

# The Apogee

## From the Board Steve Houston, President

Letter from the President  
 What a spring and beginning to summer. We have had quite a bit of rain which I'm sure no one would complain about...unless you participated in the Vista Mesa Annual Garage Sale. We had another good turnout with better than 10% of the neighbors participating. For being so early in the spring, this was not a bad turnout, though the rain did seem to want to put a damper on things. We also had a good response to the dumpster drop off in late May. Actually, it was too good. We plan to do another one later this summer (see date in Newsletter). We only ask that you not overfill the dumpster. The last two years we have had to spend extra HOA dollars to have the excess picked up off the street. If the dumpster is full, please do not overfill. ACC applications have been steady and we would like to thank you for



your adherence to the regulations. It helps us to keep the neighborhood looking as good as it does. This is not because of the Board but because of all the neighbors who take great pride in their homes and yards. It really shows. Have a great rest of the summer and please feel free to contact any of the Board members listed below.  
 Steve Houston

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### Special points of interest:

- Free Dumpster in August
- Conservation and Watering
- New Owners
- Community Activities
- Home Maintenance Manual

## Calendar of Events

### Aug

18 School Begins District 11  
 20 HOA Monthly meeting 7PM at Fire Station #20  
 21-23 Vista Mesa Free Dumpster

September  
 7 Labor Day

October  
 12 Columbus Day

### October (cont)

14 HOA Monthly meeting 7PM at Fire Station #20  
 31 Halloween

### November

11 Veterans Day  
 19 Annual HOA Monthly meeting 6PM at Fire Station #20  
 26 Thanksgiving

## Outdoor Water Conservation Tips Provided by Kristy McKitterick from CAI

Even though we use water every day, it's easy to take it for granted. Just imagine how you would function without clean water. It's everyone's responsibility to conserve and protect water resources. The decisions and actions you make today truly affect our water resources for the future. The following suggestions will help you get in the habit of saving water in the great outdoors:

- Get a rain gauge to measure rainfall. One inch of rain per week is generally sufficient for lawns and gardens. Supplement only when rainfall is inadequate.
- Use mulch around landscape plantings. Mulch will help eliminate weeds and

hold moisture in the soil.

- Select hardy plants that don't need much water. Native plants that are well adapted to your climate and soils will survive well without supplemental watering.
- Water during the cool part of the day to avoid rapid evaporation.
- Raise the mowing heights on your lawn mower. This promotes healthier grass that can better survive dry periods.
- When watering is necessary, water slowly and thoroughly. If you notice puddles or runoff, turn water off and wait for water to soak in. Also be sure your sprinkler puts water where you need it—not on driveways or

sidewalks.

- Wash cars efficiently. First give the car a quick rinse, and then turn the water off. Wash one section of the car at a time and rinse that section quickly. Turn the water off each time.

Visit [www.auduboninternational.org](http://www.auduboninternational.org) for more conservation tips.



*Conservation is every ones responsibility*

### Our New Neighbors

Michael & Suzanne Jourdan -  
 David & Barbara Waldner -  
 Bien Van Pham and Bich Thuan Thi Dao -  
 Karl and Jennifer Gustavson -  
 Timothy & Roberta Walker  
 Craig & Nancy Berryman  
 Jeremy & Susannah Bono  
 Paul & Susan Parsons

4252 Brush Ridge  
 6230 Maroon Mesa Drive  
 6150 Maroon Mesa  
 6140 Soaring Drive  
 5776 Dynasty Ridge  
 6168 Treeledge  
 6434 Maroon Mesa  
 6163 Soaring

### Board Member resigns by Steve Houston

Judy Billingsley has resigned from the Board as of June 2009. Judy served on the board for a year and a half but the daily business of life has taken control and she has had to step down. We thank Judy for her time spent on the Board and wish her luck. Judy has volun-

teered for other committees of the HOA. We thank her for her support.

The Board will finish out the rest of this year with three Board members. We encourage all neighbors to run for the Board or to submit their names for other committees

which are currently open. Please e-mail me or any of the other Board members with any questions

## FROM THE EDITOR by Ed Furr

From the Editor

As I write this article and finish this newsletter, it will be my last official act for Vista Mesa Homeowners Association. I served this association in some way for the last 5 plus years. During those years I was on the board and served as the President and Vice President. I also helped several committees.

I feel these past years have been rewarding and I have learned a lot. There are so many people I need to thank. If I forget you forgive me. Since I started on the

board Kristie has been there. She has been with this association from the start. None of us could do anything correctly without her. She is the foundation of Vista Mesa. I hope she continues to serve this community. Steve, Judy, Kurt, Lisa, Teresa, Porty, Curt, Lisa, Daniela, and anyone I missed. That's for all the help. Jara, Bernie, Rodger, and Katharina for helping put out the newsletters. There are many more I am missing. I hope you know who you are. I will be moving to Savannah, Georgia in August. I hope all

of you know that I will miss this neighborhood. It is the best in the Springs. I am going ask that more of you volunteer in the Neighborhood. It doesn't take a lot of time and we will continue to have low dues. If the neighborhood has to hire full time property management. You will not like it at all. I wish everyone the best and have a great year.

Sincerely,  
Ed Furr

*Remember the kids are still out of school.*

## Home Information Guide by Ed Furr

As I prepared to leave Colorado. I was wondering if I had taken care of everything that I could. Then I began to realize that I had taken care of everything in the house in the past. Daniela was going to need information on this house. Owners manual if you will. Every thing we buy today has one except our homes.

So often in today's society one of the home owners are out of town, deployed, lives in other states for whatever reason. I decided to compile an Information book for the house. The book does

not have to be big, I say keep it simple. I had a table of contents and a brief description and how to guide for the different areas of the house and a area for her to write her own notes. I placed appliance and gardening tool manuals in the book too. This makes it easier to find in the future. Contacts you have are also helpful. In my case, I was the one who has always taken care of those things and could not figure why she did not know. I guess because I never told her.

Another way to make things easier for the one left behind is to take them around and

show them and let them put hands on and answer questions they may have. This way if the water heater starts leaking or they have a gas leak, they know where to shut the water or gas off and who to call. Could be the difference between a \$600 water heater and a several thousand dollar repair because of flooding. Plus it could even save someone's life. I cannot believe I did not do this years ago.

*Could be the one thing that saves you money and your sanity while away.*

VISTA MESA HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Balanced Bookkeeping &  
Community Assoc. Management  
P.O. Box 25353

Phone: 719-593-9811  
Fax: 719-265-6481  
Email: Balbookacc@aol.com

Safety: School is still  
out. Watch for our kids  
playing in the  
Neighborhood.

*We are on  
the Web  
at  
Vistames  
ahoa.org*

**School District 11.  
Classes begin August  
18th.**

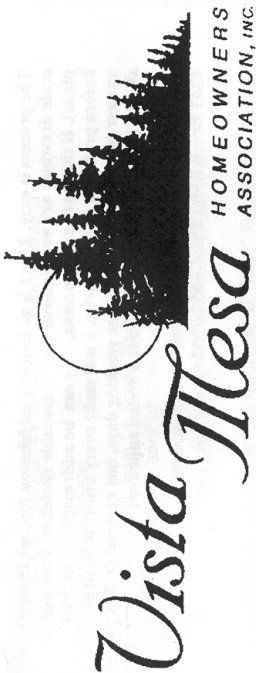
**Watch for kids walking to  
school or waiting for Bus.**

**FREE DUMPSTER**

At Sable Ridge Court on  
August 21st—23rd

Open to all Vista Mesa Residents.  
Get rid of your excess trash.

No hazardous Waste.  
i.e. Oils, Fuels, Poisons, Household Chemi-  
cals, Pesticides, Gas Canisters, etc.



**HOA Officers**

President: Steve Houston  
528-6612 sjpshous@earthlink.com

Vice-President/ Sec  
Currently Open

Treasurer Mike Stroud  
375-0907 joeyf4g@aol.com

Director At Large Kurt Nelson  
598-2885 kujonel@msn.com

Community Manager Kristie McKitterick  
593-9811 Balbookacc@aol.com

**Committee Chairs**

Covenant Enforcement:  
Amanda McKitterick 593-9811  
Balbookacc@aol.com

Welcome Committee:  
Steve Houston 528-6612

Newsletter:  
Ed Furr 264-1477  
Open due to pending move

ACC:  
Kurt Nelson 598-2885  
Or any Board Member

Neighborhood Watch, Grounds,  
Parks and Trails: All Positions  
Currently Open