



# Williams Park

# MEMO

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS

We're on the web at [www.williamsparkneighbors.org](http://www.williamsparkneighbors.org)

## MEMO NOTES

### It's WPN renewal time

The WPN membership year ends March 31. We've sent a mailing out to the 250 households within Williams Park with a letter and a renewal form. If somehow, you haven't gotten it, we've included a renewal form on page six of this newsletter. Please take a moment to renew your membership today. We have lots of activities and events planned so don't jeopardize your place on the distribution list for the MEMO and the WPN e-mails. This is the next to the last MEMO that will be delivered to your door.

Beginning with the September issue, the MEMO will be mailed to all members.

We encourage contributions to the MEMO. Deadlines for the next two issues are May 15, and August 15. Send material to Casey at 770-333-9995 or at [dinoblue@earthlink.net](mailto:dinoblue@earthlink.net)

## Who put the jonq in the Jonquil City?

THE SHORT ANSWER IS — the Taylors. But the long answer is more interesting...

It all started in the waning years of the nineteenth century. Somewhere around 1883 the Samuel Taylor family moved into the house they built on Atlanta Road (the Taylor-Brawner house now being restored). There they planted jonquil bulbs, a gift from their son who'd relocated to Spokane, Washington. As the bulbs multiplied and the Taylors shared them with neighbors, the yellow flowers proliferated on the properties along Atlanta Road.

By the 1930s and 1940s, the jonquils had become a real visual extravaganza, as I learned in the late 1980s talking to an old gentleman attorney in Darien, Georgia. He painted a vivid picture of his view from the streetcar window on his frequent travels north from Atlanta to Marietta in the years before WWII, describing great long drifts of bright yellow blooms running all along both sides of the road through Smyrna. I could tell from his enthusiasm that it was truly beautiful.

So Smyrna became known as the "Jonquil City," but you wouldn't really have known why if you arrived here any time past the middle of the 20th century. Yes, there are still jonquils here, but not like Dan White described seeing in his youth. Maybe because homeowners failed to divide the clumps and the bulbs ceased to flower, maybe because road widening projects destroyed many of the plantings -- in any case, the once ubiquitous yellow spring extravaganza diminished.

In an ongoing effort to reestablish jonquils in the area, Keep Smyrna Beautiful hosts the "Great Jonquil Gold Rush" each

fall. They provide jonquil bulbs to the community at cost and organize volunteers to sell the jonquils and to plant them on public lands.

These flowers are easy to plant and require very little maintenance. You put them in the ground one autumn -- then watch them bloom and multiply indefinitely each spring. We'll publish something later in the year with the specifics on acquiring and planting them. But for now we'll just suggest that you take the time to notice the jonquils as you walk and drive around the area. They're really nice little flowers.

—Sandy Hamby and Casey Clavin



## Smyrna Park Review

Some updates on the City's park bond projects: Both the new Oakdale Park and the Brinkley Park expansion should be completed this July. Rose Garden Hills Park is getting a makeover with tennis courts and walking trails. Taylor Brawner Park is scheduled for completion this December, possibly earlier. The Church Street Park, projected to open in February 2009 adjacent to the Church St. Senior pool, will have classrooms, game room, fitness room and a computer training lab. North Cooper Lake Park, now in the planning phase, will have a network of trails and open play areas. And here's something interesting—the roadway into this area is the recycled parking area from Jonquil Plaza now under redevelopment.

—Liz Davis

# 2008 CALENDAR

Special WPN general meeting Tuesday, March 11 at 7:00pm, in Smyrna Museum, concerning neighborhood safety and security. Officer Milton Lane will discuss our Neighborhood Watch program. WPN Jim Duellmer Safety Chair encourages all to attend.

wpn happy hour  
friday, march 28  
7:00 pm  
liz & ron davis  
1351 roswell  
(davis' 770-431-9786)

wpn book club  
sunday, march 30  
3:00 pm  
Silent in the Grave  
by Deanna Raybourn  
Leanne's house 1496 Spring  
(Leanne 770-863-9580)

wpn general assembly  
neighborhood meeting  
tuesday, april 15  
7:00 pm in smyrna  
city council chambers

wpn happy hour  
friday, april 18  
7:00 pm  
Madge Jackson  
1449 spring street

wpn book club  
sunday, april 27  
3:00 pm  
Live From Cape Canaveral  
by Jay Barbree  
Madge's house 1449 Spring  
(Leanne 770-863-9580)

3rd anniversary cookout  
saturday, may 3rd  
(rain date Sunday may 4th)  
3:00 pm until...  
cooking contest —  
anything made with  
pecans in it.  
1351 roswell street

continued on next page...

## Spotlight on a neighbor... Robyn Phillips

MANY OF YOU have already met Robyn Phillips who lives on Gilbert Street. She's the new chair of our WPN Beautification Committee and a master gardener in addition to performing a demanding job with General Electric.

Last year Robyn took on yet another challenge when she became a member of the Georgia State Defense Force. She read an article by local radio host Clark Howard about the Georgia State Defense Force, the Homeland Security arm of the Georgia National Guard. "In the article," Robyn said, "he challenged folks to do more than just give lip service to their desire to serve others."

She took the message to heart, contacted the GSDF, and began her initial training. Now sworn in as a member of the group, Robyn believes, "This truly has to be a calling. We receive no pay and must pay for all of

our own clothing and equipment. But with most of the Georgia National Guard in Iraq and Afghanistan, there is a definite need for this group."

Although the GSDF has been around for many years, it wasn't until September 11, 2001 that they became heavily involved with Homeland Security. Many GSDF members were deployed on troop transports to New Orleans following Katrina. The troops literally worked twenty hour days triaging victims, and helping load them for transport, often with their pets.

The GSDF also assists local agencies practice disaster preparedness events. This summer, Robyn spent a weekend in Savannah working with various local emergency groups responding to a mock 747 plane crash. Med Ops groups and local EMTs triaged injuries, loaded injured into ambulances, and treated "patients" at MASH medical facilities that were erected in a matter of minutes. "Without the opportunity to practice, these agencies would not be able identify gaps in their processes prior to a real event. It's critical they work together as a team to attain the proficiency required for an efficient and

effective response in the event of a disaster"

Over this past Thanksgiving, the GSDF was asked to join the search in Lilburn for Justin Gaines. Over 115 GSDF soldiers responded. This is a typical mission for them—even on a holiday. "I had a houseful of family when the call came in to look for Justin. We're allowed to decline missions but, instead, my family went home to Oklahoma early, so I would feel able to join that search. In fact, my Mom commented that she'd have trouble enjoying herself knowing that another mother somewhere didn't know where her loved one was, and I could do something about that. Even when the outcome isn't what you would have wished for, at least you know you've done everything you can to provide closure for that family." Unfortunately the GSDF was called out again this



past January to help search for Meredith Emerson at Blood Mountain. Though they didn't find her, they tried to give closure to her family.

Next time you see Robyn at WPN Happy Hour or working on a beautification project, you might want to shake her hand in thanks for what she does for all of us. I'm certainly proud to be her neighbor!

—Susan Bentley (Gilbert Street)

**JOKE:** A census taker in a rural area went to a farmhouse and knocked. When a woman came to the door, he asked her how many children she had and their ages. She said, "Let's see now, there's the twins, Sally and Billy, they're thirty-two. And the twins, Seth and Beth, they're twenty-six. And the twins, Penny and Jenny, they're twenty-four..." "Hold on," the census taker interrupted, "did you get twins EVERY time?" "Heck no, the woman answered, "there were hundreds of times we didn't get nothin'."

— from Ben Cohn (Whitfield)

# 2008 CALENDAR

...continued from previous page

wpn happy hour  
friday, may 16  
6:30 pm

louisa & ben cohn  
1450 whitfield  
(cohn's 770-435-4351)

wpn happy hour  
friday, june 20  
7:00 pm

jesica & fernado asksins  
1005 windy oaks ct  
(asksins' 205-218-9361)

wpn book club  
sunday, may 25  
3:00 pm

The Hearts of Horses  
by Molly Gloss  
Mary Helen's house 1021  
Windy Oaks  
(Leanne 770-863-9580)

## WPN BOARD

president

Ron Davis  
770-431-9786

vice president

Lem Ward  
770-863-9580

secretary

Kimm Martin  
770-438-6596

treasurer

Madge Jackson  
770-432-3563

membership & hospitality

Susan & Keith Bentley  
770-433-0350

social committee

Sandy 770-435-5613  
& Jill 770-434-5494

beautification com.

Robyn Phillips  
678-634-3395

communications com.

Casey Clavin  
770-333-9995

security & safety com.

Jim Duelder  
770-434-3536

## Kudos for neighbors

Kudos to **Janelle and John Lampp** (Gilbert Street) for opening their home for the Emory Adventist Hospital fundraising home tour. One of six participating homes, the Lampp's 1884 Whitfield House (featured in the March 2006 issue of the MEMO) was expertly decorated for the holidays by professional designer and personal friend **Lee Tackett** and it looked just great. It's no small task to prepare for such a tour, but the Lampp's said it was rewarding to share the house, particularly with people who knew long time resident Miss Mazie Whitfield Nelson. Her father built the house she lived in until 1977. Certainly, she would have been pleasantly surprised to see hundreds of guests tour her old place for a good cause.



PHOTO COURTESY FO THE LAMPPS

Thank you to those who helped put together our current Williams Park Neighbors membership drive. **Susan and Keith Bentley** for writing the material, **Ron Davis** for getting the inserts printed, **Shaun Lattimore-Martin** for printing the WPN envelopes and **Amy and Alan Shay** (Mimosa Circle) for handling the mailing. Alan and Amy, through their business, Mail Advantage, folded, stuffed, labeled, metered and mailed 250 WPN membership letters and applications. That's a tremendous benefit to the cause. Thanks to all you guys.

Congratulations to **Liz Davis** (Roswell) for her appointment as Ward 3 representative to Smyrna's Parks and Rec. Committee.

Good bye, good luck and congratulations to our outgoing Security and Safety chair **Don Kinter** who has left Williams Park to accept an irresistible job offer in Charlotte N.C. Don, who gave generously of his time getting our Neighborhood Watch program off the ground, left us with regret. He said that Williams Park was more of a "neighborhood" than any of the many other places he has lived. We hate to see him go and we'll miss him—we wish him well.

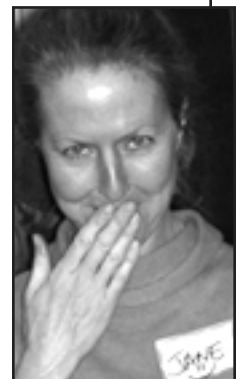
Kudos to **Sara Waddell** (Walker Court) who was honored by the **Make-A-Wish Foundation** with their Hope, Strength, and Joy Award. Working in connection with the foundation since the 1990s while living in Florida, she became a wish volunteer working directly for the foundation when she moved home to Georgia in 2004. Since then she has completed 37 wishes and is currently working on nine more.

When you talk to Sara, though, it's clear that this is not about her — it's about the foundation and the kids it serves. Make-A-Wish enriches the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions through its wish-granting work. Its network of 25,000 volunteers have granted 161,000 wishes since the organization's birth in 1980.

While the volunteers are the engine that drive this train, the process requires fuel as well and there are many forms in which one can donate. One can donate time, talent, funds, even frequent flyer miles. Go to [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org) to learn more.

Thanks to **Jane Caniff** (Roswell Street) for hosting our January Happy Hour. Did we have fun? Undoubtedly! How could you not feel joyful when the usually demure Ms. Caniff flashes that big smile and breaks up laughing? A good many neighbors enjoyed an evening of Jane's hospitality.

Thank you to **David Whited** for his two years of service as the beautification chairman. We so appreciate David that we won't let him go entirely — he's staying on the committee as our Adopt-A-Mile guru. He already held the



SANDY HAMBY PHOTOS

continued on next page...

**MILESTONES**

**births**

Geert and Renee Loeffen (Roswell) plunged into parenthood in December, adopting siblings in Addis Ababa. They were united with daughter Maryn, four years old, and son Keller, almost two, on Christmas day. After four weeks in Ethiopia they came home January 18th.



Jon and Doty Hoffman (Whitfield) are parents. Daughter Lydia Meese Hoffman arrived January 11th weighing 8 lbs, 2 oz and measuring 20.75".



Rob and Heather Teilhet (Anderson) had twin girls on February 22. Harper Coppedge Teilhet weighed in at 3 lbs, 8 oz while sister Madeline Walker Teilhet was three pounds even.

Judi Kessler (Highland) has a grand nephew Michael Ajay Weiner born February 12th to niece



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**Kudos continued...**

first quarterly A-A-M event for 2008, removing 20 large bags of trash from Roswell Street. Participating neighbors—Ann Whited, Leanne Fey, Lem Ward, Madge Jackson, Debbie Savage, Wendy Amundson, Keith Bentley and Ron Davis—all deserve our gratitude, as do Helen and Alan Wilgus who cleaned up their adopted Spring Street.

We thank **Dru Bennett** (Spring Street) our departing hospitality chair for the ray of sunshine she provided new arrivals to WP. Whether born into the neighborhood or moving here, new neighbors got a little visit and gift from Dru. To adults she delivered cookies from McEntyre bakery along with the latest issue of the MEMO. Infants received a nursery book.

**Susan and Keith Bentley** (Gilbert Street) are taking over the now combined Membership and Hospitality committee. **Jim Duelmer** (Gilbert) has stepped in as Safety and Security Chair. **Robyn Phillips** (Gilbert) is our new Beautification Chair. We're grateful to all these neighbors for offering their time. I can't help but notice, though, that all three of these positions are being filled by residents of Gilbert Street... hum, shouldn't some people from some other streets be chipping in?

**Debbie Savage** has agreed to serve as the chairperson for an ad hoc home tour committee. Tentatively, the tour is planned for Spring of 2009. If you'd like to serve on the committee or offer your house for the tour, please contact Debbie at 770-436-2610.

Thank you to Ann Kirk and Keep Smyrna Beautiful for helping to clean up Hawthorn Ave. It had become a real mess with litter lining both sides of the street. KSB deployed workers who did a good job picking up a bunch of trash. That was a one-time deal, though — we need to find a few volunteers to take up the task going forward.



Congratulations to **Andrea Kling** (Mimosa Circle) on the successful completion of a major remodeling job. With an addition on the back and a second floor over most of the original footprint, Andrea's house is now more than double its previous square footage. You go girl!



Smyrna's new Ward Three's council person **Teri Anulewicz** has been sworn in and begun her duties. She has initiated a channel of communications with her constituents in the form of monthly email "Updates." These are thorough in covering many issues of interest within the Ward, yet concise and well written, businesslike and informative. Subjects in her February 13 communique included Belmont Hills, Jonquil Village, progress on the Railroad silent crossing zones, drought information, info on weekend placement of directional signs, an alert about thefts from vehicles in the Cumberland Mall and Galleria area, plus a calendar of upcoming events with thorough explanatory entries — example: the property tax exemption deadline includes notes on applications procedures.

If you want to receive her updates but are not yet on her list, send your email address to [tanulewicz@ci.smyrna.ga.us](mailto:tanulewicz@ci.smyrna.ga.us) or [info@friendsoft-eri.com](mailto:info@friendsoft-eri.com) If you need to contact her directly, her phone numbers are as follows: Office: 770-319-5308, Home: 770-319-6923, Cell: 770-262-1350. The City of Smyrna Main Line is 770-434-6600.

## MILESTONES

### engagements

Kimberly Hardman and Brandon Test (Gilbert) have announced their engagement. They'll be married this summer in the Dominican Republic.

### deaths

We extend sympathy to our neighbor Judi Purvis (Walker Street) whose mother Ursula passed away on February 13.

Condolences to Sue Criger (Spring Street) for the loss of her brother Gray Rittenburg.

### pet passing

Stormwarnin' Stewart, loving companion of Audrey Stewart (Roswell), died February 22. A happy, 14 year old Keeshond, Stormy will be missed by all who knew her.



## THANK YOU

to these sponsors for their generous support of WPN

- Cafe Michele — gift certificates
- Flashy Frog — gift certificates
- Carrabba's Italian Grill — gift certificates

## Williams Park Travels! ... by Cindy Vinion (ivy springs)

I thought it was going to be just another business trip. You know the kind — you go to a great city you've never visited before but you spend all your time working and don't see any more of the city except the sites on the way to the airport. Such was my planned trip to Seattle, Washington, which, according to weather.com, gets 0-2 days of sun in February with highs in the 40s. Not the best place to go in the dead of winter.

This trip, however, was different. One of my clients just had to "go riding" — snowboarding to us regular people — and had planned a trip to Whistler, British Columbia at the close of our business inviting the rest of us to go along. So five of us piled into a Hummer with all of our luggage and gear and headed out.

Whistler is a five hour drive from Seattle through some of the most interesting and picturesque country I've even seen. We crossed into Canada (with only a small stopover at the border), and climbed from sea level to gaze at 8000 ft peaks, passed Vancouver and took the Sea to Sky Highway to reach Whistler. The appropriately named Sea to Sky Highway (aka: Highway 99) travels along the side of the mountains next to Horseshoe Bay (think Pacific Coast Highway, but in Canada rather than California). Subject to rockslides and avalanches, this winding drive is often closed for a short time in the winter and, of course, has many accidents. Currently a two-lane road with some passing lanes, it's now under construction in preparation for the 2010 Winter Olympics. Once finished, it should be a safer but still beautiful drive.

We arrived at night, so we couldn't see the mountains, but the sky was clear and many, many stars were out - more than we could ever hope to see in Atlanta. The village of Whistler is a resort town with its share of hotels, condos, shopping, and spas, but it doesn't seem to suffer too much commercialism. After dropping our stuff off at our condo, we ate in the village, trying the local dish, poutine. While Canadian in origin, this dish of french fries, gravy, and cheese curds is right up any Southerner's culinary alley. We had

ours with beef added - a meal in itself.

The next day I arranged to learn to snowboard. I have skied for years and consider myself a solid intermediate skier, though more than a little cautious. I thought getting the rental equipment would be the easy part, however, in snowboarding you need to have the board set up with one foot in front. Since I'd never done any board-type sports (surfing, skateboarding, or wind surfing), I had no idea which was my "lead foot." We finally settled on my left which, by the end of the day, turned out to be the wrong foot.

Though I'd signed up for a small group class, it ended up being a private lesson. My instructor was great! Harry was patient and encouraging and very good natured, laughing along with me when I fell and helping me up when I couldn't get off the ground. (He was also British, good looking, and young — the stereo-typical instructor — and I was very pleased and happy to spend the day with him.) By the end of the lesson, I'd completed a couple of turns — with my right foot, not left, leading — crashed into only two people, was completely soaked (from the snow and/or sweat), exhausted, and bruised. I ended the day in the lodge drinking a large cup of mocha — though you can get much stronger drinks if desired.

The next day, I switched to "my old friend," skis, and spent the next two days zipping, cautiously (I don't heal as quickly as I used to) down both mountains, Blackcomb and Whistler. The 7160 foot Whistler has the older ski runs, but Blackcomb, at 7494 ft, is the higher peak. I preferred Blackcomb. It had fewer people on it, especially at the lower elevations. That's mostly because the pedestrian village with most of the hotels, shopping, and restaurants is at the base of Whistler as is the main ticket window.

One of the best things we did was Fresh Tracks consisting of an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet at the 6069 foot Roundhouse Lodge plus early, top-of-the-mountain skiing or riding before the crowds arrive. If you only go for the views, this is well worth it. On the way to breakfast, I noticed there were 98 inches of snow on the ground — nearly 10 feet! That explained why the trees looked so small.

My three days of snowboarding and skiing felt like three weeks — I felt rested and rejuvenated, although in need of some healing. I tried two new sports, snowboarding and snow tubing and, after five years away, I reacquainted myself with skiing. I'd like to go back to try the summer sports such as hiking — which has to be great — and mountain-biking, not to mention the all-season zip-line, snowshoeing, and snowmobile tours. I recommend Whistler and Blackcomb to anyone during any season.

## WELCOME

to these most recent new members:

on ivy spring drive

Julia Oliver joined our group in high fashion, hosting a WPN happy hour at her home in February

on roswell street

Marla Yaeger

on walker court

When we welcomed new neighbor Dienne Ogletree in our last newsletter, we didn't mention her family. Hello, then, to Dienne's daughter Cherrie Turner, son-in-law Wes Turner, and her grandsons Austin and Evan

on anderson circle

a warm welcome to Lillie Lattimore who has moved here from Florida to live with her daughter's family — Shaun Lattimore-Martin, Jerome, and Niema Martin.

## WPN Pet Profiles

**Chloe** — Chloe is a loving beagle who lives on Anderson Circle. Her nickname is Chloe Bean, but they just call her Chloe most of the time. She's a really good hunter and has lots of adventures in her backyard. One time she cornered a turtle, but didn't know what to do with it. She's about five years old and is really active. Her sister, whose name is Dolly, lives on Roswell Street with Bill and Gerry Scoggins. Chloe owns the house on Anderson Circle, but she allows Catherine Porch and fiancée Joe Stringer to share her residence. Her favorite treat is the "Tasty T-bones." Chloe is looking for a boyfriend in case you know someone who might be interested.

— Kenzie Shay (Mimosa Circle)

PHOTO BY AMY SHAY



PHOTO FROM VANISHING GEORGIA



## Neighbors Recommend...

Mike Kemp (Highland) wrote to tell us, "There's a web site called **Vanishing Georgia**, which has collections of photos from all over the state, including about 50 of Smyrna dating back as far as the late 1800s. It might be worth mentioning in the *MEMO*." Yep, it is. Here's Mr. and Mrs. Joel D. Tapley in their Smyrna garden in 1928. The address is [http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/vanga/html/vanga\\_homeframe\\_default.html](http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/vanga/html/vanga_homeframe_default.html)

Ben Cohn (Whitfield) wrote to turn us on to a geography game hosted by Lufthansa. In the game, you're piloting a Lufthansa airliner. When your flight takes off, you're given a destination and you have to find it quickly. The closer you get, the better you score. It's fast paced and fun. Find it at [score.www.lufthansa-usa.com/useugame2007/html/play.html](http://score.www.lufthansa-usa.com/useugame2007/html/play.html)

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

I'm new and joining WPN for the first time.  I'm renewing my WPN membership.

## Williams Park Neighbors

name: \_\_\_\_\_ address: \_\_\_\_\_

phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

children's names, ages and gender: \_\_\_\_\_

special interests/ hobbies: \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to help out with: \_\_\_\_\_

What info may we include in a WPN directory? your name , +your address , +your phone number , + your email

SEND TO: WILLIAMS PARK NEIGHBORS — P.O. BOX 813811, SMYRNA, GA 30081-8811  
PLEASE SUBMIT ANNUAL DUES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15.00 PER FAMILY