



The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

February 2016

Volume 11, Issue 2

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year Jester Neighbors! Feeling good about 2016 and want to share this optimism with you. Let's start the New Year with more smiles and friendly waves when you are driving, bicycling or walking around the neighborhood. A good way to get to know your neighbors is to attend the next scheduled Jester Homeowners Association, Inc. 2016 annual meeting on February 23rd at 7:00 pm at the Bamboo Grill in Jester Village Shopping Center. We will have Board nominations, reports from our committees, and an open discussion period to hear questions and concerns of our neighbors.

Please consider getting more involved in our community this year. We hope that with more involvement on the Jester Board, we can do more for our neighborhood. Please contact any of the Board members listed on the following page if you are interested in serving on the Board or on a committee.

Look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting!

Jester is a great place to live...

Diana Miller

President

JESTER LIGHTS CONTEST

by *Rachelle Abercrombie*

Happy New Year neighbors! Another holiday season has come and gone and what a grand season it was! As always, Jester shined with celebration and cheer. Our judges had a fine time roving the streets and seeing all of the great displays. Picking winners is never an easy task as there are so many to choose from. That being said, our judges took up the challenge with enthusiasm (and wine!). This year's winners will be receiving prizes from:

Teresa Gouldie, Realtor - \$100 Trulucks gift certificate

Style Encore - \$75 gift certificate

Childrens Center of Austin - \$50 gift card

Waterloo Icehouse - \$50 gift card

And the winners are:



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Jester Homeowners Association ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, Feb 23th at 7 PM

Registration starts at 6:30 PM

Note New Location: Bamboo Grill
in Jester Village Shopping Center

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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.

WELCOME COMMITTEE NEWS



The Welcome Committee members pictured are Naomi Ritchie and Eva Wisser (top row left to right), Darla Rowan (middle row) and JoAnn Welles, Deb Lewis and Janice Toreki (left to right bottom row)

Winter Welcome bags are always hard to deliver to new residents as we don't like bothering new residents after dark, and it's hard to catch people at home on the weekends. We did deliver 4 bags since the last Warbler article, but only met one of the residents. We were aware the other 3 had moved in so left bags in protected areas at their houses. The one family we met moved to Quill Leaf Cove, Robin and David and children August and Lyric with dogs Bloo and Kahlo. They moved from Hyde Park, and closed on the house in August, but this was the first time we had found them home. The three bags we left were on Nutmeg Cove, Rockberry Cove and the 7200 block of Foxtree Cove.

Because the holidays are always so busy, the Welcome Committee held our 2nd annual party post-holidays, with 6 of the 7 members able to participate. Darla Rowan hosted at her beautiful house for the party, and her husband Bill took the picture of all us. Thank you Darla and Bill! We had such a great time that there was no time left to do this month's deliveries! We'll catch up ASAP. Welcome Committee members are Darla Rowan and JoAnn Welles (co-chairs), Janice Toreki, Deb Lewis, Naomi Ritchie, Jen Schwan and Eva Wisser.



Robin and David with children August and Lyric on Quill Leaf Cove

If you live near any new residents, please stop by and introduce yourself! Also, 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.

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(Continued from Cover)



Lakewood Point - Keeping It Simple

7501 Clematis for Best Tree (unfortunately, the pictures did not turn out, but we hope you saw the trees!)

There were so many well done light displays to see. Next year, don't forget to check out our winners as well as:

- 7881 Lakewood 7407 Curly Leaf
- 7507 Jester Blvd 7606 Fawn Hollow
- 6505 Winterberry

There are always more great homes than prizes, but there is always next year! Speaking of which, a brave soul is needed to take over the lights contest. Responsibilities include gathering prizes, judging lights and writing articles. You know you are going to ride around and see the lights anyway, so make a party of it!



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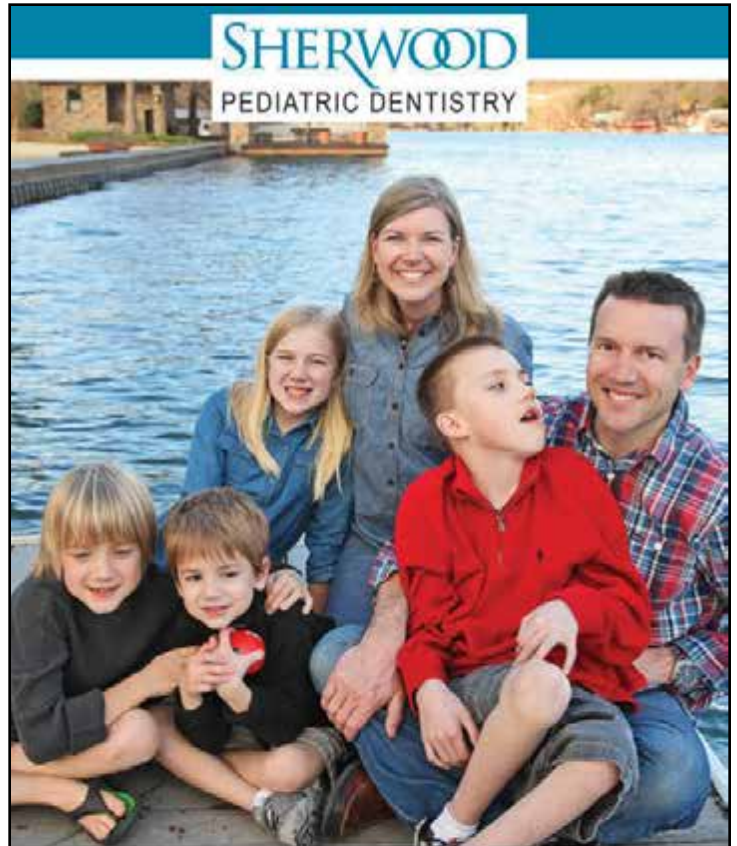
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Ladies Night Out

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18
AT 6:30PM

Hi All-

What a great time we had at the Peach Tortilla last month!

This month we are going to visit our inner artistic child that lives in all of us!!!

Of course we can let that little child out easier with our favorite drinks!

This is a bring your drinks and snacks event. There is a \$45 charge per person for the canvas and paints and you get to take your "masterpiece" home with you!

Check out their website if you are not familiar with this fun place to spend the evening with new friends and previous friends!

When: Thursday, Feb. 18
Time: 6:30

Where: Painting With a Twist
8820 Burnet Rd. Suite 507, Austin, TX, 78756.
<http://paintingwithatwist.com/northaustin>

*** Please RSVP to: (email if you CAN make it -
We need to get a head count so we can let them know we're coming!)

Debra Ellsworth
debra@ellsworthteam.com

Typically we get together the 3rd Thurs. of the month. Let me know if you would like to host at your home for any month.

It's easier to chat to more people in a home environment than sitting at tables in a restaurant, but that has worked well too.

Otherwise, we will continue to explore restaurants in Austin.

If you have suggestions for locations or forms of entertainment, let me know!



Green Tips

by Dale Bulla

Are you wanting to save money on your water bill? Do you want to reduce your yard mowing etc.? Austin Water is accepting applications through March 31 for WaterWise rainscape and WaterWise landscape rebates.

Homeowners and schools could receive up to \$500 for installing rainscapes that prevent runoff and reduce the need for additional irrigation; the minimum installation size is 100 square feet. Visit austintexas.gov/department/waterwise-rainscape-rebate for more details.

Austin Water customers who replace healthy grass with native plant beds and permeable hardscapes may be eligible for up to \$1,750 through the WaterWise Landscape rebate program. Residential properties could receive \$35 for every 100 square feet; at least 500 square feet must be converted to be eligible for rebates. See austintexas.gov/department/water-wise-landscape-rebate.

So, help Jester remain a green neighborhood while you save money, time and effort. Last month's January 2016 habitat home on Holly Fern Cove was a recipient of just such a rebate last year. 2016 could be the year you also get a check from the city for helping to protect the environment here in Jester Estates.

WILDLIFE HABITAT

8333 Jancy Drive



NATUREWATCH: WINTRY WONDERS

by Jim and Lynne Weber

While our winter weather is milder than most, our thoughts often turn to visions of ice and snow. From first frost to ice storms to snow storms, these frozen precipitation events are sporadic in Central Texas, but when they occur, they can also be spectacular!

How does frost, this sparkling layer that sometimes covers the landscape, form? When the temperature of the air reaches a point where the water vapor in it can condense out into water, it is called the dew point. The frost point is when the dew point falls below freezing, and rather than producing dew, it creates frost. Consisting of tiny, spike-like crystal structures called 'spicules' that grow out from a solid surface, frost generally forms on surfaces that are colder than the surrounding air. Even the size of the crystals can vary, depending upon the amount of time they took to grow, the relative changes in temperature, and the amount of water vapor available.

Cold air is denser than warm air, so quite often when night skies are clear and calm, lower areas become colder due to differences in elevation. Known as surface temperature inversion, this phenomenon forms 'frost pockets' or areas where frost forms first, due to cold

air trapped against the ground. On such days, there can be a 40 to 50 degree difference in air temperature between dawn and early afternoon. Getting out early can reward you with a rare and wonderful spectacle of nature when something called 'hoar frost' is formed.

Referring to white ice crystals that are deposited on the ground or loosely attached to exposed objects such as leaves and branches, hoar frost forms on cold, clear nights when heat radiates out to the open sky faster than it can be replaced by nearby sources such as wind. This allows objects in the landscape to cool below the frost point of the surrounding air, and well below the freezing point of water. Hoar frost can form in low-lying cold air even when the air temperature a few feet above ground is well above freezing. The name 'hoar' comes from an Old English adjective meaning 'showing signs of old age', and refers to the frost making the vegetation look like it has grown white hair. When hoar frost forms on objects above the surface, like branches and leaves, it has a feathery-like appearance

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NOW ENROLLING

The Children's Center Of Austin 

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childrenscenterofaustin.com

Jester Estates

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and is specifically called air hoar.

Snow, on the other hand, is an entirely different matter. When a cold water droplet freezes onto a pollen or dust particle high in the sky, it creates an ice crystal. As this primary crystal falls toward the ground, more water vapor freezes on it, building new crystals that form the six characteristic arms of a snowflake. This process of crystallization builds in a symmetrical or patterned way, because it reflects the internal order of the water molecules as they arrange themselves in pre-determined spaces to form the six-sided snowflake.

The most significant factor that determines the basic shape of the ice crystal is the temperature at which it forms, and to a lesser degree humidity. The intricate shape of a single arm of a snowflake is determined by these atmospheric conditions as the entire crystal falls. As slight changes in temperature and humidity occur minutes or even seconds later, a crystal that begin to grow in one way might then change and branch off in a new direction. Since all six arms of

a snowflake experience the same changes in atmospheric conditions, they all grow identically. And since individual snowflakes encounter slightly different atmospheric conditions as they take different paths to the ground, they all tend to look unique, resembling everything from simple prisms and needles to intricately faceted plates and stellar dendrites.

On the surface, winter may seem as if nature is shutting down all around us, but take the time for a second look. Aside from the visual beauty they provide, the frozen forms of precipitation during the season are just another part of the ongoing cycle of life and renewal for our native plants and animals.

Send your nature-related questions to naturewatch@austin.rr.com and we'll do our best to answer them. Check out our book, *Nature Watch Austin*, published by Texas A&M University Press, and our blog at naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com if you enjoy reading these articles!



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February Events

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Feb. 10	Peppa Pig Live! <i>More fun than a muddy puddle</i>	Moody Theater acl-live.com
Feb. 12	Monster Truck <i>Side by side racing, wheelie contests and freestyle</i>	Travis County Expo Center mapmotorsports.com
Feb. 13 - Apr. 3	Sherwood Forest Faire (weekends) <i>A medieval good time for the whole family</i>	sherwoodforestfaire.com
Feb. 14	Austin Marathon and Half Marathon	youraustinmarathon.com
Feb. 16 - 18	Riverdance: 20th Anniversary Tour <i>International Irish dance phenomenon</i>	The Long Center thelongcenter.org
Feb. 18 - 20	Austin Energy Regional Science Festival <i>One of Texas' largest regional science fairs</i>	Palmer Events Center sciencefest.org
Feb. 19 - Apr. 10	James and the Giant Peach <i>Charming family musical</i>	Zach Theatre zachtheatre.org
Feb. 20	Lights, Camera...The Oscars! <i>Music from the classic Oscar winning films</i>	The Long Center thelongcenter.org
Feb. 21	BJ Thomas <i>One of the most distinctive voices in American music</i>	One World Theatre oneworldtheatre.org
Feb. 21	Texas Songwriters' Assoc. 2016 Hall of Fame Awards <i>Honoring Roy Orbison, Joe Ely and more</i>	The Moody Theater acl-live.com
Feb. 23 - 28	The Sound of Music <i>Spirited, romantic and beloved musical</i>	Bass Concert Hall texasperformingarts.org
Feb. 27 - 28	That Takes the Cake! <i>Sugar art show, classes and cake competition</i>	thattakesthecake.org
Feb. 28	Fab Four - Experience the best Beatles tribute ever	oneworldtheatre.org
Feb. 28	Peking Acrobats 30th Anniversary Tour <i>Masters of agility and grace</i>	The Long Center thelongcenter.org



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