



BrookNotes

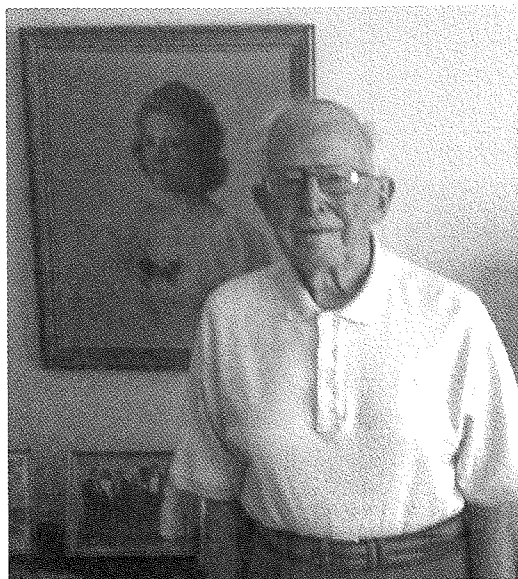
August 2010

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

Volume XXIII, No. 8

Have You Met Jimmy Henderson?

By Elaine Luxemburger and Alison Caughman



*Jimmy Henderson in his living room,
beside a lovely portrait of Edith*

Jimmy and Edith Henderson moved to 250 Brighton Road in 1955 -- long before many of you were born! They paid \$22,500 for their tidy home which was built in 1939, coincidentally the year they were married. Jimmy spent many years on active duty and in the Army Reserve, retiring as a Lt. Colonel in 1973. In 1930 he was a member of the Governor's Horse Guards and he remembers playing polo at Fort McPherson here in Atlanta on Sundays. For much of World War II he remained at Fort McPherson where, in conjunction with the Red Cross, he arranged for individual services for the soldiers. He ended the war in The Philippines, where he was responsible for educating soldiers about their benefits under the newly-passed GI Bill of Rights. Upon returning home, Jimmy went into the insurance business.

Edith, meanwhile, established a thriving landscape design business and she also wrote weekly columns for the *Atlanta Journal*. She was one of the few female landscape architects in Georgia and she designed the grounds of Techwood Homes, the first federal low-income housing project in the nation. She and Jimmy raised two boys, Edward and Ross, in Brookwood Hills. In 1993 Edith published *Edith Henderson's Home Landscape Companion* and she and Jimmy were planning to travel around the South publicizing it, when sadly she was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease. After many years of Jimmy's loving care at home, Edith died at the age of 94. Jimmy continues to live in their home, and on September 20th will celebrate his 97th birthday.

Jimmy was President of the Brookwood Hills Community Club in 1970. Like almost everything he did, his presidency was a joint project with Edith. When Jimmy agreed to become president of the Community Club, the two of them walked the neighborhood and evaluated it from a landscape architect's perspective. Many children lived in Brookwood Hills, and Edith and Jimmy felt creating a play space next to the pool would benefit the community most of all. A crew removed trash and cut back the overgrowth and dead trees on the banks around the park. Every Saturday for a number of weeks neighbors worked on the project. A grass cutter was hired, an irrigation system was installed, and the drain system was cleaned out. Next time you take your children to our park, think how much they are enjoying the fruits of the Hendersons' vision.



BROOKNOTES

BrookNotes is published monthly for residents of Brookwood Hills on behalf of the Brookwood Hills Community Club, 77 Wakefield Drive, Atlanta, Ga. 30309. BrookNotes is sponsored on alternate months by Patti Junger of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc.

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Security Alert Signs

When you see the **Security Alert signs** posted at the entrances to our neighborhood, please call the **Brookwood Hills Security Information Line 404-325-5114** for details concerning a recent security incident. These signs are a signal that an incident has occurred in the neighborhood and the information has been recorded on the hotline. The cell phone number for the neighborhood security patrol is **404-242-3321**.

Last Days of Summer at the Pool

Remember that the pool hours of operation will be changing, beginning Monday, August 23rd. From the 23rd through Monday September 6th, the hours will be:

- Monday - Thursday, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
- Friday, 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Sunday, noon - 9 p.m.

The pool will be closed Tuesday through Thursday, September 7th - 9th. For the 10th through the 12th the hours will be:

- Friday, 3 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Saturday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
- Sunday, noon - 5 p.m.

On Labor Day, Monday, September 6th, between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., hot dogs & burgers will be grilled and available for purchase at the pool, followed by pool games organized by the lifeguards. And don't miss the big Brookwood Hills celebration on the last day the pool is open, Sunday, September 12th. At 3 p.m. the annual Ice Cream Social will commence in the park. In addition to free ice cream sundaes, there will be fun, organized activities for the children. Finally, once the pool has officially closed at 5 p.m., chaos will reign supreme as all neighborhood dogs are invited to take their turn for a dip in the pool.

Please remember to thank our Pool Co-Chairs, Deborah Gebhardt and Lesley Carroll, for all their hard work to make this pool season the best ever.

BrookNotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of *BrookNotes* is September 8th, 2010. Submissions may be e-mailed to brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com or dropped off at 144 Huntington Road.

Audubon Designates Clear Creek a Wildlife Sanctuary

By Jerry Luxemburger & Jo Hunsinger

Amanda Baxter, the chair of the Club's Clear Creek Committee, announced that the Club has obtained an Audubon Society Wildlife Sanctuary designation for its Clear Creek property. This designation will make available to the Club the Society's expertise in wildlife management and should raise Club member awareness of Clear Creek's natural resources. Amanda made clear that the designation will not interfere with the Club's use of the property nor will it open the property to those who are not Club members or neighborhood residents.



Audubon reviewer, Jacqueline McCrae, encouraged the Club to continue its plans for bird houses, more wildlife-friendly native plants and trees, and educational efforts with respect to the flora and fauna on the property. Jacqueline also praised the Club's efforts to remove invasive species. This effort has been going on for several years under the supervision of Committee member Alex Summers. The Club has reserved over \$200,000 of Clear Creek easement proceeds to pay for it. However, Jacqueline emphasized that it is not enough to remove the invasive species. The Club should replace them with native wildlife-friendly ones in order to maintain nesting and other friendly habitats that the invasive species provided.

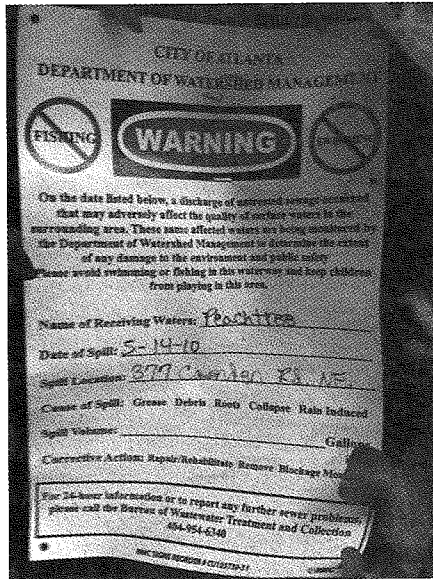
Amanda also announced that the Club has employed a nationally-recognized trail designer to design and lay out a trail on the west side of the Creek from the existing Huntington Road entrance to the existing Palisades Road entrance and beyond. After the design is finalized, the Clear Creek Committee intends to recommend to the Board the construction of the trail be undertaken some time in the late Fall. The existing trail is both safe and walkable and Club members are encouraged to use it. Unfortunately, it is not sustainable over the long term and is not as scenic as it could be, which is why the new trail is to be constructed.

The Committee is also planning to improve the current trail entrances, creating ones that are more prominent and accessible. Committee member Esther Stokes has prepared detailed designs that include both hard and soft landscaping for each entrance. Construction costs are being evaluated and bids will be solicited. The Committee has not proposed a completion date for the new entrances. In addition to Amanda, Alex, and Esther, the other Clear Creek Committee members are Eve Goldstein, Rod Cook, Jerry Luxemburger, Sara Jean Burke, and Margaret Mertens.

Club members willing to help the Committee with its tasks should call Amanda (404-805-1230). Also, the Committee would like to hear from any Club-member-birders who may be interested in helping with creating a bird count for Clear Creek.

Atlanta's Sewer Woes Impact Nature Preserve

By Amanda Baxter



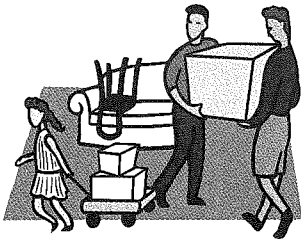
The City of Atlanta recently completed extensive sewer work in the Brookwood Hills Nature Preserve along Clear Creek and Armour Drive. Beginning in May, lower Camden neighbors began smelling a foul smell from the Creek. Frustrated by the City of Atlanta's response (or lack thereof), one neighbor contacted a local television station which aired a piece on the smell. Soon, the City of Atlanta was on the scene and located at least two ongoing sewer leaks into the Creek. According to records submitted to the State of Georgia, the City estimated that 8,500 gallons of raw sewage entered Clear Creek.

To repair the leak, the City began extensive excavation work along Armour Drive and in the Brookwood Hills Nature Preserve. After several days of excavation, the City managed to stop the sewer leak, which was caused by ancient sewer pipes underneath Armour Drive. The City has now replaced and upgraded the sewer pipes to twenty-first century standards, but the work caused extensive damage to the Brookwood Hills Nature Preserve and was extremely disruptive to adjacent neighbors. At one point, the excavation work even jeopardized the stability of Armour Drive, which was then closed to traffic. As many neighbors noticed, the construction work also disrupted the homes of wildlife in the Nature Preserve, including at least one large snake nest. With no place to go, the wildlife appeared in our yards and at least for one lucky neighbor, in their home (See last month's *BrookNotes*). The Club hopes that the completion of the construction work will allow our wildlife neighbors, especially the five-foot-plus long snakes, to return to their homes in the Preserve.

After completing the sewer repairs, the City began its rehabilitation of the Club's property. The area along Armour Drive has been re-contoured, with sod planted. Other areas have received bank stabilization and additional grass sodding. In the fall, the Club will work with the City to replace the plantings, including trees, destroyed by the excavation work.

Throughout this process, many neighbors have volunteered to protect the Club's property interests. Many thanks are owed to Lee Morris, Jim Stokes, and Alex Summers. In addition, Councilman Howard Shook provided significant help to the Club in addressing issues with the construction work and the ongoing restoration work.

Finally, the Club hopes that another sewer leak does not occur. If, however, any neighbor has concerns regarding a potential sewer leak, the Club requests that the neighbor contact the Club (Amanda Baxter, Brookwood Hills Nature Preserve Chair or any other board member) and the City of Atlanta Customer Service Call Center at 404-954-6340. Further, if you notice City of Atlanta or other workers in the Nature Preserve, please contact the Brookwood Hills Nature Preserve Chair. The Preserve is the Club's private property and we are working with the City to ensure that we receive notification prior to others entering our property.



New Faces

Welcome to Tom and Kim Ferro, who relocated from Morningside to 118 Brighton Road, together with 5-year old Arden, 2-year old Greta, and their beautiful golden retriever Edwina. Both Tom and Kim work for aluminum manufacturers. He is in finance at Novelis and she is in marketing at Alcoa.

Welcome Bunny Winter and Mike Doyle, who are in the process of moving into 105 Wakefield. Both retired, Bunny formerly worked for Coca-Cola, and Mike was a partner with Alston and Bird. Mike stays busy with Coast Guard Auxiliary activities and boating and fishing, while Bunny's time is spent working with Wellesley College, where she serves on the Board of Trustees. They like to travel, and visit with their 3 sons and daughters-in-law and 8 grandchildren. Bunny has walked in Brookwood Hills for several years with an early morning group that includes Eleanor Bannister, Mary Grace Diehl, Laurie Hood, Janie Jeter, Kem Lee, Elizabeth Nadal, and former Brookwood Hills resident, Barbara Slick.

New Graduate

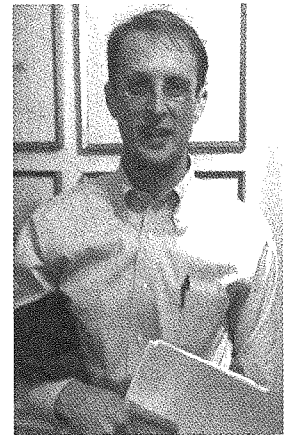
F. Parker Burke, Jr. received his MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern Univ. in June. A graduate of The Westminster Schools and the U.S. Naval Academy, he served 6 years in the USMC with 2 deployments to Iraq before business school. Parker is joining Danaher Corporation in September, and will be living in Greensboro, NC.

CALENDAR

- **Monday, September 6, Labor Day Celebration, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., details page 2**
- **Sunday, September 12, Ice Cream Social, 3:00 p.m., at the park, details page 2**
- **Sunday, September 12, Pool Closing and Dog Swim, 6:00 p.m., at the pool, details page 2**
- **Monday, September 13, BWHCC Board Meeting, 7:15 p.m., at the home of Lee & Gilda Morris, 230 Brighton Road**
- **Saturday, November 6 — Save the Date for the Annual Trees Atlanta BWH Planting Day**

Welcome to the Board

Travis Szwest is the new Community Club Chair for the park, tennis, and common areas. In addition to tennis, he is the point person for things like repairing broken playground equipment, mulching the nature trail, and keeping the park supplied with doggie waste bags. Travis and his wife Amanda, daughter Emma (8), and son Finn (5) moved to the neighborhood in 2007 and they are turning what was once a duplex at 35 Huntington Road into their single family home. Travis is the Georgia Branch Manager for ULINE, a distributor of shipping and packaging materials for businesses throughout North America.



BrookNotes Delivery Person Needed

Thank you to long-time *BrookNotes* delivery persons Savannah Lee, Sam & Ben Ross, and Katherine Wabler, all of whom have recently resigned, thus making way for new deliverers of your neighborhood newsletter. The current delivery staff includes Elle Oser, Conner Perkey, David Gebhardt, and Theodore Davis, but we now have one vacancy left to fill. The job entails delivering the newsletter to about 70 households one week-end a month; the pay is \$20 per issue. Deliverers need to be responsible and reliable and willing to work rain or shine (or in sleet or snow, etc. etc.). Any neighborhood children interested in becoming a *BrookNotes* deliverer should contact the editors Nathalie Fuson and Alison Caughman by sending an email to brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com.

BROOKNOTES

Sponsored by Your Neighbor

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