

BARTON CREEK

**BARTON CREEK NORTH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
APRIL 2004**

Message from the Board President

Rick Kilmer 04/01/2004

At a recent meeting of the Barton Creek North Property Owner's Association Board all the members unanimously approved a set of objectives. Some call this a Mission Statement. AKA *Star Wars* we dubbed it our "Prime Objectives."

BCNPOA Prime Objectives

To enhance the value of all our properties through the beautification of the boulevard.

To enforce deed restrictions and Master Architectural Committee determinations.

To promote safety.

To promote a sense of community.

We agreed that this Board or any subsequent Board may modify, add to, or delete from this list at will. In a sense, it merely tells you what we think we are supposed to be doing on your behalf. Please offer your opinions to any member of the Board.

It should be clear that we believe that the "beautification of the boulevard" is very important. To help in that effort we established a Landscape Committee. Chaired by Dennis Dautel with members including Ken Gorzycki, Deanna Arnold, and John Bryan that Committee has already done a great deal of work toward establishing long range and short range plans. They recently interviewed landscape architects to help us identify areas needing improvement and develop an improvement plan. Once a plan is agreed on and costs are determined the Board will act quickly. We want you to see dramatic results soon.

A Master Architectural Committee was already in place. This Committee is chaired by Dick Walker and its members include Jack Edrington, and Tom Suehs. The Board agreed that we need to support that Committee and its determinations. We understand that the consistent application of architectural rules and guidelines is critical to maintaining everyone's property value. We also understand that we are all neighbors and that the Committee and the Board need to deal with people as neighbors. Our MAC understands that it is their job to insure that architectural rules and guidelines are followed or, when appropriate, find a compromise that is acceptable to the community, to the neighbors, and to the homeowner. It is not their job to (and they do not) make rules or be arbitrary in their application. They want to maintain the integrity of the BCNHOA neighborhoods.

I'll quote Dick Walker as accurately as I can. He said, "The MAC strives to maintain the pre existing, published architectural guidelines of the various Sub Associations within the BCNHOA. Our biggest challenge is to keep all new homes, renovations &/or remodeling projects, pools, landscaping, fencing, exterior modifications, etc. in conformance with our

published standards. If we are able to meet with property owners in the planning stages of their projects, we can provide information that should add to the successful completion of their projects!”

Board member Rebecca Jones suggested we create a Traffic & Safety Committee to help us “promote safety” in the community. We thought it a great idea so we quickly appointed her chairperson. That will teach her to have good ideas! Her committee members include Linda Matyas (St. Gabriel’s), Pat Valade (Wimberly Lane), Ralph Giguere (Governor’s Hill), and Kenneth Wilson (The Estates). With the community growing and traffic increasing Rebecca will have a lot to deal with.

In many ways “promoting a sense of community” is our most important objective. We are not certain, yet, about all that we will do here, but we started with another committee, the Presidents Committee. It is chaired by Edd New (The Fairways) and populated with the “Presidents” of the various sub-associations (or their representatives). We hope that representatives from Stratus, Barton Creek Country Club, St. Gabriel’s, St. Michael’s, The Marquis Apartments, and even Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church will participate. This Committee was started because there are only 5 resident member positions on the Master Board and we want everyone to have a venue for input. We hope this will help “promote a sense of community” within the Barton Creek area. Thank you, Edd, for agreeing to herd all these cats.

And thank you to all the members of all the committees. We sincerely appreciate the time and effort you are putting into the functions of your committees.

Of course we will be working on more ways to help promote a sense of community. We believe, though, that the place to start is with good communication... two-way communication. So, please, tell us your thoughts.

As always, we appreciate your input.

Rick Kilmer

2004 Barton Creek North Board of Directors		
<i>Rick Kilmer</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>329.6100</i>
<i>John Bryan</i>	<i>V.President</i>	<i>328.7341</i>
<i>Dennis Dautel</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>329.3268</i>
<i>Deanna Arnold</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>306.0978</i>
<i>Jenny Morris</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>892.2644</i>
<i>Ken Gorzycki</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>329.4639</i>
<i>Rebecca Jones</i>	<i>Director</i>	<i>899.1379</i>
Master Architectural Committee		
<i>Dick Walker, Chairman</i>		<i>663.4709</i>
<i>Jack Edrington</i>		<i>328.2337</i>
<i>Tom Suehs</i>		<i>330.0802</i>
<i>On-Site Manager:</i>	<i>Lynda Crawford</i>	<i>732.1230</i>

Message from the Board Vice-President

John Bryan 04/01/2004

Dear Neighbor:

For some time I have been concerned about the threat of a wildfire endangering our homes. A few weeks ago, the Austin American Statesman's ran an article about the similarities between Austin and Southern California's topography and dense undergrowth near housing developments creating the potential for dangerous wildfire conditions in our area.

In January, I contacted Kevin Dixon, Fire Chief, Oak Hill Fire Department to discuss the possibility of creating a fire break between our homes and neighboring development in case a wild fire started in the Nature Conservancy's 4,000 acre preserve to our immediate west. Chief Dixon was very supportive of such an action and contacted the Nature Conservancy. The first review of the preserve was delayed because of rain and a second meeting between Chief Dixon and the Nature Conservancy was held last Thursday, March 25th. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend but learned from Kevin that WildFire Awareness Week Kickoff event was scheduled for Saturday morning at Austin Fire Station 31.

Rick Kilmer and I attended this session and met Don Snodgrass with The Nature Conservancy, and Lexi Maxwell from the Texas Forest Service. Both supported the creation of a firebreak to protect our homes. Press coverage of this event is in Monday's metro section of the Statesman. We plan to hold a meeting with Kevin Dixon, Don Snodgrass, Lexi Maxwell and representatives from The Estates, Barton Creek West, The Uplands and Stratus Properties to discuss creating a firebreak in The Nature Conservancy's preserve. The proposed firebreak would run from Southwest Parkway north curving west to help protect our respective neighborhoods.

We will keep you posted on our progress and would appreciate any suggestions and assistance you can provide us.

John Bryan

P.S. You can also visit the Travis County website for tips from the Fire Marshall at, <http://www.co.travis.tx.us>; then choose "Wildfire Awareness Week" link.

PLEASE VOTE!

If we, as a community, want more government services and assistance from elected representatives they must know that we vote. They know how many eligible voters live here and they know how many of those that are eligible are registered. They also know how many votes are cast from our community.

If the numbers aren't there, ***they won't care!***

Please VOTE!!!!

P.S. Don't worry, that's not how they pick jurors now. Visit the Travis County website, <http://www.co.travis.tx.us>, to obtain forms for voter registration or to get additional information on voting in Travis County.

The Presidents Committee

At a recent Board meeting, much discussion was centered on achieving greater communication with the various sub-associations and other entities that comprise Barton Creek North.

This committee, comprised of the presidents (or other representatives) of each of the Barton Creek sub associations, the Estates at Barton Creek, St. Michaels, St. Gabriel's, and the Marquis Apartments has been established by the Board to facilitate achieving that objective. We will generally meet prior to each Board meeting to discuss issues that we believe should be brought to the Board's attention and to provide our collective advise about those matters. And, on occasion, we may be asked to consider an issue originated by the Board.

We have no authority to do anything other than advise the Board. But we believe we can provide a valuable source of help to them as they manage the affairs of the Association. For the first time we have established a forum for the Estates, the schools and the apartments to communicate their concerns and issues which the Association may be able to deal with. Hopefully, such improved commutations will help all the residents of Barton Creek to feel a greater sense of community. That is our goal.

MISSION STATEMENT: *To discuss issues or concerns common to the various communities within the Barton Creek area, to advise or inform other Master Board Committees or the Master Board as appropriate, and to serve as a communication conduit between the Master Board and the community residents.*



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