

# BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

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February 2000, Vol. XIII, No. 1

## Long-Range Plan Focus of Annual Meeting



*Outgoing President Anne Sapp passes the reins to Walter Bland.*

There was a large turnout at the Brookwood Hills Community Club's Annual Meeting on February 6, 2000. Outgoing President Anne Sapp opened the meeting by thanking the board members whose terms were expiring: Margy Pastor, Deirdre Stiles, Bill Long, Frampton Simmons, and Harry Gilham. Anne then summarized the past year's highlights, including the formation of the architectural review committee to help with BWH's many internal zoning issues, progress at the Brookwood Place development, and the institution of a Long Range Capital Improvements Plan for Brookwood Hills.

The Community Club members unanimously elected this year's officers: Walter Bland, President; Pamela Watson, Vice President/President Elect; Sallie Topfl, Secretary; and Taylor Williams, Treasurer. Anne then handed over the reins to Walter, who, in his first official act as President, oversaw the unanimous election of the Board's proposed slate of new directors.

Committee Reports for 1999 were upbeat. Pamela Watson reported that the Club is in strong financial shape, paying off its term loan and concurrently making capital improvements to both the pool and the neighborhood trees. Jean O'Halloran stated that membership was full last year, and is expected to be full again this year. Steve McCollam reported that the Pool Committee is gearing up for summer, and noted that there will be at least three lifeguards on duty at all times. Steve also promised to explore leaving open the playground entrance

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## BROOKNOTES

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Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Thursday, March 9, 2000. Submissions may be e-mailed to [mncook@bellsouth.net](mailto:mncook@bellsouth.net), faxed to 404-607-7568 or dropped off at 30 Woodcrest Ave.

### BWH Board – Quick Reference

- President** – Walter Bland 404-897-1384
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- Gov't Relations** – Larry Pless 404-892-6024  
Carolyn Cooper 404-351-0555
- Membership** – Jean O'Halloran 404-352-0802  
Belinda Donovan 404-817-7551
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404-724-9545
- NPU** – Everett Puri 404-355-9101
- Parks** – Clark Landers 404-355-3392
- Pool** – Hayes Wilson 404-876-4618  
Steve McCollam 404-350-0408
- Security** – Rick Jackson 404-350-3389
- Social** – Diane John 404-870-0484
- Trees** – Susan Connell 404-351-1633
- Zoning** – Leigh Furrh 404-873-7369

**Security Hotline - 404-325-5114**

## From the President

By Walter Bland

Those of you who attended the annual meeting heard the good news about the Brookwood Hills Community Club. We are in excellent financial shape. Our streets are safe. Our facilities are in good condition. Our membership is busting at the seams, and we have a long waiting list. We have started working on plans to make capital improvements to the neighborhood.

The neighborhood and the Club are in good shape because of the diligence and commitment of past presidents and past boards. All of you know about the hard work of Betsy Crosby, Nick Sears, and Anne Sapp and their boards on a variety of issues from renovating the pool to negotiating for a satisfactory development of the Jewish Community Center property. Anne Sapp is due a special thanks for continuing with her duties even after fire destroyed her home. Her commitment to the neighborhood, friendly smile, and boundless energy are remarkable.

I am glad to report that we have an excellent team of new and returning board members who are dedicated to maintaining  
*(Continued on page 4)*

## Thanks to Deirdre

By Nicole Cook and Katrina Newton

As we put together our first issue of *Brooknotes*, we would like to take a moment to thank Deirdre Stiles, our predecessor, for her dedication to this publication. Her hard work and commitment over the last three years has helped bind our community together and kept us informed on everything from the commercial development of the Jewish Community Center to the costumes at the Halloween party.

In addition to covering events in the neighborhood, Deirdre moved the *Brooknotes* production process into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. She purchased software that allows us to do most of the layout from our home computers, encouraged people to e-mail articles, and pioneered the use of digital photographs. Deirdre has promised to continue helping with *Brooknotes*, an offer we have gratefully accepted. Thank you Deirdre for all your efforts, past, present and future!

## Meet the President

Our new BWH Community Club president, Walter Bland, has lived with his wife Mary Stuart in Brookwood Hills at 57 Northwood Ave. for seven years. They have two children: Jay (4 yrs.) and Carolyn (2 yrs.). Walter joined the BWH Community Club board of directors in 1997, serving as the Security Chairman for three years. He implemented the Security Information Line and Security Alert System for the neighborhood.

Walter is a native of Atlanta. He grew up on Rivers Road in Buckhead, graduated from The Lovett School in 1979 and Emory University in 1985. Walter finished a masters degree in German literature at the University of Virginia in 1987 and an MBA at Georgia State University in 1992. He has been in banking for the past seven years. Currently, Walter is the manager of the Enterprise Valuation Group at Bank of America.

In addition to running, hiking, snowboarding, and windsurfing, Walter is an avid gardener. Walter tries to keep up with Mary Stuart who is an accomplished tennis player, runner, swimmer, skier, and singer.

## Capital Improvements Steering Committee Seeks Neighborhood Input

The development of a Master Capital Improvement Plan for Brookwood Hills has begun. While the BWH Board now has retained the urban design firm of Hughes, Good, O'Leary & Ryan to help create the Plan, the goal of the Capital Improvements Steering Committee is to combine the ideas and wishes of *all* BWH residents in the Plan's development. Accordingly, the development process includes many opportunities for residents to participate. Indeed, the Steering Committee was set up to listen to your comments and relay them to HGOR, and to present their ideas to you.

The following is a list of the members of the Committee, their addresses and e-mails, and the portion of our neighborhood for which they are primarily responsible (i.e. their "pods"): Steve Barnhardt, 310 Camden, [sdb@barnhartlaw.com](mailto:sdb@barnhartlaw.com), 272 - 385 Camden; Carolyn Cooper, 38 Camden, [ccc Camden@aol.com](mailto:ccc Camden@aol.com), 7-106 Camden; Cathy Fox, 61 Palisades, [cfo@ajc.com](mailto:cfo@ajc.com), Palisades; Lynne Jenkins, 39 Woodcrest, [ljenks@mindspring.com](mailto:ljenks@mindspring.com), Woodcrest; Margy Pastor, 152 Brighton, [rpastor@emory.edu](mailto:rpastor@emory.edu), 152 - 275 Brighton / 191-246 Camden; Nick Sears, 55 Montclair, [nns@mmmlaw.com](mailto:nns@mmmlaw.com), Montclair; Frampton Simons, 230 Brighton, [framptonlibby@mindspring.com](mailto:framptonlibby@mindspring.com), 21-146 Brighton; Esther Stokes, 129 Palisades, [emstokes@aol.com](mailto:emstokes@aol.com), 32-128 Huntington; Pamela Watson, 163 Huntington, [pwatson@atl.mindspring.com](mailto:pwatson@atl.mindspring.com), 129-255 Huntington; Herron Weems, 44 Wakefield, [hweems@aol.com](mailto:hweems@aol.com), Parkdale and Wakefield; Frank White, 75 Palisades, [georgiaglaze@yahoo.com](mailto:georgiaglaze@yahoo.com), Northwood. Walter Bland, Susan Connell, and Mike McIntyre are also on the Committee.

Your pod representative will be contacting you shortly to invite you to a pod meeting in the later half of March, and on Sunday, April 16, there will be a full neighborhood meeting at 7:00 pm in the Rich Auditorium of Piedmont Hospital. In the meantime, please feel free to speak to anyone on the committee about the Plan. We look forward to hearing from you.

*(Annual Meeting, continued from page 1)*

to the pool. Rick Jackson introduced Barry Miller, our neighborhood's security officer. Barry provided an entertaining history of security efforts in Brookwood Hills. Rick and Barry both emphasized that residents should not give money to solicitors, and should lock automobile doors to prevent break-ins. The Tree Committee reported that there were 57 new trees planted this year, and that our Tree Health program is growing – 163 large trees and 131 small trees were fertilized this year.

A major portion of the evening was dedicated to the Long Range Capital Improvements Plan. Susan Connell, chairman of the Capital Improvements Steering Committee, noted that a Master Plan ideally will allow all our residents cooperatively to address issues of traffic, safety, and appearance in our neighborhood. Susan then introduced Bob Hughes, principal partner with Hughes, Good, O'Leary & Ryan, the urban design firm that the Board has selected to develop our Master Plan. He commented on the results of the survey completed by residents, introduced his team and summarized the steps by which they will conduct their study. Susan concluded by introducing the other members of the Capital Improvements Steering Committee, outlining a proposed timeline for developing the Master Plan, and responding that the funding for any enhancements will be determined by neighbors at their pod meetings. The meeting was concluded by encouraging everyone to attend these meetings.

*(From the President, continued from page 2)*

what we have and making improvements where possible. We already have a new set of issues to address.

Recently, we learned that Chick-fil-A is planning to tear down the old Black-eyed Pea building on Peachtree and build a new store. The presence of fast food stores along "our" strip of Peachtree may be of concern to us, as well as the placement of the building on the property if they are considering coming any closer to the neighborhood. As we get additional information, we will pass it on to you and ask for your input on the issue.

We were notified last week that the City is proceeding with the Peachtree Creek Interceptor Sewer Project. This likely will result in condemnation of part of our Clear Creek property. While this may be a good thing from the standpoint of controlling sewer odors and cleaning out some of the overgrowth and trash, it will probably have a negative impact on the trees, which are an integral part of our buffer. As always, it will be important for us to keep a close eye on the City and its contractors to ensure that damage is minimized and all compensation is appropriate. Again, we will keep you informed and involved in the process.

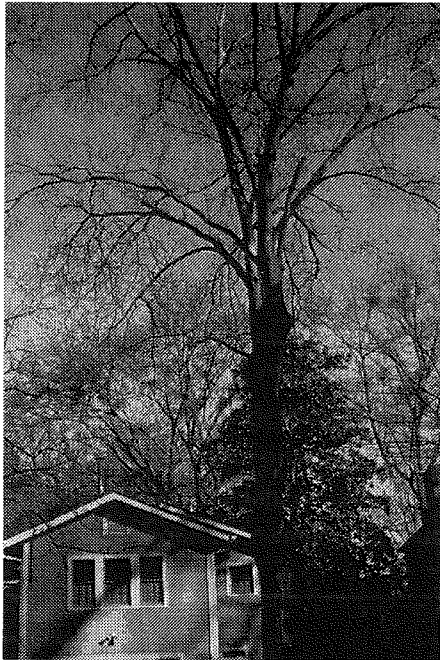
There are other battles/challenges of which you are probably aware, such as the ongoing battle with the County over property tax assessments on Club properties, repaving of our streets, collection of yard debris, etc. We will need your help in addressing these issues to the satisfaction of the neighborhood.

Each of you will be (if you have not already been) contacted by a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee. They will invite you to participate in brainstorming and decision making sessions for the development of our Long-Range Plan. It is important for you to participate in the sessions; they will be your opportunity to voice your ideas, to express a position on other ideas, and to help us bring about improvements that you want to see. We need everyone's help to make it work.

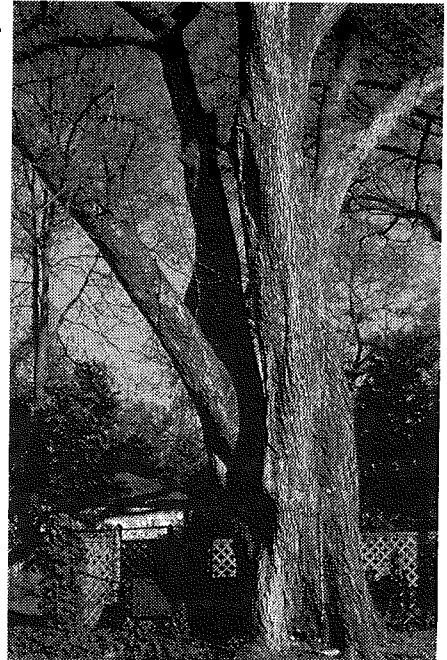
Please feel free to call me whenever you have concerns, news, information, etc. You may call me on my cell phone number (404/771-5813) at any time, or at home (404/897-1384), before 9:00 PM.

Best Regards to All! Walter

## Two Brookwood Hills Trees Win Metro Area "Big Tree Search"



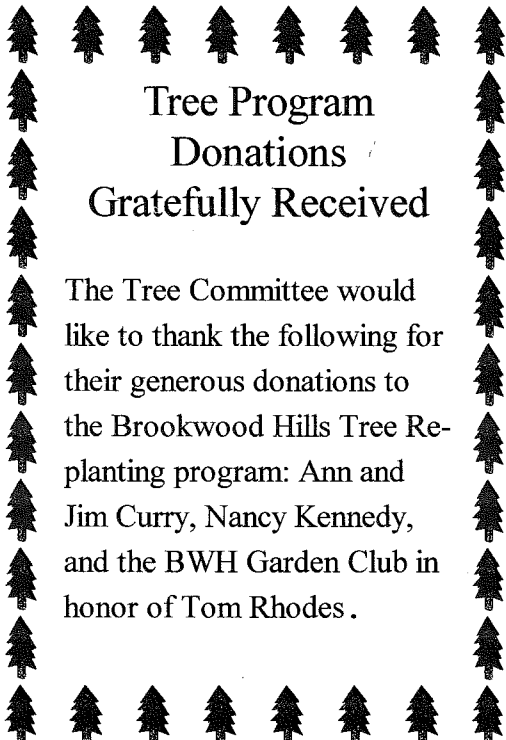
Two Brookwood Hills trees were recognized as the largest of their kind in the Atlanta metropolitan area during this year's Arbor Day celebration at Zoo Atlanta. Cathy and Alex Miller's pecan tree at 134 Huntington Road recorded an impressive 100 foot height and 10.3 foot circumference, while Carla and Carl Fackler's American Elm at 80 Palisades dominated its division with a 105 foot height and 15.2 foot circumference.



According to Jim Foote of Arboguard, the Fackler's Elm tree is 110 to 120 years old. The Facklers regularly treat their elm with a specially designed fungicide to protect it from

Dutch Elm Disease, which has already taken two smaller elms in their yard, a large elm in their neighbor's yard, and now an elm in the park. Carla also frequently tells her elm that it is actually an oak, so that it will not get the disease!

Arboguard's Jim Foote has now nominated the Fackler's Elm as the largest of its kind in the entire state. The outcome will be reported in a future edition of Brooknotes. Congratulations and good luck!



### Tree Program Donations Gratefully Received

The Tree Committee would like to thank the following for their generous donations to the Brookwood Hills Tree Re-planting program: Ann and Jim Curry, Nancy Kennedy, and the BWH Garden Club in honor of Tom Rhodes.

### BWH Garden Club Acorn Auction 2000

By Deirdre Stiles

Acorn Auction donations are underway! Some of the wonderful items that have already been offered are a consultation with well-known architect Norman Askins, a Pizza Party at the Camden cul-de-sac, a weekend in Sea Island, and much more. You should have received your donation form this week. Donation ideas include a dinner from your favorite restaurant or a gift certificate from your favorite shop or salon. Tickets to sporting and culture art events are always a big hit. And, of course your own professional services are a terrific way to participate in this neighborhood event. If you have questions about donations or donation forms, please call Dana White at 404-873-0023 or Lombard Puri at 404-355-9101. All neighbors will receive an invitation in March. Reservations are limited due to limited space. We hope to see you there on April 29<sup>th</sup>!

# A TIME TO RENEW -- MEMBERSHIP THAT IS

by Belinda Donovan and Jean O'Halloran

The latest warm spell reminded all of us that spring is fast approaching. And as warm weather approaches Atlanta, the children of Brookwood Hills start asking: "when does the pool open?" The answer is "in a little less than four months."

With the thought of opening day not that far away, we're reminded that it's that time of year again -- the time of year to renew your commitment to the Brookwood Hills Community Club. In the next few days, you will receive your membership renewal form in the mail. We urge everyone to respond promptly to the notice. The membership payment deadline is **March 27, 2000**. After that date, a \$50 late fee will be assessed.

Over the last few years, the interest in our Community Club has been overwhelming. In 1999, swim and tennis membership was full at 550 families. Currently, we have a waiting list of almost 70 families from outside the neighborhood interested in joining the pool for the summer -- more families than we can accommodate. All new non-resident members will be the result of attrition. As you are aware, all Brookwood Hills residents are encouraged to join the Community Club. There are two membership categories for residents. The "A" membership offers access to the pool, tennis courts, security, and maintenance. Its annual dues are \$550 with a one-time initiation fee of \$800 for all new resident members. The "B" membership, which covers security and maintenance, has annual dues of \$200 with no initiation fee.

We thank all those neighbors who continue to support the Brookwood Hills Community Club. Your support helps keep Brookwood Hills safe and quiet and helps maintain our recreational facilities. Everyone knows that Brookwood Hills is one of the best in-town neighborhoods and that our pool and park facility are tools to draw new neighbors to our community. Your dues help maintain your investment in your neighborhood and home.

We look forward to hearing from all of you soon. Should you have any questions about membership, please call the Membership Chairmen Jean O'Halloran at 404-352-0802 or Belinda Donovan at 404-817-7551.

## Welcome Committee Formed

What a fabulous neighborhood we live in. Not only do we have a lovely and private setting minutes from Downtown, but we also have something even more unique - wonderful neighbors and a true community spirit. As a gesture to our newest neighbors in Brookwood Hills, a welcome committee is being formed. This group would personally meet the new neighbors, inform them of the various activities in BWH, and help with "settling in." Any suggestions or interested parties, please contact Diane John at (404) 870-0484.

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Found:** Arborguard found a blue glass ornament with carved doves dated 1991 during the Christmas tree mulching project. Call Nicole Cook (404) 892-9495 to claim it.

**Hand-Knotted Silk Carpet for Sale:** This hand-made 9 x 12 ft. and in perfect condition silk carpet was purchased on a trip to India last year. Tree of Life Design. Please contact Sarah & Rob Armstrong (58 Camden) at 404-352-0110 if you are interested in seeing the carpet. \$6,500.

**Seaside Cottage for Rent:** Charming cottage at Seaside, FL. Below market rent. Sleeps 6 to 8. Available August 4-11 and August 25-September 1. Please call Esther or Jim Stokes at 404-876-1809 for reservations and other details.

**Studio Apartment:** 52 Montclair Dr. – One room studio apartment with kitchen, bath, and large patio. \$475 monthly, includes utilities. References required. Call Bob or Judy Simmermon at 404-350-0940.

**For Sale:** Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo. Red / gray interior, loaded, 82K miles, one owner, excellent condition – great car for teenager or au pair. \$9,900. Call 404-351-9777.

**Mother's Helper:** Responsible, enthusiastic, and sports loving 9-year-old seeks work as mother's helper/coach. Please call David Pless at 404-892-6024, 25 Palisades.

# CALENDAR

**Brookwood Boys** are headed to Fernbank on **February 27** to see the 3-D movie *Alaska*. Meet at the park at 12:20 p.m. For more information, call Steve Redd at 404-639-2569.

The next **BWH Board Meeting** will be held on Monday, **March 6**, 7:15 p.m. at the home of Sallie & Lou Topfl, 39 Northwood Ave. All members are welcome. Please call the Topfls at 404-870-0397 if you plan to attend.

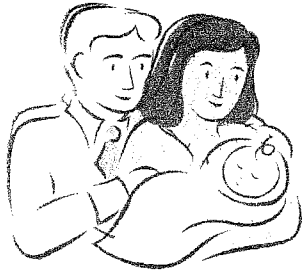
**BWH Friends Meeting:** BWH Friends will meet at the home of Sandy Furrh, 21 Northwood Avenue, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, **March 14**, 2000. All members are encouraged to attend, to sign-up for the spring park event committees. Call Kem Lee at 404-892-3406 for information on the meeting or the BWH Friends group.

The deadline for **Membership Dues Payment** is **March 27**, 2000. See pg. 6 for details.

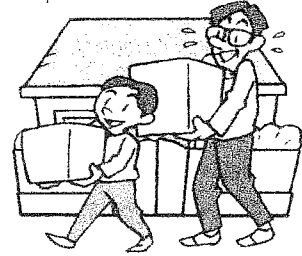
The 2nd Annual **March Madness Basketball Tournament** will be held Sat., **April 1** in the park. Contact Rob Donovan at Rob@highlandsprogram.com or call 404/872-9974 ext. 52.

The annual **Easter Egg Hunt** in the park will be held Sat. **April 15** at 4:00 p.m.

**BWH Garden Club** Acorn Auction will be held on **April 29**. Reservations required. See pg. 5 for details.



## New Faces By Sarah and Patti



**Sarah and Rob Armstrong** recently moved with their yellow labrador **Abby** into their new home at 58 Camden, which they have been busy renovating and updating since August. Both Sarah and Rob are originally from Michigan. Three years ago they moved from Chicago to Morningside, but knew all along that they wanted eventually to settle in Brookwood Hills. Rob works for Williams Communications in network sales. Sarah is with the corporate marketing division of the Coca-Cola Company. They truly are enjoying the neighborhood.

Welcome to the **O'Callaghan** family: **Jennifer Olson, John**, and their four children, **Alexandra** (age 14 1/2), **Andrew** (age 10), **Abby** (age 6), and **Avery** (age 2), who will be moving into their new home at 251 Huntington Road as soon as the new carpet is installed. John is Director of Public Affairs at Fannie Mae, and Jennifer is a full time homemaker. John grew up on Brighton Road and was a lifeguard at the pool. The O'Callahans are thrilled to be back in Brookwood Hills.

**Keith and Sylvia Kochler** recently moved into their new home at 252 Brighton Road, along with their cat, Rufus. Keith is with BellSouth and Sylvia is an attorney with Nelson Mullins. Please welcome them to the neighborhood.

The December 30, 1999 arrival of **Schuyler Simons** has prompted a family move to a bigger home up the street. As of March 10, you can find **Libby, Frampton, Frampton Jr., Henry**, and little sister **Schuyler** in their new digs at 97 Brighton Road.

**Agnes and Peter Law** of 77 Huntington Road welcomed a son **Peter A. Law Jr.** (a.k.a. "Pete") on January 25, 2000. The Laws were in their new home for only 2 1/2 weeks before Pete's arrival. Peter and Agnes love visitors, so feel free to introduce yourselves.

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