



HOUSTON OAKS

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

JAN-MARCH 2014

HOUSTONOAKS.COM



A MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

We hope that you and your family had a safe and Happy Holiday Season. There was plenty of activity here at Houston Oaks. The children had a great time with Santa and we enjoyed hosting many of you as well at our Members' Holiday party. You will see some great pictures from these events in this newsletter.

As we start the 2014 year, we are going to be focused on responding to the feedback we received from each of you in the Member Survey. The responses were constructive and helpful. I'd like to thank each of you who took the time to complete the survey. It is our intent to do this type of survey on an annual basis so we can track the areas that need improvement and ensure that the club's services and amenities are improving at all times.

Speaking of new amenities, we celebrated the opening of two new facilities in the fourth quarter of 2013. The much anticipated Tree House and the Ranch House were both added to the list of Houston Oaks amenities available to our members. If you have not had a chance to visit these latest additions to the club, please make plans to do so on your next visit. You will find both to be very unique experiences and family friendly. Marci Alvis did her magic on the interiors to ensure that each family will have memorable experiences when enjoying these two new places.

Finally, we have looked to add a number of member social events to this year's calendar. It was clear from your feedback in the survey that this was a high priority. We hope that you will have the opportunity to take advantage of this programming as it is designed to add value to your membership and give you a chance to meet your fellow members.

Please make sure to check this quarter's calendar to see what is happening at the club.

See you soon.

Michael J. Kelly
Chief Executive Officer



Jason Allen and Averyanna Flutz

We would like to thank Jason Allen for making Averyanna Flutz' dreams come true. He brought her up to the stage and sang her favorite song to her. Jason is her favorite singer! She was a very happy little girl. Thanks, Jason!

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Meet the Kobza Family

Our feature family for the beginning of 2014 is Cale and Kendall Kobza and their two children, Braeden and Breelee.

Cale and Kendall have been married for 14 years and members of Houston Oaks since 2012. Cale is Vice President and co-owner of Clearwater Utilities. Kendall is a former personal trainer and aerobics instructor and is now enjoying her role as a stay-at-home mom.

There are two words that describe the Kobza Family: ACTIVE and INVOLVED. Both Cale and Kendall enjoy working out, are avid runners and spend many hours coaching their kids in various sports and activities. Cale is on the board of the Northwest Houston Chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Cy-Fair Sports Association - Football committee. Kendall spends many hours volunteering at the children's school, Rosehill Christian School, and enjoys taking cooking and golf lessons. Braeden, age 11, loves playing football, basketball, hunting and fishing. He is an excellent student and has won several math, spelling and science competitions. Breelee's main passion is dancing which she has been doing since she was two years old. Now at age nine, she continues that passion by taking classes in ballet, tap, jazz and lyrical. She also loves playing volleyball and spending time with her friends. The family loves spending as much time as they can at their bay house in Galveston.

As you can imagine, when we asked the Kobza Family what they enjoyed most about Houston Oaks, the



Cale, Breelee, Kendall and Braeden Kobza

response was "We love how family friendly Houston Oaks is. We enjoy the variety of activities available for our kids and the staff is so friendly and accommodating."

The family went on to say that their favorite memory at Houston Oaks was enjoying the Mother's Day brunch at the Club. Both of their mothers were able to join the family and enjoy the beautiful weather and Braeden and Breelee loved playing with their cousins and friends. The Kobza Family concluded our interview by saying "We look forward to making many memories with our family at Houston Oaks!"

Thank you, Cale, Kendall, Braeden and Breelee, for being a part of the Houston Oaks Family. We too look forward to making those memories with each of you.

golf

WINTER GOLF AND STRETCHING

Now that the weather is starting to turn cooler, everyone must remember to loosen up before going out to play, since most golfers don't play as much during the cooler months and when they do, their muscles tend to tighten up. The number one cause of golf related injuries is that golfers do not stretch before they go out to play or practice. Below is a list of simple stretching exercises that will help you not only swing better, but will also help prevent injuries.

- To stretch the shoulder, put your left hand on your right elbow and pull gently across your body toward the shoulder without rotating your torso. Hold this position for 10-15 seconds, and then repeat with the opposite arm.



- To maintain wrist flexibility and improve your grip, put one hand over the back of the opposite hand and bend the fingers toward the palm, pulling the wrist down and holding the stretch for 10 seconds.



- Stretch the hamstrings by putting your heel on a chair or the step of a golf cart. Straighten your knee and lean over, sliding your hands down your shin until you feel the back of your thigh begin to stretch. Do both legs, holding the stretch for 10-20 seconds each. Don't bounce!



- Loosen your lower back muscles by putting a club between your elbows and behind your back and rotate slowly and smoothly back and forth about 10 times, holding the stretch for up to 10 seconds.



- Hip Flexors are very important to make sure you get the lower body and leg drive in all your golf shots. Simply put your right foot over your left knee and sit your rear end down while pressing down on the right knee with your left hand and holding yourself up with a club in your right hand. Hold for 10 seconds and don't bounce! Repeat with opposite foot and hand.



These are just some simple examples of exercises and stretches that will help increase your flexibility and tone your muscles that are used in the golf swing. Remember to not only do these exercises before you play, but also while you are playing your round and after the round is completed. Concentrate on holding the stretches and not bouncing! Breathe also while holding the stretch to get the maximum outcome. By following these warm-up stretches, you will decrease your chance of injuries.



Keep it Simple,
Darren Howard
Director of Golf



THE SCOTTISH GUYS

Many of you may have noticed that we have a group of handsome young men with funny accents working at the club just now. All five are from Scotland and work the summer months at The Renaissance Club (www.trcaa.com), a high end private members club in the heart of East Lothian which in Scotland is known as Scotland's Golf Coast. Tim Poyser is our Asst. Professional who is working closely with Darren regarding all golf aspects. Jamie Fraser is supervising and training our Outside Staff. Tim and Jamie are both professional golfers who are completing their final year of GB&I's PGA program and are qualified golf coaches. Neil Williams and Ross Noon are 2 & +1 handicappers, respectively, and are entering GB&I's PGA program this summer. Neil and Ross can be found working within Outside Services and in the Men's locker room. Finally, we have Callum McNeill, who at 19 is the youngest of the group. Callum was a scratch golfer by 17. He is currently completing a Golf Management degree and is using his time here as a work placement,



Tim Poyser, Callum McNeil, Neil Williams, Ross Noon and Jamie Fraser

which is part of his university degree. Callum can be found working within the Golf Shop and in Outside Services. All are having a great time and please feel free to come over and say 'hi' to the guys. We are also planning a competition enabling you to play with the guys, so please stay tuned for that.



THE PAT DAHNKE TRUNK SHOW THE RANCH HOUSE JANUARY 30, 11 AM - 2 PM

PAT DAHNKE

- › WESTERN INSPIRED FASHION DESIGNER FOR THE FEMININE COWGIRL
- › TWICE NAMED TEXAS NATURAL FIBER DESIGNER OF THE YEAR
- › 2010 NOMINATED INTO THE COWGIRL HALL OF FAME

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT JACLYN FELTS AT jfelts@houstonoaks.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PAT DAHNKE'S FASHION LINE, PLEASE VISIT HER WEBSITE AT www.patdahnke.com.



HOLIDAYS AT HOUSTON OAKS



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Please join us in welcoming our new members.

Now is the perfect time to show off your club to your friends, so please bring them out for lunch or dinner. I am more than happy to provide tours upon request. Simply email or call 936.372.4310 to set up an appointment with me!

Courtney Ledbetter, Membership Director
cledbetter@houstonoaks.com

NOT PICTURED:
LEGACY MEMEBERS
Steve, Clare and Joan
Clare Jackson

LEGACY MEMBERS



Dean, Regina, Halle and Jesse Lane

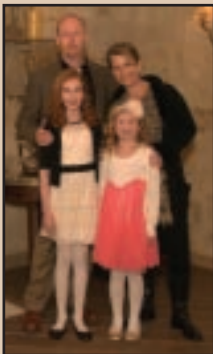


Chris, Bree, Brandon and Hailey Walker

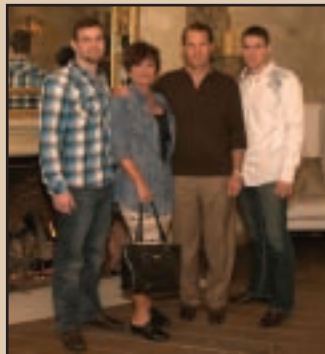
Thanksgiving at Houston Oaks



Bruce Agardy and
Daleen DeSwardt



The Winns



The Johnsons



The Kingshills



The Carmichaels



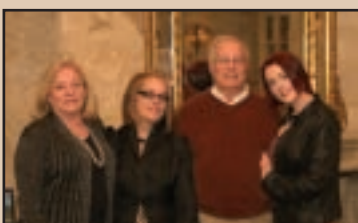
The Formans



The Petersons



The Gsells



The Humphreys



The Waggoners



The Hatchers

On The Menu ...

Embarking on a new year here at Houston Oaks, I am excited to have such a wonderful group of members who are, or are becoming “foodies”. Over the past several months, I have been listening and taking notes on everything I have been told, emailed, or through the grapevine so that I can continue to grow the culinary program to fit your wants and needs. During 2013, we found some great local vendors that we have built great relationships with for exclusive rights to certain ingredients. We will continue to support and search for similar relationships as we continue to grow.

Moving into 2014, I will be refining our dining room menu even more. I would like more than anything to have our members call or email special request for dining. As we will be offering several daily features, there are certain favorites that may slip through the cracks, so please feel free to contact me for any special requests.

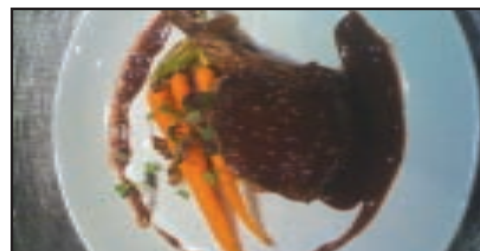
This year’s menu will reflect what I have adapted to be my style. I am asked on a daily basis what’s your specialty. Until recently, I would reply classic French Asian with influences of Spain and Polynesian. Well, now my goal is “Refining



Chef Eric Beasley

Country Cuisine.” We all have or have heard the story of grandma’s best or, in my case, grandpa’s best, RIGHT. OK, we are out here nestled in our own little country French setting with a Little Big Texas twist, so bringing back classic dishes like meatloaf or chicken fried ribeye have been a huge success. I feel keeping our staples and offering more favorites of our Houston Oaks families are the directions I will be heading.

From Past to Present.....



Plan your Valentines Dinner with
Houston Oaks
Friday, February 14, 2014
Chef will prepare a four course meal.
Live Music
For more information please contact
Katie at Kmuelle@houstonoaks.com.

Houston Oaks Ranch House

We are excited to introduce the newly remodeled Houston Oaks Ranch House to the housing options at Houston Oaks. The Ranch House sits on 400 beautiful acres just north of the Family Nine course on Hegar Road and is directly across the street from Turlington Elementary School. A white fence identifies the property along Hegar Road.

The Houston Oaks Ranch is an ideal setting for family gatherings or a guys' or girls' weekend away. There are four bedrooms (three king beds and two sets of twin bunks) and three full bathrooms. The kitchen is large and can seat a crowd at the beautiful custom built dining room table. For those members looking for a great gathering place, the game room at the Ranch House has a full bar, a pool table, a poker table and some great nooks just to hang out. Throughout the house, there are seven large TVs!

In true Houston Oaks fashion, there is a large front porch and a fire pit to sit around and gaze at the stars on those chilly Texas nights. If you would like a tour or are interested in booking the Ranch House for your next stay, please contact Sheila Nelson at snelson@houstonoaks.com.



Sheila Nelson
Lodging Manager



Fish Camp

The Place to Be!

It was a warm spring day in May of 2012 when a group of us were meeting with our owners on the deck of the Fish Camp discussing the plans and timetable of how we would proceed with the construction and stocking of the new nine and half acre lake. After much talk about depths, contours, structure, and other habitat details including what species will call Fish Camp Lake home, yet another massive transformation began at Houston Oaks.

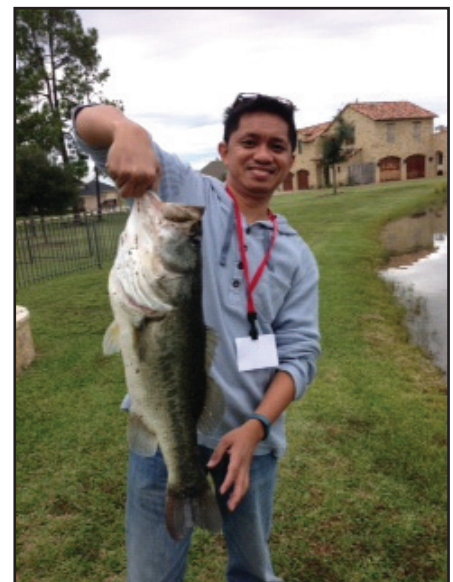


Eighteen months and 30 million gallons of water later, the Fish Camp Lake is ready for our members and their guests to start wetting a line. Thus far we have stocked over 15,000 Blue Gill Sunfish. We just recently introduced 500 Large Mouth Bass averaging around 1.5 lbs. There are future plans to stock Blue Channel Catfish and crappie. Many of our membership have already stopped by the Fish Hut to visit and learn more details about the operation at this end of the property. If you haven't taken the time to come see me in my new office (the envy of all my co-workers), please do so soon. I'll give you a tour and explain how the operation will work.

Besides a well-stocked lake to fish, there is an extensive covered dock and pier complex with a beautiful island to

lounge around on and enjoy a day in the sun. You can also shop for a new fishing outfit (all shirts have our logo) in the Fish Hut. We have two-man bass boats with electric motors to rent as well. Fish Camp/Fish Hut is the place you are going to want to start your fishing experience here at the Club. Please feel free to contact me at meno@houstonoaks.com or call me directly at 936-372-4308 for more information. Better yet, stop by for a personal tour. Keep'em barbless and remember, it's catch and release here at Houston Oaks Country Club & Family Sports Retreat.

Keep Fishing,
Matt Eno
Fishing Director
meno@houstonoaks.com



Dan Aquino

FROM THE GREENS

Hello from your Agronomy department!

As many of know, we have experienced some extreme weather in the last few months. We received almost eight inches of rain in the month of October alone! Very wet conditions along with cloudy days and cool temperatures caused less than favorable playing conditions.

The greens made it through the weather pattern pretty well. A solid, deep tine aerification was performed to help with getting oxygen to the water logged root zone and also aid in drainage. Fungicide applications were applied for algae control and to prevent any disease from developing. Our weekly foliar fertilizer program is still being executed to provide color during the cooler temperatures.

We are mowing all other surfaces twice per week due to the fact that shorter days and cooler temperatures slow the growth rate for warm season turf grasses.



Jay Leturno
Superintendent

The reduced mowing frequency is not the case with the park areas. We over seeded with annual rye grass at a rate of 350 pounds per acre. This rate gave us good turf density along with a bright green color. This type of grass grows well during cool temperatures and will last all winter until temperatures rise to around 90 degrees next year.

See you on the course!

Tree House

Are your kids looking for something new to do at Houston Oaks? Introduce them to the just completed Tree House right next to the playground behind the Pavilion. This is no ordinary Tree House. It was built around two of the most beautiful oak trees on the property. The inside has two levels, the main floor complete with the most unusual blue jean pillow couch you have ever seen and the upper level that is a perfect spot to sit in a bean bag or on a furry rug and read a book or play a game. Fully equipped with air conditioning and heat, as well as a restroom, it is a perfect spot to take the kids for some play time. The Tree House can be reserved for parties or private sleepovers if you and your kids are looking for an adventure. Be sure to check it out! For more information please contact Sheila at snelson@houstonoaks.com.



PAINTING WITH A TWIST



Nancy Bittikoffer and Wendy Frederick



Mark and Cher Halk



Linda and Mike Akin



Laura Watson & Guest



Audrey Gats & Guest





Friday, January 24

6:30 pm - 10:00 pm
\$65++ per person
Includes: Mixed green salad, pizza & wine
(2 drink tickets included)

Please RSVP to Kmuller@houstonoaks.com.



Spooktacular!



Hudson and Brody Herber



Jennifer and Lauren Mosley



Strucker Family



Evelyn Holz



Keira Nicholson



Jemma and Lila Nicholson



Live with Larry Gatlin

November 17, 2013



Holly Smith and Austin Alvis



Kim Jenkins and Mike Gibbs



Lisa Stewart and Guests



Kathy Ambrose and Amy Staats



Paula and Steve Winter



Andy Priest, Randy Rogers and Andrew Alvis



Larry Gatlin



Marci Alvis, Andrea Dugat, Larry Gatlin, Tammy Gibbs and Kathy Ambrose



Guest, Ronnie Matthews, Mark Stewart and Chuck Watson



The Gibbs

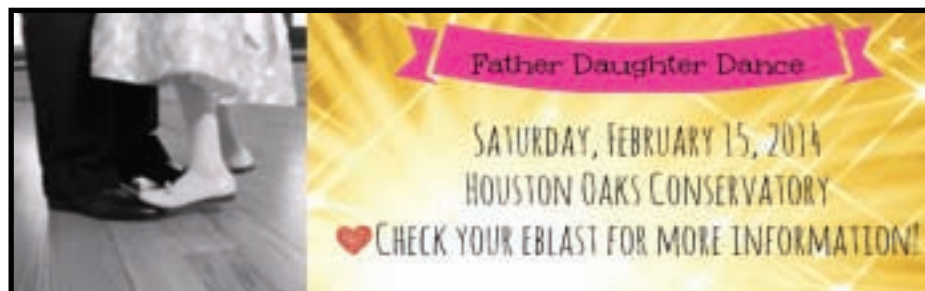


Larry Gatlin, Chuck Watson, John Havens and Steve Alvis

UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOUSTON OAKS

WED 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY	SUN 19	3:00 PM NINE & WINE	SUN 26	SUNDAY BRUNCH
WED 8	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course	MON 20	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	WED 29	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course
WED 15	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course	TUES 21	5:30 PM HOUSTON OAKS LADIES NIGHT LLR	THURS 30	11 AM-2 PM PAT DAHNKE TRUNK SHOW @ Ranch House
THURS 16	MARTINIS WITH THE MANAGER	WED 22	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course		
SAT 18	KIDS GAME NIGHT	FRI 24	6:30 PM MERLOT TO MASTERPIECE Conservatory \$65		

SAT 1	THE BAND AGAINST MS BIKE RIDE	SUN 9	BIG BASS TOURNAMENT	MON 17	PRESIDENT'S DAY
SUN 2	SUPER BOWL WATCH PARTY	WED 12	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course	TUES 18	HOCC LADIES NIGHT
WED 5	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course	THURS 13	LUXE GROUP PREVIEW PARTY in MLR	WED 19	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course
SAT 8	KID'S KLINIC	FRI 14	VALENTINE'S DINNER LUXE GROUP FITTINGS	SAT 22	BIG BREAK TEAM CHALLENGE
		SAT 15	6:00-9:00 PM FATHER DAUGHTER DANCE Conservatory	SUN 23	SUNDAY BRUNCH
		SUN 16	3:00 PM NINE & WINE	WED 26	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Ladies' Day on the Oaks Course



UPCOMING EVENTS AT HOUSTON OAKS

SAT 1	KID'S KLINIC	WED 12	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Oaks Course LADIES' CLINIC JUNIORS' CLINIC	FRI 21	MEN'S MEMBER-GUEST
SUN 2	TEXAS INDEPENDENCE DAY	SAT 15	TITLEIST DEMO DAY CASTING CLINIC	SAT 22	MEN'S MEMBER-GUEST
WED 5	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Oaks Course LADIES' CLINIC	SUN 16	FLY FISHING MADE EASY SUNDAY BRUNCH	SUN 23	MEMBER CHILI COOK-OFF Pavilion
FRI 7	MOVIE ON THE LAWN NINE & WINE	TUES 18	HOCC LADIES' NIGHT	WED 26	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Oaks Course LADIES' CLINIC JUNIORS' CLINIC
SAT 8	FAMILY GOLF CHALLENGE	WED 19	9:30 AM LADIES' DAY Oaks Course LADIES' CLINIC JUNIORS' CLINIC	MON 31	FCA GOLF TOURNAMENT
SUN 9	DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS	THUR 20	MEN'S MEMBER-GUEST		





EXTRAORDINARY EVENTS WITH EVERLASTING MEMORIES . . .



Houston Oaks Country Club offers a beautiful backdrop and unique venue spaces for your next wedding, holiday party, corporate retreat, or company picnic. To start making memories tomorrow, contact us today to save your date. Call our events department at 936-372-4305 or email Alissa O'Bannon at aobannon@houstonoaks.com.

