



Saddle Bags

Saddleridge National Night Out - August 7th at the Clubhouse

The Saddleridge Annual National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th at 6:00pm at the Saddleridge clubhouse. Judy Garrett, our Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, invites all property owners to attend this interesting and informative session.

Speakers who have been invited include Hays County Deputy Sheriff Pam Robinson, Hays

County Sheriff Alan Bridges, Wimberley CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), and the Wimberley Fire Dept. and EMS.

BBQ Brisket and Sausage will be provided as well as water and soft drinks. Desserts will be provided by the Neighborhood Watch Block Captains. If you're able to attend, please plan to bring a covered dish with you to

share with the rest of the attendees.

National Night Out is an annual nationwide event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and is intended to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in support of a safer nation. Check out their website at www.nationalnightout.org.

Please plan to attend!

2007 Board of Directors

President: Joe Williams, (512) 847-0390, president@saddleridge.com

Vice-President: Ron Steel, (512) 392-0542, vicepresident@saddleridge.com

Secretary: Tom Bender, (512) 722-3243, secretary@saddleridge.com

Treasurer: Lynn Williams, (512) 847-0390, treasurer@saddleridge.com

Architectural Committee

Chair: Ricardo Cardenas, (512) 847-7363, cardrlmb@austin.rr.com

Member: Pat Caballero, (512) 847-5536, pccaballero@austin.rr.com

Member: Francis Savage, (512) 847-0955, dfsav@wildblue.net

Clubhouse Rental

Karen Stewart, (512) 722-3133, kstewart1718@austin.rr.com

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Judy Garrett, (512) 847-9112, judeegee@austin.rr.com

Firewise Coordinator

Ruben Madrid
firewise@saddleridge.com

Most of the plants currently at the entrances will be incorporated in the new landscaping. Our signs will not be replaced (see the "Entrance Signs to be Repainted" article on Page 2). In the future, depending on TXDOT changes to RR12, we may have to move the signs further back to accommodate the road changes.

The landscaping changes planned for the entrances should considerably improve the appearance of both entrances. Thanks Ron, and all the other Saddleridge property owners who've been involved this year and the past few years for all your hard work!

Saddleridge Entrance Landscaping Update

If it seems like we've been working on landscaping the entrances now for years, well, we have. The last three Boards and numerous Saddleridge property owners have all invested considerable time in working on planning this effort.

This effort began as the result of an expected loss of water at the south entrance, which subsequently occurred. Some of the existing plants are not extremely drought tolerant, and long periods of drought (not a problem this year) could result in having to replace a number of plants. Also, there have been comments about the need to improve the appearance of the south entrance.

Early this year Ron Steel got bids from a number of different landscape designers to produce a xeriscape, highly drought tolerant landscape plan for the south entrance and the west en-

trance. The Board awarded the design contract to Bob Fitzsimmons of Bob's Organic Gardens in New Braunfels at a cost of \$600 for the initial plan.

That plan was reviewed with the landscape committee and other property owners in March and April, suggestions were taken back to Mr. Fitzsimmons, and a final plan was produced at an additional cost of about \$300.

In May the Board delivered that plan with an RFP (Request for Product/Price) to four different landscape companies. By late June we notified two of those companies that they were finalists in the evaluation and asked for additional information. About a week ago the Board accepted Bob's Organic Gardens bid for landscaping the south and west entrances at a cost of just over \$12,000.

Bob Fitzsimmons is a

Texas Master Certified Nurseryman, a native Texas plant expert, and a frequent gardening lecturer and guest columnist. He has owned nurseries in New Braunfels and for several years served as a manager of Garden-Ville stores in San Antonio. Bob has been on the radio for 15 years in San Antonio and New Braunfels, offering gardening advice and sharing his landscaping expertise with Central Texas homeowners. You can learn more about him at www.bobsorganicgarden.com.

Mr. Fitzsimmons currently plans to begin the landscaping work around August 6th, with planting currently anticipated about September 1st.

The plan calls for the addition of multiple "islands" of hardscape (large rock and stone) and planting beds in each of the two medians at the south entrance. There will be around 80 new 5 to 15 gallon plants planted at both entrances.

2008 Board Election

Within a few weeks the Saddleridge Nomination Committee, led by Jim Beall, will begin its search for the 2008 Saddleridge Board nominees in preparation for the election in October.

Each year in October a new Saddleridge Board of Directors is elected to serve a 12 month term. The board is comprised of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each of these positions is voluntary and critical to continue to make Saddleridge a great place to own property and live.

The board currently meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:00pm at the Saddleridge clubhouse. The

Saddleridge Restrictions and Covenants

Thinking about building a house, an outbuilding, a fence, a wellhouse, or any other structure or improvement on your property? Have you read the Saddleridge Restrictions and Covenants (available at www.saddleridge.com)? Have you contacted the Architectural Committee for review and approval?

Our Restrictive Covenants are fairly simple and not that restrictive compared to a number of subdivision covenants. However, there are some very specific requirements defined about things like size of house, location on lot, length of time to complete a structure once started, placement of fences, and approvals required.

The building process is much more pleasant if you understand the covenants and get the necessary approvals before you start.

The Architectural Committee and the Board of Directors are required by the Sad-

board's efforts primarily involve supporting neighborhood improvements, ensuring that all maintenance activities required are covered, communications with the property owners, enforcement of the Saddleridge Covenants, and maintenance of Saddleridge assets and records. There is some time involved, but it is possible to be a board member and work a full time job.

If you have an interest in maintaining and improving our subdivision, please consider submitting your name to Jim Beall as a possible candidate. Jim can be reached by email at beracat@earthlink.net, or by phone at 847-3708.

Saddleridge Bylaws and Covenants to enforce the covenants. Most of the property owners expect us to fulfill that responsibility. The covenants is a legal document that the original developer created and filed, and which we all accepted when we purchased our property. Please make our job easier, and your construction more pleasant, by reading and following the covenants. Thanks!

Entrance Signs to be Repainted

With the landscaping effort at the Saddleridge entrances about to be underway, we've decided to power wash the signs at both entrances and repaint the colors in the Saddleridge logo to match the original colors that were used when the subdivision was first built. We've got color chips for those colors and have talked to Kelly Moore Paint in San Marcos about having the paint mixed to match those colors. Ron Steel got a bid for commercial painting of the

Know when the next Board meeting is? Need to know who the Board members are? Who's on the committees? What's in the deed restrictions / covenants or bylaws? It's all on our website:

www.saddleridge.com



Firewise

With all the rain this year, wildfires probably aren't at the top of your concerns. The weather in this area has been defined as "long periods of drought separated by short intervals of flooding". Soon, we're likely to be back in dry conditions and fire will again be a concern.

In 2005 and 2006 Cecil Gibson and Judy Garrett were Firewise Coordinators for Saddleridge, and worked closely with Jan Fulkerson of the Texas Forest Service. Recently, Ruben Madrid, a Saddleridge homeowner, volunteered to be the Firewise Coordinator for Saddleridge.

Membership in the Firewise program is maintained through neighborhood programs that include the expenditure of time and money in clearing and maintenance ac-

tivities. If you're investing time and effort, drop Ruben an email at firewise@saddleridge.com and let him know how much time and money you're spending on clearing and maintenance. All of our time and effort combined support our continued membership in the Firewise program.

Also, Jan Fulkerson is available to work with Saddleridge property owners to understand how to build and maintain property to reduce the impact of wildfires on life and property while remaining compatible with our natural surroundings. If you'd like an "audit" of your property and suggestions on how to improve your wildfire conditions, contact Jan at tfsfulkerson@earthlink.net.

Finally, check out the Firewise USA website at www.firewise.org for ideas and information.

Newsletter Delivery by Email

This newsletter is being delivered by email to those property owner's for whom we have email addresses, and by regular mail to the remainder of the property owners. If you received this in regular mail, then we don't have your email address on file. Would you take a moment and send your email address to president@saddleridge.com? Thanks.

Did you know that the minutes of every Saddleridge Board Meeting since 1998 are on the Saddleridge website at www.saddleridge.com?