

Back issues of this newsletter are available at www.williamsparkneighbors.org



Deadlines for the next two issues are May 15 for the June issue and August 15 for the September issue. Share a story, a poem, a photo, a drawing or anything else you'd like. Send contributions to Casey Clavin at dingoblue@earthlink.net

Don't be left out when we send WPN e-mail updates. If your e-mail address changes (or has changed), please let us know. Send your new address information to McElveen@msn.com

Find us on the web at www.williamsparkneighbors.org.

Join us on facebook-Williams Park Neighbors.

Our mission is to promote community among neighbors through social interaction, emphasizing the unique character of Smyrna's oldest neighborhood.

News in and around Williams Park

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN...

It's time to renew your membership in Williams Park Neighbors. Don't miss the opportunity to support our neighborhood and participate in this year's events and activities. Stay on top of news in the neighborhood and issues in the city on the neighborhood's facebook page, with email notices and alerts, and through this quarterly newsletter. As always, there will be Cookouts with Cook-offs, Happy Hours, the Easter Egg hunt, the Lighting of the Great Pergola and more — all that for only \$20.

There are two ways to pay. You can use the membership form printed on page 4 of this MEMO and mail it with a check to the address on the form. Or you can pay online through PayPal using your credit or debit card. To do that, go to www.williamsparkneighbors.org, click on "Association Info," then click "Join Williams Park Neighbors." Current members have received renewal emails with a "Pay Now" button embedded.

It doesn't matter how you go about it, just make sure you join or renew before you forget. If you have any questions, contact, Leon McElveen at 770.856.1544 or mcelveen@msn.com.

See you in the neighborhood.

Leon McElveen

NEIGHBORS HELP CITY EMPLOYEE

While frustration has occasionally driven us to disparage city staff and administration, we do generally appreciate the work they provide and, in particular instances, enjoy friendly relationships with many city personnel. Teresa Forbes, an administrative assistant in Public Works, is one such example. An avid supporter of Smyrna, she's been very helpful to Williams Park many times over the years. So, when we learned recently that Teresa needed assistance, we were happy to step up and help.

When a fire broke out in her Woodstock home this past holiday season, Theresa injured her legs escaping from a second floor window. Her brother and nephew escaped uninjured but her sister Melinda Crabtree, who alerted the others, suffered burns to half her body and lung damage. Four precious rescue dogs died in the fire. Later, after three months in Grady Hospital, Teresa's sister Melinda passed away.

Learning that Teresa lost her home and all her belongings, we created a GO Fund Me page which will be open until the end of this month. "We've known Teresa for many years. She's a wonderful and caring lady who desperately needs... kitchen ware, beds, bedding, gently used furniture, and monetary donations." Our kind and generous neighbors and friends responded. Not only did we raise much needed cash but also almost a household of furniture and kitchen items. After collecting the donated items, the neighbors pictured below loaded everything into seven pick-up trucks and a trailer, then delivered it all to the tem-



2017 CALENDAR

WPN BOOK CLUB Sun. March 26, 1:30 Davis' mountain home A Dog's Purpose by Bruce Cameron

WPN EGG HUNT Saturday, April 15, 4pm 1315 Roswell Street

WPN HAPPY HOUR April 21, 7 pm Marcia Gipson 2622 Devin Court 404-229-6906

WPN ADOPT-A-MILE Sat., April 22, 9 am Williams Park pergola

WPN BOOK CLUB Sun, April 30, 3 pm Louisa Cohn 1450 Whitfield Street Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd

WPN HAPPY HOUR May 19, 7 pm Tony and Wendy 1335 Marston St 770-865-2347

WPN BOOK CLUB Sun, May 28, 3 pm Susan Bentley 2651 Gilbert St. A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles

WPN HAPPY HOUR June 16, 7 pm Dave Chambers 2616 Highland Ave 770-547-4114

WPN FIELD TRIP Jun 18, 1:35 pm Braves vs Marlins

WPN BOOK CLUB Sun, June 25, 3 pm Leanne Fey 1496 Spring Street A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman

continued on page 4

News in and around Williams Park

porary home Teresa shares with her brother until her home can be restored.

Thanks to everyone for your generous donations — boy do we live in a great and caring neighborhood. It really makes me proud to live among such wonderful neighbors.

— Liz Davis

DESPITE TEMPERATURES IN THE 30s

Williams Park Neighbors had a great turn-out of volunteers for the January Adopt-A-Mile. We concentrate on the streets that define boundary, our highly traveled roads where, unfortunately, some inconsider-



ate people throw trash from cars onto our property. Many thanks go to Rob and Christie Allen, Keith Bentley, Kendall Brock, Tracy Ferguson, Ed Heck, Darian Hopkins,

Chris Knight, David Luke, Linda Mahaney, Eric and Jenn Walberg, and Clint and Alicia Wood. We'd also like to thank the businesses who donated items for our drawing: Creatwood Tavern, Gifts on Garrison, The Grateful Bread Company, Great American Motorcycle Show, Neighbors Seed and Feed, The Music Class, and Joan Friedman Jewelry. Our next clean-up will be on Saturday, April 22nd.

— Lee Friedman WPN Adopt-A-Mile Coordinator

One year ago Smyrna lost a valuable com-

munity member when Sarah Lowder passed

away. Now, as this newsletter goes to press,

work is nearing completion on a memorial

A speech therapist at Smyrna Elementary,

Sarah was young and energetic when she

learned of the ovarian cancer which ended

her life just six months later. Her death, a

blow to staff and students, friends and fam-

ily, inspired a memorial called Sarah's Path

SARAH'S PATH

paying tribute to her.

Smyrna Elementary Important dates

March 21- SPLOST vote For information. call Hayli McQuade at 404-502-1116 or Cara Fort at 770-560-5224

March 29 - Kindergarten registration

March 30 - Rising Kindergarten parent night, 6 pm, at school



which reminds us that life often takes us in an unexpected direction. The design incorporates paths in recognition of Sarah's model of handling adversity through "paths" of courage and hope, and an outdoor classroom in recognition of Sarah's

> many contributions as a teacher. An embracing space for students, teachers, and parents, this memorial will serve as a place to learn, heal, remember, and come together — a place as full of life as Sarah was while with us.

> In January Williams Park Neighbors made a financial contribution to the project, sponsoring three inscribed paver bricks for the walkway. The bricks read: 1) Williams Park Neighbors, 2) WPN loves our SES Stars, and 3) WPN appreciates teachers.

You can visit Sarah's Path in per-

son — it's on the Fleming Street side of Smyrna Elementary School. To view

SES STARS

the design layout and construction photos online, go to www.sarahspathgive.com. Donations are still being accepted to complete the memorial — instructions for giving are at the website. A grand opening for Sarah's Path is set for April 12th, 2017.

WPN LOVES OUR

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At Large Hayli McQuade 404-502-1116 and Jonathan Stroble 678-414-8316

News in and around Williams Park

HAPPY HOURS IN WILLIAMS PARK

Williams Park's residences (and residents) include everything from small to large, simple to fancy, historic to new, and nicely patinated to shiny-shiny. We have it all and we gather in one of these varied places on the third Friday of each month to share food, drink, and stimulating conversation.

In December, **Meredith Cagigal (1)** opened her home once again to receive WPN neighbors in a happy hour festive mood. Meredith's decorations added to the holiday spirit as groups gathered in several comfortable seating areas. As usual though, most people clustered near the food to enjoy delicious fare and conversation.

Relative newcomers **Chuck and Bonnie Bagdy (2)** have jumped right in — the first WPN happy hour they attended was the one they hosted in January. Given unusually mild weather, neighbors enjoyed the peaceful oasis of the Bagdy's back yard pool and garden. Their 23 year-old cat, somewhat ironically named Kitty, prowled the party generating a lot of conversation.

February's happy hour was hosted by **Madge Jackson (3)**, one of the original members of WPN and it's first treasurer. The evening was well attended with plenty of delicious food, drink, conversation and laughter.

Susan and Keith Bentley

WENDY AMUNDSON PHOTOS







The newest house in the neighborhood isn't a house at all. It's a mural painted on the side of the "Music Class," an early childhood music education center with programs designed to unleash musical potential in young children. The mural was commissioned by Music Class owner Rob Sayer and painted by Sonny Franks. The building, located where Highland Ave. and Old Roswell Road intersect with Roswell Street, was originally built as a small neighborhood store run for many years by a retired railroad worker named Mr. Smalley.



WELCOME

to these new neighbors

- on hawthorne Emily DeVane
- on mathews Elvin Henderson
- on morris Felicia Rakestraw
- on telfair way Judy Tremel
- on whitfield circle -Alvin Lorrie
- on whitfield st Chaz & Megan Linn

MILESTONES

BIRTH

Congratulations to Alan and Katie Nix on the birth of their son Tate Philip Nix. He was born February 16, 2017 weighing 7lb 7oz. Big sister Asher is totally in love with this little auy.



continued from page 2

WPN ADOPT-A-MILE Sat., July 15, 9 am Williams Park pergola

WPN HAPPY HOUR July 21, 7 pm Emily Devane Hawthorne Ave 770-853-5621

WPN BOOK CLUB Sun, July 30, 3 pm Madge Jackson 1449 Spring Street Book: TBA

WPN HAPPY HOUR August 18, 7 pm Mark and Collete King 2882 Bernard Way 404-915-8552

MILESTONES

DEATH

Our neighbor Shirley Anne Strickland passed away December 21, 2016. She was 80 years of age. Shirley grew up here on Highland Avenue with parents Jay and Edna Foster, sister Mary Ellen, and brothers Don and Richard. Graduating from the original Campbell High School just two years after its 1954 opening, Shirley was a member of the school's first cheerleading squad. She had two children, son Keith and daughter Connie, the former accompanying her when she returned to the family home after her father's death. As a person, Shirley was the epitome of a southern genteel lady and often times I find myself asking "what would Shirley do" in response to certain situations. I thought the world of Shirley and

will truly miss her.

- Sonya Ingle

march 2017

Williams Park Neighbors renewal form

www.williamsparkneighbors.org

	use renew my WPN membership for 2017.	
	\$2	20.00
lame:		
 Phone 1:	Phone 2:	
 Email 1:		

May we include your information in the WPN directory? ___ Yes _ No

Please make checks payable to Williams Park Neighbors, Inc. and mail with this form to: Williams Park Neighbors

P.O. Box 813811

Email 2: ___

Smyrna, GA 30081-8811

You can pay online with PayPal Go to williamsparkneighbors.org, choose "Association Info, then click on "Join WPN."



Historic homes within the Williams Park neighborhood

Yeoman House

The greatest concentration of surviving older buildings in Smyrna lies within Williams Park. Nineteen houses still stand that were built before the First World War. This is PART FIFTEEN in a series of articles covering these houses based on research done in 2012 by WPN members Casey Clavin and Vic Koch.

1469 Roswell Street

ARTS AND CRAFTS BUGALOW



This is the Yeoman House at 1469 Roswell Street, a Craftsman Style Bungalow believed to have been built in 1909. While most people building in the area at the time chose well established styles from the past, the forward-looking Yeomans chose a house plan fully committed to the Arts and Crafts style then gaining popularity across the country.

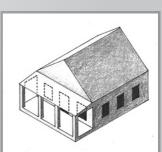


Terminology discussion: "Craftsman" often gets used interchangeably with "Arts and Crafts," though they're not the same thing. "Arts and Crafts" is a philosophically-based design style born in England near the end of the 19th Century, then adopted in the U.S. in the early 20th Century. "Craftsman" designs are those published by Gustav Stickley who worked within and strongly promoted the Arts and Crafts style. Stickley didn't

invent Arts and Crafts — he did, however, so widely popularize it through his magazine, *The Craftsman*, that the term "Craftsman" came to be applied widely to almost any house in the Arts and Crafts style.

Actual "Craftsman" houses (221 designs published

from 1904 to 1916) are fully documented. Since our subject isn't one of those, it's not properly called a "Craftsman" house. That said, it is a nice example of Arts and Crafts design built



Yeoman House

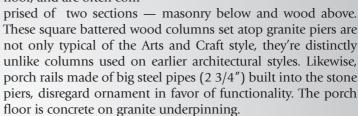
on the leading edge of the style's popularity in our state. These bungalows became very popular in all regions of Georgia from the 1910s through the 1930s, in rural areas as well as in cities and towns.

Arts and Crafts architecture emphasizes the structure of a building rather than decoration. Massing is usually simple and anchored in place. A broad roof generally provides a horizontal effect, though significant variations in roof form and orientation give rise to four subtypes. Front gable and side gable variants are the norm. Hipped roofs are less common. And cross-gabled roofs, as on the Yeoman house, are the least frequently seen form.

Horizontality, often emphasized on A&C houses, is achieved here by the massive front porch beam and widely overhanging open eves with exposed

and which overhanging open eves with exposed

shaped rafter tails. Also important in A&C design, structural purposefulness is expressed here in the porch supports. A&C columns usually stand on the ground rather than on the porch floor, and are often com-



From the front porch, which wraps around one side, doors open into the living room and the parlor, the latter still retaining its original wood and glass door. Like most A&C houses, this has asymmetrically arranged rooms and no hallways — rooms are entered from other rooms. There are hopper style transoms above exterior doors and three interior doors. Two of the four original chimneys still stand. One serves a wood burning fireplace in the living room — a hallmark of Arts and Crafts architecture where flaming logs at the hearth symbolized warmth at the heart of the home. Heating the house was achieved by coal burning fireplaces in the dining room and parlor, and coal heating stoves in the two bedrooms. A chimney in the kitchen served to vent a wood burning stove (as gas service was not yet available).

The Yeoman house is balloon framed using the wire type nails gaining in popularity around this time—these are nails as we know them today with a round shank and round head. The ceilings are 10′ 10″, the floors are 2 1/2″ heart pine, the door hardware is mortised. Additions at the back of the house contain a bathroom and storage.

Terminology discussion: Defined by how their functions are engineered, there are half a dozen different types of windows as found in old American houses. By far the most commonly used window type in Williams Park's old houses is the double-hung window where a bottom sash slides up and an upper sash slides down. They're efficient and durable but, at best, only half of their visual opening can be physically opened for ventilation. Casement windows, on the other hand, open out on hinges (like doors do) and, when fully open, provide ventilation through 100% of their window area.



Yeoman House

The only extant old house in WP built with casement windows, the Yeoman house uses both double-hung and casement type windows in a variety of styles. Many of them are original, some have been added or changed over the years. In the front gable (top right photo), the group of four plain casement windows is original. (The round element, now a window, was originally a louvered vent.) Similarly, the dining room on the east side of the house has an original group of six plain casements (bottom left). This manner of grouping four or more windows close together is a hallmark of A&C styling. The living room, spaning the front of the house, has two pairs of original prairie-style casements at each end (bottom right). The front porch has two origi-

nal large one-over-one double hung windows (center). The two original closets in the house were given narrow double hung units. Since they both have old wavy glass, it appears they've never been altered though, oddly, the one on the east side is prairie-style (bottom center) while the one on the west is plain. The side gables have eight-over-eight double hung (center right) while the rear gable has a pair of six-over-six — these may not be original. The house was built as a single story house —two bedrooms, no bath. What was originally an unfinished attic was later subdivided into additional bedrooms.

This would have stood out as new and different when constructed. And, painted a darkish green as it originally was, it represented the epitome of Arts and Crafts design at an early date for the style in Georgia.









Yeoman House

In 1909 S.N. Yeoman bought two adjacent parcels of land — the portion marked A in January, and B in April. As a whole, this was all the land between Roswell Street, Old Roswell Street, and Hawthorne Ave. except, as the deed reads, "one acre where the Negro church now stands." That acre is the square notch clearly missing in the graphic, but the church no longer stands there. It was demolished circa 2000, after a fire gutted it. The north and west sides of the lot will soon see construction of two new houses. The historic cemetery along the east and south of the property is slated for improvements to facilitate visiting. Though no graves here are known to predate the Civil War, there are persons intered here who were born into slavery and freed by the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863.

The lot lines on this graphic are from a subdivision division

developed near the turn of the 20th century by partners

E.P. Green and W.A. Sams. Their plan encompassed all the land bounded by Old Roswell, Hawthorne, Whitfield, and Mathews. Though Green and Sams owned land south of Roswell Street, neither seems to have owned this land and it never was subdivided according to their scheme.

Having consolidated these roughly 20 acres in 1909, S.N. Yeoman built the house facing Roswell Street which is shown as a black rectangle on the graphic. Thirty two years later, his heirs sold the house and all the property to Ober and Paul Hensley in 1941.

Paul Hensley, a graduate of Georgia Tech, was a surveyor and engineer. He laid out the landing strips which later launched the C5A and, together with his sons, planned much of Smyrna's water, sewer, street, and zoning plans. Ober Hensley, a Bell Bomber worker during WW II, and Smyrna's City Clerk in 1946-47, later became a real estate agent.

children. Marble John married Ruth Collins, the local
pharmacist's
daughter. Greta
married a minister at
First Baptist Church
named Charles McMillan.
Sam, captain of Georgia

Ober and Paul raised four

Tech's football team in the Cotton Bowl winning 1954 season, married Iris (Antley) who became the Director of the Georgia Ballet. Sarah married Bill Miles, editor of **Smyrna Herald.**

The Hensleys sold off most of the property over the years. Then, in 1954 when the widow Hensley moved to a new house

on Spring Street, she sold this house on the 3/4 acre parcel shown as "C" on the graphic to Walter and Elizabeth Abbott. After a career teaching music at Brown Elementary School, Elizabeth spent a year abroad in the Peace Corps. She and Walter raised seven children here, one of whom also taught music in Cobb County schools.

Current owners Don and Helen Porch, also Cobb County educators, bought the house in 1973. Forty four years later, they are the Yeoman house's longest term residents.



year	purchaser	date	book/page			
	S.M. & C.R. Morris A					
1907	T.A. Hicks B	1-17-07				
1909	S. N. Yeoman A	1-2-09	MM/562			
1909	S. N. Yeoman B	4-24-09	NN/191			
	Alma Yeoman Thomas 1/3 of A & B					
	Myrtle Yeoman Westbrook 1/3 of A & B					
	Manie Yeoman Burdall 1/3 of A & B					
1939	M.Y.W. & M.Y.B. A,B	6-2-39	134/194			
1941	O. & P. Hensley A,B	3-3-41	141/257			
1954	W.E. & E. J. Abbott C	3-13-54	571/414			
1972	Hellen & Don Porch C	7-27-72	1336/425			

Williams Park Reads — by Leanne Fey

The WPN Book Club, meets the last Sunday of the month at 3:00 pm at a host home. We always welcome new participants. To learn which books we'll be reading in the up coming months, see the calendar on pages 2. To learn more, call Leanne at 770-863-9580.

Here are our latest books.

My Life on the Road

by Gloria Steinem ★★★★

Gloria Steinem looks back at her life and how her childhood experiences shaped her and led her to spend her adult life giving a voice to women and traveling the world organizing and empowering the disenfranchised.



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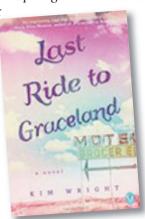
www.revcoffee.com

Last Ride to Graceland

by Kim Wright ★★★★

Cory Beth has known since childhood that her mother spent a year as a back up singer for Elvis and

that the man who raised her is not her biological father. After her mother's death Cory Beth is living a dead end life as a bar singer. She finds memento from her mother's time at Graceland, and she embarks on a wild road trip from Beaufort, South Carolina Memphis to find out if Elvis is really her father.



Our rating system:

- ★ No one liked it
- ★★ It was ok
- ★★★ It was good

★★★★ It was excellent ★★★★★ Fabulous



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March 2017

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