



NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

Tidbits from Cally, Natures Proud Cat!



We have spent the last two months saying goodbye to our Winter Texan family as they have, one by one, packed up and headed north. It's sad to see them leave, but we wish them safe travels and a wonderful summer. I have to admit that I'm enjoying the slower pace after spending the winter rushing around trying to keep track of all the activities!

- We did have a bit of excitement here when a house was delivered on the same day that the roads were being sealed! Richard got a few grey hairs, but everything worked out in the end!



*Congratulations to Don & Peggy, Lot 313
on their new home!*

- Prior to the end of the season, one last Days for Girls workshop was squeezed into the activities schedule. Thanks to the good turnout, a mountain of work was accomplished as many kits were

assembled to help girls around the world through this amazing outreach program. Many thanks to everyone who lent a helping hand.

- Any excuse is a good excuse to get together. It was Wednesday which, during the winter, means Happy Hour from 4 to 6 - so Dan & Kelley hosted a happy hour at their house. It was also a great opportunity to get to know Eric & Kathy, Lot 238.
- For ten days we had cars parked in all the wrong places! At first I didn't know what was going on, but then when they started working on the roads it all made sense. People had to move their cars to the new section so that they would be accessible when the roads were wet and couldn't be driven on. Those 10 days seemed like a very long time!
- Richard had eye surgery, and had to go through the dreaded "face down" recovery period. He is over that part of the recovery, but is still not able to see very well out of that eye. We are all hoping that time will improve things for him. Hang in there Richard.
- What a great Memorial Day cook-out we had! We gathered around the pool, in the pool and in Richard's Pool Hall at 3 p.m. for a social hour, then at 4 p.m. enjoyed an amazing meal of hamburgers, salads and sides, and a huge array of desserts. After eating way too much many went back in the pool for a final cool off. Many thanks to Dan & Kelley and their helpers for making this such a memorable event.

- Many of our Winter Texan family have no idea of what some of the shrubs and trees do here during the summer. I was asked why we kept the scruffy looking Mesquite trees. They are only scruffy in the winter. In the summer they are a beautiful lush green with thick foliage that provides an umbrella of shade. The Jacaranda tree on Lot 2 produces an abundance of beautiful blue flowers in April/May. Many of the Sago Palms produce a white 'flower', shaped either like a ball or a thick baseball bat, and the various cactus produce many different kinds of flowers and edible fruits. Once again we have a few century cactus plants in the park that have put up their 20 ft flower stalk. The sad part of this is that after it has flowered, the plant dies.



That's all from me. I hope that everyone is having as purrrrfect a summer as we are!



A Fifth Season at Natures?

The rest of the world has four seasons: Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring. At Natures there are five seasons: Summer, Fall, Winter, Spring and Musical Lots, the latter being when people move from one lot to another. It seems that as soon as Spring Break and all the craziness of that time of year is passed, people at Natures get itchy feet and start moving from here to there. In order to keep track of people Valerie eventually made a flow chart!

- Bob and Jean felt that it was time to settle near their family so Lot 5 became available.
- Doug & Alannah moved from Lot 207 to Lot 5.
- Mike & Lois decided they wanted an annual lot, and have taken over Lot 207.
- Jean-Paul and Petra, who used to have an annual lot here, wanted to return, so they are taking over Lot 18 which was Don & Lynn's lot.
- Dave & Sue will be moving from Lot 124 to Lot 33 which was Tony & Debbie's lot.
- John and Deb have taken over Lot 124.
- Don & Joan also decided that they wanted an annual lot, and are moving onto Lot 7, which was Frank's lot.

- Julie wants to be with her family so will be moving north leaving Lot 116 available. This site will be taken over by 'Skirt Boy' Steve.
- Ken & Barbie moved to Florida, and Eric & Kathy have taken over lot 238.
- Nick sold the improvements on Lot 41 to Richard who was on Lot 233.
- Frank & Lena will be moving onto Lot 233.

We expect that everyone will have the above memorized prior to next season!

Summer Projects

Once our Winter Texan family has said their goodbyes and headed back to their northern homes, Nature's takes on a more laid back atmosphere as organized activities grind to a halt. Although we are still trying to recover from the busy season just passed, this is the time when we start preparing for the next season by immediately scheduling the big maintenance projects. Because there are fewer people in the park, fewer people are inconvenienced, and it is easier for us to accomplish the scheduled tasks. However, this means that EVERY summer our full time residents have to live through the inconvenience of the various projects. As always, we are so grateful to these people for their patience and understanding as we turn their lives upside down!

This year, because Richard was scheduled to have eye surgery, we needed to get a jump start on our summer projects, the biggest of which was to repair and seal all the roads in the old section. Those Winter Texans who were still here had to suffer with our full time residents, through 10 days of having the

repair people in the park, and, in spite of the best efforts at notifying people of what was going on, never really being sure if they would be able to drive on the road in front of their lot on any given day.

Road repair means first blowing all the debris and loose stones off the roads - a dusty and noisy job. Then any potholes that had started forming had to be patched and cracks filled. The final stage was sealing the roads. Because each stage requires different equipment it is not possible to take a section of the park and get that finished before moving on to the next section. Thus, everyone was

inconvenienced for the full 10 day of road repair, and if people needed to use their vehicle during this time, it needed to be moved to the new section - definitely very inconvenient for all concerned.



Although the work seemed to go on forever, our roads are now back in great condition. All signs of potholes are gone, any cracks that were starting to form have been filled, and the rubber coating has given the roads a new look. These roads should not require any attention for approximately 3 years.