

Spring 2014

# Saddleridge



www.Saddleridge.com

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## 2013 Board of Directors

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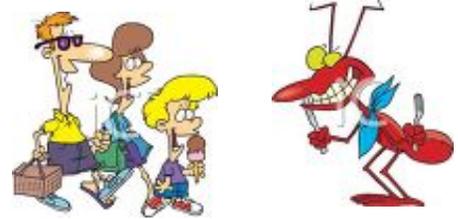
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Saddleridge Property Owners Association  
 P.O. Box 924  
 Wimberley, TX. 78676

## Saddleridge Annual Spring Picnic Saturday, April 12



Mark your calendars. The Annual Meeting & Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 11AM to 1PM at the Saddleridge Clubhouse. Bring the whole family and enjoy the **FREE** bar-b-que brisket & fixin's, soft drinks, desserts, and (of course!!) good company. Once more; the fun begins at 11:00, and will include **FREE** food. Did we mention that the food was **FREE??** Take a break from the Wimberley Arts Fest for a couple of hours; you'll be glad you did. **BONUS!!** -- The food at the picnic is a lot cheaper than at the Arts Fest; did we forget to say the food is **FREE??!!**



## Recruits Needed for the Next SPOA Board Election

### WE WANT YOU! (IF YOU ARE AWESOME)

As you all know, this is a great neighborhood in which to live.....but, as mentioned many times before; the neighborhood doesn't run itself!! Help is needed to manage it. All of the Saddleridge Board officers are volunteers, elected by the property owners. The current Saddleridge HOA Board of Directors has been at it for some time, so new blood is needed for some or all of the Board positions (the current Board needs a break!!). Everyone is busy; but most Board work requires neither great physical activity nor any particular knowledge base. All that is usually required is just some computer and phone time; usually a few hours a month on average.

There are 3 well-known ways to get volunteers for any group:

- (1) Approach potential volunteers on a one-on-one basis. Ask them personally to step up. One can't expect a huge response (or any response!!) from a blanket request for volunteers to step forward at large group meetings, on message boards, or other mass media (such as this newsletter!!). The request must be personal; neighbor to neighbor.
- (2) Provide training and education for volunteers. That's covered. The current Board members won't leave a newbie hanging out in the wind. They will stick with new members until they're comfortable flying on their own. Pretty much everybody enjoys learning something new!! Don't be afraid of the great unknown!!
- (3) Give homeowners a reason to volunteer. This is where things can get dicey at some HOA's. Sometimes a Board will try to get new members by purposely screwing up something important, or threaten to hire an outside HOA management company to replace the current Board. Once a neighborhood is up-in-arms about something the current Board is doing, new Board member volunteers will usually step up in droves!! Don't worry; the current Board wouldn't do anything like that; they have too much respect for Saddleridge.

Please consider getting more involved in the neighborhood by running for a Board position. You get to be in the "inner circle" of Saddleridge goings-on; and of course it's a great feeling to give back to the place you call home. To sign up to run in the next election, please contact any of the current SPOA Board members.



## Attention; Walkers & Riders in Saddleridge



Although this has been mentioned before; with Spring upon us, this is a good time to bring it up once again.....

First up; the Board has been getting reports from some Saddleridge property owners of other people from the neighborhood wondering about on and through their property, some even continuing to do so after being asked by the property owner to stop. This applies to all Saddleridge lots, and especially applies to empty property which has yet to be built on; even those without "No Trespassing" signs. Even the vacant lots are owned by others, and the owners do not want their land subject to "public" use. This may be stating the obvious, but this is legally TRESPASSING (signs or not), and can result in legal charges!!

Secondly (and similarly); property owners who ride their horses and ATV's in the neighborhood are reminded to please not ride on other's lots, unless you have permission from the owner. The only public areas in the subdivision are the roadways. All other property is owned by someone else, even if unfenced and un-posted. Riding on these properties without permission could also be legally considered trespassing.

Please be a good neighbor, and refrain from violating any Saddleridge property owner's rights.



## SPEEDING IN THE 'HOOD ★ ★ UPDATE ★ ★

For once, a newsletter article actually seems to have had a positive effect on the neighborhood!! Well; maybe. It seems to the Board that speeding in Saddleridge has actually declined a bit!! Was it really due to the newsletter?? Probably not. Was it maybe due to the increased Deputy patrols?? Maybe. We don't know for sure. But no matter, the Board wants to extend a heartfelt "**thank you**" to all of the residents who have slowed down a bit. Keep up the good work!! You have made walking in the area somewhat less scary. Of course there are still some speeders who continue to routinely rip through the 'hood at warp 6; such as the silver Honda Element and red Jeep that always seem in a big hurry to get to the end of Mission Trail. Is there something up the hill at the end of Mission Trail that makes folks want to go fast?? Hypoxia from the extra altitude maybe?? Even though speeding in Saddleridge has declined, there may still be a Speeding Intervention in the cards for some residents.



## OAK WILT REMINDER



Its that time of year again; time to remind everyone of the serious Oak Wilt issue in Texas. Oak Wilt **IS** in the area; Flite Acres, for example. Help prevent new infections by:

- (1) Avoid wounding oak trees (this includes pruning and trimming) from February through June, and paint all wounds and fresh stumps **immediately** after cutting, regardless of season,
- (2) Handle oak firewood cautiously, especially if not from a known wilt-free area. Never store unseasoned infected cut wood near healthy oaks,
- (3) Cover unseasoned firewood (if from infected areas and/or unknown origins) with clear plastic sheet, and bury the edges of the plastic.



# UPDATE Burglaries In Saddleridge

As most of you are aware from prior SPOA communications, there have been some recent burglaries in our neighborhood. Since the last newsletter, there have been two more burglaries. There have also been quite a few “kick-in-the-door” burglaries in nearby subdivisions of a worse nature than what has been going on in Saddleridge (Summer Mountain Ranch, for instance). As mentioned before, this recent spate of incidents could be a temporary problem due to the large number of strangers in the area because of Saddleridge new home construction, or it may be a longer-term issue from societal ills that have finally crept into our area. Whatever the cause, going forward we all need to be extra-vigilant of our surroundings and extra-careful securing our property. Do not leave valuable items lying about outside, use your alarm system, do whatever you can to make your home look occupied at all times (most residential burglaries occur on weekdays, between 10-11 AM and 1-3 PM, when homes are least likely to be occupied), do not let strangers into your home under any condition (a “solicitor” at your door may just be casing your house), and let close-by neighbors and your Neighborhood Watch Block Captain know when you’ll be away for any extended interval (you can find your Block Captain on the Saddleridge web site, [www.saddleridge.com](http://www.saddleridge.com) – the Neighborhood Watch link is at the bottom right side of the home page). If any suspicious activity is noticed, no matter how “minor” you may think it is, immediately report it to the Hays County Sheriff’s Dept. or the Wimberley City Marshall (and then please also let a Board member know). With the economy being what it is, and with the gap expanding between the “haves” and “have-nots”, this problem may get worse going forward. **Let’s Be Careful Out There.**



## SADDLERIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAIN NEEDED

**--- PLUS, A BONUS HISTORY LESSON ---**

In 1999, the Saddleridge Neighborhood Watch Program was started; and working with the Sheriff’s Office was effective in controlling criminal



activities in the Subdivision. During that time, criminal activities were on the increase, probably due to all the new construction, but close ties between the Sheriff’s Office and the Saddleridge Watch Program kept homeowners keenly aware of what was going on in the subdivision. In several cases, Neighborhood Watch informed the Sheriff’s Office of situations requiring investigation. With the housing bust, criminal activities decreased, and the Neighborhood Watch Program needed to send out fewer notifications and alerts.

Recently, however, criminal activity in Saddleridge has increased. Since we have a Neighborhood Watch Program in place, it is important that the Block Captains report anything suspicious to the Sheriff’s Office first, then to the Board and the Saddleridge Watch Coordinator (Cecil Gibson), who will forward any alerts, warnings, or messages from the Sheriff’s Office that could affect Saddleridge safety.

Currently, the Saddleridge Neighborhood Watch **Block Captain #4 position is vacant.** The Block #4 area is from 635 Saddleridge Dr. to 792 Saddleridge Dr. Ideally, the Block Captain should live in or near Area #4. Routine duties of a Block Captain are (1) ensuring residents report criminal activities in their area, and report activity to Sheriff’s Office, SPOA Board, and Watch Coordinator, (2) acting as liaison between block residents and the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, (3) compiling a current list of names, addresses, and telephone numbers of block #4 residents, (4) visiting and inviting new residents to join, (5) contacting each neighbor to discuss possible crime problems, needs for assistance, and suggestions for program improvement, (6) participating in National Night Out Activities.

Please contact Cecil Gibson if you or a Property Owner you know would be interested in becoming a Block Captain for area #4. **Block Captains are the key (Eyes and Ears) to keeping Saddleridge safe** for you and your neighbors.

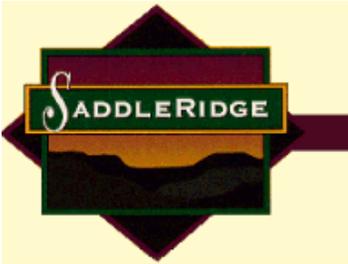
# Saddleridge Social Events Reminder

Looking to meet your new neighbors, or just wanting an opportunity to get away from the kids for a while?? Here are a couple of 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 713-202-5062 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 [mewmelton@yahoo.com](mailto:mewmelton@yahoo.com)

## 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

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