

Arbors Angles

The Arbors Improvement Association Newsletter

Fall Fest Fun

by Kathy Mowrey

The Fall Fest and Doc Cardwell Memorial Chili Cook-off was a lot of fun for adults and children alike. Arbor's veterans participated in the dedication of the new flag and flagpole in our Park. Hailey Voelker, Doc Cardwell's granddaughter, spoke on behalf of the Cardwell family and expressed their appreciation for dedicating our chili cook-off to Doc's memory. Adults enjoyed visiting with their neighbors and tasting the various chili entries, and the children enjoyed jumping in the Moonwalk, playing games and painting pumpkins. Everyone enjoyed hot dogs grilled in the park by Larry

see Fall Fest page 4

Welcome Committee Appreciation

by Kathy Mowrey

I know each committee chairperson appreciates all the volunteer help they receive here in The Arbors. I would like to draw your attention to a very small group of women who as members of the Welcome/Social Committee work so hard to make the Arbors a better place - a more friendly and welcoming place for all of us. They are volunteers and they help out of a desire to improve our neighborhood. They meet, plan, purchase supplies, and perform the

As we welcome in 2008, we'd like to bring you up to speed on some issues that will impact the activities of the Board in the coming year.

With the building of more homes in the Arbors, we have stepped up the efforts to work with the builders to prevent damage to our common properties, most notably the roads, as well as to other surrounding properties. We are sure you have noticed that the builders are now fencing the building site to prevent parking and subsequent damage to the road right-of-way. We have also increased the bond requirements for all builders which was woefully

set up and clean up duties after the various events throughout the year. They are listed by name in the Fall Fest article. Thank you ladies!

Thanks also go to: Tim & Molly Herbst for the use of their karaoke machine so we don't have to shout to be heard; Anneke Henderson for taking care of the quilt raffles and sending out the e-mail reminders for each event; and Bob & Dorothy Baker for refurbishing the old,

see Appreciation page 4

Bits From the Board

by AIA Board

low by Austin standards. The builder's bond now required is more in line with those required in other communities and should cover most damage that may occur in the event the Arbors has to seek reimbursement. We will continue to work with the construction people to ensure our community standards are met.

At the annual meeting held last August, a couple of suggestions were raised:

1) moving the board meetings to Saturday in order to increase attendance and participation;

see Board page 5

Ladies Tea

by Kathy Mowrey

The tea will be held on Saturday, March 1, at 12:30 p.m. in the home of Kathy Mowrey, 333 Arbors Circle. This function is open to all ladies over 21 years of age who live (or own property) in the Arbors. The dress is casual but we're asking you to wear the hat of your choice if you have one - just for fun. We're also asking everyone to bring a teacup and saucer with them and some food to share. The men had their coffee

see Tea page 2

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ACC Winter Report

by Randal Wilkerson

Here we are in the middle of January 2008. For the most part, we have been blessed with great winter weather. In fact I have already seen one confused Red Bud tree with blooms. Spring will be here in a few weeks, even if the calendar says otherwise.

Spring and summer are always great times to be outside in the yard and garden. I am sure with the Arbors spring garden tour this year that there will be even more activity earlier this year. I am looking forward to the tour.

Please keep in mind the types of projects that you have planned for the coming months. Be sure to check the Arbors web site, the CC&Rs and By-laws regarding any project you have planned and submit your plans for approval well in advance of your start date so that the ACC has time to review your submission. Projects that need approval include but are not limited to fences, storage or out

buildings, workshops, greenhouses, garages or carports and mailboxes. If you have any question about a project, please contact me by phone or e-mail, I will be happy to help you.

When working on your projects, please keep in mind that the Right of Way is not to be used for the unloading or storage of project materials. Due to the fragile nature of the soft sand, once disturbed, it takes years for the natural grasses to return. Without the grasses, we face erosion damage. Erosion damages cost all of us when repairs have to be paid for out of Arbors dues.

The Arbors continues to mature as a neighborhood and community. I want to thank all of you for doing your part to help maintain the community for all of us to enjoy.

If you have questions, please contact by e-mail at rswaustx@aol.com or by phone at 512-281-4287.

Christmas in the Arbors Contest

by Kathy Mowrey

On the evening of December 15, the judging of the Christmas lights and decorations took place. Winners were selected in five categories: Children's Favorite, The DeAnda Family at 556 Arbors Circle; Best Decorated Mailbox, The Henderson's at 116 Kingwood; Best Use of Lights, The Marshall's at 168 Juniper Trail; Religious Theme, The Dear's at 128 Pin Oak Crossing, and "Spirit of Christmas" award was

won by the Nelson's at 241 Juniper Trail. Honorable Mention for the Best Use of Lights was awarded to The Wilkerson's, 481 Arbors Circle. Certificates were presented and gift cards awarded to the winners on Sunday, December 16, and signs were posted at both entrances. We hope you took the opportunity to drive through the neighborhood to see the award-winning decorations.

Santa in the Park

by Kathy Mowrey

Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived at our park on Saturday, December 15, riding the Elgin Fire Department's 1916 Harlan Fire Truck. Many children and grandchildren from the Arbors came to sit on Santa's lap and tell him what they wanted for Christmas. All children received a toy and candy cane, and refreshments were enjoyed by all. Thank you, Tom Henderson and Gail Newman for being our special guests, Josh Lucas for taking the pictures and Jerry Lathem for making them available for a short time at: <http://lathemzone.com/cgi/photo/index.cgi?mode=view&album=/Arbors>

The Arbors supported the Elgin Police Department's Blue Santa program again this year donating gifts to be delivered to families in need in the Elgin area. A quilt in Christmas colors was donated by resident Donna Minks and won by the Mowrey family. The funds raised by this quilt raffle were also donated to Elgin's Blue Santa program. The gifts and money were taken to the EPD immediately following Santa in the Park by Dan Mowrey, AIA Board President. Thank you, Donna, for the quilt donation, and for the checks and wrapped gift donations for Blue Santa.

Tea

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last fall – this is the ladies turn to have an opportunity to meet and find other ladies with common interests. Call Kathy at 281-4601 or e-mail her at kmowrey@austin.rr.com to RSVP, get further information, and to tell what food you're bringing.



Santa in the Park
December 15, 2007



Appreciation

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and purchasing new wreaths and Christmas decorations, and for putting up the decorations at our entrances – that’s no small task and our entrances looked wonderful! Also thanks go to Dan Mowrey and Kenny Lange who put up the plastic sheeting to protect us all from the cold winds for Santa in the Park, and to Gary & Sherry Potter for cutting down a cedar tree for our park Christmas decorations and the four W/S ladies who froze putting up the park decorations on a windy, rainy morning. I’m sure there are those I’ve forgotten to mention and I apologize for that.

I will continue as the chair of this committee through the Annual Meeting in August, but at that time I will be stepping down after serving for two years. To take over this committee, it would be helpful

if you have served on it or at least attended some of the events. I wanted to get the word out now so that you can be giving it your consideration. We have a number of events coming up this spring and summer so there’s plenty of time to get involved and learn the ropes, so to speak. It could be one person, or two people co-chairing and sharing the work. Anita Schnell chaired the W/S Committee and did a wonderful job for several years before I took it on and she works fulltime, so you don’t have to be retired or an at-home Mom to do it. This is a volunteer position and it is a lot of hard work but there are a lot of fun and rewarding moments too. Please give it your consideration. If you have questions or want to be a part of the W/S Committee, call me at 281-4601 or e-mail me at kmowrey@austin.rr.com.

Yard of the Month

by Kathy Mowrey

This award is given every month except December, so be sure to watch for the sign as you are driving throughout the neighborhood.

November:

Dan & Kathy Mowrey
333 Arbors Circle

January:

Larry & Rebecca Moseley
584 Arbors Circle

Arbors Day Camp

by Kathy Mowrey

The W/S Committee ladies canvassed the neighborhood before the Fall Fest and found that there were about ten potential day camp participants. An article providing more information about the proposed day camp appeared in the last newsletter. We will only hold the day camp days if there are enough participants to make it a fun program for everyone. If you are interested in having your youngsters participate, please plan to attend the Ladies Tea. At the end of the tea we will be asking you to stay and learn more about what we are planning. We need to get a firm idea of how many children to plan for, and we also need some information from you so that we can plan the day of the week that is best for most of the participants. If you cannot attend the Tea but are interested in the day camp, please contact Kathy Mowrey, at 281-4601.

Fall Fest

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Head. Congratulations go to Chili Cook-off winners: Tim Herbst, 1st place; Mick Kretzschmar, 2nd place; and Brenda Tolbert, 3rd place. Best Theme was awarded for the second year in a row to Brenda Tolbert. In addition to the three prize winners, thanks go to Tom Henderson, Laura Stough and young Ava Arroyo for their participation.

Thank also go to the W/S Committee Members and their spouses who worked so hard to put on this event: Kristie Chasteen, Becky Garner, Terry Gummelt, Sharon Lakings, Kathy Mowrey, Gail Newman, Georgie Pyeatt, Diana Reading (our chili cook-off contact person),

Connie Vestal and Lily Wright. Also thanks go to Dorothy Bixler, Sidney Chasteen, Jane Frank, Karen Heidelberger, Sherry Potter, Dale Pyeatt, Dennis Wright and exchange students Sebastian and Jonas for helping out at the Fall Fest.

A maple leaf theme quilt was donated by resident Donna Minks and won by Connie Vestal. The monies raised by the quilt raffle were used by our Woodworker’s Club to purchase materials needed to make the wooden cars and trucks which they donated to various local organizations at Christmas. Thank you Donna, for your generous donation.

Welcome Neighbors

by Kathy Mowrey

The Arbors Improvement Association would like to welcome our new neighbors:

Dick & Jan Osburn
150 Juniper Trail

John & Linda Olson
159 Pin Oak Crossing

Kurt & Deborah Bauer
173 Pin Oak Crossing

Jeff & Betty Switzer
139 Elm Wood Drive

Ralph & Kim Douglas
132 Arbors Circle

*Welcome
Neighbors!*

Garden Tour

by Kathy Mowrey

If you have a green thumb, we need you! We're in the process of organizing a Garden/Yard Tour scheduled for Saturday morning, May 10, and we need locations to tour. If you would be willing to give a tour of your front yard, backyard, patio or vegetable garden and you're willing share with your neighbors information about your plants and/or gardening in general, you're who we're looking for. To be included on our tour map, please call Georgie Pyeatt at 281-2732 or e-mail her at gpyeatt@austin.rr.com More information will be in the Spring Arbor's Angles.

Board

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2) looking at the possibility of adding a community building and/or remodeling the main pavilion at the park to accommodate an enclosed facility with the amenities of a community building.

Relative to the first suggestion, the board moved the September through November board meetings to Saturday morning (no December meeting was held). There was no increase in attendance and many of the committee members who volunteer were unable to attend. The board also received numerous complaints about interfering with weekend activities. As a result, the board has moved the meetings back to the second Wednesday night of each month. If Wednesday is not good for some folks, let the board know and we will consider moving the meeting to other nights to accommodate some of those who may not be able to attend otherwise.

Charlie McGuire headed up a committee to look into the various possibilities to build a community building or upgrade the existing pavilion. He met with various contractors and provided updates at the October and November board meetings. The information from that initial review has been sent to all property owners along with a survey to determine if there is substantive interest to proceed with further activity on this project. It is important that we hear from all property owners and would appreciate if you would return your survey(s) with your annual maintenance dues by the deadline on the invoice.

The December financial review had us ending the year with about \$6K under budget for 2007. We had a number of one-time expenses arise in 2007 that left us with fewer funds than we had projected. These expenditures included the purchase of the storage building at the park (this eliminated the rental expense we were paying monthly for offsite storage); the power washing of the white fence fronting Hwy. 95 (it had not been cleaned in 10 years); and the removal of a number of dead trees, which presented a liability to the Arbors had these fallen. We also have some homeowners that still owe dues for the year(s) past and Pioneer is actively pursuing the collection. Having said all this, the board requested that Pioneer move \$5K to the money market account that is being designated for future road work. Our goal has been to move a minimum of \$10K each year to this account. At some point in the future, road resurfacing and repairs will need to be addressed and this expense will greatly exceed the \$20K presently in the account. So we will continue to look at our operating expenses to determine how best to fund this future expense.

In closing, the board would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of the Committee volunteers who worked for the betterment of our community last year and also to those who have signed up so far this year. If you want to help continue making the Arbors the best place to live in Elgin, please consider volunteering your time on one of the committees. We greatly appreciate new ideas and welcome your involvement.

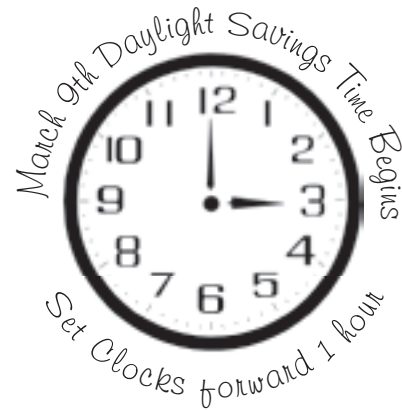
For property owner information check out our web site at arborsia.org

The Arbors Improvement Association
 c/o Pioneer Property Management
 611 S Congress #510
 Austin, TX 78704
 Newsletter

AIA Meetings

Meetings are held monthly at the First National Bank Community Room in Elgin on **the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm**. Everyone is welcome!

The next Meeting is Wed. Feb. 13th, 7pm



AIA Social Events Calendar

Event	Date	Time	Place
Ladies Tea	Sat. Mar 1	12:30 pm	333 Arbors Circle
Spring Garage Sale	Sat. May 3	9 am- 2 pm	Neighborhood
Garden/Yard Tour	Sat. May 10	TBA	Neighborhood
Spring Potluck	Sat. May 31	5 pm	Arbors Park
Arbors Day Camp Days	TBA	TBA	Arbors Park
4th of July Ice Cream Social	Sat. July 5	4 pm	Arbors Park
Neighborhood Night Out	Tues. Aug. 5	6 pm	Arbors Park