



Williams Park

MEMO

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS

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

MEMO NOTES

HAPPY holidays

whichever you celebrate

We encourage contributions to this newsletter.

Deadlines for the next two issues are February 15 for the March issue and May 15 for the June issue. Share a story, a poem, a photo, a drawing — surprise us.

Send contributions to Casey Clavin at dingoblue@earthlink.net

When a new neighbor moves in near you, contact Alicia Wood at cawood86@hotmail.com or 770-912-1359 so she can welcome them to WP

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.

A Chilly day for Chili — by Keith Bentley

PHOTOS BY SUSAN AND KEITH BENTLEY

WPN's annual chili contest had to be moved due to rain on Saturday to a record-breaking cold last Sunday in October. Undeterred, we carried on and a total of 17 chili chefs brought out their culinary creations in hopes of carrying home a prize and bragging rights until this time next year.

Arriving to the tunes of recently departed greats, Fats Domino and Tom Petty, the crowd huddled together to keep warm while the judging commenced. The Davis' lawn was decked out festively,



Neighbors dig in after Grand Prize winner Tyler Kimbro received his trophy from event chair Becky Freedman.

Laura and Eli Fine passed on the black cats and skeletons to find their proper alter egos in the ghouls gallery.

thanks to Becky Freedman and Kate Kingsley. New this year, were an assortment of wind spinners and other yard art brought by Carole Keith owner of Love Street. Some of these will likely be incorporated into a future neighborhood art project now being planned.

It takes a long time to judge seventeen chilis, so neighbors had ample opportunity to vote for their favorite wind spinners and, with Halloween in the air, pose for pictures in the ghouls gallery. The kids enjoyed climbing on a fire truck brought out courtesy of the Fire Department.

This year's judges were Nancy Smith, a former neighbor who recently moved to Canton to be near her family, Carole Keith of Love Street, and Todd Jones from the City of SFD. They took their duty very seriously and somehow managed to narrow down the entrants to a top four. Tyler Kimbro took



Thanks to everybody who helped prepare for the festivities — left to right above: Lemmy Freedman, Dickie Cook, Ed Heck, and Keith Bentley. It does, indeed, take a village.

Ethan Moroney tucks into a hot dog while a gaggle of others scoop up piñata loot.



'17 - '18 CALENDAR

PERGOLA LIGHTING
Fri, Dec 1, 6 pm
wood fires, hot dogs,
s'mores — fun for the
whole family

WPN HAPPY HOUR
December 15, 7 pm
Robin Phillips
2647 Gilbert St
678.634.3395

WPN BOARD MEETING
Wed, Jan 17, 7 pm
2651 Gilbert St
404-906-8853

WPN HAPPY HOUR
Jan 19, 7pm
Robert Harrison
2889 Alexander St
robert@flamewerx.com

WPN ADOPT-A-MILE
Sat, Jan 20, 9 am
Williams Park pergola

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, Jan 28, 3 pm
Nancy McGee
1389 Roswell St.
Swing Time
by Zadie Smith

WPN HAPPY HOUR
Feb 16, 7 pm
Erin Shoemaker
1569 Whitfield St
erinshoemaker@yahoo.com

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, Feb 25, 3 pm
Location TBA
Book TBA

WPN RENEWAL
Begins March 1

WPN HAPPY HOUR
March 16, 7 pm
Jennifer & Kendall Brock
1416 Hawthorne Ave
jennifer@hrdracc.com

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PHOTOS BY SUSAN AND KEITH BENTLEY

Chili Contest con't.

Grand Prize while Liz Davis took First Place, Joe Brassfield took Second, and Amy Kuhn took Third.

With judging complete and trophies distributed, the shivering crowd hungrily converged on the crock pot laden table. The cold weather made the chili taste all the better and there were almost no left overs!

As is customary, we conducted a little WPN official business during which nominating committee chair Alicia Wood

announced the slate for our annual election and event attendees voted. Officers for 2018 are Keith Bentley, President; Jeremy Fort, Vice President; Liz Davis, Secretary; and Myrna Evans, Treasurer.

Many thanks to all who helped with preparation and set up. A special shout out goes to the Committee Chair, Becky Freedman and her team of Kate Kingsley, Susan Bentley, Liz Davis and Len Freedman who planned and organized the event. A

very special thanks also goes to the "youngsters" who hung in there to the cold bitter end for cleanup — Becky and Len Freedman, Kate Kingsley, Liz and Ron Davis, Keith and Susan Bentley, Ed Heck, Joe and Judy Brassfield, and Dickie Cook.

Another wonderful Williams Park event was in the books!



First Place Liz Davis



Second Place Joe Brassfield



Third Place Amy Kuhn,
seen here with Emerson.

Liz Davis' Santa Fe Stew

- 1 1/2 pounds ground beef
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, chopped
- 1 - 16 ounce can of corn, drained
- 1 - 16 ounce can black beans, drained
- 1 - 16 ounce can pinto beans, drained
- 1 - 16 ounce can hominy, drained
- 1 - 16 ounce can Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies
- 12 ounces tomato sauce
- 1 - 1.5 ounce packet of taco seasoning mix
- 1 - 1.5 ounce packet of ranch dressing mix
- salt and pepper

In large heavy pot over medium-high heat, sauté ground beef, onion and garlic until meat is browned and onion begins to soften. Add all other ingredients, stir. Simmer long enough for flavors to blend, at least 30 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste and serve. Serves six.

Joe Brassfield's surprisingly simple chili

- 3 - 16 ounce cans Bush's Chili Hot Beans
- 1 - 16 ounce can of drained kidney bean
- 1 or 2 - 16 ounce can(s) Rotel diced tomatoes
- 1 onion, chopped (if desired)
- 1 pound cooked ground beef

Dump all ingredients in a pot over medium-high heat. Be sure and keep it stirred. Once the onions are cooked, it's done. Or, place everything in a crock pot on low for 4 to 5 hours. If you use crock pot, uncooked meat could be added. We have slammed all this together and it was ready to eat in 30 minutes, cooked in a pot on the stove.

Amy Kuhn's Chicken & White Bean Chili

- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 1/2 cups chopped onion
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1 jalapeño pepper, chopped
- 6 garlic cloves, chopped
- 2 1/2 pounds skinless, boneless chicken thighs,
cut into 1/2 inch cubes
- 3 1/2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 2 tablespoons tomato paste
- 1 tablespoon ground cumin
- 1 tablespoon oregano (fresh is better)
- 2 - 16 ounce cans white beans, drained, juice reserved
- 1 - 16 ounce can diced tomatoes with juice
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
- 1 box small pasta shells, cooked
- salt and pepper

Heat oil in large heavy pot over medium-high. Add onion, peppers, and garlic, sauté until they begin to soften (about five minutes). Add chicken, sprinkle with salt and pepper, sauté until no longer pink outside (about five minutes). Mix in chili powder, cayenne, tomato paste, cumin, oregano. Add beans with one cup reserved juice and canned tomatoes. Simmer until chicken is cooked through and broth is thickened (about 25 minutes). If too thick, thin with additional bean juice. Stir in cooked pasta. Season to taste. Stir in cilantro and serve. Serves six.

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WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, March 25, 3 pm
Susan Bentley
2651 Gilbert St.
Book TBA

WPN EGG HUNT
Sat, March 31, 4pm
1315 Roswell Street

WPN BOARD MEETING
Wed, April 11, 7 pm
2651 Gilbert St
404-906-8853

WPN ADOPT-A-MILE
Sat, April 14, 9 am
Williams Park pergola

WPN HAPPY HOUR
April 20, 7 pm
Neighbors Feed & Seed
with Grateful Bread
1565 Roswell St
678-653-8838

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, April 29, 3 pm
Louisa Cohn
1450 Whitfield St.
Book TBA

WPN HAPPY HOUR
May 18, 7 pm
Wendy Amundson &
Tony Graves
1335 Marston
wendyamundson@att.net

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, May 27, 3 pm
Leanne Fey
1496 Spring Street
Book TBA

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Good bye Williams Park

In the final weeks of his life, Vic commented a couple of times about wanting to write a sort of farewell to the neighborhood. Though he didn't get his thoughts on paper, he did talk about them a little. So, while I can't write down what Vic would have written, I can tell you something about Vic's life on Roswell Street and how he came to feel at home in Williams Park.

Vic bought his first house here in 1972. He found it by asking a real estate agent, "Do you ever come across a house that nobody else wants?" Starting with such an orphan ensured endless opportunities for interesting projects and a dwelling uniquely suited to himself.

Vic made significant changes to the house and property before I joined him there in 1979. When, shortly after my arrival, Vic suggested removing a wall between the living and dining rooms, we commenced work on our first joint project. "Projects," it turned out, was who we both were and there were many of them over the years — his, mine, ours. Most of them produced physical results one could point to, while others were less tangible.

Among the later was our involvement in a group of area residents who began meeting regarding zoning issues which cropped up from time to time, then escalated in the early 2000s. Our aim was to encourage thoughtful redevelopments that would benefit the people who lived here, not just the builders who did not.

From those meetings grew the idea of developing a neighborhood organization to knit together a community from the increasingly diverse residents in the area. The result is known today as Williams Park Neighbors.



The original band working on these initiatives consisted of six or eight people and their varied skill sets. What Vic brought was significant, multi-faceted and unduplicated within the group. Physical manifestations of Vic's involvement include design of the park (named Williams Park) including the pergola for which he also built the wooden superstructure, design of the neighborhood entry sign for which he also forged the ironwork, design and production of the event signs which he also put out for

each event, design of the neighborhood coffee cup, and design of the WP sign toppers.

The intangible manifestation of the cumulative efforts of all participants over all twelve years to date was a thing of immeasurable gratification to Vic — that is a community. A psychologically nurturing place to which he belonged — a group that accepted him, cradled him, appreciated him.

If you worked with Vic on a task (used his help or gave yours), chatted with him on a sidewalk or at a happy hour, deliberated with him on a project (yours or his) hung out while your dog played with his, shared with him a peak at your new baby in its stroller — you gave him something he treasured. To those families who frolicked in the pool next door over this last summer: thank you for a sound track so emblematic of the beauty of life on earth — it was meaningful to Vic to be serenaded with such an expression of joy as he made his way toward his final good bye.

— Casey Clavin

Victor Christian Detlev Koch

Born in Berlin, Germany July 5, 1941, Vic immigrated in 1951 and became a U.S. citizen in 1955. He graduated from High School in Clearfield PA, earned a BS in Industrial Design from Philadelphia College of Art, and then landed his dream job as a designer for General Motors in Detroit. Finding the corporate environment unsatisfying, Vic moved to San Francisco to work as a freelance designer.

Moving to the Atlanta area in 1970, he worked for a small exhibit company before returning to independent freelance work for the last 20 years of his career. Vic applied his creative mind and deft hand to a wide variety of professional design projects: cars; retail environments, including a jewelry store at Lenox Square; trade show exhibits, including a giant walk-through stomach; even a Caribbean resort.

Vic was happiest doing. His leisure projects included building a saltwater cruising sail boat; restoring several collectable cars, one of which achieved first-in-class honors at seven national events; and renovating a handful of old houses.

As he faced his approaching death and reflected on his life, Vic spoke most warmly about the role he played in helping to establish a community environment in Williams Park, Smyrna, where he lived since 1972. He was so happy to see neighbors gathering socially, pitching in on projects, gardening, walking dogs, and raising families. That's where he found gratification.

Vic died at home from leukemia on August 26, 2017. With him through it all and at his end was his best friend and partner of 38 years, Casey Clavin. She is his only survivor. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to the Southern Poverty Law Center or the Leukemia Research Foundation.

December 5th is election day — let's all VOTE!

Smyrna City Council, Ward 3

MARYLINE BLACKBURN

Maryline Blackburn is running for Smyrna City Council. Business interests are already well represented in city government — she wants to bring a fresh approach to city council while offering WPN families a "True Voice." Smyrna needs a set of values that will *L.E.A.D.* decision-making:



Livability — We need smart growth that maintains the character of WPN while balancing the needs of developer/business interests. We must first understand impacts of new development on traffic, schools, parks and public safety. Drive down Spring or Atlanta Roads at 7 am or 6 pm and you can see these impacts are often an afterthought.

Education — By working with parents, teachers, and administrators, we will make Smyrna schools outstanding. Families should never face the decision of moving or sending their kids to private schools for a good education.

Accountability — Elected officials must be held accountable. We should keep citizens informed.

Direction — It all starts with a vision for our community, which should represent the interests of families first.

For more information, visit Blackburn's website at www.vote.marylineblackburn.com

TRAVIS LINDLEY



Travis Lindley is running for Smyrna City Council. He has been living in Smyrna his whole life and is eager to serve the community where he was raised. We all chose to live in the great city of Smyrna because we saw the amount of potential this city has, and he wants to ensure Smyrna

continues to prosper. He believes in accountable government, smart growth, local control, a focus on our schools, and a safe community. He wants to continue the tradition of open and trusted local government.

During this campaign, Travis Lindley has spent a lot of time in our neighborhood and is well versed on the many issues facing Ward 3 and Williams Park. From pending development and zoning issues, to traffic concerns, and the cell phone tower, these issues are a top priority for him as we look forward. Many issues for Ward 3 and for all of Smyrna await our next council representative. Travis is committed to the job and eager to get to work on day one.

For more, visit Lindley's website at <https://lindleyforsmyrna.com/>

Williams Park residents will vote at Smyrna's Community Center 200 Village Green Cir. on December 5 from 7 am to 7 pm

Georgia State Senate, District 6

JEN JORDAN

Jen Jordan is running for a seat in the Georgia Senate. We can count on her to stand up to extremists and fight for our values. Raised in rural south Georgia by a single mom who worked as a hairdresser, Jen learned firsthand the value of hard work and the importance of creating an economy that works for all families.



Growing up, Jen attended public schools, and thanks her public school teachers for encouraging her to go to college. Now, as a small business owner and attorney, Jen believes politicians waste too much time on divisive fights, and don't spend enough time helping families get ahead.

In the Senate, she'll work on real issues that affect our everyday lives, like common-sense solutions to improve our public schools, attract good-paying jobs, and find real solutions to Atlanta's traffic congestion. She will also make it a priority to fight for laws to protect taxpayers from Medicaid fraud, and will make sure every Georgian has access to affordable healthcare.

For more information, visit Jordan's website at <https://www.jen4ga.com>

JAHA HOWARD



Dr. Jaha Howard is the owner and practitioner of A+ Pediatric Dentistry of Atlanta. He lives in Smyrna with his wife, Vanessa, and their three children. They worship at West End Church of Christ, where Dr. Howard serves as church deacon and Sunday school teacher.

A proud graduate of Atlanta Public Schools, he continued his education at Howard University and the University of Illinois where he received top academic honors.

Founder of Wave of Excellence, a network of over 4,500 Smyrna parents dedicated to strengthening neighborhood schools in Smyrna, Dr. Howard is passionate about education, service and community-building. He strives to help individuals and communities find their voice and work together to achieve common goals. He's often found working at community initiatives to build a stronger Georgia.

Dr. Howard is committed to this vision as he continues this race where he came just short of winning the general election against the heavily funded incumbent.

For more information, visit Howard's website at <http://www.jahahoward.com/>

'17 - '18 CALENDAR

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WPN HAPPY HOUR
June 15, 7 pm
Bev & Jimmy Denney
1460 Roswell St
bevmden@aol.com

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, June 24, 3 pm
Location TBA
Book TBA

WPN ADOPT-A-MILE
Sat, July 14, 9 am
Williams Park pergola

WPN HAPPY HOUR
July 20, 7 pm
Marcia Gipson
2622 Devin Court
marcia_gipson@att.net

WPN BOARD MEETING
Wed, July 25, 7 pm
2651 Gilbert St
404-906-8853

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, July 29, 3 pm
Madge Jackson
1449 Spring St.
Book TBA

WPN HAPPY HOUR
August 17, 7 pm
Cara & Patrick Thurman
2711 Gilbert St
cararyanthurman@gmail.com

WPN SWIM SOCIAL
Sat, Aug 25, 4 pm
Mae and Buck Bryan
1510 Spring St
404.824.5904

WPN BOOK CLUB
Sun, Aug 26, 3 pm
Becky Freedman
1392 Marston St.
Book TBA

WPN BOARD MEETING
Wed, Sept 5, 7 pm
2651 Gilbert St
404-906-8853

News in and around Williams Park

JONQUIL CITY HISTORICAL TRAIL

The first phase of the Jonquil City Historical Trail (JCHT) has gone live with several points in Williams Park. The brain child of local historian and WP resident, Bill Marchione, the JCHT is a walking tour of historic sites in the heart of Smyrna. Using any internet-connected device, participants can bring up historical narratives and images to complete the self-guided tour.



This project was implemented through the Smyrna Arts and Cultural Council with help from Shaun Martin, JCHT co-chair and project architect, who is largely responsible for packaging, presenting and promoting the initiative; and Nancy McGee who contributed with grant opportunities.

Five of the twenty numbered locations in the now active Phase One are within WP. Future Phases will expand those numbers. The full trail, as originally proposed, lays generally along Atlanta Road from its intersection with Windy Hill at Belmont Hills, southward to the Creatwood area. Almost a third of the full trail's sixty locations will be in WP. The article on that can be found on Bill's historical blog, "Local Historian North and South" at wpmarchione.com.

Right now the vantage points for viewing on-line narratives and images are identified by a JCHT logo painted on sidewalks. Plans call for these to be upgraded in future to more substantial numbered markers with accompanying historical murals and sculptural elements — Shaun will head the art sub-committee handling marker design and mural competition.

WP points discussed in the first phase include G.B.'s Place, Williams Park, Pace-Edwards House (1904), Gray-Hamby House (1907), Thomas Lee Hamby House (1909), Vinson-Crawford House (1902), B.F. Reed House (1901), Whitfield-Nelson House (1884), and Whitfield Store.

The link to the JCHT online tour is: <http://arcg.is/1mnanP>. The link to the JCHT Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/jonquilityhistoricaltrail/>.

— Bill Marchione

WP GOES GREEN ON ST. PADDY'S DAY

Back in 2016 WPN president Keith Bentley asked our Beautification Committee to devise a plan to improve the curb appeal of Whitfield Park. WP resident Nancy McGee developed a planting design. Smyrna's Richard Garland (Director of Parks and Recreation) and Tommy Korver (Parks Supervisor) offered to fund a third of the costs plus labor and tilling equipment. WP resident Gavin Carpenter (Jonquil Landscaping) reduced the plant costs to wholesale, plus funded another third of the costs. Things were really coming together — WP volunteers and city workers were lined up for installation on Saturday, March 18.

Materials arrived on Thursday. Then the forecast changed — Saturday looked like a wash out. Garland and Korver offered to meet our volunteers a day early to help till in the soil amendments on Friday. A few phone calls and we had assembled a team: Keith and Susan Bentley, Nancy McGee, Lee Friedman, Julia Oliver, Linda Mahaney, Suzie Tremel, Amy Shay and James Hardy weeded, tilled, mapped out the design, dug holes, installed, watered, and mulched 64 plants including 'Soft Touch' Japanese hollies, two varieties of oak leaf hydrangeas, butterfly bushes, Knockout roses, coneflowers, and Shasta daisies.

An intense four-hour workout on a sunny Saint Patrick's Day ended fittingly with a greener park and a Happy Hour at Robert Harrison's house. It felt great to complete a project that benefited the neighborhood through a partnership with the city.

Special thanks go to across-the-street neighbors James and Catherine Hardy who watered the fledgling garden throughout the hot weather. It was a thrill to see the shrubs bloom during the summer. — Nancy McGee

Whitfield Park in November — the trees are losing their leaves but the new oak leaf hydrangeas are looking beautiful.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

— on bernard way —
Maria Chevalier

— on elizabeth —
Alex & Kaitlin Merchen
Christopher & Kristin
Cornish

— on gilbert street —
Kim Clowry
Dennis & Terese Barous

— on highland ave —
Jon & Susanne Taunton

— on hawthorne —
Chuck & Terri Abraham
Bobby & Ashley Smith

— on ivy spring —
Joe Redmond
Cyndi Sheriff
Shahab & Amanda Fard

— on mimosa circle —
Kendall Wells

— on morris circle —
Dallas & Brenda Page

— on north avenue —
Patrick & Emily Guillory

— on old roswell —
Andy & Kathy
Matthews
Kevin Ruggles &
Lisbeth Horehled
Catherine Bowen

— on roswell street —
Morgan & Marissa
Burke
Janet & Chandler
Mohler
Tiffany McAllister
Kelly Green &
Angie Baker
James & Megan Smith
Mike Hickman
Kate Kingsley

— on telfair drive —
Adam Hilger &
Deidre Schmidt

— on walker court —
Boyd & Lindsey
McCarter

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News in and around Williams Park

WPN TURNS OUT AND PICKS UP

We had good turn outs for three Adopt-A-Mile events since our last report. While some volunteers came more than once, it's gratifying to see plenty of new faces. With an average of 13.3 participants each time, we saw 36 different individuals over three events! The Great American Cleanup in April saw 11 WPN volunteers cleaning up our streets. They were Matt and Warren Bennett, Beverly and Jimmy Denney, Joan and Lee Friedman, Madge Jackson, Phil Qualter, Erick Sevilla, Brigida Tellez, and Tom Tumbleson. In July a record 17 neighbors gathered more than twenty bags of trash. They were Rob Allen; Keith Bentley; Andrea Burns; Morgan Burke; Jeff Brawand; Jimmy Denney; Kevin, Reid and Tracy Ferguson; Daniker Floyd; Travis Lindley; Marissa Maldonado; James Paul; Phil Qualter; Alicia and Clint Wood; and Jason York. For the October event, 12 residents turned out — Rob Allen; Christine, Felicity and Forrest Ainsworth; Wendy Amundson; Jeff Carter; Daniker Floyd; Madge Jackson; Eric and Lauryn Neas; Jamie Shaw; and Tim Trautz.

Thanks to all our volunteers and to the following companies who provided gift certificates for our drawings: Gifts on Garrison, The Grateful Bread Company, Zucca Restaurant, Joan Friedman Jewelry and Fine Art, and Rev Coffee.

— Lee Friedman

Coordinator for WPN Adopt-A-Mile

July brought out a record seventeen volunteers.

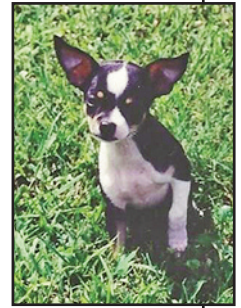


A WP KILLER GROWS OLD

Some years back, nine year old Riley Shay on Mimosa Circle petitioned his parents for a very specific dog — a chihuahua wearing a spiked red collar and named Killer. Fast forward to 2017, Riley has graduated college and commenced a career as a mechanical engineer. What about Killer, you're wondering? Killer turned 16 this year. He's blind in one eye, almost blind in the other, is rather stiff of joint, and has only a few teeth. Still though, he chases the neighbor along the property line (whether she's there or not), and enjoys running around the back yard occasionally.

What's the moral of this story? A puppy is a long-term commitment.

— Amy Shay



WP GETS HAPPY

Williams Park's residents and residences include everything from small to large, simple to fancy, historic to new, and nicely patinated to shiny-shiny. We have it all — and this varied group gathers in one of these varied places on the third Friday of each

month to share food, drink, and conversation.

Our September Happy Hour was hosted by **Kendall and Jennifer Brock (1)** on Hawthorne Avenue. It was a kid friendly event and numerous neighborhood little ones joined the Brock children for backyard frolicking. The Luzar's brought their kids along intentionally, plus their cats which "followed them" to the party. It was a beautiful evening to be outside on the deck and in the yard hanging with the neighbors.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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— on walker street —
Brian & Lauren Berry
Tom & Paula Fowler
Matt & Rebecca Junger

— on whitfield circle —
Rich & Lynn Sghiatti
Daniel & Britney
Brasuell

Our membership now stands at
301 families

Our mission is to promote commu-
nity among
neighbors through social inter-
action, emphasizing the unique
character
of Smyrna's oldest
neighborhood.

You don't have to be a member
to attend our events. If you
haven't already joined, howev-
er, now is a good time to do so.

For an application go to
www.williamsparkneighbors.org

News in and around Williams Park

Our October Happy Hour was hosted by **Linda and Leon McElveen (2)** on Whitfield Street. It was the perfect temperature to hang out on their wrap-around porch and by the fire pit in their driveway. Leon changed hats each time he checked on his guests and his numerous costume changes kept everyone well entertained.

November's Happy Hour was hosted by **Russell Currie, Kimberly Wright and Winston (3)** on Morris Circle. It was finally cold enough to want to stay inside, and neighbors gathered in their living and dining rooms to catch up and eat some delicious snacks. A smallish turn-out due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday meant a quieter version of our Happy Hour, but that's alright — we appreciate these events in all their varied forms.

— Laura Fine

Top row, left to right:

*Jeremy Fort prepares for battle,
Marcus King commences hand to hand
combat with an out-of-control shrub.
Rashaad Watkins puts a hoe to work while
wife Shannon Watkins hauls debris in a wagon.*

*Bottom row, left to right: Chris Kuhn drags a tarp full of
debris from the park while Julia Oliver pulls vines from a
hedge and Dan Brennan boldly trims a seriously misshapen tree.
Our youngest volunteer Hoyt Fort collects trimmings for removal.*



DURHAM PARK CLEAN UP

October 21st saw Williams Park residents turn out in force to perform some much needed work for a Durham Park Beautification Day. Months earlier, in preparation, Keith Bentley met with City representatives to discuss needed park improvements. After follow-up phone calls and collecting neighborhood input, Jeremy Fort met with Smyrna Parks personnel to list priorities and determine project specifics.

Finally, under the watchful gaze of Sangbu the Dragon, close to 30 neighbors of all ages spent the day clearing out the creek, trimming dead branches from trees and shrubs, untangling vines of all types, and hauling debris to the street for pick up.

Four hours (or 120 volunteer hours) later, the park looked great and was able to breathe again.

Thanks to everyone who came out to help improve the neighborhood's esthetics while enjoying neighborly comradery. Another clean up date will be coming soon, so stay tuned! — Cara Fort



WPN BOARD O'D

President
Keith Bentley
404-906-8853

Vice President
Jeremy Fort
770-560-5224

Secretary
Liz Davis
770-431-9786

Treasurer
Myrna Evans
678-231-1826

Membership
Leon McElveen
770-431-0292

Hospitality
Alicia Wood
770-912-1359

Communications
Casey Clavin
770-333-9995

Social Events
Susan Bentley
770-433-0350
and Becky Freedman
678-504-5375

Adopt-a Mile
Lee Friedman
678-239-4987

Development Review
Lem Ward
770-863-9580

Happy Hour
Jill Huitron
404-376-5114

Security
Robyn Phillips
678-634-3395

Beautification
Ed Heck
770-633-2518

Traffic Calming
Stephen McQuade
404-993-7803

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

News in and around Williams Park

WP SUPPORTS SMYRNA ELEMENTARY

For the past several years, Williams Park has supported Smyrna Elementary School (SES) with a school supply drive in September. Historically, we collected enough contributions to provide every classroom and Specials teacher (Art, Music, Physical Education, Computer, Media, and STEM — Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) with a generous donation of school supplies.

This year, because our collection brought in fewer donations than usual, the WPN board decided to make “grade” donations this time. Each grade, kindergarten through 5th, received a bag of school supplies. Additionally, monetary donations (from individual neighbors and from WPN) were designated to support Specials teachers with supplies from their individual wish lists. We were grateful to be able to supply the Specials teachers with everything they requested and still have money left over! Some of the items purchased were swim noodles and balloons for Phys Ed; for Art, Home Depot donated aprons and art related story books; the Media Center received crayons and cardstock; the Music department got Velcro hook tape for the floor and a six port USB charger; and we gave inflatable raceways to the STEM program.

The school’s STEM teacher, Erin Harris, says, “Thank you so much, Williams Park. We’ve begun using the raceways you purchased for us and students are loving them. I’ve enclosed photos (above right) of the raceways in action. Students have to build a boat (with aluminum foil) that can transport themselves and a partner (represented by Lego mini-figures) across the “spooky” water (compliments of dry ice) using a Sphero — a round technology unit controlled by an app on a computer or handheld device. Thank you for these raceways



and for the charging station which ensures all our robots are ready to go each day. Your support of STEM has gone a long way toward engaging students.”

As a parent of two SES students, I personally thank those Williams Park residents who contributed this year.

— Hayli McQuade

There once was a scientist who studied frogs. One day, he put one on the ground and told it to jump. The frog jumped four feet.

The scientist noted, “Frog with four feet, jumps four feet.”

The scientist cut off one of the frog’s legs and told it to jump. The frog jumped three feet.

The scientist noted, “Frog with three feet, jumps three feet.”

The scientist cut off a second leg and told the frog to jump. The frog jumped two feet.

The scientist noted, “Frog with two feet, jumps two feet.”

The scientist cut off a third leg and told the frog to jump. The frog jumped one foot.

The scientist noted, “Frog with one foot, jumps one foot.”

The scientist cut off the frog’s last leg and said, “Frog jump. FROG JUMP!” The frog sat motionless.

So the scientist wrote in his notebook, “Frog with no feet, goes deaf.”

**Laugh,
it’s good
for you!**

circa
1909
Walker House

Historic homes within the Williams Park neighborhood

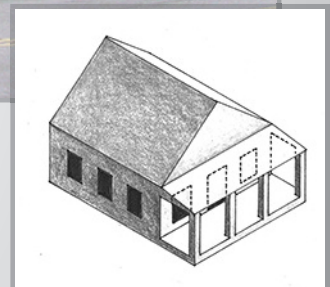
The greatest concentration of surviving older buildings in Smyrna lies within Williams Park. Nineteen houses still stand that were built before the First World War. This is PART SIXTEEN in a series of articles covering these houses based on research done in 2012 by WPN members Casey Clavin and Vic Koch.

1351 Roswell Street ARTS AND CRAFTS BUGALOW



This is 1315 Roswell Street, believed to have been built circa 1909. We're calling it the Walker House for the family who owned the property at that time. While it varies from the standard in several respects, this house is best classified as an Arts and Crafts Bungalow based on its overall massing and roof form, including the gerkin head configuration at the front.

Today, the front (above) is unusually plain, while the side elevation (below left) is more fully developed. That's due, in large part, to changes made over time. The original front porch columns, visible in a small old photo too indistinct to reproduce here, were comprised of paired 6" x 6" posts joined by some 8" of trellis work between them. Also, the added vinyl siding covers such details as the big porch beam sitting on top of the columns, wide vertical trim boards at corners, raking frieze boards in the gables, and parts of the knee braces supporting the roof overhang.



This balloon framed house is constructed of dimensional lumber and joined with cut nails. The foundation is brick piers infilled with concrete block. Original beadboard ceilings throughout are 10' 3" high. The floors are 3 1/2" tongue and groove heart pine. The baseboards are 8" plus 1 1/2" cap.

Door hardware is of two types, both the rim lock and mortise style. Two chimneys still stand, each serving fireplaces in the two rooms.

circa **1909**
Walker House

Details of the earliest residents are unknown. We pick up the trail in 1927 when Gertrude and Reuben Haney bought this house in which to raise their children. They took in boarders during the Depression years, then down-sized in 1938. In that transaction, the Haney's traded this house for the smaller 1906 Hargrove house at 1460 Roswell Street, then owned and occupied by Elmer and Dovie Anderson. The Andersons traded their residence plus \$1,800 for this house. They had six children here, all packed into one side of the house throughout WWII during which time the Andersons rented out the west side of the house to make ends meet.

When their eldest daughter Leila Mae married Bill Black, they set up household next door (at 1371) where their only child Liz was born. Later, when the aging Elmer and Dovie required assistance, Bill, Leila, and Liz moved into this house.

In 1979, the house passed to Liz Davis (Black). When she and husband Ron retired in 1991, they

came here to live. One early project among their extensive renovations was to remove the three extra gas meters mounted on the house during the lean years of WWII.



Chain of ownership for parcel 17056000730

year	purchaser	date	book/page
	T.W. Whitfield		
1908	Mrs. Laura Walker	7-1-08	LL/472
1915	E.W. Bigham	3-8-15	VV/398
1915	Miss Lillie May Boatner	9-7-15	VV/588
1920	Mrs Laura L Walker	1-13-20	69/10
1920	Columbus Jones	3-15-20	69/159
1927	R.F. and G.G. Haney	1-5-27	88/443
1938	J.E. & D.T. Anderson	3-10-38	129/311
1957	William Black Jr.	1-7-57	389/102
1979	Elizabeth Davis	9-27-79	2084/152
2002	Liz and Ron Davis	2-1-02	13487/5206

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 in the side bars on pages 2-5. To learn more, call Leanne at 770-863-9580. Here are our latest books.

A Dog's Purpose

by Bruce Cameron ★★★★★

The story of the many lives of a devoted dog who finds his life's purpose through the experiences he has with the humans whose lives he touches.

Invention of Wings

by Sue Monk Kidd ★★★★★

This is a fictionalized account of true story of sisters, Sarah and Angelina Grimke, outspoken abolitionists and suffragettes living in 1830s Charleston. Considered so radical and dangerous for their time, they were exiled from the city under threat of death. Kidd imagines their lives as privileged Charlestonians and seeks to understand their radicalization through an exploration of their relationships with family, community and family slaves.

A Gentleman in Moscow: A Novel

by Amor Towles ★★★★★

During the Bolshevik revolution in 1920s Russia, Count Alexander Rostov, branded an unrepentant aristocrat, is sentenced to house arrest in the Metropol, a grand hotel across the street from the Kremlin. Everyone who is anyone passes through the Metropol and we follow the Count as he lives a very rich life within the hotel walls.

A Man Called Ove

by Fredrik Bachman ★★★★★

Set in present day Sweden, Ove is a cantankerous old man whose life is changed forever when a loud and chaotic, young family moves in next door to him.

The Silent Sister

by Diane Chamberlain ★★★★★

After her father dies, a young woman begins to believe that the story she was told about her older sister's suicide 20 years ago may not be true. We follow her journey to find the truth about her sister and find herself in the process.

All The Light We Cannot See

by Anthony Doerr ★★★★★

A Pulitzer Prize winning novel set during WWII that explores the lives of a blind French girl and a young German soldier whose paths collide.

Station Eleven

by Emily St. John Mandel ★★★★★

The story explores the lives of multiple characters both before and after a flu pandemic wipes out most of human civilization.

The Strange Case of the Alchemist's Daughter

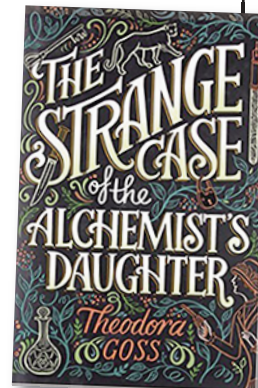
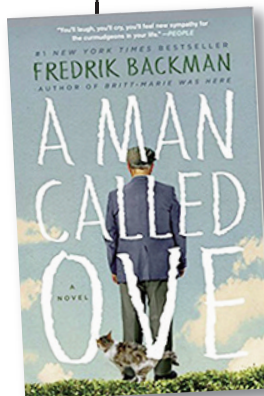
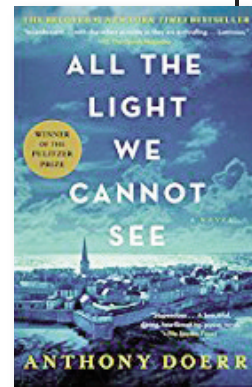
by Theodora Goss ★★★★★

A series of murders in Victorian London bring together a cast of characters related to horror classics. Mary Jekyll, daughter of Dr. Jekyll, alone and penniless following the death of her mother, receives information that leads her to believe there was more to her father than she thought. We follow her as she finds daughters of Mr. Hyde, Dr. Moreau, Dr. Frankenstein and Dr. Rappaccini. With help from Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson they solve the murders and create their own family.

Delicious: A Novel

by Ruth Reichl ★★★★★

Billie Breslin has dropped out of college and moved to New York City to work at the food magazine, Delicious. As Billie begins to evolve and create a life for herself we learn more about her flight from California and watch as she finds and explores a secret in the history of Delicious.



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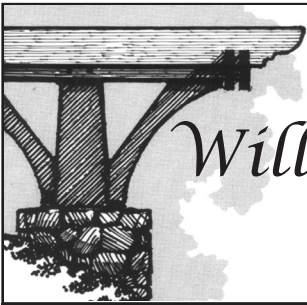
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December 2017

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