



BrookNotes

Summer 2007

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

Volume XX, No. 6

BWH Leads Way in Coalition of Neighborhoods

By Harold Solomon

Our Brookwood Hills Community Club is continuing its leadership role in forming a multi-neighborhood civic association that will speak with one voice concerning traffic, parking, land development, zoning, architectural and design matters affecting these neighborhoods.

Last year, the Brookwood Alliance, an ad hoc group of six neighborhoods, cooperated to prepare a joint response to the Peachtree Corridor Task Force proposals for Peachtree Street and Peachtree Road. The group put forward to that task force the united position of the six different neighborhoods on the task force proposals. The Club is putting its response on the BWH web site for those of you who want to review it.

Benning Grice, then BWH president, took the lead last year in incorporating a non-profit corporation to make this coalition permanent. The new organization is a joint effort among the BWH Community Club, the Brookwood Civic Association, Loring Heights Neighborhood Association, Ardmore Park Neighborhood Association, Collier Hills Civic Association, and Collier Hills North Neighborhood Association.

Although the Club's Board of Directors has not yet approved the bylaws of the organization, it is likely that unanimity will be required for the organization to take public positions and each neighborhood will be free to go its own way if unanimity is not present. Expenses of the new association will probably be shared based on the membership revenue of each group. The non-profit kept the name the group has used in the past: "The Brookwood Alliance." Harold Solomon and Joe Gardner are the two representatives from our neighborhood.

The organization will be strengthened to the degree that residents of these neighborhood are registered voters who turn out to vote in City elections and who are willing to go to City Hall for important council votes or hearings. Although the coalition will not intervene in individual races for citywide office, it is likely to stress the importance of neighborhood residents being registered and voting.

Attendance at (but not necessarily participation in) meetings of both the Alliance members and Directors will probably be opened to everyone who is a member of the civic associations that comprise it. If so, Harold or Joe will be happy to tell Brookwood Hills residents when and where the next meeting is if you want to attend. Also, they would be happy to share with you the progress of the group and hear from you if you have any suggestions concerning the issues that might concern it.



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/Buckhead Brokers and Sarah Hagood of Specialty Homes, Inc.

Brooknotes Editors

Mary Barrett 404-874-7863 (49 Huntington Road)
Tony Wilbert 404-815-9752 (22 Northwood Avenue)

Contributors this month: Harold Solomon, Burch Hanson, Caroline Tolleson

Brookwood Hills Board

President

Kathy Gentry 404-876-4480

Vice President

Joe Jackson 404-532-1614

Secretary

Margaret Mertens 404-249-7279

Treasurer

David Morris 404-355-0043

Government & Community Relations

Chris Moorman 404-892-2922
Harold Solomon 404-876-4617

Membership

Allyson Greene 404-872-8077
Gary Sayers 404-808-4279

Webmaster

Simms Jenkins 404-350-0688

NPU & Zoning

Bill Magruder 404-352-0202
Joe Gardner 404-352-2949

Park, Tennis & Common Areas

John Mulcahy 404-351-4881

Pool

Hayes Wilson 404-876-4618
Hunter Holliday 404-745-9986

Security

Brian Stanley 404-350-8341

Park Reservations

Kelley Berman 404-351-2224

Social

Burch Hanson 404-352-1172
Sarah Howe 404-352-2208

Trees

Bill Lynch 404-607-7780

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.

Congratulations!

Palmer Greene, a rising junior at The Westminster Schools, received his Eagle Scout Award on May 6, 2007. Palmer is a member of Northside United Methodist Church Troop 298. In addition to completing the requirements to earn 21 merit badges, Palmer designed, built and installed five benches for the playground and landscaped two garden areas at The Brookhaven Boys & Girls Club as his Eagle Scout project. Palmer is the son of **Allyson and Scott Greene** of 53 Huntington Road.

Martin Mintz, son of **Jeff and Donna Mintz** of 35 Wakefield Drive, graduated in May from The Westminster Schools. Martin will be attending Washington University in St. Louis as a Danforth Scholar in the fall. His sister **Anna** will return to Charlottesville as a fourth-year student at the University of Virginia.

Acclaimed Gardens At Home In BWH

Two Brookwood Hills' neighbors who had their gardens beautifully photographed and published in national publications this summer!

The garden of **Esther Stokes** at 129 Palisades Road is featured in a colorful six-page spread in the summer edition of *Garden Ideas & Outdoor Living*, a *Better Homes and Gardens* special interest publication. According to the article, Esther, a professional garden designer, transformed her front yard into a lush private oasis with the look and feel of an English countryside. We can all see why Esther is in such demand for her knowledge and design skills.

A stroll past **Ann Dibble's** cottage garden at 231 Huntington Road makes it apparent why *Better Homes & Gardens' June* edition and *Southern Living's May* edition chose this lovely property to feature. Ann's four-season garden is a delight year round and a must-see. Ann plans to move this fall, and we know she will miss the treasure she created at her home.

Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is Wednesday, Aug. 8th, 2007. Submissions may be e-mailed to brooknotes@brookwoodhills.com or dropped off at 49 Huntington Road.

Club wants your thoughts on Clear Creek Funds

By Caroline Tolleson

The Clear Creek Committee met Tuesday, June 26th at the pool pavilion. The Club has been advised by King & Spalding and our tax advisor to apply for a private-letter ruling requesting affirmation that repayment of the debt associated with the pool improvements will be considered a "tax-free" use of the funds. The remaining balance of the Clear Creek funds then could be used for improvements directly related to recreational purposes for all club members. If the private-letter ruling is obtained and the existing loan is paid in full, this will allow for an increase in the club's cash flow by \$50,000 to \$70,000 per year. These additional funds can be used for neighborhood improvements not directly related to recreation or as a reserve for future needs. Please watch your e-mail for a survey that will be sent from the Clear Creek Committee asking for your ranking of various areas of recreational improvement. The four areas of consideration are:

- 1) Pool - bathroom renovation, sewer repair, landscaping and other improvements.
- 2) Park - tennis court and park improvements.
- 3) Clear Creek – invasive species removal to preserve the existing trees in Clear Creek, creation of a walkway area along Clear Creek and the addition of more hollies and greenery along Armour Circle.
- 4) Beautification – entrances, around the pool sidewalks, historical signage, and safety.

If you are interested in participating on any of these committees, please contact Kathy Gentry at kathygentry@comcast.net or Scott Bass at scott_bass@ml.com.

BWH Connections with Sophia Academy are Numerous

Within Brookwood Hills, there are neighbors who are connected to one of the fastest-growing schools in the area, Sophia Academy. Sophia Academy is a Christian school serving students in grades kindergarten through 8th grade who have learning differences. The school was established in 1999 with 11 students and now serves more than 130. The school is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, the Southern Association of Independent Schools and the Georgia Accrediting Commission.

Eileen Corrigan of Woodcrest Avenue has a very strong connection to Sophia Academy. The school was founded by Mrs. Corrigan's daughter-in-law, Marie Corrigan. **Betsy Primm**, another longtime resident of Brookwood Hills serves as a board member. Ms. Primm's 30+ years of expertise and experience in the field of education are invaluable to the school as well as are her enthusiastic efforts to increase awareness of the school and her assistance with fund raising. Another board member, **Elizabeth Bresnahan**, is a member of our swim community. Families who have chosen Sophia Academy for their child include the Boykins and the Stewarts. The Porter family, former Brookwood Hills neighbors, chose Sophia Academy for two of their children.

Sophia Academy will be moving to a new facility at 2880 Dresden Drive this fall. The new location has undergone a complete renovation that supports its mission to teach students in small classes with an 8-to-1 parent-to-teacher ratio and a multi-sensory presentation. The comprehensive curriculum includes PE, art, computers and music.

Interested in learning more? Make the connection with one of the neighbors or call Sophia Academy at 404-303-8722. You can find them on the web at www.sophiaacademy.org.

New Neighbor Party Draws Big Crowd at Luau by the Pool

By Burch Hanson

On May 18, the Brookwood Hills Pavilion & Poolside were transformed into our own Waikiki Beach, as we welcomed many of our new neighbors with a Hawaiian Luau.

With festive palm trees, tropical floral decorations and a pig roasting on a spit over hot coals, our New Neighbor Party this year not only gave us the chance to meet and welcome new friends to Brookwood Hills but also highlighted the spirit and enthusiasm that makes our neighborhood such a wonderful place to live.

Many, many thanks to our energetic new poolside caterer, Deborah VanTrece, and her team from Edible Art Catering, who showcased their talents by preparing a fabulous Luau feast and by decorating the Pavilion in such a fun and festive way. The party was the neighborhood's first introduction to Deborah's culinary skills, and we all look forward to the new menu she has created for the pool this year--for which she is already earning rave reviews.

For this year's party, we restored a prior neighborhood tradition, and invited all residents of Brookwood Hills to meet our new neighbors. We had a wonderful turnout, as more than 150 neighbors attended. This gave all of us a chance not only to meet some of our newest neighbors, but also to become reacquainted with many others.

Neighbors, new and old, had a wonderful time sharing the stories and spirit that makes Brookwood Hills so special. It also gave BWH Board President Kathy Gentry, and her husband Boyd, a chance to show off their enthusiasm as they truly got into the spirit of the night in colorful Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts!

The night was brought to a close with a raffle drawing for a gift bag full of Edible Art goodies, which was won by Pete Law. Thank you to Deborah VanTrece for donating the gift bag.

All in all, the evening was great fun and a fabulous way to kick off the pool season for 2007.

Thanks to all the neighbors who attended; and to our newest neighbors—once again, welcome to Brookwood Hills!

From the Pool Deck: Two Important Announcements

1) Member and Guest Check-in: In order to preserve our pool for the dues-paying members and their guests, we are re-instituting entrance gate check-in. There will be a lifeguard at both entrances with a list of members. Please be patient as they check you in using our active membership list. If you have guests they will be ready and able to accept the guest fees. We are doing this to ensure our pool is safe for our members and their guests.

2) Pool Improvements Committee: Now is the time for us to dream of possibilities for our pool. All members are welcome to participate. If you are a member of the Brookwood Hills pool and have a suggestion for how we can improve our facilities, we want your help.

We particularly want to solicit our C-member to get an "outside-the-neighborhood" perspective. If you have a suggestion, we have a committee for you to serve on. We already have a task force working on our sewer issues, but as complex as the Atlanta Sewer System is we could always use input from knowledgeable members.

Please let us know how you would like to help out.

Remember, it is just an idea until someone figures out the cost and feasibility and that someone may just be you, so let us know and we will put your name down for a committee.

Hayes Wilson and Hunter Holliday,

Co-Chairmen, Brookwood Hills Pool

Welcome New BWH board members

Simms Jenkins, the new **Webmaster**, is founder and principal of BrightWave Marketing, an e-mail marketing and interactive services firm that works with top tier clients such as ACS, BellSouth, CoreNet Global, Floor & Décor, GMAC Insurance and Lowe's. Jenkins and BrightWave also created EmailStatCenter.com, the first centralized online repository of statistics and research specific to the email marketing industry. Simms and his wife, **Kelly**, and two sons **Sam** (2 1/2) and **Cal** (6 months) have lived in Brookwood Hills for two years. Simms is from Baltimore, Md., and graduated from Denison University.

Gary Sayers, a new membership co-chairman, is an Ohio native who moved to Atlanta in 1995. He works in advertising at Kilgannon, and previously he worked in radio sports broadcasting and as a baseball and basketball coach. Gary is married to Atlanta native **Cannon Wilson Sayers**, and they lives with their 2 ½-year-old daughter **Francesca** or "Frankie" on Wakefield Drive. Gary is a BUCKEYE and an avid sports fans. He's still loyal to the Cleveland Indians, Cleveland Browns and Cleveland Cavaliers, but he will root for the Thrashers, Braves, Falcons and Hawks. His hobbies include Triathlon and hanging out with his family at the Brookwood Park pool and park.

CALENDAR

- **Monday, Aug. 6th — BWHCC Board Meeting, 7:15 pm**, at the home of Joe & Molly Jackson, 110 Palisades Road. Neighborhood residents are welcome.

C L A S S I F I E D S

Baby-sitter: Ramsey Fahs, a rising 6th grader at Westminster, is available to look after younger children as a mother's helper or for short daytime and early evening baby-sitting. He is most comfortable working with children age 3+. Ramsey has his Red Cross babysitting certificate and can be reached at 404-352-3841 or via email at katiefahs@aol.com.

House cleaning: European housecleaners available in BWH. **Agnes Drop** and her staff clean many houses in Buckhead and BWH, and have more than 15 years of experience in our neighborhood. They are very reliable and trustworthy. Agnes can be reached by leaving a voice-mail at 770.831.8849.

Please call Karen Klare if you need a reference: 404.352.0101.

Specialty Homes Inc.

BROOKNOTES

Sponsored by Your Neighbor

Sarah Hagood

"Selling Select Properties from the Quaint to the Grande."