



Spicewood Estates

<http://www.spicewoodestates.com/>

April 2011

No. 104

Spicewood Estates Homeowner's Association Quarterly Newsletter

Calendar of Events

May 8	Mother's Day
May 14	City of Austin Municipal Election
May 15	SEHA Elections and Picnic
May 27	Last Day of RRISD School
May 30	Memorial Day
June 19	Father's Day

From the President's Corner

Hello Neighbors,

Hope everyone has been well. Since the weather has been warmer, I've been seeing folks come out of hibernation – it's so good to see kids playing in the street and neighbors visiting with each other.

I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize members of the Board who have been dependable through the years even though it's a non-paying job!

To my Vice President, Eric Schultz. Eric has a tremendously busy schedule, not only in his professional life but has a beautiful wife and three beautiful children, one of which was recently born. He volunteers for all types of projects and is helpful in so many ways that I can't imagine how he manages to spread himself so thin, and always have a smile on his face along with a terrific attitude.

How can I thank Connie Perdue, the most well-known member of our Board. Connie has been a consistent figurehead on our Board. Connie has a very full life. Her family and professional life keep her busy yet she manages to be extremely informative to all of us. She has her pulse on all areas of city government. Her innovative ideas and up-to-the minute alerts are so helpful. Connie is a plethora of information. I'm honored to be associated with her.

Emily Bieber, our SEHA Treasurer, has been in charge of our money for years. Emily travels extensively with her family and friends and always attends quarterly meetings. Thanks Emily for your consistency and in managing SEHA's money.

Daniel Hillis, our Social Chairperson, is in the process of planning our May 15th Election Picnic. Daniel,

also, a professional and family man has been a consistent figure in planning our neighborhood events. Daniel, does the Christmas Tree Program, 4th of July and Election Picnic, as well as a fall party. This past year, he initiated softball games, which have gone over very well with everyone in our neighborhood. I hope he continues to be excited, well maybe that's a bit strong, creative with activities for our neighborhood.

Laurene Jacob, SEHA's Newsletter Editor has been a tremendous asset to us. She is diligent on a quarterly basis reminding all of us to submit an article for the printed newsletter that is distributed throughout the entire neighborhood of 225 homes. Laurene does a fantastic job and keeps the lines of communication open to those of us that are not computer savvy. Thank you for all your efforts, Laurene.

Meghal "Meg" Kantawala, our Directory Chairperson, wears several hats. Meg also has a very active life with two daughters and a husband to take care of and manages to give the SEHA her time. She goes above and beyond her scope of activity. Meg has been instrumental in designing our signs and keeping up with our neighborhood directory. Meg manages to find out who moves into the neighborhood and greets new neighbors with a directory and info about us. Meg would appreciate being contacted if a new resident moves in or any changes to your personal contact information. Thanks Meg for all that you do.

Sherri Lindsey, Membership Chairperson, is our newest member. Sheri is a busy wife and mom who handled our membership drive within the last few months. She's done an outstanding job and we are thrilled to have her on board. Please continue to send your dues to her.

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Albert Jester, our Website Chairperson does a great job. Albert designed and has been maintaining our website for the last few years. We don't always see Albert but he keeps our website up-to-date and his creativity makes us look professional! Thank you Albert!

Carolyn Cree & Reeve Hobbie, Landscaping Committee - thanks to the two of you for keeping our common areas looking pretty and in good shape. These two folks live full lives and I appreciate their dedication to our neighborhood in keeping the integrity of our common areas well maintained.

Bruce Greiner, Marilyn Blewett, Denise Robinson & Larry Sandell, Architecture Committees (ACC) for Sections 1 & 2 - This group of volunteers also live extremely active lives both personally and professionally. They have been the ACC for Spicewood Estates for many years. They are responsible for administering and enforcing the Declarations of Covenants & Restrictions. Should you have any questions on fences, signs, lot maintenance, etc., please contact one of the above. They will council and advise.

It's because of these neighbors, your SEHA Board, that we have a beautiful neighborhood. They are knowledgeable folks and are interested in maintaining the integrity of our neighborhood. As stated in the bylaws, " *...the purpose of the Association is to provide a formal organization we can use to preserve the natural beauty of our neighborhood, enhance, the environmental quality and economic value of our property, promote safety, provide social interaction, maintain contact with the political and regulatory bodies and enforce deed restrictions.*" Each of our Board members has lived up to this policy. I am honored to be a part of this group!

Best Regards,

Fern Westhead
SEHA President

Neighborhood Garage Sale



If you want to participate in the neighborhood wide garage sale on **Saturday, June 5**, please email [Connie Perdue at clperdue@swbell.net](mailto:clperdue@swbell.net). The Homeowners Association will put an ad in the Statesman and on Craig's List with at least the street names (space permitting, we can put some house addresses in the Statesman

ad) and include large items for sale e.g. refrigerator, in the Craig's List ad. We will copy the neighborhood map and mark the participating houses so each of us could give maps to people that come to our respective houses. Might be a good time to start your Spring cleaning if you haven't already done so!



Neighborhood Directories

Spicewood Estate Homeowners' Association provides directory service to its members. The directory contains emergency numbers, representatives of the area, City of Austin information and neighborhood information along with Bylaws and Covenants governing the association. Directories are usually out by end of June, early July. Due to cost of printing the directories are limited to members only. This year we are adding another service to our neighbors. If you would like to have an emergency contact in the database, we are glad to keep that in the database. This name and number WILL NOT be published in the directory.

Please review your information in the directory. If your information is not correct, please send an email with correct information to meghalk@hotmail.com, by **May 7, 2011**. We are taking submission for babysitter list and yard-work list. Please consider advertising your business in our neighborhood directory.

The only way you can get current information about your neighbors is by becoming a SEHA member. As you know our SEHA is a volunteer organization however it cannot provide the services without your help.

Here is a brief list of projects supported by your membership:

- * Maintenance of the Topridge entrance: The brand new "Spicewood Estate" sign was installed in 2008.
- * Signs on Ashton Ridge at Spicewood Parkway and Scotland Well will be updated soon. (Estimates are being evaluated)
- * Neighborhood Picnic and elections in May
- * Neighborhood Garage Sale
- * 4th of July Parade
- * Newsletter
- * Neighborhood Website

Please become a member soon.

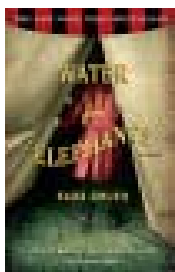
Thanks,
-Meghal

Neighbor's Book Nook

Since so many of our neighbors are avid readers we thought a book review column might be fun! Let's get book recommendations from readers of all ages --- from elementary school, tweens, teens to adults! Why was that mystery or thriller or biography or "whatever" so hard to put down? What is the best new read aloud for toddlers and preschoolers? Submit your recommendation (25 words or less), title/author to laurene@austin.rr.com.



John Nemetz shares this review:



Water for Elephants, by Sara Gruen. In depression-era America a young vet school dropout joins a circus train and travels the country, learning about the setup and takedown, the rubes, the roustabouts, the circus hierarchy, the music played when there is an accident,

and even the handling of an elephant thought to be stupid until it was recognized that it only understood Polish. This is a fascinating depiction of an era now long gone. The movie opens April 22nd!

Spicewood Estates Homeowners Association (SEHA) Google Group

If you haven't signed up for our new neighborhood Google group, please join today our new free, easy-to-use email group service. We hope that you'll give it a try we will eventually want everyone to migrate to the new Google group from our email distribution list so that you, as a neighbor, can have more input to discussions (if you desire).

We will use this group as a way of communicating news and information to and among neighbors in Spicewood Estates. For example, it will provide a forum for buy/sell/trade of personal items, recommendations for contractors, lost and found notices, neighborhood activity groups and events, concerns about neighborhood animals or suspicious activities/security threats and City of Austin events and information or anything that you as a Spicewood Estates homeowner are interested in sharing with your neighbors.

Visit <http://groups.google.com/group/spicewood-estates-austin?hl=en&lnk=> and click on "Apply for

group membership" on the right side of the screen to participate in this group.

If you are using a different email address than you usually use for the messages on our current email distribution list, please include some information, e.g. name and address, so that we will recognize that you are a Spicewood Estates homeowner.

If you do not already have a Google Account, you will need to create an account. Note: this is NOT a signup for a Google email address. It is a way to create a password and nickname that you will use for the Google Group. When you are approved by one of the moderators, you can also receive posts to the site in your regular email box by just adjusting or editing your membership. You may choose to receive individual mails, a daily digest, just special bulletins, or no mail at all. If you subscribe to monitor discussions and receive announcements, your email address is not visible to the rest of the group. It only becomes visible when you create a post.

May Municipal Election & Candidate Forum

The City of Austin Municipal Election is May 14, 2011, with three Council Seats on the ballot. Information is available from the City of Austin at <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/election/> or by calling 974-2210, and from Travis County at http://www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/default.asp. Please mark your calendar for a local candidate forum on **April 19 at 6:30 pm** at Mountain View Neighborhood Park at 9000 Middlebie Drive, 78750. Laura Morrison, Chris Riley and many other candidates are confirmed for this event. It's important that neighbors come and listen to answers to questions to the candidates and ask their own questions about issue of interest to our neighborhoods such as the Jollyville Transmission Main.



Yard of the Month Winners

A great big thank you again to Melinda Cassidy and Reeve Hobbie/Jim White for volunteering to judge the Yard of the Month for Sections I & II. Thank you also for the beautiful pictures on the website!

We recognized the following people in Section I & II for their efforts in beautifying their yards and sharing them with all of us during the past few months.

Due to an editing error in the January newsletter the following families were accidentally omitted:

November 2010

Section I: Buddy & Connie Forehand
10903 Country Knoll

December 2010

Section I: Bud & Rose Marie Johnson
11001 Leafwood

January 2011

Section I: James & Yancy Watson
11104 Arch Terrace

And our current winners:

February 2010

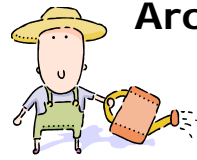
Section I: Brian & Wendy Cain
11100 Country Knoll
Section II: Scott Bonelli & Pamela Klein
11002 Chateau Hill

March 2010

Section I: Kari & Grace Karhi
11105 Chateau Hill
Section II: Kevin & Cheryl Nolting
10812 Wintergreen

April 2010

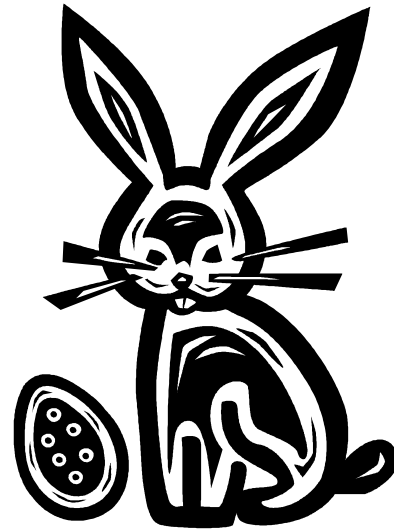
Section I: Carol Prescott
11105 Arch Terrace
Section II: Anthony & Silvana Giannetti
10708 Keystone Bend



Around the Yard

by Reeve Hobbie

Reeve asks us to help prevent oak wilt. Don't prune oaks from now through June!



www.aatlepets.com

Pet Sitter

Ginny Conklin

*References Available

(512) 799-4848

* Email: tlepets2003@yahoo.com

Three small illustrations: a dog sitting, a cat sitting, and a hamster in a wheel.