



Happy
new year

Newsletter

JANUARY 2019 – VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1



A YEAR IN REVIEW

Accomplishments for 2018: The Board had many issues to deal with in 2018. A few of the major ones are listed below:

1. The Board of Directors amended the Bylaws to increase the number of directors and resulted with the election of Mary Ling, Ryan Haskins and Haley Najar.
2. We held our very first Town Hall meeting in July.
3. Approved the very first increase of homeowner assessments of \$100/yr.
3. Repaired and replaced portion of retaining wall at Newton Trail gate entrance.
4. Total replacement of main entrance gate at Cottonwood Way (Coves section) due to hit and run accident.
5. Repaired back gate in two incidents (Coves section) due to hit and run accidents.
6. Repaired SOS systems for all gates.
7. Replaced water features pump as well as another in pumphouse.
8. Increased service of greenbelt areas from twice a year to quarterly.
9. Installed iron barrier arm to limit access in greenbelt behind Limestone Trail.

In addition, the Board responded to many day-to-day problems requiring policy decisions and provided oversight and direction to the HOA staff. Just a statement of fact - to be an effective Board member requires many hours of service!

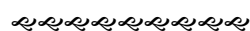
The Board works hard to maintain the physical appearance and reputation of our community. That said, we can't do it all. We need your help. Please be good neighbors and address maintenance issues in a timely manner. Weather and time will eventually cause the unsightly appearance of almost anything installed or left outside. The most obvious problem is wood. However, metal rusts, shingles go missing, concrete settles and cracks, shrubs and trees die, etc. Please address the obvious signs of deterioration by removing, repairing, or replacing when needed.

Peace and best wishes in 2019!!

The Preserve at Alamo Ranch

Board of Directors

Joseph Arthur, President
Ryan Haskins, Vice President
Garry Nutt, Treasurer
Mary Ling, Secretary
Haley Najar, Member at Large



Tara Arthur, Social Committee, Chair
Edward Arroyo, ACC Committee, Chair
Kurt B ergo, Finance Committee, Chair





How to Keep Your New Year's Resolutions

The new year has arrived, and you have already drawn up your resolutions. Now, how to stick to your plan?

Steps:

1. Put it all on paper. Write your resolutions down and keep them in an accessible place as reminders - tape them to your mirror, write them in a journal or put them on your refrigerator door.
2. Mark your calendar. Set deadlines for yourself to tackle each step toward reaching your goal, one at a time.
3. Start as soon as possible. Go out and purchase the necessary equipment or literature; call now and set up an appointment with your dentist, your doctor, your trainer, your accountant....
4. Find a role model. Is there anyone who has succeeded in fulfilling an ambition like yours? Look to this person as a reminder that it is possible to achieve your goal.
5. Check your progress regularly and give yourself an occasional reward for your efforts. Make sure the reward isn't contrary to your resolution; celebrate a cigarette-free month with a weekend trip or a new outfit, not with a cigarette!
6. Inform friends and family of your goals and recruit them to regularly remind and support you in your endeavors.

Tips:

- Don't sweat the setbacks; persistence is the key.

Just How Important Is It That You Attend A Board Meeting?

If you've never attended a Board of Directors meeting then you are not taking advantage of your opportunity to observe and participate in the decision-making process that protects, preserves and enhances your community's assets and, ultimately, your property values.

If you really understood what kind of business is conducted at a Board meeting, and the important role that you, as a homeowner, play in making those decisions, then you just might change your mind and choose to attend a meeting.

Most of the business decisions made at a board meeting have a direct impact on the property values of our community. Decisions regarding association maintenance items are the most common. Some decisions have an indirect effect, such as decisions regarding rules and regulations and financial operations. But whether they affect property values directly or indirectly they all have some impact on our community and as a member of the community, they impact you.

There are three different phases of a Board meeting.

- The Homeowners Open Forum, where homeowners (like you!) can address the Board with your ideas, comments and/or suggestions pertaining to our community.
- The Business Meeting, at which the board discusses and makes decisions based on a pre-established meeting agenda.
- The Executive Session, which is conducted without homeowners present in order to discuss issues related to legal issues, personnel issues and/or non-compliance hearings.

Homeowners can attend the Business Meeting, but they are not allowed to speak to the Board during this portion of the Board meeting. Homeowners are encouraged to attend in order to observe only.

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During the Homeowners Open Forum, homeowners are permitted to address the Board for a limited time period. An important point to remember is that although important issues may be brought to the Board's attention during Open Forum, don't expect the Board to act on these issues at that time. Many issues are turned over to management for research and to determine the options available for dealing with the issues. The more prepared the Board is before deciding, the better the decision will be.

Homeowners are not allowed to attend the Executive Session. Sensitive legal, personnel and/or hearing issues are dealt with during Executive Session.

In closing, The Board of Directors for The Preserve at Alamo Ranch encourages all homeowners to attend all Board meetings, thus allowing you the opportunity to see how the Association is being managed. The Board of Directors also encourages questions and feedback from homeowners during the open homeowner session of Board meetings. Allowing for direct communication of matters to the Board, by homeowners of the association whom wish to attend the meeting and be heard.

The Preserve at Alamo Ranch New Resident Welcome

Welcome to the Preserve at Alamo Ranch! We hope you will find this neighborhood just as friendly and enjoyable as we have.

Our neighborhood of 449 homes is in the fastest growing area of San Antonio – Alamo Ranch, where neighbors enjoy a feeling of familiarity to one another and share a strong sense of community.

Please welcome our new neighbors to the community.

William and Lisa Contreras
Coryell Cove
COVES SECTION



New Committee Members Announcement

On December 20, 2018, the Board of Directors approved members to the **Architectural Control Committee**:

Please welcome:

Bill Barton
David Spencer
Karen Hryhorchuk
Noel Clemons



Managed by:

Eva Hecox
Diamond Association Management & Consulting ("DAMC")
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Reminder of New Rates for 2019

A rate adjustment approved by San Antonio City Council in December 2017 takes effect Jan. 1, 2019.

The 4.7 percent average adjustment will change the average monthly residential bill from \$62.89 to \$65.83 — a difference of \$2.94 (excluding regulatory pass-through fees).

The tables on pages 2 and 3 show the new rates for each service and customer type. The impact on your own bill may be greater than or less than the average depending on your water use.

To estimate how your own bill will change, use the rate calculator at saws.org/calculator.



Did You Know....

Getting To Know Your Neighbors Creates Community



In our fast-paced, stress-filled world we often don't create the opportunities that we need in order to get to know our neighbors.

In days past, good neighbor relations were the staple of every strong community. Being able to share life's experiences, both good and bad, with those who live so close to us was once considered one of life's greatest blessings.

These days it is the exception rather than the rule to take the time to create strong relationships with the people we share our community with...and we are each the poorer because of it. Each one of us has a story to tell, a hand to lend, a laugh to share, and friendship to give. What keeps us from extending so much of ourselves to the families that live around our own may be those same things that prevent us from experiencing many of the great blessings of our parents or of our youth: A changing world that focuses more on the individual than the family and the need to remain isolated in order to feel "safe and secure."

Someone once said, "If you always do the things you did, you'll always get the things you got." If we want to grow as a community then we have to risk breaking free from the bonds of isolation that are so easily created by and for us. We must reach out to our neighbors and let them know that they matter and that we care. If we do that, even in the most seemingly insignificant of ways - like a wave as we pass on the street - then we are moving toward a better community and a better way to live.

Just because our culture has pushed us away from ourselves doesn't mean it is right, it just means that we have to work that much harder in order to reconnect with one another and create a better environment in which to live.

News to Share???

The Preserve at Alamo Ranch Newsletter combines relevant community news, information, as well as highlights local area events. This monthly newsletter is emailed to all property owners as well as posted on our HOA website. Homeowners are encouraged to submit community news, community photos, group announcements (i.e., Bunco, playgroups, Monday Night Football, wine tasting, weddings, graduation, etc.) and other relevant newsworthy ideas for the newsletter.

Send your news, announcements to preservehoaboard@yahoo.com for inclusion in our next newsletter.



Holiday Lighting Contest WINNERS

Great participation was had for this event. The below are the list of winners.

Prizes awarded to:

GRAND PRIZE ~ \$150.00

Eversole family 3303 Titus Trail

1ST PRIZE ~ \$125.00

Soderstorm family 3114 Crosby Cove

2ND PRIZE ~ \$100.00

McCalib family 3211 Limestone Trail

3RD PRIZE ~ \$75.00

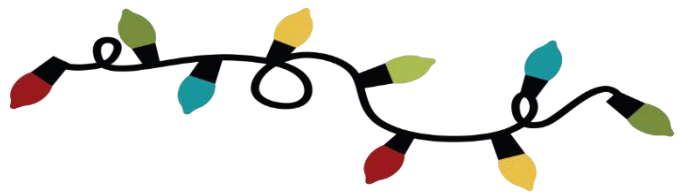
Richardson family 3411 Cherokee Cove

Honorable Mention for each section ~ \$25.00

Pichard family 11934 Willacy Trail

Espinosa family 12231 Chambers Cove

Staton family 3554 Glasscock Trail



JANUARY

2019



SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

31

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05



Recycle Day

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Trash Pick up

Recycle Day

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Trash Pick up

Recycle Day

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***Martin Luther
King Day***

Recycle Day

Trash Pick up

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31

Trash Pick up

Recycle Day