

AROUND THE BEND

March, 2011 Vol. XXVII, Issue 2

Hudson Bend Colony Neighborhood Association

From Article II of our Bylaws: The purpose of the Association shall be to protect and promote the quality of life and the value of property in our neighborhood.



Inside this Issue

- 1 - President's Message
- 2 - Annual Meeting & Picnic
- 3 - Live Music at the Picnic
- 4 - Composting
- 5 - Rhinoceros Beetles
- 6 - A Favorite Recipe
- 7 - Treasurer's Report
- 8 - Meet the Nominees
- 9 - Proxy Form
- 10 - Mail-in Membership Application and Interest Form

President's Message

Patricia King Sigg

Most folks I know consider the year 2010 as one that delivered some pretty outstanding moments of well-being and also some unexpected and frustrating moments of dilemma. The beginning of 2011 appears to be headed in the same pattern.

Many times when I speak to residents in our community about volunteering to serve on their neighborhood association board, the conversation switches to the question that perplexes many of us – how will I find the time to do this?

Wikipedia defines volunteering as the practice of people working on behalf of others or a particular cause without payment for their time and services. It's generally considered to be altruistic, but people also benefit in many other ways—developing their skills, meeting others, making contacts for possible employment, and simply having fun are some of the reasons.

The 2011 slate of nominees is presented in this newsletter. The slate mostly consists of board members who are willing to volunteer again, and there is one vacancy.

The members who have served multiple terms are willing to do so but recognize that the energy a “fresh” person brings when they first volunteer is “fuel” for any group. **New nominees are encouraged!** The board benefits greatly from new members and needs input from a continually varied source of neighborhood residents to be able to identify and begin to satisfy the needs of the community.

Additional nominations can be made at any time including on the day of the annual meeting and picnic. Alternatively, you may simply volunteer at the meeting.

The regular time investment is an hour-long meeting once a month. The day and time of the meeting is adjusted to accommodate the availability of each board member. Meetings are held in the homes of the members on a rotational basis. This offers members a great way to get to know more about the streets that make up our community.

The meetings are open, meaning that any resident wishing to attend can do so. If you would like to experience a HBCNA board meeting, call any of the current board members to find out where the meeting will be held.

Please consider joining the HBCNA board. You will learn a lot about your community and it really doesn't consume much of your time and energy. Those of us who have done it have enjoyed their time in office, but we would really like to involve more of our neighbors who haven't served on the board before.

Of course we want as many residents as possible to join the association. A membership application form can be found in this newsletter.

We hope to see you at the annual meeting and picnic on April 23rd. Until then, enjoy the start of spring!

Annual Meeting And Picnic

Patricia King Sigg

This year again we will hold the HBCNA annual meeting and picnic within our neighborhood. Thomas and I will host the picnic at our home, 5701 Pool Canyon Cove.

The annual meeting and picnic is an opportunity to get to meet some of the residents of your neighborhood, have a bite to eat, enjoy a desert, have a conversation or two and listen to some very local live music by *About7*.

The business meeting, primarily election of officers and approval of the treasurer's report, lasts about half an hour.

We will feature a guest speaker from the Travis County Master Gardeners Association (TCMGA) Speakers Bureau. Master Gardener Joe Posern will speak to us about resources for beginning a successful vegetable garden. Joe plans to bring lots of handouts, so be sure to come and take advantage of the information.

"We are folks who love plants and love to talk to people about plants. As a program of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, we provide non-biased, sound horticultural information to the community. Our non-profit organization, Travis County Master Gardeners Association, is not a garden club, but a service organization of certified Master Gardeners - trained volunteers who give their time in the community to help others garden well and joyfully in Central Texas."

Check them out at <http://www.tcmastergardeners.org/>

Agenda

The HBCNA Annual Corporate Membership Meeting, election of officers and directors, and picnic will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2011, at the residence of Thomas and Patricia Sigg: 5701 Pool Canyon Cv. From 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

4:30 pm to 5:00 pm – Music/Registration/Membership Dues Payment

5:00 pm to 5:30 pm – HBCNA Annual Meeting

5:30 pm to 6:00 pm - Joe Posern – Master Gardener

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – BBQ and Music

Pool Canyon Cove is the first left from Pool Canyon Road above its intersection with Hudson Bend Road. Please look for signs with parking directions when you arrive.

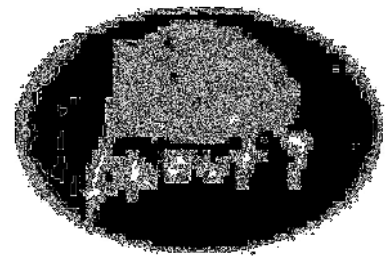
Registration and membership renewal will begin at 4:30 p.m. The business meeting will start at 5:00 p.m. We will hear from our guest speaker at 5:30 p.m. and then we will eat.

This year the BBQ will be prepared by Steve Schrader. Steve Schrader lives one house over from Thomas and Patricia. He will be smoking pork and sausage. Soft drinks will be provided by HBCNA. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. Don't forget to bring a folding chair as well.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Live Music at the Picnic

Patricia King Sigg



About7 has been playing at the Hudson Bend Colony Neighborhood Association annual meeting and picnic for several years. The band was formed by Mike McBride and Thomas Sigg. Mike McBride is the architect of the neighborhood marker located on the corner of Hudson Bend Rd and Pool Canyon Rd.

Thomas Sigg moved to Texas from Germany and then to Hudson Bend in 1999. Coming from the south of Germany, he learned Accordion as a child. Mike McBride had played guitar and written songs for years in Austin and moved to Hudson Bend in the mid-90s. They began to play together regularly and were later joined by Thomas's wife, Patricia King Sigg, on the mountain dulcimer. That same year, Thomas and Mike Miller (the band's Mandolin/Bouzouki player) met at a local Tae Kwon Do class in Apache Shores. At the time, Mike Miller played the twelve string guitar, had written songs and was cultivating an interest in playing the Mandolin. Steve Schrader, a drummer/percussionist, joined the group when he moved to the "cove" in 2005. Steve will also be smoking the BBQ for the HBCNA annual meeting and picnic this year. Tom Delaney plays fiddle in the band. He plays several other instruments and with several other bands as well. He lives in Apache Shores and began to play with the group in 2007.

The band plays mostly original pieces that are primarily acoustic

AROUND THE BEND

folk style. Currently the band has a regular performance at Ilsa's Kitchen, a Bavarian Restaurant and Brauhaus on Highway 71 in Spicewood. They will be performing during Maifest at Ilsa's Kitchen on May 6th. Here is a link to Ilsa's Kitchen: <http://www.ilsaskitchen.net>

Composting

Tom Struppeck

Many people recycle glass and paper. Did you know that you can recycle vegetable waste also? Grass clippings, fallen leaves, vegetable scraps from the kitchen, coffee grounds, egg shells, etc.-- Those are typical ingredients that you can use to make compost.

Composting is an easy alternative to throwing these away and having them end up in a landfill. An added benefit is that the waste not only doesn't fill up a landfill, it gets turned into a fertilizer that you can use to improve your garden soil.

So how does it work? Well, nature will over time break these ingredients down on its own, but you can speed the process enormously by properly mixing and aerating your compost. There are two main types of compost, hot and cold.

In hot composting, microorganisms break down the compost. These microorganisms produce heat as they digest the organic material. As the pile of compost gets hotter, the metabolisms of the microorganisms increase, producing more heat, making it hotter yet ...

The process needs four main ingredients: carbon, nitrogen, water, and oxygen. The carbon comes from brown refuse, such as dried leaves.

The nitrogen comes from green refuse, such as grass clippings. The water comes either from rain or is added, and finally the oxygen comes from the air. If these ingredients are in the correct proportions, the pile will get hot and the refuse will break down quickly.

As that happens, the oxygen will get used up, so it is best to turn the pile every two weeks or so to speed the process. Drums that can be rotated make turning the compost easier and are available commercially for home use.

The hot composting described above uses microorganisms. A second process, cold composting, gets larger creatures to help. Heat also speeds this process, but the heat comes from sunlight hitting the composting bin.



The composter shown in the photograph has three chambers. The top chamber is where the raw scraps are dumped. We put our vegetable kitchen scraps and clippings from the garden in here along with some leaves. We also put egg shells and our coffee grounds and used paper coffee filters in here.



After a couple of weeks, it is time to move everything down one chamber. Material in the bottom chamber (where the giant grub shown in the next article was found) is mostly composted and is ready to use in the garden. Material from the center chamber drops down to the bottom and material from the top falls into the center. This is all done with trap doors and gravity. Different insects seem to inhabit the three different layers. I have had fruit flies in the top layer, but never house flies.

In case you are wondering, composters should never smell bad.

Rhinoceros Beetles

Tom Struppeck

Digging through fertile soil produced by the composter described above, I found what looked like a very large grub.



The creature, about four inches long, looked much like the smaller grubs that we find around here.

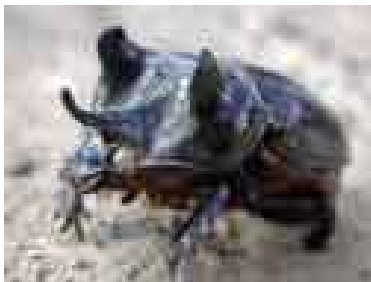
Grubs are larvae of beetles. The smaller ones become smaller beetles.

I frequently come across ones that will become June bugs when they mature. This transformation, called metamorphosis, is part of the life cycle of beetles. Most people are familiar with the metamorphosis of a caterpillar into a butterfly; beetles have a similar life cycle.

It turns out that the large grub will also turn into an adult beetle. In fact, it will become a rhinoceros beetle.

These large beetles are one of the many beneficial insects that inhabit Hudson Bend. Grubs eat decaying organic matter and help convert it into fertile soil. After taking a few photographs, I returned the large grub to the bottom of my composter, so that it could continue to make potting soil for me and finish its transformation into an adult rhinoceros beetle.

I don't have a photograph of an adult rhinoceros beetle, so I borrowed this one from the Texas A&M website <http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston>).



The adult beetle looks quite formidable, as does the grub. They are called rhinoceros beetles because of the horns that the adult male beetles have, which they use for digging and fighting. [The A&M site also refers to them as "Ox," "Elephant," or "Hercules" beetles.]

The "Hercules" name comes from the fact that Rhinoceros beetles are reputed to be the strongest creatures in the world, at least in terms of their body weight. They can lift more than eleven hundred times their body weight. To get an idea of how much this is, a 150 pound man would need

to lift more than eighty tons to lift proportionally as much!!

Years ago in Louisiana I saw two male rhinoceros beetles fighting. They "lock horns" and try to flip one another over. When one has flipped the other onto his back, he is the winner. Their hard shells protect them from actually being hurt while doing this. I hope to see another beetle wrestling match here in Hudson Bend, maybe this summer.

Play!

Patricia King Sigg

People often say, "Gee, I wish I could play an instrument. I don't have the time or patience or money to take lessons. I guess I'm just not musically inclined. How did you learn to play? I bet you started as a child."

Well, my mother (Apollonia) did enroll me in band when I was in sixth grade. She and the band director decided I should play the Clarinet. So I did. I played it for seven years. I also was able to play the Tenor Sax in the school's Stage Band (that's an easy switch if you already know how to play the Clarinet). If you got to play in the Stage Band...you were cool...☺. Now I play the mountain dulcimer with a bunch of really fine individuals in a band called "About7". That's "über" cool! Thanks, Apollonia!

The advantage today is that there are many sources for learning an instrument that will relieve you of the usual no time, no patience and no money obstacles and you might discover that you are musically inclined.

The website *Folk of the Woods* is a gift to anyone who would like to explore string instruments. Here is the website: <http://www.folkofthewood.com>

The website has online acoustic lessons for banjo, mandolin, violin, guitar, and dobro (an acoustic guitar with a metal resonator). It has lessons that take the student from the basics of how to hold the instrument, how to string and tune it to some more involved jam session tips.

AROUND THE BEND

I have noticed that the key to playing an instrument is to play it with others. It can get redundant to sit alone and practice scales, although if you find that you have the wherewithal to keep at playing scales, it will pay off big-time later on when you are asked to take an “instrumental break” during a jam session.

1 tbsp. of season all or steak seasoning
 1 large red onion diced
 4 celery stalks diced
 3 carrots diced
 Red potatoes cubed (desired)
 1 can of chicken broth
 1 can of beef broth
 1/2 cup of Worcestershire sauce
 3/4 cup of red wine

Pour in broths, wine, and Worcestershire
 Top off with water if level of broth is not equivalent to level of ingredients
 Let cook on high for 3 hours and then medium for 2 hours
 Ribs should be falling off of the bone at the end of 5 hours

Enjoy!

A Favorite Recipe: Red Wine Ribs

Elizabeth Brunet

Ingredients:

1 or 2 racks of baby back pork ribs.
 (This depends on the size of crock pot you have.)
 1 tbsp. of minced garlic
 Salt and pepper (desired)

Directions:

Cut the ribs so they fit the crock pot and set them aside
 Turn crock pot to high and let it reach temperature
 Add garlic to crock pot and let cook for about 2 minutes
 Add all other dry ingredients and vegetables
 Salt and Pepper the ribs and place in crock pot

Cash on 2/28/10	\$3,211
Income	
Dues	1,240
Business Dues	0
Sale of Hats	0
Misc.	32
Income	<u>\$1,272</u>

Expenses	
Newsletter/Directory	429
Meeting	409
Landscape	0
Misc.	0
Expense	<u>\$838</u>

Net Revenue \$434

Cash on 2/28/11 \$3,645

to say thanks to everyone who helped keep the entrance to our neighborhood looking beautiful. **You'll notice we didn't sell a single hat last year. Come on, folks, buy a hat! Everyone needs a hat! \$15 while they last.**

Steve Hudson
Treasurer

Treasurer's Report

HBCNA had a decent year financially; our cash flow was positive, but less than last year by about \$300. We ended the year with a bank balance of \$3,645.

For the last several years, volunteers have used their own time and equipment to maintain the area around the marker. This saves the Association a lot of money and we all need

Meet the Nominees

Patricia King Sigg

<i>Nominations to the 2010-2011 Board of Directors</i>	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Position</i>
Tom Struppeck	President
Tom Sciance	Vice-President
Lory Alexander	Secretary
Steve Hudson	Treasurer
Carol Bubak	Director
Elizabeth Brunet	Director
John Chapman	Director
Patricia King Sigg	Director
<i>To be Nominated</i>	Director

Tom Struppeck

Tom and Helena live on Pool Canyon Cove. Tom joined the board two years ago and has been a valuable resource for information regarding the wildlife that is present, but not often recognized, on our peninsula...and in our very back yards. He has served on the board as director for two years and has graciously accepted the nomination this year as president of the HBCNA.

Tom Sciance

Anita and Tom moved here from Delaware in 1997 and live on Forest Way. They bought the lot back in the '80's and decided to build on it after Tom retired from DuPont. He created Neighborhood Directory and publishes the "Around the Bend" newsletter (with contributions from all the Board members). Tom says, "I like being on the Board because of the other people on it and a belief that helping maintain the quality of life of the neighborhood is a good thing to do. We joined the association as soon as we bought the lot, long before we moved here". He has served on the board as president for several years and offers to continue to serve as vice-president. Anita's hobby is growing flowers, shrubs and trees. She is especially proud of her 10 Madrones and other specimen trees. Tom teaches one course at UT each fall.

Lory Alexander

Lory and Archie Alexander live on Forest Way. Lory's family is a long-time resident of Hudson Bend and is a part of Hudson Bend history. She is familiar with the evolution and historical developments of our community. Lory Alexander has been enjoying Lake Travis since her family bought property in Hudson Bend in 1963. The neighborhood has certainly changed and Lory is happy to be a permanent resident for the last 13 years. She has served on the board as president, secretary and director for many years and is offering to continue to serve as secretary.

Steve Hudson

Connie and Steve Hudson live on Hopkins Drive. Steve as served on the board for many years. As treasurer he has kept the board continually informed of financial activities transacted on behalf of the HBCNA. He has also been instrumental in organizing many of the merchandising activities (i.e. ball caps and T-shirts) for the board. He has served on the board as treasurer and director for many years and is offering to continue to serve as treasurer.

Carol Bubak

Carol Bubak has agreed to join the board as director. Carol has been president of the board in the past and was also the secretary. As secretary she spent countless hours organizing the HBCNA archives. Carol has lived on Elm Drive for approximately 20 years. We are very happy to have her back!

Elizabeth Brunet

Elizabeth and Manuel live on Pool Canyon Cove. The board had long been gathering information and discussing developing a web presence. Elizabeth took the information, designed and developed the content of our site - <http://www/hbcna.com>. Now in addition to publishing our newsletters on paper, the newsletter is available via the website.

She has served on the board as director for one year and is offering to continue to serve.

John Chapman

John's wife Ginger and two sons lived in Bellaire, Texas before moving to Hudson Bend. They first moved here in 1984 when John attended U.T. Austin. After college, they moved to Oregon and then back to Bellaire, Texas. They returned to live in Hudson Bend in 2006. Ginger and John live in Hudson Bend for many of the benefits of living by one of the prettiest lakes in Texas, Lake Travis. They live on Lakeshore Drive East. John has served on the board for many years. John's knowledge of information technology and all things internet/web "enabled" has been very helpful to the board. Several years ago before the HBCNA undertook the work to design a web presence, John registered (secured) the URL name for the neighborhood association <http://www/hbcna.com>

John feels that serving on the board gives him and his wife a chance to meet others in the neighborhood and promote the area. He has served on the board as director and is offering to continue to serve.

Patricia King Sigg

Patricia and Thomas moved to Austin from Germany in 1996. They bought their lot in 1996 and have lived on Pool Canyon Cove since 1999. Patricia first served on the board in 2000 as director. Together with long time board member Erika Rogala, she compiled and published the newsletter from 2000-2005. She has served as president for two years and is continuing to serve as a director on the board. Like Tom and Anita, Patricia and Thomas have hosted the HBCNA Annual Meeting and Picnic at their home in the past. They will do so once again this year.

AROUND THE BEND

The next page is a proxy for members who do not anticipate attending the annual meeting but would like their vote and nominations to be considered. It is blank on the back. It should be sent to one of the named parties or made out to someone who does plan to attend.

The page after that is a membership application and interest form for anyone who would like to join the

**PROXY FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE
HUDSON BEND COLONY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (HBCNA)**

The undersigned, being the owner of property in the Hudson Bend Colony subdivisions and a member in good standing of HBCNA, hereby revokes all proxies bearing a date prior to the date below, and duly appoints an Attorney-in-Fact or Proxy of the Undersigned, and endows him/her with the power of substitution, to vote and otherwise represent all of the votes of the undersigned at the 2010 annual meeting of HBCNA, and any continuations or adjournments thereof, with the same effect as if the undersigned were present and voting, on the following matters:

I instruct and direct _____ to
Vote for the following members indicated by my check mark and or indicated by my writing in
the names of the candidate(s).

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------------|
| _____ | TOM STRUPPECK, slated by the Nominating chair as | President |
| _____ | TOM SCIANCE, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Vice-President |
| _____ | LORY ALEXANDER, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Secretary |
| _____ | STEVE HUDSON, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Treasurer |
| _____ | CAROL BUBAK, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Director |
| _____ | ELIZABETH BRUNET, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Director |
| _____ | JOHN CHAPMAN, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Director |
| _____ | PATRICIA KING SIGG, slated by the Nominating Chair as | Director |
| _____ | (To be nominated) | Director |

Write-in-candidate(s) must have agreed to serve, and must be regular members in good standing as of the date the notice of the meeting was given as required by the bylaws.

WRITE-IN-CANDIDATE(S): _____ OFFICE: _____

Furthermore, I instruct and direct _____ to vote or otherwise represent the undersigned on any other business or on other matters which should properly come before the meeting or any adjournments thereof according to his/her decision. The proxy and the authority represented herein may be revoked at any time by the undersigned and unless revoked shall terminate on the expiration of eleven (11) months after the date of this Proxy.

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the Notice of the HBCNA Annual Meeting as Saturday, April 23, 2011, at the residence of Thomas and Patricia Sigg, 5701 Pool Canyon Cove, Austin, Texas.

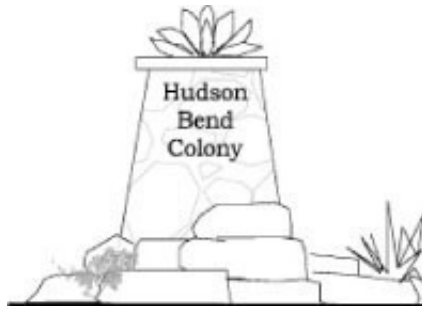
Signed _____ Date _____

The HBCNA members who have agreed to serve as proxies are:

Nancy Weiss
5707 Median Road
Austin, TX 78734
and
Erika Rogala
6209 Hudson Bend Road
Austin, TX 78734-1334

AROUND THE BEND

This page is intentionally left blank.



Hudson Bend Colony Neighborhood Association memberships are available to all homeowners of the neighborhood. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available to renters and interested persons. Both memberships are \$40 per year per household. Dues covers expenses of the Association for the annual meeting and picnic, two newsletters per year, a neighborhood directory for each member and other expenses approved by the Board of Directors.

Please complete the following and mail with your check to HBCNA for \$40 to:

Steve Hudson
709 Forest View Dr.
Austin, TX 78746

Full Member _____
Own property in HBC

Associate Member _____
Renter or Other

Name(s) _____

HBC Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Home phone _____ Work Phone _____

Cell phone _____ Email _____

Let us know how you are interested in helping the HBCNA

_____ Board participation

_____ Neighborhood cleanup

_____ Marker Care

_____ Newsletter

_____ Yard Sale

Other (be specific) _____

AROUND THE BEND

HUDSON BEND COLONY
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
16658 FOREST WAY
AUSTIN, TX 78734



TO: