

Windermere Lakes

HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



March 2008

www.windermerylakes.net

Volume 2, Issue 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE... Business Litter?

My front yard is often cluttered with random bits of trash which generally consists of advertisement flyers from various cleaning services, yard services, restaurants, and painters. Most of the time these are the result of a distribution which flew off the door of my neighbor or were even tossed on the ground some unknown reason. Either way, the end result is unwanted litter in my yard.

The front door handle has a nice corrosion spot where some of these advertisement distributors decided it would be a great idea to use a piece of clear tape to attach their flyer to my door. When the advertisement and tape was pulled off, it also removed the protective coating from the brass handle, and now the handle keeps an ugly black patina where the coating has been ripped off. After several dozen random tape placements over the past few years, the dark ugly mark has gotten larger and larger, and uglier and uglier!

During a walk through the neighborhood recently, I even noticed a business card attached to a small bag of rocks. Apparently the distributor used the rocks to give the card enough weight so that it could be flung into my driveway as well as my neighbors. Again, this is a very imaginative way to litter the neighborhood.

Lately I've noticed want-to-be vendors walking the street placing flyers in the mailboxes. These unaddressed, unstamped, informational junk papers are illegal. It is a federal crime to place any items in a mailbox which hasn't been

distributed by the post office.

Finally, I found a lawn sprinkler/mosquito spray company who had simply had their informational card 'dropped' in the yards of every neighbor. Wouldn't you know that the wind was brisk that day and those individual cards were blown in all manner of places. A polite call to the company notified them of the undesirable (and unappreciated) method that had been used to pass out their information. The owner was very apologetic for the litter and noted he wouldn't do business with the distributor again that had littered up the neighborhood with the cards as the cards were supposed to be stuck to each house door.

The reason these flyers and junk are passed out is because they hope to bring in business. If the business owner didn't get a good return on the investment they spent to send out these flyers, most would stop the activity quickly. As President of the Association who sees our monthly bill for litter cleanup, I encourage you not to do business with these companies that see fit to litter Windermere Lakes. Supporting the vendors that use more appropriate methods of mailing vendor information or advertising in this newsletter are the professional methods of promotion that are good for the looks of your neighborhood.

Patronize the businesses that advertise in our newsletter, their advertisements actually pay for our newsletter and thus they are supporting our neighborhood!

Kevin Swicegood, President

Clubhouse Pool, Patio 'n' Playground

(Recreational Facilities Committee)

If you are interested in being part of this committee to help make our pool and recreational areas more enjoyable, please contact Dianne by email at ldwentzell@gmail.com.

We hope to hear from you soon! Happy Easter!

Dianne Wentzell, Chairperson
WL Recreational Facilities Committee



From The Windermere Lakes HOA

Windermere Lakes

Important Numbers

Emergency	911
Sheriff's Dept.	713-221-6000
Center Point Energy - Customer Service (Gas)	713-659-2111
Cy-Fair Fire Dept.....	911
Cy-Fair Hospital.....	281-890-4285
Animal Control	281-999-3191
Center Point (Street lights).....	713-207-2222
Library.....	281-890-2665
NW Harris County MUD #29	713-983-3602
Aquasource	713-983-3604
Post Office.....	713-937-6827
Reliant Energy - Residential Electirc.....	713-207-7777
SCS Management Services, Inc.....	281-463-1777
Comcast Cable/Communications.....	800-266-2278
Waste Management/Trash Pick Up.....	713-686-6666

Windermere Lakes HOA 2007 Board of Directors

President.....	Kevin Swicegood
Vice President	Kevin McClard
Treasurer	Sreehari Gorantla
Secretary	Gerri Rougeau-Eubank
Director	David Petty

Committees:

Lake.....	TBA
Social.....	Bill Wentzell
Communication.....	Gerri Rougeau-Eubank
Landscape	Sreehari Gorantla
Finance.....	TBA
Architectural Control/Deed Restrictions	Nick Nguyen
Security	David Petty
Recreational Facilities.....	Dianne Wentzell

*All Board members and Committees
can be contacted at www.windmerelakes.net*

WE NEED ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR COMMITTEES!
If you are interested in participating with us, please contact us at www.windmerelakes.net for more details. This is a great way to meet your fellow neighbors and to help make our Windermere Lakes community a better place to live.

Newsletter Information

Editor

..... newsletter@windmerelakes.net

Publisher

Peel, Inc. www.PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com, 888-687-6444

Article Submissions

If you would like to submit an article or any information for the Windermere Lakes Newsletter, you may do so by sending the information to newsletter@windmerelakes.net. *This information should include your name. All information should be received **no later than the 9th of the month** and is subject to editorial approval as well as space limitations.*

LANDSCAPE FOCUS *Windermere Yard of the Month*



Congratulations! The winner is..... 12058 MIRAMAR SHORES DR.

This winner's landscaping was great and impressed members of our committee as the selection for 'Yard of the Month' for February .

The homeowner receives a \$25 Gift Card from Home Depot, bragging rights to the honor AND our WL Yard of the Month sign remains in their yard during the month. Our thanks go out to those that care about their homes and keep their lawns maintained.

These new neighbors have spent hours working in their yard and the results sure reflect a job well done! We welcome you to Windermere Lakes and appreciate your beautiful addition to our neighborhood.

It is almost time for all of us to start preparing to get outside, get rid of the weeds and plant those beautiful flowers for Spring. The sound of lawnmowers will once again fill our neighborhood as the months seem to fly by.

Thank you for helping make our neighborhood more beautiful. We also appreciate the time and participation by our judging volunteers during this selection process.

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OUR GREAT NEIGHBORS!

Sreehari Gorantla

Landscape Committee

Classified Ads

Personal classifieds (one time sell items, such as a used bike...) run at no charge to Windermere Lakes residents, limit 30 words, please e-mail newsletter@windmerelakes.net

Business classifieds (offering a service or product line for profit) are \$50, limit 40 words, please contact Peel, Inc. Sales Office @ 512-989-8905 or advertising@PEELinc.com.

TIPS & INFO FROM THE BOARD....

Boat Maintenance Tip:

By: Kevin Mc Clard

An easy way to pump water out of your boat is to use a portable battery powered bilge pump. You can obtain an inexpensive model that runs on 3 D cell batteries from the following Web site:

<http://www.shipstore.com/SS/HTML/ATT/ATT41404.html>

All you do is place the pump in the boat, below the water, flop the hose to the outside of the boat and turn on the pump. A few minutes later your boat is floating high, ready to be used. Do this and your neighbors won't be complaining that your backyard looks like a movie set for Gilligan's Island.

Lake Committee:

By: Kevin Mc Clard

The board is looking for members to be actively be involved on the Lake Committee. Your participation has never been more important because the cost of operating the lakes is increasing and the board of directors is striving to keep our annual assessment from increasing. There are two sources of water for the water in the lakes. One is from rain. That water is free. The other is water pumped from the ground, and that water is not only 'not free', it is getting more and more expensive. In the last quarter, the HOA had to pay \$13,000.00 to maintain the water level in the lakes. The HOA is investigating whether or not we can reduce this by maintaining the water level a few inches higher than has been done in the past. This may sound counter intuitive, but the idea is that if we allow for a greater range of what is an acceptable water level, we have more chance of getting rain and less chance of needing to turn on the pumps. Another method of controlling costs is to have a volunteer, or a group of volunteers, decide when to turn on the pump and when to turn it off. If it looks like rain is on the way then there is no need for having the pumps on. If it looks like a hot, dry spell is what we have in store, then we will need to run the pumps. There is no way to automate this, obviously, since the weather is unpredictable and human beings are generally better at guessing what weather will do than machines. If there are any human weather vanes, engineers or mathematicians in our community that would like to try and optimize this process, please join the Lake Committee and let's figure out how we can reduce costs!

Google-Earth Windermere Lakes

By: Kevin Mc Clard

Just in case you are a Luddite, still stuck on technology of the last century, this article is for you. If you are a linguistic purest it probably bothers you that 'google' has become a verb for one that is using Google. And thus, 'google-earthing'

is a verb expression for one who uses Google Earth. Google has a program called Google Earth, which is a free download. Google combines aerial and satellite images from all around the world into a remarkably seamless interface that allows one to zoom around the Earth as if you had your own personal starship. You can do things like type in your address and the program will zoom in to view the top of your house faster than a UFO in Stephenville, TX. You can travel around the world and zoom in on countless places and explore their history by clicking on special icons. You can even discover things that have been in your neighborhood for centuries and no one could see it because they were too close! It is really cool, and it is a great way to learn about the world. But, there are also some things that you can do that are quite practical. For example, I used the ruler tool that is available with Google to calculate that our subdivision has 1.58 miles of fence. Other tools are available in the pro version that one pays for that allows for the calculation of areas. That information can be used to calculate how much an inch of water is in gallons, which in turn is necessary for us to optimize our water levels in the lakes.

The Foot Wellness Center

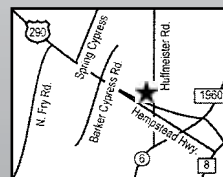
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40 days of Lent.

What you'll find at
Cypress United Methodist Church

Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 6th and ends on Holy Saturday.

The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter.

Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians. The First Sunday describes Jesus' temptation by Satan; and the Sixth Sunday (Palm Sunday) – Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion and death.



Cypress United Methodist Church is preparing for Easter and would like to welcome you to church during the Lenten Season. We are planning special Bible studies, worship services and events that will lead you to the cross. Visit our website, today, for our Lenten Season schedule at **www.Cypress-UMC.org**.

Sunday Worship Services

8:15 am – Traditional in Sanctuary
9:30 am – Contemporary Worship Center
11:00 am – Sanctuary & Worship Center

Cypress United Methodist Church
13403 Cypress N. Houston Rd.
(just east of Huffmeister)
Cypress, Texas 77429
281-469-0730

WL SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

Hello Again WL Residents!

Well, here it is - it is 2008 and another year to enjoy the excitement of all our Social Events (minus the Rain I seem to attract to just about every event.)

Our Easter Egg Extravaganza will be held on Saturday, March 22. Please keep your 'EARS' and eyes looking for the signs prior to the event. This is always a fun event and this year should be even better... hopefully no rain, but lots of goodies for the kids!

Thanks to all of you who assist year after year with these events! We have some new volunteers to assist this year and I'm looking forward to working with them to incorporate their ideas. We are always looking for additional volunteers with new ideas to help make each and every event the best ever.

That being said, the Pool Opening Party will be our next event and it will be here before you know it! I just can't think about swimming yet when Winter isn't even over – brrrrr!

We are planning on some different events this year. Some ideas being considered are a 'Pet and Owner' event, an 'Adults Only Holiday Party', and perhaps a separate 'Breakfast with Santa' event for the kids. These are just the beginning of some great new ideas!

Again, if you have any ideas or would like to help, I can be contacted at oldchristian@gmail.com. I would love to hear from you.

I'll see you next time... be sure to stay warm, be safe, and as always, continue being outstanding neighbors!

Bill Wentzell, Chairperson
WL Social Committee

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For a Free Phone Consultation:

Call Lisa at **713.419.2221**

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON THE LAKES...

Flamingo Lake Yacht Club - The Flamingo Lake 'Super Bowl Party' was held on Sunday, February 3, 2008 at Dave & Debbie Krobath's home. We hear there was a Wii bowling tournament before the game and during half-time... not sure who the winners were but sounds like they had fun! We did hear that the Super Bowl Pot winners changed this year and there were some happy 'new' winners at the party! Great food, fun and friendship!

This is really a good group of neighbors that meet and just have fun being around each other! If you live on or around Flamingo Lake, they want to invite you to their next event. Just contact us at newsletter@windermerylakes.net and we will put you in touch with their group. This is how great neighbors become great friends!

Congrats to Dianne & Bill Wentzell... they have a new baby addition at their home! Special welcome to 'London', a precious little girl that will bring them much love and happiness.

We need your News!

If you have some news or fun activities going on at your Lake, please let us hear from you!

We'd like to share the news in our future newsletters. Are you or someone in your family running in a marathon, have a new member in your family, children accomplishments or something you'd like to share in the newsletter? Any parties, birthdays, graduations, anniversaries or any other celebrations that may take place would be great shared with your other Windermere Lakes neighbors!

PLEASE SEND YOUR INFO TO US FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO: newsletter@windermerylakes.net



Discovery College registration starts March 10.
One-week summer camps are for ages 6 to 15.

For Barker Cypress camps only, call 832-482-1043.
For Fairbanks Center camps only, call 832-782-5038.

For schedules and applications, go to CyFair.LoneStar.edu/discoverycollege

Fairbanks Center 14955 Northwest Freeway Houston, TX 77040	Barker Cypress Campus 9191 Barker Cypress Cypress, TX 77433
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SECURITY COMMITTEE

We have had several reports via the Windermere Lakes website regarding non-working street lights. We thank you for bringing this to our attention so we can help keep the neighborhood well lighted and more secure for everyone. We can use all the extra eyes we have to help keep our neighborhood safe!

If you notice a non-working light, please feel free to report online to Center Point Energy at <http://slo.centerpointenergy.com/customerslo.aspx> There is a 'street light out' form that can be completed online and assigned for quick repair.

You can also report any non-working 'street light out' to SCS Management at 281-463-1777 and they can also arrange for repair.

Remember, if you should see any persons you believe to be suspicious and/or that do not appear to belong in our neighborhood, please report so they can be checked out by the proper authorities.

Emergency: 911

Sheriff's Dept. 713-221-6000.

Stay safe and keep a watchful eye on our neighborhood!

David Petty, Chairperson

WL Security Committee

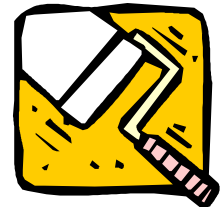
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Rachael's



Come in and get the Webkinz Easter Duck



Easter Sunday is March 23rd!!

12240 FM 1960 W @ N. Eldridge • 281-469-3881

Don't want to wait for the mail?
**View the current issue of the Windermere
Lakes Homeowner's Association
Newsletter on the 1st day of each month at
www.PEELinc.com**

Is your Lake news missing???
WE NEED YOUR INFO!!

If you have some news or fun activities going on at your Lake, please let us hear from you! We'd like to share the news in our future newsletters. Any parties, birthdays, graduations, anniversaries or any other celebrations that may take place would be great shared with your other Windermere Lakes neighbors!

PLEASE SEND YOUR INFO TO US FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER TO: newsletter@windmerelakes.net

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Cypress Christian School Annual Golf Classic

Calling all Golfers and Sponsors! Mark your calendar for Monday, May 5 to participate in the annual CCS Golf Classic. This year's Golf Tournament will be held at the Longwood Golf Club, 13300 Longwood Trace, Cypress, TX 77429 with a 1:00 tee-off time. In addition to a great afternoon on the course, golfers will be treated to lunch and dinner. To add to the fun, a silent auction will be held with golfer-friendly/family-friendly items to be awarded to the highest bidder.

To play in the tournament or sponsor the event - which includes a multitude of advertising opportunities - please log on to the school web site at www.CypressChristian.org or contact the Event Coordinator at Jody.Pollos@CypressChristian.org or 281-770-5326. Thanks to our Lead Underwriter, Longnecker & Associates!

Cypress Christian School hosts Community Carnival

Cypress Christian School will hold a Community Carnival to celebrate its 30th year of serving families in northwest Houston. Make plans now to join the fun on Saturday, April 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rides, games, food and prizes galore are in store for everyone who attends this special event. In addition, there will be a silent auction with family-friendly items ready to be awarded to the highest bidder.

Don't miss this fun event. The carnival will be held on the school grounds located at 11123 Cypress N. Houston Rd at Jones Rd. For more information, please log on to the school web site at www.CypressChristian.org or contact the Event Coordinator at Jody.Pollos@CypressChristian.org or 281-770-5326. Sponsors, donors and advertisers welcome to participate in this event.

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NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR

WL resident Alan Champagne is looking to get a used paddle boat to go out on the lake. Please contact him at alan_champagne@yahoo.com or 281-513-8109 if you have one available, or know someone who does.

Babysitters Needed... We have received several requests from WL Residents for contact information for babysitters and other services! Unfortunately, we don't have any names to give them at this time! If you do babysitting, pet sitting, lawn mowing, etc. PLEASE send us your information so we can put you together with WL neighbors needing your services.

Committee Members Wanted... If you would be interested in working on the Newsletter Committee and providing reports, articles and news for your block or lake, please contact Gerri Eubank at newsletter@windermere lakes.net

Have something to sell or want to give away?? The homeowners of Windermere Lakes can place their personal ads for free in our newsletter! Contact us at newsletter@windermere lakes.net and we will contact you to obtain all the information so we can make it a win-win situation for everyone!

Teenage Job Seekers

Name	Age	Baby Sit	Pet Sit	Yard Work	Phone
Doe, John	15	•	•	•	111-1111

*-CPR Training +-First Aid Training

Attention Teenagers

The **Teenage Job Seekers** listing service is offered free of charge to all Windermere Lakes teenagers seeking work. Submit your name and information to newsletter@windermere lakes.net by the 9th of the month!

Advertising Information

Please support the businesses that advertise in the Windermere Lakes Community Newsletter. Their advertising dollars make it possible for all Windermere Lakes residents to receive the monthly newsletter at no charge. No homeowners association funds are used to produce or mail the newsletters. If you would like to support the newsletter by advertising, please contact our sales office @ 512-989-8905 or advertising@PEELinc.com. The advertising deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Peel, Inc.

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Bridgeland
Canyon Gate at the Brazos
Coles Crossing
Cypress Mill
Enchanted Valley
Fairfield
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Kings Manor
Lakes on Eldridge
Lakes on Eldridge North
Lakewood Grove
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Kelly Peel, Sales Manager

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Windermere Lakes Market Report

Courtesy of "DAVID FLORY"

This market information report is provided to keep you informed of resale market activity in your subdivision.

	Aug 07	Sep 07	Oct 07	Nov 07	Dec 07	Jan 08
\$400,000 +	0	0	0	0	0	0
\$350,000 - 399,999	0	0	0	0	1	0
\$300,000 - 349,999	1	0	0	1	0	0
\$250,000 - 299,999	1	1	2	0	1	2
\$200,000 - 249,999	0	1	0	0	0	1
\$200,000 -	0	0	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	2	2	2	2	2	3
Highest S/Sq Ft	99.14	96.42	106.07	82.74	97.54	93.29

This chart represents the homes that have sold and closed in the past 6 months according the Houston Multiple Listing Service.

#1 Realtor in Windermere Lakes

David "Super Dave" Flory



- Top 1% of Realtors in the U.S.
- Over 615 Homes SOLD in 2006
- Over 96% of David's Listings Result in a Sale

HIGHEST PRICE PER SQ.FT. resale homes sold
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