

Horse Creek Ranch Homeowners Association Newsletter

April 2002

From Your Board President, Richard Spindle ...

Notes from the February 7, 2002 Homeowners Association meeting:

- The Board voted to replace Kelly Gregory as a board member. We welcome the help of Suzane Gamble to the Board.
- We passed the budget for year 2002.
- Roy Martin reported the results of the Wildlife Management Committee. For the second year, we did conduct a deer census. We have reported census results to Texas Parks and Wildlife for year ending 2001. Roy and Chair Brian Damelio [with the able assistance of Frank Shedden] kept our deer feeders running and deer block out all year long. Remember, your dues keep taxes on your property low. Fifty bucks ain't much to pay for a tax break. Please pay your dues ASAP

All property owners need to coordinate construction with the Architectural Control Committee. Once again, HCR-HOA prohibits hunting on Horse Creek Ranch properties. Please contact the Game Warden anytime you find hunters at work in our Wildlife Management Area.

Ya'll Come: Our Next Meeting

All property owners at Horse Creek Ranch are encouraged to attend the next Board Meeting of the HCR-HOA. That meeting will be **May 9 at 6:30 p.m.** at the HCR Hines Office, located at Horse Creek Ranch on Highway 236.

Although titled "Board Meetings" these are open to all members of the Home Owners Association. The Association is set up to benefit all of us. We really need the input and support of each property owner to make it a success. Its purpose is to protect the interests of every property owner of Horse Creek Ranch. That's you!

If you have any questions or thoughts about the upcoming meeting, call the Hines Development office: (254) 836-4000.

We hope to see you and all of our neighbors at the upcoming meeting. **Please, please attend!** You'll have a great time and get a chance to meet some of your neighbors.

Mark your calendar now for the next meeting: May 9th, 6:30 p.m.

Putting a structure on your land? Contact HCR-HOA to make sure you don't accidentally violate the building restrictions of your land. Mostly you just need to make sure you don't encroach on your neighbor's property, but be sure to call (254) 836-4000 first to get your building questions answered!

Your 2002 Board of Directors

- Richard Spindle, President
- Mary Barr
- Roy Martin
- *[insert full list of Board members]*

Next Newsletter:

Why Maintain Our Wildlife Management Status, Or How To Save BIG Tax Bucks

Mesquite Control

Did you know that when Horse Creek Ranch was still a “working ranch” one of the ongoing tasks of the foreman was control of mesquite trees? Often viewed as the bane of any ranch, mesquite trees were described in a recent Brush Busters newsletter by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service as “one of the toughest, most invasive species of brush in the world.”

Why try to control it? Ask anyone who’s had a tire punctured by one of the incredibly tough thorns that cover the trees, let alone have them puncture their skin. Additionally, the sticky sap of the mesquite tree is an ongoing attraction to fire ants and other pests. But more than anything, it’s the tree’s tendency to take over a pasture that causes landowners such problems.

The sad fact is that if they aren’t kept in check, you’ll find that what started out as one or two small mesquite bushes will, only a few years later, turn into an entire pasture full of the thorny trees. This is often done either by the spread of the seeds in the droppings of wildlife that eat the mesquite beans, or by the runner roots from nearby trees.

When caught early on, most mesquite can be controlled by a combination of digging or application of many herbicides available at most nurseries or greenhouses. For additional information on control of this tenacious pest, we encourage you to contact your local Texas Cooperative Extension service agent. For Coryell County that would be Lyle Zoeller at (254) 865-2414.

Horse Creek Ranch Homeowners Association
C/O Hines Development Corporation
(Return address here)