



BALCONES WOODS NEWSLETTER

Balcones Woods Club, Inc. * 11204 Alhambra* Austin, TX 78759

SEPT 2006

Web site: www.balconeswoods.org * E-mail: newsletter@balconeswoods.org

Calendar

**Oct 14
Neighborhood
Garage Sale**

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**Nov 14
NW Area Commander's
Forum**

Commander Brian Manley
974-5591

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COYOTES!



My name is Gretchen Claiborne, and I live on Calle Verde. Over the years, those of us who live on Calle Verde have seen a coyote now and then. Once last winter, my neighbor Don Brooks saw one at the end of his lawn (he doesn't have a fence) and reported that it seemed unafraid but walked off when he began approaching. During the summer, three large coyotes have been spotted behind our houses, or heard yipping, on several occasions -they were seen about 7:30 p.m. when it was still bright daylight. Obviously these guys have adapted well to their urban environment and made inroads on the small wildlife in the greenbelt behind us. We don't know how far into the neighborhood they may penetrate as their wild food supply is depleted but those of us on Calle Verde Dr. are definitely concerned about our cats and small dogs. If you need additional information, you may call Brooks @ 345-7465 any time and I can be reached at 345-9542 during the evenings and weekends.

On September 6 at 6:30 AM, Patrick Loftin saw a coyote crossing Calle Verde near the drains that run under the street. The coyote was headed into the brushy area near Mopac.

The date has been set by the Chair of the Balcones Woods

Neighborhood Fall Garage Sale for October

14. Elaine Heinzke-Hennig is our garage sale volunteer-- you can contact her at 342-2181 or ewhweh@swbell.net Thanks Elaine for helping out. Thanks too to the other people that offered to head this event. Have fun selling!

Chiggers

Chiggers are parasitic larvae, the immature stage, of particular type of mite. Chiggers get onto people while walking through infested areas. Once a host is located, chiggers crawl around on the host to locate a suitable spot to feed. Chiggers prefer areas where skin is thinnest or where clothing is tight fitting. At most, chiggers remain feeding on the body for 3 days, but are usually brushed or washed off before then.

Chiggers do not burrow into the skin or suck blood. They pierce the skin and inject digestive enzymes that break down skin cells and cause irritation. Chigger bites form small reddish areas that may become pustules. Itching peaks around 24-48 hours after the bite occurs, but may last for a week or more. To treat chigger bites, try an antihistamine or a topical anti-itch cream.

Insect repellents containing DEET or picaridin can provide some protection against chiggers in infested areas. Residual spray pesticides can be used to reduce populations in infested areas. Look for active ingredients such as bifenthrin, cyfluthrin, permethrin or esfenvalerate. Sulfur powder may reduce populations, but can also change soil pH.

For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas Cooperative Extension Program Specialist at 512.854.9600.

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National Night Out

Thanks to all the hosts who had a National Night Out Block Party in August. They were a great success.

Special thanks to our Vice President Jeff Crozier for organizing our neighborhood and visiting all the parties that night. We on Cordova had about 40 people stop by to have ice cream and meet neighbors. We had a great time.

Parties were held on:

De De Biggert on Balcones Woods Circle
Beckham, Heinzke-Hennig on Cordova
Shari Rodomsky on Genoa
Jennifer Easter on Bilboa
Sandra Marshall on Madrid
Ruth and Glenn Smith on Flagstaff
Liz Boyce on Andalusia
Marsha Kinsey on Alhambra.
Mary and Ed Weiss on Welland & Trent

Thanks again,

Grant Hennig,
Balcones Woods HOA President

The Balcones Woods Blue Wave

Swim Team finished another awesome season as the 2006 Austin Aquatic League (AAL) Champions. All the early morning practices and hard work paid off for our swimmers. It was wonderful to see the teamwork, enthusiasm and excitement displayed throughout the entire season.

I have been very proud to be a part of such sportsmanship and camaraderie this year. Thanks again to all our coaches and families who worked together. Congratulations to a terrific 2006 Season.

Nancy L'Amie
2006 Swim Team President

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NEW TO BALCONES WOODS?

The Balcones Woods Welcoming Committee has a Balcones Woods Directory for all new neighbors. It is our goal to keep up with new residents, (we try not to be too nose about this) but occasionally we inadvertently miss someone. Please help with our oversight if you have not been welcomed by calling and leaving a message at 418-9722. Scarlett Spivey and Marion Douglas will deliver your directory right to your doorstep! WELCOME HOME!

JOIN THE BALCONES WOODS PARTNERS BRIDGE CLUB

This event repeats on the second Saturday of every month. The Club plays year-round on the second Saturday of each month at 7:30p.m. Groups play fun and informal rubber bridge, and welcome beginners and experienced players alike. For more information, contact Sally Sassen, 346-2140 or e-mail ssassen@austin.rr.com

Help Protect our Neighborhood

Mark your calendar for the next Commander's Forum meeting. It's your chance to let Austin Police know your concerns.

Commander Brian Manley 974-5591

Date: Tuesday - November 14th

Location: Westview Middle School
1805 Scofield Lane

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Email: NWDR@ci.austin.tx.us

Visit the Balcones Woods website at

www.balconeswoods.org. All the e-mail contacts for Board and Operating Committee members, meeting schedules, and classified ads are there also.

Another resource we have is the Yahoo Group found at **<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/balconeswoods/>**. You can join the discussions online and even post questions to your neighbors such as "Who do I contact for a pool key?"

Thanks for a Great Swim Season!

As the pool closes on October 1, I want to thank our pool guards and pool maintenance volunteers for making our pool a safe and fun place to be this summer. The pool has looked wonderful all summer after our battle with the algae this spring. Numerous pools around Austin are still battling the algae, but we got ours early and it never came back. For example, Westover Club pool closed a couple of weeks ago for algae issues. We are very lucky to have the guards and volunteers that we have here in Balcones Woods. Thanks again to Lee Bohne (Pool Manager), Alan Heinzke (Pool Personnel Chair), Bill Hennig (Pool Maintenance Chair) and all the other guards and volunteers for their countless hours of time at the pool. Only two weekends left to swim, so get out and enjoy our pool and tell the our crew thank you.

Grant Hennig,
Balcones Woods HOA President

Remember the Fourth of July Parade ?



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