

# The Jester Warbler

Official Publication of Jester Homeowners Association, Inc.

January 2018

Volume 13, Issue 1

## SANTA VISITS JESTER

by Teresa Gouldie, Social Chairman



(Continued on Page 4)

## The Jester Holiday SPECTACULAR!

by Rossi Byrne

We want to start by thanking all the businesses in Jester that continue supporting our contest by donating wonderful prizes. Please help show our gratitude by supporting our sponsors.

### 1st Prize Jester Business Alliance

\$100.00 Visa gift card & \$50.00 Gift Certificate for Abuelos Restaurant (Donated by a Jester resident)

### 2nd Prize Studio Bella

\$125.00 gift certificate and gifts

### 3rd Prize Teresa Gouldie, Coldwell Banker Realtors

\$100.00 Trulucks gift certificate

### 4th Prize Karl Van Reusen, CFP from Edward Jones Investments

\$50.00 Visa Gift card

### 5th Prize Matt Allen, Coffee Shark

\$25.00 Gift certificate from Coffee Shark

Jester neighbors you really did it! You have made Jester bright by bringing the spirit of the holiday to our neighborhood. I have so much fun driving around looking at all the displays of lights. It is always a difficult task to select the winners, so I want to thank everyone that helped me in the process. Winners for the 2017 Christmas Light contest are: (Note – Homes cannot win in consecutive years.)



### 1st Prize - 7001 Rusty Fig

Jester "Little Wonderland" with lots of lights and fun inflatables

(Continued on Page 2)



# Jester Estates

(Continued from Cover)



## 2nd Prize - 7501 Clematis

Colorful and simple display but very eye catching



## 3rd Prize - 6809 Jester

Nicely done display of lights. The combination of the archway over driveway that leads to a beautiful light display with dripping icicle lights



## 4th Prize - 7106 Sansivera

A traditional display of light and what a nice touch with the carolers figures



## 5th Prize - 8132 Jester

It was so nice to see this very "doggy" Christmas display

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## JESTER WINE TASTING GROUP MEETS AGAIN!

**Saturday, January 27  
7 - 10 pm**

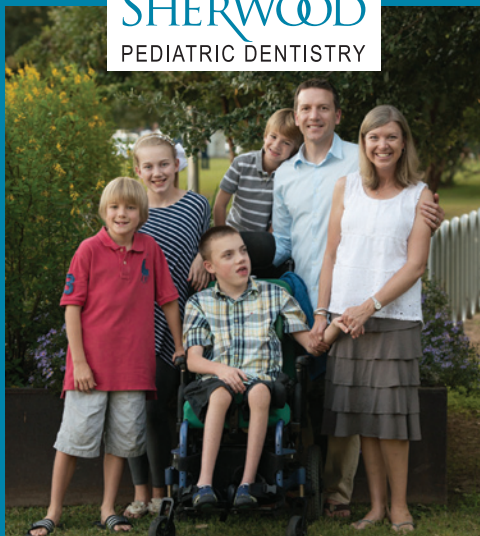
**8308 JANCY DRIVE  
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Attention Jester wine lovers! Join us for food, wine and fun and enjoy a sampling of wines from various regions. Please bring \$15.00 for wine and either an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert. The hosts will supply the entrée and the wine.

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Interested in submitting an article? You can do so by emailing  
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[www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php](http://www.peelinc.com/articleSubmit.php).

*All news must be received by the 12th  
of the month prior to the issue.*



# Jester Estates

*(Continued from Cover)*

Excited children and grandchildren of our Jester residents were treated to a visit from Santa as he arrived in our neighborhood aboard a firetruck on Saturday, Dec. 2nd. Each child had an opportunity to visit with Santa personally and share what they hoped to receive under the tree this holiday season. They posed for pictures not only with Santa, but with the firemen as well! The firemen answered countless questions and let the children explore all aspects of the firetruck. The prize walk was a big hit as usual, along with the coloring sheets, holiday tattoos, and ring toss games.

Many thanks to our teenage volunteers who brought such fun and excitement to our event...our Jester kiddos LOVED them! Our young volunteers included Leigh Dougal, Kylie Alexander, Colin Lanier, Ryan Graff, Cori Pedroncelli, Sophia Condon, and Cole Glosser. We really appreciate Jester residents Eva Wisser and Ed Mokarzel as well for always helping out with this event, and Debra Ellsworth of Debra Ellsworth photography for taking professional holiday pictures against a festive backdrop.

We are also grateful to Jester Club and manager Terri Milan for providing the location. And certainly, last but not least, thank you to Santa for making a stop in our neighborhood during this busy season!

Our next event will be the Easter Egg Hunt and Petting Zoo on Saturday, March 24th (the weekend before Easter). If you would like to volunteer, please contact Teresa at 512-751-8000 or tgouldie@gmail.com.



*(Continued on Page 8)*



## Our Annual Girls Night Out Christmas Limo Night was Lots of Fun!

*by Debra Ellsworth*

The weather the night of our celebration was a challenge, but no worries!

Getting 16 women together for dinner and drinks at Debra Ellsworth's house created the environment for easy conversation. Due to the cold and rain, we skipped Mozart's and opted to go to Pete's Dueling Piano Bar a little early. It didn't take much for us to start singing, dancing, and having a fabulous time!

On the way back to Jester, we had fun seeing who could remember words to various Christmas songs. Let's just say that our cell phones were helpful to fill in the gaps!

Let me know if you want to hear about other Jester Girls Night Out Events! [debra@debraellsworthphotography.com](mailto:debra@debraellsworthphotography.com)



  
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## 30 Feet for Fire Safety Event Scheduled for February We Want YOU to Participate!

By Jeffrey Shapiro, Jester Firewise Committee Chairman



*Successful results from our last "30 Feet for Fire Safety" event*

Everyone in Jester needs to be aware that the beautiful wildlands that surround us also pose a firesafety risk. Another wildfire season is just around the corner, and last year's rainfall led to lots of plant growth,

which will eventually dry out to become wildfire fuel.

Little things can make a big difference when it comes to protecting your home. The biggest risk to a home is ignition from flying embers that land far from the main fire, and there are many simple steps that you can take to prevent those embers from lighting a fire that could destroy your property.

NOW is the time to take preventive measures, and the Jester

Firewise Committee has scheduled our third "30 Feet for Firesafety" event, strategically placed to avoid holidays, oak wilt season and bird nesting season (which begins March 1). Jester's two previous events have involved participation by over 100 homes and resulted in the removal of nearly 250,000 pounds of "biomass" that could have been wildfire fuel!

The event dates are **February 3rd and 4th** and **February 10th and 11th**. The date of the special brush pick-up will be **February 12th**.

**WANT TO LEARN MORE?** Check out the recently recorded Webinar about how a wildfire could impact Jester, including 3-D imagery and past wildfire experiences of similar neighborhoods. A link to the video is posted on the home page at [www.jesterhoa.com](http://www.jesterhoa.com).

**NEED HELP?** Specially trained Jester residents are available to perform a free Firewise risk evaluation of your property, which will give you good suggestions on how you can improve the chances for your home to survive a wildfire. To make a request, go to [www.jesterhoa.com](http://www.jesterhoa.com) and click the link on the home page. Questions? Email us at [firewise@jesterhoa.com](mailto:firewise@jesterhoa.com).



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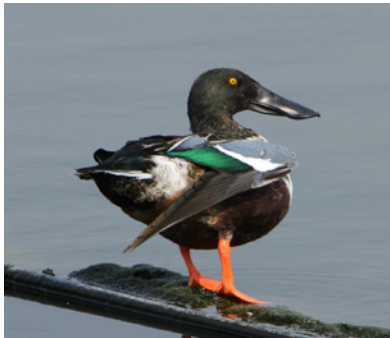


# NATURE WATCH

## DABBLERS AND DIVERS

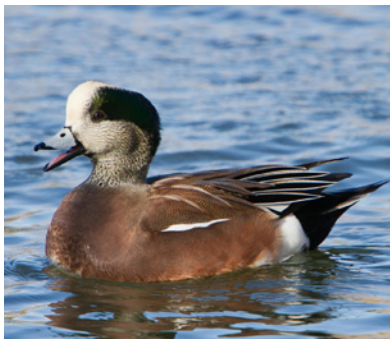
*by Jim and Lynne Weber*

Wintertime is the perfect time to look for ducks in Central Texas. Several species that breed far north of our state's border return to Texas in the colder months to feed in our unfrozen freshwater lakes and rivers. From the Old English 'duce', the word duck is a derivative of the verb meaning to duck or dive, or bend down low as if to get under something. It best describes the way many ducks feed, by upending or diving under the water in search of a wide variety of food sources, such as small aquatic plants, grasses, fish, insects, amphibians, worms and mollusks. Most ducks fall into either the dabbler or diver category. Dabblers feed on the surface of the water, and sometimes on land, while divers disappear completely beneath the surface and forage deep underwater. In general, divers are heavier than dabblers, which gives them the ability to submerge more easily, but they often pay the price by having more difficulty when taking off to fly.



*Northern Shoveler*

The most distinctive dabbling duck is the Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*). True to its name, it possesses a two and a half inch long bill, which is spoon-shaped and has a comb-like structure called a pecten at the edge of its beak. The pecten is used to filter food from the water and to aid in preening its feathers. A medium-sized duck, the adult male (or drake) has an iridescent green head, rusty sides, and a white chest. When flushed from her nest, the adult female (or hen) will often defecate on the eggs, presumably to deter predators from eating them. This species of duck is monogamous, and stays together longer than any other known pairs of dabbling duck species.



*American Wigeon*

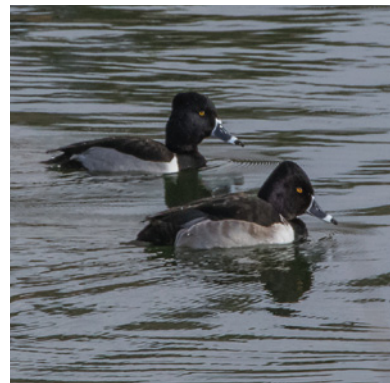
resembling a man's bald head. Its feeding behavior is distinctive among the dabbling ducks, as its short bill allows it to be much

more efficient at plucking vegetation from both the water and sometimes even agricultural fields. The diet of this duck has been shown to include a much higher proportion of plant matter than any other dabbler species.



*Lesser Scaup*

Among the most abundant and widespread freshwater diving ducks is the Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*). The male has a slight bump or peak on the back of the head, a bluish bill with a small black tip, grey sides (black on the ends with white in the middle), and a black head, chest, and rear end. When grasped by a predator like a Gray Fox, an adult Lesser Scaup may play dead, rendering itself immobile with its head extended, eyes open, and wings folded close to its body. They are capable of diving underwater the day they are hatched, but are too buoyant to stay under for long, until maturity gives them the body composition and strength they need to stay underwater for longer periods of time.



*Ring-necked Ducks*

Usually found on smaller, calmer bodies of water like ponds, Ring-necked Ducks (*Aythya collaris*) are more readily identified by the bold white ring around their bill that the subtle purplish band around their necks for which they are named. A medium-sized diving duck, they also have a small bump or peak on the back of their black heads, with the male having

a black chest, back, and rear end, with grey sides and a white stripe up the shoulder. The next time you visit a lake, river, or pond this winter, venture out to the quiet corners to see if you can spot one of our best known dabblers or divers!

Send your nature-related questions to [naturewatch@austin.rr.com](mailto:naturewatch@austin.rr.com) and we'll do our best to answer them. If you enjoy reading these articles, check out our books, *Nature Watch Austin* and *Nature Watch Big Bend* (both published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at [naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com](http://naturewatchaustin.blogspot.com).



# Jester Estates

(Continued from Page 4)



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## January Events

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

Jan. 1 - 15	<b>Ice Skating on the Plaza</b>	<a href="http://wholefoodsmarket.com">wholefoodsmarket.com</a>
Jan. 12 - 14	<b>Austin Home &amp; Garden Show</b> <i>Find the latest products and services</i>	Palmer Events Center <a href="http://showtechnology.com">showtechnology.com</a>
Jan. 13	<b>Drop In and Create!</b> - Free monthly hands-on art-making activities. Recommended for ages 2-11	Laguna Gloria <a href="http://thecontemporaryaustin.org">thecontemporaryaustin.org</a>
Jan. 13	<b>Men Are From Mars - Women Are From Venus LIVE!</b> <i>The Off-Broadway hit comedy</i>	McCullough Theatre <a href="http://texasperformingarts.org">texasperformingarts.org</a>
Jan. 13	<b>Rodney Carrington</b> <i>Multi-talented comedian, actor and singer</i>	Bass Concert Hall <a href="http://texasperformingarts.org">texasperformingarts.org</a>
Jan. 14	<b>Go, Dog. Go!</b> - A frolicking musical dog party	<a href="http://austintheatre.org">austintheatre.org</a>
Jan. 16 - 21	<b>Finding Neverland</b> - One of the best musicals of the year	<a href="http://texasperformingarts.org">texasperformingarts.org</a>
Jan. 18	<b>2Cellos The Score Tour</b> - Incredible instrumental arrangements to rock and classical music	Frank Erwin Center <a href="http://uterwincenter.com">uterwincenter.com</a>
Jan. 21	<b>The Moody Blues</b> <i>Days of Future Passed - 50th Anniversary Tour</i>	HEB Center <a href="http://hebcenter.com">hebcenter.com</a>
Jan. 24	<b>The Price is Right Live</b> - The hit interactive stage show	<a href="http://hebcenter.com">hebcenter.com</a>
Jan. 26	<b>Kool &amp; the Gang</b> - Legendary band with timeless hits	<a href="http://acl-live.com">acl-live.com</a>
Jan. 26	<b>Harlem Globetrotters World Tour</b> <i>Ball-handling wizardry fun for all ages</i>	Frank Erwin Center <a href="http://uterwincenter.com">uterwincenter.com</a>
Jan. 27	<b>Winter Tree Fest</b> <i>Family-friendly tree climbing, walks and talks</i>	Wildflower Center <a href="http://wildflower.org">wildflower.org</a>
Jan. 27 - 28	<b>Le Garage Sale</b> - Austin's coolest independent boutiques and designers under one roof	Palmer Events Center <a href="http://legaragesale.net">legaragesale.net</a>
Jan. 31	<b>Captain Scott Kelly</b> <i>The Sky is Not the Limit: Lessons from a Year in Space</i>	Paramount Theatre <a href="http://austintheatre.org">austintheatre.org</a>

*serving JESTER ... Just a Little Closer to Heaven!*