

## BURNING OF WOOD—continued

a more energy efficient unit. Be sure to bring your old stove to a steel recycler or have the city recycle it for you. <http://ase.org/content/article/detail/2654>

**Cleaner alternatives to wood:** Stoves that use vented natural gas or propane, pellet stoves, and oil or gas furnaces all offer cleaner heating alternatives to wood. Insulating and weather stripping cost far less than a wood stove and contribute significantly to reduce your heating cost. <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/>

**Burning Wood:** If you do burn wood you can make a huge difference in the amount of wood smoke you produce and can improve your energy efficiency by seasoning your fire wood, burning ONLY hardwood (i.e., NOT pine or poplar) and building small hot fires. <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/bestburn.html>

**WHH resident Larry Brockman of the EPA Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards** has offered to lead a workshop on cleaner wood burning options, alternatives to open fireplaces, health effects of wood smoke and impacts on climate change for those interested. If you are interested in attending a workshop offered by Larry Brockman, please email [wendigw@verizon.net](mailto:wendigw@verizon.net)

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## FOCUS—continued

Par tradition, WHHNA will again support the Durham Community Kitchen through the collection of donated canned food, other non-perishable staples (e.g., paper goods), and/or checks on the NOL sale nights listed above. PLEASE dig deep into your hearts and cupboards to generously contribute.

A membership table will also be present for WHH new neighbors or those who may have forgotten to pay the Oct. 2009 – Oct. 2010 annual dues.

To help with Night of Lights, please contact Susan James [susangeorgejames@gmail.com](mailto:susangeorgejames@gmail.com)

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## Heart of the Neighborhood —continued

### Neighborhood T-shirts Make Great Holiday Presents

Everybody wants a neighborhood t-shirt and why shouldn't they? The shirts are soft, all-cotton, and of the finest quality. There are lots of different designs to choose from and there is a shirt to fit every neighbor from junior to grandpa. If you roll them tightly and put a bright holiday ribbon around them, they'll fill the toe of every stocking and still leave room for the tangerine and candy on top! Imagine your family's delight! Shirts are just \$12 each. Call Tom Miller, the neighborhood's man in underwear, to arrange for a special showing. Tom's number is 286-3730. Or, if you prefer, send him an e-mail at [tom-miller1@nc.rr.com](mailto:tom-miller1@nc.rr.com).

## Mark Your Historic Home with a Plaque

TOM MILLER

If your house was built before 1935, you can proclaim its historic status with a bronze plaque from the Historic Preservation Society of Durham (Preservation Durham). Preservation Durham's plaque program not only physically marks eligible homes and buildings, it promotes scholarship and education in Durham's history and cultural heritage, and raises public awareness that Watts-Hillandale is an asset to the whole Durham community.

There are already nearly 20 plaques in Watts-Hillandale and Old West Durham. Each plaque is approximately 20" x 10" and made of cast bronze. It bears the date of construction and the name of the building, which for a house is usually the name of its original owner or the name of a long-time resident. For more information about the Historic Preservation Society plaque program and application process, visit the society's website at [www.preservationdurham.org](http://www.preservationdurham.org) or contact Tom Miller at 286-3730 for assistance in researching your home & filing an application.

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## Ellerbe Creek Project Update

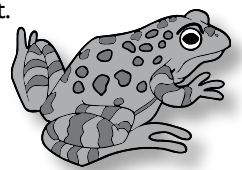
ADAM SPILLER, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST, KCI TECHNOLOGIES

As winter begins, so too will the Ellerbe Creek bank stabilization project. As a result, in addition to the native and other fauna you encounter along the streamside Ellerbe trail, there will also be large mechanical earth moving equipment. The primary goal of the Ellerbe project is to reduce the sediment entering the stream from the eroding banks. An awarded grant to the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (ECWA) from the NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund now funds the design and construction of the project. Signs currently placed along the stream from Indian Trail Park to Westover Park provide some information about the project and will continue to be updated as the project progresses.

The project is on track to begin construction in early January. Construction will proceed in phases along the stream so that only one small portion of the stream at a time will be under construction, sometimes necessitating that portions of the trail be closed. These closures will be brief and will only occur when it is necessary to maintain a safe construction site.

While the stream is under construction ECWA will offer and conduct periodic tours of the site and is always readily available to answer any questions that WHH neighbors might have about the project. In addition to the neighborhood list serve and the posted signs, ECWA will be disseminating periodic project progress emails to those interested. In order to receive ECWA construction updates and other project related news including when site tours are scheduled, please email Adam Spiller ([adam.spiller@kci.com](mailto:adam.spiller@kci.com)) and ask to be put on this email list.

If you would like any other information on ECWA and other happenings in the Ellerbe Creek Watershed please check out the website [www.ellerbecreek.org](http://www.ellerbecreek.org)





*"Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home." —Edith Sitwell*

## WINTER BURNING OF WOOD IS CONCERNING THE HOOD & MOST OF THE REST OF THE GLOBE. BURNING WOOD IS A DIRTY BUSINESS AND MANY SAY SOOT IS KAPUT!

REVIEWED BY LARRY BROCKMAN

The March 2009 issue of PARADE included an article intended to encourage WHH residents to learn about both the positive and negative effects of wood burning so we are able to make informed and wiser decisions regarding heating for this winter. As cooler weather and fireplace season are fast approaching it's a good time to revisit this topic and reassess equipment and practices. <http://burningissues.org/car-www/index.htm>

**Pollution:** Although many people have positive associations with wood burning fires to heat the home, we now know that wood smoke contributes to high levels of air pollutants (e.g., carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide, particulate matter) that can cause health problems (e.g., eye irritations, headaches, respiratory diseases) and premature deaths. Soot—otherwise known as black carbon -- is emerging as a major and previously unappreciated source of global climate change.

**Improved Wood Stove Technology:** Fortunately, today's cleaner-burning wood stove technology provides a more thorough combustion that reduces chemical emissions and is more energy efficient. To reduce pollution, follow the practical recommendations for buying, installing, operating and maintaining wood stoves as recommended by the EPA. <http://www.epa.gov/burnwise/>

**Fireplace Options:** The majority of WHH homes have open hearth masonry fireplaces which produce lots of soot and are typically very inefficient. The safest, cleanest burning and most energy efficient option to your open fireplace is a natural gas direct-vent fireplace. However, if you are intent on burning wood, please consider a new product that uses a catalytic system; essentially an add-on device easily installed above the fireplace that reduces wood smoke pollutants and emissions by about 70 percent <http://www.clearskiesunlimited.com/hearthcat.html>

**2009 Economic Stimulus Package (ESP):** Similar to "Cash for Clunkers" for cars, ESP includes an incentive of 30 percent tax credit (up to \$1,500) in 2009 & 2010 for the purchase of a 75 percent efficient biomass-burning heater (e.g., wood pellet and EPA-certified wood stoves). This is a perfect time to pull the old, inefficient wood burning unit from your home to install

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## FOCUS

### DECEMBER 13th – SHINE A LIGHT ON DURHAM

**A Quarter Century of WHH Night Of Lights &  
Contributions to the Durham Community Kitchen**

WENDI GALE

The 2009 Night of Lights marks a quarter century of the Watts-Hospital Hillandale neighborhood bringing hope and joy in the dark of winter. The WHHNA 25th annual **Night of Lights is Sunday, December 13th**. Night of Lights is an evening opportunity to bundle up and stroll to see the neighborhood lights, carole with friends, invite others for a bonfire or join an open house to welcome in the start of winter and multiple holiday celebrations.

Lanterns made from candles, sand and paper bags might not sound like much, but on Night of Lights (NOL), the cumulative effect of thousands of these simple luminaries lighting hundreds of WHH homes on their front walkways and along the streets is truly lovely and heartwarming.

Mark your calendars now – you won't want to miss any of the sparkle, joy or fun of this event! Everything you need - bags, candles, and sand - will be on sale at the southern end of Oval Park at the picnic shelter at the following times:

Friday, December 11, 5 pm – 7 pm  
Saturday, December 12, 1 pm – 5:30 pm  
Sunday, December 13, 1 pm – 4:30 pm

The price is still only 50 cents per light and WHHNA members receive two free luminaries (bag, candle, & sand). The goal is to line every street in the neighborhood with luminaria for this wonderful night – please pick up extra lights for neighbors not able to do so. *(Continued on Page 8)*

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Dinner 5:30 - 10:00,	Dinner 5:30 - 10:00,
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*Thank you for welcoming us  
into your neighborhood. It's been  
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many of you. We look forward to  
seeing you soon at Watts Grocery!*

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www.yogainthehood.net  
Daya Breckinridge  
286-9929

## E.K. Powe Food 4 Families Program

HELEN COMPTON

For too many kids, the main source of nutritious food is in the meals they get at school—breakfast and lunch, five days a week - often absent of meals on weekends. A group of neighbors, churches, and volunteers are working together to fill the food gap for these students at E.K. Powe.

WHH neighbors Helen Compton and Beth Silberman coordinate volunteers to run a food pantry and weekend backpack program for families at E.K. Powe. There are approximately eight such programs at elementary schools throughout Durham, and the E.K. Powe program is one of two solely supported with donations and staffed by volunteers. Since last spring, the pantry and backpacks have been filled with food donations from WHH neighbors and from neighbors in Old West Durham. Summit Church and other businesses and churches have also contributed wonderful donations.

We are seeking the WHHN continued support through food donations, help with packing backpacks on Thursdays, and staffing the food pantry on Thursday afternoons. The coordinators may add an additional food pantry day if enough people volunteer. Currently, the backpack program sends home food for 12 children and their families to help support them through the weekend. However, there are many more families on a wait list. The pantry is open to all families in need. **WE WOULD LOVE YOUR HELP!** Please contact [Helen.compton@gmail.com](mailto:Helen.compton@gmail.com) or [bethsilberman@gmail.com](mailto:bethsilberman@gmail.com) for a list of food most needed, where food may be dropped off, issues to keep in mind when shopping, more information or to volunteer.

## Seniors Staying Put in Their WHH Neighborhood Home

SHAWNA ALKON

Seniors Staying Put (SSP) is a Durham based volunteer endeavor that first began in Trinity Park. A few neighbors got together to talk about aging in ones home for as long as possible. They recognized this goal often requires a combined volunteer effort of neighbors, friends and family to provide practical (e.g., transportation, meals), emotional (e.g., visits, calls), spiritual and quality-of-life support (e.g., computer access, social outings).

SSP adopted the Project Compassion Support Team model of volunteering. Volunteers pool their talents, creativity, time, and leadership abilities to offer much more support than any one volunteer can provide alone. Monthly team meetings are held to make decisions, delineate tasks, plan a volunteer schedule, and to provide support to each other in the volunteer effort.

The person receiving the volunteer assistance benefits from getting to know more than one neighbor and the diversity of experiences and skills that naturally come from a team approach.

Today, SSP is active in Trinity Park, Northgate Park, Duke Park, Old North Durham, Old West Durham, Walltown, Trinity Heights and our own Watts Hospital Hillandale neighborhood. SSP needs YOU to recognize neighbors who may need and benefit from SSP assistance, and/or to serve as a volunteer. Volunteers of all ages can provide meaningful contributions. For more information, or to get involved, please e-mail Shawna Alkon at [sda@minddabbler.com](mailto:sda@minddabbler.com), or write to Seniors Staying Put; PO Box 1560; Durham, NC 27702-1560.

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If you know a new neighbor or are one yourself, please contact Wendi Gale: [wendigw@verizon.net](mailto:wendigw@verizon.net)

WENDI GALE

On May 30th, Anne Beatty and Adam Graham-Squire welcomed a baby boy **Dominic James Beatty-Squire** into the world and immediately made a mash-up of his last name. You might see the three of them walking up and down Pennsylvania Avenue from their home at 1428, and occasionally venturing out into other parts of the neighborhood with their wisp of a dog, **Saati**.

**Rodney Clapp** and his two awesome youngins' (Yup, he is a native North Carolinian), **Garrett** and **Josie**, recently moved to Englewood Avenue. Keep an eye out for them walking the WHH parks and neighborhood. Josie excels at dance and her brother plays pretty darn good basketball. Rodney serves as a Home Mortgage Consultant for Wells Fargo at the Wachovia Bank branch right on Ninth Street. In addition, Rodney is a football fan and officiates football for multiple local high school teams.

In July 2009, **Kim Horstman** and fiancé **Tony Nolan** moved with their menagerie of three wonderful dogs from Chapel Hill to Wilson Street. Kim serves as a court reporter for the state of North Carolina and Tony works for Red Eye Distribution/Yep Roc Records in Haw River, in indie music sales. Kim and Tony have fallen in love with the way fall leaves dapple the WHH streets, the abundance of neighborhood dogs, the many helpful and welcoming neighbors, nearby taquerias, and being able to bicycle to Dain's Place, Broad Street Cafe, and The Federal.

## Calendar of Events

**DEC. 12 & 13** - Luminaria Sale & Durham Community Kitchen Donation (see page 1)

**DEC. 13** - Night of Lights



## Board Members, 2009

### MEMBERS

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 2417 W. Club 225-8914

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**Marian Place** [placesense@yahoo.com](mailto:placesense@yahoo.com)  
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**Secretary**  
**Eric Strother** [estroth@aol.com](mailto:estroth@aol.com)  
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**Treasurer**  
**Larry Chapman** [larry.chapman@pgnmail.com](mailto:larry.chapman@pgnmail.com)  
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 2309 Woodrow 225-0895

To contact the board members as a group, please email: [WHHNA\\_Board@googlegroups.com](mailto:WHHNA_Board@googlegroups.com)

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

- Dec. 15** **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
 At the home of Joshua Allen  
 2417 West Club Blvd.
- Jan. 19** **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
 At the home of Susan James  
 2305 Wilson Street
- Feb. 16** **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
 At the home of Jo Pelligra  
 1105 Iredell
- Mar. 16** **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
 At the home of Joshua Allen  
 2417 West Club Blvd.
- Apr. 20** **Neighborhood Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.**  
 At the home of Nina Sperger  
 1308 Virginia

*All meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. If you need a ride, please call one of the board members and s/he will be glad to pick you up and take you home.*

## The Crocketts' 45 Years In WHH Neighborhood

Perhaps unknowingly, WHH residents have been blessed by the 45 years' presence of two very vibrant, loving, intelligent, reflective, and soulful of people who recently celebrated 60 years of marriage. In 1964, **Alex T. Crockett & Rebecca Lodge Crockett** and their three children, **Lucy, A.G., & Bruce** moved to the WHH neighborhood.

In 1962, Alex was hired as Assistant Sports Editor of the Durham Morning Herald, retiring after 30 years employment as vice president/secretary of the Herald-Sun Corporation in 1993. His first glimpse of Durham was the day he began employment. After two years of renting a home on Arnette Avenue and becoming a three generation family (Alex's mother came to live with them), they bought the house they live in today at 2115 Club Boulevard. It is heartwarming to see that they have maintained the genuine authenticity and grandeur of the house in its entirety.

About relocating from their home state of Virginia to Durham, Becky says, "It was a great opportunity in this hotbed of ACC action and we valued the Club Blvd. tree-lined street (one of the few we saw in Durham), proximity to schools (able to walk to E.K. Powe and an easy drive to Carr Junior High), spacious backyards that provided 'elbow room', shopping, church, Duke and Watts Hospitals, and extremely friendly neighbors close by. These fine people included the Walkers, Leutzes, Ashworths, Kintons. Cobles and Minahs, many of whom also had children."

Becky further states, "Integration of our public schools beat our arrival to Durham and was very enriching for Alex and me, and our children." Becky's arts and crafts teaching at the Public School for Pregnant School Girls in the 1960's enriched her life beyond measure and today she would like to meet her students again as they, like she, have grown older together.

The July 4 Parade, of course, was a treasured memory right from the beginning. Alex says, "Several other neighborhoods have celebrations now, but Watt's was the first actually planned and put on by the neighborhood itself---which brings up another happy sequence of events. Most of the

people who were living here when we arrived are now gone. Often, that signals the gradual decline of a neighborhood. By contrast, Watts-Hillandale has "recycled" itself. We treasure the acquaintance of many of the "newcomers" and---using the July 4 celebration as a barometer---it seems there are many more young and not-so-young boys and girls in Watts now than ever before. " Likewise, Alex & Becky each like "Night of Lights." Once, they really enjoyed Halloween too, until it became overwhelming. This year they again welcomed and indulged tricksters in disguises to treats. Opening the front door in their own costumes and disguises and with eerie music emanating from within they gave gifts to more than 366 visitors before running out of goodies at 7:20 p.m.!

Alex and Becky agree that most of the changes that have occurred during their 45 years in the WHH neighborhood have been for the better. They are grateful that when the Watts Hospital closed its doors, the NC School of Math & Science replaced it rather than becoming a site for multiple businesses. The hardest challenge the Crocketts have faced is the adjustment to the unparalleled growth and heavy increase of traffic on Club Blvd.

Becky expresses special gratitude to those who work diligently for WHHNA and Watts Busters. "I appreciate them and their tremendous energies probably more that they can imagine." Both Alex and Becky also agree that the new sidewalks in their block and 100-percent IMPROVED street lighting are huge steps forward. Likewise, they say that the multiple Park improvements are impressive, although they have ALWAYS considered Oval Park an "oasis."

Alex and Becky's three children, Lucy, A.G., and Bruce hope their parents will continue their retirement at 2115 W. Club. They still consider this 'home,' and they are also reassured knowing their parents are within walking distance of one of the finest medical facilities in the world. A.G., who has been married for 28 years to Gayley Middleton, calls Club "In-Law Blvd." since Gayley's mother Jean lives about two blocks down the street.

Together, Alex and Becky ask, "How can we be so fortunate? Due to the efforts of the city and WHH neighbors, our area is as lovely as it was 45 years ago, with its outstanding homes, people, gardens and trees."

# The Heart of the

Visit Watts Hospital-Hillandale on the Web at <http://www.whhna.org/>

## A Century Ago (give or take)

TOM MILLER

In the years immediately following the Civil War (the "late unpleasantness" for those of you with tender sensibilities), Confederate veteran Simeon Hester bought up 576 acres northwest of the village of Durham. Hester sold some of the land, but the part he kept included all of what is now the reservoir property, part of the golf course and all of the land now located between Sprunt Avenue in Watts Hillandale and Knox Street in Old West Durham east to roughly where Broad Street is today. The main exception to his holdings was the property that is now the School of Science and Math.

Hester's home was located at the end of the cul-de-sac which now forms the northern end of Georgia Avenue. The house was originally built in the mid-19th century and was a typical Greek-revival influenced, two story, I-plan house of the period. In many ways it was not dissimilar to the McCown-Mangum House at West Point on the Eno. The chimney flues stood away from the siding of the house to eliminate the need to flash around them at the roofline. Lead or tin for flashing was practically impossible to come by in central North Carolina 150 years ago. As time passed, the house was enlarged to the rear and to the front until it was a sizeable establishment. A wraparound porch was added in the years just before the World War - probably with money the family made from selling off large parts of the farm for development.

One of the buyers was John Sprunt Hill, businessman, banker, and developer during the early part of the 20th century. Hill first bought land from Hester so that Donald Ross could layout Hill's private nine-hole golf course. Around 1912, Hill bought more Hester land to enlarge the course and build the city's first country club on the north side of the west end of what we now know as Club Boulevard. In 1917, the city took part of this prop-

erty to build the reservoir and waterworks (another interesting story for another day). In 1913, the West End Land Company, another Hill enterprise, bought the property along boulevard between the country club and the new hospital and divided it into large lots. The new subdivision was called "Club Acres." In quick succession, Hill's bank, the Durham Loan and Trust (later CCB and now SunTrust), subdivided the Hester land along Englewood Avenue calling it "Englewood." In 1918, the rest of the Hester property north of Club was developed by the Atlantic Coast Realty Company. The development was called the Hester subdivision, but with the war raging in Europe, the developers patriotically named the streets after states and America's heroes, President Woodrow Wilson and General John J. Pershing. The last Hester parcel south of Club Boulevard was laid out as "Hester Heights." This property surrounds what is now Georgia Avenue south of Club. Originally, however, the street was named Hester Street.



Through all of this development, the Hester homeplace sat nestled on its rise in the woods, surrounded by the golf course. Simeon Hester died in 1915, but his house survived for another 45 years. In 1946, the house became the home of the Durham Nature Center and Children's Museum. This institution later moved to Murray Avenue and eventually became the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science. In 1961, the Hester house and the old country club were demolished and the last of the Hester lands were developed into the subdivision which now surrounds West Woodrow and West Wilson Streets.

Much of the information for this arti-

cle came from the November 2, 2009 post to Gary Kueber's "Endangered Durham" blog. Anyone interested in Durham's history and the fate of our shared architectural heritage should visit Gary's blog on a regular basis. Photo courtesy of the Herald-Sun newspaper.



## New Trees for Oval Park

MEREDITH EMMETT

The trees that shade the playground in Oval Park are one of the park's treasures. Unfortunately, the Oval Park renovation caused serious distress to some of these trees. In response, the neighborhood association is working proactively with Alex Johnson, Durham Urban Forestry Manager, to remove and replace the trees that will not survive on the north side of Oval Park, and to enhance the south side of the park with newly planted trees.

The first phase of the plan is to remove two of the distressed trees near the big slide - the rest of the large once triple trunk tree and one of the pines will be cut down this fall. Two Princeton elms will be planted in the area and three maples along the nearby street, each with trunk sizes in the range of three to five inches.

The second phase of the project is planned for the south side of the park including along the street. Though the exact plans are not yet complete, we are considering fruit trees as suggested by several neighbors, or other tree species that will not impact the use of the tennis and basketball courts. We hope to have some trees planted this fall or winter.

To make these plans a reality, WHHNA needs your help in keeping the newly planted trees watered. There is a spigot on the north side of the park and we are currently identifying sources of water on the south side. If you would like to help water, please send an email to WHHNA\_Board@googlegroups.com You can also help by **making a contribution**. The neighborhood association has set aside

# Neighborhood

**NOTABLE  
HAPPENINGS  
IN OUR NECK OF  
THE WOODS**

\$2,000 and it looks like the project will likely cost more. The more money we raise, the more mature and more numbers of trees we can plant. Checks made out to WHHNA and marked "trees" can be sent to 1301 Alabama Ave.

We enjoy the trees that the City and our neighbors of yesteryear planted. Let's plant new trees so that generations to come will enjoy shady park areas on a hot day.

## **Meet the New 2009-2010 WHHNA Board Directors**

WENDI GALE

**J**o Pelligra: Jo benefits from the enrichment of a multitude of diverse volunteer experiences that include working with Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Food Shuttle, Sierra Club, neighborhood clean ups, boards of directors, etc. In addition, she actually earns an income utilizing her BS degree in Dietetics earned from the State University College at Oneonta, NY.

Jo believes it is important to give back to her community to help make improvements for all and looks forward to serving on the WHHNA board and getting to know more "friends in the hood." Jo lives on Iredell with her partner of 17 years, Teri Beckman, and their little dog, Ziti, who they treat as a son.

**Bret Horton:** Bret lives at 1409 Maryland with his wife Rachel, an epidemiologist, and their nine-month old daughter Marjorie, who loves to be taken on strolls around the neighborhood. As an architect, Bret is excited to use his skills and knowledge to advocate for the neighborhood as it deals with various construction projects, including the upcoming work at the NC School of Science and Math.

**Susan George James:** Susan lives on Wilson Street with four males: one she happily married, two she joyfully birthed, and the last she impulsively adopted from the Durham APS. You can find Susan around the neighborhood walking her naughty dog, supervising the corner four-

square game, or over-seeing her husband's heroic efforts to grow a green lush lawn. Susan feels lucky to have lived in this neighborhood for nine years and welcomes the chance to serve on our neighborhood board.

**Jazmin Varela:** Jazmin moved to Durham in the summer of 2005 to attend graduate school at Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment. Jazmin was hired by The Conservation Fund field office in Chapel Hill soon after graduation. She is a native of Costa Rica but has made NC her home for the past 14 years. She and her husband of 13 years, Carl, have a six-year-old daughter, Raquel, who attends George Watts Montessori.

Within the neighborhood, Jazmin is interested in environmental issues, crime reduction, and access to user-friendly and safe bike and walking routes around the neighborhood. She initiated communication with the Carolina Duke Inn management and continues to work with them to reduce crime and nuisance around the motel. She also organized and raised funds to participate in the Durham City Tree Program to plant a tree barrier between the motel and its neighbors. She is also an active volunteer for Watts' school garden, Watts' after school program, and the Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association.

## **2009 WHHNA Annual Meeting Summary**

JOSH ALLEN

**T**he annual WHH neighborhood meeting was held on Tuesday, Oct. 20 at Summit Church. The keynote topic was the Ellerbe Creek Restoration Project. Please see article of page 8 for more details or to receive email updates.

New WHHNA Officers and Board Directors were elected as detailed on page 2.

Door prizes were given away to winners and several breakout sessions were held to discuss topics neighborhood schools, streetlights, safety, Durham CAN, and

Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association. Debby Kelly presented a centennial celebration update including a brief discussion of the finale event, the Centennial Social and Dance. The WHHNA Board of Directors honored Debby Kelly with a framed photograph of the new neighborhood sign at Oval Park for her many years of dedicated hard work in organizing the multiple events and contributions that constitute the WHHNA Centennial Celebration.

Finally, on the last eve of her tenure as Board President, Meredith Emmett presented the tree committee's draft plan to plant new trees at Oval Park (see article on page. 4).

## **Many Thanks To Past Board Members**

JOSH ALLEN

**T**he WHHNA Board would like to thank all departing board members for their past service and look forward to continue seeing them around the neighborhood!

Departing board members are Steve Cohn, Avi Alkon, Holly Bicknell, Darrell Fruth, and Wendi Gale. Though Wendi will no longer serve as a board member, she remains serving as the PARADE newsletter editor.

WHHNA board members, past and present, would like to express a very special thank you to Steve Cohn who has served as one of the most exemplary board members in recent memory. Steve has spent five years contributing research, activity and great dedication to the WHHNA board on topics including, but not limited to street lighting, parks, trails, and Ellerbe Creek. Steve has also contributed many hours as a constructive liaison between the neighborhood association and the NCSSM. There is no way to enumerate the many contributions that Steve has made as a neighbor and board member. We only know that we will bear the fruit of his hard work for years to come.

*(Continued on Page 8)*