



"A house that does not have one worn, comfy chair in it is soulless." —May Sarton

**ECWA THANKS YOU AND INVITES YOU TO ITS  
2011 WALKS AND WORK-DAYS;  
BE READY FOR MARCH 19 AT THE BEAVER MARSH**

— LARRY BROCKMAN AND STEVE COHN

The Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association (ECWA) had a busy and exciting 2010 filled with new projects, partnerships, and members. Many of the new members are from Watts-Hillandale and joined ECWA during a membership drive sponsored by the neighborhood association. ECWA extends heartfelt thanks and appreciation to WHHNA, who pledged a match of \$1,000 for the more than 60 people from the WHH neighborhood who pledged a new or renewed membership.

This is just another example of how great a neighborhood we have! ECWA is largely supported by membership and donations from the local community, and the generosity and participation of communities like WHHNA makes everything we do possible. ECWA now plans to use this membership/fundraising model with other neighborhoods here in Durham, since our neighborhood made it so successful. PLEASE see [www.whhna.org](http://www.whhna.org) to learn about many of the 2010 highlights and benefits that ECWA brings to our neighborhood and community and to learn more about possibilities for your joining the board, other committees, or becoming a member.

**Below is a list of up-coming ECWA spring work days, including the infamous Beaver Queen Pageant.** Whether hunting for the craziest trash item in the Beaver Marsh (don't ask), building trails, or uprooting Garlic Mustard, ECWA volunteers always have fun and hope you will join us.

March 19: Beaver Marsh, 9 am – noon

April 16: Midland Terrace, 9 am to noon

May 21: Glennstone Preserve, 9 am – noon



June 4: Beaver Queen Pageant: Beaver Lodge 1504 will host the 7th Annual Beaver Queen Pageant and this year's theme is a mash-up of river boats, the fur trade, the industrial age, and Steam Punk. For those who have not yet attended a Beaver Queen Pageant, it's time to come out and enjoy the best family-friendly neighborhood party/burlesque/ tongue-in-cheek event this side of the Mississippi. For those who have attended previous pageants, you know it's going to be more than fun than you can shake a beaver-chewed stick at. PLEASE read the article on page 4 "ECWA—Heron Walks on May 30" to learn more important information regarding the ECWA events and news.

**FOCUS**

**LITTER AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
FIRST SEASONAL CLEAN-UP:**

**SUNDAY MARCH 27, 3-4:30 pm**

**ANNOUNCING The LITERARY TRASHETTE and Related Amazements, to welcome Spring into our neighborhood with a clean slate (literally!)**

— MARIAN PLACE

The WHHNA Board of Directors has recently established a **LITTER AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE** chaired by board member Jo Pelligra. The committee is hosting its **first Seasonal Clean-Up on Sunday March 27, 3-4:30** with a request from neighbors to tell them why they should clean your area first! Email Marian Place at [placesense@yahoo.com](mailto:placesense@yahoo.com) to vie to be the first clean-up area.

The LITTER AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE purpose is to inform, amuse (if the editors or you can muster), and motivate every Watts-Hospital resident to contribute to a cleaner neighborhood. The committee will post a bi-monthly list serve email, and a post to the WHHNA web page, entitled The Literary Trashette: Trashy Facts to Inspire Cleansing Acts. To fulfill its mission, the LITTER AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE request contributions on a bi-monthly basis, from residents of all ages in the following categories:

**The Trash Tally:** Interesting litter picked up or amount gathered in a set amount of time.

**Litter-ary Facts:** Facts about litter. (e.g., effects on home values; cigarette filters take nearly a century to disintegrate!).

**Trash Talk:** Tips and personal observations; only of the most un-trashy & civil kind, please! (e.g., Where are litter hotspots in WHHN? How might we turn litter into art?)

**Litter & Leisure Opportunities:** Schedule litter cleanups with neighbors and share home baked cookies or litter-related poetry.

The committee encourages all neighborhood residents, young and old alike, to join the committee by contacting [jopelligra@mindspring.com](mailto:jopelligra@mindspring.com)



If you know a new neighbor or are one yourself, please contact Wendi Gale: [wendigale@gmail.com](mailto:wendigale@gmail.com)

— WENDI GALE

---

**THE WHHNA WELCOMING COMMITTEE:** The Watts Hospital-Hillandale Neighborhood Association (WHHNA) announces a *Welcoming Committee* to provide new residents with a personal introduction to the 'Best Hood in Town,' including a packet with garden bulbs for the yard; the WHHNA Business Directory and a recent issue of the neighborhood newsletter; a neighborhood and adjoining area map that identifies book stores, craft and other shops, coffee/tea cafes, and restaurants and grocery stores all within walking distance of home. In addition, newcomers will receive a coupon for a free WHHNA t-shirt redeemable at the Fourth of July Parade celebration. If you are new to the neighborhood, or if you are a resident who takes notice of a new arrival, please contact Kelly Harris Perin at [Kelly.HarrisPerin@teachforamerica.org](mailto:Kelly.HarrisPerin@teachforamerica.org)

---

**Elizabeth Johnson, Shad Todd, Elias (3.5 yr.) and Solomon (9 mos.), and Griffin and Ruby,** their two Italian Greyhounds, will at long last, in March, move into the 1924 brick bungalow they have been renovating at 2513 West Club Blvd. Having first lived on Carolina Ave. and then to Trinity Park for nearly eight years, they are thrilled to be returning to the WHH neighborhood again!

---

**Marsá McNutt and her husband Ben** moved to Durham in 2007 from Palm Beach, FL, for Ben to attend graduate school at Duke Divinity. They only just moved to a house on Pennsylvania Avenue and are very excited to be a part of our great neighborhood. Since Ben's graduation last May, Marsá and Ben have been working for *Leadership Education* at Duke Divinity, located in the American Tobacco Campus. They live with a one year old fun, friendly and energetic small yellow lab/retriever mix, Ruthie, who enjoys playing with other dogs.

---

**Jenny Nicholson writes,** "I'm a Durham native who lost most of my southern accent when I went to school just outside of the Windy City. By day I'm a manager in a software development organization at IBM. Nights and weekends I'm active in a non-denominational church, *Emmaus Way*, that meets near Brightleaf Square and I'm on the board of *Africa Rising*, a non-profit partnering with grassroots organizations in Eastern Africa. In recent years I've traveled throughout Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania and hope to return this summer. I'm a huge fan of local food: CSAs, the Farmer's Market, *Muddy Dog*

*Coffee*, and especially the Durham restaurant scene. One of my favorite things to do is cook all day and invite friends over for dinner. This spring (or 65 degree days in January) if you're walking down Englewood, you'll likely find me working in the yard, up to my elbows in dirt. My parents are local and I have two sisters, no children, no pets (though Bob occasionally passes through my yard), and one roommate named Karla. I'm excited to be part of this neighborhood and look forward to meeting everyone."

---

In October 2010 **Derrick and Blake Robertson** moved to 1408 Hillandale Rd behind Wilson St., on the 12th hole of the golf course, and married on December 23, 2010 at the Kings Daughters Inn on Buchanan Blvd. They moved a whopping 2 miles from West Village, on Duke Street where they resided for the past 3 years. Their DOGhter (black lab) Ashleigh, is now much happier with a beautiful yard to run around in and golfers to watch daily, and Derrick and Blake are thrilled to live and work in the community. Derrick has worked for the City of Durham since 2004 and is excited by the revitalization of the area. Blake is a massage therapist who has practiced in Durham since 1998 after graduation from Carolina School of Massage Therapy. She is currently finalizing the renovation of *THE RETREAT*, a Massage and Aesthetic Wellness facility located at 815 West Morgan Street. Her goal is to positively contribute to people's experience of living in Durham through massage and aesthetic wellness. Blake invites neighbors in WHHN to visit THE RETREAT and enjoy a 10% discount (bring your newsletter) off the first visit with her compliments. [www.theretreatdurham.com](http://www.theretreatdurham.com)

---

**Liz Shapiro** moved to Durham in August from College Station, TX. Believe it or not, she says it was hotter there in August than it is here, so Watts feels like a great escape! Liz is a professor in Environmental Studies at Duke. Although currently renting in this beautiful community of a neighborhood, Liz hopes to soon buy a home where she may develop a garden to tend when her partner, Anthony Garza, joins her this spring.

---

**Jenn, Amy Jo (aka AJ) and Jasper Vrieze** made the move from an apartment in Raleigh to a lovely home on the northern branch of Carolina Avenue in Oct. 2010, now dubbed the 'GreenHouse'. Jenn is a teacher specializing in working with children with Autism; AJ serves the environmental department at RDU Airport; and Jasper is a sweet, playful pit bull who specializes in digging and licking. This little family enjoys hiking/camping, playing just about any sport (rugby is their fav), crafts, gardening, cooking, food preservation, and now home improvement projects! Jenn and AJ are passionate about and involved with the local food movement, reducing / reusing / rethinking / recycling, and queer human rights. They are enjoying being closer to their loving community of friends and are excited to 'grow' their lives whilst living in the WHHN in Durham.



Magnificently designed and professionally printed by Dave Woodard of Horse and Buggy Press (Design, Letterpress Printing & More—for the Jet Age & Beyond, 401-B1 Foster Street Durham, North Carolina 27701 <http://www.horseandbuggypress.com> 919.949.4847, no fax, just rumors), WHHNA now has bumper stickers available for free to promote safe and responsible neighborhood driving. To be one of the first residents to obtain a sticker, please contact Tom Miller at 919.286.3730 or [tom-miller1@nc.rr.com](mailto:tom-miller1@nc.rr.com).

## Watts-Hillandalers Win Honors

In February, North Carolina State University conferred its Martin Luther King, Jr., Social Justice Community Award on Sarah Woodard of Woodrow Street. Sarah is deacon of St. Titus's Episcopal Church on Moline Avenue in Durham. Sarah was honored for her work encouraging students to perform community service projects. Hooray for Sarah!

At its meeting in January, The Durham InterNeighborhood Council reelected Tom Miller of Virginia Avenue for a second annual term as the organization's president. The INC is a collaborative group of Durham neighborhood organizations. It was originally the idea of Watts-Hillandale's own Shannon St. John back in 1985. The council works the share information among neighborhoods and to advocate for the welfare and improvement of all neighborhoods.

## WHHNA is a Neighborhood Association; Not a Homeowner's Association

– WENDI GALE & TOM MILLER

**WHHNA is a neighborhood association (voluntary)** organized to preserve, enhance, and protect the unique beauty and residential character of its neighborhood, and not a mandatory homeowners' association. While both kinds of organization are designed to protect a neighborhood, there is a significant distinction between the two.

**A homeowner's association (HOA)** is an organization that is created and governed by a declaration of restrictive covenants controlling a subdivision ("planned community" under the law). These covenants are recorded in the Register of Deeds' office and are incorporated into the deed to each homeowner. They are like contracts that are passed from owner to owner when the property is sold. The covenants may include written rules that govern the architecture of homes, property rentals, paint color, neighbors' behaviors, and landscaping and decorative yard displays. Membership in the HOA is required and every owner must pay annual dues and periodic assessments. The money is

used to defray association expenses and to maintain common amenities, private streets, tennis courts, clubhouses and entry gates and signs. The association is usually governed by a board elected by the homeowners to enforce the covenants and is empowered to take action against a neighbor who doesn't pay dues or violates the covenants. Homeowner associations may have strong powers and great responsibilities and others are more limited. Increasingly, new subdivisions are set up to be governed by homeowner associations, and local zoning laws often expect and favor such developments.

**In contrast, a neighborhood association like ours, WHHNA,** is entirely voluntary; no one has to join and no one has to pay dues if they do not want to. We have no covenants to enforce, and instead, the purposes of the organization is to unite its residents and homeowners to work for the betterment of all neighbors whether they are paid members or not; and to unite people and foster pride within our neighborhood. We work to create a sense of community by providing valuable tools for networking, participation and involvement; foster an environment where neighbors help neighbors; identify and resolve neighborhood issues related to crime, land use, community services and/or code compliance in an organized and timely manner; and empower its members by providing a united voice to address issues with the city, developers, business entities, and non-member individuals that affect the quiet enjoyment of our homes. Homeowner associations do many of these same things, but because of the contractual relationship that binds the homeowners, the focus and scope of the HOA's business is often different. Interestingly, Watts-Hillandale includes a subdivision, **Hillandale Commons**, that is governed by a scheme of restrictive covenants and its own homeowners' association. Rather than treat this part of the neighborhood as separate, WHHNA consider these neighbors as an integral part of the Watts-Hillandale neighborhood. Under the covenants in their deeds, these neighbors are mandated to belong to the Hillandale Commons HOA, but they may choose to join the WHHNA; fortunately, many do. There are no hard-and-fast rules for situations like this. Both the HOA and the WHH neighborhood association are members of the Durham InterNeighborhood Council and can be incorporated, although not required to be. There are merits and advantages to both kinds of neighborhood groups.

WHHNA neighborhood is a nonprofit corporation and its dues go into a general fund and money is allocated for matters that promote the common good of the entire neighborhood, such as venues for entertainment and recreation, community social events (e.g., Night of Lights and Fourth Of July Parade), landscaping of common areas such as traffic islands and parks, signage announcing general meetings and other community events (e.g., WHHNA Annual Artwalk and Centennial Celebration), printing the neighborhood newsletter, PARADE, and maintaining the neighborhood website. The by-laws of the WHHNA can be viewed at the website <http://www.whhna.org/getting-involved/neighborhood-association/>

# The Heart of the

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

## Historic District Reminder

— TOM MILLER, ADAPTED FROM A MESSAGE FROM LISA MILLER, DURHAM PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Durham has seven local historic districts that were created to protect and preserve the historic character of these areas as new development and redevelopment occur. These districts are: Cleveland Street, Downtown Durham, Fayetteville Street, Holloway Street, Morehead Hill, Trinity Heights, and Watts-Hillandale. Each district is a zoning overlay district that applies to the property.

The Watts-Hillandale district includes all of the properties facing Englewood Avenue between Broad Street and the street's western terminus, all of the properties on West Club between the reservoir and Broad Street, most of the properties on Woodrow Street between Carolina and Alabama Avenues, all properties on Maryland between Club and Sprunt Avenue, and the all of the properties on Iredell, Ninth, Carolina, Virginia, Alabama, and Georgia between Englewood Avenue and Woodrow Street.

Changes to the exterior appearance of properties in the historic districts require review and approval to ensure that the change is in keeping with the historic character of the district. That review is conducted through an application to the Durham Historic Preservation Commission for a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA). When an application for a COA is submitted, the proposal is reviewed for consistency with the criteria in the preservation plan adopted to guide appropriateness review in the Watts-Hillandale district.

Property owners are often unaware of the requirements and their responsibility for compliance regarding what changes require review. For instance, replacement windows or siding, removal or planting of trees in the front yard, installation of signs, demolition of any structure, site work, fences or walls, and installation or relocation of mechanical equipment all require a COA. Minor repairs require only

an administrative review. Major changes, like new additions, major repairs, and window replacement, require review by the full Historic Preservation Commission. Painting, however, requires no approval. Failure to obtain the necessary review and COA is a zoning violation.

The positive pay off for this regulatory process is the state's historic preservation tax credit program available to homeowners in the historic district. This program, the first of its kind in the nation, allows homeowners a 30% credit against their state income taxes for historically sensitive rehabilitation projects. A \$25,000 project yields around \$7,000 in tax credits. Approved projects include not only restoration work like the removal of aluminum siding or restoring interior plaster, but also more prosaic projects like waterproofing leaky foundations and fixing damaged roofing. The approval process is remarkably simple and the staff at the State Historic Preservation Office is very helpful. If your property is in a historic district and you plan to make any exterior changes, contact the Planning Department at 919-560-4137 to begin the COA application process. For more information, please visit the City's website for Historic Preservation: [http://www.durhamnc.gov/departments/planning/historic\\_preservation.cfm](http://www.durhamnc.gov/departments/planning/historic_preservation.cfm). For more information on historic preservation tax credits, contact either Tim Simmons ([tim.simmons@ncdcr.gov](mailto:tim.simmons@ncdcr.gov)), 919-807-6585, or David Christenbury ([david.christenbury@ncdcr.gov](mailto:david.christenbury@ncdcr.gov)), 919-807-6574 at the state historic preservation office.

## ECWA - Heron Walks on May 30, and Invitation for Board and other Membership

— LARRY BROCKMAN AND STEVE COHN

In addition to the ECWA work days listed on page 1, ECWA also invites you to join them for its two annual Memorial Day exciting **ECWA Heron Hikes on Monday, May 30**. Watching herons care for their

young in this setting is truly a special experience. **Tom Driscoll and his wife Barbara, who literally travel the world in search of new birds and experiences**, will lead the 7:30 AM hike to the heron rookery. The group will move slowly and identify birds en route. **ECWA Preserves Manager Cynthia Kulstad and Watts-Hillandale neighbor Barbara Beaman** will guide the 9:30 AM walk to the rookery to offer participants an environmental education and native plant perspective. Both groups will cover about a mile of hiking. Please wear sturdy shoes, long pants and bug spray, and bring your binoculars. These popular walks fill quickly, and you'll want to RSVP soon to [leslie@ellerbecreek.org](mailto:leslie@ellerbecreek.org). We hope you can be there!

**Heron Rookery ECWA-Members-Only Walk:** ECWA is also hosting a new ECWA-members-only heron rookery hike in April (date TBD). An ECWA spotting scope will allow members to get see up close and personal with the herons and their young. Binoculars will be provided to those who do not have their own. The exact dates and more details will be posted WHHNA list-serve in March and April.

Finally, **if you are not an ECWA member, please consider joining and/or supporting them financially**, so they can continue to advocate strongly on issues such as land preservation, greenways, water quality, and connecting people to the "beauty in their own backyard". You can learn more, join ECWA, or get involved in ECWA by going to [www.ellerbecreek.org](http://www.ellerbecreek.org); or you can contact Larry Brockman at [brockman.larry@gmail.com](mailto:brockman.larry@gmail.com), 286-3150.

## City Water, Arguments, Deaths, Lawsuits, and Insults

—TOM MILLER

With the city of Durham tearing up the streets in the southern part of the neighborhood to replace century-old water mains, a review of how Watts-Hillandale became the city's water capital is in order.

# Neighborhood

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

A. H. Howland of Boston provided the city's first water system in 1886. The city signed a 30-year contract with Howland who was to construct a water system that measured up to the specifications established by the city's engineer, Arthur Winslow. The whole thing was a mess from the beginning. Howland and Winslow fought over the size and type of the pipes to be used. Winslow wanted high-quality cast iron pipes, but Howland favored cheaper cement pipes with wrought iron fittings. Work on the system proceeded slowly. The Eno River was selected as the water source and a reservoir was constructed. The water was contaminated by sewage and industrial discharge from Hillsboro and Durham residents complained about its smell. Breakages often introduced mud into the water. The city demanded that the system deliver enough pressure to meet the demands of the fire department, but when put to the test during the disastrous fire of 1895, hydrants produced only a muddy, smelly trickle. By then the water company was in receivership and its founder, Mr. Howland, jumped from a Fall River steamer on its way to Boston in a staged suicide to escape creditors. He was discovered alive and well a few weeks later when he tried to collect on a \$50,000 life insurance policy.

One of Howland's managers, John Hardy, set up a new company to run the operation, but it was no better than its predecessor. In 1914, another fire, the worst in the city's history, swept through downtown. Flames were seen from Raleigh, 25 miles away. Water pressure was so poor that Durham firemen were helpless to stop the blaze. The city refused to renew Hardy's contract and a roaring public debate ensued. The city's aldermen wanted to take over the operation of the system, but the town's industrialists, led by John Sprunt Hill (banker, philanthro-

pist, farmer, politician, golfer, owner of most of the land which ultimately became Watts-Hillandale, the man for whom Sprunt Street was named, and the Hill of Hillandale) took the position that the government had no business competing with private enterprise. The city proposed a \$500,000 bond referendum to buy the old water works and finance its improvement. Gilbert White, an engineer from Charlotte, was hired to place a value on the old water system and lay out plans for a new system. Hardy hired a lawyer to threaten the city and in the process, accused White of dishonesty in his billings to the city. In the meantime, John Sprunt Hill and others purchased ads in the newspaper in opposition to the bonds. Hill attacked a team of New York engineers

advising the city so harshly that the aldermen demanded his apology. He refused. When the bond referendum passed by a vote of 826 to 162, Hill sued to prevent the issuance of the bonds and the levying of taxes to finance them. He lost and when he appealed to the N.C. Supreme Court, he lost again. Ironically, the land for the new reservoir at the end of Club Boulevard was purchased from none other than Mr. John Sprunt Hill!

Work on the reservoir and filtration plant began in 1916 and was completed in 1917 – just about the time the neighborhood really got going. The water facility was designed by Charlotte-based engineer, W. M. Piatt, a pioneer in municipal water systems. The brick structure still standing today was the original pump house. For a while, the city's water continued to come from the Eno, but during the mid-1920s, the city built a dam on the Flat River and impounded the Lake Michie reservoir, named for John C. Michie, the city engineer who

had argued so strongly for a cleaner water source. An underground aqueduct of great terra cotta pipes was laid from the lake near Bahama south to the reservoir on Hillandale Road. The pipes still carry water today. They run beneath streets, roads, and homes. Belmont Park on Albany Street is located directly above the underground river.

From the Hillandale plant, water mains spread out all over the city. Some of these lines are older than the water plant itself, originally part of the older system. The huge pipes also run under homes in Watts-Hillandale and Old West Durham. Here and there in backyards throughout the area are brick-lined dry wells sunk deep in the ground. They are covered with steel plates and contain the cranks and wheels to open and close water main valves. The area was open land when the pipes were laid. The houses came later. Today, we do not build homes on top of underground pipes, but in the boom town that was Durham of the 'teens and twenties', no one gave much thought to such niceties. If one of these now-decrepit monsters had ever blown, any house above it might have disappeared into the inevitable sink hole.

The old water plant is still serving the city reliably and faithfully, just as it has done for nearly 100 years. The old pipes under the neighborhood will soon be replaced with new ones running under the streets. Watts-Hillandale will still be Durham's water capital for years to come. The photos below are with permission from Durham County Library photo archive: # 154 and # 163, by Helen Liantis.



**Durham City Water Works. Hillandale Plant. ca. 1920 Construction of pipeline. Workers, crane, and pipe.**



**Durham City Water Works. Hillandale Plant. 1926. Finished filter system and original pump house.**

*(Continued on Page 8)*

## MEET THE 2010-2011 WHHNA BOARD MEMBERS

**Joshua Allen (President)** has lived in the neighborhood since 2004 when he and his partner Jim renovated their bungalow on Club Blvd. They have 2 beagles, Darwin and Biscuit. In addition to developing software at IBM, Joshua enjoys good food, video games, running, and hanging out with friends. Joshua has served on the board since 2004.

When **Marian Place (Vice President)** isn't busy securing advertisements for PARADE or watching life unfold in Oval Park across the street from her house, she runs a psychotherapy practice on Iredell St. and writes a book celebrating the "Power of Slow" to help those caught up in a habitual rush, heal from 'speed-stress.' She loves the friendliness of her neighbors, including the canines, and feels blessed to live in WHHN.

**Larry Chapman (Treasurer)** lives on Alabama Avenue with his wife, Jennifer; their two sons, Benjamin and Henry; their dog, Spike, and nine chickens. The Chapmans have lived in the neighborhood since 1999. Larry is a financial planner and Jennifer works as a research project coordinator at the VA Hospital. Larry coordinates Halloween safety on Club Boulevard and serves as the board's treasurer.

**Sherry Carty (Secretary)** lives on Wilson St. and feels fortunate to call this neighborhood home, as our community continues to exceed her high expectations. Sherry is a patent agent by day, and her evenings are frequently full of music and art. She appreciates the opportunity to serve our community by participating on the Board.

### Members-at-large

**Ron Grunwald** lives on Par Place with Lorisa Seibel, a community organizer for the Durham Affordable Housing Coalition, and his two children. After 15 years in the neighborhood, Ron no longer bikes his kids to EK Powe, but is a regular bicycle commuter to his job at Duke, where he is an academic administrator and on faculty in Biology. As a biologist and something of a herp (as in snakes and frogs) fanatic, Ron is particularly interested in the natural spaces and urban wildlife in our neighborhood.

**Tom Harris** and his wife Edith moved to 3306 Sprunt Avenue in the fall of 2005 to be near their adult children. Tom retired from Michelin Tire Corp. in Greenville, SC where they had lived the previous 32 years. Their daughter Lucy also lives in the neighborhood and is a Pediatric Oncology nurse at Duke Hospital. Their son Tom, Jr. works for the Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources in Raleigh. Tom and Edith enjoy travel, camping, delivering Meals on Wheels, and taking advantage of the many things that Durham has to offer. Tom accepted an invitation to join the board in order to provide more representation for that part of the neighborhood west of Hillandale Rd. Tom and Edith have also really stepped up to the plate as delivery people of multiple routes for our neighborhood newsletter.

**Bret Horton** is an architect who lives at 1409 Maryland Avenue with his wife Rachel and two-year old daughter Marjorie. This is Bret's second year serving on the board. As a board member, he looks forward to continuing his work serving as one of several liaisons between the neighborhood and the NC School of Science and Math. He is also excited to be part of a committee that advocates for the neighborhood regarding zoning-related issues.

**Susan James** lives in a testosterone-filled house on Wilson Street with her rock-band playing husband and their two raucous boys. When not driving to soccer practice, attending various sporting events, picking legos out of the sofa cushions, or walking her naughty dawg, she can be found volunteering at the food pantry of

a local elementary school or hunched over her keyboard at her job at *snaptotes.com* in downtown Durham. She is constantly dreaming of turning the yard from a permanent muddy capture-the-flag field into a verdant oasis. She still can't believe she drives past her freshman dorm every day and bemoans the loss of the Biscuit King. She feels lucky to have recently celebrated her 10th anniversary in our fine 'hood.

**Debbie Kelly** has lived on Alabama Ave since 2001. She and her partner Steve enjoy seeing friends (human and canine) while taking long walks in our beautiful neighborhood. Debbie orchestrated the many events that made for the WHHNA Centennial Celebration a few years ago, and still has a bunch of banners if anyone would like one or two! The cost is a mere \$100 to secure and become an owner of a meaningful and beautiful memento of our neighborhood's history.

**Leslie Page** has lived on Sprunt Ave. with her son, Eli and their 4 cats since 2000. She and her next-door neighbors are fond of hosting 2-house happy hours. Leslie's latest obsession is Paleo-Indian archaeology and she volunteers in the Archaeology Lab at UNC-CH. She's a real estate broker and owns West Durham Realty. Leslie has been active on the boards of several civic and professional groups and looks forward to serving on the WHH board this year and serves as a member of the newly developed welcoming committee.

**Kelly Harris Perin** bopped around the Midwest, Mississippi, and the East Coast before landing here in Durham about 5 years ago, and loves the Watt's neighborhood. She, her husband Zach, kids Ella and Moses, and dog Dewey recently moved from Woodrow Street to Maryland Avenue and can usually be found at one of our 'hoods' great parks or on Ninth Street. Kelly works with staff members at Teach For America, an education nonprofit, and also consults with local individuals and organizations. Kelly is excited to serve as the new neighborhood newsletter delivery/distribution coordinator, and also to be a member of the WHHNA Welcoming Committee.

**Jo Pelligra** lives on Iredell with her partner of 17 years, Teri Beckman, and their little dog, Ziti, who they treat as a son. She earns a modest income utilizing her degree in Dietetics. But, mostly, Jo's life benefits from the enrichment of a multitude of diverse volunteer experiences that include, but are not limited to working with Habitat for Humanity, Interfaith Food Shuttle, Sierra Club, neighborhood clean ups, boards of directors, etc. It is quite obvious that Jo believes it is important to give back to community and help make improvements for all. Today she looks forward to continuing to serve on the WHHNA board and getting to know more and more "friends in the hood." She currently serves as the newly developed WHHNA chair to the LITTER & AND TRASH Committee.

**Eric Strother** grew up in eastern NC and received a DDS degree from UNC CH, and then an MD from UT Southwestern in Dallas. Following a year of general surgery and residency in anesthesiology at Parkland hospital in Dallas, he practiced cardiac and pediatric anesthesiology for a decade until recently. He now practices occupational medicine and urgent care with Concentra in Durham. Eric lives on Club Blvd. with a distinguished landscaped garden that includes native trees and shrubs, a water feature, a vegetable garden, and a fire pit. He lives with his partner, Angel Nieves, an ObGyn physician at the Duke Women's Health Associates. Eric is an avid fly fisherman and kayaker. At present, a WHHNA board member at large, Eric once performed the duties of the board secretary.

### Members Needed right Now!

PLEASE respond to the newsletter insert requesting renewal of WHHNA membership, or an opportunity to join now. The Watts Hospital-Hillandale Neighborhood Association needs you! Right now!

## Heart of the Neighborhood — continued

### EK POWE Weekend Backpacks and Food and Clothing Pantries

— HELEN COMPTON

Through the great generosity of many WHH neighborhood residents, the food and clothing pantries at EK Powe are filled to the brim. The backpack program continues to provide much needed food for students and their families during the weekends. Please send food donations to Powe's Main Office Monday through Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm or on the porch at one of the following addresses: 2215 West Club, 1038 Oakland, 2018 Sunset, 2039 Englewood, 2306 Green. If you have a question, please contact Heather Gavilan [hsolari74@yahoo.com](mailto:hsolari74@yahoo.com) or Helen Compton [helen.compton@gmail.com](mailto:helen.compton@gmail.com).

### Angels Save Night of Lights – Special Thanks to Richard Morgan of Morgan's Imports, Claudia Cooper of Guglhupf, and Brian Bottger of Only Burger

— TOM MILLER

Thanks to board member Susan James and many other volunteers, December's Night of Lights (NOL) was surely one of the loveliest in many years. Thousands of candles twinkled up and down the streets of Watts-Hillandale and donations of food and money to the **Community Kitchen** were the highest in recent memory. Our success never would have happened, however, had it not been for some special angels who stepped in at the last minute to save the event. At 5 p.m. on the Saturday preceding NOL, when paper supply stores were already closed, we were short about 1,500 bags. Fortunately **Richard Morgan of Morgan's Imports, Claudia Cooper of Guglhupf, and Brian Bottger of Only Burger** didn't hesitate to help us out and came up with the bags we needed Sunday morning, and Night of Lights was saved. Next year, we will count more carefully!

## Board Members, 2011

### MEMBERS

#### President

**Joshua Allen** allen.joshua@gmail.com  
2417 W. Club 225-8914

#### Vice-President

**Marian Place** placesense@yahoo.com  
1112 Oval Drive 286-2606

#### Treasurer

**Larry Chapman** larry.chapman@gmail.com  
1400 Alabama 491-5760

#### Secretary

**Sherry Carty** sherry.carty@gmail.com  
2307 Wilson St. 612-4296

### DIRECTORS

**Ron Grunwald** ron.grunwald@duke.edu  
2410 Par Place 286-4319

**Tom Harris** tomharris64@nc.rr.com  
3306 Sprunt Ave. 765-0644

**Susan James** susangeorgejames@gmail.com  
2305 Wilson 286.9931(h) 491.0682 (c)

**Debra Kelly** debrakelly@hotmail.com  
1105 Alabama 286-3621

**Leslie Page** Leslie@WestDurhamRealty.com  
2106 Sprunt 602.1963 cell (prefers email)

**Jo Pelligra** jopelligra@mindspring.com  
1105 Iredell 286.9530

**Kelly Harris Perin** kelly.harrisperin@teachforamerica.org  
1700 Maryland 768-8677

**Eric Strother** estroth@aol.com  
2310 W. Club 416.1663

**Newsletter** Wendi Gale, wendigale@gmail.com

**Zoning; T-shirts** Tom Miller, tom-miller1@nc.rr.com

To contact the board members as a group, please email:

**WHHNA Board@googlegroups.com**



## Prudential

**Graham Marlette**  
Broker

**Prudential York Simpson Underwood**  
921 Moreene Rd., Durham, NC 27705  
Home Office 919 688-9026

Cell 919 280-4247

Fax 919 383-9123

[Graham.Marlette@pruysu.com](mailto:Graham.Marlette@pruysu.com)

[www.Graham.Marlette@pruysu.com](http://www.Graham.Marlette@pruysu.com)

An independently owned and operated member of  
Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.

### MASSAGE

Therapeutic massage

**Amanda Lee**

LMT # 1278

Deep Tissue, Trigger Point  
Pregnancy & Oncology clients

919 805 4099

[mandapanda85@earthlink.net](mailto:mandapanda85@earthlink.net)

### Upcoming Neighborhood Board Meetings: 7:00 pm

**Thursday 3/17** at the home of Susan James  
2305 Wilson

**Thursday 4/21** at the home of Kelly Perin  
1700 Maryland

**Thursday 5/19** at the home of Jo Pelligra  
1105 Iredell

**Thursday 6/17** at the home of Joshua Allen  
2417 West Club

*All meetings are held the third Thursday of the month.  
If you need a ride, please call one of the board members  
and s/he will happily provide you with a ride.*

PLEASE RECYCLE  
THIS  
NEWSLETTER

