



# Waterwood Neighborhood News

## THE WIA BOARD SERVES YOU

By: John Shideler

One of the largest audiences to attend a WIA Board meeting in recent history was present at the December 15, 2008 gathering. A proposal to build a boat pavilion was to be presented on the 15<sup>th</sup> and Waterwoodians for and against the project were there to voice their opinions.



A few people who own property in Waterwood had questioned, not how the WIA Board operated, but how the Board may or not vote on a certain project. Some of the comments about the Board were negative and could cause uninformed people to think the Board was not fair in their decisions. These factors lead to **WNN's** decision to generate the following article.

There are nine Board members serving the Waterwood community. These Waterwoodians serve two year terms. Every year, four to five of the Board member's terms expire. The Board members can serve two terms and then they are term limited and must stay off the board for one full year.

There is a Nominating Committee that solicits Waterwoodians to run for the Board. To be eligible to be a candidate for the Board, you must be a property owner in Waterwood with your WIA fees paid. The person must get an application from the WIA office, fill it out and return it to the office by August 1<sup>st</sup> of the respective year.

The Board positions that are open will be filled by an election. Ballots are mailed to Waterwood property owners prior to our Annual meeting. These ballots list the slate of candidates approved by the Nominating Committee.

The results of the election are announced at the annual WIA Property Owners meeting in October. After the Annual meeting, the new Board meets to elect new officers. Officers that are elected are President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Our Board meets every third Monday of the Month at 9:00AM in the WIA Board room. All Waterwoodians are encouraged to participate in these meetings. All discussions and votes are conducted in public and all property owners have an opportunity to discuss matters that are on the floor for deliberation.

The Board has standing committees to oversee functions of our community. Committees and their chairmen are selected by the President for the year. 2008-2009 Committees are Architectural Control Board, Audit/Financial, Community Communications, Community Social Events, Liaison to County and State Government, Liaison to EMS and VFD, Liaison to MUD and Security, Maintenance, Nominations and Real Estate.

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# Welcome to WNN

**HAPPY NEW YEAR.** We at **WNN** hope your Holidays were great and you lost weight. HO HO HO!!! We look forward to keeping all Waterwoodians informed about our neighborhood throughout 2009.

What about that snow in December, it was beautiful, while it lasted. Thanks to all of those



out there in Waterwood land for sending us photos. Because of so much news, we were limited to publishing only a few photos.

A proposed project was presented to your WIA Board for consideration in December. A few residents of Waterwood were upset and voiced their opinions at the Board meeting. Some of the innuendos, comments and outcries that were emailed about this project, prompted us to write the "Board" article that appears in this month's **WNN**.

Waterwoodian participation in the discussion of business that is brought before your WIA Board is encouraged. We hope the "Board" article will better inform our neighbors on how your Board functions and how to appreciate the work required to manage the business of Waterwood.

The **WNN** may have to change how it is circulated. Due to increased costs, we are going to propose to the Board new methodology of getting the **WNN** to you. We would appreciate your input on how we might better serve you. There are three major proposals to get the **WNN** to you.

1. Current Method – Direct Mail
2. Pick Up – at the post office or WIA office
3. Down Load or Read – from the Internet

We need you to tell us what would better serve you. Please call the WIA office at **891-7710** or email us at [wnn@waterwoodwia.com](mailto:wnn@waterwoodwia.com). Thank you for your help and advise in this matter.

Hey Neighbors, many thanks from Security for all of you who have responded to the call for displaying the WIA stickers on your windshied. This action really aids our Security people in identifying vehicles traveling our streets.

Remember the "Leash Law" when walking your dogs around our neighborhood. Following this law keeps our neighbors who do not have pets of their own from worrying about loose animals.

The leaf pick up program is growing on a weekly basis. More Waterwoodians are taking advantage of this new service. Please bag your leaves, leave them at the curb and call the WIA office, **891-7710**, to make an appointment for pick up on Monday.

THE WNN IS PUBLISHED ON A MONTHLY BASIS. THE ARTICLES AND COMMENTS ARE WRITTEN TO INFORM AND ENTERTAIN THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE WATERWOOD COMMUNITY. IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT US. THANK YOUR FOR READING THE WNN.

John Shideler – Editor

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## WIA Board Minutes of 12/15

The December Board meeting was called to order by President Zimmermann at 9:00 AM on Tuesday, December 15, 2008. All Directors were present plus twenty-nine guests.

The Resort was represented by Clayton Creel. He reported a 24 hour security system had been installed. He also advised everyone that "Winter" hours are in effect on the Golf Course.

**ACB Report** – Seven violation letters were sent out in November and four of those have been corrected. The Committee approved two Small Improvement Project applications.

**Audit/Financial Committee** – A motion for an increase in the assessments for a single family dwelling to \$220.00 per year was discussed and approved.

**Liaison to EMS & VFD** – Director Marshall advised the Board the Legacy our EMS

contractor wanted a three year contract for services rendered (12 hours daily in Waterwood) for an increase of 17% over last years contract to \$104,000. The Board asked Director Marshall to discuss all options and report back at our January 2009 meeting.

Director Marshall advised the Board that the VFD need a new truck badly. He will bring recommendations back to the Board meeting in January 2009 for further discussion.

**Unfinished Business** – A proposal to build an in the boat pavilion near the Villas was discussed. This proposal was referred to the Real Estate Committee to determine deed restriction compliance, TRA & Corps of Engineers approval, cost analysis, WIA liability and community input. This proposal will be carried under Unfinished Business until the Committee finishes it considerations.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50PM.

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## FUN IN THE SUN IN 2008



BOAT PARADE DURING THE FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION



GETTING READY TO EAT AT THE SPRING FLING

(Board-continued from page 1)

## Flags Around Waterwood

Normally, projects and/or proposals are originated by the President, Board members and/or Waterwood property owners. After discussion, these projects are normally referred to a Board committee to develop necessary information to inform the Board of the major factors related to the proposal.

If the proposal is deemed feasible, the Committee brings it back to the Board for further discussion and action. The proposal is moved, seconded, discussed and voted either up or down by a majority of the Board present and voting.

Each Board member analyzes the motion before them from the information that is presented. Each Board member votes his/her opinion based upon their examination of these facts.

There are no “back room” politics involved in the Board decisions. Board meetings follow the state mandated “Open Meetings Law”. The Board members are all volunteers who are interested in the betterment of the community rather than promoting themselves or a cause.

The agenda for the Board meeting is posted in the Mail Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of month prior to the Board meeting. The agenda is closely followed with each Committee being allotted a certain amount time for their presentation.

The unofficial minutes of the Board meetings are posted on the WIA internet site as soon as possible after the meeting.

There are people in various situations who want certain “things”. Some of those people sit around and gripe. Other people get active in an organization and help make “things happen”. The members of the Waterwood Board are there to make positive things happen for our neighborhood.

Get active in your community. Attend your Board meetings. Voice your opinions about matters in your community. Get active on a Committee. Run for a position on the Board. Our neighborhood needs “positive” actions and leaders.



## 2008 IN REVIEW

As 2009 begins on a beautiful cool day, we wanted to review the events of 2008.

2008 opened just as the Country Club had closed. Throughout the year, the golf course was well maintained and many Waterwoodians and guests played our beautiful course.

In February, the old Holiday Hills development buildings were demolished and all the area was cleared in March. The Waterwood Boat Club had its first meeting in March.

Also in March, the dreaded water hyacinth problem started. Even with spraying and other manual efforts, this "floating island of weeds"



still affects our water ways. It continues to float out and in with the change of wind direction.

April brought a fabulous "Spring Fling" celebration. 150 Waterwoodians had a great time celebrating Spring 2008. The function was held at the Country Club. Everyone had plenty to eat and drink.



Over 400 Waterwoodians, their families and guests attended the first annual "Old Fashion" Fourth of July Celebration. The festivities were held at the Marina. There were prizes presented for best costumes, best decorated golf carts and best decorated boats. The food was great and so were the fireworks.

During August, new enter and exit signs were placed at the post office. What a difference to see a good flow of traffic during busy hours.

The weather in September brought Waterwood two hurricanes. The first, Gustav hit for ten minutes and was gone. On Saturday, the 13<sup>th</sup>, Ike hit us with vengeance, knocking down 100s of trees with some damage to homes.



No Waterwoodians were injured by the storm. Our lights were out for eight days. The WIA Board hired Street Brothers out of Coldspring to start hauling the debris out of our community on Monday, the 15<sup>th</sup>. Everything is back to normal now.

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Many thanks went out to Joe Meyers and Erick Steinbach for the fabulous job they did keeping our water system flowing during the Ike recovery period. Some MUD Districts, around the lake, lost their water pressure and there were many "Boil Your Water" signs posted.

The annual Waterwood General Membership meeting was held at the Fire Station on Saturday, October 11. Over 40 Waterwoodians attended the meeting. The new Board met and elected officers.



The Holiday decorations program changed this year with no Christmas tree lighting on the Parkway between Hwy 980 and the Country Club. Trees and lights were placed at the WIA office and the VFD building. The WIA "Holiday" sign, the Nativity Scene and nine lighted trees were placed on the Parkway south of 980.



December 2008 brought cold and wet weather. A new yard debris pick up program was started. Neighbors could bag their leaves and leave the bags at the curb. Our maintenance contractor will pick up the bags on Mondays.



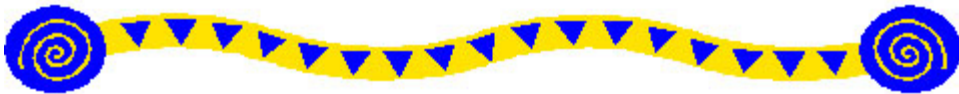
On December 10, a very nice snow storm hit Waterwood. Our trees, lawns and roofs were covered with a beautiful white blanket. It did not last long but the big flakes and accumulation of snow were reminders of Decembers past.



As the Holiday Season came to Waterwood, we were blessed with family and friends enjoying the Holidays as were the Palmer Carolers below.



THE WATERWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS  
232 Waterwood  
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