

Ridge Harbor Floater

Spicewood, TX 78669

November/December * 2006



By Sherri Curry

The holidays are upon us catching all by surprise since the trappings of Christmas appeared in retail stores well before Halloween had even appeared. It was not unusual to see pumpkins and witches nestled up to Santa and Christmas trees. For a short time, they shared the same shelf space.

With this time of the year also comes the dreaded cedar fever season. There is, however, an antidote according to a master gardener in Marble Falls:

Gather ½ cup of juniper berries, clean by rinsing in tap water and place them in a saucepan with a cup and a half of water. Bring to a boil then remove from fire, cover and let cool. After the tea has cooled, pour the contents into a jar with a cap and refrigerate. Each morning, take a teaspoon or two depending on your size. This should ease the reaction to the pollen from the male cedar tree. So, gather your berries that are now in evidence on the female cedar trees.

There was a good turnout for the annual Kids Halloween Party. About forty little characters showed up to revel in the games and activities coordinated by Tracie Bettin. Pinatas, apple bobbing, decorating cupcakes and a host of other fun things kept the kiddos busy for a couple of hours and then a potluck dinner was shared by a crew of adults...complete with Joe Koury's shrimp kabobs. Yum! See the pictures of the Halloween party on the website--www.ridgeharbor.com. Thanks to all that helped out with this event.

As Thanksgiving is nigh upon us, I ponder on my daily walks what I am truly thankful for. First of all, good health enables one to get out and participate in the feel-good events that involve family and friends. Several of us recently walked in the Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure in downtown Austin (although one of our group--Kathie Gabriel actually ran the timed race). It was enlightening to see all the pink-shirted survivors of breast cancer participating in the event and the support given by the crowd. It was a

good feeling.

Family and friends provide comfort, support and validation of who we are as individuals and as part of a group. Both lend history and background and provide a base from which to grow. We are blessed to have both!

Pondering the upcoming holiday seasons, I am truly thankful for the privileges we, as Americans, have to live in the USA and have the right to life, liberty and pursuit of happiness. The choices we, as Americans, have must not be taken for granted. We must be thankful for our right to make choices--be they good or bad.

And, I am very grateful for the abundance of food offered during the holiday seasons (well, maybe not the fruit cakes of old)!

May you all enjoy Thanksgiving and Christmas wherever you may be and eat an extra piece of pie for me!



Low Water Boat Ramp

The addition to the first low-water boat ramp has been poured and will be usable as soon as the lake rises just a little bit. The ramp is right above the lake level...just a little rain for a few days and we can be a boating community again! According to weather forecasters, we are slated to receive above-normal rainfall for this winter due to the effects of El Nino. Maybe it missed us this year and got the Seattle, Washington area.

Bob Rose, the chief meteorologist for the LCRA, gives this take on our fall weather:

"With a moderate El Nino in progress, October and November is supposed to be the time when Texas and the southern US receives above normal rain. It's interesting to note how the weather we've seen so far this November has resembled the more typical response from a La Nina rather than an El Nino. Most climate experts don't have a good explanation for the atypical weather we're currently

experiencing. Most of them are somewhat baffled but do expect a trend toward wetter and more unsettled weather as we move into December. As they remind me, it's early into the fall/winter period and the pattern can turn around in a hurry."



Vs.



Ridge Harbor Community Information Page

Recaps of Minutes from Board of Director's Meetings

Recaps of the Board meetings will no longer be available on the www.ridgeharbor.com web page. The board meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 6 PM. The official minutes are taken and approved by the Board at the following meeting and are available after they have been approved. If you wish a copy of the official minutes, please contact Mary Lynn Ray, Property Manager. Residents are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

If you have an item for the agenda, please contact the Property Manager, Mary Lynn Ray, before the next meeting.

**Emergency - 911
Burnet County Sheriff - (512) 756-8080
Spicewood VFD-EMS - (830) 693-7136**

Burn Pile

Please make sure there is not a **Burn Ban** in effect before burning the pile. Do not pile any brush in the trailer parking area. The Burn Pile is located more toward the lake--not in the parking area. Some residents have been using the old area to pile brush in. If not sure, please ask someone.

Link for Burn Ban in Burnet County is:

www.spicewoodvfd.com

Each resident is responsible for burning their own brush.

Gate Information

**To change your gate code or get a new one for a service such as construction, lawn care or housecleaning:
Notify
Sherri Curry (830 693-8327)**

Remember, you can have a guest or service dial your number from the gate directory. The phone will ring in your house acting like an intercom. You can press "9" on your phone and it will open the gate.

For complaints of loose dogs in the neighborhood, the POA Board has recommended the following. If you know who the owner of the dog is, the Property Manager can be contacted to write a letter to this owner before calling Animal Control. If owner is not known, call:

**Burnet County
Animal Control Number:
(512) 756-8080**

Ridge Harbor Contact Information

Email: mray22@yahoo.com

Phone: (830) 798-2270

Ridge Harbor POA Board Members:

Mary Lynn Ray, Mgr. P. O. Box 638 Spicewood, TX 78669	Sharon Bechtold-Sengbusch - President Gennaro Bonomo - Vice President Paul Kronbergs- Treasurer Cathy Haas - Secretary Steve Schneider - Project Manager
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Ridge Harbor Floater Information

The newsletter is created and written by Sherri Curry every other month. The advertising revenue helps to fund the costs of maintaining our website, www.ridgeharbor.com. If you would like to be involved in helping with the newsletter or would like to place an ad in the "Floater", please contact Sherri at:

(830) 693-8327 or shernet@gmail.com

Paul and Nancy Kronbergs recently took a trip to Russia and Paul was kind enough to share some of their adventures with Ridge Harbor Residents. Thank you for your contribution, Paul.

WATERWAYS OF RUSSIA

“Dobree Dyen” Russian for Good Day! My wife and I recently returned from a wonderful trip to Russia with a tour group from our church. In this brief article I will tell you how we traveled, where we went and what we saw, include our impressions, and tell you about a memorable event.

We flew into Moscow and we were taken immediately to our river cruise ship for check in, unpacking for the only time during our tour. On the ship we had two American groups of 32, a German group of 120, a French-Canadian group of 30, and a Mexican group of 30. The staff of our ship, the MS Simonov, provided three meals a day including a Captain’s Welcome and Farewell Dinner, and I can assure you that the food was very good and the presentation was excellent. Every cabin had a large outside window so we could monitor the sights along the way. We had onboard entertainment, lectures on Russian history, Russian language lessons, and we even learned two Russian songs.

During our tour of Moscow we visited the Kremlin and red square. The Armory Museum in the Kremlin houses the crown jewels, carriages, royal clothing, gifts to the Russian royals, and just a few weapons and suits of armor. We were very impressed with the collection and think that it is more impressive than the crown jewels in the Tower of London. We toured just a few of the many churches, the GUM Department store, the Moscow subway, and the lit up Kremlin and city at night. Each station and the different levels at the same subway station had different art works, sculptures, bronzes, paintings, and mosaics. They also used a lot of marble, granite, and other stones to decorate the stations.

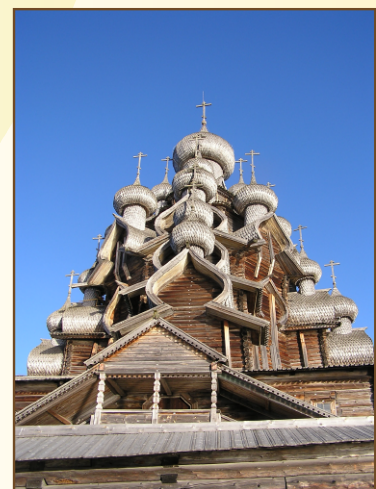
The ship departed up the Moscow-Volga Canal and then the Volga River toward Kostroma and Yaroslavl. Kostroma was one of the few Russian towns to retain its 18th century layout representing the Russian classical period. We visited the Trinity Cathedral and the 14th century Ipatievsky Monestary and it was good to see a considerable amount of restoration work in progress. Yaroslavl is an important Volga River port town of 600,000 founded in the 11th century. On our tour we visited the 17th century Church of St. Elijah the Prophet which was filled with frescoes and the 12th century Savior-Transfiguration Monestary one of the Volga regions oldest.

We cruised on the impressive Rybinsk Reservoir to Goritsy to see the well preserved 14th century Cyril-Belozero Monastery. It is named in honor of the monk Cyril one of the most honored saints in the Russian Orthodox Church. After the reservoir, we sailed through the Voga-Baltic Canal to the tiny island of Kizhi at the northern end of Lake Onega. The island contains an open air Museum of Architecture that has a collection of 18th century Russian wooden buildings all built originally without nails. The Church of the Transfiguration with its 22 onion domes was the most breathtaking structure.

From Lake Onega we cruised down towards St. Petersburg. Peter the Great built the city in the 18th century as a rival to Venice. St. Petersburg stands on 101 islands linked by more than 300 bridges. We toured the city, the Hermitage Museum, Catherine the Greats Palace, and Peterhof. The Hermitage has one of the largest collections of impressionist paintings as well as Russian and Oriental art in addition to the Western European Masters. We also found that the rooms containing the works of art were masterpieces of art themselves.

The event I want to tell you about happened on the way to St. Petersburg. On the way we had a passenger’s talent show. We sang the two Russian songs our tour guide taught us in Russian and we also sang America the Beautiful to close the American portion of the show. Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined being able to sing America the Beautiful in Russia. I served 21 years in the US Air Force from 1958 to 1979 and for all those years the USSR (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) was our biggest enemy. How the times have changed and now we strongly recommend taking the Waterways of Russia tour.

Da svedanya “ Russian for Goodbye!



Prescription Drugs from Canada

In the last newsletter, I wrote how my prescription drugs from Canada were seized by Homeland Security. Here is the latest edict from the government:

The federal government will stop seizing small amounts of lower-priced prescription medications mailed from Canada. The new policy, which takes effect Oct. 9, 2006, was announced in an e-mail from the Department of Homeland Security to congressional staff.

Since November 2005, U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents have seized prescription drugs that 40,000 Americans had ordered from Canada. Customs spokeswoman, Lynn Hollinger, confirmed the policy change saying the agency would no longer intercept the drugs or issue letters to postal carriers indicating it is illegal to import prescription medications. She said the policy change was due to political pressure from lawmakers and people who complained they were no longer receiving their medicine. Nelson said that the new policy will allow Americans to import small amounts of prescription drugs--roughly a 90-day supply.

The change means that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration will resume oversight of the importation of prescription drugs. Before Customs took over enforcement the FDA largely ignored the importation of small amounts of prescription drugs.



Linda Boatman supplied this bio for the newsletter. Please welcome them as new, full-time residents. Also note that Linda is a Mary Kay rep if anyone needs Mary Kay products.

Terry and Linda Boatman are the new owners of the home at 600 Wesley Ridge Drive, the house with the blue roof and the tower (Sandra & Lou Nicholson's former home). They have moved from West Houston to become full time Ridge Harbor residents. However, they are not new to the subdivision as they have owned one of the tennis villas since 1997, so you may have met them. The Boatmans have three adult children; Jaime and husband Corey Henderson of Houston, Deanna and husband Jason and children Kelsie, Cori and Justin Hollander of Round Rock, and Mark of Houston. Their fourth grandchild was just born in October, a little Henderson in Houston.

Terry, a mechanical engineer, retired from FMC-SOFEC and now does consulting design work for them in Houston. He spends about four days a week there and long week-ends here. His interests are cars, boats, and anything mechanical. Linda retired from teaching high school English in Katy ISD several years ago. She is a **Mary Kay consultant** part time and grandmother full time. She also enjoys homemaking, playing the piano, reading and crochet.

As you take your daily walk around the Point, stop by and say "Hi" to Terry and Linda Boatman.



Welcome New Neighbors:

Jeff & Susan Rhodes - 207 Wesley Ridge Drive

Jeff and Susan formerly lived in Austin and found Ridge Harbor during an MLS search. They moved into their home in October and are excited to become residents of Ridge Harbor. Jeff is the Sales Director for The Lead Dogs--a Business to Business telemarketing company and Susan is the Director of Residential Services for Stonebridge Health, a nursing home. They both live busy lives but are interested in fishing, golfing, gardening, tennis and lake activities. Their family consists of two dogs and a cat. Please stop by and introduce yourself to the new neighbors.

Spicewood VFD has a new website! www.spicewoodvfd.com

The Spicewood Volunteer Fire Department has a new website that lists all their activities, how to volunteer and lots of interesting facts about this organization. It also contains Burn Ban information.

See what's going on and visit www.spicewoodvfd.com.

Spicewood Library - www.spicewoodlibrary.org



If you are interested in helping with the library, meetings are held the 1st Saturday of every month at the Spicewood Community Center at 10 AM.

Friends of the Spicewood Community Library To Donate, make your checks payable to FSCL
P.O. Box 463, Spicewood, TX 78669 (Friends of the Spicewood Community Library)

A 1440 square foot manufactured building has been donated to house the interim library and moved onto the property. The property is being readied for access. Arrangements are being made to catalog the books and remodel the interior of the building.

The board is very pleased that we have made it this far but there is an awful lot left to do. Before we can open, a giant effort is required to ready the temporary building for occupancy - skirts added around the bottom, numerous lighting changes, a septic system installed, shelving for the books, and on and on. The two to three thousand books collected thus far must be sorted and those not suitable for the library need to be sold in a book sale. The books destined for the library must be then entered into an electronic card catalog.

Donate Library Content

We are always interested in great content for the library - for both children and adults. The library will accept books (hardback or paperback), Videos in DVD or VHS formats, CDs and Audio Books on CD or cassettes. Content not used will be sold in book sales with proceeds being directed towards content needed but not donated. Visit our website, www.spicewoodlibrary.org, for further information.

Activities



Bee Cave Farmer's Market
On Hwy 71 next to Papa Joe's Pizza.
Saturdays 9 am - 2 pm



Produce, organic products, flowers, jewelry and other hand-crafted items.

The Walk way of Lights - Marble Falls

Lakeside Park (307 Buena Vista) in Marble Falls, Texas

Open to the public November 17, 2006 through January 1, 2007 from 6:00-10:00pm.

Pictures with Santa can be taken on Thursdays 6:00pm - 8:00pm and Friday & Saturday evenings from 6:00pm - 10:00pm.

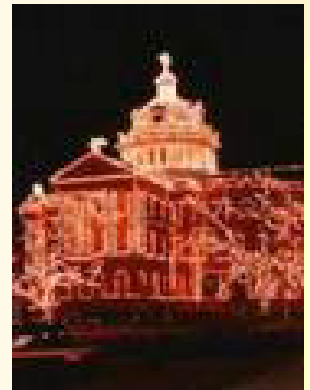
Children can have their pictures taken with Santa for \$3.00. The Walkway of Lights is free to the public, however donations are greatly appreciated. More than two million lights adorn the unique holiday sculptures, live Christmas trees and archways.

Burnet County Courthouse - Christmas Lights

For the first time in its 69 year history, Burnet County Courthouse will be dressed in thousands of twinkling white lights for the holiday season, joining a larger tradition of lighted trails and special events that Burnet County traditionally celebrates during the holiday season.

Built of "Texas Pink" granite from our local Granite Mountain in 1937, the same granite quarried to build the State Capitol), the Burnet County Courthouse was lit up on Thursday, November 16, 2006. The lights will continue to shine from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m every evening through December 31st for all to enjoy.

Burnet County Courthouse is located in the historic square in Burnet, Tx.



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