

COVNA

Castlewood - Oak Valley Neighborhood Association



Note from the President

We are looking for sponsors for COVNA newsletters and events in 2023! Contact Will Binford or Katy Hamill for more information.

Can you believe we are more than half way through the year? What a fun we have had already! Many thanks to the Board for supporting COVNA events and community. Our Spring Picnic was a blast thanks to our neighbor Veronica who has been so generous to offer her lovely lot at Castledale and Woodshire. The Garage sale was our best yet with awesome leadership from neighbors, and we beat the heat at the Summer picnic cooling off with Kona Ice. We are so happy to feel a return to normal and our membership is thriving. If for any reason you are not getting COVNA emails and event updates please reach out to me immediately so we can make sure that everyone is in the know. Finally, we welcome all of your feedback and ideas to make the rest of this year and next year even better. I can always be reached on my cell phone: 512.736.1680. Thanks y'all!

-Michelle

COVNA Executive Board

President: Michelle Hendrix (Comburg Castle)

Vice President: Matt Janiga (Queenswood)

Treasurer: Ron Mattison (Queenswood)

Secretary: Denise Sample (Comburg Castle)

Newsletter Editor: Katy Hamill (Crownspoint Dr.)

ANC Representative: Will Binford (Comburg Castle)

Immediate Past Pres: Sean McCormack (Barkwood)

Time to Become a COVNA member!

Board member elections happen at our December party, and while that seems far from now, remember you must be a dues paying member by JULY 1 to run for a spot. To vote in the elections, you must be a dues paying member by SEP 1. So don't delay - join today! More info on page 3 (view online).



Humans of COVNA

Know a wonderful neighbor we should spotlight? Please email Katy at kaydeebugg@gmail.com with "Neighbor Spotlight" in the subject line and a brief summary of why you want to highlight this person. We'll do the rest!

Find this issue's Humans of COVNA, featuring longtime resident and nature enthusiast Frank de la Teja, on our website: www.covna.org

Visit our webpage for the most up to date information about COVNA events, additional newsletter content, membership and list serve sign up, and more

www.covna.org

Start Your Engines

The 4th of July is nearly here which means it's time for our neighborhood car parade! Get your cars ready with streamers, balloons, window paint--get festive!--and meet at the corner of Comburg Castle Way and Comburg Drive at 845a on Monday July 4. Whether you've got a classic car, a modern gem, or the family wagon, join the caravan and bring some cheer to your neighbors this holiday! Bikes also welcome! *(Please, no pedestrians.)* Spectators are encouraged to cheer from your front yards! The parade will end with BYOBrunch in the Woodshire / Castledale cul-de-sac so bring a chair and stay for a while.



It's HOT Perhaps you've noticed?

It's only June and already a scorcher! During our Texas summer heat, keep yourself cool, take care of our people, pets, and plants - and don't forget to conserve energy and water!

- **Austin is in Stage 1 drought restrictions**, including a one or two day/week watering schedule, depending on whether you're watering with a hose or via irrigation, respectively. Always water between midnight to 8am and/or 7pm to midnight, and avoid watering during the heat of the day when nearly all of the water will evaporate. Visit www.austinwater.org for more information and to learn your watering schedule.
- **Conserve energy.** Keep your thermostat set at 78-80 degrees during the day, turn off lights when you leave the room, and run your dishwasher and laundry overnight or very early in the morning. Our energy grid will be stressed this season, and this collective action can make a big impact.
- **Stay hydrated!** Be sure you're drinking plenty of water, especially if you're spending time outside. You also might consider stepping up your water game by adding electrolytes or cooling herbs such as lemon balm or mint. For something a little different, try coconut water, which is packed with potassium, magnesium, and other minerals to replenish your body - and it tastes delicious!
- **Stay indoors during the hottest part of the day** and take plenty of breaks if you must be outside, especially if you begin to feel dizzy, faint, or nauseous, as these could be signs of heat exhaustion.



Are you a COVNA member yet?

We've grown our membership significantly this year, to more than 25% of the households within Castlewood and Oak Valley neighborhoods! Be our next member--sign up by Sep 1 to vote in the next Board elections, or by July 1 to run for a Board seat. Dues are only \$20/year and are payable via Paypal (covna.paypal@gmail.com), at any of our events, on www.covna.org, or with the QR code to the left. *If using Paypal, please include your full name and street address in the notes section with your payment so we can update our records.*

HUMANS OF COVNA: Frank de la Teja

Frank de la Teja and his wife, Maggie, have called Toulouse home for 35 years, having moved here a few years after meeting as grad students at UT. Perhaps you've admired the bird photos he's shared via our COVNA list serv, said hello as he's dropped off your newsletter, or spoken with him about his time serving as a research assistant to author James Michener. Originally born in Cuba, Frank is an avid photographer, Texas historian, and with all seven continents under his belt, a world traveler to boot. Although his last name translates to "of the roof tile," we all know the truth is that he is the namesake of our home state *winkwink* Frank and Maggie are happily caregivers to grandchildren Kai and Cru, who spend weekdays and after-school hours with them. Please say hello if you ever see them out walking with a stroller or "behind the wheel" of a mini-Corvette!

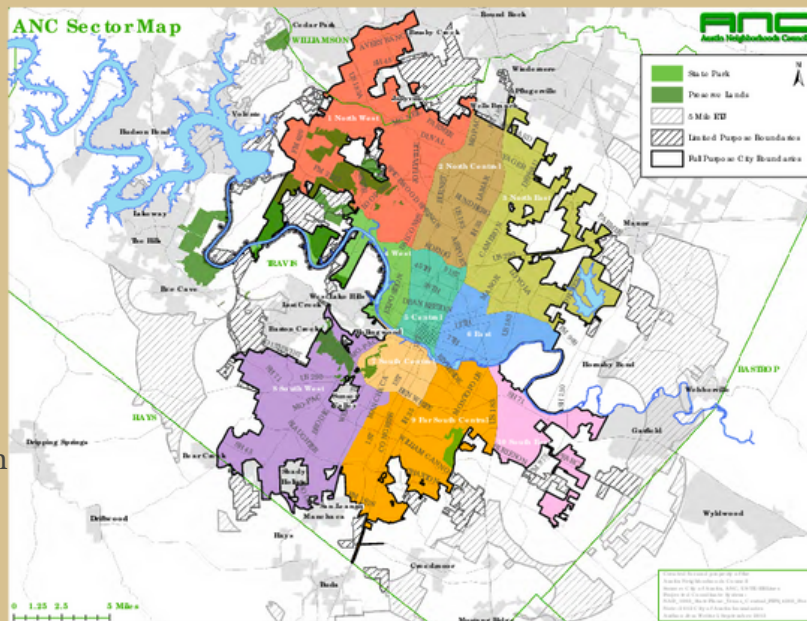


The de la Teja family in their backyard, Frank on the top left. Visit ww.covna.org to learn more about Frank and his family.

To see some of Frank's bird photos, visit: <https://delateja.smugmug.com/COVNA-Birds>

News from the Austin Neighborhood Council

I (Will Binford) virtually attended the Travis County Gun Violence Summit that took place June 8th. I'm cautiously optimistic about strategies and tactics that City of Austin & Travis County law enforcement, and District Attorney Jose Garza are taking. DA Garza said, "You have my word that if a person in our community picks up a gun, points it at another person and pulls the trigger, they will be arrested, and they will be held accountable." Other speakers/attendees highlighted many of the resources available within city/county for those who have been affected by gun violence. Still in very early stages, I am happy to discuss what was covered with anyone interested.



Castlewood Forest - Oak Valley lie within sector 8, Southwest Austin, seen in purple in the bottom left of this ANC sector map.

Upcoming COVNA Events

4th of July Parade - Monday July 4, 2022

National Night Out - Tuesday October 4, 2022

Halloween Block Party - Saturday October 29, 2022

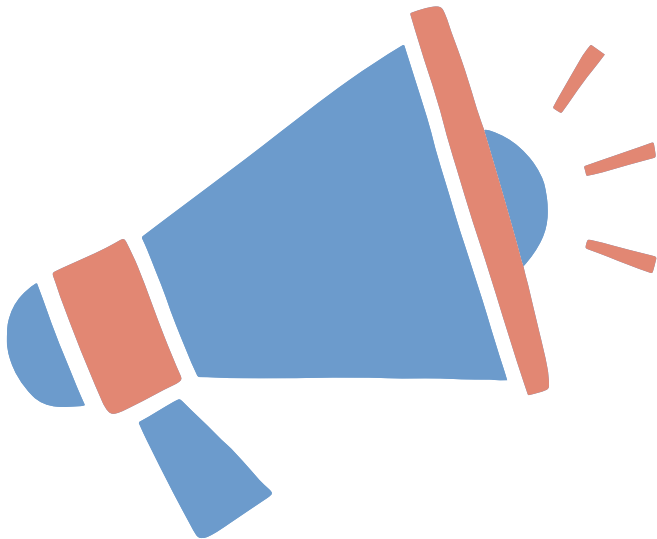
Winter Party/Elections - Saturday December 10, 2022

Please note: the nature and/or dates of events may change if needed. Bookmark our website (www.covna.org) for the latest updates, including location and time details



Show your COVNA love

COVNA is now looking for regular sponsors for 2023!



Whether you're a business owner or simply a resident of the neighborhood, every donation you make helps us create fantastic events and eventually host additional community-building activities. From sponsoring newsletter printing, to buying pizzas, to helping with event setup - we're always looking for

contributors and collaborators. Contact Will Binford, Katy Hamill, or Michelle Hendrix for more info!

COVNA Executive Board - contact info

President: Michelle Hendrix (Comburg Castle): michelle.hendrix@compass.com

Vice President: Matt Janiga (Queenswood): m.d.janiga@gmail.com

Treasurer: Ron Mattison (Queenswood): shadmatt@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Denise Sample (Comburg Castle): sample.denise@gmail.com

Newsletter: Katy Hamill (Crownspoint Dr.): kaydeebugg@gmail.com

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