



# Birnam Wood Bugle



Nov/Dec 2007

281/350-8556

## CALENDER OF EVENTS

Nov 7, 2007 – **Annual Homeowner’s Meeting**  
7:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

Nov 7, 2007- Short Presentation before meeting  
about up coming **Discussion provided by**  
**Naturalists from Jesse Jones Park**

Nov 21-23, 2007 – **School out for**  
**Thanksgiving**

Dec 2, 2007 –**Santa Clause does annual drive**  
**in subdivision-** Will start at clubhouse about  
1:00 pm

Dec. 11, 2007- **Water Board Meeting-** 7:00 pm  
in the Clubhouse

Dec 21 & 22, 2007 - **Christmas Light Contest-**  
make sure your lights are on by 6:00 pm for  
judging

Dec 24- Jan 2, 2007 – **School out for Christmas**  
**Holidays**

Dec 24 & 25, 2007 - **Office closed for**  
**Christmas**

Dec 31, 2007 & Jan 1, 2008 – **Office closed for**  
**New Year**

Jan 8, 2008 – **Water Board meeting** in  
clubhouse at 7:00 pm

Jan. 15, 2008 - **Winged Jewels** – Presentation  
about Hummingbirds, butterflies and moths- in  
the clubhouse 6:30 pm

Jan 15, 2008 – **Homeowner’s Quarterly**  
**Meeting-** in the clubhouse at 7:30 pm

## MONTHLY WATER BOARD MEETING

The Water Board meetings in the Birnam Wood’s Clubhouse house the second Tuesday of every month. The next Scheduled meeting will be on December 2, 2007 at 7:00 pm. These board meetings are to discuss the running the MUD #43. This is your water company. They take care of the water and sewer along with Trash collections and Security Issues. If you are interested or have any questions please feel free to attend one of the monthly meetings.

## **Quarterly Board Meetings**

Our next Quarterly meeting will be on Tuesday January 8, 2007 since the first Tuesday in January is a Holiday. We meet Quarterly on the First Tuesday of the Quarter unless that day is a holiday. These quarterly meetings are scheduled to handle the day-to-day operations of the Homeowners Association. Some of the items on the agenda are security concerns, treasurer’s report, deed restriction violations and collection of the assessments. We also have a period of open floor discussion where any owner can come and speak up whether they are on the agenda or not. We limit these discussions to 5 minutes per owner.



**SECURITY**  
**CALL: 281/376-3472**

The constable is here for us and it is not a bother to call. The constables are here to provide security for each and every resident. That is what we pay them for. If you don't call and report problems they will not know what is happening. Anything that seems out of the ordinary, looks like it could turn into trouble or just strangers in the area should be reported.

**ESPAÑOL**

Para informes en español, llame los  
Martes, Miercoles o Jueves de 1:00 a 3:00



**Santa Clause is Coming to Town**  
**Sunday December 2, 2007**  
**Starting at 1:00 pm**

Santa and his merry Elf will be driving through our subdivision again this year. Santa will leave the clubhouse area at 1:00 pm. Just listen for all the Sirens and Horns that will be going off and you will know that Santa is on his way. We have been doing this for more than 20 years and it is a big hit with all the boys and girls big and small. Our own **Spring Volunteer Fire Department** has participated every year in this event. They will provide the Fire Trucks for Santa and his Elf and will also throw candy to the kids. We could not hold this event without their help.

**2007 CHRISTMAS LIGHT  
CONTEST**



We will be out judging Christmas Lights on Friday December 21, and Saturday Dec. 22, 2007 starting at 7:00 pm. Please make sure your lights are on. These are the only two nights that the lights will be judged. We will be giving Gift Certificates to a local restaurant again this year. The prizes are \$100.00 for First place, \$60.00 for Second Place, \$40.00 for Third Place and then we give \$30.00 to 30 runners up. So use your imagination and decorate for the holidays. Every year many owners put a lot of work into decorating, unfortunately we cannot give out gift certificates to everyone who participates. Look for the list of winners on our Web site [www.birmamwood3.org](http://www.birmamwood3.org) We will post the winners by Christmas Day so anyone interested can go see who won.

**Christmas lights can go up anytime after Thanksgiving. Please make sure you remove all your Christmas Decorations as soon after January 1, 2008 as possible but no later then January 31, 2008**

**Deed Restrictions**

Even though summer is over yards still need to be maintained. They may not need to be mowed as often this time of year, but leaves and pine needles need to be raked and swept up. Please member that when you mow and edge you must clean up your grass clippings from the street and driveway. Bushes should be trimmed and flowerbeds need to be weeded. Winter is also a good time of year to trim your trees. Trees should be trimmed up to about 10-12 feet from Villages of Spring Oaks deed restrictions require at least one Oak or similar tree in the front yard. Winter is a good time of year to plant trees and bushes. If the tree in your front yard is looking pretty sickly then anytime in the next few month

would be a good time to replace it. Trees and shrubs are on sale this time of year.

If you plan do a fall cleaning please do not leave items visible from the street past heavy trash day. Every Saturday is heavy trash day. If you have items that you are not sure the trash company will take you may call them at 281-368-8397.

Everyone should check their houses for needed repairs. Take a look at the Fascia (boards under the roof line) and soffitt (area under the fascia). Also take a look at your siding, trim and garage doors. If they are starting to rot now is a good time to replace the rotted wood. Wood rot will not go away by ignoring it. It will only get worse



## **BEHIND THE IRON GATES**

Have you ever wondered what's behind the stone and wrought-iron gates at the corner of Wintergate and Sloangate? Well, wonder no more! It's SIRE-Spring, one of Houston's largest premier therapeutic equestrian centers, right here in our own backyard! SIRE's mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities of all kinds through horseback riding and related therapeutic activities. They offer 30-45 minute classes during 12-14 week semesters each spring and fall and a 6-week session during the summer months. New clients and volunteers are always welcome. For more information regarding their programs, disabilities served and/or volunteer opportunities, please feel free to visit <http://www.sire-htec.org> or contact them directly at (281) 350-6160. They are looking forward to your call! Or better yet, go by and visit!

## **RECYCLING- WHY BOTHER?**

Used, tossed and out of sight, out of mind? That line of thinking is passé. Why should we recycle? Well, there are lots of reasons why even the most staunch anti-global climate change believing person, or the: "I'm way to busy to rinse that can" resident, or the: "Please, little ole' me? Why don't the big guys start" saying resident might consider doing his/her part. For one, in most cases its cheaper to reclaim used materials, then it is to manufacture new from raw sources. Take for instance the amount of diesel fuel needed in the transport of resources from the source, often originating in other countries, to the factory, to the store and the consumer. Less miles traveled, less fuel burned, less harmful emissions make breathing easier. Recycling also saves energy. The energy required to produce a single soda can equals to half that can in gasoline. That's enough energy to power a TV for three hours! Now multiply that by the millions of cans that end up in our landfills... The reclamation of one pound of steel veggie cans saves enough power to run a 60-watt light bulb for an entire day. Plastic water and soda bottles made from recycled plastics require only about 15% of energy than the bottles made from new material.

Recycling newsprint, phonebooks, office/mail papers and fiberboard saves trees from getting turned into pulp. And in our asthma and allergy suffering society, air quality is more important than ever.

FYI: all public schools in Spring ISD are home to green and yellow paper recycling dumpsters in easy accessible places. Take your clean paper and cardboard there, and the school receives a small donation.

Landfill space is at a premium and the garbage that ends up there doesn't just disappear. Easily decomposing materials end up taking decades to deteriorate. A study revealed a 50-year-old newspaper was as crisp and legible as the day it was thrown away. With Harris County's population being an estimated 8 Million by 2012 it's imperative we use existing landfill space wisely. After all, no one wants the next smelly garbage dumped in their own backyard!

The free, curbside pick up service in Birnamwood and Villages of Spring Oaks is on Wednesdays. To eliminate confusion, place your bin at the curb but several feet away from your garbage cans and fill it only with accepted recyclables. Please rinse cans and bottles and nestle tin can lids inside the cans. Rain



ruins paper, so please hold the paper products until the next dry pick up day.

- #1 and #2 plastics such as milk jugs, detergent bottles, water- and soda bottles.
- Aluminum and tin cans
- Paper, phonebooks, magazines and office/mail papers. Fiber and card board (dry, clean and flat)

Need a bin? They're free (one per address):  
 Call Waste Corporation of America  
 (281) 368.8397 or email [rclarke@wcamerica.com](mailto:rclarke@wcamerica.com)  
 Or contact the Birnamwood/VOSO HOA office at:  
 (281) 350-8556 or email  
 birnamwood3@sbcglobal.net

*We are all interconnected with our surroundings and our actions or the lack of; determine the quality of life future generations will share.*

By Anita Howlett, resident and naturalist.  
 Excerpts of energy equivalents from Spring Observer East,  
 March 1, 2007

**NEW FOR HOA QUARTELRY MEETINGS**

Stop by and enjoy informative sessions on local wildlife, nature and environmental topics.

**January 15, 2008: 6:30 pm** Winter meeting topic: *Preparing for Houston's Winged Jewels.* This is a presentation on hummingbirds, butterflies and months and how to attract them to your yard.

**April 1, 2008: 6:30 pm** Spring meeting topic: *Snakes 101.* This is a presentation on dispelling the misconceptions on how to accurately identify local snakes.

**July 1, 2008: 6:30 pm** Summer meeting topic: *Acapella Amphibians.* This will be a presentation on identifying local frogs and toads by sight and sound.

**Oct. 7, 2008: 6: 30 pm** Autumn meeting topic. *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly.* This presentation is on how beneficial bats, spider and other creepy-crawlers are.

**JUST A FEW REMINDERS**

All **Dogs and Cats** must either be on a **leash**, confined in a back yard or in your home. No animals can run around loose.

It is **against the law** to put any type of **advertising sign** up on a **stop sign, street sign or a light post.**

**Storm Drains** are in the street to provide drainage of water from heavy rains. They are not there to sweep your grass clippings, leaves, pines needles or anything else down.

**Walking or Riding your bike.** Please remember that cars, bikes and people use our streets. Cars should always be on the look out of bikers and walkers. Bikers should ride on the right hand side of the street as close to the curb as possible and obey all the rules of the road. Walkers should walk facing the traffic and be visible at all times.



**Birnam Wood Bugle**

**23803 Birnam Wood Blvd.  
 Spring, Texas 77373**



**Presorted Standard  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Spring, TX.  
 Permit No. 418**

