



# Waterwood Neighborhood News

## WIA BOARD CANDIDATES FORUM

WNN asked the seven (7) candidates for the WIA Board elections to answer three questions relative to our community. All of the candidates responded prior to the WNN June 1, 2009 publication deadline.

Please find below the questions asked and the candidate's responses:

### 1. What is it about Waterwood that makes our community such a great place to live?

**Lisa Aguero:** "We are surrounded by natural beauty and far from crowds and traffic, yet, we are close enough to shopping, service and recreation that you can't find in the city. At Waterwood, we can enjoy privacy with plenty of opportunity for community fellowship."

**Jimmy Brett:** "Lake Livingston and fishing! I have been around Lake Livingston since 1971 and have known Waterwood since its introduction to the market. A pleasure that I have learned since living in Waterwood is that the neighbors and the community at large look after each other and is by and large a neighborhood watch community."

**John Charlton:** "At first, I was going to answer the location, the lake, the trees, but the people of Waterwood are what make this place really great."

**Dick Hansen:** "People/Community. My wife and I have never lived in a sub division where there has been greater friendship and concern for one another than Waterwood."

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## THE NIGHT THE LIGHTS CAME ON

The WIA Board voted to turn on the lights of the Parkway. On August 24, SHECO turned the lights on.

Two lights at 190 and the Parkway are now on. All of the lights from 980 to Latrobe are brightly shining. Waterwoodians driving the Parkway at night can now safely navigate to their destinations.



# Welcome to WNN

Yes sir, it did rain in August 2009. What a difference mother nature's rain water makes in our yards and flower beds.

Well, we got the Parkway grass cut in July and now the Parkway lights are turned on. The **Farkarwii** Indians would have been proud.

This summer's drought and the pine bark beetles are taking a toll on our wonderful **Waterwood** trees. (See article on page 11). We have lost many trees this year, but seedlings are growing all over our neighborhood.

Each of the property owners will be receiving a ballot this month to vote for the **WIA** Board vacancies. There are seven candidates for four positions. **WNN** asked each candidate three questions relative to our community. Please read their answers starting on the front page of the WNN.

The 2009-2010 Board will have many important decisions to make on our future of **Waterwood**. Please vote for the candidates of your choice. Your vote means a great deal to growth of our neighborhood.

Remember to call **911** if you have an emergency and then call **WIA** Security at **661-2800**. This will speed up the process of helping you and your problems.

Also, remember to clean up after you pets during your walk through our beautiful community. Dog **Poop** is not a pleasant site, please clean up the mess. **Thank You!**

Your **WIA** Board meets every third Monday at the **WIA** office. The meeting starts promptly at 9:00 AM. You need to participate in your POA business. Let the Board know how you would like to help improve **Waterwood**.

Thank you once again for reading the **WNN**.

## Golf Course Update

Willie Wiginton one of the "co-chairs" of the Waterwood Golf Course preservation movement advised **WNN** on the progress the course.



"We have changed the name of our association to the **WATERWOOD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (WCA)** as this better describes our organization. We were initially set up as WMGA (Waterwood Men's Golf Association) to handle our finances through the WMGA banking facilities. "

"We have decided to form an Advisory Committee of non-golfers to work with us and give guidance on the operation and the maintenance of the area. Dick Hansen, Tom Brick, Tom Readal, John Charlton and Pat Hicks have agreed to serve on this committee," Willie advised.

**WCA** member responsibilities are to marshal the course. "If we see anyone playing who is not recognized as a resident, we politely introduce ourselves and ask if they are a Waterwood resident," Willie states.

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# ***PALMER REAL ESTATE***

[WWW.WATERWOODSALES.COM](http://WWW.WATERWOODSALES.COM)



[Kevin Cook](#)  
Broker



[Anita Treadway](#)  
Office Manager



[Greg Cagle](#)  
Agent



[Melanie Cook](#)  
Agent

Let our team work for you. With access to professionals in Mortgages, Appraisals, Surveys, Home Inspections, and Title Companies, the staff at Palmer Real Estate can provide for all your needs. Now offering Personalized Video Tours! Click [here](#) for a demonstration.

More Waterwood sales than all other agencies *combined!*

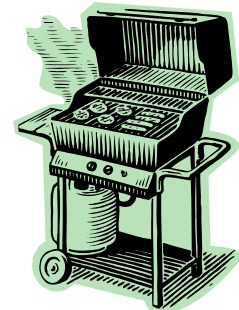
800-824-9416

936-891-5200

936-891-5900 fax

[22505 Pebble Beach Way](#)

*Have a safe  
and happy  
Labor Day!*



This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home was built for maximum efficiency and low maintenance. The exterior of this home is vinyl siding and stone, while the interior features a high efficiency fireplace and heating/cooling system. The central heating/cooling system is a geo-thermal system that keeps the electric bills to a minimum. The master bedroom and living room enjoy magnificent views of the golf course and the lake while the dining room has angled windows to maximize views. The 2 ½ car garage is oversized and features an air-conditioned hobby/craft room. This home is a must see! Click on the address for more information!

Usually one only knows neighbors within 100 yards of their home. Not so in Waterwood. The genuine concern for one another is comforting."

**Donnie Marshall:** "There are very few places in Texas that someone can live that offers as many amenities as Waterwood. We have services that cities have, and that other places wish they could have, such as security, fire service, ambulance, underground utilities and clean roads."

"Linda and I have lived here now over 25 years and when I was coaching and getting home late, the most comfortable feeling is that she and my home were well protected and safe. You can not say that about many places anywhere in Texas and probably the USA."

**Wayne Mathews:** "Its remote setting with amenities. The peace and quiet among the beautiful trees. Neighbors who care, but don't interfere. The list goes on."

**Walt Ringle:** "Its setting (on the lake and in the woods); its deed restrictions/covenants (rules we all live by for the betterment and enjoyment of all), and the people."

**2. From your perspective, does Waterwood have any problem areas? If so, what are your solutions to correct these problems?**

**Lisa Aguero:** "Waterwood does seem to have some minor problems. Primarily, there seems to be a negative perception of WIA and its focus. Many in the community sense that Waterwood is stagnating and overlooking or giving up opportunities for improvement."

"Although that may not be the case at all. On the positive side though so many in our community are willing to pool resources that can accomplish so much for the betterment of the community. I would like to encourage the willing to work with WIA to develop some new ideas for creating a more robust place to live."

"I would invite suggestions and creative ideas to explore and I would do this on a large enough communication platform so that no one feels left out or unrepresented."

**Jimmy Brett:** "Maintenance of roads is a problem but a balanced budget is required before meaningful consideration can be addressed. In the current situation minimal repairs is the only option."

**John Charlton:** "Growth or lack thereof, is one of Waterwood's major problems. Having said that, there is a group of our neighbors that would be happy without new growth. For all practical purposes, however, there is little the Board can do about this now. There are several developers that have expressed interest in the Waterwood area. It will be three to five years before we see any results of their interest. In the mean time, WIA should do everything possible to insure that Waterwood remains the best place to live on the lake."

**Dick Hansen:** "Waterwood offers many services that are often provided by local government entity. These services are sometimes taken for granted. The challenge is to communicate the fact that these services cost money and we as residents are the only ones to pay for them. Communicating to the community that their best interest is being looked after by the efforts of the WIA Board is a must."

**Donnie Marshall:** "The closing of the country club is a problem, but it was not a draw for a while now. The Lodges were closed because they were not safe or very functional and of course the marina had not been functioning for a while as well. Unlike other homeowner associations, WIA can not own property for profit, and we do not have enough people living here to make it viable."

"What we have to do as a homeowner association is to actively pursue not only someone to purchase the country club, but individuals to move and make Waterwood their home."

# DRY SAFE STORAGE

SERVING WATERWOOD

LOCATED ON 190, RIGHT OFF OF 980

ON SITE OFFICE

OPEN SEVEN (7) DAYS A WEEK

**RECORDED SURVEILLANCE 24/7**

UNITS: 12'X20' UP TO 12'X50' DRIVE THRU'S  
RV AND LARGE BOAT STALLS

**PHONE: (936) 377-4392**

## Waterwood Women's League

### *REMINDER*

The first meeting of the year for The Waterwood Women's League will be a luncheon meeting held on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the McCardell Cottage Bed and Breakfast in Livingston, Texas.

The purpose of the League is to aid in the quality of life of the women of Waterwood and surrounding areas and to support annual local **Scholarship Funds** and other charitable endeavors in the area.

If you are interested in finding out more about the WW League, becoming a member or attending our first meeting, please contact Tracie Taylor at 936-891-5017 or e-mail her at [m45t48c12@aol.com](mailto:m45t48c12@aol.com) for information.

We'd **love** to see you there!

## AMEN

A new young minister in East Texas was asked to hold a grave-side service for a homeless man, who had no family or friends.

When he arrived he saw the backhoe and the open grave, the digging crew was eating lunch.

He stepped to the side of the open grave. There he saw the vault lid already in place. He assured the workers he would not hold them up for long.

As he began to preach, the workers began to say "Amen," "Praise the Lord," and "Glory!" The fervor of these men truly inspired him. He thanked the men, and walked to his car.

As he opened the door, he heard one of the workers say to another, "I ain't NEVER seen nothin' like that before, and I've been puttin' in septic tanks for thirty years!"

(Candidates continued from page 4)

Right now the real estate market is slow, but we do have excellent living conditions for people to move into. I do believe we need to promote Waterwood.”

**Wayne Mathews:** “I believe our streets need more TLC. Getting the streets, including curb and gutter, in good shape and maintaining them would be a priority of mine.”

**Walt Ringler:** “YES!!! Get more people involved so that they will become educated on what is going on in Waterwood and be better able to contribute to solutions. We have, and have had candidates for the Board that seldom attend Board meetings.”

**3. The WIA annual budget is approaching \$1,000,000.00 a year. If we want to insure that WIA has a balanced budget, how would you purpose accomplishing this; raise assessments, cut services, a combination of both or any new ideas?**

**Lisa Aguero:** “I would first like to understand the different cost/revenue components that WIA is responsible for. However, for this exercise I submit that I am not opposed to raising or realigning assessments where it is fair and makes sense. I would also look to balance and not cut services as they are required. I would look for creative ways to enhance community services perhaps utilizing local skills. Say, an exercise class as a minor example.”

**Jimmy Brett:** “If a balanced budget must be achieved there is little choice but raise assessment and cut services. I would ask the Board to consider footnotes to the Balance Sheet that would explain to non-accounting readers why the Accounts Receivable has an allocation of 95.3% allowance for BAD DEBTS. At least explain to Members why such a high rate of bad allowance.”

“New ideas should be introduced to the Board, such as looking to the financial future. I believe that I would ask the Board to consider

the present but focus as well on the future. SBA and major financial institutions require a business plan to prepare and maintain a 5 year Business Plan before they will consider and financial transactions. The creation of this plan could lead to a new or rewritten (if applicable) Mission Statement that focuses on the future of Waterwood.”

“Fresh and new ideas would be my goal for the Board and it would be my goal to introduce as many of these ideas as possible for consideration by the Board.”

**John Charlton:** “Currently only 54% of WIA members pay their fees. While the current Board is attempting to cut expenses by 10% while maintaining a high level of service, it will be necessary for future Boards to take more aggressive actions to insure that all Waterwood members pay their share.”

**Dick Hansen:** “My thoughts are strictly to be a good steward.”

**Donnie Marshall:** “I do not believe raising rates is the long term solution to balancing the budget. When money is tight, the popular thing to do is to cut expenses, when we as a Board were directed to do by our Board President. But we do have a large amount of money that is uncollected and we need to actively pursue that loss of revenue. We could balance the budget if we decided to do away with an ambulance, fire protection, and security, but that would leave everyone vulnerable to potential disaster. Here we must balance our needs with wants. Hard decisions must be made, which may be to lose some of our portfolio temporarily and make up the deficit when the economy strengthens. If we can attract more permanent residents, then we will also have people here that will pay their dues, lessening the loss of revenue from non-collections.”

**Wayne Mathews:** “This question has many answers with the end result of a balanced budget

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# Waterwood MUD #1 Report



If you have had a discoloration of your water at your home recently, it is due to the Denitrification of the water lines that **MUD** is currently performing.

Denitrification is required by the EPA to remove the nitrates and nitrites which build up in the water lines over a period of time. **MUD** typically does this process once each year.

This operation requires **MUD** to stop using the surface water, which is treated at our surface water treatment plant. During this period water is supplied by one of two wells **MUD** owns. This process takes approximately 20 days to complete and should be completed by the September 7, 2009.



Some **Waterwoodians** may experience periods of discolored water coming through their lines. This is natural and expected during this time. The discolored water, while not very pleasing to the eye, is not harmful and is in fact treated water.

To clear your water, leave your water running for a few minutes to flush the discolored water from your lines. You may also want to open an outside spigot several minutes to speed up the cleaning process.

If your water remains discolored more than a few minutes, please call the **MUD** office at **891-5019** and ask for the main lines to be flushed. **MUD** is more than happy to flush main lines on streets that have an excessive amount of discolored water.

Because **MUD** is using well water during this process some people may have an unusual odor in their water. This is due to the sulfur content of well water in our area. This odor will dissipate when we revert back to our treated surface water.

If at any time you have questions about your water, **MUD** would like to hear from you. The sooner **MUD** is made aware of any issue the sooner it can be resolved. We must all remember we are on the same system so if you are experiencing water problems, your neighbors probably are as well.



(Candidates continued from page 6)

budget accomplished in many ways. The answer lies in having both a short term and long term plan that's good for the community. The plan would incorporate various elements, but the community must be involved in the final decisions and support them."

**Walt Ringle**: "Raise assessments, DO NOT cut services such as security."

"That answers the three questions, but here's a fourth issue/point: If we were a town (Waterwood, TX) that \$150,000 fire truck we just bought could have been a grant from Homeland Security, just like several other little towns around here. We need to look in to the Pros and Cons of incorporation."



## Waterwood Mushrooms



(Golf Course continued from page 2)

Contributions to the **WCA** are voluntary and the amount is entirely each person's decision. The monthly contributions donated by active golfer's ranges anywhere from \$200, plus \$40 for personal cart use up. Occasional resident golfer's contributions range from \$50 to \$125. Many non-golfers are making monthly contributions ranging from \$25 to \$200.

Residents as well as guest contributions are entirely the decision of the resident. The suggested guest's contribution for a full 18 holes of play is \$25. Also, for convenience, you now may leave checks for monthly contributions at Palmer Management. Inside the office at the desk on the left you will see an **orange** box labeled "WMGA."



"The work being done by volunteers, both golfers and non-golfers, has been amazing," Willie states. The work includes removing weeds from selected sand traps, spraying the greens, cleaning the two restroom buildings and general clean up.

If you would like to do volunteer work and/or donate to the cause, please contact one of the following: Willie Wiginton – 936-891-7019, Barry Stanley – 936-891-7768, Andy Wilkie – 936-891-1175, or Norton Schump - 936-891-6881.

**FORE!!!**

## THE BEETLE HITS WATERWOOD



We at **WNN** had seen many dead trees throughout the Lake Livingston area, but we did not pay any attention to them until two of our trees died almost over night. Our neighbor told us that we had two dead trees in our north lot. We hurried over and saw what he was talking about.

Two trees near Bay Hill were dead, needles had fallen off, bare limbs jutted out of the main trunk, and bark was falling off of the trunk. We had blown leaves out of the street near these trees seven days ago and had not noticed any problems.

**WNN** hopes the following article and photos aid to enlighten our readers about the “Beetle” situation in our community. We hope most of you do not have the “Beetle” infestation.

**WNN** thanks **Texas A & M**, “Gig Um”, for the research materials that were on their various web sites about our “Beetles”.

The Southern Pine Bark Beetles (Bug) eat on the inter bark of the tree. Damage caused by

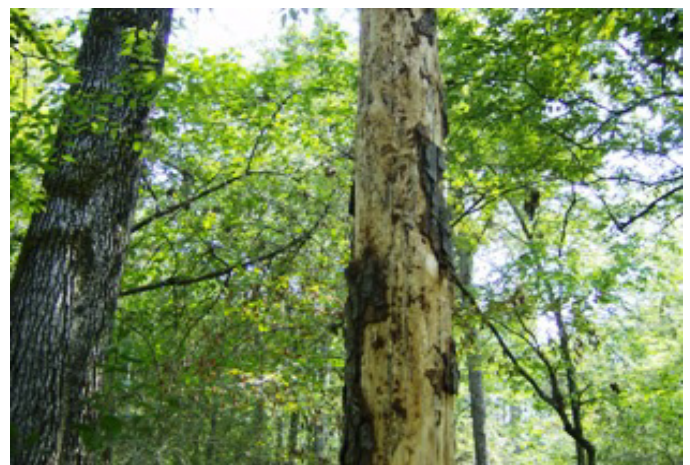
their feeding acts like a tourniquet by cutting off the natural flow nutrients from the leaves to the other parts of the tree.



**The Texas Bark Beetle**

The “Bug” can also introduce a blue stain fungus that grows in the wood. This fungus stops water from being transported up to the leaves. Both of these factors cause the death of our beautiful pine trees.

Pine needle discoloration is an early sign of the “Bug”. Needles go from dark green to yellow to rusty red color. This can happen as quickly as two months. Other signs of the “Bug” are pitch tubes, boring dust and “S” shaped boring tunnels under the bark. Pitch is the tree’s only natural defense against the “Bug”.



(Beetles continued from page 9)

**WNN** developed that the “Bug” attacks stressed trees that emit certain compounds. The “Bugs” have evolved to detect these compounds. Once the “Bug” has located a tree, it emits a compound that attracts other “Bugs”.



The life cycle of the “Bug” starts when the Adult emerges for a host tree and locates a new tree where it starts burrowing into the bark to construct tunnels. Adult females lay eggs that hatch in 3 to 30 days into cream colored larvae with brown heads.

The larvae develop through four stages before they reach  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” in length. This process takes 15 to 40 days before they go into the pupa stage. The adults hatch within 17 days. A generation from egg to adult can be completed in 26 to 54 days. **WNN** found that seven to nine generations can occur annually.

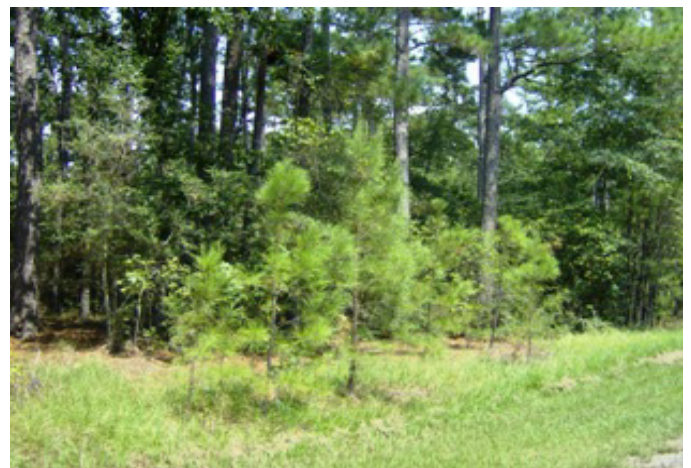


The “Bugs” have many natural enemies. Woodpeckers and other birds eat some of the “Bugs”. Other insects can aid in attacking the “Bug”. Other beetles and wasps attack the “Bug”.

Since the “Bug” attacks stressed or weakened trees, stopping the “Bug” damage is a hard feat. Insecticide treatment is expensive and should be used where the cost of saving the tree justifies the cash outlay.



Well folks, we hope this article educates Waterwoodians about the “Bug” and our dear trees. We also hope the drought is over and our trees will get their normal allocation of water to become healthier. Remember **mother nature** takes care of herself!!!!



## WBC Summer Cruise



Old fashion hamburgers and fries were served by Linda Lewis and the **Cove Marina** staff.



A short business meeting chaired by Commodore Walt Ringler was held.

On Saturday, August 22, the **Waterwood** Boat Club (**WBC**) motored up the Trinity River through the bridges at Riverside, Texas and stopped for a lunch meeting at the **Cove Marina**.



The boaters filled their tanks for the trip back. The group arrived back in beautiful **Waterwood** around 3:00 PM.

Sixteen **WBC** members enjoyed the beautiful scenery and raw nature of the Trinity during the six hour round trip.

