



Shady Hollow Highlights

The Official Publication of Shady Hollow Homeowners Association

October 2017

Board Meeting
7 p.m. Thursday
October 19
Community Center
Members encouraged
to attend.

In this issue:

Shady Hollow Genealogy Club	1
APD's Halloween Safety Tips	1, 2
Waste-Free Yards Keeps Pets Healthy	2
Shady Hollow Halloween Party	3
SHHOA Monthly Financial Snapshot	4
MUD News	5
September Board Meeting Minutes	6, 7
Vegetation in Right-of-Way Areas	7
Flooding: How to Protect Your Family & Finances	8

Shady Hollow Genealogy Club

The Shady Hollow Genealogy Club held its September meeting at the home of Jim and Ann Downing. Organization of materials was a big part of the discussion, as both Cindy and Diana were looking for assistance in bringing some order to their current projects. Jim explained how to create a time line and use it to connect people, events, and dates. Stephen described his use of a table of contents to organize his book. Even the use of something as simple as numbered dividers or different colored paper could help separate one family group from another. The group also discussed the difficulty in tracing female family members who frequently are mentioned only by their married names. Cindy noted she relies extensively on birth, marriage, and death records, which sometimes provide a woman's maiden name, and also looks for wills, probates, deeds, and family bibles, which can be good sources of information. Jim pointed out that while most people think of paper records when doing family research, the importance of audio recordings should not be overlooked – not just in remembering the sound of a family member's voice, but in providing some context to the person's life – for instance, what music did they listen to? Jim provided a demonstration of a computer program he developed to remove noise caused by scratches and other damage from some record albums he had inherited. The results were amazing!

Jim and Ann are planning a trip to Iowa to try to find answers to the puzzle that is Jim's grandfather's life story. Come to our November meeting to hear the results!

Our next meeting is tentatively planned for early November. If you're interested in joining us, contact Jim Downing at jim@jadowning.com or Cindy Nettles at dragonfire@austin.rr.com for details.

APD's Halloween Safety Tips

The Austin Police Department made several announcements on the precautions they're taking to keep the Austin community safe this Halloween. Heading the list of citizens to keep safe are the children that will be searching for candy and treats across the city.

"The Austin Police Department encourages safety and supervision for children throughout the year, especially on Halloween," according to a press release from the APD. "It is important for parents to follow a few safety precautions as children take to neighborhood streets for traditional trick-or-treating."

Those safety precautions range from making sure kids have a flashlight to never accepting rides from strangers.

Other safety tips are:

- Know your trick-or-treater's route
- Make sure fake knives, swords, and guns are made from cardboard or other flexible materials to avoid accidental injury or worse - having them mistaken for the real thing
- Don't cut across yards. Use sidewalks and stay out of backyards
- Follow traffic signals and do not jaywalk or cross at midblock
- Always watch for cars backing up or turning
- Respect other people and their property
- Be polite and say "thank you"
- Be sure costumes, shoes, and treat bags are safe
- Remind children not to enter a stranger's home or car
- Set rules about not eating treats until your children are home. Inspect all treats

Continued on page 2

APD's Halloween Safety Tips cont.

Continued from page 1

before allowing kids to eat them

- Candy that has been opened should be thrown away. Any homemade treats or fruit should be inspected closely
- Remember drivers have a hard time seeing people, especially at dusk
- Never cross the street from between parked cars
- Watch open flames from jack-o-lanterns as they present a fire hazard for costumes and long wigs. Review the “stop, drop and roll” procedure in case your costume catches on fire
- Only visit well-lit houses. Don’t stop at dark houses
- Don’t enter any homes unless you know the people
- Carry a spare Halloween bag - in case it breaks or your original one is filled

There are police guidelines for homeowners planning to hand out candy to children as well.

- Turn on your porch light
 - Move lit jack-o-lanterns off the porch where kids get bunched up when trick-or-treating in groups
 - Remove objects from your yard that might present a hazard
 - Drive slowly all evening. You never know what little “creature” may suddenly cross your path
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to the police



Waste-Free Yards Keeps Pets Healthy

American pet owners collectively spend tens of millions of dollars every year on veterinary care and over-the-counter medicines for their furry loved ones. But what many don’t realize is that many pet illnesses can be avoided by simply keeping the back yard clear of pet waste.

Dog waste is more than just a smelly and unsightly mess. It’s also a breeding ground for infection—especially in dog parks and other areas where dogs frequently gather. Bacteria, worms and other parasites thrive in the waste until it’s cleaned up or washed into the water supply. Giardia, ringworm, roundworm and E. coli are examples of such inhabitants, all of which are commonly found in dog feces and are easily transferable upon contact.



When pets become sick, contagions are often times passed through their deposits into their own yard. The longer infected dog waste stays on the ground, the greater a contamination becomes. And when this waste is not picked up, pets have a high risk of catching the infection over and over again.

Roundworm, for example, is one of the most common parasites found in dog waste and it can remain infectious in contaminated soil and water for years.

The best thing pet owners can do to help keep their four-legged friends healthy and safe is to pick up after them and to do so in a timely manner. Those who don’t have enough time to deal with the mess themselves—or simply don’t want to—should consider hiring a local pet waste removal service.

Email Newsletters

Almost 1000 members receive their newsletter by email.

Why?

- ▶ You will receive your newsletter earlier.
- ▶ You can access the links in the newsletters.

Go to www.shadyhollow.org and [request login access.](#)

SHADY HOLLOW HOA
PRESENTS

HALLOWEEN
Boo **BASH**
2017

SATURDAY
**OCT
28**

7-9 p.m.
At The Community Center

Featuring

*FUN &
games*

**MONSTER MASH
DANCE-A-LONG**

*COSTUME
parade*

PLUS... HALLOWEEN
MUSIC

HAUNTED
HAY RIDE

COME SAY "HELLO"
TO YOUR NABRS

HelloNabr
building relationships one neighbor at a time.

homecity
REAL ESTATE
Jennifer Odom, realtor

**SHHOA
Calendar**

SHHOA Board Meeting (CC)
7 p.m. Thursday, Oct 19

SHHOA HALLOWEEN PARTY
(Doe Run Park)
7—10pm Saturday,
Oct 28

Hayride begins at nightfall!

No activities inside Community Center.

Check the [online calendar](#) for updates.



**HALLOWEEN
PARTY**

Board of Directors

President
Mike Cain

Vice President
Jim Bateman

Treasurer
Geoff Lawson

Secretary
Gregg Sales

Members
Laura Kennedy
Mary Ellen Mathis
Russell Downey
Susan Morey
Ann Weitzman
Mike Wilson
Dave Elizondo

SHHOA Monthly Financial Snapshot

SHHOA OPERATING ACCOUNT STATUS

MONTH END	STARTING				ENDING	
	BALANCE	DEPOSITS	EXPENSES	TRANSFERS	BALANCE	NET CHANGE
9/30/17	\$129,363	\$24,661	(\$39,227)	(\$7,100)	\$107,696	(\$21,666)
Y-T-D	\$52,208	\$584,021	(\$464,633)	(\$63,900)	\$107,696	\$55,488

SHHOA MRR RESERVE ACCOUNT STATUS

MONTH END	STARTING				ENDING	
	BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	BALANCE	NET CHANGE
9/30/17	\$162,845	\$18	(\$4,900)	\$7,100	\$165,064	\$2,218
Chase MRR Savings 6610	\$21,563	\$0	\$0	\$2,200	\$23,763	\$2,200
Chase MRR Checking 2895	\$0	\$0	(\$4,900)	\$4,900	\$0	\$0
Compass MRR 2471	\$138,283	\$18	\$0	\$0	\$138,301	\$18
Compass MRR Checking 1947	\$3,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$0
Y-T-D	\$178,291	\$4,829	(\$81,956)	\$63,900	\$165,064	(\$13,227)

COMBINED ACCOUNT STATUS

MONTH END	STARTING				ENDING	
	BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSE	TRANSFERS	BALANCE	NET CHANGE
9/30/17	\$292,208	\$24,679	(\$44,127)	\$0	\$272,760	(\$19,448)
Y-T-D	\$230,499	\$588,850	(\$546,589)	\$0	\$272,760	\$42,261

Shady Hollow Highlights

shadyhollow@shadyhollow.org

www.shadyhollow.org

Editor:

Mike Cain

Production:

Darin Laracuente

Article & Ad Deadline:

Last working day of the month



A fun-filled Halloween Party is being scheduled for the evening of **Saturday, October 28th, at 7:00 at Doe Run Park** located beside and behind the Community Center. We are planning movies in the park, and a scary hayride, an array of food trailers, and much more!

The haunted hayride will start after it gets dark!

We will need volunteers to help out at the party, scare people along the haunted walk, and to help decorate the **Community Center outside grounds on Friday, Oct. 27, and help taking everything down on Sunday, Oct. 29 after the fun!**

Party starts at 7:00pm on Saturday, Oct. 28. Let's Celebrate Halloween in Style!



The MUD Board held its regular monthly meeting on September 5, 2017 at the MUD Office Building, 3910 Capistrano Trail. All directors were present.

Two members of the Rotary Club of Austin – Southwest, Tom Cripps and Gary Cataldo, addressed the Board regarding the organization's purpose, including supporting literacy, youth development, and vocational training programs.

Deputy Rush reported there had been several incidents of thefts of wheels and tires from vehicles during the evening hours (Spotted Horse and Buck Race). He said the sheriff's office was investigating, and the constable's patrol would be on alert.

The Board discussed the passage of SB6 during the Special Legislative Session. Mr. Haag explained that while SB6 requires certain cities to receive voter approval before annexing new areas, the version of the bill that passed in the special session did not include the amendment that would have exempted annexation of areas already scheduled pursuant to strategic partnership agreements. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Ms. Wheeler reported that she had been contacted by the City of Austin regarding the District's customer deposits. The city was inquiring if the customer deposits held by the District for MUD customers south of Slaughter Creek (those served by PEC, not city electric) could be transferred to the city in lieu of the city having to collect new deposits from these customers after the city takes over the District's water & wastewater facilities.

Ms. Wheeler then presented the draft budget for the fiscal year ending 9/30/18, which the Board voted to approve.

Following the public hearing on the proposed tax rate, the Board voted to set a tax rate of \$0.0100/\$100 valuation for debt service and \$0.0377/\$100 valuation for maintenance and operations for the fiscal year ending Sept 30, 2017. The total tax rate is \$0.0477/\$100 valuation.

Ms. Wheeler reported that during the recent rain event (Hurricane Harvey), the River Rock Lift Station pump had failed and a temporary pump was installed, at a cost of \$700 per day. She is looking into all cost-effective options, including repair/replacement of the original pump and a possible purchase of the temporary pump.



The Constable's report for September included the following:

- ▶ worst of the speeders: 35/20 (Lost Oasis-school zone);
- ▶ traffic stops: cited aggressive driver passing in no-passing zone (Brodie/Accomac);
- ▶ check on abandoned vehicles (Capistrano, Saddle Mtn); report from resident regarding aggressive salesperson (Tecate); assist person looking for lost dog (Brodie); spoke w/PEC regarding repair of street light at Eveningstar/Capistrano; contacted city to replace manhole in street-possible traffic hazard (Accomac); had youth depart pool area- was attempting to climb gate (Capistrano);
- ▶ assist TCSO: report of homeless people in area with tents, possible in Doe Run gazebo (Culberson); reckless driver (Brodie/FM1626); 2-car collision (FM1626); violation of protective order (El Dorado); alarm call (Hobbiton).

Water-saving tip: Repair all leaky faucets and fixtures (inside and outside). Fixing these can save water and may lower your water bill.

Clubs & Activities

Shady Hollow has clubs and interest groups for many ages and interests. See the [full list](#) online.

Garden Club

Join this fun group for interesting programs, garden tours, nursery visits, plant exchanges and more. Meetings are in the mornings the second Wednesday of each month (call contact to verify). The time varies with activities. Contact Anne Linville, 280-6404, or jalinvil@gmail.com

Tai Chi

At the Shady Hollow Community Center (CC)
Mondays at 9:30 a.m.
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Classified Ads

Neighborhood Pet Sitter
\$10.00 1st animal, \$2.50 each additional animal per visit.



10 years of caring for Shady Hollow pets with loving care.
lindaslater1@mac.com
or text to (512) 809-4280

DRAFT September 17 Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present

Jim Bateman, Mike Cain, Russ Downey, James Elizondo, Laura Kennedy, Geoff Lawson, Mary Ellen Mathis, Susan Morey, Gregg Sales, Ann Weitzman & Mike Wilson

Staff in Attendance

Darin Laracuente

Board Members Absent

None

Others in Attendance

Angie Merriman, Shannon Simpkins, Aaron Vollmer, Susan Spruce, Karla Caddell, Bruce Kennedy & Dan McIntyre

Meeting start

7:01 pm

Current Agenda

MOTION to approve the current agenda by Susan Morey seconded by Geoff Lawson. Approval unanimous.

Previous Minutes

MOTION to approve the corrected August minutes by Geoff Lawson seconded by Mary Ellen Mathis. Approval unanimous.

Citizen Communication

General discussion about non-HOA members using our facilities. Members speaking: Susan Spruce, Angie Merriman, Shannon Simpkins, Aaron Vollmer, Karla Caddell, Geoff Lawson, Dennis McIntire and Bruce Kennedy.

Many mentioned the benefits that allowing non-member children to swim with the Stingrays would provide additional income for the HOA (\$945 this past season) that would otherwise not be realized. It is also another way of introducing non-members to our community and its benefits. Another benefit is our ability to promote swimming among children who might otherwise not learn to swim with the hope of reducing occurrences of drownings. Getting kids involved in the various programs that use our facilities also gets kids off screens and into the outdoors. Another amenity discussed was our tennis courts. It was pointed out that our neighborhood tennis league would not exist without non-member participation.

And finally it was mentioned that the scouts have given back to our HOA every year in the form of projects to our Community Center and other public areas.

Managers Report - Darin Laracuente

Reviewed the following:

Office

The newsletter went out on time

Finance

We are \$6,800 over budget on the month, but that includes over \$6,000 in necessary repair expenses and a \$5,000 maintenance expense that was paid for by GEICO. Expenses remain \$23,000 under budget on the year to date total.

We are \$29,000 behind what we expected to bring in as far as assessment collections are concerned, which are already picking up in August as we delayed sending the late notices out in hopes that some of our credit card portal hiccups could be resolved first. The authors from Reynolds & Franke will be onsite tomorrow to finish gathering information for our yearly audit.

Deed Restriction Violations

Total violations contacted during the month - 101. Resolved as of today's meeting - 92.

Pool

The back gate that was knocked off by the chemical delivery truck has been repaired. Storm winds damaged the shade structures at the pool and put a tear in another. We are getting estimates before we decide whether to make an insurance claim.

Parks

Doe Run Park - We are allowing Craig Murray of Celebrate Tennis to hold lessons for Shady Hollow members at Doe Run Tennis Courts. We are working out a reasonable schedule with the intent of not impeding upon the activities of our veteran resident players

Community Center

We replaced an AC unit that supplies the Board Room, East Room kitchen, and bathrooms.

Special Events

Neighborhood Garage Sale - was moderately attended. The coordinator has agreed to do it again next year, but with a few changes designed to increase both participation and traffic.

Board Minutes Cont.

Treasurers Report - Geoff Lawson

We contributed \$7,100 toward our MRR this month and have a balance of approximately \$162,000.

Committee Report

- Executive, Mike Cain - Met Sep. 11th to discuss GM mid-year review
- Finance, Geoff Lawson - No meeting
- Recreation, Laura Kennedy - No meeting
- Community Center, Gregg Sales - No meeting
- Welcome, Mary Ellen Mathis - No meeting
- Annexation, Jim Bateman - No meeting

New Business

No new business

Old Business

Eagle Scout Project Proposal for Gaga Pit - The insurance company said the pit is no different than any other playground equipment as far as liability.

MOTION to allow a gaga pit to be construction by Michael Kennedy and approve the support funding of no more than \$500 by Susan Morey, seconded by Russ Downey. Approval by Jim Bateman, Mike Cain, Russ Downey, James Elizondo, Geoff Lawson, Mary Ellen Mathis, Gregg Sales, Ann Weitzman & Mike Wilson. Laura Kennedy abstained.

Meeting Adjournment

MOTION to adjourn by James Elizondo, seconded by Susan Morey. Approval unanimous.

Meeting ended 8:14 p.m.

Minutes transcribed and submitted by Gregg Sales, Secretary

Vegetation in Right-of-Way Areas

Vegetative obstructions include overgrown trees, plants, shrubs, grass, or any other vegetation that hinder or prevent use of the public right-of-way. Overgrown vegetation is a safety hazard and limits the accessibility and visibility of users.

Part of the land in Travis County is dedicated as “public right-of-way” for streets, sidewalks, alleys, utilities, and other public uses. The right-of-way typically extends 10 feet back from the edge of a street, but can vary.

What is a property owner’s responsibility?



Many residents don’t know it is the property owner’s responsibility to maintain plants, grass, weeds, and private trees that overhang in the public right-of-way.

Designated public right-of-way areas, such as streets and sidewalks, are for everyone’s use. Your cooperation is needed! Please prune your trees and trim or remove any vegetation that is obstructing or overgrowing the user zone and pathway of sidewalks, streets, alleys, and multi-use trails.



FYI: The pedestrian zone or sidewalk pathway (edge of sidewalk, from the surface to 8 feet above sidewalk), the active transportation zone or multi-use trail pathway (edge of trail, from the surface to 8 feet above trail), and the street or alley corridor (curb line or edge of street or alley, from the surface to 14 feet above street or alley) should be completely clear of overhanging and protruding vegetation.

New Residents

**Meshelle & Richard
Fraedrich**
3212 Ft. Worth Trl.

Amy & David Nevland
4211 Reynosa Dr.

Please come to the office to pick up a directory and update your information.

We look forward to meeting you!

Flooding: How to Protect Your Family & Finances

In many areas, flooding is the most common and costly natural disaster—and it can happen here. Just one inch of water in your home or office can cost thousands of dollars in cleanup and replacement costs, including drywall, baseboards, floor coverings and furniture. You may think you're covered, but many homeowners' insurance policies do not cover flooding.

Here are several reasons to talk to an insurance agent now about flood insurance.

- ▶ There is usually a 30-day waiting period before coverage begins.
- ▶ Coverage is relatively inexpensive.
- ▶ Renters can buy flood insurance for personal belongings or business inventory.
- ▶ Basement coverage includes cleanup expense and repair or replacement of items such as furnaces, water heaters, washers, dryers, air conditioners, freezers and pumps.
- ▶ You do not have to repay flood insurance benefits as you do with disaster-related assistance loans.
- ▶ You can receive payments for flood-related losses even if no disaster was declared.

Learn more about flood insurance at www.floodsmart.gov.

There are things you can do to prepare your home and family now for flash floods:

- ▶ **Make a family emergency plan.** Emergency preparedness is everyone's responsibility. Write down your plan. Decide ahead of time where you will go if you have to leave and where family members will meet up. Identify an out-of-town emergency contact.
- ▶ **Get supplies for an emergency kit.** Start with three days' water and three days' packaged and canned food. Add a battery-powered radio and extra batteries. Store in waterproof containers with wheels or that you can lift so you can take them with you. For details about preparing an emergency kit, visit www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/floods.html
- ▶ **Stay informed about what could happen.** During storm season, listen to local media for up-to-date reports on weather watches and warnings. Keep a battery-powered portable radio—with a NOAA weather band—handy in case the power goes out. Choose one.

Learn more about preparedness at www.ready.gov/america/beinformed/floods.html.