

# Royal Ridge Recorder

Volume XXVIII, Number 6



November-December 2019

<<< NOTE: The next due date for news and ads will be December 28, 2019 >>>

## ROYAL RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

*Dan Calderon, President, 210-693-2744*

*Email: [rrna@royalridgesa.org](mailto:rrna@royalridgesa.org)*

*Website: [www.royalridgesa.org](http://www.royalridgesa.org)*

It is finally starting to feel like fall. After sweltering through August and September, and still putting up with 90-degree days in October, the weather finally took a turn for the cool. It is a welcome change.

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2019 Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association annual meeting on Oct. 1 at the Royal Ridge Clubhouse. As is our tradition the meeting coincided with our National Night Out.

We had a fairly thin turnout of 55 people, including our SAFFE representative from **SAPD Officer Dennis Quinn** and two Explorer cadets, plus four representatives from San Antonio Fire Department Ladder 40 crew. Yet we still got a lot accomplished.

First, thank you to **Janet Latiolais** for her faithful service as secretary of the Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association board for more than a decade. **Janet** has hung up her pen for the board, although she remains a faithful contributor to the Royal Ridge Recorder as the Garden Homes II reporter and as the coordinator of the monthly ladies luncheon.

Stepping into her shoes as the new secretary will be **Sue Hassell**, who has been very active in the neighborhood and with Patio Homes II. Thank you **Sue** for volunteering to take on this duty as the new board member.

Also joining the board to fill the vacant vice president position is **Mario Lockwood**, who also is a very familiar presence in the neighborhood. Our past president **Lee Mays** remains a valued counsel to the board. I look forward to working with our new board members.

For those of you who did not attend, here are the meeting minutes as taken by **Janet Latiolais**:

"Meeting was called to order by **Dan Calderón**, President of the HOA at 6:30 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was said by the residents. **Dan** called **Dennis Quinn** of the San Antonio Police Department to come forth to address the audience so he could go to other neighborhoods. He gave a shout-out to **Bob Robbins** who has been in charge of the neighborhood COPS for 20+ years. **Officer Quinn** also introduced two high school students who came who are interested in police and are in their student program.

Old Business: **Janet Latiolais**, secretary, gave the minutes to the 2018 meeting and it was approved by those

attending. The treasurer was not there so there was no report. It was reported that approximately \$1,500 is in the treasury.

**Diane Luna** gave an update on the pool and the club activities. The membership for 2019-2020 is 125 members. She also mentioned **Cindy Manes** and the good response from residents using the pool in the mornings for adult swimming only. She also gave the dates and information concerning the upcoming Boo Bash on October 19<sup>th</sup>.

She also mentioned the dates and time for the semi-annual Rummage sale for the neighborhood. A spaghetti meal for \$6 will be available. She thanked the people helping with the clubhouse and pool while she's been out sick. She spoke about her illness and we all wish her well.

**Dan** then asked for decision concerning the newsletter. **Jeanette Gittinger** told the residents the steps for getting the physical copy of it to the doorstep. The question was presented whether or not to keep the letter as is, reduce it to online only or eliminate it completely. Discussion followed and the matter was tabled until January after another two issues are produced. This allows for more time for the newsletter discussion to reach more residents.

**Bob Robbins** gave an update on the neighborhood COPS program. He's always needs more volunteers. Records show a strong COPS help to keep a neighborhood much safer. The phone number to reach SAPD: 210-207-SAPD.

**Anna Lou Eisner**, a civilian volunteer with the San Antonio Police Department, addressed the group. She wants people to know there are many departments where volunteers are welcome to help the police as a civilian.

**Dan** also spoke about the upkeep of the landscaping at the entries. He would like to see a set schedule of date/time to be set bi-monthly to keep the entries neat. He feels if the schedule is set in advance, more volunteers will come out to help.

**Lee Larson** spoke about a new program that came to the swimming pool this summer through a shop in Universal City. The shop, Duggan Diving, rented the pool once a month to use for training. This brought in additional monies to help the pool/clubhouse. The owner hopes to be able to use the pool again in 2020.

There were five firefighters from station 40 who stopped in for NNO and to take questions.

Elections were called for president. **Dan Calderon** will remain president for the next two years. The empty vice president slot was filled by **Mario Lockwood**. And the secretary position was filled by **Sue Hassell**. These positions are two-year commitments.

Door prize drawings were given out throughout the meeting. Forty-seven residents attended with eight guests. Dan adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m. "

**Thanks again to everyone including Bob Robbins, who wrangled the door prizes for the meeting from our sponsors El Folklor Bakery, Walgreens, Lowe's, Wal-Mart and the Royal Ridge Recreational Club.**

We'll see you again in the New Year. Until then I hope you have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

#### **ROYAL RIDGE CITIZENS ON PATROL**

*Bob Robbins, Coordinator, 210-655-4226 Email: [rrcop@att.net](mailto:rrcop@att.net)*

**First, a big thank you to all who helped prepare for, conduct, attend and participate in the October 1 RRNA Annual Meeting and city-wide National Night Out gathering.** Fewer people attended than in prior years for the second year in a row but the meeting was well attended nonetheless, and we got to know one another better as we dialogued with neighborhood and civic leaders. Thanks to all involved for your interest, support and engagement.

**Second, I'd be remiss if I didn't once again plead for greater participation in the RR COP program.**

Without new members we cannot continue as we have in the past, i.e. someone patrolling our neighborhoods an average of two hours each day. We announced the last opportunity to attend the required four-hour SAPD training this year with the early November class by email and via NextDoor but I can't know if anyone will attend as I write this. Here's hoping!

**SAPD COP classes will resume again in January.**

The 2020 schedule has not been announced yet but the first class is usually held the first Saturday in January, i.e. **January 4, 2020.** We'll get the exact date out as it becomes available but **plan now on attending from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.** It's fun, informative and there is no quiz or exam. Participation also entitles you to a ride-along with a patrol officer, which you can schedule at a mutually agreeable time. Attend the class and join us in patrolling our neighborhood as an extra set of eyes and ears for the SAPD. We need several more neighbors to join us in assisting the SAPD and us in our safety and security efforts!

And lastly, a reminder to refresh ourselves and our families of holiday safety in and around our homes, in our neighborhoods, while shopping, entertaining guests, traveling, etc.

We still see reports of several thefts and burglaries, including vehicle and mail thefts, in our neighborhoods each month and that sometime heightens during the holiday season with decoration thieves, items stolen from unsecured personal and guest vehicles, porch pirates etc.

Watch out for yourselves, your loved ones and your neighbors. Let the ne'er-do-wells know they are not welcome here and arrange a meeting between them and the SAPD. **Call SAPD on their non-emergency number**

**210-207-SAPD (210-207-7273) for all suspicious persons, vehicles and activities. See something, say something!**

Happy Holidays and stay safe!

**P.S.** We heard of one mail thief arrested in mid-October where the victims were notified by SAPD. We also learned a new Texas statute effective September 1 allows SAPD to now file charges for mail thefts instead of referring them to federal officials. That is a welcome change, and we're told it came as a surprise to this career criminal.

Bottom line: Report all crimes no matter how small or whether you think the criminal may be found out. That information may well produce the lead that results in an arrest and prosecution.

#### **ROYAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Counselor Stephanie Shortridge, 210-407-7024

*Email: [Sshort1@neisd.net](mailto:Sshort1@neisd.net)*

Royal Ridge Elementary is one-fourth of the way through the year! The Mentors have met their students and are working away in getting to know one another and working on some academics. If you are interested in becoming a mentor once a week, please reach out to **Mrs. Shortridge, [sshort1@neisd.net](mailto:sshort1@neisd.net)**, for more information.

**The WatchDog program** is up and running. We would **love** more positive male role models on campus! Trunk or Treat was a success! Thank you to our marvelous PTA for setting that up.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Steam Night at RR: Nov 21 (6 – 7:30 p.m.)

Thanksgiving Break: Nov 25-29

Choir Concert: Dec 12 (6 - 7 p.m.)

2<sup>nd</sup> Nine Weeks ends Dec 20 / Holiday Break Begins

School resumes Jan 6 at 7:40 a.m.

**"Soaring high with Patriot pride."**

#### **MONTHLY SOCIALS AND TRIOLEY**

*Bonnie Hopkins, 210-650-0852*

*Email: [bhopkins9@satx.rr.com](mailto:bhopkins9@satx.rr.com)*

**There will not be any MONTHLY SOCIALS in November and December due to the holidays.** All adult members of the Royal Ridge Recreational Club (RRRC) Clubhouse are welcome. Visitors are welcome to come and see if they are interested in joining the RRRC. Drinks are provided for a small donation and people are asked to bring finger foods to share. Hope to see you there!

The next **TRIOLEYS will be Friday, December 13 at 7 p.m.**, at the RRRC Clubhouse.

## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Gary H. Harmon Jr., Editor, 210-884-6926 Email: [gharmon@idworld.net](mailto:gharmon@idworld.net)

Many thanks to **Officer Quinn** who managed to get and keep the area behind the little business strip next to Lowe's free of debris. Knuckleheads continued to drop mattresses, furniture and who knows what. He contacted the city and someone got the attention of the owners. The area has been basically clean for several weeks now.

It goes without saying I appreciate all of you who provide input for the Recorder and thanks to you who are happy to receive the Recorder. It's only as good and informative as the information received.

There are eight HOAs listed in the Directory but not all provide input to the Recorder. We would welcome adding them to the Directory and hearing from them on a regular basis. Someone needs to take the lead and bring the missing HOAs into the herd.

If you have input for the Recorder, let your POC or me know so it can be included, if appropriate.

Several Royal Ridge organizations need your help badly, even to the point of continuing their efforts within our community. Please help if you can.

We also need to maximize email delivery of the Recorder to minimize the time-consuming hand delivery of the paper.

**NEXT DOOR** is a great application to receive community information, as well as to BUY, SELL, GIVE AWAY, and look for HELP WANTED. There are also many references for folks and businesses that provide help we sometimes need. Checkout **NEXT DOOR**. It's FREE, and I think you will like it. I have sold, bought, and given away numerous items.

## ROYAL RIDGE RECREATIONAL CLUB

Diane Luna, President, 210-393-6976  
[Facebook.com/royalridgerecreationalclub](https://www.facebook.com/royalridgerecreationalclub)  
Website Under Construction

**The Fall Community Garage/Rummage Sale & Fundraiser was held on Saturday, Oct 5.** Turnout was nowhere near as in years past. A small group of residents took advantage of rental spots/tables to sell their goods showing up as early as 7 a.m. to claim their spot. Our overall profits were also nowhere comparable to last year. We made \$60 in rentals and \$20 from the donated items we sold. Our Spaghetti Plate Sale again was not as successful. We only sold a little less than 25 plates raising \$150. The Board will re-evaluate future fundraising efforts.

**Thank You AGAIN to Mario and Sandy Lockwood for donating meatballs. We are forever grateful for ALL your hard work and dedication in helping keep our Clubhouse alive.**

**The annual Halloween Boo Bash/Egg Hunt took place on Saturday, October 19 from 6-9 p.m.** Our little ghouls and goblins had a great time enjoying arts/crafts, a

scavenger hunt and Halloween Bingo. This year we added face painting to the mix. It was greatly received by both young and old. We will add this activity to our event going forward. This year we set out 800 candy-filled eggs. Thank you to all for the candy donations. This event would not be a success or possible without your donations. We ended the evening with the showing of the movie, "Hotel Transylvania 3." A great time was had by all.

**Our annual National Night Out (Oct 1) was again a little extra special this year.** Alongside the norm of the Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association meeting and visits from our local city representatives, we hosted a pet food drive to benefit AniMeals under Meals on Wheels. AniMeals is a program sustained by both monetary and pet food donations providing monthly deliveries of pet food to seniors who find it hard to maintain the food cost for their companion animals. **THANK YOU to all who donated to this worthy cause.**

**Keeping with tradition, mark your calendar for the infamous Polar Bear Plunge, New Year's Day, 1 - 3 p.m.** Let's eat, drink and be merry as we cheer on those brave enough to take the plunge. This event is open to the Royal Ridge community.

In closing, I am adding an update on my cancer journey. Oct. 1 was my last round of chemo. My CT scan taken a couple weeks after revealed that the tumors were pretty much gone. Plan B per my oncologist is to perform a full hysterectomy to ensure that the cancer has no breeding place or place to return to. I'm 100 percent in agreement. The surgery has been scheduled for Nov. 1. This will hopefully render me cancer-free. **Thank you** again to everyone for **all** your continued support, thoughts and prayers during my journey.

As always, our goal is to keep our Clubhouse up and going for as long as our efforts allow. Let's combine **all** our efforts and strive to make our Clubhouse the hub of our community.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

### ~ GIRL SCOUT TROOP 0871 ~

The troop re-acquainted themselves after their summer break at our first meeting on Sept. 3. Due to our Brownies bridging over to Juniors, we were in need of new Brownies to add to the troop. We did some recruiting and we now have seven new Brownies ready and eager to enter the world of Girl Scouting.

Our newly bridged Cadettes will act as mentors to the new Brownies by assisting with badges and journeys throughout their tenure as Brownies.

At our Oct. 21 meeting, we celebrated our founder's birthday (Juliette Low/Oct. 31). The meeting consisted of reading the Juliette Low story alongside a skit and a couple of arts and crafts.

On Nov 3, we took our first field trip to the SA Museum of Art. We attended Family Day where the theme of the day was Day of the Dead. This event has become more notable this year in our city and we introduced the girls to

this amazing celebration of our loved ones that have departed.

On December 14, we will continue with tradition and volunteer with Wreaths Across America. We will be placing wreaths at gravesites at the Ft. Sam Houston cemetery.

Last but not least, we start our **Cookie Sale Campaign on Jan 1st**. Be on the lookout for us throughout the area as we participate in our cookie booth sales. We will once again be hosting several sales at Clubhouse and be making some door-to-door visits. We will keep you posted via NextDoor and neighborhood email blast.



## MONTHLY LADIES LUNCHEON

Janet Latiolais, Coordinator, 210-655-1873

Email: [jmlatch@satx.rr.com](mailto:jmlatch@satx.rr.com)

If you are interested in attending the next monthly ladies luncheon, call me to RSVP. This luncheon is a great way to meet new ladies throughout the neighborhood.

We always need to let the restaurant know how many will come. We average about twenty (20) ladies per meal and WOW, that's great! We have about 30 names on the list, but not all ladies come each month.

We carpool and if you call, I'll make sure that you are in someone's car from your area of the neighborhood. There's no reason for you to always be if you live alone.

Please come out to meet your neighbors and make new friends.



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a resident in the Royal Ridge area.*

### "FALL SERVICE"

We are growing and looking for new properties to manage! No job is too big or too small. Take a much needed break, stay inside, and let us deal with the heat. October is the month you need to prepare your turf for winter. Winter Fertilizer is a must to strengthen your root system to ensure quick green-up in the spring. We can treat your yard with Lesco/John Deere's top quality winter fertilizer for just \$35. We also recommend you compost your grass. This will help heal your turf after the heat and add much needed nutrients to the soil. It is also our pleasure to help you with any questions you might have about your yard.  
Give us a call today!

Stephen Burkett, RR Resident  
sburkett89@hotmail.com

210.601.3057  
Fax-210.654.9390



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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## PATIO HOMES I

*Lisa Gerlich, Reporter, 210-590-6095*

*Email: lisagerlich@me.com*

Greetings. I hope you are enjoying the beautiful days we are having.

I would like to include news from our neighbors. Please call me at 210-590-6095 if you have anything special to report or to introduce yourself if you are a new resident.

We still have plenty of garage lights out. Board members have put notices on the garages of noncompliant homeowners. If you cannot change your bulb, call me at 210-590-6095, and I will coordinate the bulb replacement. If you are having a problem with your photocell, Ernie Jones has offered to replace defective photocells for a reasonable cost of \$25. If you suspect that you have a faulty photocell call Ernie at (210) 653-8206. A well-lit alleyway is a deterrent to crime.

The treasurer will be mailing dues collection requests in early November. Please pay your dues as soon as you can.

Have an enjoyable fall.

## PATIO HOMES II

*Kathie Obeck, Reporter, 210-967-5038*

*Email: dkobeck@sbcglobal.net*

**Please mark your calendars for our Annual Board meeting, which will be Thursday, Nov. 7 at the Club House.**

I am always ready to include news from our neighbors. Please call me at 210-967-5038 if you have anything special to report or to introduce yourself if you are a new resident.

Dan Cretaro was invited to attend the Veterans Day Recognition at Royal Ridge Elementary School on Nov. 11, 2019. He was warmly greeted by teachers and school staff along with other Veterans and Active Duty personnel, totaling around 50. The posting of the Colors was presented followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Several students then read words of appreciation. This was followed by playing and singing of hymns of each branch of Service. The principal then addressed all of the veterans extending the appreciation of everyone there for their service. The event was closed with the playing of the National Anthem and Taps.

## GARDEN HOMES I

*Gary H. Harmon, Jr, Reporter, 210-884-6926*

*Email: gharmon@ldworld.net*

Garden Homes I signed a contract with a HOA Management company called **TexSan Property Management Services**. Their web site is <https://www.texsan-property-managment.com>.

## Quotes From Their Web Site

TexSan Property Management Service is a Texas Veteran family owned and operated committed to being at the forefront of the Property Management industry by doing all that we can to anticipate your Associations and property's needs while exceeding your expectations.

As your Property Management Company, we deal with Community issues, handle maintenance and repairs, beautification of the community, and protect community property value.

TexSan Property Management brings back the personal touch to Customer Service. Our family owned business allows for face to face interaction and quick resolution to your concerns. Leave the day-to-day management to us and have more time for the things you want.

Personal Property Management – Be available for your homeowners and Board of Directors questions and concerns.

Transparent Accounting – Provide financial data to the Association in order to track funds and upkeep of the community.

Compliance Violations – Maintain the Associations property value by ensuring all homes are in compliance. Use real time methods of notification.

Community Maintenance – Provide maintenance to common areas and best possible solutions for contract services.

More details to come.

## GARDEN HOMES II

*Janet Latiolais, Reporter, 210-655-1873*

*Email: jmlatch@satx.rr.com*

Howdy neighbors! Well, the holidays are almost upon us. Best wishes to each and every one of you for a safe, happy, and blessed holidays this year. And, I hope you'll be able to spend quality time with your family and friends.

Some housekeeping that you all need to be aware of in our neighborhood. You folks who live on Royal Ridge between Royal Bluff and Royal Pass, please check your front door weekly if not bi-weekly to ensure you get neighborhood information that is delivered by volunteers. Some information is time sensitive as it affects each one of us in this section of Royal Ridge. I recently delivered some information that has a time stamp on it; I hope that each of you have received it and read it by now.

The on-going saga of the dog who was constantly escaping his yard finally came to an end in early October. The dog has passed away.

If you have any concerns about an animal please contact Bexar County Animal Control Services.

Email: BCESAC@bexar.org

Phone: 210-335-9000

Fax: 210-335-6713

Hours: Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If there is an emergency or to report a bite after hours, please contact the Sheriff's Office at 210-335-6000, option 1.





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210-687-5489

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## **DIRECTORY**

### **Recorder Staff**

|                 |                    |              |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Editor (News)   | Gary Harmon, Jr    | 210-884-6926 |
| Editor (Ads)    | Norma Rabago       | 210-846-4759 |
| Collator/Distro | Jeanette Gittinger | 210-656-0656 |

### **Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association**

|                |  |              |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| Website        | <a href="http://www.royalridgesa.org">www.royalridgesa.org</a> |              |
| President      | Dan Calderón   | 210-693-2744 |
| Vice-President | Mario Lockwood   | 210-289-7509 |
| Secretary      | Sue Hassell  | 210-601-6936 |
| Treasurer      | Cathy Steinman   | 210-392-5057 |

### **Other Association Presidents/Points of Contact**

|                 |                         |              |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Garden Homes I  | Suzanne Ryan            | 806-382-8426 |
| Garden Homes II | Lee Mays                | 210-842-9220 |
| GVH/Pulte       | Jimmy Vaughn            | 210-474-0165 |
| Inwood Place    | <b>Volunteer Needed</b> |              |
| Patio Homes I   | Lisa Gerlich            | 210-590-6095 |
| Patio Homes II  | Cyndi Manes             | 903-245-6632 |
| Royal Ridge I   | Tom Minkley             | 210-650-3467 |
| Royal Ridge II  | Pam Mahan               | 210-823-3567 |

### **Royal Ridge Recreational (RRRC) Board**

|                |                         |              |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| President      | Diane Luna              | 210-393-6976 |
| Vice-President | Bill Kelly              | 210-273-6846 |
| Secretary      | Carolyn Story           | 210-392-6088 |
| Treasurer      | Deborah Edens           | 210-861-9512 |
| Board Member   | Dixie Weese             | 210-241-4337 |
| Board Member   | <b>Volunteer Need</b>   |              |
| Board Member   | <b>Volunteer Needed</b> |              |
| Board Member   | <b>Volunteer Needed</b> |              |

**RRRC Website:** rrrccclub.org

**RRRC Email:** diane.luna12@yahoo.com

### **RRRC Committee Chairpersons**

|                   |                         |              |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Club Reservations | Diane Luna              | 210-393-6976 |
| Alternate         | <b>Volunteer Needed</b> |              |

### **RRRC Pool Management**

|                   |                         |              |
|-------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Manager           | <b>Volunteer Needed</b> |              |
| Maint. Supervisor | Bob Robbins             | 210-655-4226 |

### **Club Activities**

|                   |                |              |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Tripoley (Friday) | Bonnie Hopkins | 210-650-0852 |
| Socials (Friday)  | Bonnie Hopkins | 210-650-0852 |

### **Royal Ridge Citizens-on-Patrol (COP)**

|             |             |              |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Coordinator | Bob Robbins | 210-655-4226 |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|

### **Neighborhood SAFFE Officer**

|              |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| SAPD Officer | Dennis Quinn | 210-219-0256 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|

### **Girl Scout Troop 0871**

|             |            |              |
|-------------|------------|--------------|
| Coordinator | Diane Luna | 210-393-6976 |
|-------------|------------|--------------|

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### **PET SITTER**

College student great with pets! Will walk your dogs, feed, and babysit your pet while you are away. Will even water your plants! Call Sandra Jean at 210-862-9833.

### **VOLUNTEERS – NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

We need volunteers to deliver the *Royal Ridge Recorder* in the GVH/Pulte and Inwood Place areas. Currently six (6) times a year. Call **Jeanette Gittinger** at 210-656-0656.

### **ROYAL RIDGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE**

Your site for neighborhood-wide information or just for your section of Royal Ridge including RRNA, RRRC, and current/back issues of the *Royal Ridge Recorder*. [www.royalridgesa.org](http://www.royalridgesa.org). Check it out!

**Become a mentor today! Contact the  
NEISD Volunteer Program at  
(210) 407-0309**

### **WITH A MENTOR, AT-RISK YOUTH ARE:**



**52%**

less likely than their peers to skip a day of school



**55%**

more likely be enrolled in college



**46%**

less likely than their peers to start using drugs



**81%**

more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities



**78%**

more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities



**130%**

more than twice as likely to say that they held a leadership position in a club or sports team



**90%**

Respondents who had a mentor said they are now interested in becoming mentors