with others who also have children entering Hill Kindergarten in the Fall 2011. Email beth@schaffer to be added to our email distribution list.
- JESTER DOG LOVER'S GROUP Put a smile on your dog's face and a wag in his tail — sign up now to be a founding member

of the Jester dog lovers group. Contact Carol Powell at 340-0321 or email her at carolpowell@austin.rr.com

- JESTER KIDS YAHOO GROUP This group is helping Jester parents connect with other parents who have children with similar ages or interests! Email jesterkids-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to subscribe.
- JESTER PAGE TURNERS Check out the Jester Page Turners, a neighborhood book group that meets the second Wednesday evening of each month. Contact Rachelle Abercrombie at 512-779-5298 or rabercrombie@hotmail.com.
- JESTER UNCORKED Wine lovers of Jester, unite! Join our ever-growing group of wine lovers. Contact Tonya Andrien at (512) 795-0086 or tandrien@yahoo.com.
- **KAYAKING -** Have some fun with this great water sport! For more info contact Dan Wolfson at dwolfson@austin.rr.com or call 795-8218.

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- WELCOME COMMITTEE Darla Rowan and JoAnn Welles are co-chairs of this committee, which is designed to welcome new residents to Jester, including newborns. Volunteer to help by emailing JoAnn at joannwelles@sbcglobal.net or call her at 346-0349
- **WOODWORKING GROUP** Join our woodworking group to share knowledge and techniques! Contact John Parker at 345-6991 or JParker84@austin.rr.com





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