



BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

November 1996, Vol. X, No. 10

A howling Good halloween

by Belinda Donovan

As Halloween descended upon Brookwood Hills, hobgoblins of all types emerged and gathered at the park for a parade before venturing into the streets for trick or treating. Our ghosts, ghouls, and witches devoured the pizza at a fevered pitch, which satisfied rumbling tummies and soothed little ones anxious to gather a mountain of candy. Thanks go to all the volunteers who helped to ensure that our hungry devils and princesses got their fill. The volunteers included Elizabeth Nadal and Micki Gambrell, who managed the cash register, and Anne Donaldson, Nancy Kennedy, Sallie Topfl, Diane Epstein, Nancy Sample and Diane Kellum, who helped serve.

The Halloween Parade followed shortly thereafter, led by the pied piper himself, Mal Phillips. The parade snaked through the park, reaching that perfect spot where candy was distributed to all participants, signaling the end of the parade and the beginning of trick or treating. A special thanks to Mal Phillips whose booming voice and willingness to pitch in at the last minute was integral to the success of the parade.

Disney characters of every sort abounded this year, especially Esmarelda of the Hunchback of Notre Dame (at least 10 of varying sizes.) There were PowerRangers, princesses, Batman, lions, leopards, a Hershey's Kiss, a colorful Jelly Belly, and the "Eat Mor Chicken" cow direct from the Chick-Fil-A advertisement (a/k/a Howell Burke). Overall, the costumes were great this year, whether store-bought, sewn by hand or closet-made that afternoon. As the parade ended the children dispersed, targeting the nearest home, the Bernhards', on Parkdale across from the park. Next stop was the Bollmans', so wonderfully decorated in the spirit of Halloween that even adults wandering up felt a few goose bumps creeping up their skin.

A heartfelt thanks to Harvey Ross of the Parks Committee for organizing this year's Halloween festivities. The children's tables were a great touch! And a special thanks to Laranne Oser and Chuck Wood of Dorsey-Alston Realtors for their continued sponsorship of this eagerly awaited event.





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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 Buckhead Brokers and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc

Brooknotes Staff

Editor: Betsy Crosby 351-8821

Circulation: Judy Horton 351-6257

Contributing Editor: Deirdre Stiles

Contributors this month: Hank Harris, Alex Summers, Belinda Donovan, and Deirdre Stiles

Photographs by: Kay Summers, Lisa Barnhart, Larkin Preston and Belinda Donovan

Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of *Brooknotes* is **Friday, December 13, 1996**. Submissions should be in writing and should be dropped off at Betsy Crosby's house, 34 Brighton Rd.

Letter to the Editor

To: Our Friends on Brighton Road (on the even side of the street)

We are at the bottom of the street and are periodically inundated by leaves and their run-off flooding from clogged overflow grates. Please help us by removing leaves and debris from the street in front of your homes. Many thanks.

Signed,

Your Most Appreciative Neighbors

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Hank Harris, President of the Brookwood Hills Board of Directors

Basketball Goals

The basketball goals located in the area of the tennis courts at the park have been removed recently due to significant non-member usage. Many of the surrounding neighbors have indicated that non-members are using the basketball court regularly. When our neighbors have asked the non-members to discontinue play, the neighbors have met with resistance. The problems have become so significant that the Board has decided to remove the basketball goals for a temporary period of time. Those of you who are interested in playing basketball, please call the park Co-Chairpersons, Laranne Oser and Harvey Ross. We are trying to assess the number of Brookwood Hills neighbors who would like to use these basketball goals. If we get a good response, the Board will discuss ways to "code lock" the tennis courts or other avenues to limit play to members only.

Development of the Jewish Community Center Property

Over the last month, BWH Zoning Chairman Nick Sears met with a representative of Trammell Crow regarding the Jewish Community Center Property. On a separate occasion, he met with Lisa Brill of the Jewish Community Center and Councilman Lee Morris. They will be meeting again shortly to discuss a mutually satisfactory use of the property.



Many thanks once again to Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc. for providing the neighborhood with free pumpkins. Pictured here with Sarah are Regina Rooney with daughters Isabelle and Linnea.

BROOKWOOD BUZZ

Here are the latest additions to the growing list of the BWH Tiny Tots Club. It began when **Henry Grady Simons** joined brother **Frampton** and parents **Libby and Frampton** on October 25th. Libby was seen laboring on a straw scarecrow in their front yard, but no one imagined what hard labor it was. A mere 18 minutes after heading to Piedmont, speedy Henry arrived safe and sound. All the Simons are doing well and Henry has been seen out strolling with Mom and big brother.

In honor of Henry's birth, Libby and Frampton donated a Canadian hemlock to the park on November 9 at the Park Clean-Up Day. The tree was planted with loving hands near the park entrance and is named the **Henry Grady Tree** in honor of the baby, his grandfather, Camden resident **Henry Grady Black**, and the baby's great-great-great-grandfather, the renowned editor of the Atlanta Constitution.

Clifford Killingsworth Murphy was not far behind, arriving on November 11th to **Eve (nee Killingsworth)** and **Michael Murphy** with big sister **Meghan** and brother **William** ready for babysitting duty. Eve's mother has come in to lend a very welcome helping hand. Both baby and mother are "doing great."

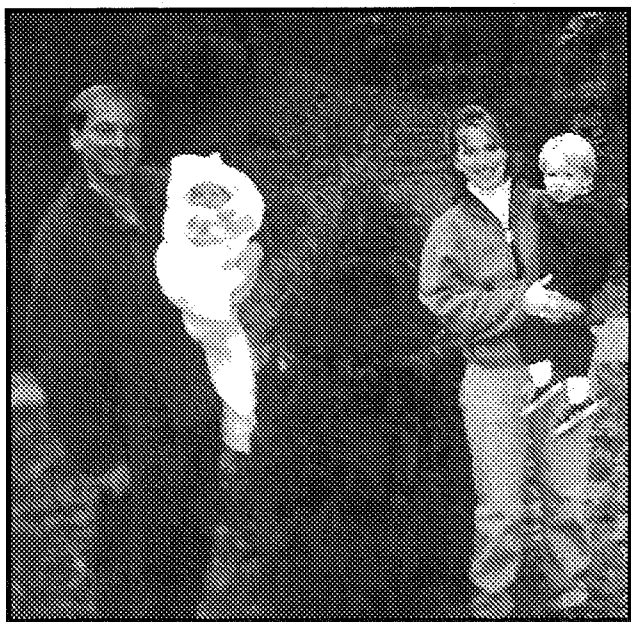
And it's a boy for the **Woodall family** too - a male dog that is. **Deacon**, an 8-week old Australian shepherd, arrived home to 118 Brighton on Saturday, November 16, complete with a sign in the front yard (which stirred up some interest amongst a few BWH neighbors).

Huntington Road wins the award for welcoming the most new faces to BWH this month. **David and Pamela Watson** recently moved into 163 Huntington. David is originally from Monroe, LA and Pamela hails from Hickory, NC. They have been in Atlanta since 1986 and are expecting their first child in December. (Brookwood obstetrician Dr. Jim Ingvaldstad is lined up to assist in welcoming this tiny BWH neighbor). Pamela is a tax CPA with Brooks, Holmes, Williams and Cook, and David is an attorney with Gomel & Davis. David claims that *Brooknotes* was instrumental in their decision to buy in BWH. Apparently there were several issues on the coffee table each time they saw the house; they liked the idea of a close-knit neighborhood with such a wonderful Community Club.

Catherine Creekmore and Matt Merritt will soon be making 133 Huntington their home. Matt plans to move in on Nov. 22 and Catherine will follow soon after Christmas. Matt is a native Atlantan, an alum of Lovett, and grew up coming to the BWH pool. Catherine is originally from Fort Smith, AR and is with Sotheby's. Matt is the Vice President of J.C. Bradford & Company.

Miles and Nicole Cook with son **Brian** (20 months) plan to move into the beautiful renovations they've almost completed at 30 Woodcrest by early December - a little later than they had initially hoped. They've come a long way from Menlo Park, CA, with a stop of several months at Post Brookhaven Apartments. If all goes according to schedule, Brian will probably have a new baby sister (we think) before he has his new room. With a Thanksgiving Day due date, the Cooks will have a lot for which to be thankful when they are at last settled in. Miles is with Bain & Company and Nicole was "a lawyer in my pre-mommy life."

Jane and Buddy Long of 83 Brighton Road were visiting their son, Marine Lieutenant **Chip Young**, in San Diego when they decided to check up on Chip's childhood friend, naval officer **Wade Hooper**, the son of **Caroline and Ellis Hooper** of 45 Montclair. Shortly thereafter, Wade's wife Amy gave birth to their firstborn, **Hamilton Lewis Hooper**. Caroline and Ellis's first views of their first grandchild were snapshots and a video taken by Jane and Buddy on October 19th in the Coronado Hospital labor room, minutes after the blessed event. This proved to be another important sharing time for the two families whose boys played soccer together at Pace Academy, were members of All Saints Episcopal Church Scout Troup 42, were members of First Presbyterian Church and were 1993 graduates of the Naval Academy.



Libby and Frampton Simons with sons Frampton and Henry

The Bungalow Style

By Betsy Crosby with Elaine Luxemburger

In this issue Elaine Luxemburger, our resident architectural historian, continues her discussions of architectural styles in the neighborhood. Elaine is an Historic Preservation Consultant, and has served on the Atlanta Urban Design Commission.

By 1921, when the first phase of Brookwood Hills was being developed, one housing type had already peaked in popularity throughout the rest of the country--the Bungalow Style. Though it had grown almost cliched through its popularization in homebuilding magazines, the Sears catalog and the Ladies Home Journal, a few were built in Brookwood Hills during the 1920s, primarily on Huntington Road where more modest "starter" homes were located.

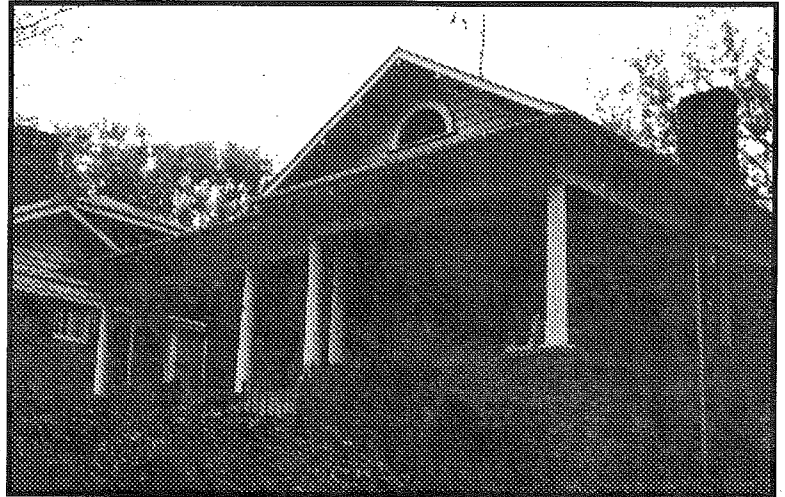
The name "bungalow" originated in India where it referred to a style of house common to Bengal. A typical native dwelling, or "bangala," was a one-story home suitable to the temperate climate. The porch, built under the main body of the roof, was integral to the house and the living spaces were designed to lead outdoors. Its wide verandas and raised foundations provided maximum circulation of air. Two architects at the turn of the century, Charles and Henry Greene, recognized the bungalow as particularly well-suited to the California lifestyle. Within ten years, thousands had been built; by 1920, the bungalow had so grown in popularity throughout the country that it was viewed as the quintessential American home.

The reasons for its popularity were many. As it had come to symbolize a retreat from care for the British colonists, it was soon

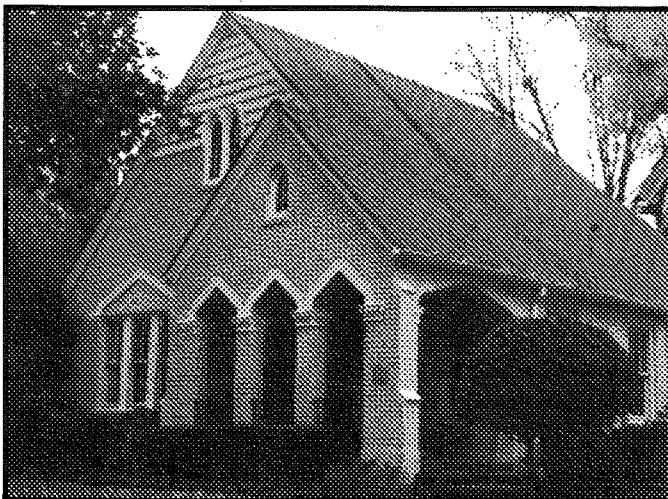
recognized throughout America as practical, unpretentious and informal. Front doors opened directly onto the living room, which connected directly with the dining room. It was practical for a family without servants and could be built economically by local craftsman using locally available materials. The family gathered around the fireplace in the winter; in the summer, glass doors led them outside to the porch.

The main feature of the Bungalow Style, explains Elaine, is the porch. "At that time in America, people really did sit on the porch swing in the late afternoon and visit. It was your typical American scene. Now we are so closed in with our air conditioning and our TV sets." Closing-in our screen porches, as so many of us have done, takes on an ironic meaning in this context.

At 36 Northwood, the home of Lisa and Kenan Loomis, the porch spreads across the front of the house in typical bungalow style. French doors open onto an outdoor sitting area complete with ceiling fan



Engaged porch at 36 Northwood



Entrance through porch at 125 Huntington

and porch swing, inviting its owners to commune with nature. Unlike the American farmhouse-style home, where the porch appears attached as an afterthought to the front of the house, the bungalow porch is "engaged," or built directly under the main body of the roof.

It was not unusual for a porch on a bungalow to serve a second function as the front hall. At both **109 Huntington**, the home of **Millie and Jim Reed**, and **125 Huntington**, the home of **Dawn and Paul Raulet**, the entrance to the house is through the porch. It is apparent in these two homes that the porch was not originally designed to be screened, allowing for free ingress and egress. Though this design tended to make living rooms dark, that was viewed as an asset in those days before air-conditioning. "In the teens and twenties, they didn't seem to place value on the amount of light in a house. It was not as important a factor as it is today," observes Elaine.

Another main characteristic of the bungalow is that it is a one or one-and-a-half story house. The second story, if there is one, is disguised by the roofline. As stated in a magazine of the period, "[T]he minute you put on a palpable, obvious second floor, away flies your bungalow roof. You may have a house, but you haven't a bungalow." The house at **21 Palisades**, recently sold by the **Benhams**, is a prime example of a bungalow roof--wide and low, with dormer windows giving the only hint of the second floor

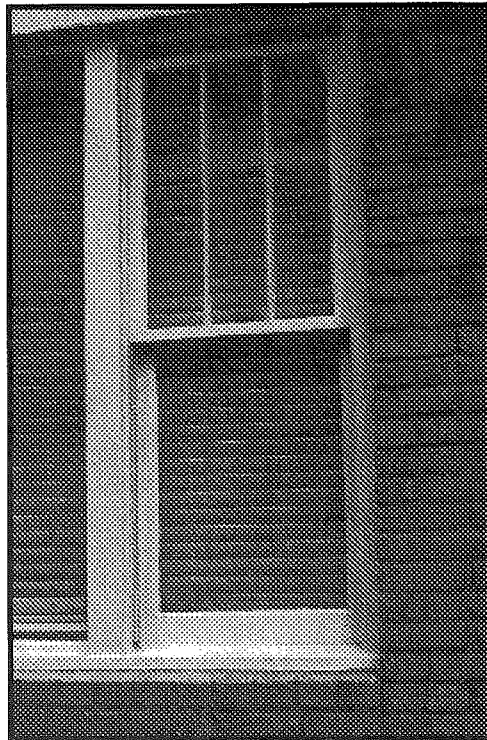
Typical bungalow windows were single pane on the lower half, with verticle panes and mullions on the top half. The home of **Rob and Belinda Donovan** at **80 Huntington** contains two such windows on the driveway side. Other common window details are fanlights in the roof and irregularly placed mullions, as on the home of **Patricia and Richard Perano** at **160 Huntington**.

Frequently the Bungalow Style of house was called a "Craftsman Bungalow."

This refers to the frequent use of crafted or hand-made elements of the house, such as braces under the eaves and woodwork around doors and windows. It was common for a carpenter's skill to be displayed in built-in buffets, bookcases and window seats. This was all part of a "return to nature" movement that began in England as a reaction to the industrial revolution. The Craftsman Bungalow represented the values of simpler living, the importance of the individual as opposed to the machine, and the American ideal that every family should have a house of its own. Evidence of a craftsman's labor turns up in the elaborate braces under the gables and the exposed roof rafters on the home of **Dave and Ann Sapp** at **15 Northwood**.

It was not unusual for builders to draw from other styles as well. Tudor half-timbering, classical columns and Prairie-style windows co-exist happily on many bungalow homes. The home of the Raulets, at **125 Huntington**, draws on a Byzantine theme and may have been inspired by the building of the Fox Theater around the same time.

The Bungalow Style took on so many variations that the word "bungalow" eventually became synonymous with the word "home" in American parlance. Even in Brookwood Hills, no two bungalows resemble each other. Still, whatever a bungalow's outside appearance, it's sure to be cozy inside.



Vertical panes and mullions on a window at 80 Huntington



Decorative braces grace the eaves of the home of Dave and Ann Sapp, 15 Northwood.

Tax Freeze for Historic Properties

BULLETIN BOARD

by Alex Summers

During the 1989 session, the Georgia General Assembly passed a property tax deferral program for "rehabilitated historic property" for which all residences located in the older parts of Brookwood Hills qualify, but which has been seldom utilized by the Brookwood residents. In 1979, Brookwood Hills was entered on the National Register of Historic Places largely through the efforts of Elaine Luxemburger.

The incentive program is carried out through the Historic Preservation Section of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (the "DNR") by the local county tax assessor. The property owner must obtain both preliminary and final certification of the project from this section of the DNR and file each with the local tax assessor.

The law provides an owner of a property which has undergone substantial rehabilitation an eight-year freeze on the property assessment. For the ninth year, the assessment increases by 50% of the difference between the recorded first year value and the then current fair market value. In the tenth year and thereafter the tax assessment will be based on the current fair market evaluation.

To be eligible, the property must be listed in the Georgia Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places, either individually, or as a contributing building within a historic district. The rehabilitation project must increase the assessed fair market value by at least 50% after the rehabilitation. "Rehabilitation" is defined as restoration of a structure to its former historic appearance and condition. However, it does not preclude interior alterations. Exterior additions to the original structure must meet the DNR's approval.

Though the tax benefits are significant, it may be difficult for residents to meet the dollar threshold required in their rehabilitation. Moreover, the DNR strongly prefers that front or street facades remain true to historic appearance. In short, if your home is assessed at \$400,000, you must spend at least \$200,000 in rehabilitation costs, and you may not be permitted by the DNR to make any alterations to the facade. The work must meet rehabilitation standards of the DNR and must be completed within two years of the application.

Should you wish to discuss the tax freeze requirements in more detail, contact Angie Edwards at the Historic Preservation Section of the DNR at (404) 656-2840.

Asheville School

Asheville School is a traditional, challenging college preparatory boarding school for students in grades 9-12. Located in the North Carolina mountains, Asheville School offers a liberal arts education and a unique mountaineering and outdoor sports program. Larry and Dana Pless will hold an admission reception for interested students and their parents at their home at 25 Palisades Road on Monday evening, December 9th at 7:30. For more information, please contact Jean Potter at (404) 892-2100, or Mary Lou Primm at (704) 254-6345.

Board Meeting

The next meeting of the BWH Board of Directors will be Monday, December 2 at 7:15 p.m. at the home of Rick and Laranne Oser, 204 Camden Road. Please call Laranne at 351-4825 if you would like to attend. All Community Club members are welcome.

Back Copies of *Brooknotes*

Did you miss an issue of *Brooknotes*? Would you like an extra copy of a back issue to send to your child at college? Betsy Crosby and Judy Horton have a limited number of back issues for 1995 and 1996. Please call Betsy at 351-8821 or Judy at 351-6257.

CLASSIFIEDS

- **Photographer.** Doris Rudisill. Fashion, editorial, children, wedding, equestrian. www.dbahorse.com. (770) 621-5706. 119 Palisades.
- **For Sale.** 80" Teal Camelback Sofa. Recovered in '94. Down cushions. Call Deirdre Stiles, 249-9544.
- **For Sale.** New Treadmill, unused. \$100 or best offer. Need the space! Elsie Marx, 351-6720.
- **For Sale.** 2 Hermit Crabs, cage, stones, food, etc. \$10.00. Call Tiffin Pastor, 351-8216. Hurry before Christmas!
- **Perfect Christmas Gift.** Extra copies of the book by author Alice Van Tease *A Rabbit in the Moon*, featured at the November meeting of the Garden Club are available. This interactive parent-child book about gardening is based on South Carolina folklore. The book sells for \$12, \$1 of which will benefit the Garden Club. Call Elizabeth St. John at 872-8782.



Captions for Halloween photos, back cover: Clockwise from upper left: Ellie Gafney as Big Bird, Rafe Cohen as Batman, Harris Reed as Elmo with dad Jim; Richard Cohan holding Cecily with Laurie Bray in carpool attire; Volunteer Nancy Sample; Callan Donovan as Esmarelda; Nicole Frederick as a princess and Eliza Granade as a kitty.

NOVEMBER PARK CLEAN-UP

By Belinda Donovan

Saturday, November 9, marked the day for the fall park clean-up. Despite the brisk breeze blowing that morning, the turn-out for the clean-up was exceptional. According to Harvey Ross, the organizer for the clean-up, "It's the best turn out I've seen in a number of years. We had so many new neighbors and several neighbors who no longer use the park on a regular basis show up with sheers in their hands ready to help. I want thank everybody who helped make the clean-up such a success." Neighbors visited with an early morning cup of coffee and a doughnut, then spent the next few hours working side-by-side to get the park ready for spring.

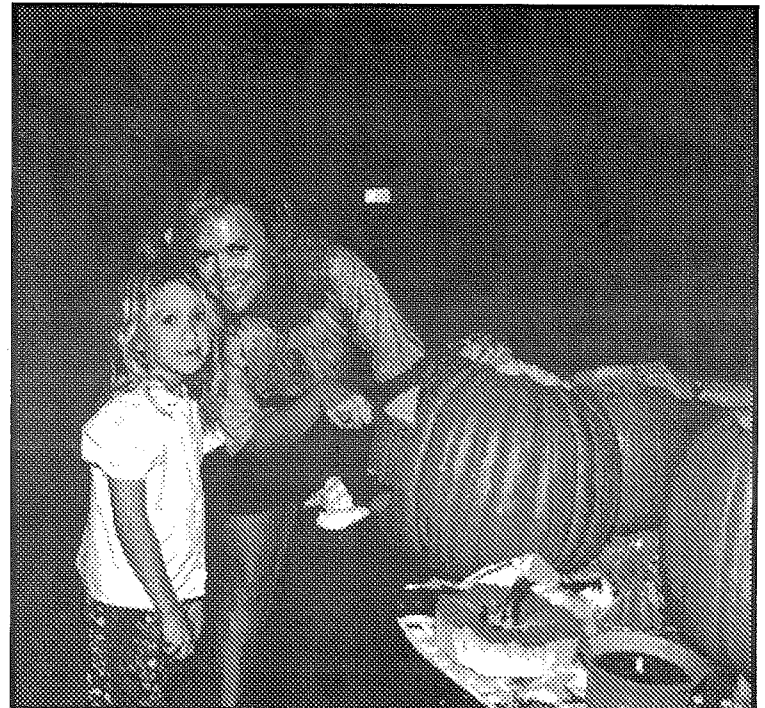
Due to the attentiveness of Doug Rooney who was responsible for the clean-up of the nature trail, a rotten

tree hanging by a wisteria vine was spotted draped across the trail. The tree left unattended could have become a hazard to anyone on the trail. With the help of Rob Donovan and Jimmy Love and the use of Frampton Simons's chain saw, the tree was finally removed after almost an hour of hard work. Thanks to all who helped remove the potential hazard and to the many others who donated their Saturday morning to benefit the park.

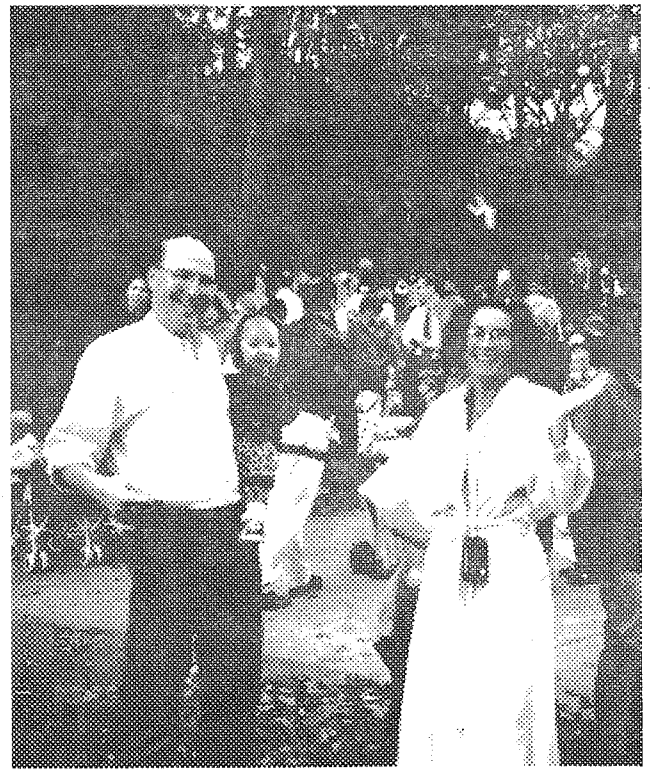
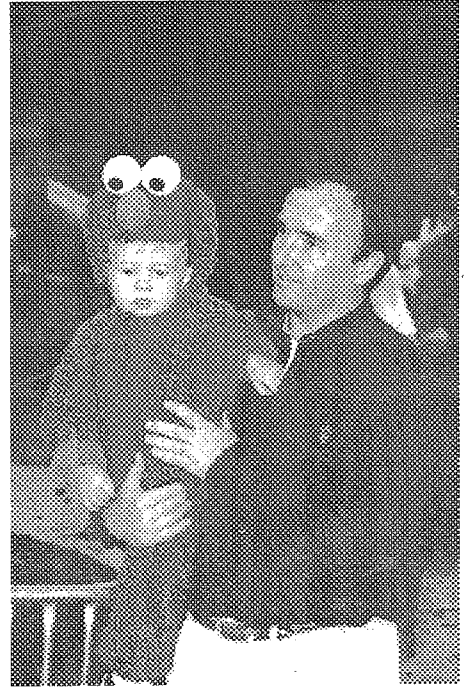
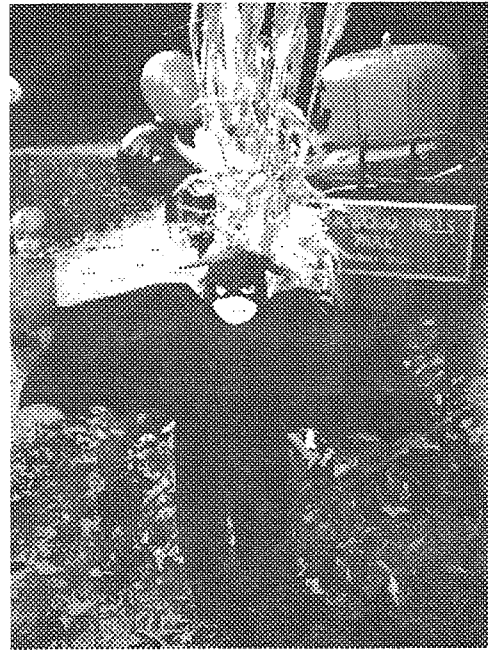
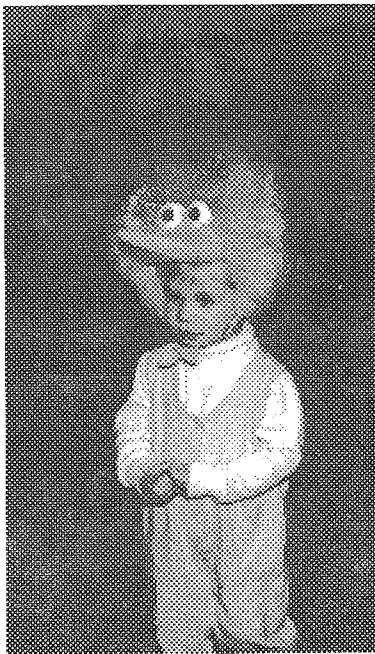
NEW CAMDEN PUMPKIN CARVING PARTY

By Belinda Donovan

A new Brookwood Hills tradition was begun recently. Lisa and Steve Barnhart and Binney and Eric Granade, newcomers to Brookwood Hills, hosted the first annual New Camden Pumpkin Carving Party the Sunday before Halloween. The party had been a tradition on the Virginia Highlands street where Lisa and Steve formerly lived. New Camden neighbors, with a sprinkling of neighbors from other streets, were invited to join in the fun. The carving was serious work but once night fell, the mood lightened as all enjoyed bowls of homemade chili. The event was great fun and proved to be a creative way to spend time with neighbors. Perhaps other streets in the neighborhood will hop on the bandwagon and start their own pumpkin carving bash next year -- the possibilities for a neighborhood carve-off are endless.



Anne and Hali Hill at work on their pumpkin



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BROOKNOTES
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