# **NATURES TALES**

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### Our Family is Back! ... almost!

It's that time of year when the gate almost wears itself out, opening to let yet another big rig in, and then closing after one more of our family comes home for the winter. It is exciting to see each person return after being away for six or more months, and to hear about how they spent their summer. During the summer months Natures has a quieter, calmer atmosphere which is enjoyed by our permanent residents, but we all look forward to the excitement of seeing our Natures family return. Welcome Home!

If you are new to Natures, we extend a very warm welcome to you. The best way for you to become a part of the Natures Family is to choose some activities that interest you, and take part in them, even if it's just bobbing around in the pool or sitting in the hot tub!

You will be welcomed into any group or any activity, and will soon make special, long-lasting friendships with your fellow nudists. If you've never played petanque or shuffleboard before, now is a great time to start. We're all here to have fun and we enjoy teaching someone who is new to the game. Welcome to the 'new' Natures resort.

## Tidbits from Speckles, the Proud Natures Cat!

So much is going on at Natures that I had to ask Bruce to help me keep track of everything!

Fritz and Eva have relocated to site #4.
 They must like it there because they put down some caliche.

- After that rainy day in November Serge and Carol (Site #8) had some deep ruts in their grass but a few days later a nice man brought some really attractive gravel.
- I hear that Judy likes the view out of her back window since she and Jim have moved across the street to Site #11.
- Somebody told me that Randy and Melanie bought Jim & Judy's extra shed to move onto their new site #21
- Leroy and Mary have returned this year and are enjoying their new location (Site #33)
- I tried to get my paw in that big new cement pad that Dave and Alice poured on site #39, but I got chased away.
- Did you see the big poodle that lives with Christian and Anne-Lise in that beautiful motor home on site #41? Wow, do they look impressive when they go out the gate in that sporty little Cooper.
- One day when I wasn't looking Jack and Cassandra added some more concrete to Site #59. What a great place to park a car.
- Now that JohnPaul and Petra are settled on site #65, they have been working to add a shade shelter and landscaping
- There is an impressive new deck on site #60. Somebody told me it belongs to the newlyweds, Ron and Lynne.

- Tony and Pam (Site #67) have poured a beautiful concrete patio to replace their old wooden deck. I often see them sitting there with their friends under that great new patio roof.
- Speaking of concrete, the cement truck recently visited Norm and Kat (Site # 71) and also Pete and Linda (Site #75).
- It is so nice to see Chuck and Sharlotte (Site #85) lighting the campfire every Friday evening.
- I get a real high when I sit at night and watch the little twinkly lights changing colors in front of Site #104 where Rodrigue and Suzette live.
- A couple of days ago I heard Claude and Roberta (Site #210) being introduced to somebody. They seem so nice.
- I really miss Connie. Every day when Richard comes home from the hospital so many people ask him about Connie.

Best wishes for a purrrrrfect Holiday Season. That's all from me.



#### Photo Shoot

AANR contacted us and asked whether they could spotlight Natures Resort in their January issue of The Bulletin. WOW! What a question! Of course we would LOVE a spotlight in The Bulletin in January or any other month for that matter. They requested that we send them a large selection of photos so that they could choose a couple to be included in their article.

At the end of October our fearless photographer, Jim (Site #50) and his able assistant, Richard, (Site #48) organized a photo shoot for the AANR spotlight. Many,

many thanks to Jim for not just this photo shoot, but also for all the photos that he took over the summer. Without his time and talent we would not have been able to share with everyone via his photos the story of Hurricane Dolly as well as all the fun that our residents and guests had during the summer months. Jim, we are so grateful for all of your time and the effort that you put into getting great photos for us. You have done a fantastic job! Thanks also go to Richard for his help with this photo shoot, as well as thanks to everyone who was willing to take part in the photo shoot. (The photos in this Natures Tales were taken during this photo shoot.)

Take time to look at the January issue of The Bulletin. YOU could be in it!

### Weekly Activities

**Aerobics:** 8:00 a.m. Clubhouse Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

Bicycle Rides: 9:30 a.m. Thursday Meet at the gate. Must wear a helmet.

Billiards: 6:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday Thursday & Sunday

**Bingo:** 6:30 p.m. Sunday (except second Sunday of the month)

**Bowling:** 9:00 a.m. Friday at the Flamingo Bowling Lanes in McAllen.

**Campfire:** 5:00 p.m. Friday. Bring your own hotdogs, drinks etc.

### **Country Western Dance Lessons:**

7:00 Wednesday

Craft Time: 1:00 p.m. Friday

**Eucre:** 6:00 p.m. Monday

**Dominoes:** 7:00 Wednesday (Mexican Train)

**Koffee Klatch:** 9:30 a.m. Site #100. Wednesday. Bring your coffee cup.

**Men's Breakfast:** 8:00 a.m. Every other Tuesday. Sign up required.

**Petanque:** 2:00 p.m. every day.

**Poker:** 6:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Shuffleboard:** 10:00 a.m. Tuesday

**Soup Supper:** 5:00 p.m. Monday. Sign

up required.

**Trivial Pursuit:** 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Volleyball: Check impromptu board

Water Aerobics: 9:30 a.m. Monday and

Wednesday.

#### **December Special Events:**

5<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Dumpling Soup, Salad, Bread & Dessert. \$4.50 per person. All proceeds go to the Fun Association.

7<sup>th</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Craft sale and show. See Maryann (Site #77) to reserve a space and for additional details.

10<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Christmas Cookie Exchange.

12<sup>th</sup> 3:45 p.m. Dinner, Concert and Trolly Tour of the Hidalgo Festival of Lights.
\$8.00 per person. The concert will be by Estudiantino Guadalupana from San Luis Potosi, Mexico. Following dinner and the concert we will tour the holiday lights of Hidalgo by trolley. See Bruce and Mary Sue (site #19) for tickets.

14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. December Birthday Celebration. Cake & Ice Cream.

7:00 p.m. Chritmas Gift Exchange.
This year's Christmas Gift Exchange promises to be a fun evening. Besides the fun of stealing someone else's Christmas gift, there will also be a Christmas Karaoke Sing-a-Long with Santa's elves. See the bulletin board for more details.

**25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Dinner** Hosted by David and Judy Miller.

31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve Celebration Hosted by our Canadians.

1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day Brunch Hosted by Mike and Karen.

# Natures Fun Happenings New Format By Cassandra

The Internet has become a vast pot of information at your fingertips. It has also allowed us to communicate globally almost instantaneously. Let us not forget the other wonders it has brought into our lives like the volume of monetary offers from those old friends and relatives in such places as Nigeria, the UK, and many other countries around the world. It always brings a tight sneer to my face when I receive emails from all those endearing Spammers... DELETE!

Because of this Spam epidemic, almost all the ISP's (Yahoo, Google, etc.) have taken steps to help us by develping internal systems that automatically inspect, designate, and block most email that have a ring of Spam to them. One of the key tip-offs for them is the use of "BCC", which is a method most commonly used to send multiple emails and avoid giving your email address out to all recipients. This is what I did to send you the NR Weekly Happenings in the past. Needless to say, I have been blocked from using that method. OK…life goes on.

The alternative to this is to use the "Groups" methodology. For this reason, I have established a Google Group named "NR Activities". I purposely gave it a very generic and bland name to avoid curiosity seekers. Additionally, the more I use it the more I see greater positives than negatives. Here are some of the positives:

1. Future Weekly Happenings that contain on-going staple events can be posted in advance with only Updates containing more specifics posted at the beginning of each week. This way you can see events scheduled more than a week in advance.

- 2. You can still easily copy/move the Weekly Happenings "PDF" file to your Desktop from the Group page for easy access anytime you want without having to go back to the Group page.
- 3. Your email address is very secure since email messages are sent to the group using the group internal address bank.
- 4. Membership to the NR Activities group must be authorized by the owner of the group (me). This way we can ensure that only NR members have access to the group activities schedule.
- All the Group membership information is very secure and again only accessible by the owner of the group (me again). Additional group administrators can be added if desired in the future.
- 6. Informational Website Links can and are being provided for your easy access.
- 7. In the future, you may be able to post messages or questions to all the members of the group for their individual group format response.

#### The Negatives:

- 1. You have to become more versed with the computer and the internet world. Everything is going that way so you might as well quit resisting. Maybe we can develop a computer help class or geek squad here at Natures to help you with this.
- You have to become a member of the Google "NR Activities" Group. This means you need to establish a Google account. (There is no charge involved for this). You do not have to use Google for anything else though.

3. You will have to sign into the NR Activities Group to access the posted information. This is one additional step from just opening your email.

All in all, I think the positives out-weigh the negatives by a long shot. Also, through this method you will continue to have access to Natures Fun Activities schedule at your fingertips in a much more secure way than just an email. Did you know that email addresses could be Hi-Jacked... true-true-true. Change is always a good thing. If you are not yet a member you can easily request membership to the NR Activities Group by either contacting Cassandra (Site #59) or going online to <a href="http://groups.google.com/group/nr-activities">http://groups.google.com/group/nr-activities</a> and apply for membership. Either way is easy and I am always available and happy to help get you going.

CassandraBazhaw@gmail.com

#### A Note from Stan and Sue.

Sue and Stan would like to thank all their "Natures" friends for the cards, prayers, visits and wonderful food you sent their way during Sue's recuperation. "You have all been great. Sue has a follow up visit with her Doctor on December 1. At that time we should know how it is healing".

We all wish Sue a speedy recovery!

#### Another Successful Garage Sale

With the help of Sandy, the residents of Natures Resort had a garage sale for park residents at site #51 on Thursday, November 20, with sales totaling \$438.50. The sale along Monte Cristo Road, scheduled for Friday, was delayed until Monday because of weather. However, the Monday weather was perfect and sales at the garage sale for the public totaled \$852.50. Thanks to all who donated and who helped with the sales. Proceeds from the yard sales will be used by the Fun Activities Association to underwrite the cost of fun events in the park.