

# Ridge Harbor Floater

## Spicewood, TX 78669



January 2009

By Sherri Curry

Happy New Year to all our Ridge Harbor residents. Welcome to the year with all its financial challenges, a new U. S. President, new Texas Speaker of the House and the hope that all conditions will improve in the coming year.

Ridge Harbor's largest concern at present, is the continuing drought with the lake down almost 26 feet from the full level. The newly reconfigured low-water boat ramp has been widely used and has permitted many to continue enjoying boating activities and water access. Even with the lower water, there is a certain beauty along the new shoreline beach with shells, flotsam and long stretches for strolling. Right across from the boat ramp is a tree that contains the nest of a pair of osprey. It was built last year and this pair has returned to raise another family.



The POA Annual Meeting was held this month with a new Board member elected: Gary Sengbusch who takes Herb Krasner's place. Herb will continue to work in an unofficial capacity on the ACC finalization. The meeting was very informational with the LCRA giving their Master Plan for Muleshoe Bend park and other information on LCRA parks. See the recap of the meeting prepared by Ruth Henderson and Sherri Curry on Pages 6-8 for more information. Ruth has agreed to help with creating the newsletter and has lots of experience in projects such as this newsletter.

Did you know.... one of our neighbors in The Place got to help decorate the White House Christmas tree! Ann Kiely left Spicewood the day after Thanksgiving and had a wonderful time getting some behind-the-scene views of the White House.

The unofficial winner of the Christmas lights this year was Kathy Nunn and Michael Caine. They decorated the stem and arms of a century plant with red pepper lights that could

be seen from many points in the community. Close seconds were the Elizalde house (a lighted "Sherwood Forest") and the Levine house with many and various lights including the annually lit Star of David.

In the works: a new restroom in Marina Park....no more portable relief station. Still have to hook up the water and sewer connection, but this should be done by summertime. The restroom is located in the Marina's storage building. Thanks to all who are involved in this project.

Aggravating item: John Spreen planted many new Buford holly plants in late fall to take the place of diseased oleanders. Carefully tending and drenching them with a malodorous, rotten-egg smelling product, he watched as local deer carefully picked out the tender new shoots of each plant and munched away. He has recently bought mothballs and enclosed them in pieces of pantyhose and carefully hung this repellent on each plant. Hmmm. Have to wait and see if this works!

The Ridge Harbor *Floater* is also available on [www.ridgeharbor.com](http://www.ridgeharbor.com) -the site owned by Sherri Curry and Kathie Gabriel. The website is supported by local advertising listed directly on the site. Proceeds from the advertising will help pay for the domain and hosting services. Any extra income will help provide funding for community events. We appreciate

everyone's support and thank all the businesses for listing their ads with us. We also have a "**Classified**" section where personal items or services can be listed for sale at no charge.

The **POA Board Minutes** are posted on the website after having been approved by the POA Board electronically .

Please make sure and notify Steve Schneider and Sherri Curry of any change in email addresses .

You can also make sure your listing is correct in the resident directory on the website, [www.ridgeharbor.com](http://www.ridgeharbor.com) under "Residents" - Phone Book

Deed Restrictions and Architectural Guidelines can also be found on the website under RH POA for those new residents building a home or for any remodeling projects by current residents.

## Ridge Harbor Community Information

### Property Owners Association Board Meetings

POA Board Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month. Check the published POA Board Minutes on the website to see where the meetings will be held. All residents are welcome to attend. If there is an issue to be discussed at the meeting, please notify the Property Manager, Mary Lynn Ray, to have it put on the agenda.



### Ridge Harbor Contact Information

Email: [mlray22@yahoo.com](mailto:mlray22@yahoo.com) Phone: (830) 798-2270

### Ridge Harbor POA Board Members:

#### Mary Lynn Ray, Manager

P. O. Box 638  
Spicewood, TX 78669  
[mlray22@yahoo.com](mailto:mlray22@yahoo.com)

Steve Schneider - President  
Gary Sengbusch - Vice President  
Paul Kronbergs- Treasurer  
Steve Smith- Secretary  
Gennaro Bonomo - Facilities Director

### Gate Information

To change your gate code or get a new code for a service such as construction, lawn care or housecleaning: Notify Sherri Curry (830 693-8327). Sherri Curry also has gate remotes (\$25) and swimming pool keys (\$35) available.

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. This will only work if you have a "land line" and your phone number will have to be put into the directory. Contact Sherri for more info or help.



### Tennis Court Gate Code:

5142

### Ridge Harbor Floater Information

This newsletter is created and written by Sherri Curry

The advertising revenue helps to fund the costs of maintaining our website, [ridgeharbor.com](http://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 me:

693-8327 or [shernet@gmail.com](mailto:shernet@gmail.com)

## Spicewood Lions Club Organizational Meeting January 6, 2009

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 20, 2009 - 6 pm*

An informational meeting of the Lions Club was held on 1/6/09 at the Double Horn Char House. Sixteen individuals attended the meeting with Angela Nicholson, a former Lions District Governor, hosting the meeting.

Michael Pittard, Principal of Spicewood Elementary, and Jim Lamar of the Spicewood Public Library attended and gave examples of how a local Lion's Club could help with needed projects. The elementary school could use help with the track and field project and the library could use help with future expansion projects including the thrift store and library itself.

The mission of the Lions Clubs is to help others, take on organizer roles, help with local fund-raisers and be hands-on volunteers. A small entry fee and modest annual dues are all that is necessary to become a Lion—reduced family/spouse plans are available.

The Lions Club needs 20 applicants to charter the **Spicewood chapter of Lions Club**. Four officers need to be identified for the charter application and it is hoped that 20 or so people can attend the next organizational meeting on **January 20, 2009 – 6 pm – at the Double Horn Char House**. Angie Aja will be preparing pizza for that meeting for a donation.

*For more information, you can contact Angie Nicholson – [angienick1@austin.rr.com](mailto:angienick1@austin.rr.com)  
(512.515-6447).*

**Lions Clubs International – [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org)**

### Spicewood Community Library – Spicewood's FIRST WiFi HOTSPOT!

**.Sunday, March 29, 2009** – time for the **Annual Bar-B-Q and Auction** which will be held at the Spicewood Fire Hall from 12 pm to 4 pm. There will also be a great live and silent auction. The tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children; The Bar-B-Q will be catered, and ticket sales will start soon; you will be able to buy them at the library, from library volunteers, and at the door, starting around **February 15**.

**Saturday, April 18, 2009** – help us raise money during a **garage sale** at the library. We have started collecting items for this sale. We are accepting most things, except **no large appliances, clothing, non-working electronics**, etc. However, we would like children's clothing. Also, we have people available to pick up things for the garage sale.

\* The library is soliciting **donated items** for both the BBQ Auction AND the garage sale! If you would like to donate something, please contact Ridge Harbor resident Kathy Blanchard (830-798-2215) or the Fundraising Chairman, **Bettie Jackson (830-693-2976)**; they will make arrangements to meet you at the library or will pick up the donations. You can also call the library (830-693-7892) and items may be taken to the library **when it is open** ([www.spicewoodlibrary.org](http://www.spicewoodlibrary.org)); mark items with a tag that says "for BBQ Auction".

If you have any questions about the fundraisers, please contact one of these ladies:

**Kathy Blanchard** (830-798-2215 or email [kathybl@hillcountryweb.com](mailto:kathybl@hillcountryweb.com)) or

**Bettie Jackson** (830-693-2976 or email [jacksonsrr@hillcountryweb.com](mailto:jacksonsrr@hillcountryweb.com))

Julie and Brett Weiss are old acquaintances from the Ridge Harbor Yacht Club days. I ran into them again at the organizational meeting of the Lions Club in Spicewood and asked her to give me some information about her new business, the K9 Club. She also advertises on our website, [www.ridgeharbor.com](http://www.ridgeharbor.com).

### **Is Your Dog Looking for Adventure and Companionship?**

A unique Dog Day Care located in Spicewood on 4 beautiful fenced acres is now open to Spicewood residents. K9 Club was started by Julie Weiss, a 20-year resident of Spicewood, to meet the needs of dog owners in our area, Lakeway, Austin and the Horseshoe Bay area. She has been in business since 2000 on a limited basis, mostly taking care of friends and family's dogs. She expanded her business in 2008 because of her extreme love of dogs and the desire to use her pet experience for a cause she truly believes in - plus it's a lot of fun. She has worked as a volunteer for animal rescue groups in the Spicewood, Marble Falls and Austin areas since 2000 and has fostered over 20 dogs over the past 6 years. "All dogs have taught me something wonderful and in turn, I use these experiences to enhance dogs' lives. I'm the kind of person that feeds my dogs fresh meats, vegetables, raw bones and supplement to ensure they are healthy and happy - my husband is jealous of their diet!". Julie gives her time and services to local rescue groups because she feels driven and compelled to do so.

Julie is a big fan of Cesar Millan, The Dog Whisperer, and believes in his philosophy that dogs need **Exercise, Discipline** and **Affection** in that order. "A big back yard is no substitute for a chance to exercise and meet new friends. Our tail-wagging members meet new (or reunite with) furry playmates everyday in a private off-leash environment that is perfect for getting the exercise and stimulation that all dogs need. Dogs are animals and animals need to travel and discover the world!"

Dog day care customers enjoy pick up and delivery service to their homes. For overnight stays, cageless dog sleepovers with human companionship and supervision is provided. We provide quieter environments for older dogs or dogs with special needs. Pet-sitting services provided at your home or at our unique facility. Special pricing for Jan and Feb 2009 - \$15/day for day care and \$25/day for overnights - door to door service included.

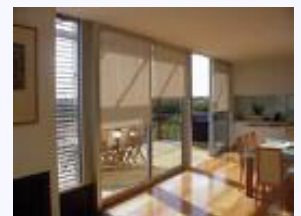


**Call Julie at 512-789-0697 or email her at [julieweiss@zeecon.com](mailto:julieweiss@zeecon.com)  
[www.spicewoodk9club.com](http://www.spicewoodk9club.com) to learn more.**

Emily Callman, a resident of Ridge Harbor (has a townhome in Harbor Cove) has become a recent sponsor on the [www.ridgeharbor.com](http://www.ridgeharbor.com) website. She is a representative of **Texas Sun & Shade**

**Texas Sun & Shade** recently celebrated their 20th anniversary serving Austin and the Highland Lakes area. From simple blinds and shades to complex motorization and exterior awnings, Texas Sun and Shade can solve any light control problem. The product line has expanded to include custom draperies and window fashions with the addition of Emily Callman as the resident specialist. Her experience in window treatments spans over 25 years with projects and satisfied clients in Seattle, Dallas, Aspen and now Austin.

**Call Emily at 512-658-6493 or drop her a line at  
[emily@txsunandshade.com](mailto:emily@txsunandshade.com).  
Texas Sun & Shade - 11813 Bee Caves Rd. - Austin, TX 78738**



## Welcome New Neighbors

Bob and Deserie Gilde moved into Ridge Harbor this fall, 1229 Ridge Harbor Drive. They have a 15-year old son, who attends Marble Falls High School and are full time residents.

Bob has a a welding and fabrication business (Gilde Welding & Fabrication) where he is involved in boat docks, dredging, stairways, pile driving and steel fabrication. Bob also teaches welding two nights a week at Austin City College.

His wife, Deserie, is a full-time RN student.

Richard and Mary Orsak moved into their weekend home at 239 Cove Creek the weekend of January 16, 2009. They had worked on obtaining this home since July and finally everything fell into place. Richard and Mary are friends of Pam and Tim Coen and have been visiting Ridge Harbor for many years. They have two teenagers, Meagan 16, and Ryan 14, and are very happy to finally have a place in Ridge Harbor.

**Stop by and introduce yourselves to the new residents of Ridge Harbor!**

### Interesting Facts - I read them on the internet! Must be true...

- \* **There are only four words in the English language which end in 'dous': tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.**
- \* **There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: 'abstemious' and 'facetious.'**
- \* **A snail can sleep for three years.  
(I know some people that could do this too.!)**
- \* **If the population of China walked past you, 8 abreast, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.**
- \* **The cruise liner, QE 2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.**
- \* **Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.**

RHPOA Annual Meeting Recap – January 10, 2009 – by Ruth Henderson  
*Official Minutes will be coming from the Board--this is a recap taken from notes made at the meeting.*

President Steve Schneider opened the meeting.

**Burnet County Judge Donna Klaeger spoke first.** She made the following points:

- ❖ Burnet County is healthy! Property taxes have been lowered in our area.
- ❖ The transportation Committee is working (they meet the third Wednesday of each month); they have a long list with priority levels listed. See the Burnet County website: [www.burnetcountytexas.org](http://www.burnetcountytexas.org)
- ❖ The Water District meets the last Friday of each month. They are collaborating with all the cities in the county, working together so no duplicate overlap of work.
- ❖ The new Burnet County Jail is a model and other areas have come to see it; it should be open in April.

**Next Burnet County Commissioner for our Precinct 4, Joe Don Dockery, spoke:**

- ❖ He talked about the Road & Bridge issues they are dealing with, and said they are getting to most of their projects in a timely manner.
- ❖ He has good crews, using multiple groups to keep our roads safe and clean. He is also focusing on abandoned vehicles and illegal dumping – please report any instances of these things to him (email: [commissionerpct4@burnetcountytexas.org](mailto:commissionerpct4@burnetcountytexas.org) or call: 512 715-5235).
- ❖ AND a traffic count for usage was done recently on our county roads; County Road 413 (one route from Highway 71 to get to RH) was the SECOND HIGHEST in the county!

**Our newly sworn-in County Sheriff W. T. Smith spoke next.**

- ❖ He listed his new Command Staff: Randy Service, Dick Golden, Charlie Boyce, Archie Hollingsworth, and Dwight Hardin
- ❖ One of his priorities is to make sure the entire county has full radio coverage in Burnet County and between our adjacent counties; to that end they are installing 4-5 new towers that will plug up holes in the current system.
- ❖ He also mentioned that we have a new Narcotics officer coming on board, along with a trained narcotics dog. Burnet County has numerous patrol officers and they also do lake patrols; they plan to build up the numbers of patrol officers and increase some other departments' personnel.

**Next, LCRA's Roger Lewis and David Whatley spoke:**

- ❖ They showed a very good map of the Master Plan for Muleshoe Bend Recreation Park, and talked about how the area is growing so some changes are in the works. Muleshoe is nearly 800 acres of bicycle/foot trail areas and open space, with good shoreline lengths; it takes up the entire "point" of land at the curve in Lake Travis between RH, the T Bar M Christian Camp (leased from LCRA), and the water. Most of this land will forever be a "green-space" conservation area with no development. The eastern edges of the "point" will eventually have utilities, campsites, an RV area above the flood plain, and designated-use areas: day-use sites, a boat ramp, and a group area. There is also talk of building small camper cabins; plans are ongoing.
- ❖ A question was asked about any possibility of any sale-of-land-for-development and this would be VERY difficult to do, so that area will always be a park. Our Ridge Harbor consensus seems to be keep it quiet and keep it green!
- ❖ A question about the fence between RH and Muleshoe was asked and reasons for NOT building a fence were discussed, with the final decision that large rocks could be placed on the boundary between RH and Muleshoe; if access to rocks is obtained (there is no budget for this), LCRA has the equipment to move the rock into position along the thousands of yards of that boundary.
- ❖ A question was asked about three buildings being constructed across the lake in the Turkey Bend Recreation Park. The Young Men's Building League has leased some property from LCRA and they are building lodge-style camping houses for their summer youth-at-risk program which is only active in the summer months. No big development is planned. Please call the Sheriff's department or 911 if you see any criminal activity at Muleshoe.  
(Continued on Page 7)

In other news, Steve told us that we are at the top of our usage for the water plant in Ridge Harbor. The future is being looked at and the biggest issue seems to be that our water is either ON or OFF – they can't turn off part to work on it so that is being studied. LCRA is looking into the alternatives to getting us more water when we need it . . . but we do know the water rates probably won't be doing down – darn! In a related issue, Steve said that our sewage/waste treatment is doing fine and is big enough for our usages.

Steve thanked all the many volunteers who give their time for our neighborhood – we have Safety, Landscaping/ Beautification, Common Property, and other committees that can always use willing workers – find a spot so YOU can help!

Things to note as 2009 begins:

- v No more burn piles down by the boat launch ramp – BUT remember our mulching/chipper days which have been a big hit with all of us! Stay tuned for the date of the next one!
- v WATCH YOUR SPEED in the neighborhood! We have more and more young families moving to RH, so more children are out playing. **Our speed limit is 25 mph.**
- v We don't have to tell you that we're in a drought – did you know it's the worst in 100 years??!! Please be careful – a fire could be devastating for us all! AND remember we are under a BURN BAN!
- v Also, it's always a good idea to lock your cars and doors, and don't leave valuables visible in your cars at night – we unfortunately do have vandals who get into RH – we're not immune, so we need to be prudent and not be an invitation.
- v Be a GOOD neighbor in our GREAT NEIGHBORHOOD and help us WATCH the whole area! Get involved – know your neighbors – we're a good bunch!

**Meeting was called to order by Steve Schneider: 11:18 am**

**Quorum was reached.** New Board member is Gary Sengbusch. He replaces Herb Krasner who chose not to run again. Explained nominations could be taken from the floor, and how the proxy vote and election of directors is held.

**Announcements:**

\*Gene and Kathy Blanchard are looking for auction items for Spicewood Library and items for the library garage sale this spring. Contact them if you have items you would like to donate.

\*Set of keys found by Gate 2. Contact Steve Schneider.

\*Discussed wood chipping versus the burn pile. It is a success and a plan to provide the chipper a couple of times a year.

**Acknowledgements:**

\*Steve introduced the **Board** members and explained their functions and gave them a big thanks for their volunteered service.

\*Introduced **ACC** members, Joe Koury, John Partridge, Matt Bettin and past ACC member, Glenn DaGian.

**Property Manager** – Mary Lynn Ray

**Landscaping Committee:** Joyce Sarran, Joe Koury, Glen DaGian and Cindy Schneider.

**Safety Committee:** Julie Partridge, Michael Cain

**Continued on Page 8**

**Acknowledgements:** (Continued from Page 7)

**Common Property Usage:** John Spreen, Fred Elizalde and Dickie Laney

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Festivities:** Laney Families, Trojanowsky Family and the Whidden's

**Jim Madigan** for all his donated labor and services.

**Sherri Curry** – gate management, community newsletter and website, *www.ridgeharbor.com*, that she and Kathie Gabriel maintain.

**Ridge Harbor Highlights:**

Low-water boat ramp work (repair & extension), oak wilt tree removal, old marina removal and replacement, gate signs, pool fence and gate repaired.

**Future Concerns:**

Drought, vandalism, gate codes and security, short-term rentals.

**2009 Projects:** Road repair, possible security updates, Marina Park bathroom finished

**Treasurer's Report** – Handout was available for this discussion.

**New Business:** Swimming Pool needs more maintenance in summer months; need to define parking rules for boats and trailers; need to verify phone number of property manager.

**Votes were counted** – quorum of 136 (131 needed) was reached. There are 261 eligible votes and an amount greater than 50% must be received to count as a quorum.

The only amendment that passed was stating the Speed Limit would be 25 MPH. All others failed to reach a quorum amount of 131.

The Board will check on unlicensed drivers for ATV's and motorcycles because of the many complaints.

Glenn DaGian also asked that the Board consider requiring vacant lots be cleared at least once a year of tall grass and weeds.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:30 PM