



Waterwood Neighborhood News



*Waterwood Country Club
2007*

Waterwood Country Club Closes

The Waterwood Country Club (WCC) closed its doors on Monday, December 3, 2007. All of the scheduled events at the club and hotel have been canceled until further notice.

A black & white note was taped to the front door.

Effective 12/03/07

The upper level of the Building is closed; please enter the building through the Pro Shop or the Scorecard Café. Parking is Available in front of the Hotel rooms and by the tennis courts.

Thank You,

Waterwood Management

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THE WATERWOOD TRAILS

By Terri Reed

Waterwood is home to one of the Great Texas Prairies and Pineywoods Wildlife Trails of the Texas Parks and Wildlife, thanks to the generosity of the Russell Family, owner of the trail.

If you or your guests haven't walked it, now is the best time to enjoy it now that hunting season is almost over. It was recently mowed and bugs aren't a nuisance this time of the year.

This circuitous trail is seven and one-half miles long. It can also be walked in shorter segments. The trail starts and finishes at the Country Club.

At the trailhead, when you walk across the bridge

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Welcome to WNN



We hope all of you had a great Holiday season. We also hope Santa Claus was nice to you, and we hope that you ate everything and lost weight.

December 2007 started off with a **BANG!** The Waterwood Country Club closed on Sunday December 3. WNN hopes it will reopen soon with bigger and better events for our community.

Good News! San Jacinto County has opened a new Tax Office substation at the county annex in Point Blank. Now you can discuss and pay your taxes there rather than having to drive to Coldspring.

More Good News! Even though the Country Club has closed its operations upstairs, the Score Card is open Tuesday through Sunday. You can get hamburgers and play Bridge on Thursday night. You can enjoy the Friday night Buffet also in the Score Card area. You'll probably need to call for reservations on Fridays.

WANTED, those individuals who have been vandalizing our community. The WIA Board voted to post a \$500.00 reward for information leading to an arrest and conviction of these people. Look and Listen, let Security know if you see anything. Dial **661-2800**.

WNN looks back over 2007 and thanks our readers for their loyal support. Nancy and I are enjoying ourselves publishing the WNN. What we need from you is your input. What stories do you want and need to read in the WNN? How can we better serve you the "Neighborhood"?

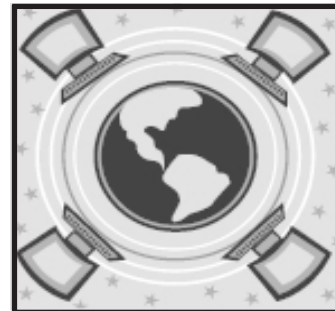
Please email us at wnn@waterwoodwia.com. This publication is your news. Please become a part of the Waterwood Neighborhood News.

As 2007 draws to an end, we at WNN want to wish you and yours a Happy New Year. We hope **2008** will **joyful** and **prosperous** for you and your family.



Computer Corner

By John Charlton



Last time we met we talked about Firewalls, and I hope everyone has one installed. This month we will look at Antivirus software. Like firewalls, which antivirus product is on top depends on which one was last updated.

When you talk anti-virus software there are four highly rated commercial version, Norton, McAfee, Panda, and Kaspersky, and two free versions, AVG and Avast!. Both AVG and Avast! have 'Pro' versions, however, both make a home version for non commercial use, available for free.

Avast! Home Edition is a 10 meg download from www.Avast.com. Installation is very easy but will require a restart of your PC. Once you have restarted, an initial scan of your computer will begin.

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While it is a long and painful process, resist the temptation to skip it because if you have a virus, leaving it there could be disastrous. Quite often Trojan viruses and others are stored in your 'System Recovery' files. Generally the only way to deal with these is in the initial boot up scan.

Avast! offers protection on several fronts while using the internet. As part of the standard resident protection it has various "shields" which watch over Instant Messenger, Peer to Peer, Internet mail, Outlook/Exchange Mail and a general shield for your network. For the most part, you will never know that Avast! is running, but when a malicious file is detected, klaxon alarms blare from your computer and Avast! requests instructions. Questionable files are quarantined to the extent they no longer even appear in Windows Explorer.

The second Anti-Virus program I like is AVG. Like Avast!, it too is free. <http://free.grisoft.com/> AVG's Control Center is a bit awkward; however, you'll

have little need to use it after the initial configuration. It can automatically block password-protected ZIP attachments and other specific attachments types, to help balk e-mail-delivered malware. And if a nasty Trojan leaves your system unbootable, you'll be glad AVG prompted you to create rescue diskettes.

I have used both of these programs, and I like both of them. Currently Avast! is rated slightly higher than AVG, however it seems to use more computer resources and your computer may appear to run slower at times. I run Avast! on my laptop and AVG on the desktop. When Avast! did it's initial boot scan on the laptop, it found a virus in three system recovery files.

Next time Spyware and I don't mean Capt. Jack Sparrow's eyeglass. If you have questions email me jtcspc@gmail.com.



THE WATERWOOD TRAILS

continued from page 1

at the pond, you'll enter the bottomlands of deciduous woodland. There's a resident barred owl in this forest; look high in the largest trees for this large bird.

When you approach the narrow dirt road, the path will lead to a winding trail that parallels Latrobe Drive. You'll meander beside a dry creek lined with cedar elm, water oak, sweetgum, pine, and sugarberry.

Listen and watch for red-bellied, red-headed and pileated woodpeckers. On a recent walk, there were Northern Cardinals, Chickadees, and Golden Crowned Kinglets here.

The trail crosses Latrobe and then leads back into the woodlands and follows variable terrain, crossing a small creek with outlets into Lake Livingston. Here there are quite a few White-tailed Deer here in the fall and spring.



*A Park Bench Awaits Hikers
on The Waterwood Trails*

After winding around Pebble Beach Way back to Latrobe Drive and over to Pine Valley, you'll cross Marina Drive. Across the street from The Beach, you'll enter another forest with views of Pools Creek.

At the top of the hill, you'll reach FM 980. Walk toward the rustic log-built Nativity Chapel which is open to the public and behind this chapel is a path lined by sassafras, dogwoods, sweetgum, ironwood, and American elm.

You'll come to a small rocky bluff overlooking a deep creek lined with pools of water. Here, you'll see a beautiful waterfall over moss-rock lined with ferns! Quite a few hikers have declared this spot a highlight of the trail.

Follow along this serene little creek and you will return to another forest that parallels the Waterwood Parkway. Here, you'll step on large river rocks to cross

THE WATERWOOD TRAILS ONLINE MAPS AND INFORMATION

http://www.waterwoodnational.com/golf/proto/waterwoodnational/nature_trail/nature_trail.htm

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife_trails/pineywoods/piney_east/bigandy/

<http://www.texasrails.org/traildetail.cfm?id=988>

If you're lucky, you'll see hundreds of migrating White Pelicans and Anhingas cruising and flying the coves and lake. These migratory visitors join year round residents such as Great Blue Herons, kingfishers, and egrets.

When the path exits on Doral there's a bathroom and beverage machine conveniently located on the 12th fairway for weary hikers.

two creeks, walking beside another little sedentary creek.

As you walk up the hill, you'll see evidence of tree thinning near Marina Drive. Then cross Waterwood Parkway into a forest behind Park Forest which is mixed pine and hardwood for another mile. Here there are palmetto and stepping stones across a frog bog and a bridge across a ravine. The trail

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ends back at the Country Club. As the designer of the trail, I groom and walk this trail periodically. I can't promise you'll see lots of birds and animals; noisy hikers of course will negatively impact your sightings. But there's usually at least one surprise.

Don't forget, piney woods colors are great camouflage for snakes. Look where you step, particularly over logs. Snakes, both poisonous and nonpoisonous, will quickly slither away if you're careful not to step on them.

If you need me to guide you or your guests, or have questions about hunters, call me at my workplace at 936-730-3734 before 3:30 PM.

If your guests would rather bring their horses, there are other forested trails including parking for horse trailers. I'll be happy to help you and your guests and equestrian friends enjoy the wildlife at Waterwood.

WIA BOARD MEETING 12/17/07

The WIA Board Meeting was called to order by President Jack Zimmermann at 9:00 AM. All Board Members were present.

Walt Ringler reported to the Board that the Waterwood Boat Club (WBC) has 13 people show interest in participating in WBC activities.

Special Guest, San Jacinto County Precinct Commissioner, Mark Nettuno, distributed information concerning the new county substation to be located in Point Blank. He also discussed how the county operates.

The ACB Chairman, Baldomar Garcia, reported four violation letters were mailed out. Also, three Small Improvement Project Applications were approved by the ACB.



A discussion relative to vandalism in our community was held. The Board voted to post a \$500.00 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of individual(s) desecrating Waterwood property.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

This article is a review of business conducted at the December 17, 2007 Board Meeting. Official minutes will be approved by the Board in their January 21, 2008 meeting.



WATERWOOD COUNTRY CLUB CLOSES

continued from page 1

This is the first time since the WCC was built in 1974 that it shuttered its “recreational” operations”. The golf course, pro shop and the Score Card restaurant will remain open for business.

Matt Landreau, president of Club Consultants Inc., told The Huntsville Item in an interview, “We’re closing the hotel and we think it will be very temporary. We need a lot of renovation around here.”

Mr. Landreau further stated, “The infrastructure is old and tired. We really want to make this a four star resort (and) we’ve got to create a new plan with new investments so that we can not only renovate the infrastructure but actually build more facilities.”

Twenty-five employees of WCC were laid off with the closure. Most of the golf club employees are working on a normal schedule. Mr. Landreau said, “We’ve got one of the best golf courses in the nation (and) I’m hopeful there will be more things to come.”



Good News from Alicia Guillory at the Pro Shop.

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Saturday & Sunday \$29.00 + Tax
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Tuesday thru Friday \$14.00 + Tax

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The Scorecard Café is still open with Burger Buffet on Thursday evening. Bridge Night is still on Thursday evening. The Friday Night Buffet is still operating.

The “Wind Down” happens on Friday evenings between 6 & 7 PM. Drinks are half price and WNN was told, “All of the old timers still hang out there.”

WNN surveyed our real estate advertisers to get their perspectives of the “closing”. The people interviewed were very positive with their thoughts.

Barbara Bunyard, Realtor/Owner of All Star Texas Reality and Waterwood resident, stated, “I do not think the Club closing will hurt our sales or property values. The “closing” may be a blessing for bigger and better facilities in the future.”

Kevin Cook, Associate Broker with Palmer Real Estate, said, “We were sorry about the decision to close the Club, but we do not see any near future problems with real estate sales or decreasing property values.”

After checking the history of the Club, WNN found the Club had gone through many ownership and

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management changes over the years; had many “ups and downs”; but it never “closed”. The following is a brief early history of the Club.

The annual stock holder’s meeting of Horizon Property Corp. was held at the Waterwood Country Club on October 21, 1974. The Country Club was officially opened on October 25, 1974.

Thirty-six news cabanas opened at the Country Club in 1975. The cabanas rented for \$35.00 a day.

New owners came in 1984 and 1985 renovation plans were designed.

1. Complete renovation of all exterior surfaces of all buildings.
2. Total refurbishment of the Lodge and Cabana interiors.
3. Renovation of Club House Interior

4. Renovation of the Tree House restaurant.
5. Renovation of the Golf Course.
6. New Landscape and Signage.

New Resort management was launched in the fall of 1988. New and better things were promised:

“Streamline the overall operations”; “Find ways to increase business through providing a better product”; “Changing menus and lowering drink prices will be introduced”; and “Our goal is to develop Waterwood’s potential as a premiere resort and country club.”

Changes at the Resort became effective during the last quarter of 1989. The Garden Room was open for public dining. The Club was operated as a hotel first; with continued service for the members and guests.

Hotel news in April of 1990: Management has

decided to make two distinctive price groupings for lodging. Cabana rental prices were increased to \$100.00 per day, while the Lodges remained at \$55.00 per night.

As 1992 closed, management stated: "1992 will be remembered as an unpleasant economic experience." There was also a significant drop in membership during 1992.

In 1993, all of the Cabanas were repainted. The 19th Hole was refurbished. The only problem still not solved is the leaks in the Clubhouse.

A new Project Manager was brought on board in May of 1993. He advised everyone of the new mandate from Horizon Corp. was "to develop this beautiful facility into a well-maintained recreational and dining facility".

1994 brought another downward trend in our "Neighborhood". Members stopped going to the social affairs at the Club. Only 13 couples attended the Valentine Dance.

The Sunday Brunch was closed down in May. The Garden Room at the Club closed on Wednesdays. They were only averaging 11 plates per night.

In December of 1996, Horizon made the following announcement: "Horizon Properties has been losing money and subsidizing the community for a number of years. The property is for sale and Horizon is not going to spend any money on the property".

Waterwood Holdings, L.P. purchased the Resort on April 6, 1998. The Managing Partner was Jim Steele.

Refurbishing of the Lodges, Tree House and the Smokehouse were completed in July 1998. The marina and boat docks were also repainted.

In December of 1999, Waterwood Holdings, Inc. failed to meet its financial obligations to ORIX USA Corp. the note holder. A sale was to be held in Coldspring in January 2000 on the property.

Some of the WHI personnel were being investigated by law enforcement officials.

With all of the above mentioned events, the Club still survived until that unfortunate day of 12/03/07.



Remaining Schedule

Golf Course

Every Tuesday thru Sunday

Burger Buffet

Every Thursday Evening
Score Card Café

Bridge Night

Every Thursday

Friday Night Buffet

Every Friday Night

"Wind Down"

Drinks Are Half Price
Every Friday Night
6 PM to 7 PM



DESIGNING WNN

WNN designer and photographer, Nancy Stevens, a native Texan, grew up in the city of Hunter's Creek Village of Houston's Memorial area and graduated from The Kinkaid School there. She got her Bachelor of Science degree from University of Houston-Downtown, where due to her outstanding grades and her contributions to her classmates and professors, she was nominated by one of her college professors for membership in The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. She was immediately elected to the society.

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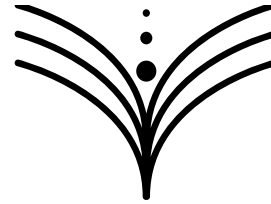
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Nancy has a lifetime of extensive volunteer work she has done, much of which has involved supervising and leading other volunteers. This work includes work for Houston area law enforcement serving 2 ½ years as Director of Shield-A-Badge-With-Prayer, a ministry started by now retired Houston Police Department S.W.A.T. team member Paul Day.

This position included representing the ministry on television, in the newspaper, and at speaking engagements at local events as well as supervising all functions and aspects of the

ministry and its volunteers.



Nancy Stevens
WNN Designer

Other leadership in volunteer work includes over 15 years working with Houston area singles including 1 year as the Director of a sailing club for East Texas singles and 3 years as a Director of Outreach at Second Baptist Church of Houston.

Her property owners'/ homeowners' association work includes involvement in 3 associations over the last 11 years. She served seven years on the homeowners' board of her Memorial Drive condominium complex in Houston. In that position,

Cooking with Bill

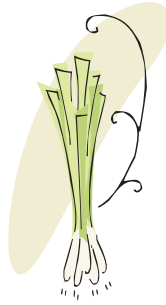
Margarita Pizza (Cocktail Appetizer)

Ingredients

6 Flour Tortillas

4 Cloves Garlic Separated

1 Bag Fresh Spinach



4 Tablespoon Olive Oil Divided

6 Cherry Tomatoes Quartered

1 Package Feta Cheese

Directions

Sauté whole garlic cloves in one tablespoon of olive oil. Set aside.

Sauté spinach in two tablespoons of olive oil. Set aside.

Coat flour tortillas on both sides with remaining olive oil.

Arrange tortillas on flat cooking pan.

Arrange garlic, spinach, cherry tomatoes on tortillas, and top with feta cheese.

Bake 15 minutes at 350 degrees.

Cut into quarters and serve.

Serve with Margaritas.

Enjoy.

Serves 6

she created, edited, and published the association's newsletter. For over 8 years, she has worked with the property owners' board of Twin Harbors on Lake Livingston, an Onalaska subdivision, creating and maintaining the association web site in its entirety. Here at Waterwood, in addition to her work as the designer and photographer of WNN, she occasionally is also a contributing writer/reporter for the newsletter.

Nancy's love of Waterwood began in the early '70's when she was brought here by her father who, as a top Houston executive and also a private investor, was an early investor in Waterwood homes eventually owning 15 of them for many years, 8 on or near the golf course and 7 in Whispering Pines I. He also enjoyed many years of Waterwood Country Club membership which Nancy used on occasion. In early 2003, after spending many

Neighborhood Pets



Sawdust Bowers

This edition's neighborhood pet is Bass Boat Village resident Sawdust. Sawdust and owner Jamie Bowers are the new owners and long time full time residents of Bass Boat Village condominium 108. Sawdust was born at Jamie's jobsite, a local saw mill, and was quickly adopted by Jamie when she was old enough to leave her mother. She is now 2 years old.

Sawdust is usually a constant companion with Jamie, travelling with him as often as possible. She visits the saw mill every weekday while Jamie is at work, frequently travels to see friends and family in the area, and takes off for lake adventures with Jamie on one of their boats. At home, she plays with Jamie, neighbors and other visitors, entertains herself in the lake, or rests in their condo enjoying their beautiful lake view. Wherever she is, she is a well behaved and intelligent friend.

If you know of special Waterwood pets you would like to be featured, contact us at wnn@waterwoodwia.com!



Designing WNN

continued

weeks over many years vacationing in various ones of her father's homes in Waterwood, Nancy bought her own Waterwood home. She and her husband Bill are now full time residents here. They own and operate Huntsville Glass and Stone. Nancy also owns and operates High Performance Web Design, a company she started about 10 years ago.

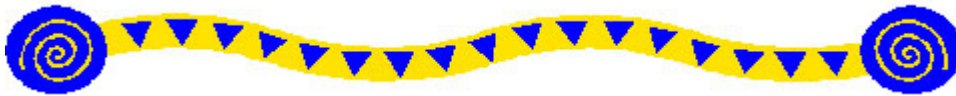
Nancy says, "I absolutely love Waterwood and always have. I believe Waterwood is unique and superior and that it should be valued as such. It is a great blessing to be able to serve in our community by working on the newsletter. John is an absolute delight to work with. I enjoy it all tremendously and hope everyone enjoys each edition and is greatly blessed by it."

Many thanks to Nancy for her hard work and dedication.



A Happy New Year Banner Greet's Visitors of a Home in Waterwood's

THE WATERWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS
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