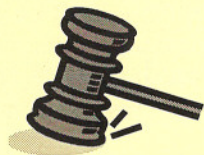


Valencia Orange Blossom

Newsletter for the Valencia Neighborhood



February 2009



President's Message

Happy New Year Everyone

Our neighborhood homes were beautifully decorated for the Christmas Season. Congratulations to the winners of "best decorated" and "best street". We want to thank members of El Dorado Homeowners Association who judged in our area.

We were successful in a number of areas in 2008. We increased social activities, established effective liaison with government entities, and we are in good financial shape.

Value Retention and Membership are two areas that we need to stress as ongoing concerns this year.

These two concerns are somewhat intertwined, so we ask you to complete the top and bottom portion of the membership/extreme sweep

survey and send in with your membership dues.

Extreme Sweep is a joint City/Neighborhood effort to promote compliance with city ordinances, provide needed city services and open avenues concerning health and safety issues. This year the neighborhoods of Valencia, El Dorado and Sierra North were District 10's selection. Thanks to Councilman Clamp for nominating our neighborhoods. The Sweep will start March 2nd and end March 27th. The command post will be at the Valencia Clubhouse and a City Representative will be at the Clubhouse or in the neighborhoods

(President's Message cont. page 2)

Inside this issue:

Graffiti	2
Senior Center	3
Pet Ownership	3
Extreme Sweep	4
Public Library	5
Grant Writer	6
Contest Winners	7

Valencia Orange Blossom Advertising Rates

Business Cards	\$15.00 per issue
1/4 page	\$24.00 per issue
1/2 page	\$48.00 per issue
Full page	\$96.00 per issue
Contact Sheila Clark at 653-5331 to place an ad in the newsletter .	

2009 VHOA Board of Directors

President	Philip Jackson	656-4842
Vice President	Heather Hedquist	599-8380
Treasurer	Ed Alexander	637-1000
Secretary	Sheila Clark	653-5331
Clubhouse Scheduler	Carol Couffer	655-0375

(President's Message cont.)

between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. to hear your concerns. ***There will be a joint Neighborhoods meeting Thursday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Valencia Clubhouse.*** Come and express your concerns that will enable the city and neighbor sweep leaders to prepare for the Sweep in March.

There has been an increase in graffiti in this area. The obvious best way to stop graffiti is take steps to make sure it does not happen. We have a very competent and concerned SAAFE officer. If you can provide Officer Bender any information that might help her, give her a call. Call 311 to report occurrences. Finally prompt removal is another key to stopping this mess. The City has provided tools, such as a power washer and approved "graffiti wipes" to use on traffic signs paint etc. It takes people, are you interested?

"Walk around crime" is on the rise. There is credible evidence that the chances are pretty good that if you leave your car on the street



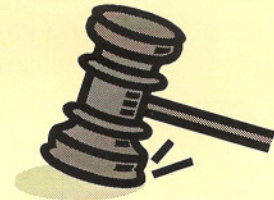
OR in your driveway, the doors will be checked to see if they are unlocked. If unlocked, selected items will be taken. The scary part is your garage door opener will most likely be taken. You can complete the possible scenarios from here.

If you plan on landscaping your yard, there is an excellent article on "Adding Hardscape to Your Landscape" at SAWS website :

conserve@saws.org

There is an opening on the Board of Directors. If you are interested, let me know. Please join and support Valencia Homeowners Association.

Philip Jackson
President - VHOA



**"Walk around crime is on the rise.
Lock your car doors."**

Graffiti is Back in Valencia

As probably everyone is aware, graffiti is a problem in and around Valencia. Removing the graffiti depends on what the "artists" used but most comes off easily with a spray made just for graffiti removal. The city has a crew that will remove it from signs, but they are also providing kits to subdivisions that want to remove the graffiti themselves rather than wait for the city to remove it. These kits include special wipes to be used on street signs. The chemical on the wipe does not remove the reflective coating. These wipes are the only city-approved way to remove the graffiti from the street signs. The Valencia Neighborhood Association has requested one of these kits.

Currently, the Association has the spray that can be used on transformers and cable boxes. Let us know if you see graffiti on any transformers or cable boxes. If your fence gets tagged with graffiti and you don't have access to a power washer, there are several Valencia board members who are willing to power wash your fence.

The more quickly the graffiti disappears, the less likely the taggers will come back to do more art work in the neighborhood. Contact Dianne Johnson at 655-2327 for more information.

Senior Citizen Center & City Service Center Opens

The City of San Antonio opened the Community Link Service Center this past summer. It is located at Oakridge Plaza, 11220 Perrin-Beitel, Suite 112, and is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM. and on Saturday from 10:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The main phone number is 210-207-5165.

There are some people who still are not aware of their services and are still driving downtown to get Garage sale permits, birth certificates, pay parking tickets, and obtain many other services. Nearly every city government department is represented at this Center. The following services at this center cover Building Inspections, Code Compliance, Health, Human Services,

Municipal Courts, Park and Recreation, Public Works, Environmental, Police Reports, and VIA. You can purchase VIA passes and tickets at this location. If you are interested in obtaining a job with the City of San Antonio, check on available jobs and fill out an application at this Service Center.

We need to use the services of this facility if we want to keep it. **USE IT OR LOSE IT!**

The Northeast Senior Citizen Center has a target date for opening on April 1, 2009. It will be located in an existing building at 4355 Center Gate. This is the second road on the right driving on Perrin-Beitel from I-410. There is a traffic light at this intersection.

The City of San Antonio has approved a \$200,000 amount for the 2009 budget year and increased funding is expected in future years. The District 10 Senior Citizens Committee is working on identifying items/services we would like to see at the center. One of the top priority items will be a Comprehensive Nutrition Program which will provide health and wellness information and a balanced nutritious lunch for only 50 cents.

We will continue to keep you posted on the progress and development of the new Senior Citizen Center.

—Ed Keely, Government Relations Chairman

Responsible Pet Ownership

Pets can be a rewarding addition to any family, but they come with responsibilities. Courtesy and respect are part of being a good neighbor and also a necessity when it comes to pet ownership.

Abiding by leash laws and cleaning up animal waste are some of the courtesies that residents should provide. Another is making sure that pets don't disturb the peace by barking or howling at inappropriate times.

If you haven't used a bag to clean up after your pet before, here are some simple instructions:



Step 1

Place your hand inside the plastic bag and simply scoop up the waste. Your hand is protected by the bag.

Step2

Turn the bag inside out (there should be no waste on the outside of the bag) and knot the open end.

Step3

Take the waste bag home with you and simply discard in your trash.

LET'S DO THE PET WASTE MATH!

~150 dogs in Valencia + 3/4 lb of waste per day per dog (Kitsap Co. statistical average)
+ 50% of all pet owners in Valencia walk their dogs in public places*
+ Up to 40% of dog owners DO NOT pick up after their pet*

How does it add up?

150 X 3/4 pounds = 113 pounds of dog waste DAILY in Valencia
50% in public places X 40% not picking up =
23 pounds of waste left behind in yours, and your neighbors lawn daily!



Valencia Neighborhood Association

2009 Membership Dues

The integrity of our Neighborhood Association is only as strong as our membership.

Valencia Neighborhood Association dues for 2009 are \$75.00

Please make checks payable to VHOA. Fill in below and return with your membership payment to:

Ed Alexander-Treasurer * 13318 Los Indios * San Antonio, TX 78233

(Please PRINT all information clearly)

Name _____

First

Last

Household Members(names) _____

Address _____ ZIP CODE _____

Phone _____ Date _____

Email _____ @ _____

The City of San Antonio and Valencia Neighborhood Association present

Extreme Sweep 2009

Valencia, El Dorado, and Sierra North subdivisions are this year's District 10 recipients of the City program called Extreme Sweep. The following departments will have representatives in our neighborhoods the entire month of March, for rapid response to issues related to their departments. If you have issues that you would like to have addressed, you will be able to talk face to face with the people who can make it happen. The command post will be located at the Valencia Club House on El Sendero from March 2 through March 27, 2009.

SAPD

SAFFE Officer

Health Department

Code Compliance

(SNAP) Spay & Neuter Assistance Program

Building Code

Animal Care Services

Dept of Community Initiatives

Solid Waste

Public Library

If you have issues or suggestions that you would like VHOA to address for you during Extreme Sweep, please feel free to include them with your membership dues.

February 2009
Thousand Oaks Branch Library
4618 Thousand Oaks Dr.
657-5205

THURSDAYS STORYTIME

10:00a Recommended for children ages 18mo – 3 years

11:00a Recommended for children ages 3 – 5 years

Feb. 1st (Sun) 2:00-4:00p Feral Cat Workshop

Come learn why TNR (Trap, Neuter, Return) is the only method that works effectively. Learn tips and instructions on how to safely and humanely reduce the free-roaming cat population in your community

**Feb. 3rd, 10th, 17th, & 24th (Tuesdays) 4:00-6:00p
BACK Pack**

Come have some after school fun. Books, crafts, fun.

Feb. 3rd, 17th, 24th (Tuesdays) 6:00-8:00p

**KLRN-Little Bites, Big Steps: Nutrition and Fitness
for Young Children**

Fun sessions that will help you better understand how important nutrition and activity are for young children. Discuss new ideas on how to get children up & moving.

**Feb. 4th and 18th (Every other Wednesday)
6:00-7:00p Family Fun**

A Family Fun Program! Books, crafts, fun.

**Feb. 5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th (Thursdays) 6:00-8:00p
RockBand/Guitar Hero**

Come Rock Out @ your Library.

**Feb. 10th (Tue) 7:00-8:00p Tuesday Evening Book
Club.**

Discussion of The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

TAX SEASON!!!!

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)
Program offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. Certified volunteers will be here to help prepare basic tax returns

Monday 2:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday 9:00-3:00 p.m.

Wednesday 9:00-4:00 p.m.,

Thursday 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Friday 10:00-4:00 p.m.,

Saturday 9:00-1:00 p.m.

**Call the library for
details on any of the
above mentioned
programs and/or
events.**

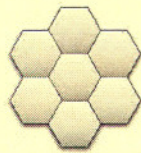


Keep Valencia Looking Decent

Would you like to help improve the Valencia subdivision's appearance? Can you set aside an hour a month to pick up trash under the easements or in ditches. Dianne Johnson would like to see a group gather once a month at the club house to pick up trash. There is a need also to have a list of people willing to be "on call" to clean up broken glass on the street in front of the easements on La Quinta and El Charro. Let's do our best to keep the streets, ditches and easements free of trash and broken glass. Please call Dianne Johnson at 655-2327 if you would like to help with this project.



Capital Management



Hardware & Feed

12826 Nacogdoches Road (210) 657-2300 John G. Frias - Owner
Keys Made A/C Filters Hardware Tools Lawn & Garden Electrical Plumbing Emergency Supplies



A/C filters sold here!

You can save Money on your Electricity bill and save Gas on the trip to your neighborhood Hardware Store
Keys made here!

Grant Writer Needed

There are many opportunities for neighborhood groups to win grants to make improvements in their own back yards. Our neighborhood association would like to resurface and repair the tennis courts next to the club house. The last estimate that we got was over \$15,000.00. Amy Putney, assistant to Councilman John Clamp has advised us that there could be some grant money available to help fund this project.

We need someone with grant writing experience to help us find a grant to fix our tennis courts. Are you that person? This is an opportunity to make a difference for all the residents of Valencia.

Please contact Philip Jackson at 656-4842.



AM 510 600 700 800 1000 1200 1500 1670 kHz

Neighborhood Radio for the Masses

AM1670 is a community oriented microbroadcast radio station that features syndicated, royalty-free and donated content.

Live and recorded broadcasts. Audio streaming 24/7 on your computer from San Antonio, Texas.

Serving homes and businesses in the immediate vicinity of El Dorado, Valencia and Northern Hills subdivisions.

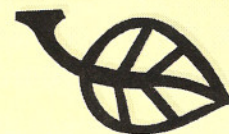
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Professional Landcare Network*

210-259-7574 (Cell) or 210-637-0713

littleleaf@satx.rr.com

---NORTHERN HILLS RESIDENT---

Congratulations to the House Decorating Contest Winners

Thank you to all the neighbors who decorated their houses for the holiday season this year. Our subdivision looked beautiful.

The winners of this year's house decorating contest are:

First place: 5131 Hacienda

Second place: 12718 La Quinta

Third place: 13406 Monte Leon

Honorable Mention: Varrientos Street for the most decorated

houses on one street.

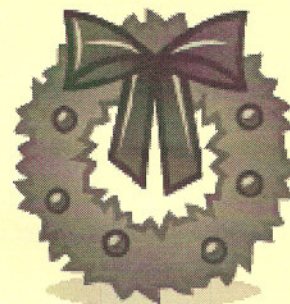
First, second, and third place winners will receive a free one year membership to the Valencia Neighborhood Association.

The association would like to thank the judges from the El Dorado Home Owners Association who did the judging for our neighborhood.

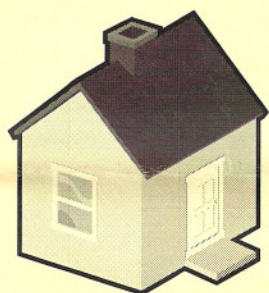
We hope to sponsor another house decorating contest next

year during the holiday season.

If you would like to assist with promoting or organizing this contest next year, contact one of the board of directors.



Volunteer with VHOA



club house.

The VHOA has an opening for Club House Scheduler. This person is responsible for scheduling the rentals of the

Club house rentals are one way that our association receives income. Our clubhouse has been rented for weddings, wedding receptions, birthday parties, holiday parties, and for business meetings.

A church has rented our clubhouse for Sunday morning worship.

We rent the club house to residents

and non-residents of Valencia. Members of the Valencia Neighborhood Association rent the club house at a reduced rate.

Please contact Philip Jackson at 656-4842 if you would like to serve as the club house scheduler.

This is a great way to support the neighborhood association.

Bits and Pieces

SAWS Season to Save

*VNA participated in the low flow toilet fundraiser again this past fall. We got orders for 125 toilets. Eighty-eight of those toilets were picked up on distribution day. We received \$2,200.00 for our efforts. This is one more step to reduce the amount of water used in San Antonio.

*Did You Know

The *In His Grace Bible Church* is now conducting services on Sunday mornings at the Valencia Club House. Service times are Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and Worship at 10:45 a.m. Pastor Joe Cadell and his wife, Teri invite you to attend their Sunday morning service and find out what God has in store for you.

**O'Reilly Auto Parts* allows us to use their water for keeping

the plants on the entrance island on El Charro watered. We wish to thank them for their support.

*To subscribe to Councilman John Clamp's e-mail newsletter send your request to Amanda Knull at Amanda.knull@sanantonio.gov.

*The Valencia Neighborhood board meetings are held on the second Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Valencia Club House.



Skilled Services of San Antonio

Office (210) 490-0844

Fax (210) 455-7543

Your Service Team

If you have ideas about remodeling, repairs and/or additions to your residence or business, you need to talk to us. We have been working in the San Antonio area for over 20 years and we will listen to what you want. Our beliefs of integrity, working hard and maintaining a Christian attitude have contributed to the building of long-term relationships with our many clients.

Our team of experts will help you enlarge or brighten up your kitchen, bathroom or entire house, turning your house into the HOME you WANT it to be. From Tracey, who will take your call, to our estimator Ed, to Paul, our project manager, and to Mike, our quality control manager, our hard-working staff is anxious to hear from you. We are also pleased to work with real estate agents, interior decorators and insurance companies.

WHAT WE DO

Kitchens and Bathrooms – Repairs and renovation, cabinets, countertops, new sinks and fixtures, custom showers and tubs, room additions

Painting – Exterior, interior, sheetrock, wallpaper, staining and sealing

Flooring – All types, including carpet, vinyl, ceramic, wood, stamped and stained concrete, custom designs

Exterior Repairs – Replace rotten wood, framing carpentry, roofing with asphalt shingles, metal roofs, dimensional materials, windows and siding replacement, commercial flat roofs, hail damage claims, vandalism, smoke and fire

We are a Registered Builder (TRCC #38347) in the State of Texas. We have workers licensed in the State of Texas and San Antonio in the fields of electrical, HVAC and plumbing. We have all necessary and required insurance coverage and will obtain all the permits for the work as required. Well-known references furnished upon request.



www.skilledservicesofsa.com

Let Skilled Services be your choice of Contractor. Please call 210-490-0844

PIZZABELLA

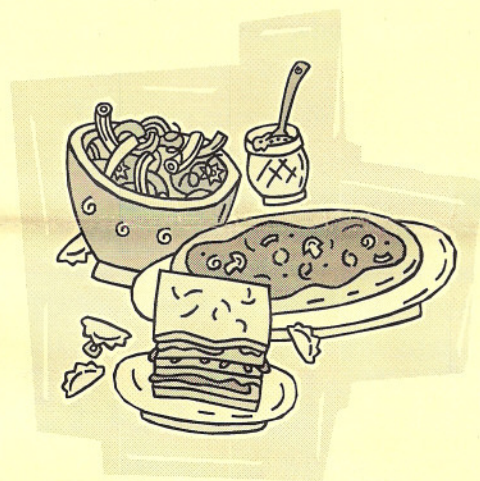
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\$6.99 Monday Night Buffet

Live Piano Music Friday 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

18 draft beers, 35 fine wines, New Wine Bar open, World's best pizza, Small plates menu – cheeses & meats, and more....

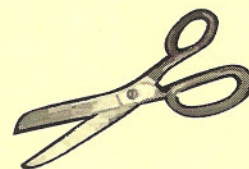


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Valencia Home Owners Association
Club House
13103 El Sendero
San Antonio, TX 78233

PRESORT STD
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As a member of the **Valencia HOA**,
you and your family are eligible
for membership.

Auto Loans

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* Vehicle loan rates and terms are based on your credit rating, your relationship with us and other factors. Payment per \$1,000 is approximately \$17.13 per month for 66 months at 4.5% APR. Loan term will be based upon amount financed, collateral, and mileage. Rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Longer loan terms are available at different rates. Call our Consumer Lending Center for more details. Some restrictions may apply. Loans are subject to credit approval.