

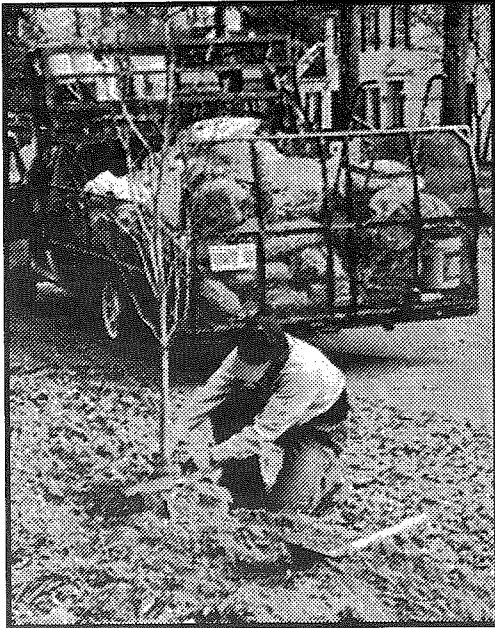


# BROOKNOTES

The Newsletter of the Brookwood Hills Community

December 1997, Vol. XI No. 10

## NEW TREES TAKE ROOT



On the morning of December 9, forty-eight trees arrived in Brookwood Hills ready to be planted as part of the neighborhood reforestation program organized by the Community Club and funded by the Garden Club auction proceeds. Headed by Celeste Porter, Tree Chairman of the BWH Community Club, the reforestation program is the culmination of nearly two years of planning and hard work.

The Committee began with a survey of each existing tree in the neighborhood, conducted by Arboguard Tree Specialists. The Committee then consulted with various arborists and landscape designers who discouraged planting under utility wires and who recommended planting a variety of trees.

After consulting with experts, five varieties of trees were chosen as best suited for planting in an urban "stress" area such as our neighborhood, including three types of canopy trees (Allee Elms, Nuttal Oaks and October Glory Maples) and two types of smaller trees for planting under utility wires (Trident Maples and Cherokee Princess Dogwoods). The trees were supplied by one of the premier commercial nurseries in the state, Bold Spring Nursery, which is owned by John Barbour, a former Brighton Road resident. To give the trees an extra boost, the soil was amended with Nature's Helper and Tree Saver, or mycorrhizae fungi. The trees were then topped with hardwood mulch to conserve water. Gunn Landscaping was the contractor who planted the trees in a timely and efficient manner.

Although the new trees were available to all residents, The Committee particularly encouraged neighbors who had lost trees as a result of Opal to replant. Where utility wires provided a site conflict, neighbors were asked to plant trees inside the edges of their yards. Some BWH residents were so delighted with the planting that they added trees on their property at their own expense. All recipients made a commitment to water and care for their new trees.

Celeste was assisted in the reforestation program by Committee members Betsy Robinson, Katrina Newton and Betsy Crosby, as well as by former Tree Committee Chairmen JoAnn Hagaman and Rob Donovan. The Committee hopes that the reforestation efforts will continue on an annual basis in the years to come. Many thanks to all who have made this year's planting such a success. When you see this year's Tree Chairman Celeste Porter on the street, please give her your special thanks.



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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.*

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Brooknotes welcomes articles, art work, photographs and story ideas. The deadline for the next issue of Brooknotes is January 16, 1998. Submissions should be in writing and should be dropped off at Deirdre Stiles' house at 23 Northwood Ave.

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Betsy Crosby, President of the BWH Community Club

This month we can all take pleasure in seeing the neighborhood reforestation efforts bear fruit. Forty-eight trees were planted in the sidewalk green space or on the edge of yards during the week of December 9 in an effort to make up for some of the losses we have suffered in Opal and throughout the last few years.

The disappearance of our mature trees is a serious concern to all neighbors. Over 95% of the trees in Brookwood Hills over 26 inches in diameter are Water Oaks that were planted when the neighborhood was developed in the late 1920s and early '30s. The sobering fact is that the days are numbered for many of these trees, which are rapidly succumbing to natural forces, such as disease, high winds and pollution.

Though we can begrudgingly accept the death of a tree from causes outside our control, it is particularly galling to see a tree destroyed by manmade forces. Last year, we watched as crews from Atlanta Gas dug trenches in the streets immediately in front of several large trees. At least three of these trees went into immediate decline and had to be removed. This fall a Georgia Power crew radically pruned a number of neighborhood trees in a manner that has undermined the health of those trees. And most recently, a Public Works subcontractor from the City of Atlanta went beyond the scope of his work order and cut the roots of one of our more majestic older trees in order to install a uniform new curb. The tree will have to be removed as a result.

Ironically, the neighborhood watchdogs had warned each of these entities not to injure these trees in the course of performing their work. Those warnings were met by assurances from these companies that they would exercise due care. As usual, these proved to be empty promises. We have made our dissatisfaction known and are negotiating with the City of Atlanta for some replacement trees as a result. In response to our demands, Georgia Power has donated a Trident Maple to our reforestation program. Unfortunately, there is no satisfactory replacement for a magnificent 80-foot tree butchered out of negligence and lack of concern.

There are few options available to us. Educating the appropriate representatives of these entities to the need to protect these trees is one approach that must be repeated every year, though such education rarely gets communicated to the crews doing their work. Drafting legislation that would create fines for government entities who injure public trees is another option, one that several tree-loving neighbors hope to explore in the coming months. The best option, however, is to keep planting trees, year after year after year. Please do all you can to continue the neighborhood replanting efforts, either by planting a large shade tree in your own yard, accepting a neighborhood tree, or by contributing to future tree-planting funds.

## Security Alert

When you see this sign posted call 325-5114 for a security message. See p.3 for further details.

## SECURITY ALERT

by Walter Bland, Security Chairman

On Wednesday, December 16th at 10:15 p.m., a purse was stolen from a resident on Huntington Rd. The perpetrator came up the resident's driveway, snatched the purse, knocking the resident to the ground, and ran away. This person is described as a tall black male wearing a blue jogging suit. He is believed to be driving a blue or black Mercedes.

There is a particular need for concern since similar incidents have occurred in neighboring areas - one in Collier Hills and two in the Peachtree Battle area in the last week, where residents were approached at gunpoint. Residents of BWH are asked to take extra precautions to ensure their personal safety during this high crime season.

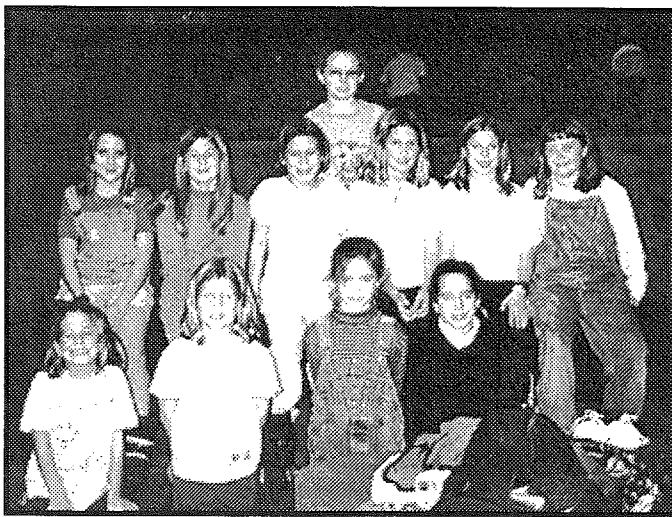
## Security Patrol Bonus Pool

by Walter Bland, Security Chairman

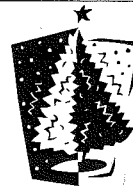
Each year we collect a bonus pool for Barry Miller and his men to show our gratitude for a job well done. The security patrol has made a special effort over the last year to increase their visibility in the neighborhood and to respond to our needs. We want to reward them accordingly. A suggested contribution level of \$10 is appreciated but please give whatever you feel is appropriate. Every dollar helps!

Please make your check payable to Brookwood Hills Community Club and drop it by or mail it to: Security Chairman  
57 Northwood Avenue, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30309

## Brookwood Girls on Blades



1st row: Susanna Bramlett, Austin Gitomer, Helen Harris, Caroline Nadal; 2nd row Annie Phillips, Julia Davis, Katie McCune, Caitlin Weems, Elena Duralde; 3rd row: Devon Simons. Not pictured Claire and Jennifer Gambrell



## Mulch Christmas Trees at Park

Arboguard Tree Specialists has offered to help kick off 1998 with a free Christmas Tree Recycling Day for Brookwood Hills residents. The recycling effort is a great way for the neighborhood to benefit from our Christmas trees, rather than just placing them in a landfill.

Bring your trees to the Brookwood Hills park January 2nd-4th. We will close the park on January 5th so Arboguard crews can safely chip our trees, creating beneficial mulch. Please remove all metal debris (tinsel) and tree lights before bringing the trees for recycling. Homeowners are encouraged to return on the 6th to get wood chips for their property.

Arboguard is appealing to BWH residents to join Park Pride, a nonprofit group dedicated to the care and preservation of Atlanta's parks. For more information about becoming a member of Park Pride please call 404-817-6760.

A huge thank you to Cookie Frank and Carla Fackler for all their hard work in negotiating and organizing this wonderful neighborhood project!

# CLASSIFIEDS

**Reliable Housekeeping Available** in the neighborhood. Call Agnes 770-682-7523. References available. Neighbor reference Karen Klare.

**Small Garage Apartment for Rent.** One bedroom, one bath, small sitting room, small kitchenette. For more information call Cathy Lindenberg at 351-0541.

**Yard Help Needed Immediately!** We'd like someone to help with leaves once a week in the late summer and fall - raking, bagging, etc. Flexible terms of scheduling, and fee is negotiable. Please Call Lauren at 404-355-7166 in the evenings.

## Montclair Repaving

by Betsy Crosby, BWH President

For those of you frustrated about the condition of Montclair Avenue and are wondering when it will be repaved, please know that I have called both the Mayor's office and Councilman Lee Morris's office to ask about the status. The street was mill cut by the City, but the Georgia Department of Transportation is responsible for paving it. According to Lee Morris's office, the subcontractor is way behind schedule. They suggest you call and complain directly to the DOT and the subcontractor. The person in charge at the DOT is Vincent Ogboi at (404) 624-2445. The subcontractor is Wayne Boatouright at (404) 325-9350.

# BROOKWOOD BUZZ

**Zack Sommers Kaminsky** joined parents **Kim Klomak and Alex Kaminsky** at 66 Huntington Rd. on October 15th. The family is now a commuter clan with dad Alex taking a job with ESPN in NYC. Luckily, Zack is a great traveler, having made two trips already to NYC and one to California. Mom wishes he slept as well as he voyages.

**Chris and Angela Bakke** welcomed a new baby girl **Susannah Brooke** on November 25th. Neighbor Dr. Ingvaldstad delivered Susannah at Piedmont Hospital. According to Mom, her "big" sister 17 month old **Caroline** loves her new baby too. Susannah is reported to be a wonderful baby and a good sleeper. Lucky Bakkes!

## BROOKWOOD BOYS BOWL 'EM OVER

There was a great turnout in Decatur on Sunday November 23th for an afternoon of bowling, although the video games got as much action as the pins. On Sunday, January 25th the Brookwood Boys will hit the ice at Park Air Rink. If you plan to attend please call Mike Nadal at 404-874-9534. The schedule for the second half of the season is coming out soon. If you are not yet on the mailing list and would like a copy please contact Xavier Duralde at 874-7863.

The next Brookwood Hills Community Club Board will be held on Monday, January 5th 7:15 p.m. at the home of Libby and Frampton Simons, 230 Brighton Rd. All members are welcome. Please call the Simons at 355-5005 if you plan to attend.

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## BROOKNOTES

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