

Congratulations
WOHA on 50 years of
Advocacy!

May / June 2025

The Whispers

Bi-Monthly Newsletter of the Whispering Oaks Homeowners Association Published by Neighborhood News, Inc.

LONGTIME RESIDENTS REFLECT UPON WHISPERING OAKS

Most homes in Whispering Oaks are now more than 50 years old and have had numerous owners. However, there are still some original residents who remember our neighborhood at its beginning. As part of WOHA's golden anniversary celebration and upcoming Homecoming Barbecue gathering, we asked several to reflect on what attracted them to settle here. It was August 1970 when Henry and Kate Gonzales brought their two-week old daughter Diane home to their new house on Whisper Ridge in the new Whispering Oaks subdivision. Featuring custom brick homes on large lots studded with huge native oak trees, the upscale development was also the first in San Antonio to have buried CPS lines. "We kids rode our bicycles to Mr. M's convenience store at the north end of Whisper Valley; that was as far as you could go," Diane recalls. "And in the summer, we spent every day at the pool."

The club served as the social center for the neighborhood's adults too, and poolside parties were common. Election day voting was conveniently held on the site. Swim teams, along with Boy & Girl Scout troops, kept kids busy. For many years, local scouts mowed the community's perimeter grass as a fundraiser. Karen Frey, another original homeowner from 1970, remembers that the area north of Wurzbach was completely undeveloped and the roadway ended at Lockhill Selma. "My husband Joe had just started his medical practice and we were a young family, so Whispering Oaks was a wonderful place to bring up children because of the community atmosphere."

Evelyn Jackson and her husband built their home in 1969. "We moved here because my husband was going to teach at the new Medical Center. Whispering Oaks was a great location because there were no stoplights between here and there!" She also recalls that few yards had fences in the early days, so all the backyards were like "one big open park". Returning from an Air Force assignment to Vietnam in 1971, Bill Duvall and his family chose a large home on the east side.

"We were told that Whispering Oaks was a new development and
(Continued on page 3)



The Jackson family home on Whisper Ridge was one of the first built - 1969.

ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME AT WO HOMECOMING BARBECUE

Live music and delicious brisket will be enjoyed Saturday May 17th at the Whispering Oaks Homecoming celebration. Festivities will be held on Whisper Forest near the west side tennis courts from 11am to 2pm. It's a chance to mingle with both longtime and new neighbors. All current and past residents are welcome to attend.

Free ice cream and face painting will keep the kids happy, and there will be plenty of treats for everyone. Samples from a baking contest sponsored by the WO Garden Club will also be served. To compete for a prize, simply bring your special cake, pie, cookies, or other baked treat to the contest table at the start of the event. Two-meat plates of barbecue including three delicious sides are just \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids. Meal quantities are limited and those pre-paid online at whisperingoaks.org will receive a free iced tea. Cold drinks will be available for \$1 cash.

An 80 ft tent will provide plenty of shaded table seating to enjoy the food and music. Local favorite the Shakedown Band will perform popular hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's. And don't forget to enter the raffle to win one of several \$100 gift cards to nearby restaurants.

Whispering Oaks Homecoming Barbecue!



BBQ Plates
from \$5



Baking
Contest



Live
Music



Family
Fun

All current and past
residents are welcome!

Saturday, May 17th 11am to 2pm
Near the west side Tennis Courts

Reserve meals online now and receive
a free Iced Tea with each plate!

whisperingoaks.org



HOW OUR PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE CAME TO BE



The bridge which connects the two sides of our subdivision has an interesting origin. It was reportedly built by the City circa 1971 in anticipation of an elementary school to be established within the new subdivision. The school was intended for the lots now occupied by the west side tennis courts, and the bridge would allow neighborhood children from the east side walkable access.

But when the school district reconsidered the plan, the community's developer had to repurpose the land after the bridge had already been constructed. His company installed two community tennis courts on the corner of Whisper Forest and Whisper Willow. They were an extension of the east side courts and community pool which had been built to attract home buyers to the subdivision. The club would remain operated by developer until the subdivision neared completion in the late 1970's.

However not all of the land reserved for the school was promptly repurposed. An adjacent large lot alongside the creek would remain undeveloped for a several years. In 1975, WOHA considered purchasing the vacant land to create a small park, but nearby homeowners objected claiming the obscured area already attracted neighborhood teens creating a nuisance. Building additional residences on the site would have made driveway access awkward, so the developer installed two additional courts creating a total of four that stand today.

We're fortunate the pedestrian bridge was built because it helps unite our subdivision. Without it, many residents out for an extended stroll or headed to the pool would have to walk along busy Wurzbach. The City continues to maintain its bridge and WOHA pays for a flood light on western steps to ensure safety.

EASTER FESTIVITIES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

After a hiatus of a year, the Great Tradition of the Annual Easter Egg Hunt was renewed by the Swim Club Board. On Saturday, 12 April, over 100 kids of all ages, from one to 83, attended. And, truly, "a good time was had by all."

Cleverly, the Board divided the children according to age, thereby making the hunt fairer. But that was followed by some games, all under the command of the Board's energetic Dr. Fred Previc. There was an egg toss, an egg-on-a spoon race, and a race with the children in, not a traditional burlap bag (where they gonna get those?), but instead good-old plastic trash bags.

And, of course, there was a prize for each winner: a Baskin-Robbins gift card. Who could resist?



Bodie Blount shows off his find as Momma Graciela Pressman looks on.



And the racers are off!



Caught in mid-egg.

(Continued from page 1)

homes were going fast. It had a great family atmosphere which was perfect for our three boys."

Driving into Whispering Oaks with a co-worker one day in 1975, Emma Terrazas thought the neighborhood was attractive. "There were beautiful homes and everything was so well taken care of" she says. She and husband Louis snapped up a home on Whisper Breeze. "Our neighbors were professionals, very friendly and in those days it was very quiet and not much traffic at all." Most longtime homeowners recall that the community's namesake trees had strong appeal. The subdivision's developer went to great lengths to preserve as many as possible, particularly on the eastern first phase which is why its roadways are curvy and lots often irregular shaped.

Come mix with neighbors new and old and at the Homecoming Barbecue on Saturday May 17th. Many will gladly share their stories of why Whispering Oaks has remained such a special place for over five decades.



WHISPERING OAKS SALES

Jan. - Mar. 2025 Summary



Prepared by Jean Ruffini, Resident Realtor

The San Antonio real estate market experienced a slowdown in sales but continued price stability in February, according to the latest Multiple Listing Service (MLS) Report from SABOR. A total of 2,407 homes were sold last month (-8% YoY) with median price of \$289,995 (-2% YoY) and average price of \$356,165 (+2% YoY). Inventory expanded with 4,463 new listings (+10% YoY) to 14,330 active listings (+20% YoY). Here's recent data for our subdivision:

	Price	Per Sq Ft
Active Listings (7)		
- High	\$499,000	\$193
- Median	\$375,000	\$169
- Low	\$260,000	\$122
Sold Listings (5)		
- High	\$460,000	\$195
- Median	\$275,000	\$167
- Low	\$270,000	\$149
Pending (4)		
- Median	\$460,000	\$162



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Yard of the Month

March



Larry & Rebecca Zertuche
2811 Windy Oaks

April



Donnie & Laurie Harris
11211 Whisper Falls



Whispering Oaks HOA
11515 Whisper Forest #B
San Antonio, TX 78230-3500

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Time Dated

"Let us be grateful
to people who make
us happy. They
are the charming
gardeners who make
our souls blossom." -
Marcel Proust

Whispering Oaks Garden Club



How sweet it is! The Garden Club invites all Whispering Oak residents to enter a homemade dessert in the baking contest during the WOHA 50th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, May 17th. Bring your cakes, pies, cookies, and candies to the Westside Tennis Park located at 11515 Whisper Forest by 11:00 AM. There will be prizes for the Best Decorated, Most Creative, Most Delicious, and Best in Show. After the judges get their sweet teeth satisfied, the treats will be shared with our neighbors and friends at the celebration.

In March the WOGC enjoyed the Quad-Club Luncheon and Style Show at The Dominion Country Club. Our two models looked great in the J. Jill outfits. Later that month we gathered to work out the details for events in April and May such as planning the Baking Contest for the WOHA celebration, the nominations for club officers, hosting a morning coffee, assist with a formal tea open to the public celebrating the San Antonio Garden Center's 85th anniversary and entering a fresh flower centerpiece for a four place table setting in a flower show competition at the San Antonio Garden Center. The theme for the entry is "All I Have To Do Is Dream" sung by the Everly Brothers (1958). And best of all our annual "end of year" party for members and spouses.

Now is a great time to become a club member; men this means you too! Contact us via email: whisperingoaksgardenclub@gmail.com



WOGC team
for flower
show "Looking
Back Moving
Forward"
competition:
Sue Marcum,
Sheralyn Wright,
Sue Marcum,
Caroline
Wernli, Tammy
Anderson and
Letty Tijerina



2025 Quad Luncheon models which include WOGC members Pam Martinez and Suzanne Stewart.