



The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

December 2013

Volume 8, Issue 12

HO! HO! HO!

Santa is Coming to Jester Aboard a Firetruck!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14TH
9:00AM - JESTER CLUB


(You do not have to be a member to participate)

The Austin Fire Department has graciously agreed to send Santa aboard a fire truck to visit with our Jester children and grandchildren.

ATIVITIES, CAROLING & MORE!
BRING YOUR CAMERAS!

Holiday Lights Contest

by Christi Taylor



Just a reminder to get "amped up" for the Jester Holiday Lights Contest!!! This year's judging will take place between December 14-15th, so make sure that your homes are dazzling and bright!

If you would take part in the judging, please email me at christitaylor777@yahoo.com



NatureWatch

Jolly Holly

One of the brightest colors in the winter landscape belongs to the red berries of our native species of hollies. While approximately 600 species exists worldwide in the genus *Ilex*, in our area we have Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) and Possumhaw (*Ilex decidua*). The first is naturally found in both dry and wet habitats, while the second thrives in generally moist woods. Each, however, has their own unique characteristics, and they are hinted at in their scientific names.



Yaupon Holly is a large evergreen shrub or small tree with small, shiny alternate leaves that have rounded toothed edges. Little white flowers appear in April and May, followed by quarter-inch bright red fruits in fall and winter. The species name 'vomitoria' means exactly what it sounds like, as early Europeans witnessed Native Americans consuming large amounts of a 'black drink' to induce vomiting as part of a purification ritual. Steeped from toasted leaves and bark of this plant, this tea-like drink contained large amounts of the stimulants caffeine and theobromine, and is related to yerba mate, which is a traditional and still popular South American drink brewed from a different but related holly species.

(Continued on Page 3)

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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

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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!

Nature Watch (Continued from Cover Page)



Possumhaw is also a large shrub or small tree with simple alternate leaves that are round at the tip and tapered at the base, but as suggested by its species name 'decidua', it is deciduous and loses its leaves in the winter. That's when Possumhaw shines, however, spending most of the

winter season with its' bare branches adorned by bright red-orange berries. Sometimes referred to as Winterberry, Deciduous Holly, or Swamp Holly, it is the larval food plant for the Dusky-blue Groundstreak butterfly.

Grouping both of these hollies in your landscape with Carolina Buckthorn, Mexican Buckeye, Texas Redbud, and Spicebush creates a colorful and natural understory for an attractive woodland garden. Hollies are dioecious, meaning each plant is either male or female. The male plant provides the pollen, which is carried by bees up to a half-mile to a female plant, and used to pollinate it. The berries on the female plant, while slightly toxic to humans, provide an important winter food source for small mammals and many different bird species, such as American robins, cedar waxwings, and northern mockingbirds.

Hollies have long been associated with the holiday season, with the roots of this tradition beginning in Europe and eventually brought to the New World. Over hundreds of years ago, druids considered holly to be a sacred plant, and associated it with the Roman God Saturn and the celebration of the winter solstice. Plant some of our native hollies in your yard, and both you and the wildlife will enjoy a jolly holly season!

Send your nature-related 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.



Join us for Christmas Services:
Christmas Sunday
December 22nd, 10:40 AM
Christmas Eve Service
December 24th, 7:00 PM

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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
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WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS

The Welcome Committee was able to take a breath after a hectic summer and early fall as the number of sales have decreased. This month we had 5 potential deliveries of Welcome Bags to make but only found 3 of the new residents home.

Each of the 3 families had moved from other neighborhoods in the Austin metro area. Some of the materials in our bags are more helpful if a new resident has newly moved to the Austin area. However other items such as voters registration applications, menus from nearby restaurants, piggy banks from our Jester Edward Jones financial advisor Caleb McSorley, garbage pickup schedules, and especially the cookies, are helpful even if the residents have only moved a few miles.

This month's deliveries were made to new residents at the following locations:

1. **7800 block of Lakewood Drive:** Faisal and Shaila with their 2 daughters Alisha and Arusha just moved from Cedar Park.

2. **Clematis Cove:** Delia her husband Tom and 7 year old daughter Elise moved from Southwest Austin to allow Tom an easy commute to work at the Arboretum.

3. **7900 Block of Moonflower Drive:** Marisa and Neil moved from nearby condos. They've only been married a year, but were ready to have a house.

The Welcome Committee members enjoyed having a short chat with each of these new residents. It's such fun to meet them and learn a little about their families, while letting them know how much we enjoy living in Jester.

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.



Delia, Tom and Elise

JESTER HALLOWEEN PARADE

by Teresa Gouldie Social Chairman

Jester Homeowners Association hosted its annual Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 26th. Excited neighborhood children and grandchildren were dressed in an incredible array of creative costumes. Led by a decorated golf cart, the participants provided a sea of color as they marched up Jester, around Basil, and back. Thanks to all residents on the parade route who came out of their homes to wave and cheer the children on. Our Jester kiddos definitely LOVE an audience!

Upon their return, the children were treated to refreshments and an assortment of games and activities, including the ever-popular "prize walk". A great time was had by all!

Our Jester volunteers included Anne, Larry, Kevin, Sean, Liam and Caroline Moore, Diana Miller, Eva Wissner, Glen Brown, Lauretta Reeves, Mike Parker, and Jason McCampbell. A special thank you, as always, goes to Kenfield Golf Cars along with Terri Milan and Jester Club for providing the location.

We are in need of volunteers for our "Santa on a Fire Truck" event on December 14th. Please contact me at tgouldie@gmail.com or call me at 751-8000 if you can participate.



(Halloween Parade Photos - Continued on Page 6)

HALLOWEEN PARADE PHOTOS



Jester Estates Stork Report

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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 kershaw@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@yahoo.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

HALLOWEEN PARADE PHOTOS



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HALLOWEEN PARADE PHOTOS



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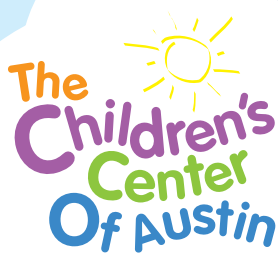
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December Events

Compliments of ... Teresa Gouldie 751-8000 Coldwell Banker, United

Nov. 21 - Dec. 29	This Wonderful Life <i>Martin Burke plays all 37 characters from the classic film "It's a Wonderful Life"</i>	Zach Theatre zachtheatre.org
Nov. 27 - Dec. 29	A Christmas Story <i>Based on the classic holiday film</i>	Zach Theatre zachtheatre.org
Dec. 6	John Mayer with special guest Phillip Phillips <i>Seven-time Grammy Award winner</i>	Frank Erwin Center uterwincenter.com
Dec. 6 - 15	THCW – 2013 Holiday Wine Trail <i>The most coveted wine trail of the year with 36 wineries</i>	texaswinetrail.com
Dec. 7	Holiday Sing-Along & Downtown Stroll <i>Caroling, Capitol tree lighting and stroll</i>	The Capitol & Congress downtownaustinholidays.com
Dec. 7, 15, 21	Snow Day at the Galleria (with real snow!)	hillcountrygalleria.com
Dec. 7 - 22	Austin Trail of Lights at Zilker Park	austintexas.gov
Dec. 7 - 23	The Nutcracker <i>Ballet Austin presents an evening of magic!</i>	The Long Center 476-2163 balletaustin.org
Dec. 10	Austin Symphony Orchestra - Christmas Sing-Along <i>Sing-along to Christmas favorites</i>	Riverbend Centre austinsymphony.org
Dec. 14 - 15	Luminations <i>Luminarias, music, refreshments, and fun!</i>	LBJ Wildflower Center 292-4100 wildflower.org
Dec. 14 - 24	Gingerbread Workshops <i>Create a candy-covered holiday tradition!</i>	Thinkery thinkeryaustin.org
Dec. 17 - 24	Armadillo Christmas Bazaar <i>Austin arts event with an eclectic selection of unique gifts</i>	Palmer Events Center armadillobazaar.com
Dec. 19 - 22	The Wonder Bread Years <i>Salute to the Baby Boomer Generation – "Milk-snorting funny"</i>	The Long Center longcenter.org
Dec. 22	Disney Junior Live! Pirate & Princess Adventure <i>Never-before-seen show featuring your favorite characters</i>	Frank Erwin Center uterwincenter.com
Dec. 26	Trans-Siberian Orchestra Winter Tour <i>Virtuoso musicianship and over the top production</i>	Frank Erwin Center trans-siberian.com
Dec. 30 - 31	Willie & Friends Family New Year	Moody Theater acl-live.com

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