

Fall 2013

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.**

2014 Board of Directors

President:
Charles "Bo" Garrett
512-847-9112
president14@saddleridge.com

Vice President:
Dr. Bob Pyle
512-842-3087
vicepresident14@saddleridge.com

Treasurer:
Sharon Drobeck
512-722-3443
treasurer14@saddleridge.com

Secretary:
George Graham
512-722-3359
secretary14@saddleridge.com

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

www.Saddleridge.com

Board Election for the 2013-2014 Term



The Saddleridge POA Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members was held as planned on October 26. The required 20% quorum was quickly reached, all votes were counted, and all four incumbent candidates were reelected. The Board members then determined among themselves what position each would fill for the new term; and the determination was "if it ain't broke....". So, the Saddleridge Board is once again:

Charles 'Bo' Garrett - President

Dr. Bob Pyle - Vice President

Sharon Drobeck - 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 !!**



Burglaries In Saddleridge

As most of you are aware from prior SPOA emails, there have been some recent burglaries in our neighborhood. 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, 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 – 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 punk economy and the Holidays coming up, this problem may get worse going forward. **Let's Be Careful Out There.**



SPEEDING IN THE 'HOOD

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 once again. You've all seen the recent 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 recent death of one resident's beloved pet. This problem has been getting worse lately; not better. This is also a problem with ATV's; which per the TxDOT laws are held to the same rules as cars and trucks. Going 50+ mph through Saddleridge on an ATV is just plain stupid.

You offenders know who you are, and the all-seeing all-knowing SPOA Board also knows who you are!! 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. And let's face it; 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 also started to patrol our area more often due to both the burglary and speeding problems; so no whining to the Board if you get a ticket!! You've been duly warned. Let's all slow down a bit and smell the wildflowers.



Compliance with Saddleridge Covenants & Restrictions



As most residents know, but some apparently do not, Saddleridge has a set of legally-binding Covenants & Restrictions which all residents agreed to abide by when purchasing their Saddleridge property. These Covenants & Restrictions are quite minimal as compared to a normal set of subdivision rules, and are easy to find on the Saddleridge web site in the Documents section. However, a number of residents have lately chosen to ignore this minimal set of rules; both accidentally through ignorance or misinformation, and also on purpose!! These recent infractions were mostly regarding the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) set of rules. ACC approval is required for most all outdoor construction projects (buildings, sheds, barns, fences, pools, etc.).



Since the frequency and number of these problems seems to be on the rise, the SPOA Board is currently considering the addition of monetary penalties (i.e.; fines!!) for noncompliance with the ACC-related Covenants & Restrictions going forward.



Furthermore, the SPOA Board respectfully asks that all Saddleridge residents please take a few minutes and familiarize yourself once again with this set of rules. Want to build something?? Check the rules; get the approval. Want to put up a fence?? Check the rules; get the approval. Want to get some livestock?? Check the rules. Ignorance of the rules is not a legitimate defense!!

If you have any questions at all about any aspect of a Covenants & Restrictions item, please contact a Board member for clarification. *Please* do not "assume" anything regarding our Covenants & Restrictions!!

2013 National Night Out



The 2013 National Night Out was held on October 1st at the Clubhouse. This was the 15th NNO for Saddleridge!! 70+ residents attended for socializing and good free food. Since the hot dogs were a bit "short" last year (on both length and flavor!!), the SPOA Board decided this year to go all out and bring in those wonderful big Nathan's dogs from the Sam's Club deli. Also on the table were ham, chili, beans, drinks, and lots of wonderful homemade desserts from the neighborhood ladies. See what you missed if you didn't come out??



Friendly



Reminders

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 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.

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.

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, report it to Hays County Animal Control at 512-393-7896.



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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). 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!! Also, if you do any significant tree trimming or brush clearing, please notify Ron Steel at 512-392-0542 so he can use the data to help maintain the Saddleridge Firewise Community rating.



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.





Rules For Outdoor Burning in Hays County



The Rules for Outdoor Burning by Hays County Fire Marshal's Office are:

Burning shall be conducted in compliance with the following meteorological and liming considerations:

- a. The initiation of burning shall commence no earlier than one hour after sunrise. Burning shall be completed on the same day not later than one hour before sunset, and shall be attended by a responsible party at all times during the active burn phase when fire is progressing. In cases where residual fires and/or smoldering objects continue to emit smoke after this time, such areas shall be extinguished if the smoke from these areas has the potential to create a nuisance or traffic hazard condition. In no case shall the extent of the burn area be allowed to increase after this time.
- b. Burning shall not be commenced when surface wind speed is predicted to be less than six miles per hour (mph; five knots) or greater than 23 mph (20 knots) during the burn period.
- c. Burning shall not be conducted during periods of actual or predicted persistent low level atmospheric temperature inversions.

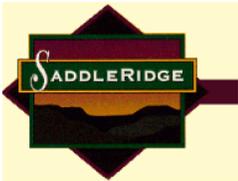
Electrical insulation, treated lumber, plastics, non-wood construction/demolition materials, heavy oils, asphalt materials, potentially explosive materials, chemical wastes, and items containing natural or synthetic rubber must not be burned.

ENFORCEMENT:

A person commits an offense if the person intentionally or knowingly, with respect to the person's conduct, violates the General Requirements for Allowable Outdoor burning or any other rule promulgated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding outdoor burning. An offense is punishable for an individual by a fine of not less than \$1,000 or more than \$50,000, confinement in the county jail for a period not to exceed 180 days, or both. An offense is punishable for a person other than an individual by fine of not less than \$1,000 or more than \$100,000.

A person may be responsible for the criminal conduct of another under the provision of Section 7.02, Texas Penal code, as for example where he/she solicits, encourages, directs, aids or attempts to aid the other person to commit the offense.

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**

