

ELE Newsletter

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June 2004

From the President:

It has been a while since I wrote a letter from the president. I can't believe the year is half over. The first five months have been very busy for me personally as well as for our entire ELE Board.

I want to thank everyone on the Board for their hard work these last months. Ken Eichenauer and his Grounds Committee have not only maintained our common area, but also had the entrances redone this spring and supervised a very successful cleanup day. This year the focus was on cleaning up the canal area and installing a Rainbow Play Set, donated by the Valentine family, in the common area east of the pool.

Ken Koehler has also been very busy. He and his excellent Pool Committee worked hard to make sure the pool opened on time this year. I want to commend Wally for his efforts. It is his first year on the Board and he got stuck with the pool because no one else wanted that position. I'm not sure if we realize how much time and effort go into managing the pool. Dealing with regulatory agencies, lifeguards, pool maintenance, budgets, and a host of other issues make this a huge job. Thank you Wally for stepping up and getting the pool up and running.

This is the second year Lynn Maize has done an outstanding job with our social events. This is the first year Julie and I could not attend the Progressive Dinner, but we heard it was a lot of fun. Our next party is the popular, and usually rainy, 4th of July parade.

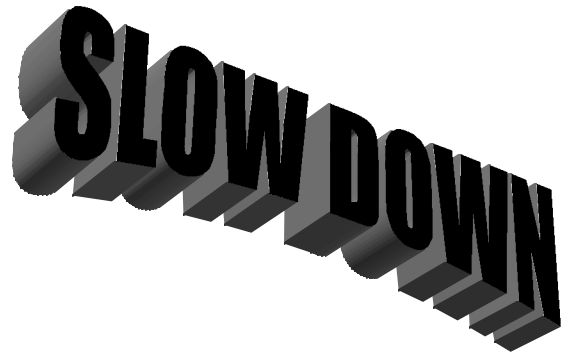
I want to commend Rick Billingsley for his work on the Architectural Committee. Rick and his Committee have been busy reviewing additions and other changes to the homes in our neighborhood. Rick has done an outstanding job enforcing our rules to make sure ELE is the beautiful community we have all come to expect.

These are only a few of the people who volunteer their time and skills to make sure our community functions as we expect it to. I thought that at the halfway through the year, it would be good to recognize their hard work.

In the future, we are trying to find a solution to vandalism. We are considering installing a security system with monitored cameras for the pool and tennis area. Summer is usually when vandalism occurs. One way we can all help is to keep our eyes and ears open. If you see any suspicious activity in our common areas, please report it immediately to the police. We apprehended a few trespassers that way last year.

I hope everyone has a good summer!

Tony Pompa



With the opening of our ELE pool, please remember to watch your speed on Lake Powell and Lake Tahoe. We have many children anxious to swim and often they forget to look between the parked cars, when crossing the street to the pool. Also, please park in the pool parking lot first, before parking on the street. Using the parking lot increases the visibility for motorists and children. If you have a teenage driver at home, please remind them to slow down, too.

Welcome new neighbors:

Bill & Pat Masters
3505 Lake Powell Drive
817-866-2725

Abdul K. & Babe Wafayee
3602 Lake Powell Drive
817-300-5546

Children:

Tash, 12, Bibi 9, Rahim 4, and Badam 4

WANTED

If you've served on the Board before, we need you again! If you're interested in serving on the Board for the first time, welcome! The ELE Homeowners Association is managed by a volunteer Board of nine Directors. Each Board Member serves in one of the following positions: architectural/rules, directory/newsletter, tennis, pool, common grounds, social, secretary, VP and President.

The Board is equally divided into three classes, so that one-third of the Board shall be elected every year. Board members are elected at the ELE annual meeting held on the third Sunday in September.

If you are interested in serving on our ELE Board, please e-mail allboardmbrs@elehoa.org or contact any Board Member by phone.

Women's Club:

Despite our rainy day on May 1st, the Garage Sale was a success. We were able to unload some treasures. A huge thank you to all who helped organize this event. Georgia Cunningham was an essential part of our good turnout, thank you! Carolyn Morris and Mary Hibbs helped pass out balloons. Next year it will be even better.

Splash day is coming soon and the Women's Club will provide free Otter Pops for the kids. We have traditionally done Snow Cones, but logistically it was not possible this year. And besides it's always fun to try something new.

We purchased a new nozzle for the Helium tank in the pool house and we will provide this service to our neighbors. I am looking for a company to service the tank. I hope to have this up and running within the month. (There is a nominal fee for the helium use and refundable deposit for the nozzle just to keep us all honest.)

If anyone is interested in becoming part of a book club, please contact Marie Jordan. She will spearhead this intellectual endeavor. We would like to start this summer if we get enough takers.

Until next month,

Cheryl Eichenauer
President



LOVE AND A CUP OF JOE

We'll get to the coffee in a minute. Right now, let's talk cats. If your cat goes outside at all, and its vaccinations are not completely current, your cat's health could be in serious danger. The rabies vaccination is, of course, required by the City for obvious reasons. But a sneaky, insidious killer is feline leukemia—which is terminal. Healthy looking cats can show no clinical symptoms for as long as 2-3 years. Eventually, they will stop eating, lose weight and perhaps crawl off to die somewhere alone. Most importantly, these healthy looking cats (maybe the one next door?) can be carriers of the disease for 2-3 years. If one of these cats lick, scratches or sneezes on your cat, your cat could become infected with a prognosis of death. The only protection is a vaccination every year because, unlike humans, the virus protection of the shot deteriorates in a year.

Vaccinations can be obtained from your vet.

Petsmart and PETCO have special days when they offer low cost vaccinations. The Dog Wash nearby at 5724 SW Green Oaks Blvd. offers feline leukemia shots for \$12, distemper for \$7 and rabies for \$5 on Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons. Phone: 817-561-1801

Now for the coffee. A large latte at Starbucks costs \$3.69. So a rabies shot costs slightly more than one cup of coffee and a feline leukemia shot costs a little more than three cups. When you look into the loving, trusting eyes of your cat ask yourself—is saving its life worth a cup of Joe to you?

Now on to BARKING DOGS. It is hard to enjoy that cup of coffee when your neighbor's dog is barking non-stop. The ELE Board continues to receive complaints regarding the constant barking of neighbors' dogs. Please be considerate of your neighbors and bring barking dogs inside.

TEXAS SNAKES

If you've recently visited the lake are our ELE Common Grounds area, you may have noticed the Snakes!

Texas is home to around 115 species and subspecies of snakes. The 15 venomous snakes in Texas make up less than 15 percent of the total number of snakes in the state. They are separated into four categories: coral snakes, copperheads, cottonmouths (water moccasins) and rattlesnakes.

The cottonmouth, or water moccasin, rarely strays far from water and can be found in marshes, swamps, ponds, lakes, ditches, and canals. It is a stubby, muscular snake and can grow to nearly six feet. Moccasins can bite underwater. These snakes can be very defensive and sometimes aggressive. Swimmers, bathers and anglers on river banks should always keep an eye open for these snakes.

Watching where you step, is one of the best ways to prevent snake bites. Poisonous snakes live on or near the ground and often like rocks, wood piles and other spots that offer both a place to sun and a place to hide. Snakes avoid you huge body, but will definitely bite if stepped on or otherwise trapped. Most bites occur in and around the ankle. About 99 percent of all bites occur below the knee, except when someone accidentally picks up or falls on the snake.

The fangs of venomous snakes, thought long and sharp, are relatively fragile and easily deflected or broken. These fangs usually don't penetrate canvas tennis shoes and almost never penetrate leather shoes or boots. Watching where you step and waring boots in tall grass can prevent most snake bites.

Snakes are not something to be feared, but rather creatures to be respected as a fascinating members of the outdoors.

