

September 2020

Official HOA Newsletter for Lakeshore

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The Lake Houston Ladies Club is a social organization that meets from September through May for a luncheon on the third Tuesday of the month at the Walden Country Club, 18100 Walden Forest Drive in Humble, TX. As we are still dealing with COVID-19 closures and restrictions, our September luncheon has been cancelled and some of our activities are currently suspended. Please check our website below periodically for future updates.

The club still welcomes new members from all surrounding areas and offers many avenues for individual interest. They

include: Hand Knee and Foot, Shooting Club, Travel Club, Scrabble 'N Babble, Bunco, Artsy Smartsy, Movie Group, Mah Jongg, Lunch 'N Look, Supper Club, Mexican Train, Readers' Choice, Game Day, Tea Time and Bridge. There are also events during the year that include spouses or significant others. The club is an excellent way to meet new people and make new friends.

New members are welcome to join at any time. For more information about the club, please see our web page at http://www.lakehoustonladiesclub.com or call Betty at 832-633-2991.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

LAKESHORE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS CREST MANAGEMENT CO.

Community Manager
CJ@crest-management.com
Assistant Community Manager
Marissa@crest-management.com
Community Accountant
Exterior Modifications & Inspections
marissa@crest-management.com
On-site Property Manager
Heidi@crest-management.com

EMERGENCY INFORMATION FIRE, MEDICAL OR LIFETHREATENING

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UTILITIES

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Electric, (multiple providers)	www.powertochoose.org	
Power Outages	713-207-7777	
Street Light Outages		
U.S. Water Utility Group		
Gas, Centerpoint Energy		
Best Trash		
(Tuesday and Fridays + Recycling)		

SCHOOLS

SCHOOLS	
	281-641-1000
	www.humble.k12.tx.us
Lakeshore Elementary	281-641-3500
Woodcreek Middle School	
Summer Creek High School	281-641-5400

NEWSLETTER

Community Watch

Peel, Inc	888-687-6444
Article Submission:	
Advertising	

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

	. lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net
Garage Sales	0 0
	.lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net
Landsons Committee	€ 0

Landscape Committee	
Elna Ermel:	ronelna@comcast.net
Pool Committee	

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Elna Ermel:ro	onelna@comcast.net
To volunteer, please email lakeshore-ca@sbcglo	bal.net

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Community Watch	
	lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net
Garage Sales	_
	lakeshore-ca@sbcglobal.net
Social Committee	Ç
Elna Ermel:	ronelna@comcast.net
To volunteer, please email lakeshore	-ca@sbcglobal.net

LAKESHORE CLUBHOUSE

281-458-3345

ONSITE MANAGER HOURS
WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY:
0:00AM - 2:00PM
TUESDAY & THURSDAY:
2:00PM - 7:00PM
CLOSED
SATURDAY, SUNDAY AND MONDAY



NATURE WATCH

WIZARD LIZARDS

by Jim and Lynne Weber



'Horny toad' is the colloquial name for three species of horned lizards that are present in Texas. The Texas Horned Lizard (Phrynosoma cornutum) is the only one found in our area, with the Round-tailed Horned Lizard (P. modestum) occurring in West Texas and the Panhandle, and the Greater Short-horned Lizard (P. hernandesi) restricted to the higher elevations in the Trans-Pecos. All three species are protected by the state of Texas, with the Texas Horned Lizard being the first species in Texas to be granted this status.

With a proportionally small, spiny head with a blunt snout, a distinctly flattened body fringed with a double row of spiny scales, the dorsal or top side of the Texas Horned Lizard is covered with numerous small scales, each keeled or ridged down the center making them rough to the touch. The back of its head is bordered with 8 enlarged spines, four on each side, with the middle pair being the largest and often referred to as the lizard's 'horns.' Its overall color is gray or tan, with a light line down the center of its back, and a series of light-bordered brown spots on either side of the center line.

Active from late February to October, the Texas Horned Lizard is a strict dietary specialist, feeding almost exclusively of native harvester ants in the genus Pogonomyrmex. Estimates show that one lizard requires 20 ant colonies, and it will feed by moving from one colony to the next, consuming about 20 or so ants at each. These lizards are wizards at avoiding predators, having a wide variety of defenses. They can flatten themselves against the ground and easily blend into a substrate or forcibly stab their head spines

into the mouth of a predator, but the most fascinating defense is the ability to squirt blood from the corners of their eyes. They can aim a jet of blood directly into the face of a predator, and their blood elicits a powerful distaste that coyotes, foxes, bobcats, and even mountain lions cannot tolerate.

In the past, the Texas Horned Lizard was present in all parts of Texas except for the southeast and the extreme northeast portions of Texas. Populations began to decline after huge numbers of these lizards were shipped across the country as part of the commercial reptile trade, only to perish due to the lack of harvester ants as a main staple of their diet. Since then, the decline has continued, mainly as a result of broad pesticide use to control imported red fire ants that has also resulted in the loss of harvester ants from the landscape. Today, these lizards have largely been extirpated east of I-35 and I-37, except in a few localities with sandy soil. If you'd like to get involved in helping Texas Parks & Wildlife gather information on the presence, abundance and decline of this species, join the citizens science project by the Texas Nature Trackers called the Texas Horned Lizard Watch, which is available on their website.

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, check out our books, Nature Watch Austin, Nature Watch Big Bend, and Native Host Plants for Texas Butterflies, (all published by Texas A&M University Press), and our blog at naturewatchaustin. blogspot.com.

RIVER OTTERS By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



Most people assume that the animal they are seeing in area lakes and streams is a beaver but it could be a river otter. Most people don't realize that we have otters in our area.

River otters are fascinating little creatures. They are semiaquatic spending about two-thirds of their time on land and the other third in the water. They live in dens called holts, near water, that have several tunnel openings with at least one leading them directly to a lake, stream, inland wetland or marsh. Their webbed feet and powerful tails make them strong swimmers. When they're in the water, their nostrils and ears close to keep water out. They have a third eyelid, or nictitating membrane, that acts like the goggles we wear when we swim. It protects the eyes and helps them to see underwater. They can dive up to 60 feet and can hold their breath for up to eight minutes.

The diet of the river otter is mainly made up of aquatic organisms including fish, turtles, frogs, crayfish, etc. but since they're semi-aquatic, they've also been known to eat small

mammals like squirrels and mice.

River otters are good communicators and have a variety of vocalizations. They yelp, whistle, growl and chirp and when threatened, they emit a scream that can be heard up to a mile and a half away!

Although they live alone or in pairs, river otters are very social and playful—guess you could call them party animals. The playful furballs roll down hills, juggle pebbles, wrestle, frolic in the water and even build themselves slides along the banks of rivers.

If you need assistance with an injured, orphaned or displaced animal, give us a call. In most cases, the animal doesn't need rescuing but we will help you make that determination. If the animal does need help, we will walk you through the process to keep both you and the animal safe. Our phone number is 713.468.TWRC. Our website has helpful information as well. www.twrcwildlifecenter.org

Color and Cut Out!



THE LAKESHORE REPORT

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