DHCA Annual Meeting
by Ken Gibson

Your neighbors gathered at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History on Sunday, February 24, for a very informative Annual Meeting. As in every other year, we first gathered at the registration tables to see if the dues we last paid were for this year or the previous year! Groups of neighbors socialized around tables with information about the upcoming Tour of Homes, new Druid Hills T-shirts, and a new Rutledge Park, until our outgoing president, Bruce MacGregor, persuaded all to be seated for the start of the meeting.

Guests, including our local government representatives were recognized and many volunteers were spotlighted for their service during the year. Two special awards were presented to Bob Balbon, Volunteer of the Year, and to Mary Angela Whyte, Lifetime Achievement recipient.

The state of the neighborhood was summarized. Our community is younger, facing decisions to be made concerning cityhood, and dealing with setbacks in both the Atlanta and the DeKalb School systems. Marshall Orson, our new DeKalb County School Board member, updated us about issues concerning our schools and their administration.

Other presentations were made by the Lullwater Conservation Garden Committee and the 2013 Tour of Homes and Gardens Committee. A Special Tour of Homes video was shown that previewed the homes and highlighted new additions to the tour, including a lecture series and an antique automobile show.

The work that our Civic Association has done for the neighborhood during the past year was highlighted by Bruce MacGregor's listing of Ten Major Issues Addressed in 2013. The list includes school and Science Center issues, historic presentation guidelines, assistance with redevelopment projects, mediation with the Fraser Center, and dealing with urban Coyotes! These issues are detailed in the report from the President.

The nominating committee presented candidates for the six DHCA Officers and seven Class of 2015 Board Members who were elected by acclamation. The Bylaws were also amended to include the position of Tour Liaison on the Executive Committee.

Finally, a Special Report on Future Governance in DeKalb County was presented, which generated passionate discussion from many attendees. There is a risk that our Druid Hills community could become isolated as new cities such as Brookhaven are formed in DeKalb County. As residents we can do nothing, or proactively consider annexation with Decatur or Atlanta, or consider forming our own city with other parts of unincorporated DeKalb County.

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We hope many of you will be able to volunteer in at least one of the many areas our Civic Association is addressing, and we certainly hope to see you next year at the Annual Meeting.

2013 DHCA Officers
President: Justin Critz
1st VP: Christopher Hamilton
Administrative VP: Cathy Vandenberg
Communications VP: Mike Gay
Treasurer: Mike Hellerstein
Secretary: Ken Gibson
Board Members:
Susan Anne McKenna
Becky Evans
Virginia Dupree
Scott Storbeck
Joanna Stroud
Elise Riley
Cynthia Waterbury
TBD

The Druid Hills Home & Garden Tour will feature five homes and two gardens during the annual three-day event, April 19-21, 2013. One of the premiere neighborhood tours of the South, it always arrives just as Druid Hills' flowers and trees are reaching the peak of their beauty. This year, the tour will include homes that represent the decades following 1910, 1920, 1940, 1950, and 2000, as well as a classic car show and a speaker series encompassing such topics as architecture, restoration, gardens, and Druid Hills history.

1410 Ponce de Leon Ave
Classic Car Show, Lunch, Bill Call and Tour Souvenirs
Beautifully restored automobiles from the Fifties, Sixties, and Seventies are on display at St. John's Lutheran Church this weekend. We are pleased to celebrate the automobiles that once drove along our streets and occupied the carriage houses and garages of our neighborhood. When Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. first imagined Druid Hills, he drew a linear park and roads that would follow the contours of the land. Over the years, those tree-lined streets witnessed the growing popularity of the automobile from novelty to necessity. Revisit the days when chrome was "anything goes," and color was not a matter of the lowest common denominator. Please join the Dogwood Chapter of the Lambda Club International and the Druid Hills Tour of Homes in recognizing the value of our architectural and automotive history.

2 1386 Ponce de Leon Avenue NE
Alpha Delta Pi
A perfect example of Southern Colonial Revival architecture, the mansion that is home to the International Headquarters of the sorority Alpha Delta Pi has graced the corner of Oakdale Road and Ponce de Leon Avenue since 1910. The second home built in Druid Hills, not far from where Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. envisioned the parkway and linear park, it was commissioned by the farm equipment manufacturer Clyde King. With his wife Clara Belle and four children, King enjoyed the spacious house and terraced gardens for nearly three decades. When Alpha Delta Pi purchased the house in 1954, the original furnishings were gone. Nonetheless, the grand staircase and elegant rooms conjure images of the King family's busy whirl of parties and dinners. Today, Alpha Delta Pi uses the house for meetings and special sorority events while its staff works in the 2004 addition, demonstrating that it is possible to run a 250,000-member international organization from a quiet, tree-lined residential neighborhood.
Subscribing to the Druid Hills News

Residents of Druid Hills receive the quarterly Druid Hills News by bulk mail. Former residents may still receive the News by subscribing. Here’s how:

1. Fill out the membership form in this issue.
2. Under Membership Involvement and Interests, check “Other” and specify “DHN subscription.”
3. Choose a membership level. Send form and check to DHCA at address given.

For more, at elert@druidhills.org.

Get the Most Out Of Your Advertising Dollars

The Druid Hills News is published in March, June, September, and December. It reaches thousands of people who live, shop, and work in Druid Hills. With thousands of copies of each issue distributed in the area, the publication’s advertising rates are a bargain for businesses that want to reach Druid Hills customers. For information on ad sizes and pricing, call 404-525-3422 (DHCA)

email: ad@druidhills.org.htm

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Advertising — May 10
Copy — May 17
Publication will be in mid-June

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Stay up to date in Druid Hills by signing up for computer E-letters.

2. Click the “sign up today” button and complete the form.
3. Click “subscribe” button.

HELP WANTED

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• Plan neighborhood events
• Assist with fundraising for neighborhood parks and common areas
• Create an increased sense of community in Druid Hills

To volunteer, please contact admin@dhca.org.

Membership:

• Welcome new DH residents
• Assist with administrative tasks
• Create new opportunities for residents to join DHCA
• To volunteer, please contact Mike Hellestien at 212-8155 or email mche@druidhills.org.

The DHCA is also looking for a Coordinator. To volunteer, please contact Claudia Keenan at membership@dhca.org.

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President's Column
by Bruce MacGregor

The year 2012 started peacefully enough, and we all hoped for a quiet year and in many ways, however, we are at a critical point in our history. We are undergoing a major demographic shift, with the old guard leaving and younger people moving in. This is a good thing, and we welcome it; the voices of children are a joy to hear (most of the time). We do need to recruit these people and broaden both our membership and our leadership base. This can be done, but it will take work.

The governance of our schools and our county has received much attention, mostly unfavorable. The Atlanta Public Schools are recovering from a major cheating scandal, and the DeKalb Public Schools are on probation, with the likelihood of the Governor replacing two thirds of the School Board. While the Atlanta Public Schools are important to DeKalb, the DeKalb Public Schools are critical. The DeKalb system is more than twice the size of the APS, and (I think) DeKalb residents overall are less likely to have private school options. We are truly fortunate that both the Atlanta and DeKalb Public Schools are excellent; we have many options. We are working with the Atlanta Public School system to establish a partnership with the school district to better continue their excellent instruction, and will make it work.

DeKalb has been successful in most of our endeavors over the past year and many years past. However, we are at a critical point in our history. We are undergoing a major demographic shift, with the old guard leaving and younger people moving in. This is a good thing, and we welcome it; the voices of children are a joy to hear (most of the time). We do need to recruit these people and broaden both our membership and our leadership base. This can be done, but it will take work.

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Arborguard Provides Green Solutions for Trees in Emory Village

Trees are vital to the urban environment and are an important component in Emory Village’s revitalization project. However, urban design and infrastructure greatly reduce the life span of trees by typically planting them in small areas that restrict roots and prevent healthy growth. Trees planted in these conditions have very little access to the water and micronutrients they need to survive. As a result, many urban trees die prematurely. The solution is to progressively amend the soil to rebuild a rich, nutrient laden bed for tree roots. In addition, Arborguard performs general maintenance to prevent conflicts with cars, signs, and pedestrians.

In the fall of 2012, Arborguard Tree Specialists was asked to protect, care for, and maintain the newly planted Elms and Maples that line the streets in Emory Village. A team of arborists designed an all natural custom maintenance program to help prevent premature decline and enrich the village canopy. Twice a year, compacted soil is loosened and fractured by innovative AirTech technology, while organic matter, micronutrients and living microbes are added to the soil to rebuild a rich, nutrient laden bed for tree roots. In addition, Arborguard performs general maintenance to prevent conflicts with cars, signs, and pedestrians.

All these services have been donated by Arborguard to promote and enhance Emory Village’s revitalization project. With trees interspersed throughout the Village, the new planting and maintenance efforts add to the beauty and vitality of Druid Hills and strengthen the Village’s green initiatives. Through the preservation, protection, and care of trees, Arborguard aims to improve the quality of life for both people and trees in a constantly changing landscape.
Conservation Garden Master Plan
by Jennifer J. Richardson

Did you know that for the last 85 years the Lullwater Garden Club members have been the sole stewards of the Lullwater Conservation Garden? These ladies have made it their mission to preserve this bird sanctuary found in the center of Druid Hills for the entire community. This labor of love has resulted in the conservation and preservation of one of Georgia’s few remaining untouched Piedmont Forests.

Recently, the Lullwater Garden Club commissioned a master plan for the Lullwater Conservation Garden from the firm of Tunnell & Tunnell Landscape Architecture. Spencer Tunnell designed the plans for the rehabilitation of the Olmsted Linear Park for OLPA. This green oasis surrounding Lullwater Creek was first identified as parkland by Frederick Law Olmsted in the initial master plan for Joel Hurt’s Kirkwood Land Company. Tunnell calls the never-developed Conservation Garden a “miraculous survivor from the early period in the history of Druid Hills.”

The major elements of Tunnell’s master plan reflect the original vision of the garden as laid out in Garden History of Georgia 1733-1933: removing invasive species which detract from and endanger native plants; increasing the number and variety of native plants; addressing storm water run-off, creek erosion and flooding; improving the mulched path systems, and replacing or repairing existing site features such as benches, bridges and other hardscapes.

The Lullwater Garden Club also had hired Terry Sutton, expert in invasive plant removal, to begin work on invasive plant control in the garden. Native plant material attractive to Georgia’s birds and butterflies will replace the invasive species, thereby restoring the natural ecological diversity of Lullwater Conservation Garden.

Rehabilitating the six-and-one-half-acre garden will take time, volunteer labor, professional labors, and money beyond the resources of the club members. As a tax-exempt (501c3) corporation, all gifts to the Lullwater Garden Club are tax deductible and will go toward the continued restoration of the Conservation Garden.

This year, the Druid Hills Tour of Homes will feature this unique park. As an added bonus, the garden club’s annual plant sale will be held at the garden site. Drop by, purchase some native plants or heirloom tomatoes, tour the garden and see six champion trees or shrubs. Share the excitement of club members as they embark on the important work of restoring this treasure of a garden.

Watch your Druid Hills Civic Association News for future articles on more specific details of the master plan.

Azalea Park’s “Gardener”
by Alida Silverman

Becky and Bob Lough (rhymes with ow) have stepped up to fill the role of gardener for Azalea Park, part of our Druid Hills linear park along Ponce. Azalea Park is the small planted area where East Lake Road comes into Ponce across from Deepdene.

Residents of Druid Hills since 1986, the Loughs look after maintenance—watering, mulching, weeding, and mowing. They had joined some neighbors over a year ago spreading wood chips and again this past fall. However, when Becky read Bob Ballou’s plea last spring that Azalea Park really needed watering over the summer, she thought that was something she could do and knew that Bob Ballou already did so much for their part of Druid Hills. (That’s Division Two in the Civic Association lingo.)

As she hooked up the hose kindly offered by the Church of the Epiphany across the street to the spigot in the park, she began to pull weeds as the water flowed. Then she realized that she could walk their mower the half-block to do the mowing of the grass around the planting beds of azaleas and the trees. It just – well – “evolved.”

Interestingly, Becky grew up in Indiana where her family had 30 acres and also some other land where her father would drive his tractor to mow hiking paths for the family and friends. (Her sister’s family now lives there and does that.) Becky realized that in a sense she was doing something similar for Azalea Park, though she now lives in the city. “It’s my little bit of country – I enjoy it!”
3 886 Lullwater Road NE
Diana & Andrew Farley
From its porch above Lullwater Road, this two-story house with wraparound windows, dramatically glimpsed from the driveway, is an essential component of the interior and exterior design. The gray shingles and white trim contrast with the surrounding tall trees which were carefully preserved. An intimate backyard accented by a pool and fireplace is a natural extension of the keeping room, where the family spends much of its time. The furnishings are largely contemporary and complement such architectural features as wainscot and a coffered ceiling. Both of the Farleys enjoy playing the refurbished Baldwin piano in the great room. Well worth the climb!

4 845 Lullwater Road NE
CONSERVATION GARDEN
The Lullwater Conservation Garden, owned and managed by the Lullwater Garden Club, exemplifies dedication to community beautification and habitat preservation. The Conservation Garden may be considered the centerpiece of the club's activities. Natural paths and stone benches mark the way through serene native woodland featuring a bird sanctuary, historic neighborhood landmarks, Lullwater Creek, and a wildflower preserve.

5 2249 East Lake Road
Richard Burgess
When Richard Burgess purchased his 1925 Arts and Crafts-style house in 1998, he anticipated years of hard work. But the architect/designer could not have known to what extent the reinvention of this property would be taken, as it soon became a labor of love and expression of personal creativity. Over the years, the house became a showcase for Mr. Burgess's eclectic collection of self-restored furnishings and decorative objects as well as his own fine craftsmanship. With twin passions for American Empire and mid-century décor, which appear surprisingly compatible throughout the first-floor rooms, he uses unusual colors and imaginative juxtapositions of paintings, lamps, collectibles, and sculpture. Behind the residence, visitors will find manicured gardens and two garages that contain vintage cars – including a completely original 1960 Chrysler Imperial. While visitors view displays of automobilia, they will enjoy hearing vintage records played on the jukeboxes.

6 471 West Parkwood Road
Mike Galifianakis & Frances Finegan
The first house built on West Parkwood Road, this late forties ranch had been reconfigured to bring in natural light and create open space well before the owners came on the scene in 2007. It was a perfect fit – for as the couple searched for a new home in Druid Hills, their first criterion was wheelchair accessibility for Mr. Galifianakis. In adapting the postwar ranch to become a comfortably, negotiable environment, the owners widened doorways, changed door handles, and redesigned access from the driveway to the house. The modifications demonstrate “hidden functionality,” they like to say. That includes the four enormous wells under the front yard which provide geothermal heating and cooling. Today, the home’s striking features – a tiled porch, exposed beams, and a kitchen backsplash of stone and glass – evoke various eras including the mid-1970s. Vestiges of the original house include the backyard fire pit and a play house that once housed a pony.

7 498 West Parkwood Road
Christina & Chad Carter
Living on the park is one of the highlights of life for the Carters, who bought the house in 2011 after restoring and selling a series of homes in Atlanta. The Southern Colonial style and solid postwar construction also appealed to the owners, who smingly say that this house is their “growing glory.” Visitors have an opportunity to see how the owners have begun to update the space while embracing such period features as the two story balcony accessible from the guest bedroom and the kitchen, and the honeycomb bond wall that encircles part of the backyard. While working with a decorator, the Carters also find inspiration in favorite interiors such as the W Hotel, whose style is reflected in the master bedroom. The house represents a transition from renovating for others to personalizing their new home for themselves.

8 Between East & West Parkwood Roads
PARKWOOD PARK
Soon after the first homes arose in the postwar neighborhood of Parkwood, neighbors formed a garden club in 1952. The fifty-four founding members planned to beautify their homes with flower beds and cultivate the ravine now known as Parkwood Park. A three-acre natural forest, the ravine is situated between East and West Parkwood Roads with Perivale Creek running through its middle. The park – and the land that became building lots – originally belonged to Emory University. In 1970, the Parkwood Garden Club purchased the park from the university for one dollar. Today, the Parkwood Park Committee oversees its restoration. It is home to a variety of salamanders and is visited by red shouldered hawks, barred owls and other creatures. Among the tall trees that rise from the ravine are tulip poplars, white oak, hackberry, and a Champion Sweetgum. Native plants include harts-a-bustin, sweet shrub, spice bush, and a variety of ferns. Grab a map and follow the trails!

BEVERAGES AVAILABLE
All proceeds will be donated to Parkwood Park restoration.

9 757 Clifton Road NE
Fernbank Museum of Natural History
2013 SPEAKER SERIES
We are pleased to invite you to participate in a new event included with your Tour Ticket this year. A Speaker Series, featuring five different presentations, is scheduled over the course of the weekend in the Auditorium at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, 767 Clifton Road.

SATURDAY
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Vegetable Gardens for Small Spaces presented by Walter Reeves
Limited Seating—RSVP required, please visit website.

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM
The History of the Druid Hills Neighborhood presented by Richard Sams

SUNDAY
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
The Wonders of Landscape Architecture presented by Ryan Gainey
Limited Seating—RSVP required, please visit website.

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
The Birds of Georgia presented by Jim Wilson
You’re certain to find these lectures both informative and enjoyable!
Call for Volunteers

The 2013 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour needs volunteers and we are asking for your help.

Tour dates are Friday, April 19 - Sunday, April 21. We have five homes with five shifts each, in need of helpful guides for tour guests. If you are a member of a club, a church guild or Sunday School class, or another service organization, consider working a shift with fellow members. We’d welcome your group’s participation!

Volunteers receive a free tour ticket, a $30 value, and are invited to the volunteer “Thank You” party after the tour.

Thank you for your interest in the 2013 Druid Hills Home and Garden Tour.

Sincerely,
Jenny McGuigan, Staffing Chair
404.997.8189 or staffing@druidhills.org

On a recent field trip, these boys attempt to measure one of the largest Tulip poplar trunks in the state, found in Lullwater Conservation Garden.
The “Cinderella” Story of Parkwood Garden Club Members Dedicate Sign for New Park

by Susan Stewart

On a spectacular fall day last October, several members of the Parkwood Garden Club met to celebrate the dedication of a sign to designate the 3.2-acre strip of land between East and West Parkwood Roads as Parkwood Park.

The area, known for many years by the neighborhood as “the ravine,” has recently undergone a massive overhaul from a thick patch of overgrown woods, usually impassable, to a park with well-laid out, safe walking trails. This long-term dream has become a reality under the strong and able leadership of Sherry Kennedy, past President of the Parkwood Park Committee, Steve Elmore, current Chair of the Park Committee, and Karna Candler, President of the Parkwood Garden Club and member of the Park Committee. There are, of course, many other volunteers, without whom this huge undertaking could never have taken place.

With much of the woody invasive plants stripped away, the park now has sufficient sunlight to help the native plants grow along the creek, as well as throughout the park. Ivy removal remains an ongoing process. The northern edge of the park alongside West Ponce de Leon Avenue was the most egregious eyesore, filled with construction trash and a chain link fence. This area was cleared and graded, and a new aluminum fence was installed, along with the first stage of a new planting plan. It was time to plan for a sign to erect at that site to let the public know that the previous “ravine” or “patch of woods” is now a beautiful, useful park for neighbors to enjoy.

Within the Parkwood Garden Club, the Parkwood Park Committee had two additional talented members who made major contributions to the park’s sign. Rebecca Byrd had been a very active club member, working on Membership, the club’s website, and especially identifying native and non-native plants within the park. She also identified specific plants’ species and genus names with tags that add to the enjoyment as neighbors walk the paths. Rebecca’s father had inspired her desire to learn about nature and to pursue her major in ecology, with birds as a hobby.

In 2011, Rebecca alerted club members to the frequent presence of the barred owls in the neighborhood, and we all began noticing and enjoying the sounds of the barred owls near our homes. It was Parkwood Garden Club President Karna Candler’s idea to adopt the owl as the club mascot. So when Joe Dicks, a long-time resident and architect, was asked to design the new logo for the garden club, and therefore the website and directory, he chose to use the owl for the design.

Joe produced the initial drawings and then invited his son Ben, a professional graphic artist, to collaborate with him. Joe said, “At that time Ben was in New York City with his own company, Ben Dicks Design, using his extensive software design. Karna Candler’s idea to adopt the owl as the club mascot. So when Joe Dicks, a long-time resident and architect, was asked to design the new logo for the garden club, and therefore the website and directory, he chose to use the owl for the design.

Joe produced the initial drawings and then invited his son Ben, a professional graphic artist, to collaborate with him. Joe said, “At that time Ben was in New York City with his own company, Ben Dicks Design, using his extensive software design to produce work for clients. He was even able to customize some fonts.” Together, Joe and Ben designed the new logo, a stylized owl, which Joe named “POWL” (The Parkwood Owl). Joe and Ben later worked together to produce the neighborhood directory, which has “POWL” on the cover.

In September 2011, Rebecca’s father, Dr. Jerome Byrd, passed away. He had always contributed to charities and causes he believed in and she wanted to do the same. Because of his strong influence on her life, she wanted to honor him by donating funds to purchase the sign that would commemorate the park. Rebecca said, “I loved the park because it was a “green” cause, an act of conservation and community involvement on a level I felt comfortable participating in. And I was eager for the park to have an “official” identity, so that everyone who passes by can see that the old ravine has become a beautiful park.”

On October 20, 2012, Rebecca and several members of her family, Joe Dicks and wife Anne, the officers of the Parkwood Garden Club and the Parkwood Park Committee, as well as other volunteers, all gathered on that gorgeous day to dedicate a sign to commemorate an inspiring man and a dedicated group of people who turned an ugly patch of woods into a beautiful, historical, usable park. A true “Cinderella” story for the neighborhood!

“We invite you to come and see our continuing progress during the 2013 Tour of Homes!”

LETTER TO EDITOR

Aside from being delighted to see a “Letter to the Editor” (more often in our newsletter) I was interested in the topic because I had recently attended a meeting called by Commissioner Jeff Rader about the Oxford Road speed limits and traffic calming tools. After one year, the neighborhood consensus was that the speed tables were more effective and opted for more of them to replace the bulk-susts, also installed. Evidently, the trade-offs involved with the bulk-susts were not worth it.

Nothing is simple, of course, as the discussion that afternoon showed with the County public works staffers present to provide real world points. In Druid Hills, there is a separate layer. Bulk-susts do not fit in with the Druid Hills “look” that is the main focus of the local historic district protection. This does not mean that we in Druid Hills in general or Oxford Road in particular have to live in fear for our lives. Speed tables have proven to be effective on Fairview Road (the first to get them) as well as Lullwater Road – both in the City of Atlanta portion of the neighborhood. It was agreed at this recent meeting that speed tables would be good for Oxford Road. (I cannot speak to the “fount in county bureaucracy” point.)

Another very good point was the width of the Oxford/The ByWay intersection – 18 feet wide. Perhaps because of the trolley turning up Oxford back in the day? And, of course, Oxford Road was cut out of land between Oakdale and Springdale on the original plan - perhaps for the trolley? with homes an additional benefit? – perhaps accounting for its being straighter than the other roads. There is the wonderful hill, however. The southern end of Oxford can easily be restored to the same width as the rest of the street and that yellow line can be removed. As noted, sometimes there are traffic calming issues – big time! But there are many ways to address problems. Thanks to our Oakdale Road “Mayor,” some of us participated in an exercise over a period of days holding radar guns on the block of Oakdale next to Oxford Road. This was in cooperation with the Druid Hills Park team, which now has DATA to show the DeKalb Police Department, among others. There is nothing like enforcement, even the occasional “sting” like one we had once on the City portion of Oakdale after our block captain had the MPD zone commander out to meet with us. There are many tools. Just look at what has happened in Morningside over the past few years.

We are fortunate to live in Druid Hills where the Olmsted plan has provided a residential setting of generous spatial relationships between land and structures – a sense of living in a park. We need to respect that plan and the “look” and ensure that it will endure by solving problems accordingly.

—Alida Silverman
Untangling Clematis
by Paula Refi

Gardeners know that when a bed is full, there’s always room to add a climber. No group of climbing plants presents more temptations than clematis, a genus that includes hundreds of varieties and cultivars. At local nurseries they flaunt themselves in tangled masses of writhing tendrils that reach out to unsuspecting buyers. Is it any wonder we find them so seductive?

Clematis flowers can be white, purple, pale or dark blue, pink, or red. They can be large and saucer-shaped, small and curvaceous, or charmingly bell-shaped. There’s even a fragrant clematis. Some are self-clinging, with coiled tendrils; others are ground-hugging ramblers that only climb with assistance. Not every clematis likes the South, so understanding their individual characteristics and looking for local favorites will help a gardener select the types that perform best.

The large-flowered types that frequently caress mailboxes are most familiar. The deep purple Clematis ‘Jackmanii’ has been popular since its introduction in England in 1858. Its five-inch flowers appear in early summer and later with their individual characteristics and looking for local favorites will help a gardener select the types that perform best.

The non-climbing clematis are the most long-blooming for me. Their flowers are only a couple of inches in size, but they occur non-stop all summer long. Botanically, they belong to the integrifolia group. They can be left to ramble like groundcovers or lifted up to be carried by a compatible rose or some other flowering shrub. Horticulturist and Druid Kerpel’s home on Emory Circle. The plant was a treasured gift from her daughter, Francesca. Lynn takes advantage of its growth is the priority.

Clematis require at least half a day of sun, preferably in the morning, and thorough soil preparation. Prepare a hole vigorous root system will result, leading to a long-, and other “good” garden bugs, while proving lethal to friendly insecticides will kill bees—they are insects, after all. Insecticidal soaps offer a benign alternative to bees and other “good” garden bugs, while proving lethal to plant pests. I try to shoo the bees away before I spray the aphids on my roses and handpick the Japanese Beetles in alley-lurking insects). Once upon a time, bees split off from their carnivorous cousins and became the nectar-loving flower children of the hymenoptera order. To further differentiate bees from wasps, wasps have smooth loving flower children of the hymenoptera order. To

Oftentimes, people confuse bees with wasps (those beauty bees don’t behave like muggers lurking in a dark alley—justsayin’. By normal, I mean about when they sting?” you say. Most true bees won’t sting under normal circumstances. By normal, I mean bees don’t behave like muggers lurking in a dark alley waiting to attack, but rather more like the little old lady running along her cart on the way to the grocery store. Quite simply, if you mind your own beeswax, she’ll mind hers. Go mess with her hive and things could get ugly (if she’s anything like my granny was). And I don’t recommend stepping on anything with a stinger if you’re in your bare feet.

Honey bees, native to Europe, came over with the Colonists, most likely for their honey and wax. Over time, they have become our most important pollinator for agricultural crops. (Interestingly, many vegetables native to the Americas, such as tomatoes and squash, rely on native bees for pollination.) Unfortunately, in recent years, honey bee populations have drastically, and somewhat mysteriously, declined. Due to “Colony Collapse Disorder.” Several theories exist for this plight, such as parasitic mites, bee viruses, stress from overwork, and pesticide use. Many experts also suggest that Colony Collapse Disorder may be attributed to all of these factors combined. Regardless, the loss of honey bees and other native bee pollinators could have drastic consequences for our agricultural production.

So what can we do to return the favor and become friends to bees and other pollinators, such as butterflies? First, limit your use of pesticides and try not to spray on windy days. Remember, even organic, environmentally friendly insecticides will kill bees—they are insects, after all. Insecticidal soaps offer a benign alternative to bees and other “good” garden bugs, while proving lethal to plant pests. I try to shoo the bees away before I spray the aphids on my roses and handpick the Japanese Beetles in place of spraying. We also can extend our hand of friendship by planting flowers and host plants that pollinators like. As a vegetable gardener, I’ve found planting a stand of zinnias amidst my produce draws in quite a crowd of bees and butterflies. Equally important is trying to achieve a continuity of blooms. By that, I mean try to make sure something is always flowering in your garden for three seasons. This provides the nectar bees need in the spring to replenish from the winter, plenty of food for making enough honey all summer so there is enough to share, and a last blast of nourishment before winter cycles back around again.

For more information on bees and bee keeping, check out the Georgia Beekeepers Association at www.gabeekeeping.com.
Paris & Associates Realty

Niki Paris
Kevin Steward
404.377.2869 • www.parisandassociates.com

Neighborhood Agents Representing both Buyers and Sellers in Atlanta’s Intown Neighborhoods

1122 SPRINGDALE ROAD
Handsome Druid Hills home with 2-car drive under garage, pool, and hard to find finished basement. All on estate sized lot on sought-after Springdale Road. Features include living room w/ fpce, sep dining room, kitchen overlooking large family room w/ fpce, powder room, four upstairs bedrooms and 3 bathrooms including large master w/ fpce, walk in closet and large bath, finished basement and workshop area, all in unincorporated DeKalb County. $1,150,000

2125 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE
Classic brick and limestone 2-story Druid Hills home offering curb appeal galore, guest house, lovely gardens, and sought after Fernbank elementary school district. Dramatic limestone arches, high ceilings, living room with fireplace, oversized formal dining room, inviting fireside den w/ fireplace, modern kitchen and baths. Large master bedroom with sitting room plus 3 additional bedrooms and secondary bath $699,300

215 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE
This handsome, circa 1929, 2-story home on beautiful lot right across from Deepdene park in sought after Fernbank school district. Main level includes elegant foyer, formal living room with fireplace, gracious formal dining room, library, and updated kitchen overlooking enormous family room. The 2nd level features 4 large bedrooms suites (each with private bath and walk in closet), the 3rd level features separate office and a huge second family room/media room/rear room. Large, manicured backyard, 3-car carport $849,000

546 RIDGECREST ROAD
Twelve Archer, an exceptional, 1880’s IA, family-size home in Fernbank elementary and prestigious Druid Hills. Wonderful side porch framed by arches welcomes you inside. Meticulous period renovation and restoration yielded a stylish home with preserved architectural details, gracious formal rooms, modern eat-in kitchen, luxurious fireside master suite and a new driveway leading to large, level backyard with plenty of space for 2-car garage $749,900

1300 OXFORD ROAD
Classic two-story brick home in Fernbank elementary and literally just steps to Emory university. Traditional floor plan offers sunny formal living room with fireplace, great office, separate music room/den, separate formal dining room and modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, center island/breakfast bar opening to large breakfast area. Upstairs features 4 bedrooms (master w/ fireplace), 2 full baths and lovely screened porch. Nice flat backyard. $579,900

1308 PONCE DE LEON AVENUE
Gorgeous Adair Estate home facing Springdale Road, and right across the street from Olmsted Park. One of a kind townhouse features foyer, oversized living room with fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen w/ separate butler’s pantry, total of 4 bedrooms, and 4 baths, including master w/ fireplace and walk in closet, beautiful moldings and millwork, hardwood floors, 10 foot ceilings and wonderful outside patio and terrace space. Amenities at Adair Estate include a guest suite and a workout room. All this priced at... $699,900

814 LULLWATER PARK LN
End unit with extra windows and numerous upgrades. Lower level with tiled foyer, access to 2-car garage, 3rd bedroom and full bath. Main level offers large living room with fireplace, chef’s kitchen with high end stainless appliances, separate dining room. Upstairs offers 2 additional bedroom suites with private baths; including an oversized master. Gated community with strong association and convenient Intown location. Near shops, restaurants and parks. Walk to Olmsted parks on Ponce $479,900

1067 WOODEDGE HOLLOW
Unique opportunity! This superb-sized townhome is a combination of two (2BR /2.5 BA) townhomes with mirrored floor plans...great as a combination but also easily separated and available as single townhome. Main level offers dual foyers and entries, two living rooms with fireplaces, two separate dining rooms and two kitchens opening. Upstairs: oversized master with separate sitting room, his & her baths and two walk-in closets, 4 additional secondary bedrooms and 2 full baths $449,900 Combined or $239,900 Each

16-H SOUTH PONCE DE LEON AVE
Wonderful single level Tudor overlooking Olmsted Park. Walk to the Druid Hills Country Club, Paddiekin, Fernbank Museum and more! From the gracious entry enter you enter a wonderful sunken living room w/ tile and French doors to covered porch, sep dining room, large family room w/ French doors to tiled patio, kitchen w/ appliances and breakfast area. Second floor boasts four bedrooms and two baths including large master w/tile and walk-in dressing area. Lease $3,500/Mo

DRUID HILLS SALES BY PARIS & ASSOCIATES, 2012
1226 SPRINGDALE RD • 872 OAKDALE R.D. • 840 SPRINGDALE RD • 1225 SPRINGDALE RD • 1075 LULLWATER R.D.
1348 HARVARD R.D. • 1370 NORTH DECATUR R.D. • 1466 NORTH DECATUR R.D. • 217 NORTH DECATUR R.D. • 464 DURAND DR.
President's Column…continued from page 3

The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, the DeKalb History Center, and the National Association of Olmsted Parks have supported our position, as have the Alliance to Improve Emory Village (AIEV) and the Friends of Burbanck Park. At the state level, we have been joined by the Georgia Trust, the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and the Association County Commissioners of GA (ACCG) in opposing statewide legislation to gut historic districts.

We are not out of the woods. However, we are holding our own and have been successful in court over the past decade. Thanks to Bob Benfield, who stepped in as volunteer attorney and got us back on track legally. Thanks also to Cathy Vandenbargh, Perry Mitchell, Mark and Marlene Goldman, Cynthia Waterbury, Virginia Dupre, Karen McCown, and to all who have contributed to our Legal Defense Fund.

At our last annual meeting, we honored two of our Board Members. These were:

• George Stokely, the Chair of Division 2, who will remain on the Board as past president. He was a long-standing leader and our fearless advocate on the Board, and his tireless efforts and dedication to the DHCA were recognized.

• Rob Benfield, who stepped in as DHCA’s legal advisor in 2011. At the last meeting, we honored Rob and his contributions to our cause. He was instrumental in helping us win several court cases against the city of Atlanta, and his dedication to our cause has been unwavering.

While Bob has escaped his Divisional responsibilities, he will continue to work on the Intown Quiet Train Corridor along the Park CSX Railroad Line, an effort he began several years ago. Bob Ballou is the Postor Child for an energetic, committed, and effective Division Chair. We hope to clone him, or at least enlist his help in training others. Thank you, Robert Ballou.

Lifeforce Achievement: Mary Angela Whyte

Mary Angela has been described as a “natural born activist.” She called a telephonenumber in 1992 to offer to join 3DH News to offer to join the writing staff and was asked, “How would you like to be editor?” Evidently, her call came as the current editor was leaving. Her first issues were laid out on butcher paper as cut & paste and mailed to a typewriter, beginning in the spring of 1993. This spring issue is #81.

Other than write and edit submissions, Mary Angela chaired seven homes on the Tour and has been a docent on many more. She has sat endless hours in courtrooms as a prosecutor, cleaned up overgrown Goldsboro Park with the legendary “Roadbusters” when the Presidential Parkway was temporarily halted, put up her own protest signs in her yard (and still has sticks in the basement, just in case), and handled calls to the DHCA hotline. Her activism includes successfully opposing the University Inn plan to expand Emory Drive in early ’80s, the Presidential Parkway, and the Dunroid Mill development, including pickering Georgia Federal where she was seen by her then boss. Mary Angela was active in the first planning for a revitalized Emory Village that produced a published plan in 2003 and was active in the formation of Tree Watch, participating in tree plantings in Druid Hills, including six in Dunroid Mill.

A quote of a memorable moment before cell phones: “On my shift in Virgillie Park during a moratorium on work (tree cutting), standing on Ponce with a “Honk to Stop the Road.””

She realizes I did not have a sign and that I had bulldozers.”

Mostly, Mary Angela modestly describes herself as an “experimenter and bully boss” who is that and so much more. Thank you for your decades of service to our neighborhood, Mary!

This will be my last column as your president. It has been a good run. I will remain on the board as past president. I plan to continue on the Land Use Committee, and work on potential new governance for central DeKalb. There is much to be done and I look forward to teaching others how to do it!

Coyotes Among Us

The Druid Hills Civic Association sponsored a meeting on coyotes, mostly for Druid Hills and other intown communities, last month at Church of the Epiphany. Division 2 chair Bob Ballou organized and moderated the informative and lively, sometimes raucous, meeting of close to 200 people. There were three speakers: a local trapper who has been working in Atlanta for 10 years, a biologist from Berry College; and a specialist in “human-animal conflict resolution,” who came from San Francisco to speak. There was a long Q&A period following the speakers’ initial comments. A few things we learned.

• Trapping is taking place in many communities in metro Atlanta, including Druid Hills. There are many coyotes in Druid Hills and other intown communities, but no one has a good idea of the magnitude. And no one knows the rate at which the population is changing year to year.

• Neighborhood and civic associations (including DHCA) as well as local governments throughout Atlanta are generally not providing funds for trapping. Any trapping taking place is paid for by homeowner who’s given permission to a trapper to operate on the homeowners’ property.

• Dr. Chris Mowry, the biologist from Berry (and a former Druid Hills resident), is planning a study of coyotes in the Southeast, including Atlanta. We know a lot about the western coyote, but very little about the coyote in the Southeast, which is the product of interbreeding with wolves as coyotes moved from the west into the Southeast decades ago. Dr. Larry Wilson of the Fernbank Science Center will be training up with Dr. Mowry.

• The trapper explained that he only removes coyotes who’ve lost their fear of humans. He does not support the idea of relentless trapping. And no one believes coyotes can be eradicated from even a single community in Atlanta, including Druid Hills.

• The specialist on conflict resolution, who is with Little Blue Society, believes residents of intown communities and coyotes can co-exist. She outlined a plan and explained that her organization provides conflict resolution services to communities.

• A representative from the state DNR who was at the meeting said the DNR is tracking the coyote issue, but it has no plans to do anything at this time. (A coyote trapper must get a license from the DNR.) Metro counties, including DeKalb, and cities, including Decatur, are staying out of doing anything because of the contentious nature of the issue.

DHCA will be staying abreast of the coyote situation. Look for another meeting, with new findings from researchers, next January.

Druid Hills Civic Association

Not yet a member of DHCA? Use the form below and join today! Join online at http://druidhills.org/join-the-dhca/

Please [ ] enroll me. Please [ ] renew my membership in the DHCA.

Name ________________________
Address _______________________
City ________________________ State __ Zip ___________ Phone ___________
Email address ______________________________________________________________________________

Annual Dues

Basic Member ____________________________________________________________________________ $25.00 or higher
Sustaining Member ________________________________________________________________________ $50.00 or higher
Druid Hills Member ________________________________________________________________________ $100.00 or higher
Second Century Member ____________________________________________________________________ $250.00 or higher
Amount Contributed $ _____________________________________________________________________

Please make checks payable to: “Druid Hills Civic Association.”

Please mail to: Druid Hills Civic Association, P.O. Box 363, Decatur, GA 30031.

Please indicate on the line below how you would prefer to be listed, if you wish to be listed anonymously or if you would prefer not to be listed at all.

HOW ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE DRUID HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION?

Please indicate your area of interest.

Communications __ Membership __ Flyer distribution __ Historic Preservation __ Traffic __ Other __
Land Uses & Gardens __ Land use/Zoning __ Newsletter __ Peavine Watershed

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DHCA will be staying abreast of the coyote situation. Look for another meeting, with new findings from researchers, next January.
Natalie Gregory
Welcome to your new home

10x Clifton Road, Druid Hills

This 1920s greek revival two-story features handsome architectural details including high ceilings and heavy moldings. The front entrance leads to a music room or study, formal living room with elegant fireplace, and side sunroom which you can retreat and enjoy views of the beautifully landscaped garden. The generously-sized dining room is ready for large gatherings and leads to the breakfast room with original butler’s pantry and entrance to the deck and patio with fire pit below. A well-appointed kitchen with stained cabinets and granite countertops offers a breakfast bar and open to a family room. Central vacuum with beautiful banister leads to the upstairs where you will find a master bedroom with two walk-in closets and newly-remodeled marble bathroom that includes a double vanity, soaking tub, and separate shower. Upstairs you will find two more bedrooms plus a sleeping porch and office. As a bonus, this property also includes a detached two-car carriage house with a room above that is ready to be finished.

$925,000

406 Spring House Cove, Druid Hills

This beautifully updated Eudora Hill home is perfect for entertaining with its multiple French doors opening to the large deck with pergola, providing great circulation for guests to flow from the dining room to the kitchen and great room. The grand two-story entrance invites you to a formal dining room and dining room on the right or to a guest suite on the left. The back of the house is anchored by a custom kitchen overlooking the lush landscaped backyard. The great room features a fireplace with built-in cabinetry and second set of stairs leading to the bedrooms. Upstairs offers an owner’s suite featuring a cozy fireplace and sitting area, two walk-in closets, two vanities, separate shower, and a whirlpool tub. Two more bedrooms are on the second level and share a jack-and-jill bathroom. The finished basement level (with separate entrance) has a large media room, game room, guest bedroom, exercise room and a large laundry room.

$799,000

1309 Thomas Road, Decatur

This spacious Craftsman offers three levels above grade plus a playroom and wine cellar in the basement. The elegant dining room, with coffered ceilings and butler’s pantry, leads to the spacious kitchen, with commercial Viking appliances. The kitchen opens to a breakfast room, large great room with fireplace, and a deck that overlooks a large private backyard. Also on the main floor are a guest bedroom and full bathroom. The second level provides a master suite with fireplace and two more guest bedrooms that share a jack-and-jill bathroom. The third level includes a bonus room and full bathroom. Upper and lower porches on the front and back of the home provide a great view of the professional landscaping and a place to relax and enjoy this peaceful, quiet street.

$750,000

210 N. Candler Street, Decatur

This rare circa 1900 cottage in downtown Decatur, melds turn-of-the-century charm with quality renovations, that were created to accommodate your 21st century lifestyle. The basket weave brick sidewalk and picket-fence garden lead you to the front porch of this Georgia Victorian that features a perfect blend of new and old—original trim, heart pine and oak wood floors, original wavy-glass windows, and two cozy fireplaces. These vintage architectural details are complemented by an expanded and renovated kitchen, and master suite with spa-like bathroom and walk-in closets. The modern kitchen features stained cabinets, granite countertops, and stainless appliances. Step outside for fresh air and sunrises or to connect with neighbors on either the front porch or relax in privacy on the screened porch on the back. The brick and picket-fenced circular driveway bring you to a two-car garage that includes a bonus room for an office or study.

$589,000

220 Kathryn Avenue, Decatur

Located in Decatur’s Chelhes Heights neighborhood, this delightful Cape Cod has been renovated and expanded. The main level offers a formal living room with fireplace, separate dining room, office, and kitchen with breakfast room (that leads to an expansive deck (perfect for entertaining and overlooking the enchanting backyard). The newly expanded upper level offers a master retreat complete with a separate balcony, coffee station, spa-like bathroom and sitting room/ reading nook. The upstairs also features a walk-in closet system and additional bedroom. A large basement (with exposed granite walls and high ceiling) has both an interior and exterior entrance. It provides a guest suite that includes a kitchenette, den, full bath, bedroom, wine cellar, and large workshop.

$478,000

167 Coventry Road, Decatur

The arched front doorway welcomes you to this charming brick two-bedroom, two-bathroom downtown Decatur Bungalow. The formal living room features a handsome stone fireplace and large windows. Archway leads to a formal dining area and the kitchen with breakfast room. The sparkling white kitchen features shaker cabinets, black granite countertops, and stainless appliances. Just off the kitchen is an office or den with French doors leading to the deck and flagstone patio in the fenced backyard. The large bedrooms are a treasure and the master suite features a recent bathroom renovation with walnut double vanities, wardrobe for storage, and large shower. Permanen stairs to the attic offer great expansion potential.

$389,000

Natalie Gregory, Your Home Marketing Specialist
404-550-5113 direct • 404-564-5560 office
Natalie@NatalieGregorySOLD.com • NatalieGregorySOLD.com
315 West Ponce de Leon, Suite 100, Decatur, Georgia 30020

#1 Real Estate Sales Team for DeKalb County 2009-2011