

COVNA

Castlewood - Oak Valley Neighborhood Association



Note from the President

Hello neighbors! I can't believe it's already 2023. We proved resilient last year as a neighborhood, and all of our events are back on track. We had the most fun at the Spring Fling, and the Halloween block party was the best ever! National Night Out may have set a cotton candy record and neighbors small and tall lined up to cool off with a snow cone at the Summer Picnic. We couldn't do it without all of our amazing neighbors, incredible volunteers, and generous locally-owned business sponsors. I am so looking forward to seeing everyone out and about during the upcoming COVNA Garage Sale and all of the year's events to follow. As you know, I'm always available for all of your questions and suggestions. In fact, we'd like to introduce a suggestion box - coming soon to my front yard fence at 2504 Comburg Castle Way. Thank you all for making Castlewood and Oak Valley the best neighborhood this side of the river!

~Michelle Winchell-Hendrix 512.736.1680

COVNA Executive Board

Pres: Michelle Hendrix (Comburg Castle)
VP: Will Binford (Comburg Castle)
Treas: Ron Mattison (Queenswood)
Secty: Denise Sample (Comburg Castle)
Newsletter: Katy Hamill
(Crownspoint Dr)
ANC Rep: *position currently open*
Past Pres: Sean McCormack (Barkwood)

There's an open Board seat and we'd love to have you join us!
Contact any current Board member for more information about serving as ANC Representative.

COVNA membership drive is live!

Become a member today and support our wonderful neighborhood gatherings!

Dues are only \$20/year and are payable via check (use the enclosed form), Paypal (covna.paypal@gmail.com), at www.covna.org, or with the QR code to the right.



If using Paypal, please include your full name and street address in the notes section with your payment so we can update our records.

You'll find the full-color newsletter, including information on tree care after the ice storm, on our website

www.covna.org

2023 Neighborhood Events Calendar

Annual COVNA Garage Sale - Saturday April 15

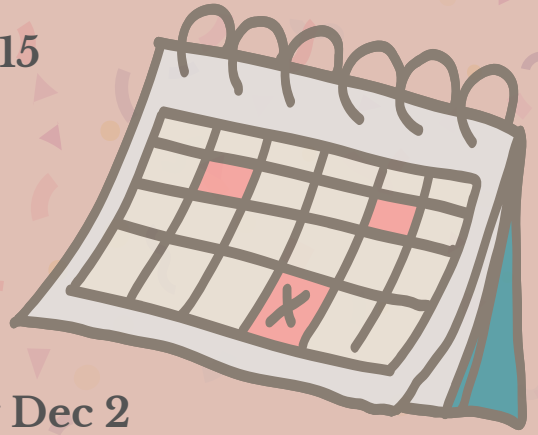
Spring Fling - Saturday April 29

Summer Parade and Picnic - Saturday July 1

National Night Out - Tuesday October 3

Halloween Block Party - Saturday October 28

Holiday Party and Board Elections - Saturday Dec 2



Location for all events TBA. Dates subject to change.

SPONSORS WANTED!

Sponsor a COVNA event and advertise your business - neighbors love to support neighbors' businesses! Contact Will for more info.

COVNA Executive Board - contact info

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

Vice President: Will Binford (Comburg Castle): will.binford@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

ANC Representative: *position currently open*

Immediate Past President: Sean McCormack (Barkwood)

COVNA membership application / renewal form

You may also pay at www.covna.org, with Paypal (covna.paypal@gmail.com), or by scanning the QR code

Please make checks payable to COVNA

DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL. Do not send unstamped mail through USPS.

If you wish, you may deliver in person to Ron Mattison, Treasurer, at 9003 Queenswood

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER (in case we need to reach you) _____

EMAIL _____

Let's talk trees

After Snowpocalypse 2021, an ongoing draught, and the most recent freeze, our beloved neighborhood canopy is a bit worse for wear. To keep your trees as healthy as possible, pay attention to these tips, gathered from TreeFolks and the Texas A&M Forest Service:

First and foremost, secure the services of a certified arborist for pruning and heavy clean-up. A certified arborist must pass an exam demonstrating extensive knowledge of arboriculture before receiving their certification. These people are dedicated to the science of growing and maintaining trees, and are worth the money it takes to hire them.

Probably most concerning is the risk of oak wilt. Oak wilt is a fungus spread when insects are drawn to the smell of freshly cut wood and feed on an infected tree. They then spread the fungal infection to surrounding areas. Oak wilt can also spread through root systems and

by transporting infected firewood from one place to another. Wounds suffered during the ice storm are no longer enticing to these insects, but new wounds created by cleanup and pruning may draw them in, especially as the weather continues warming. Prune only what is necessary for safety, and paint the wounds immediately - any paint will do!

DO NOT do any cosmetic pruning until mid-summer when the insect vectors are less active.

For more information on oak wilt and preventing its spread, visit www.texasoakwilt.org

HUMANS OF COVNA: *Meet your Board members!*

Time to get to know the COVNA Board! **Newsletter Editor Katy**, here since 2018, lives with two cats, two other humans, a bunch of chickens, and too many houseplants. She is trying to remember why she likes to garden in absurd TX weather and is currently rebuilding a motorcycle with her partner, Charles. **Secretary Denise** moved to COVNA with her family in 2013. She tells her kids to bury her in the backyard when she passes because, with these Austin home prices, "she ain't going nowhere." She loves dressing up with her family on Halloween, and reading anything by David Sedaris. **President Michelle** moved to COVNA in 2013 and claims she'll never leave because she adores it so much. She's a big fan of the owls especially! She and her husband stay busy chasing their kids and traveling far and wide whenever the opportunity presents itself. **VP Will** has lived here since 2012 with his two rambunctious daughters, Addy & Emma, and his better half Alison. He works for James Avery and Alison wonders when her jewelry gifts will begin to arrive. **Past President Sean** moved to Castlewood in 2009 with his wife, Annie. He enjoys volunteerism on the neighborhood level. His goal is to enrich the lives of those around him with either humor or helpfulness - just not both at the same time, sorry! **Treasurer Ron** is a longtime resident (since 1975), as is his 99-year-old father who lives next door. He enjoys having an adult beverage on the porch in the evenings with his wife, Karen.