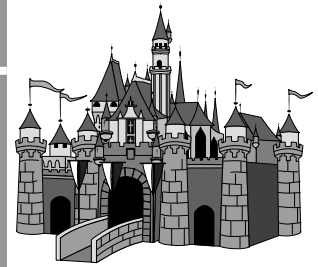


The Moat at Castle Hill

APRIL-JUNE 2009



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Places to Go and Things to Do!

There is a LOT going on in our community. Make sure these events are on your family calendar!

***Monday, April 27** at 6:30 p.m. —**Town Hall Meeting** on Burleson's Comprehensive Plan. Call the City planning office at 817-447-5400 ext 231 for more details.

***Saturday, May 9— Election Day:** There are contested races for the Burleson City Council AND Burleson School Board. Be sure to get out and make your voice heard. Visit the City and

BISD websites for polling information. Early voting starts April 27.



***Saturday, May 30— Household Hazardous Waste Collection:** 9-11 a.m. at the City's OLD Service Center (133 N. Main Street). For info, call the City's environmental

services office at 817-447-5410 ext 269.

***Saturday, July 4— CHHOA Independence Day Celebration:** Details will be posted to the HOA website. If you'd like to bring ice cream or other treats for the party, let the Board know.



Yard of the Month

The CHHOA Board re-ignited the yard wars in March by bringing back the Yard of the Month award. The winners for April are:

James & Ruth Atwood
319 Castle Hill Drive

According to the selection committee, "The Atwoods' yard always looks aesthetically appealing and their varied use of color creates a wow factor...from the beautiful purple pansies on the porch to the yellow irises in the flower

bed. Their hard work deserves recognition!"

The Board would also like to recognize the other nominees for March:

- Nichols at 200 Castle Hill Drive
- Landers at 311 Flagstone

Please help the Board in recognizing our neighbors who go that extra mile to make their yards, homes and neighborhood look nice and inviting! Nominate deserving green thumbs

for the Yard of the Month award by visiting the CHHOA website today.

Nominations will close on the last day of each month. The HOA Board will then judge those nominated and deliver a gift card and the coveted sign to put in the winning yard. Springtime is here and the flowers are starting to bloom, so it is time to get digging and working in the yards!

See more about the Yard of the Month program inside.

CASTLE HILLS HOA

OFFICERS

- *President Raina Smith*
817-447-6123
- *VP Scott Atwood*
817-426-3024
- *Secretary/Treasurer Karen Tucker*
817-447-1569

COMMITTEES

- *Architectural Committee - John Merk, Kyle Smith, 1 open seat*
- *Audit Committee - Lonna Hoffman*
- *Social Committee - Open seat*
- *Communications - Sheri Campbell-Husband*
- *Landscape Committee - Jerry Ryan*

CONTACT

CASTLEHILLBURLESON@HOTMAIL.COM

PO BOX 1474, BURLESON, TX 76028

Letter from President Raina Smith

Dear Neighbors,

In case you didn't receive a notice in your email inbox several weeks ago or notice the new sign at the entry, Castle Hill Estates is in cyberspace at www.castlehillhoa.org! We invite you to take a tour and see the great information we have accessible right at your fingertips (and computer of course). We want the website to serve as an informational resource for our members and a place to voice your opinion. If you wish to contact the Board of Directors, you may contact us individually via our individual email links from the 'Board of Directors' page on the website or email the entire Board of Directors at board@castlehillhoa.org.

Speaking of voicing your opinion, what better way to recognize your neighbors than by nominating them

for an aesthetically pleasing yard. We are resuming Yard of the Month, and will continue it through the Fall. So please go to the website to nominate someone you feel is deserving of this award.

We also have a winner of a different sort, and the winner is us because (Halleluia!) Jerry Ryan is back! He is the man for the Landscape Committee. We just couldn't manage without him; he was greatly missed during his long vacation and we welcome him back with open arms. Jerry has the knowledge and experience in dealing with our landscape contractor, Webb Landscape Management. He also does an outstanding job with the irrigation as well as helping with repair projects in the neighborhood. Jerry's knowledge in this area is vast

and he is invaluable as a volunteer in this capacity. Not long on the job, and Jerry has already fixed the dilapidated fence at 305 Castle Hill Drive. Thanks a million, Jerry! We couldn't pay you enough for what you do!

This issue of *The Moat* is jam-packed with information for the CHHOA residents, so be sure to read it cover to cover. And if you know about issues of importance to your neighbors, let our newsletter editor know, so she can include it in our next issue of *The Moat*!

DON'T FORGET

*It is a violation of City of
Burlinson ordinance to water
your lawn with an irrigation
(sprinkler) system between
10 a.m. and 6 p.m.*

Guidelines for Yard of the Month Award

The Castle Hill Estates Yard of the Month (YOM) program is intended to inspire residents to take pride in the appearance of the exterior of their homes and upkeep of their yards, in turn creating an aesthetically appealing neighborhood that a passerby enjoys viewing.

Guidelines and criteria

Yard Maintenance:

1. Healthy green lawn, that is well-groomed, neatly mowed and edged on a regular basis
2. Pruned and trimmed shrubs and trees
3. Healthy live plants (all plantings must be living, no plastic or artificial plants)
4. Minimal weeds in flowerbeds and lawn
5. Yard free of debris and clutter
6. Buildings, fences, porches, and patios on the property are in good repair

Design and Landscaping:

1. Use of color and/or texture including annuals and perennials that are pleasing to the eye.
2. Creative, unique, curb appeal including features such as rock edging, fountains, etc.
3. Overall aesthetic appeal, an inspiration to others in the neighborhood.
4. Balance appropriate to house and lot size including variety of shrubbery.
5. Overall design that gives a passerby sense that the homeowner has pride in his/her landscape and property.

You may nominate your neighbor for YOM via the website: www.castlehillhoa.org. Nominations will be accepted through the 25th of the month for the following month.

One home will be selected by the Castle Hill Estates Board and/or Selection Committee each month during the months of March through October.

Judging will occur during the last week of each month, after the nomination deadline has passed. Each yard may win the award up to twice in any calendar year.

Each month, one winner will receive a gift card valued at \$25 from Home Depot and will proudly display a "Yard of the Month" sign in their yard for the entire month. A picture of the winning yard will also be posted on the Castle Hill Estates website.

Only front yards as viewed from the street will be judged.

Current board members and voting members of the selection committee are not eligible.

Winners must be in good standing with the Castle Hill Estates HOA, including dues paid in full, and must be in compliance with the Declaration of Covenants.

Judges' decisions are final.

Helping Keep CHHOA Safe and Alert

One goal of the HOA is to help residents remain aware of our surroundings...both in the neighborhood and the community as a whole. The Board receives regular crime reports from Officer Mike Owen of the Burlleson Police Department.

Since February 26, eight Burglary of Motor Vehicle (BMV) reports were made with Burlleson PD. A majority of those were taken on February 26. Common characteristics in many of these burglaries are that the vehicles are unlocked or contain property left in open sight. One piece of property commonly stolen is the dash/window-mounted GPS unit. **Please remember to keep your vehicles locked and your valuables out of sight.**

The HOA has also been informed about a new website from which you

can receive individualized reports of crime within the United States. The HOA has subscribed to this CrimeReports.com website.

When law enforcement officers respond to a crime, a report ("call for service") is made on the police department's records system and is kept on file for future reference. A "call for service" does not mean that a written report was made. The complainant may not press charges, or there may not be enough information available to press charges. The information can now be seen on the CrimeReports.com website, and it is updated approximately every 24 hours. If you utilize this service and then have questions about the information reported, you can call a Burlleson Police Department Community Resource Officer for assistance.

During the first few months of this year, some neighbors had their mailboxes destroyed by vandals. If you are in need of a replacement mailbox, you can contact the company used by the neighborhood's original developer, Brandon Industries (1-800-247-1274). Tell them you are with Castle Hill Estates in Burlleson and they will know which series of mailboxes we have. Alternatively, there are also locking mailboxes available at some of the local home improvement stores, and they may actually be less expensive.

If you have questions about any of these issues, please contact a CHHOA Board member.

The CrimeReports.com website reports on information such as aggravated assaults, rape, arson, burglary, and motor vehicle thefts, among other types of crime.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!

The face of the CHHOA family has changed a bit since the last newsletter. Please help us in welcoming the following folks to the fold.

DeLeon Family -
208 Flagstone

Osborne Family -
867 Bridle Path

Scott Family -
901 Bridle Path

Bain Family -
816 Flagstone

Cortez Family -
213 Castle Hill Drive



If you have an opportunity to say hello to our new neighbors, or answer any questions they may have about life in Castle Hill Estates, the Board would appreciate your help in making them feel at home.

HOA Dues Update and Call for Audit Help

To date, we still have 10 homeowners who have not paid their annual assessments. Please remember that timely payment of dues is the life blood of the HOA. It is how the organization pays for things like maintenance of the neighborhood entryway and park. So homeowners who pay their dues on time are very much appreciated.

On a related note, the Board is looking for volunteers who are

familiar with accounting or auditing, or who just know a little something about money. Specifically, we need volunteers to serve on an Audit Committee.

This position does not require a huge time commitment, but is necessary once each year to conduct an audit of the HOA books; usually in July. If you feel you have talents in this area, or if you have questions about what skills the Board is

specifically seeking, please contact the CHHOA Board at board@castlehillhoa.org today.

You Can Customize Your Delivery of *The Moat*

The CHHOA newsletter is now being made available in hard copy, and in PDF format through electronic delivery and on the website.

If you would prefer to receive your copy of the newsletter by electronic mail, rather than in hard copy through U.S. Post, please contact Editor Sheri Campbell-Husband today and provide her your e-mail address. Sheri can be reached by phone at 817-295-4158 or by e-mail at sysch@sbcglobal.net.



Calling all Patriots: Flag Help Needed

You may not realize it, but the HOA has two flagpoles at our main entrance. The CHHOA Board would like to see the neighborhood show off its patriotic pride by putting up U.S. and Texas flags on national holidays. Many of the HOA residents participate in the Rotary Club flag program, but due to liability concerns, the club cannot put up flags on the HOA's flagpoles.

So, the Board is seeking volunteers to help us raise up Old Glory and the Lone Star on appropriate holidays. If you are interested in serving the HOA in this capacity, please contact the Board at board@castlehillhoa.org today.



CASTLE HILL HOA

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