

# NATURES TALES

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February, 2011



..... and the Expansion Continues

## ***The Expansion – A Giant Step Forward.***

The expansion area has been a hive of activity. We have had a team of volunteer electricians working on the final stage of the electric, prior to getting electric service turned on. Another group of volunteers have been working on the water lines – another huge project. The Ditch Witch has been working overtime digging trenches for both projects making the entire front area look like a battle field!

Our volunteers are awesome and it is exciting to see the amazing progress that they are making. AEP (American Electric Power) and the Planning Department could take lessons from our volunteers on teamwork, efficiency, production lines and how to get a job done properly and in a timely fashion!

The owners would like to extend their personal thanks for the many hours (days and weeks) that our volunteer electricians and plumbers have put into this project. We appreciate the team spirit, the sharing of your knowledge and expertise, the hard work and all the time that you have put into the expansion.

The roads have been started. They will be done in sections as the paving company we have hired is fitting us in between other jobs that they are doing. For the time being all the roads will be packed caliche. They will be black topped at a later stage.

Once the caliche roads are in and the power has been turned on, the majority of the sites will be ready for use. There are still a few smaller projects that will need to be done – but this will only affect the sites along the north fence.

Speckles has been keeping an eye on progress in the front and will probably have a few reports of her own.

Once again, our very sincere thanks to our awesome volunteer team.

## ***Free Money!***

Our consumption of beverages in aluminum cans is astounding, but, because people take the time to place their cans in the

recycle hut, the Fun Association benefits from the sale of these cans.

Have you ever stopped to think how the cans get to the recycle center? Volunteers empty the recycle trash can in the clubhouse on a regular basis. All these cans have to be crushed to make them ready to be recycled. They also bag up the cans that are deposited in the recycle hut. Then from time to time they load up all the bags and take them to the recycle center.

On the last trip to the recycle center there were:

86 pounds of aluminum cans @ .78	\$67.80
2 pounds aluminum gutter @ .47	<u>\$ 0.94</u>
Total	\$68.80

Not only is this free money for the Fun Association, but it is 88 pounds of aluminum that does not go in our dumpster or the landfill (plus all the tin cans, glass and plastic that is also recycled).

There are ways that you can help make free money for the Fun Association. The first way is obvious – Put your cans in the recycle trash can in the clubhouse, or take them to the recycle center. The second way is to crush any cans that you place in the recycle center. Our volunteers would really appreciate that!

### ***Tidbits from Speckles, Natures' Proud Cat!***

Basking in the sun is wonderful, but I have also been spending my time watching all that goes on around here, including the expansion area.

- 2011 started with a wonderful New Year's Eve party. Jim & Maryann and all their helpers did a terrific job. Thank you! Bob & Florence were the New Year's babies. They looked so cute!

- NUDE (Wii) Bowling is a huge hit and looks like lots of fun! I wish I could play, but animals are not allowed in any of the buildings at Natures.
- Good News ... Rebecca has a big black boot on her leg, so as last she is able to get out and walk. For the first few days Willis took the wheelchair on their walks so that Rebecca could be pushed home when she became tired. Blayde thought this was a great arrangement as he got a free ride!
- The Blood Mobile came back to Natures. 22 people registered to give blood, 18 were eligible to donate. With two donors giving double red cells (two units) they collected twenty units of life giving blood. Thank you to all our blood donors. The Blood Mobile will be back on March 7<sup>th</sup>.
- About 30 ladies went to lunch at Red Lobster followed by shopping at Old McAllen. Annie was able to join them and they all had a great day!
- I saw Richard and Barb planting new flowers around the pool, on the north side of the pump house and under the Welcome Home sign. It all looks very pretty.
- More work has been done in the Memorial garden. There is a new cement path, and Larry, Pam and Tony have done a lot of heavy work putting down decorative stone.
- Barb M and Paula have made two areas of the Memorial Garden pretty with new plants and mulch. Take a stroll through the garden and check it out.

- The race was on. Who was going to get their house first? – Stan & Sue or Brad & Janice? Stan & Sue won! Both houses are really nice. Congratulations on your new homes!

#### *Expansion Tidbits*

- The ditch witch was digging ditches so quickly that a golf cart almost got stranded with no way to get out!
- When testing the new water lines one of the 2 inch lines burst apart during the night. I learned that it doesn't take long to turn all those ditches into moats!! What a muddy mess!
- We have a very lucky volunteer. He was almost buried in a water ditch! He fell in just as Richard was about to push a load of dirt into the ditch. It's a good thing that Richard was paying attention!

That's all from me! I hope everyone has a purrrrrfect February.



#### ***AANR Membership***

During these tough economic times AANR is experiencing a drop in their membership. It is easy to rationalize that AANR membership is a luxury and therefore not renewing membership is a way to cut expenses. But is it really a luxury?

We all embrace our nudist lifestyle. When we travel we like to choose nudist resorts for a vacation or an overnight stay. We also enjoy nude beaches and hot springs. We have all these facilities available to us, so why do we really need AANR?

Simply put, without AANR we would not be able to enjoy our chosen lifestyle as freely

as we do. AANR is constantly working to promote nudism, and because of their efforts more and more people (including government officials) are coming to accept naturism and to understand what nudism is (and more importantly, what it is not!) Through their efforts we have nude beaches, nude hot springs and an abundance of resorts and clubs that are accepted by their textile neighbors.

They also keep tabs on all AANR affiliated organizations and will not associate themselves with any clubs or resorts that move outside of acceptable nudist behavior. This gives us the security of knowing that when we visit an AANR affiliated club or resort, that organization adheres to the principals of nudism.

Is AANR membership a luxury? Not if we want to continue our nudist lifestyle as we know it! Think about its importance when your membership comes up for renewal.

#### ***February Events***

- 1<sup>st</sup> 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast. Meet outside the clubhouse
- 1<sup>st</sup> 8:00 a.m. Med Check Labs. Health Awareness Screening.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 6:00 p.m. Mexican Fiesta Potluck, Hat Contest and Dance. Bring a dish to share. Chicken enchiladas and salsa provided.
- 5<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Breakfast in the clubhouse. Biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, juice & coffee. Sign up required
- 6<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. Super Bowl Chile cook off. Hot Dogs served. Bring hors d'oeuvres to share.

8<sup>th</sup> 1:00 p.m. Celebration of Life for Sandy in the Memorial Garden

9<sup>th</sup> 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. CPR/AED Class \$35.00 per person. Sign up required

12<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Breakfast. Pancakes, sausage, juice & coffee. Sign up required

13<sup>th</sup> 6:30 p.m. Cake and ice cream to celebrate the February birthdays and anniversaries.

14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. Valentine's Dance. Music by "Lost in Time". Hosts: Cindy & Randy

18<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m. Talent Show and Dancing. Hosts: Hans & Hermien.

19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. Members' Meeting. If you are at Natures, you are a member, and we encourage you to come to the meeting so that you have a say in the activities and entertainment

20<sup>th</sup> Daytona 500 on the big screen TV in the clubhouse

23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 p.m. Dance. Music by Northern Star.

24<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Swiss Steak Dinner with table service. \$6.00 per person Sign up required.

26<sup>th</sup> 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Breakfast. French toast, scrambled eggs, juice & coffee. Sign up required.

26<sup>th</sup> Craft Show

### ***Weekly Activities***

Aerobics Indoors: 9:00 a.m. Tuesday & Thursday – Clubhouse

Bible Study: 10:30 a.m. Monday – Gazebo

Bike Rides: 9:00 a.m. Thursday. Meet on the north side of the clubhouse

Bingo: 6:15 p.m. Clubhouse (Starts at 7 pm)

Camp Fire: 4:30 p.m. Friday. Bring your own hotdogs, buns, chairs etc

Euchre: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday - Card Room

Line Dancing & Western Dance: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday – Clubhouse

Men's Breakfast: 8:00 a.m. every other Tuesday Details on Bulletin Board

Mexican Train: 7:00 p.m. Monday – Card Room

Quilting: 10:30 a.m. Monday – Clubhouse

Sewing Circle: 1:00 p.m. Friday – Clubhouse

Shanghi Rummy: 1:00 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday Card room

Soup Supper: 6:00 p.m. Monday - Sign up

Trivial Pursuit: 6:30 p.m. Thursday – Card Room

Water Aerobics: 9:00 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Water Volleyball: Watch impromptu board for days and times.

Wii Bowling: 3:45 p.m. Tuesday – Clubhouse

Zumba: 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday – Clubhouse