The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

November 2013

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President's Corner

Hope you are all enjoying the Fall season and the cooler weather. November reminds us to be thankful for our many blessings, great neighborhood and the caring families and friends that live here. The Jester board has seen an increase in communications from you with great thoughts and constructive concerns. We appreciate your involvement and encourage more in this time of giving. It also is the time to be mindful of increased burglaries and theft with the stress of holiday spending. Please take extra precautions, watch for suspicious activity and help keep our neighborhood safe.

The board is looking forward to seeing many of you at the November 19th holiday social! See announcement in this Warbler.

Jester is a great place to live! Diana Miller, President

HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR Tuesday Nov 19, 6-8:00 pm My Place in Jester Village

The HOA invites you to kick off the holiday season with a gathering at My Place. Come socialize and network with your neighbors,

learn more about your HOA, and get into the holiday spirit! Light appetizers will be provided and happy hour priced drinks will be available for purchase. We hope to see you there!

JESIE **HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST**

by Christi Taylor

Get amped up and start thinking about how you want to decorate!!! The Holiday Light Decorating Contest is coming! This year's judging will take place between December 14 -15th, so make sure that your homes are dazzling and bright! Prizes will be awarded for several categories, meaning that there will be a lot of winners in Jester. Some categories include: Winter Wonderland, Best Traditional, Most Colorful and Chevy Chase Would Be Proud!!! Come on Jester! Show us what you've got!!!

Jester Estates

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www.JesterNeighbors.com

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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 12th of the month prior to the issue.

Jester Homeowner's Association Website!

www.JesterNeighbors.com Community Registration Code: 3328

PET REGISTRY • SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: ONLINE & VIA EMAIL • ONLINE SUGGESTION BOX: MAKE SUGGESTIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION BOARD • IMPORTANT HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION DOCUMENTS ... & MUCH MORE



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Include type of pet, name, male or female, description, age, medications, veterinarian's name, whether it is microchipped, and pet owner's name, address, and contact information.

For lost or found pets, call 338-1519.

SIGN UP FOR JESTER EMAIL ALERTS!

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

www.JesterNeighbors.com

Community Registration Code: 3328 -REGISTER TODAY!

GREEN NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATE by Dale Bulla

It is that time of the year for us to update our Green Neighborhood website with the City of Austin. Each January we add figures to the number of Certified NWF Habitats, solar panels, plug-in and hybrid vehicles, etc. If you have had your yard certified this last year or if you have purchased solar panels, a partial zero emission vehicle, zero emission vehicle, hybrid vehicle, please call me or send me an email so I can add this info to our city website. NO personal information will appear on the website, just numbers. Each year our numbers seem to get better and better as we continue to green our neighborhood. Check out our green neighborhood website:

http://www.austintexas.gov/content/1361/FAQ/3002 Click on "Who are Austin's certified Green Neighborhoods?" and scroll down until you see Jester. It is great to live in such a neighborhood with such wonderful caring neighbors.

Dale Bulla 512-345-9528 dale-bulla@pobox.com



"When you could have a quiet place" At Jester Village



Jester Village is running a special for next couple of months — 2 Months' Rent Free — Sizes from 150 to 510 feet available. Jester Village Shopping Center and Business Park 6507 Jester Blvd Austin, Texas 78750

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JESTER WILDLIFE HABITAT

If you have recently had your yard certified and have put up a habitat sign, let me know and I will take a picture of the sign in front of your house for a future Warbler.

If your yard has been certified in the past but you have just put up your sign, let me know that too. We want every one of our 176 certified yards to show off their love for habitat with a sign, which is the best way for neighbors to get on board to protect our environment and keep Jester a Green Neighborhood.

> Dale Bulla dale-bulla@pobox.com





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WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

This year's Welcome Committee News has been like a broken record -- another huge month for the Welcome Committee with 7 deliveries completed. We only thought that sales and renovations would slow down after summer was over! Deliveries were made to new residents at the following locations:

- 8200 block of Crabtree Drive: Brooke and Jeffrey with their dog Fred moved in after months of renovations. They relocated from the Washington D.C. area.
- 8100 block of Asherton Cove: Sara and Brandon with their children Sydney and Sloane moved in September from Houston.
- 7800 block of Lakewood Drive: Kristoph and Pegh moved from central Austin. Kristoph works near the 360 bridge and likes to ride his bike to work.
- Juneberry Cove: Vanessa and Jason with their 15 month old son Luke and their 2 dogs Georgia and Cooper are new residents. A baby girl is due in February. Congratulations on both your new house and your upcoming family addition!
- 7000 block of Anaqua Drive: Jen and Michael with their 3 year old child Cadie and their newborn Tanner moved in September. Their household also includes Baxter, their dog, and Edison, their cat. Jen is originally from New York, but Michael is returning to Texas.
- Jester Blvd: Former Jester residents Elaina and Griff have just moved into their newly built house. Welcome back!:
- Curly Leaf: New residents Jesus, his wife, 3 year old daughter and newborn son just moved from Houston, but are originally from Venezuela.

If you have a new resident on your block please take the time to introduce yourself and see if there are any questions you can answer. In a lot of cases, new residents move in weeks before we're able to deliver a Welcome bag to them. There are a lot of questions residents need answered right away. Why are there no blue recycling containers out this week? What goes into a recycling container? What day can I water? Will it ever get cool enough to play tennis?

We're glad to have new residents contact us, but it's even better if close neighbors have been welcoming. Please contact JoAnn Welles at (512) 346-0349 or joann-welles@sbcglobal. net if you've moved to Jester lately and we haven't welcomed you officially. We may have tried to deliver a bag to you but not found you home.



Brooke and Jeffrey on Crabtree Drive



Sara and Brandon on Asherton

NatureWatch

by Jim and Lynne Weber

The Simple Beauty of Sparrows

Coming from the Anglo-Saxon word 'spearwa' and literally meaning 'flutterer', sparrows often conjure up images of the ubiquitous and non-native House sparrow and the House finch, which isn't a sparrow at all. While most sparrows are generally small to medium brown birds with streaks, the differences between sparrows can best be determined by their relative size, head markings, and habitat.

All sparrows have conical bills that they use to shell seeds, a primary component of their diet year-round, but especially so in the winter months. There is little difference between the males and the females in terms of appearance, but males are on average larger than females. As a group, most sparrows are birds of grasslands, prairies, and marshes, and seem to prefer weedy fields and woodland edges in the winter. Of the sparrow species that migrate, none travel further than the southern United States or northern Mexico.

One of our most common winter sparrows is the Chipping sparrow. Small and slim, with a long notched tail, rusty cap, white stripe over the eye and a black line through the eye, this sparrow moves in loose flocks and frequently feeds in short grass and open woods. While still fairly abundant, this sparrow is declining in numbers, mainly due to habitat destruction, and winters in the southern part of the United States. When first identified in 1810 by an American ornithologist, it was nicknamed 'the social sparrow' for it was easily approached and associated with human habitation.

A fairly large sparrow, the White-crowned sparrow is distinguished by its black and white striped head, unmarked gray breast, and dark pink bill. It is found in large groups in thickets and weedy areas, foraging on the ground. Discovered in 1772 by a German naturalist, this sparrow was originally named the 'white-eyebrowed bunting', for in the Old World, sparrows were usually called buntings.

Found in a variety of grassy habitats, and often in small flocks, is the Savannah sparrow. Streaked on both their back and their breast, Savannah's have pink legs, yellow above the eye, a thin white median crown stripe, and a short notched tail. First described by a British ornithologist in 1790, it was called a 'sandwich bunting' due to the first specimens being collected from Sandwich Bay in the Aleutian Islands of Alaska.

Lincoln's sparrow is a medium-sized bird with a rather short tail, broad gray stripe above the eye, buffy moustache stripe, and a buffy upper breast with crisp, blackish streaks. Found in winter in brushy edges of ponds and other moist areas, this sparrow was named by John James Audubon in 1833 after his research companion, Thomas Lincoln, shot the first specimen in Labrador.

Sparrows are gregarious and are often our most hardy winter visitors. Adorned in various shades of brown, gray, black, and white, they reflect the subdued hues of a winter landscape. Often dismissed as 'little brown birds' when seen with the naked eye, these birds invite closer inspection and are nature's way of reminding us that subtle colors and patterns can be beautiful, too!

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them.



Chipping sparrow



White-crowned sparrow



Savannah sparrow



Lincoln's sparrow

Jester Estates Stork Report

Congratulations! Let us help celebrate... email info on the arrival of your little one to diana0777@att.net.



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SOCIAL GROUPS

CONTACT INFO

BUNKO - If you'd like to join or be put on the list as a sub, contact Vallie Marana at valliemarana@gmail.com or 925-408-5206 (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.

HILL 2013 KINDERGARTEN GROUP - This group is helping connect Jester families with others who also have children entering Hill Kindergarten in the Fall 2013. Email Jester resident, Kevin Fricke at Kevin@lonestarmedia.com to be added to our email distribution list.

JESTER UNCORKED - Wine lovers of Jester, unite! Join our ever-growing group of wine lovers. Contact Karen Kershaw at kershawk@me.com.

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 Nicky Shore at Shorenm@gmail. com.

KAYAKING - Have some fun with this great water sport!

NETWORKING GROUP - Are you a resident who owns a business or provides a service? Build your business by referral! One individual or company per professional category. Contact Paul (Griff) Griffiths at 241-1644 or griff@albioncomputergroup.com

ROWING - Interested in sweep rowing and sculling? Contact Julie Donnie at 340-0432 or JulieDonnie@yahoo.com.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT GROUP - Interested in developing relationships and sharing spiritual life experience? Contact Jim Irwin at jimirwin@austin.rr.com or 502-0797

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 joann-welles@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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By USPTA/PTR Master Professional Fernando Velasco





How To Execute The Forehand Lob

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit the forehand groundstroke, the two-handed backhand, the one-handed backhand, the forehand volley, the two handed backhand volley, the serve, the forehand half-volley, the one-handed backhand volley, the overhead "smash", the forehand service return, the backhand service return, the forehand high volley approach shot, the two handed high volley approach shot and the one-handed high volley approach shot.

In this issue, I will offer instructions on how to execute the Forehand Lob. This shot is used when a player is forced to retrieve a ball that is hit deep and the opponent is either charging to the net or staying far back. The player hitting the lob is looking for "air time" to regain balance and court space. This ball should be hit high enough so the players at the net cannot reach and "slam" the ball down, or force the opponent at the base line to retrieve back. In the illustrations, Carmen Manzur, Member of the Grey Rock Tennis Club, shows the proper technique to execute this stroke.

Step 1: The Back Swing: When Carmen is forced deep into the

court and realizes that she has to hit a defensive lob, she pivots to the right and gets her racket back early. Notice that the head of the racket is low and her left arm is up in front to keep her balance. Her eyes are focused on the path of the ball and her weight is in her right foot.

Step 2: The Point of Contact: Carmen is now ready to hit the ball. Her eyes are now on the point of contact and the face of the racket is tilted at a 45 degree angle to create height and depth on her lob. Her goal is to keep her head still and not start looking up to her opponent or to the other side of the court.

Step 3: The Follow Through: The success of a deep lob is the follow through. Carmen's wrist is still "laid back" and her shoulder is lifting the racket above her head. Her right arm is still in front of her in order to allow maximum balance.

Step 4: The Shuffle Back: Once Carmen finishes the stroke, her goal is to either move forward toward the net top to hit an overhead, or to paddle back to the middle of the court to drive the next ball back to the opponent.

Look in the next Newsletter for: How to execute "The Two-Handed Backhand Lob"



It's the Law!

Austin City Ordinance 3-3-7 states "It shall be unlawful for any person to fail to promptly remove and dispose of, in a sanitary manner, feces left by a dog or cat on property, public or private, other than the premises of the owner or handler of such dog or cat." The potential fine is \$200.

Please be neighborly (and obey the law!) by picking up after your dog!



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NOVENBER EVENTS at the Wildflower Center Submitted by Saralee Tiede

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST WINNERS NOVEMBER 1-30

Winning photography from the Wildflower Center/Texas Highways photo contest in the McDermott Learning Center.

NATURAL PATTERNS THROUGH DECEMBER 8

Colorful nature paintings by Billy Hassell and exquisite painted metal wildflowers by Charles Allen in the McDermott Learning Center.

WILDFLOWER DAYS[™] POSTER NOVEMBER 9 & 10 The official 2014 wildflower print for sale at The Store. CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY, NOVEMBER 28



More information at www.wildflower.org



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12 The Jester Warbler - November 2013

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