

# Fall 2014

# Saddle Bags



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### RED ALERT!!

Your annual SPOA Dues Notice will be coming soon. If you don't want to wait for the mailed notice, please send your dues (\$96 for those with 1 lot, or \$192 for 2 or more lots) and contact info to the address at the end of this newsletter. **Dues are due by December 31.** After January 31, penalties will be added.

## 2014 Board of Directors

**President:**  
**Charles "Bo" Garrett**  
 512-847-9112  
 president15@saddleridge.com

**Vice President:**  
**Dr. Bob Pyle**  
 512-842-3087  
 vicepresident15@saddleridge.com

**Treasurer:**  
**Philip Suckling**  
 512-557-0412  
 treasurer15@saddleridge.com

**Secretary:**  
**George Graham**  
 903-449-2977  
 secretary15@saddleridge.com

Saddleridge Property Owners Association  
 P.O. Box 924  
 Wimberley, TX. 78676

[www.Saddleridge.com](http://www.Saddleridge.com)

## Board Election for the 2014-2015 Term



The Saddleridge POA Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members was held as planned on October 25th. The required quorum was reached via proxy, in person, and absentee ballot voting. The votes were tallied and the results declared official. The three incumbents were reelected, along with one newbie, Philip Suckling. Phil graciously offered to step up for neighborhood duty to replace Sharon Drobek, who decided to retire to spend more time with her family.

The Board members then determined among themselves what position each would fill for the new term; and the determination was:

**Charles 'Bo' Garrett - President**

**Dr. Bob Pyle - Vice President**

**Philip Suckling - Treasurer**

**George Graham - Secretary**

For the rest of you Saddleridgians out there who have not yet officially served the neighborhood, please consider getting involved by running for a Board position in the future, or volunteering for a Committee position now. Contrary to popular belief; the neighborhood does not run itself !!

The Board would like to thank Sharon Drobek for her many years of dedicated, diligent, and intelligent service to Saddleridge. We'll miss you!!

----- (please excuse the reuse of last year's picture above; its just too good not to use!!) -----

## TEXAS ATV RULES

--- at a glance ---

An all-terrain vehicle (ATV), also known as a quad, quad bike, three-wheeler, or four-wheeler, is defined by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) as a vehicle that travels on low-pressure tires, with a seat that is straddled by the operator, along with handlebars for steering control.



All ATV owners must apply for a title before selling or disposing of their ATV.

All ATVs operated on public property must be registered, renewing registration once every year. No passengers are allowed at any time while the ATV is on public lands, unless the ATV is designed to carry a passenger.

ATV use on public streets is prohibited, except to cross these roads or for agricultural purposes. All operators under 14 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

While on public lands, all operators must have a safety certificate or be with an adult who has obtained a safety certificate.

ATVs shall not be operated from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise without a lighted taillight and headlight.



# SPEEDER PROFILE

**LEGAL DISCLAIMER:** The editorial article below in no way, shape, or form implies that the SPOA Board approves or condones any speed in Saddleridge above the posted 30 mph limit.

OK; here we go again. You've all seen the email traffic and previous notes and articles in past newsletters about residents speeding through Saddleridge, sometimes at very high speeds (some at up to almost 70 mph!!). One would think residents would know better; but that seems not to be the case. This problem has even contributed to the death of one resident's beloved pet. Believe it or not, this speeding problem has actually been improving lately!! But there is still room for improvement. Soooooooo, this is the first in a series of new Saddlebags articles that will profile a chronic speeder living in our midst. You offenders know who you are, and the all-seeing all-knowing SPOA Board also knows who you are!!

This issue's grand prize winner is a charcoal-ish color Infinity EX with a blown muffler (or other exhaust leak) that hails from the east side of Mission Trail close to Arrowhead Pass. This car has been seen routinely blowing through the 'hood at between 50 and 65 mph with a person behind the wheel making a half-hearted attempt at keeping it going sort of straight while messing about with the omnipresent smart phone. This car was even observed once going 40+ mph down its own driveway, barely getting stopped for cross traffic coming down the street. Residents out walking their pets or children (or both) get off the road in a hurry when they see (and hear!!) this car coming, as this driver doesn't slow down for any living thing. If this driver behaves this way out on the main roads, its probably only a matter of time before Natural Selection rears its ugly head, and the car ends up buried in a ditch, or flies over a guardrail and off a cliff, or it becomes semi-permanently attached to one of the big trees along RR12. A note to this driver: its time to get a clue and slow down before you hurt yourself; or worse, hurt someone else.

A reminder to all once again; there is no legitimate excuse for speeding. If you are constantly running late for whatever reason, learn how to manage your time better. If you are a Type-A personality that just has to go fast all the time, you may want to try some calming exercises such as yoga or TM (can you say "Oooooommmmmmm"?? Sure you can....). Maybe you think you're a racecar driver in training?? Well; you're only fooling yourself. Seriously, we all know that the 30 mph speed limit seems a bit slow for out here in the boonies; but we're stuck with it unless we all want to tear down our mail boxes and replace them with breakaway posts (per TXDoT law). And let's face it; about 35 to 40 mph actually "feels" about right for the area. So, how about as a New Year's resolution we all try to at least keep the speed closer to what "feels" right (see the legal disclaimer above).

All of you non-speeding residents can help out, too. Do you see the same vehicle flying past your house at about the same time every day?? Feel free to call the Wimberley City Marshall (if you live in Section 1) or the Hays County Sheriff's Department (for those in Section 2) and ask them to set up a "Speeding Intervention" for the offending party. They will be happy to oblige. Please note that the authorities have been patrolling our area more often lately due to the speeding problem, and have been writing quite a few citations lately for Saddleridge residents. So, no whining to the Board if you get a ticket!! You've been duly warned (again!!). Let's all slow down a bit and smell the wildflowers.

Anyone who is interested in trying out for the next issue's Speeder Profile just needs to keep flying through the area at warp speed. The Board will notice, either through direct observation, resident complaints, or reports from the Deputies. The current points leader for the next issue's winner is a red Jeep that lives up toward the end of Mission Trail.

Vroom, Vroom.....



"Oh, I saw the sign, officer, but my car can go a lot faster than that!"





# 2014 National Night Out



The 2014 National Night Out was held on October 7th at the Clubhouse. This was the 16<sup>th</sup> NNO for Saddleridge!! Attendance was up about 20% from last year, with about 90 residents attended for socializing and good free food. The chopped brisket was quite good (you can thank the SPOA Prez for specifically requesting “chopped beef” instead of “chopped fat”). Also on the table were chips, drinks, root beer floats, and some wonderful homemade desserts from the neighborhood ladies. See what you missed if you didn't come out??



## Friendly Reminders

We know most of you have seen this before, but due to all the new folks that have recently moved into Saddleridge (and the need to fill up space in this cheesy newsletter!!); here it is again:

### Social Events

Looking to meet your new neighbors, or just wanting an opportunity to get away from the kids for a while?? Here are a few adult activities that you may have an interest in:

**Saddleridge Dinner Club** – This event occurs one weekend night per month (usually a Sunday starting at 6 PM) at a selected local restaurant for socializing and good food, with people paying for their own meals. If interested in joining this activity, please contact Carol Peregoy at 512-618-4729 or by e-mail at [carolperegoy@gmail.com](mailto:carolperegoy@gmail.com).

**Ladies Bunco Group** – This 'ladies only' group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, at a different person's home, for lunch, good conversation, and a rousing game of Bunco (a fun and easily-learned dice game). No skill or prior experience is necessary. If interested in this activity, please contact Marylou Melton at 512-847-2849, or e-mail her at [newmelton@yahoo.com](mailto:newmelton@yahoo.com).

**NEW!! Hill Country Book Babes** – This informal (but highly intelligent!!) book club meets usually once per month, usually on the third Wednesday, at a member's home or a local restaurant. If interested in joining, please contact Carol Peregoy at 512-618-4729 or by e-mail at [carolperegoy@gmail.com](mailto:carolperegoy@gmail.com).

### County Leash Laws

Just a reminder to all Saddleridge dog owners; Hays County has an animal restraint law. This means that your dog has to be restrained at all times by fence, chain, or leash. Please have your dogs on a leash when they are outside of their confinement areas. Failure to do so could result in a fine and other possible expenses if Animal Control picks up your loose pet. If you are threatened by a loose dog in Saddleridge, please report it to Hays County Animal Control at 512-393-7896.



### 945

For you who want some of those cool blue & white address signs for emergencies (they can be seen by emergency personnel through thick smoke), they can be ordered from Hays County for \$3.25 each. To request an order form, contact GIS Services by phone (512-393-2160) or email ([addressing@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:addressing@co.hays.tx.us)). You can also get the form from Hays County Commissioner Will Conley's office at 512-847-3159.

### Oak Wilt

Help keep Oak Wilt out of our area!! When pruning or trimming oaks, please seal **all** wounds with something. It doesn't have to be anything special; just generic spray paint will do it, as the wound only needs protecting for a few days until the tree starts healing itself. Remember, dead oak trees do not help your property value!!



### Hays County Emergency Guide

A copy of the Hays County Emergency Guide is available at:

<http://www.visitwimberley.com/cert/CERTemergencyGuide2013.pdf>

It contains emergency phone numbers for the Sheriff's Office, Dispatch, Animal Control and Poison Control, as well as information concerning Disaster Planning, the Emergency Notification System and Neighborhood Watch. It's a good thing to keep handy.



## *Saddleridge Safety – Walking in the Dark*

Nighttime or early morning walks with your dog (or without!) are enjoyable -- and sometimes necessary this time of the year -- but they can also be somewhat hazardous. Visibility is diminished, meaning that not only will you not see all of the obstacles at ground level, you will also not be as visible to distracted motorists rushing to and from work who may unintentionally invade you and your dog's personal space. There are also the nocturnal critters to take into account -- raccoons, opossums, even the neighborhood cats that prowl at night all can be distractions for your dog.

Improving your visibility in the dark is the obvious way walk safely. There are so many useful and easy-to-find products for night walking that we only need to list them to get you started. Of course, the easiest and thriftiest solution is to get a roll of reflective tape and attach it to your dog's collar, leash and harness. But if you want a product that has been specifically designed for nighttime visibility, whether light is shining directly on you and your dog or not, there are plenty to choose from. The most no-nonsense options are blinking light collars, leashes, and attachable collar lights (similar in size to a typical dog collar tag), the latter can be found in long lasting, far reaching lights; as strong as a standard flashlight in some cases. Look for the products that have easy battery replacement to guarantee that you always have the light you need. Here's the aforementioned list:

Collars and leashes with reflective strips and lights, so that even when a light is not shining on your dog, the lights will illuminate your dog in the dark -- blinking lights and steady lights are both available.

Clip-on blinking lights, to attach to your clothing and to your dog's leash.

Collar tags with reflective coating.

Brightly colored and reflective vests for you and your dog.

Reflective leg bands for your dog.

Flashlights that attach to your dog's collar, or onto your own noggin (e.g., the type used by mushers, climbers and miners).

Even if you have outfitted your dog with the best lights and reflective gear, it is still best to carry your own flashlight to be sure that you are in control of your own field of vision.

Other precautions to take at night are to walk against traffic. While walking toward traffic might seem counterintuitive, it enables you to see what it coming so that you can get out of the way quickly if need be. Always stay aware of the sounds and movements around you, and be prepared to move quickly.

Don't forget about what you are wearing. If you are wearing dark clothing, you will basically be invisible in the darkness. At the very least, you should have a light colored jacket to wear at night. Even better is to have reflective clothing for your night walks. A reflective jacket and sneakers will improve your visibility tremendously, and if you reinforce the outfit with a couple of blinking clip-on lights and a head light, you can be sure not to be missed in the dark. Last but not least, make sure you have your cell phone tucked securely into your pocket. Let's be careful out there!!



## Monthly Meetings for Saddleridge Property Owners



The Saddleridge Property Owner's Association Board meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Saddleridge clubhouse. The first 30 minutes are dedicated to residents and property owners, who are also welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting as desired. Please stop by if you have anything you'd like to discuss with the Board.

**SADDLERIDGE PROPERTY OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**P.O. Box 924**

**Wimberley, TX. 78676**

