

Shavano News

Vol. 27 No. 12

Published for the Woods of Shavano Community Association by Neighborhood News, Inc.

December 2019

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For membership information, to contact a WOS board member, or for general information, please call (210) 492-9809, or send an email to woodsofshavano@yahoo.com.

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Suspicious Activity
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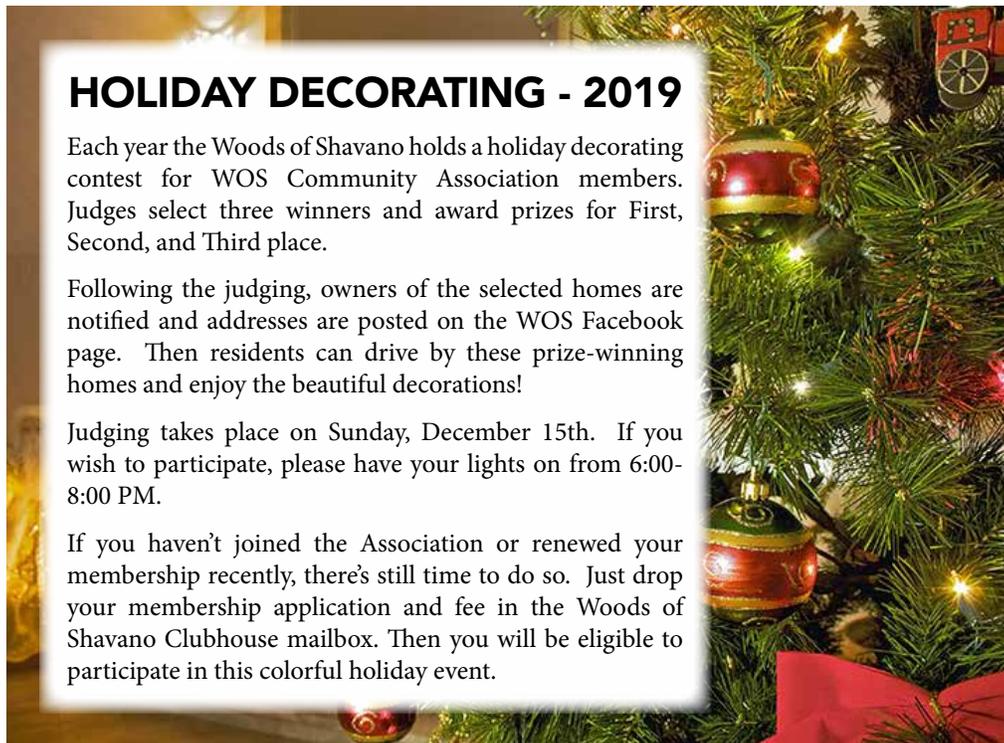
HOLIDAY DECORATING - 2019

Each year the Woods of Shavano holds a holiday decorating contest for WOS Community Association members. Judges select three winners and award prizes for First, Second, and Third place.

Following the judging, owners of the selected homes are notified and addresses are posted on the WOS Facebook page. Then residents can drive by these prize-winning homes and enjoy the beautiful decorations!

Judging takes place on Sunday, December 15th. If you wish to participate, please have your lights on from 6:00-8:00 PM.

If you haven't joined the Association or renewed your membership recently, there's still time to do so. Just drop your membership application and fee in the Woods of Shavano Clubhouse mailbox. Then you will be eligible to participate in this colorful holiday event.



Live Nativity Scene

Every Christmas Eve the Graves family creates a live Nativity scene. WOS residents drive or walk by their home at the corner of Tall Elm Woods and Bitternut Woods. Many take photos and often stop and chat. The viewing hours are from 7:00 – 9:00 PM on **December 24, 2019**. This will be the 31st year the Graves family celebrates this tradition. All neighbors are welcome to stop by.



Santa Arrives December 7th at the Woods of Shavano Clubhouse



Would your kids like to meet Santa Claus? If you prefer not to stand in long lines in the mall, waiting for your children to visit with Santa and have their photos taken, we have made special arrangements with Santa for one day only. Children and well-behaved family pets can meet Santa and have photos taken:

Date – Saturday, December 7th

Time – 1:00 -4:00 PM

Place – Woods of Shavano Clubhouse

Cost – \$20 (to support the WOS Capital Improvements Fund)

A photographer will take photos and send them to families by email. Parents may also take photos using their own cameras or cell phones. Many people like to make Christmas cards from these photos and send them to family and friends.



Looking Forward to Winter Events in the Neighborhood

At the October WOSCA Board meeting, plans were made for several upcoming events in the neighborhood:

- **December 7, 2019** – Santa pictures at the WOS Clubhouse
- **December 14, 2019** – Holiday Hayride
- **December 15, 2019** – Holiday Decorations Judging
- **January 4, 2020** – Polar Bear Plunge at the WOS Pool

We're having fun in the neighborhood!

(Check the December WOS Newsletter for more information on the December and January events.)

Support Your Community by Joining the Woods of Shavano Community Association

2019 Membership Fees
Full Membership = \$190
Outside Membership = \$230
Supporting Membership = \$55

If you are currently a member, thank you so much for your support! If you are not a member, we urge you to join today and begin the New Year as a fully involved community supporter.

Your membership fees help pay for the upkeep of all community assets, not just the pool. Members also receive discounts on clubhouse rentals, swim lessons, and swim team memberships. With your membership dollars, we maintain the Indian Woods Park, clubhouse, and tennis courts. The upkeep of all of these assets is important to maintaining and increasing the value of homes in The Woods of Shavano.

Do your part and join or renew your membership today!



Recently a resident of the Woods of Shavano contacted Board Members asking for their help with an ongoing problem in the neighborhood – **SPEEDING**. She stated, "It's only a matter of time before someone riding a bike or walking a dog gets run over or there is a serious auto accident (hopefully not involving a child.)" Is that what it takes to get people to follow laws?

Recently five children were killed in one week in the United States by people not observing laws enacted to protect children entering and exiting school buses. Driving requires full attention to speed limits, STOP signs, and laws enacted to protect pedestrians. Slow down! Prevent needless injuries to people and pets, as well as damage to property.

Suggested Holiday Books to Read with Your Children

At the end of the day before putting your children to bed, you might enjoy reading some of the following holiday books with them:

- *The Christmas Kitten* by James Herriot
- *Christmas in the Manger* by N. Buck & F. Bond
- *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* by E. Kimmel
- *Humphrey's First Christmas* by Carol Heyer
- *The Legend of Poinsettia* by Doug Boyd
- *The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Moore
- *The Night Before Hanukkah* by Natasha Wing
- *The Night of Las Posadas* by Doug Boyd
- *Texas Night Before Christmas* by James Rice
- *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg

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Polar Bear Plunge – Brrr!



Your Voluntary Community Association Board members have heard your suggestions to schedule more fun events for the residents of the Woods of Shavano. Recently many of you enjoyed

the return of community-wide garage sales which were a huge success!

Last summer we enjoyed our first 4th of July parade and celebration.

We have many more events planned for the upcoming year and hope you will be ready for our next event in January, 2020. The Polar Bear Plunge takes place on **January 4th beginning at 12:00 noon** at the Woods of Shavano Pool and is open to anyone living in the neighborhood.

Participants will pay a \$5 donation to take the plunge. If anyone wants to nominate or challenge another person to take the plunge, but that person doesn't want to participate, they can buy their way out by making a \$10 donation. Proceeds will go to the Capital Improvements Fund.

Free coffee and hot chocolate will be served.

Bring your own towel. A lifeguard will be on duty.

Holiday Deliveries from UPS

You may have noticed a POD in the parking lot at the Woods of Shavano Clubhouse. UPS pays the Association a fee for the use of a small area of the parking lot. Packages are dropped off by UPS to the POD each morning for delivery to Woods of Shavano residents. Any packages not delivered that day are picked up in the evening and re-delivered to the POD the following day. Delivery is made by a UPS employee driving a battery-operated cart.

If you are not home during the day, ask a willing neighbor to watch for packages left at your home and keep them until you return at the end of the day. Please reciprocate the kindness.

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Curbside Trash and Recycling

Many people plan family get-togethers this time of year. With these events, trash and recycling materials increase. This is a good time to review what materials are accepted in each category.

Recycling (The Blue Bin)

ACCEPTABLE

Printer paper
Cardboard (flattened)
Dry goods packaging (e.g. cereal boxes)
Milk, juice, and drink boxes (rinsed out)
Magazines
Newspapers
Paper Bags
Aluminum drink cans
Metal food cans & lids
Aerosol cans (nozzles removed)
Glass beverage bottles
Glass food jars (lids removed)
Plastic bottles (with caps)
Plastic bowls
Plastic cups
Lotion and shampoo bottles
Bundled plastic bags

NOT ACCEPTABLE

Diapers
Styrofoam packing materials
Napkins & paper towels
Shredded paper
Garden hoses
Aluminum foil
Clothes hangers
Batteries
Toys
Clothing & shoes
Brush & yard waste
Wood
Light bulbs
Household electronics
Needles & medical waste

Organics (The Green Bin)

Small branches
Flower trimmings
Grass and yard clippings
House plants (minus the dirt)
Leaves (loose or in paper bags)
Used coffee filters
Paper cups and plates
Pizza boxes
Cotton balls
Dryer lint
Shredded paper
Wooden ice cream sticks

Diapers
Bottle caps
Plastic bags
Styrofoam
Condiment packets
Plastic utensils
Dog or cat food bags
Construction or demolition materials

Remember: The more you recycle, the less trash you will have. If you don't need the large brown trash bin, you can downsize to a 64 or 48 gallon bin and save yourself some money. Call 311 to order a smaller bin.

Holidays Mean Party Time!

Holidays are party time! The Woods of Shavano Clubhouse is available to rent for members and non-members. All full members are eligible for one free rental, plus a \$60 use fee, after renewing their initial membership. Support and non-members can also rent the clubhouse for a fee.

The Clubhouse holds up to 52 people. We have eight six foot tables, two three foot tables, and 52 chairs available for use. A \$100 refundable security deposit is required for all events.

Avoid the stress of cleaning your home for your holiday get together. Call Ruby McDonald today at 210-408-8331 or email her at rhobbsmcdonald@gmail.com to get further information and to reserve your date!

The Joy of Giving

This is the time of year when many give thought to giving gifts. We hope you will include **The Woods of Shavano Capital Improvements Fund** on your gift list as many others have already done. In a previous Newsletter we listed some of the needs to improve the community's assets, including new Clubhouse floors, a kitchen update, deck improvements, and a new HVAC system. Once again we want to thank all of those who have contributed to make our community even better. Donors' names are listed below.

Anonymous	August & Rosemary Lujan
Kalpana & Mukunda Iyengar	Jean & Vern Shimko
Debra Perez	Donation Jar
Alice and Heath Barclay	David & Gail Markson
Bobby & Diane Johnson	John & Alisa Travis
Dennis & Suzanne Piehl	Craig & Mindy Frazier
Pat Barger	Maureen McConnell
Susan Keehn & Robert Everhard	John & Paula Trusela
Jake & Nora Richards	Yolanda Garcia-Le Gate
Richard & Catherine Bartlow	Ruby McDonald
Dustin & Kiley Keenzel	David White
Joseph & Joan Richter	Mark & Marie Harris
Peter & Terri Binkley	Ed & Rita Morales
Samuel & Marlene Kirk	WOSCA Board of Directors
Mark & Rosemary Robeck	George & Ann Herrera
Joseph & Floy Braswell	John & Barbara Moschner
German & Marlea Lamprea	WOSCA Garden Club
Susan Rogers	William & Annette Hubbard
Shirley Chalker	Michael & Kristina Navarro
Kwok & Alex Lin	Richard & Audrey Yurcheshen
John & Kristin Sessums	John & Gloria Paredes
Andrew Denoncour & Valarie Geckler	Zachary Underground Utilities

WOS Facebook Page

Have you checked the WOS Facebook page recently? A Woods of Shavano Board member, Heather Pilkington, volunteered to make postings on the site. You can get the latest information about events in the neighborhood by checking it out. Don't forget to LIKE the articles you enjoy.

Facebook Page – <https://www.facebook.com/woodsofshavano>

Membership Fees to Rise in 2020



At the 2019 Woods of Shavano Annual Meeting, Board president, David Markson, explained that Board members voted to keep membership fees for 2019 at the same level they had been for several years. He added that fees would probably rise in 2020. Association membership is at one of the lowest points in recent years. Only 358 homes have either full or support memberships in the Association while all 1,100 WOS homes enjoy the benefits of living in a neighborhood that offers a pool, a public park, and two tennis courts. Those amenities add value to everyone's homes when it comes time to selling. At the Board's November meeting, members reluctantly voted to raise membership fees, following WOS By-Laws guidelines.

Beginning January 1, 2020, the new fees will be as follows:

Full Membership - \$209

Support Membership - \$60.50

Outside Membership dues will also increase correspondingly.

If you or your neighbor has not joined the Association, we encourage you to join and/or to encourage your neighbors to do their part and enjoy the benefits of membership.



Thefts from Autos During the Holidays

One of the most common crimes during the Christmas holiday season is theft of valuables from automobiles. These thefts are strictly crimes of opportunity. Thieves generally won't waste time breaking into autos that have no valuables in plain sight. These losses can be prevented if the following precautions become habits:

- **Keep Your Valuables Out of Sight.** Never leave cell phones, briefcases, suitcases, or electronic devices (phones, iPods, laptop computers, notebooks, etc.) in your vehicle in plain view. Take these items with you or secure them in the trunk all the time, every time.
- **NEVER, EVER, LEAVE A WEAPON IN A VEHICLE (NOT EVEN A LOCKED VEHICLE!)**
- **Secure Your GPS Device.** While many GPS devices are mounted in the dashboard of the vehicle, some are portable and should either be taken with you or stored out of sight before leaving your car.
- **Don't Tempt Thieves with New Purchases.** During the holiday season or any time you're shopping, place packages in the trunk, not inside the car, before you arrive at your next shopping location. Don't let a potential thief see you stowing packages in the trunk.
- **Use Your Trunk.** If your vehicle has a trunk, use it. Put valuables there or in locked glove compartments. Hiding items under seats is preferable to leaving them in plain view, but securing them in your trunk is a far better deterrent.
- **Lock It Up.** Keep your doors and windows locked at all times.

Remember: "Out of sight, out of mind" – if thieves can't see your valuables, they're less likely to waste their time targeting your auto.



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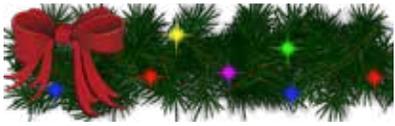







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Winter – A Time for Celebration



Beginning in December and extending into the New Year, people of different faiths and cultures celebrate holidays in their own special ways. Below is a description of some of them:

Hanukkah

Jewish people celebrate Hanukkah, also known as “The Festival of Lights”, for eight days. This holiday marks the rededication of the Temple and the miracle of the oil. According to tradition, the Maccabees, a clan of Jewish patriots, had only enough oil to light the eternal flame in the Temple for one night. Miraculously, that small bit of oil burned for eight days. The menorah, a candelabrum that holds nine candles, is central to the celebration. On each of the eight nights of Hanukkah, another candle is lit. The ninth candle, the Shamash, is used to light all the other candles. During Hanukkah, children are given small gifts for each of the eight days of the celebration.

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa, a seven day celebration held between December 26th and January 1st, is a time for African Americans to appreciate their heritage and focus on seven important

principles – unity, self-determination, responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. The word Kwanzaa means first fruit in Swahili. The kinara is a candelabra that holds seven candles: three red (representing struggles of the past and present), three green (representing a hopeful future), and one black (symbolic of the skin color of people of African descent.) On the first night of Kwanzaa, the black candle is lit. On each subsequent night, one of the other candles is lit, alternating from left to right. On the final night, all candles are lit and children are given gifts.

Advent and Nativity

Christians celebrate Advent beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. This is a time to wait and prepare for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Many customs surround this Christian holiday, such as nativity scenes, religious carols, and special church services.

Some cultures in Mexico and Central America celebrate Las Posadas, a nine day festival, symbolic of Joseph and Mary’s nine day journey to Bethlehem and the nine months Mary carried Jesus. Poinsettias, a nine leaf flower, are traditional symbols used during this celebration. Also in some Latin American cultures, luminarias are placed along pathways to guide the Christ child into the world and into each believer’s home and heart.

A Visit from St. Nick (Santa)

For many children a visit from St. Nick (Santa Claus) is one of the most important parts of the holiday. Long ago, children placed a shoe outside their doors, and if they had been good, St. Nick would leave a small present in their shoes. If not, he’d leave a lump of coal. In this day of over-the-top consumerism, we may want to take time to celebrate what really matters and enjoy some of the simpler traditions of the season:

- Focusing on family, faith, and friends
- Christmas Caroling
- Making latkes from Bubbie’s favorite recipe
- Attending worship services
- Baking cookies with children and grandchildren
- Sharing memories of favorite holidays
- Making tamales with extended family members
- Sending Christmas or holiday cards
- Decorating homes and yards
- Sharing a special meal with family and friends
- Enjoying the lights and decorations on the San Antonio River Walk

However you celebrate this special time of year, be present in the moment, and enjoy spending time with family and friends.

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WOSCA Statement of Cash Flow October 31, 2019

Beginning Cash Balance	49,860.23
Revenue:	
Donations - Capital Improvement Fund	55.00
Rental Income (Clubhouse, Pool and Deck)	112.87
Full Memberships	1,333.90
Supporting Memberships	440.00
Interest Income	70.41
Total Revenue	2,012.18
Expenses:	
Square Charges - new memberships, manual	10.46
Landscaping	365.00
Licenses and Permits	259.56
Recreation Center Maintenance - Water fountain leak	225.00
Pool Chemicals	190.48
Pool Manager Payroll	405.00
Resident Manager Payroll	312.00
Payroll Taxes	57.83
Property Taxes	21.92
Utilities	877.01
Total Expenses	2,724.26
Ending Cash Balance	49,148.15

Capital Improvement Fund	
October 1, 2019 Balance	4,705.88
October Donations	55.00
Total Capital Improvement Fund	4,760.88



Were you denied life insurance benefits because your insurance company claims your loved one lied on the policy application?

While this is one of the tactics used by insurance companies to deny life insurance claims, the standard necessary to prove such misrepresentation is very high in Texas. Don't let a life insurance company take advantage of you. Contact us at **(210) 733-4177** to set up a free consultation on your life insurance denial claim. We will fight to get you the benefits you deserve.

¿Se le negó un reclamo de beneficios de seguro de vida porque la compañía de seguro insiste que su ser querido mintió en su aplicación?

Aunque ésta es una de las tácticas que usan las compañías de seguro de vida para negar reclamos, el nivel de evidencia necesario para probar una representación falsa es muy alto en Texas. No deje que una compañía de seguro de vida se aproveche de usted. Contáctenos al **(210) 733-4177** para fijar una cita de consulta gratis para discutir su reclamo de seguro de vida. Pelearemos por ayudarlo a recuperar los beneficios que se merece.

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Need a Job?

The Woods of Shavano Newsletter contains a Teen Service Directory each month that lists teenagers who are interested in babysitting, animal care, and lawn care for Woods of Shavano residents. If your family is a member of the Woods of Shavano Community Association and you would like to include your name on the directory, call 492-9809 to have your information listed. If your name is on the list but you want it deleted, please let us know that as well.

Woods of Shavano Community Association Teen Service Directory

Name	Phone Number	Child Care	Animal Care	Lawn Care
Taylor B.	493-7869 or 324-4044	Yes		
Colin E.	254-2942	Yes	Yes	
Carsyn E.	254-2942	Yes	Yes	
Warren E.	912-5452	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Woods of Shavano Community Association
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Time Dated



You're Welcome to Attend

Woods of Shavano Community Association Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, beginning at 6:30 PM. The first fifteen minutes are set aside for members of the community to voice their support and concerns. Please feel free to join us at the Clubhouse. The next meeting is scheduled for **December 11, 2019.**



WOODS OF SHAVANO COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

13838 PARKSITE WOODS SAN ANTONIO, TX 78249
 WOSCA 210.492.9809 • woodsofshavano@yahoo.com

Please Print

Last Name _____	First Name (s) _____	<i>Check All That Apply</i>
		<input type="checkbox"/> New Member
Address _____	Zip _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
Home Phone _____	Work Phone _____	Mobile Phone _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Upgrade to Full Membership
E-mail Address (s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Resident Membership	
E-mail Address (s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Major Renovations Donation	

Full Membership only: Please list **ONLY** those family members who actually reside in your home and your grandchildren. **Other family members are welcome as guests at the pool and will pay the \$5 Guest Pass fee per visit.** Please note: Names and DOB's provided is not shared – For Association use only.

Name	Date of Birth (Month & Year)
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Membership Level

- Full Membership** **\$190.00** **Full use of pool and tennis courts**
(Pool passes are assigned, may not be shared)
- Non-Resident Membership** **\$230.00** **Full use of pool and tennis courts**
(Pool passes are assigned, may not be shared)
- Supporting Membership** **\$55.00** **Supports Landscaping in Park and Entries**
 – **no pool / tennis court privileges**

I hereby apply to The Woods of Shavano Community Association for membership as indicated above and agree to abide by all governing rules and regulations. I understand all dues are paid annually in the month I joined on the day set by the board. For Full or Non-Resident Membership, I certify the information regarding children and others residing in my household is true and correct.

Signature (required): _____ **Date:** _____

ASSOCIATION USE ONLY: *Application & Dues Received:* **Date:** _____



Published and distributed by:
Neighborhood News, Inc.
 3740 Colony Drive Suite LL100
 San Antonio, TX 78230
 (210) 558-3160 * (210) 558-3163 fax

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