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# The Moat at Castle Hill

AUGUST-OCTOBER 2011

### From the CHHOA President

Spring arrived bringing with it refreshing rains, pleasant temperatures, green grass, colorful flowers, and the anticipation of the end of school and summer vacations. As we all know, as pleasant as Spring may be, it serves as a precursor to periods of draught, sweltering temperatures, lawn mowing, flowerbed weeding, and regular household projects. Once again, it has proved to be an accurate precursor as the hot summer days and nights have arrived with little rain and high tempera-

Speaking of Spring, for those who did not know or were unable to participate, the Castle Hill HOA social committee hosted an Easter Egg hunt for the children. During this time the kids did a water balloon toss, decorated cookies, flew kits, won prizes, and of course, hunted for eggs. A good time was had by all. We appreciate the work of the Social Committee in organizing and hosting the event.

We have begun the recognition of the Yard of the Month (YOM). The first

2011 award was presented to Steve and Linda Landers of 311 Flagstone. The second 2011 award was presented to Ray and Mikki West of 215 Castle Hill. See the story on page 2 of this newsletter for the details on this program.

We really would like to have a few folks volunteer to serve on the YOM selection team. It is really a winwin deal. You get to make the selection as a team, deliver the sign and a gift certificate to the winner each month. (Continued p. 3)



## **New Water Restrictions in Place**

The string of 100-degree days may have been broken, but Texas is still in the midst of the worst drought in 116 years, so conservation continues to be critical. Beginning August 29<sup>th</sup>, Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD) is requiring all of its customer cities, including Burleson, to implement outdoor watering restrictions. Landscape watering is now limited to twice per week.

- If your home address ends in an even number, you may irrigate using your sprinkler system
  on Wednesday and Saturday.
- If your home address ends in an odd number, you may irrigate using your sprinkler system on Thursday and Sunday.
- Non-residential properties may be irrigated on Tuesday and Friday.
- There is NO outdoor watering allowed on Mondays.
- There are also limits on the number of hours per day that foundations or newly-planted shrubs may be watered.

The City of Burleson's Code of Ordinances prohibits outdoor irrigation (use of automated or hose-end sprinklers) between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. daily, <u>all year long</u>, regardless of any other restrictions in place. That means that, even on your designated irrigation days, you may not run your sprinkler system between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. This rule applies to both residences and businesses.

TRWD has told municipal water utilities to be prepared for these restrictions to be in place until after the first of the year because of the severity of the drought. For more information about City water codes and the Stage 1 Water Restrictions, visit www.burlesontx.com. You may also visit that site to report residents or businesses in violation of the watering restrictions.



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#### CASTLE HILLS HOA

#### OFFICERS

- President Charles Osborne 817-733-0064
- VP Mike Dorety 972-824-4046
- Treasurer Sharon Ives 817-999-5600
- Secretary Leechelle Ryan

#### COMMITTEES

- Architectural Committee -Scott Atwood (Chair), John Merk, Kyle Smith, Mike Dorety
- Audit Committee -Onita Holton, Susan Dorety
- Social Committee -Sharon Ives, Janessa Cazier, Leechelle Ryan, Nancy Osborne
- Communications-Sheri Campbell-Husband
- Landscape Committee -Jerry Ryan, Joe Cortez
- Flag Committee Dann Munro, Charlie Osborne

#### CONTACT

BOARD@CASTLEHILLHOA.ORG

## Letter from President (continued from cover)

We are yet to find the person upset about winning the YOM. It is a good opportunity to recognize folks who set the standard of landscape design and maintenance for the community. If you are interested in serving in this capacity just contact a Board member.

Speaking of landscaping and Spring, please remember that as members of the HOA we each have the responsibility and obligation to keep our yard and landscaping in good condition in accordance with the standards in the Declarations of Covenants. Not everyone can win the Yard of the Month award, but all of us can keep our landscape maintained to help contribute to the over-

all appear of the community. Take some time view your home's land-scape as an outsider would view it walking or driving through our neighborhood. It seems that a good general standard would be to have the kind of landscapes in the neighborhood where folks just passing through or even visiting would say, "this is really a well kept, neat neighborhood." We all appreciate the work of others in this regard and we all benefit from each other's diligence.

Congratulations to Scott Atwood, former president on the Castle Hill HOA, on his recent election to the Burleson ISD Board of Trustees. Citizen involvement in community

governance is essential to the continued quality of life and security of the community. We appreciate Scott's willingness to serve.

If you are willing to serve on the Nominating Committee for the upcoming association meeting or if you are interested in serving on any committee, please send an email to <a href="mailto:osborne2671@gmail.com">osborne2671@gmail.com</a> and I will be in touch.

## **Survey Clarification**

Several people have approached Board members recently to inquire as to the purpose of the recent survey that was distributed around Castle Hill. The assumption was that the survey originated with the Board. That was not the case. The survey originated and was tallied by several folks who wanted to feel out the sense of the community on an array of issues. The results of the survey were delivered to the Board for consideration.



## Reminder from the AAC

The Board and the members of the Architectural Committee (AAC) would like to remind all residents of Castle Hill HOA that, if you wish to make changes to your property, you must make that request of the AAC and it must be approved BEFORE those changes are made.

Examples of projects that require prior approval are:

- Exterior painting
- Exterior home improvement
- Landscaping
- Installation of fences and outbuildings

Architectural Committee members are listed on the front of this newsletter and they may be contacted by phone or e-mail. For information about the AAC and/or the HOA's conditions and restrictions on home improvements, please visit www.castlehillhoa.org.



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## **CHHOA Yard of the Month Program**

The Yard of the Month (YOM) program is intended to encourage residents to take pride in the appearance of the exterior of their home and upkeep of their yards. It is a method to recognize those in the community who excel in this arena.

The CHHOA Board would greatly appreciate having some folks volunteer to serve on the YOM selection committee. It is extremely rewarding to give an award to a neighbor. If you would like to serve in that capacity, just contact a Board member.

#### **General YOM Guidelines**

- Each yard may win the award up to twice in a calendar year.
- Each winner will receive a \$25
  Home Depot gift card and the
  right to display the Yard of the
  Month sign in the winning

vard.

- Only front yards, visible from the street, will be judged.
- Current Board members and voting members of the selection committee are not eligible to win, but are certainly encouraged to have a yard that could win, if eligible.
- The winner must be in good standing with the HOA including dues paid for the current year and be in compliance with the Declaration of Covenants.
- Nominations can be made through the HOA website

#### Judging Criteria

Yard Maintenance:

 Healthy, green lawn, well groomed and mowed and

- edged regularly
- Pruned and trimmed shrubs and trees
- Healthy live plants, no plastic or artificial plants
- Minimum weeds in lawn and flowerbeds
- Yard free of clutter
- Porches and patios on good repair

#### Design and Landscaping:

- Use of color and/or texture
- Creative, unique curb appeal
- Overall aesthetic appeal
- Balance appropriate relative to size of house and lot
- Overall design shows pride in the property.

## Yard of the Month Winners

## **MAY**

**JULY** 

Steve and Linda Landers 311 Flagstone Drive

Raymond and Mikki West 215 Castle Hill Drive

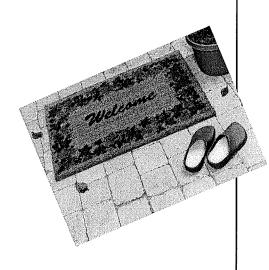
Pictures of winning yards are posted on the CHHOA website at www.castlehillhoa.org.

## From Outgoing Secretary/Treasurer Sharon Ives

Wow, what a summer already. Not enough hours in the day or enough days in the week.

I would like to thank those that participated in the Easter Egg Hunt and egg toss that was held April 9. Also, a special thank you to Kimbarley Medlin at 315 Flagstone for placing the Easter reminders on the homeowner's doors. This event was a success with lots of smiles on the children's faces. They went home with their Easter Baskets overflowing with eggs. They decorated cookies, tossed water balloons and found plenty of eggs and a couple of those had money in them.

It has been a pleasure serving on the Board as your secretary and treasurer and I hope that I can again in the future.



## Welcome to the Neighborhood

We would like to welcome the newest CHHOA homeowners to the neighborhood.

Paul & Lawanda Bond are new residents at

208 Flagstone Drive.

### HULU, LLC and WAMMN Investments, LLC

are the new owners at

305 Castle Hill.

As you see new neighbors out and about please help us welcome them to the CHHOA family.



WWW.CASTLEHILLHOA.ORG