



BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

February 1994, Vol. VIII, No. 1

A Letter from the President

Thanks to all who attended the Association's Annual Meeting on February 6th in the Rich Auditorium at Piedmont Hospital. Officer Barry Miller gave the annual (and famous) "state of security" address (it was surprisingly good news), and Atlanta City Council member Lee Morris presented his perspective on several issues important to the neighborhood. While not all the news from City Hall is good, it is encouraging to find that we will have access to our Council Representative. As a sign of extraordinary good will, Lee gave out both his office and home phone numbers (330-6050 and 231-4065 respectively), with the message that constituents are welcome to call. We also had an opportunity to thank retiring President Lee Robinson and Secretary Harrilee Molm, as well as Thornton DeRosa, Pat Leake, Steve Parker, and Esther Stokes, Board Members whose terms expired this year. If you have not had the opportunity to do so, I hope you will find time to thank these neighbors who have worked very hard on our behalf.

At the meeting we also discussed trends in Association membership and the impact of the pool and tennis facility on the budget. In each of the past four years "A", "C" and "D" membership has declined by 2-4%. ("A" members are Brookwood Hills residents who use the pool and tennis courts. "B" members are residents who do not use those facilities. "C" members are non-BWH residents who use the pool and tennis courts. "D" members are non-residents who use the pool only.) Over the same four year period, Association expenses have increased, with an explosive surge in the property tax burden expected this year. The Board has responded to this situation by increasing dues for "A" and "B" members for 1994. "A" member dues will be increased from \$455 to \$495. "B" member dues will increase from \$160 to \$180.

The Association allocates well over \$100,000 each year for neighborhood services such as buffer property maintenance and taxes, professional fees (largely for zoning issues), beautification projects, and private security patrols. In the past, the dues from "C" and "D" members was sufficient not only to support the pool and tennis courts, but also to underwrite some of these neighborhood services. Unfortunately, while the pool and tennis courts remain self-supporting, the days of non-resident dues supporting resident services are essentially over. While it is encouraging that approximately 80% of Brookwood Hills residents are already members of the Association, now more than ever we need the full support of each neighbor as a member, in order to stop the cycle of having to choose between an increase in dues or a reduction in services.

If you are already a member of the Association, I hope you will be able to continue to support its work. If you are a new resident, or if you are not currently an Association member and would like to know more about why membership is so important, please contact me or any other Board member for more information. When you receive your membership materials next month, take a few minutes to remind yourself of all the things the Association does to improve our quality of life and to support Brookwood Hills property values. I am sure if you do, it will be easy to respond positively to this membership drive.

Dave Forquer
874-3254

Auction Benefits BWH

The Acorn Auction sponsored by the Brookwood Hills Garden Club will be held Friday, April 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. at Katie Bollman's home (84 Wakefield Drive). The club's silent and live auctions will raise money for beautification and tree replacement surrounding the pool and park. Invitations for the neighborhood will be forthcoming. Space is limited, so pre-registration is a necessity.

If you are Spring cleaning and find "golden" elephants (in good condition) which you can contribute, please call Sandra Player. Sorry, no "tired" elephants please -- send them to the zoo!. Donation ideas include sports or theater tickets, furniture, home accessories, and use of week-end homes. Contact Sandra Player at 352-9253 to arrange for a pick-up or drop-off. Remember, the Acorn Auction benefits our neighborhood!



Sandra Player and Katie Bollman pick up donations for the Brookwood Hills Garden Club's "Acorn Auction".

Spring Bedding Plant Sale

Spring is just around the corner, and now is the perfect time to make replacement plans for those pansies! The 1994 TWIGS Spring Bedding Plant Sale offers you the opportunity to beautify your home and support Egleston Children's Hospital at the same time.

Order forms are included in this issue of Brooknotes, and should be turned in to Carey Peard at 160 Huntington Road no later than Sunday, February 27th. Plants will arrive during the week of April 11-15, at which time you will be contacted to arrange a pick up time. If you have any questions, please call Carey Peard at 875-1863.

Many neighbors have supported this sale in the past and have been very pleased with the plants they have received. Brookwood Hills TWIGS thanks you for your support.

Neighborhood Gift

On behalf of the owners of the Peachtree Battle Shopping Center, Branch and Associates has given the Community Club a check in the amount of \$1,000 to go towards repairs and improvements to playground equipment in the park. In the accompanying letter, Branch asked that the neighborhood be thanked for its support and patronage of the Peachtree Battle shops over the years.

You're Welcome to Come

The next meeting of the Brookwood Hills Community Club Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, February 28th, at 7:00, at the home of Dave Forquer and Barbara Croft, 35 Wakefield Drive. In order for them to have an idea of how many people to expect, if you would like to attend, please call Dave or Barbara at 874-3254. All members of the Community Club are welcome.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Brooknotes,

I have two comments which I consider worthy of mention in Brooknotes. First, officials in the City Sanitation (and Rat Eradication) Department advise not to put out seed and suet for birds, as suggested in the issue under Garden Tips. Birdseed, along with pet food, are major culprits in new complaints of rats, especially in Buckhead.

Second, I discovered that the popular drinking water I've used for two years is actually recycled municipal water, that is, filtered. I have researched several sources and recommend Lipsey drinking water, also used at CDC for drinking and for experimentation! I welcome any calls on the subject (876-8339).

Thanks,
Flo Dawson

February Cultivations

From the Garden Club

Although one may continue to plan the garden in February, there are still a few chores to do around the grounds. So put on your Wellies and button up your Mack -- let's tidy up and get a head start on Spring. For the industrious, annual and vegetable seeds can be started indoors. Pansies and violas can be set outdoors. Evergreen and deciduous shrubs and trees may still be planted. Add a little seed to those worn spots in the lawn. Refurbish your soil with manure and organic matter. Feed broadleaf evergreens and flowering shrubs.

February is the month to prune fruit trees and crepe myrtles. It really isn't necessary to prune these crepe myrtles severely. Their natural growth pattern is quite exceptional. A nip here and a tuck there will suffice.

Do not prune needle-like shrubs. Cut all dead wood off shrubs and trees. Reduce hydrangeas by three fourths of the growth.

A note about pruning tools: an arsenal is not really necessary except for the most avid gardener. For light pruning, *scissor action hand pruners* offer a clean cut in tight areas. The *anvil blade pruners* are used for slightly larger branches. Remember these clippers are meant for one handed action. Using two hands and squeezing with the strength of Willie B. while beads of sweat form small streams on your face only pops the clippers and keeps the manufacturers in business. Before buying these clippers, take several varieties off the shelf and grasp them until you find a comfortable fit. Then buy the next size larger.

Heavier pruning chores (i.e. dogwoods and crabapple branches) are best handled with *loppers*. They come in scissor and anvil blade types also. Pick good wood or steel handles for ease and longevity. Again, don't tackle anything too large for this tool.

The third necessary tool is the *pruning saw*. A carpenter's saw works on the push, so sawing a limb with this is an uphill nightmare. The pruning saw works on the pull, so the weight of the hands and arm do all the work. Keep it clean, well oiled, and sharp.

Invest in hedge shears, pole pruners, and other pruning tools when you need them.

Garden Exchange Launched

There are many knowledgeable gardeners in Brookwood Hills. The Garden Club would like to start an information exchange to help the newer residents who might not be as accustomed to our shady conditions, soil composition, summer dry spells, etc. If you have a particular plant, handy technique, or novel approach, we would love to share it with the neighborhood. Please consider sending your helpful hints to: Brookwood Hills Garden Club, 310 Camden Road. We will wait fervently by the mailbox for a letter from Hank Harris on perennials, Nan Clarke on house plants, and Nova Horten on shade gardening. Seriously, we hope that this becomes a real service to the neighborhood.

Welcome New Neighbors

Larre' and Doug Holladay have moved to 245 Camden Road with sons Whit, who is a Seventh Grader at Westminster, and Cole, who is a Second Grader at Morris Brandon. Doug is President of Sterling Cellular.

Bernard and Leslie Schneider celebrated their First Anniversary by purchasing 220 Huntington Road. They've come to Atlanta by way of Cleveland. Bernard is a scientist at Photonic Sensor Systems, and Leslie is a management consultant for Foster Higgins.

Terri and Keith Coma have moved to 11 Camden, along with their three year old daughter Caroline.

Brooknotes Schedule

The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes will be Friday, March 11th. Brooknotes submissions must be in writing and should be dropped off at Alison Caughman's house, 200 Camden Road. If you have any questions or problems regarding Brooknotes delivery, call Laura Inman at 352-5072.

Classifieds

Dependable maid desires work in the neighborhood on Thursdays. For references call Fran Wood, 876-7116.

Brookwood Hills neighbor willing to house sit, feed/walk animals, water plants, and collect mail while you are away on vacation. Call Heather Pierce at 875-0389.



Mary Ann and Knox Massey hosted the TWIGS gala annual neighborhood party.



Susan Northington, Sarah Ellen Love, and Paige Hayes chaired the event.

Photos by Donna Williams

And A Good Time Was Had By All . . .

Mary Ann and Knox Massey's beautiful home on Brighton Road provided an elegant and hospitable setting for the TWIGS annual neighborhood party, which took place Friday, February 4th. A record crowd of some 160 of our Brookwood Hills neighbors turned out to enjoy the lavish cocktail buffet and each other's company, as well as to support the fine work of Egleston Hospital for Children.

Members of TWIGS worked for several months planning this event, which is their most significant fundraising project during the year. Virtually every member of TWIGS contributed generously and tirelessly to the evening's success -- preparing food, donating beverages, delivering invitations, helping with the set-up and clean up, and taking care of the many needs that arose during the planning process. Special recognition goes to those individuals who assumed leadership roles for this year's event: Sarah Ellen Love - Chair; Mary Marsteller and Paige Hays - Co-Chairs; Anne Sapp - Invitations; Micki Gambrell - Bar; Diane Kellum - Reservations; Linda Harris - Photo Name Tags; Martha Dunlevie - Treasurer.

TWIGS also received strong backing from many sponsors, whose contributions of talent and financial resources were crucial to the party's success. We would like to acknowledge gratefully the generous support of: Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc.; Andrea Helfrich of Jenny Pruitt and Associates; Marge Henson of Northside Realty; Patti Junger of Buckhead Brokers Realtors; Laranne Oser and Chuck Wood of Dorsey-Alston Realtors; Kathi Pierce Rhodes of Harry Norman Realtors, Inc.; Jane Long of The Easy Way Out; Jane Northway of Special Delivery Artful Foods; Harry's Farmers Market; Priscilla Hopkins; Habersham Wines; Bank South, and of course, Mary Ann and Knox Massey for the use of their fabulous home.

Finally, we want to thank all the wonderful neighbors who supported this event -- either by their presence at the party or their financial contributions. Thanks to the help of everyone involved, we were able to raise a record \$3,000 for Egleston. We hope you all had as much fun as we did!



BROOKNOTES

Sponsored by your neighbor

Patti Junger

Broker Associate

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