

## **December – A View From The Deck**

The Year 2011 is almost over, and what a year it has been.

Here in the Texas Hill Country we had one of the coldest winters ever and a record-breaking hottest and driest summer.

Bad news in 2011 was that the Llano County burn ban prevented us from having our usual spectacular Fourth of July fireworks show at Wenmohs Park. Good news is that most of the Blue Lake property owners who donated money for the 2011 fireworks show have told us to keep the money and use the donations in 2012.

The cancellation of the fireworks did not keep us from celebrating Independence Day with the biggest golf cart parade ever and one of the best-attended and best-tasting Fourth of July luncheons ever.

Your 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 POA Boards approved and implemented the first capital improvements in Blue Lake since 1995—that's more than 15 years!

Capital improvements included the new flat fitness walking trail, bocce ball/horseshoes/washers game area and basketball court in Devils Hollow Park and refurbished tennis courts across from the Blue Lake Golf Club. Much of this work was done by Blue Lake volunteers saving us thousands of dollars.

The current POA Board also approved repairs and remodeling of both docks in Wenmohs Park. The west dock which encloses the beach area will be repaired, reinforced and resurfaced. The east pier will be repaired, reinforced and extended by 40 feet. Both will be covered with concrete, a special bonding material to prevent cracks and painted with a flexible "cool" deck material on top that will be easier on our feet. Work is expected to be complete before Spring Break 2012. Special thanks to POA Board Member Leah Roust for researching these improvements and working with LCRA to make them happen.

As the year is coming to a close, we received the good news about the ground breaking for the long-awaited Scott & White hospital complex at US Hwy 281 and TX Hwy 71. Construction is finally underway!

More year-end good news has been the recent rain we have received. Everything here in Blue Lake appears greener and the burn ban has been lifted.

Happy Holidays to everyone and I hope we all have a happy and prosperous 2012.