

# NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY



*Natures Resort's Motorcycle Group (Gang?)*

## ***It's Another New Season and our Volunteers are at it again!***

The next four months are the busiest in the season. No matter where you are, December, the holiday season, is overloaded with social events. Here at Natures January seems to be equally busy. February is 'Fun in the Sun' which is packed full of fun events, and March, as we near the end of the season, has the 'farewell' events and is also loaded with activities that there was no time for in the prior months.

All these events can only be accomplished with the help of coordinators and volunteers, and even now, as we are heading into these fun packed months people are volunteering to help or host events. Folks who are new here have caught the Natures volunteering spirit and are also stepping up to help out.

Besides fun events like Fun in the Sun, potlucks, dinners and dances, there are many other areas where help is needed, and as has become tradition, people offer their services. There are volunteers who work to keep the grounds clean and tidy, help keep the pools clean, organize the morning coffee, take care of the recyclables, bring the weekly Winter Texan newspaper to Natures, organize garage sales, organize various charitable endeavors for our less fortunate neighbors .... the list goes on.

A volunteer is someone who *chooses* to do something - not someone who is coerced or conscripted into doing something. We, the owners, never lose sight of this and do not take our volunteers for granted. We are truly blessed to have so many wonderful people willing to help, and thank each and every one of you for the time and effort that you put into making Natures your home and a wonderful place to be. YOU make Natures such a special place and are greatly appreciated!

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

What fun we are having! Dances, activities, food, and heated pools to relax in. There is so much to do - or not! It's hard for one little cat to report on everything that is going on!



- The cement truck has visited many lots over the past couple of weeks and Richard has been run ragged making sure that cement is not poured on leach fields or easement areas! Bob & Jean - Lot 5, David H - Lot 57, JeanPaul & Petra - Lot 65, Al & Joanne - Lot 100,

John S - 102, Dave & Sue - Lot 124, John C - Lot 134, Richard & Linda - Lot 222, Norman & Diane - Lot 224, Bill S - Lot 308.

- I also saw two new houses coming into the park: John C and Tom & Pat. Congratulations on your new homes.
- Twenty-two donors volunteered to give the gift of life when the blood mobile visited Natures and a total of 26 units was collected. Thank you to all the donors and special thanks to the four who made double red cell donations. The blood mobile will return to Natures Resort on Monday, January 6, 2014.
- Lots of people are enjoying the Wednesday and Saturday morning breakfasts. If you have never been to one of the breakfasts you are missing a great meal!
- I was worried about Doug & Alanna who were in the Philippians during the typhoon, but the storm went south of them and they only had wind, rain and flickering lights. I'm so glad they are safe.
- Congratulations to Bruce & MarySue on their 45th wedding anniversary. They threw a wonderful party for the whole park to celebrate the event. Everyone enjoyed the munchies that were provided and danced to Ruthi's music.
- You should have seen the mountains of stuff people donated for the Fall garage sale, and Sue, Rainy and their helpers worked hard to set out and price everything.

The inside sales on the first day totaled \$461.80 and the amount sold on Monte

Cristo on the next day totaled \$505.35 making a staggering grand total of \$967.15, a new record for a single garage sale. All the funds go to the Fun Association. Many thanks go to Sue, Rainy, all their helpers and everyone who donated items for the sale.



*The sale moves to Monte Cristo*

- I heard some singing and went to investigate. We have a new Karaoke system that was donated by Alice, Lot 39. Hagar & Amy also contributed to the system and Frank & Ruthi donated a monitor and stand. Many thanks go to these generous people.
- Cassandra says that Jack is doing really well, and they expect to fly in late on December 3rd. I'm looking forward to seeing them and my friend Fred.
- I was glad to hear that Steve recovered well from his surgery, and he and Paula expect to be here soon.
- We have some new critters in the park! There is a Smart Bumble Bee on Lot 39. One day, as it buzzed passed lot 77, Jim tried to kill it with a fly swatter, but fortunately it managed to get away. We also have Mongo, a cute little Casita Spirit Delux that is vacationing on Lot 33. Mongo will be traveling up north during the summer.

- Have you seen our Christmas stop sign? Dennis & Francine have a wonderful imagination. Perhaps it will remind people to stop?



*The Stop Sign on the Corner of Lot 220.*

- Did you know that we have a large number of bikers at Natures? Recently they went out as a group and met up with the pedal bikers for lunch. I heard a rumor that Hagar will be well remembered by some of the patrons in the restaurant!
- I love Thanksgiving, and it seems that everyone else does too! We had a huge turnout for a fantastic meal, fun and fellowship. Janice, Brad and all their helpers did an awesome job of coordinating this big event. Thanks go to them, their helpers and everyone who was involved with the cooking, planning, preparation, decorating and clean up!

I'm having so much fun watching everyone else having fun. This is a happy place

to be. That's all from me! Have a purrrfect Merry Christmas!



### ***Condolences***

Danny (Robin) Lot#54 passed away on November 25th. Danny had been ill with pancreatic cancer for a couple of months and passed away in his sleep.

Bob M (Sharon) who used to stay in the pull-thru's when they visited with us passed away on November 26th. They were avid motorcyclists and many people at Natures enjoyed riding with them.

We offer our deepest condolences to both Robin and Sharon and their families.

### ***Beer & Brats***

The Beer & Brats party was a huge success! People were very generous with bringing local beer and wine from their northern homes so there was a great variety to taste. The brats were delicious and the band "Keys and Strings" was enjoyed by all.

Traditionally this is a popular and well attended event, but this year we broke the record with the biggest crowd and the biggest selection of beer and wine!

Thanks to Ken, Janet and all their helpers for making this such a well organized and enjoyable event

### **Weekly Activities:**

Every week more activities are being added to the weekly activities list, so check the bulletin board to keep up with what is happening!

**Aerobics: 8:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.**  
Clubhouse

**Bible Study: 10 a.m. Monday**  
Card Room Starts November 11<sup>th</sup>

**Bicycle Ride: 9 a.m. Thursday**  
Meet outside the clubhouse. See Bulletin Board for details.

**Bingo: Clubhouse Friday**  
6:15 p.m. Sales begin  
6:45 p.m. Sales end  
7:00 p.m. Bingo starts

**Breakfast:**  
8:00 a.m. 1st, 2nd and 4th Saturday  
7:45 a.m. Every other Wednesday  
Clubhouse

**Campfire: 5:00 p.m. Friday**  
Fire Pit Bring a drink and the makings for cooking hot dogs on the fire

**Darts: 7:00 p.m. Saturday**  
Game Room

**Dominoes: 6:45 p.m. Thursday**  
Card Room

**Euchre: 7:00 p.m. Tuesday**  
Card Room

**Line/Country Dancing: Wednesday**  
Clubhouse  
7:00 p.m. Line Dancing  
7:45 p.m. Partner & Group Dances  
8:15 p.m. Couples Two-Step Lessons  
8:45 p.m. Couples Country Waltz  
9:15 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Music by Request

**Men's Breakfast: 8:00 p.m. Every other Tuesday**

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

**Social Hour: - 4 p.m. Sandy's** Bring your own refreshments.

**Water Aerobics: 10:00 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday**  
Main Pool

**Water Volley Ball: 2:00 p.m. Every day**  
Volley Ball Pool

### **December Special Events**

**3rd** Craft Sale 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**7th** Christmas Decorating Contest

**7th** Join us in the clubhouse at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate the December birthdays and anniversaries

**9th** Box Social @ 5 p.m. hosted by Jim & Judy Please sign up

**9th** Dance @ 7 p.m. Music by Blue Moon Hosted by Jim & Judy

**12th** Spaghetti Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. Please sign up by December 8th. Hosted by Sue

**14th** Hidalgo Lights. See Bruce (Lot 19) for tickets \$14.00. This includes a tour of the lights, dinner and a concert.

**21st** Members Meeting @ 9 a.m. Clubhouse If you are at Natures you are a member and are encouraged to attend.

**21st** Gift Exchange hosted by Jan & Steve Bring a wrapped gift costing no more than \$20

**25th** Christmas Dinner @ 3 p.m.

**31st** New Year's Eve Dance @ 7 p.m.

**Jan 1st** Brunch