

# Royal Ridge Recorder



Volume XXIII, Number 2

March-April 2015 Editor: Gary H. Harmon, Jr. 884-6926 gharmon@idworld.net

<NOTE: The due date for news & ads for the next issue is Wednesday, April 22, 2015>

# ROYAL RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Lee Mays, President, 967-6501 Email: mays7772@gmail.com Website: www.royalridgesa.org

would like to begin this issue of the *Recorder* by pausing to remember Jack Stephens. As you know, he was the vice president of the Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association. He passed away on January 25, 2015 from complications of pneumonia. In addition to Gloria, his widow, he left a huge hole in Patio Homes II where he served as president. We should each remember that his service to our community required a substantial time commitment for no compensation, except for knowing that we all live in a better neighborhood because of Jack's efforts. Join me in thanking Gloria for sharing Jack with all of us.

Please remember to vote in the upcoming city election on May 9th. There will be a Candidates' Forum for the Mayor's Race on Monday, March 16th, 7 PM at the Northeast Service Center "The Tool Yard" Conference Room located on 10303 Tool Yard, off Wurzbach Parkway, across from Hero's Stadium. Leticia Van de Putte, Mike Villarreal and Tommy Adkission have committed to attend. Our City Councilman Mike Gallagher also seeks reelection. Other issues expected on the May 9th ballot are renewal of the sales tax to protect the Edwards Aquifer, citizen approval for street cars, a change in mayoral selection for a vacancy, Council pay, and elimination of miscellaneous items in the Charter that are no longer relevant.



Hemisfair Park downtown is being redeveloped. Three distinct areas are planned. Yanaguana Gardens will be a play and recreation area and will open in May, 2015. Part of the oldest section of the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will be demolished and renamed Civic Park, a big open area for large gatherings and

celebrations. A water channel will be routed through the park and supply the fountains with recycled water. The third section, Tower Park, will open in 2020 and is planned as a guiet area. Twenty-four historic structures in the park area will be remodeled and rented for public uses, such as restaurants and shops.

Revitalization of the Northeast Corridor (Austin Highway, Perrin-Beitel and Nacogdoches) continues. Efforts include encouraging business owners to talk and discuss ways to improve neighborhood ambience.

Apartments are planned east of Randolph Boulevard just past Sherrie Ann Street and Beacon Bay (south of Weidner Road). Construction Trade Contractors is the planned use for three lots, one facing Randolph Blvd. The property is three lots south of the Guanajuato Mexican Restaurant at Randolph and Weidner. We all know that San Antonio is growing and development and traffic will continue to increase.

Our work with the Royal Ridge Recreational Club (RRRC) continues. You should expect to be contacted by one of the members soliciting support for the capital improvement campaign. The Club must raise \$25,000.00 to resurface the pool. Several homeowner associations have voted contributions to the campaign. The voted amounts generally have been about \$20.00 per home. If your HOA has made a contribution, you will not be solicited for another contribution (unless you want to contribute more). However, it is important to maintain and increase clubhouse membership. Thus, you may be asked to join as a RRRC member for the 2015 season. Please give serious consideration to joining RRRC (\$200/\$225) for this coming season. so that the clubhouse, pool and tennis courts will continue to be available as a community resource.

# **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 8. Move your clocks forward one hour or you will be late to something.

Cathy Steinman, my favorite daughter-in-law who lives down the street, asked me to see if we were getting the best deal on Recorder copies. I researched six companies to see if a savings could be achieved. We found that our current provider was as reasonable as three others. Two wanted twice as much as we currently pay. Cathy recommended we stay with our current vendor.

#### ROYAL RIDGE RECORDER-NEWSLETTER

We are trying to determine those who wish to receive an emailed copy of the Royal Ridge Recorder versus those who prefer to receive the *Recorder* as a paper copy. (We prefer email delivery to make it easier for the

volunteer-distributers and to save on printer costs.)				
If you prefer an emailed	copy of the Recorder, please enter your information below.			
Name	Email Address(es) (Please Print)			
Street Address	Phone Number			
If you want a paper copy	of the <i>Recorder</i> , please enter your information below.			
Name				
Street Address	Phone Number			
need to do anything. Als	ted email delivery and have received the Jan-Feb 2015 Issue by each, the most recent issue of the <i>Recorder</i> newsletter is always averaged.			

www.royalridgesa.org. Just click on the Royal Ridge Recorder web page.

Good news! We previously requested a payment of \$3.00 per year for the paper Recorder. After reviewing our finances and with a number of neighbors requesting email delivery, we no longer need to charge for paper copies. Therefore, we expect to be able to refund the \$3.00 to anyone who has paid for 2015, and requests a refund. You will continue to receive paper copies of the Recorder.

To reflect your delivery preference, please drop this completed page off at **6307 Royal Ridge** (preferred). You may also call or leave a message at 210-967-6501, but I have only a 50% chance of writing your information down correctly.

Lee Mays

# MONTHLY SOCIALS

Bonnie Hopkins, 650-0852

he socials will be held the fourth Fridays of the month, *March 27* and *April 24*, at *5:30* PM. All adult members of the RRRC are welcome. Visitors are welcome to come and see if they would be interested in joining RRRC. Drinks are provided for a small donation and people are asked to bring finger foods to share. Hope to see you there!

# **ROYAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS**

Counselors Shannon and Annie, 407-7024/7025

his is just a reminder that students and staff will be off for Spring Break, March 9-13. Royal Ridge is looking for mentors for the 2015 school year. All mentors need to be DPS cleared. Both the mentors and the students benefit from their time together. If you have time to give to a student, please give us a call.



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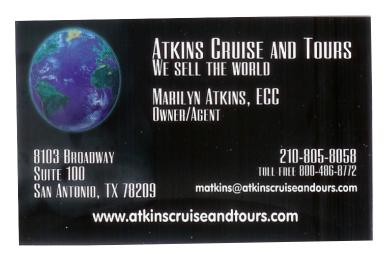
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ProScape offers year round landscape services such as: Grounds Maintenance, Irrigation Installation and Maintenance (LI0019773), Landscape Design & Installation, and Bush & Tree Trimming. We are recommended by Barbara Rierson, a resident in the Royal Ridge area.

### \*SPRING SERVICE\*

It is more important now than ever to prepare your lawn for the tough summer ahead. Aerating and adding compost to your lawn are the two most important steps you can take to do this. These will help generate much needed oxygen and nutrition to your soil, as well as the ability to retain moisture for longer. It's March; everything is changing color! It is time to use a Weed and Feed on the lawn. Even if you don't need us on a regular basis, it is 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

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### ROYAL RIDGE CITIZENS ON PATROL

Bob Robbins, Coordinator, 655-4226

We live in a particularly safe and secure neighborhood thanks to good neighbors, Royal Ridge Citizens-on-Patrol (RR COP) members past and present, and a great working relationship with the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD), especially our San Antonio Fear Free Environment (SAFFE)/Community Policing Officers.

Officer Jason Reno is our current SAFFE officer and is doing a great job taking care of problems big and small, short term and the more persistent, nuisances and the more serious. We are privileged having Officer Reno working on our behalf and truly appreciate his efforts!

I also appreciate the many Royal Ridge neighbors who have patrolled with RR COP over the years and the nearly 40 current members. Your commitment and dedication in patrolling our streets and alleys an average of 2+ hours each day and reporting suspicious activities have undoubtedly made our neighborhoods much safer. We truly appreciate your many contributions.

Here's a snapshot of our current membership.

ROYAL RIDGE COP RESIDENT PARTICIPATION					
Residence Area	Homes	Mbr Hshlds	Mbrs	%	
Patio Homes I	103	4	5	4.9	
Patio Homes II	96	2	2	2.1	
Garden Homes I	64	7	8	12.5	
Garden Homes II	124	9	15	12.1	
Royal Ridge I	162	2	3	1.9	
Royal Ridge II	129	2	2	1.6	
Inwood Place	209	1	1	0.5	
Royal Ridge GVH	127	2	3	2.4	
Total	1,014	29	39	3.8	

The chart shows membership by RR area. As you can see, only a few residents are regularly involved in making our safety and security a priority. We can use help to lighten the load for the many members who patrol twice a month to complete the schedule. Please give joining us serious consideration. If you have questions, give me a call, fire off an email to <a href="mailto:rrcop@att.net">rrcop@att.net</a>, or join us at our *regularly scheduled meetings*, the *second Tuesday of each month*, beginning at *7 PM* at the RRRC clubhouse.

Want to learn more about how the SAPD operates and works with us? Attend one of their four-hour **SAPD training sessions**. The remaining two classes before the summer break are **Monday**,

**April 13**, **6-10 PM** and **Saturday**, **May 2**, **9 AM-1 PM**. All classes are held at the North Patrol Substation at 13030 Jones Maltsberger. I hope more of you will take the training and join us on patrol.

Thanks for your interest and support—and hopefully thanks in advance for taking the training and joining RR COP.

### ROYAL RIDGE RECREATIONAL CLUB

Diane Luna, President, 393-6976 Like us on Facebook @royalridgerecreationalclub Website: 3Rclub.webs.com

S-O-O-O MUCH To Relay...Where Do I Begin? First and foremost, I would like to welcome a new member to our Board, **Danielle Navarro**. She resides in Cheyenne Valley and is very enthusiastic in promoting membership within as well as using her property management skills to better our facilities/operations. As we welcome Danielle, we bid farewell to **Brance Arnold**. Brance's decision to resign was not an easy one. We thank him for all his time, efforts and dedication during his time served. We presently have two open board positions and strongly encourage interested parties to join us in helping make our facilities and neighborhood a better place for all.

Our semi-annual *Community Garage Sale* will be *Saturday, March 21, 9 AM-2 PM*. Spaces will be offered for \$10 and we will accept donated items for club sale. Contact **Deb Kennedy** at 219-2426 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:dkenn78239@gmail.com">dkenn78239@gmail.com</a> to reserve your spot or to obtain more information.

We will again host a *Fundraiser*, *11 AM-1 PM*, alongside the Garage Sale. A Spaghetti Plate will be offered for the low, low price of \$6.00. Plates will consist of spaghetti with meatballs, salad, bread, and drink. You can eat-in or take-out.

There is ALWAYS plenty of work to be done in and around the clubhouse and pool area. Our next *Volunteer Days* will be on *Saturdays, March 28* and *April 25* from *9 AM-Noon*.

Now, to the business at hand: Approval of Our AMENDED By-laws and Articles of Incorporation. In the last couple of months, the Board along with assistance of **Tom Minkley** have amended the By-laws and the Articles of Incorporation to better meet the needs of our membership and community. A copy of the amended documents can be found on the Royal Ridge website (<a href="www.royalridgesa.org">www.royalridgesa.org</a>) as well as the RRRC website (<a href="www.royalridgesa.org">3Rclub.webs.com</a>).

We will be holding a *General Membership Meeting* on *March 17, 6:30 PM*, at the Clubhouse to approve both amended documents. Members will have the opportunity to review the documents via an e-mail. A proxy and instructions will be attached for voting purposes.



RE/MAX Preferred 1846 N Loop 1604 W. Ste 205 SA, TX 78248 (210) 349-6671 (210) 861-9119 The real estate market in San Antonio is improving. Those who have put off selling are starting to take advantage of the changing conditions. If you have been waiting for the right time, this might be it.

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We held our second SAVE OUR POOL Meeting on January 19. During this meeting it was determined that we would be unable to fund the renovation (\$22,000-\$25,000) and schedule it in a timely manner to meet the opening of our 2015 pool season. If we are able to raise the necessary funds, we plan to get the work done immediately after our pool season.

With that said, we will move forward with our plans to coordinate a *Door-To-Door Fundraising/Membership Campaign* in *April*. This huge undertaking is still in the planning process and we are still in need of volunteers. Please contact **Diane Luna** at 393-6976 if you are able to help.

We hope you will open your doors and donate to help us reach our fundraising goal.

Our *Membership Drive, May 23-25*, and *Pool Opening, June 7*, are only months away. In order to continue to sustain operations and keep up with inflation, membership dues have been raised accordingly. They are as follows:

GOLD MEMBERSHIP
Clubhouse and Tennis Court Access
\$200

PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP
ALL Access
Pool, Clubhouse and Tennis Courts
\$225

We see this as a fair increase considering it has been 12 years since dues were last raised. We hope the tiered approach will encourage membership.

We plan to continue to hold down pool operating costs by using volunteer pool safety personnel as well as help with Concession Stand whenever possible. It only takes a four-hour course to become CPR qualified. We are presently recruiting paid Pool Personnel and CPR Volunteers. Teenagers are encouraged to apply. Contact **Deb Kennedy** at 219-2426 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:dkenn78239@gmail.com">dkenn78239@gmail.com</a>.

Last but not least, we have a HUGE challenge before us, however I am positive and optimistic that we will achieve our goal(s). As proud residents of Royal Ridge, I know we will come together in our time of need and make this a reality.

~ LET'S KEEP OUR ROYAL RIDGE PRIDE ALIVE! ~

# **NEIGHBORHOOD LADIES LUNCHEON**

Janet Latiolais, 655-1873

The monthly Neighbor Ladies' Luncheon has had a good response. Any lady or her adult female family member can join us. It is a great way to meet ladies throughout Royal Ridge. Ladies, please join us on the following dates:

Thursday, March 19, 12:30 AM Rudy's BBQ Store/Restaurant 15560 IH35N, 653-7839

Tuesday, April 21, 11:30 AM Bourbon Street Seafood Kitchen 2815 N Loop 1604E, 545-0666

Carpool available from the RRRC Parking Lot at 12:00 PM and 11:00 AM

# **Neighborhood News**

## **PATIO HOMES II**

Kathie Obeck, Reporter, 967-5038

On Sunday, January 25, we lost our dear friend, and Association President, Jack Stephens. For many years, Jack was the leading voice in maintaining the high quality and great appearance of our neighborhood. As you know, Jack dedicated a lot of personal energy to keeping an eye on the safety and order within the Royal Ridge boundaries. As our Association president, he negotiated for the best workmanship and materials used in the upkeep of our individual homes, while keeping the cost of our Association dues at a minimum. Jack believed in being personally involved in his community, and his dedication over the years as our president has protected and enhanced the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Jack also served as a deacon, elder, teacher, and camp counselor at Grace Point Church. He was a father and mentor to many through his Christian life, and reached out to everyone in his path to see if he could lend a helping hand or to offer words of encouragement. We will miss him deeply and we will not forget him. Our condolences go out to **Gloria** and his family.

The new president of Patio Homes II is **Sue HasselI**.

We also extend sympathy to **Sandi Tipps** of Grand Circle on the loss of her husband **George**.

If any of our neighbors would like to take over putting information in the *Royal Ridge Recorder* for Patio II, please let me know. I will also help you with news as I learn of it.

We want to wish Good Luck to **Tina Camacho** who has moved to the Inn at Los Patios. She still has her old phone number, so don't hesitate to give her a call.

Welcome to our new residents **Glenn Bevil** and his son, the **Tom Brooks family** both on Archwood, **Louis Nicholas** on Grand Club, and **Bill Dannheim** 

on Royal Ridge. If you see our new neighbors please extend to them a nice welcome.



**Doug** and **Kathie Obeck** celebrated their 50th Anniversary and were surprised by their children at Mass with the whole family being there along with relatives from New Jersey. They were then treated to dinner on the river, a Texas family bar-b-que on Saturday, and the Rodeo on Sunday.

### **PATIO HOMES I**

Catherine "Taffy" Haenze, 424-0110

t is with great joy that I write these next words: Direct from the TXDOT site: "Speed limits on Texas roads (including city streets) are generally set by statute. TEX. TRANSP'.CODE § 545.352. The statute includes the following speed limit": "Alley in Urban District 15 mph." That's all alleys in the metropolitan district."

Do we really need to ask the police to take their valuable time to come in here and try to catch you few that make life dangerous? Could you also stop cutting the corners short? In other words, if you are turning, stay on the correct side of the road. Since you cannot see around the corner, you don't know what may be on your "wrong side" as you turn. For safety, please stay on the right side of the road as you turn into the alley.

We still need residents of Patio Homes I to make themselves available to sign for the city's changes in HOAs, which will affect all of us. If we don't get the number they have assigned us to reach, the city will make decisions on these areas and you can bet, they will be in the city's interest, not necessarily ours. Please call **Barbara LaDue**, 238-8004 or **Terry Maloney**, 653-6779. This is in your interest, even if you rent. You can bet the homeowner will add any charges he receives to your rent.

On a happier note, we are not getting the sleet, snow and cold as much of the U.S. is experiencing.

## **GARDEN HOMES I**

Polly-Dee Burrowes, Reporter, 599-1352 Jerome Allen, Reporter, 999-5485

Two longtime residents of Garden Homes I passed away in January. **Gene Taft** had lived on Royal Ridge for 30 years along with his wife **Frances**. He was very active in the GHI community, serving on the board in various positions and even after, faithfully attending annual and special meetings. He and Frances had moved to the Army Residence Community last Fall.

Laura Bussey, known to most neighbors as "Sally" also lived in GHI on Archwood for many years. She was 98 when she died, yet still very "sharp." She attended Trinity Baptist Church. A fellow church member, Frances Jones, who lives in Patio Homes I, called to report Sally's passing. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, especially her daughter, Cathy Markham, who lived with her.

### **GARDEN HOMES II**

Janet Latiolais, Reporter, 655-1873

The cold, rainy days of January and now February have kept most of the neighbors in their homes. Plus many have been ill with various degrees of the flu and colds. The four legged family members are also experiencing the effects of the cold weather as they don't get the long walks they so love. Most of us will be glad to see Spring arrive in a few weeks.

Folks who have been under the weather are: **Bob Cochran**, **Linda** and **Richard Pritchett**, **Pat Biggs**, **Bill Reese** and **Janet Latiolais**. **Eileen Lusk** is presently recovering from surgery as well. We wish all a speedy recovery.

The participation in the little neighborhood game night on the third Saturday of each month is beginning to grow. For the next two months, we will play Dominos after playing Bunco for several months. If you are interested, please contact **Taffy Haenze** at 424-0110 or Janet Latiolais at 655-1873.

**Eileen** and **Nancy** also joined **Jeanette Gittinger** the first week of February and went on a Caribbean cruise. While we were bundled up for our winter weather, they were enjoying eighty degree plus temperatures.

Several ladies from our neighborhood did Mardi Gras on February 16th along with ninety other Red Hat Ladies. The costumes, food and fellowship was great! Those ladies who went were: Nancy Cochran, Barbara Wagemaker, Chong Daugherty and me. The event was even broadcast live by a DJ from one of the local radio stations.

### DIRECTORY

Recorder Staff
Editor (News) Gary H. Harmon, Jr 884-6926 Editor (Ads) Cathy Steinman 392-5057
Collator/Distributor Pam Mahan 657-3567
Royal Ridge Recreational Club (RRRC) Board
President
Vice President Debbie Kennedy 219-2426
Secretary Brenda Littleton 410-0609
Treasurer Tonya Thayer 655-7572 Board Member Danielle Navarro 771-9293
Board Member Frances Jones 653-8206
Board Member Christine Maldonado 471-8834
Board Welfiber Chiristine Maldonado 471-0034
RRRC Website/Email/Clubhouse Phone
Website
Emailrrrclub@att.net
Clubhouse
RRRC Committee Chairpersons
Club Reservations Diane Luna
Alternate Debbie Kennedy 219-2426
Alternate Bebble Refinedy
RRRC Pool Management
Manager Volunteer Needed
Maint. Supervisor Bob Robbins 655-4226
Club Activities
Club Activities Bridge (Mon)
Bridge (Mon) Nell Walker 657-3396
Bridge (Mon)
Bridge (Mon) Nell Walker 657-3396
Bridge (Mon)
Bridge (Mon)       Nell Walker       657-3396         Bridge (Wed/Sat)       Pam Mahan       657-3567         Bridge (Thu)       Pam Mahan       657-3567         Tripoley (Fri)       Shirley Bryan       392-6095         Socials (Fri)       Bonnie Hopkins       650-0852
Bridge (Mon)       Nell Walker       657-3396         Bridge (Wed/Sat)       Pam Mahan       657-3567         Bridge (Thu)       Pam Mahan       657-3567         Tripoley (Fri)       Shirley Bryan       392-6095         Socials (Fri)       Bonnie Hopkins       650-0852         Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association
Bridge (Mon)

### **CALENDAR**

### March 2015

04	Wed	10:00 AM, Women's Bridge
09	Mon	10:00 AM, Monday Bridge

10 Tue 7:00 PM, Citizens-On-Patrol Meeting

7:00 PM, Tripoley 13 Fri

14 Sat 7:00 PM, Pair's Bridge 17 Tue 6:30 PM, RRRC Meeting

19 Thu 12:30 PM, Ladies' Lunch – Rudy's BBQ 21 Sat 9:00 AM-2:00 PM, Community Garage Sale

21 Sat 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, RRRC Lunch Fundraiser

23 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

25 Wed 10:00 AM, Woman's Club Meeting

26 Thu 7:00 PM, Party Bridge 27 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

28 Sat 9:00 AM-Noon, RRRC Volunteer Day

# April 2015

01 Wed 10:00 AM, Women's Bridge

10 Fri 7:00 PM, Tripoley

11 Sat 7:00 PM, Pair's Bridge

13 Mon 10:00 AM, Monday Bridge

13 Mon 6:00 PM-10:00 PM, SAPD COP Training Class

14 Tue 7:00 PM, Citizens-on-Patrol Meeting
21 Tue 11:30 AM, Ladies' Lunch–Seafood Kitchen
21 Tue 6:30 PM, RRRC Meeting

22 Wed Royal Ridge Recorder articles due

22 Wed 10:00 AM, Women's Club Meeting

23 Thu 7:00 PM, Party Bridge

24 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

25 Sat 9:00 AM-Noon, RRRC Volunteer Day

### May 2015

02 Sat 9:00 AM-1:00 PM, SAPD COP Training Class

### PET SITTER

High school student is great with pets! Will walk your dogs, feed, and babysit your pet while you are away. Will even water your plants! Sandra Jean 862-9833

### **CLUBHOUSE RENTAL RATES**

Monday-Thursday = \$15/hour Friday-Saturday-Sunday = \$20/hour Four-Hour Minimum

## 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 Check it out!

# WANTED

We need a volunteer from Patio Homes II to write the news only six times a year. Call Kathie 967-5038

Saturday, March 21 - Community Garage Sale Saturday, March 21 - RRRC Lunch Fundraiser Saturday, March 28 - RRRC Volunteer Day Saturday, April 25 - RRRC Volunteer Day

Coordinator..... Bob Robbins...... 655-4226