



# Neighbors

## Monthly Newsletter

The Monthly Newsletter of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association

Written and distributed by volunteers since 1991

### Neighborhood Meeting

Thursday, November 16, 7:30 p.m.  
 Frazer Center - 1815 S. Ponce de Leon  
 (or use back entrance at the end of Ridgewood Road)  
 Auditorium in front of building

#### Agenda

- \* *Denotes issues which may be voted upon at meeting; please read accompanying articles within newsletter for details.*
- **Announcements**
  - Mary Lin Update
- **Treasurer's Report** - Dennis McCarthy
- **Planning Committee Report** - Geoffrey Dunne
- **NPU Report** - Bob Schreiber
  - Contribution to NPU\*
  - Contribution to APD Retirement Fund\*
  - Report on City of Atlanta CPD
- **Public Safety Report** - Elizabeth Hamilton
  - Officer's Report
- **Communications Report** - Robbie Collins
- **New Business**
  - Election of Officers for 2001\*
  - Change of Monthly Meeting Time to 7:00 PM\*

### From the Executive Board by Dennis McCarthy, VP Finance

In the autumn of 1621, members of the Plymouth colony celebrated a festival that would evolve into perhaps the best loved, distinctively American holiday: Thanksgiving. Certainly William Bradford was not the first to think of hosting a communal meal as a sign of appreciation of blessings received--the familiar Greek word "eucharist" literally means "thanksgiving." Yet just how events for giving thanks are celebrated changes over time. The 1621 Thanksgiving was a festival for all the colony members and their Indian neighbors, but the Thanksgiving Day of 2000 has become more of a family affair than a neighborly pursuit. Lake Claire Neighbors, however, has made a tradition of restoring a communal thanksgiving meal experience: the legendary, annual **December Meeting Potluck Dinner!**

Next month's meeting will be dedicated to neighborly good cheer. We anticipate no pressing business, just a recap of the past year, giving thanks to our volunteers, and informal discussion of the upcoming year/century/millennium. All Lakers (a.k.a. Lakeclairians) and their friends are invited to bring a favorite appetizer, entrée, side dish, or desert, and of course an appetite. Please note that the December meeting will be on **Thursday Dec. 14** instead of the usual third Thursday; this is due to a rescheduling of the NPU-N meeting, but it also prevents conflict with the beginning of Chanukah. The January meeting will be on the third Thursday as usual.

This November meeting has a few important items on the agenda. A slate of 2001 **officers** was presented at the October meeting. Currently we have nominations for all positions except the VP of Communications. If you feel a calling to this important position, please contact Robbie Collins or another officer for more information. Additionally, although we have a VP Planning nominee, we are actively recruiting delegates to assist with this important job. Planning involves not only reviewing variance and rezoning applications; it also includes identifying and working to solve traffic and pedestrian concerns, discussions with developers, and generating input for the upcoming Atlanta Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) revision. We will once again open nominations this Thursday, then move to the election. Those interested in being Planning delegates are welcome to voice your interest, but no election (or formal campaigning) is required. At the October meeting we tabled a motion to change the **meeting time** from 7:30 to 7:00 pm. This motion will come up again this month, so bring your opinions for the discussion and the vote. Also we will present some ideas for refining this **newsletter**. Over the years the newsletter has crept from a small informational flyer to a fully advertised, professionally printed, eight-page format publication. The executive committee is exploring options to maintain valued content, stay within a reasonable budget, and avoid straining our volunteer workforce.

Also on the agenda are two external issues. **NPU-N** is seeking contributions from its member neighborhoods to establish an administrative "petty cash" fund to pay for costs such as photocopying, postage, and the like. Officer Bud Watson will inform the neighborhood about a proposed new **Atlanta Police Department retirement plan** and its relation to recruiting and retention efforts by the department. See you Thursday. New residents please stop by to introduce yourself and meet your new neighbors.

**LCCLT Holiday Craft Fair - December 9 - 10, 2000.** 6th Annual Craft Fair sponsored by the Lake Claire Community Land Trust. Featuring locally made crafts including wall hangings, botanicals, jewelry, pottery, ornaments, rag rugs and numerous other works of beauty. All are invited to 300 Arizona Avenue on Saturday and Sunday, December 9 and 10 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Come support your community artists and your local Land Trust.

**Pet Parade - Saturday, December 9, 2:00 PM.** Iguanas, snakes, puppy dogs and cats! Don your costume, grab your leash or cage and enter your pet in the pet parade! Entry fee \$1.00 (a part of the proceeds benefit the Lake Claire Community Land Trust). Prizes will be awarded!

Will Griffin, Mark Brodeck, Chris Nemeth, and others on Hampton Terrace are interested in forming a **Traffic Committee** to deal with the expected traffic difficulties to soon result from the McLendon Gardens redevelopment. Robbie Collins of Southerland Terrace expressed his interest as well, and that he has been in touch with several people on his street who are also interested in participating in this effort. Not only is a significant increase in traffic expected on Hampton Terrace, Southerland Terrace, and adjoining streets, but this new traffic would also be expected to present problems with safe and efficient turning onto Dekalb Avenue, where the current intersections are already dangerous because of traffic speed and limited sight distance.

The committee will seek to develop support for and consensus on a proposal to the developer and the City of Atlanta for the use of impact fees for traffic calming devices, specifically speed bumps. Speed is a real problem on these streets, which are very narrow and always have parallel parked cars, pedestrians, dogs, and children playing. The committee will also consider petitioning the city for a traffic light. A light at Dekalb Avenue is becoming viewed as a necessity, especially with the onset of a large amount of new commuter traffic leaving and entering the neighborhood at specific hours. If any of you wish to participate, please be aware that formation of this committee will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting and that after that time everyone will be contacted and a meeting of the committee scheduled and held. Until then, if you wish to participate or simply state your views, please contact **Will Griffin** at (404)378-1920, written comments or contact info to Will Griffin/274 Hampton Terr./30307; or **Will.Griffin@dot.state.ga.us**. You can also contact **Robbie Collins** at **robbiecollins@mediaone.net**.

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Two items will be presented at the November meeting which will culminate in a vote by the those in attendance.

First, a representative from the Atlanta Police Department (APD) will solicit support from Lake Claire regarding a proposed increase in the **APD pension fund**. Generally, approximately 400 police officer positions have been funded which have also not been filled. New officers are trained and then after serving a brief period on the APD, they accept positions in other jurisdictions which pay better and have better benefits. This results in APD functioning as the training department for many others.

In order to begin creating financial incentives for rookies to stay on the force, a plan is gaining support which will increase the pension fund for officers who stay on the force. The plan is designed to be funded with available funds so that no tax increase will be required.

Second, LCN will be asked to **donate \$50-100 to NPU-N** in order to set up an administrative treasury. A significant portion of the fund will go toward making a contribution to the Epworth United Methodist Church which, "religiously", has been allowing NPU-N to use its facilities for many years without asking for even the slightest financial assistance. This current year, NPU-N had to schedule several special meetings plus several of the regular meetings have had as many as 80 people in attendance. The remaining balance of the funds will be used only for administrative expenses such as photocopying, stamps, envelopes, etc.


On November 30, 2000, there will be a special training meeting for the residents of NPU-N. The topic will be the **Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP)** and it will be led by

representatives of the Department of Planning. The CDP is the single most important policy document in the City. Learning about the opportunity that Lake Claire (through NPU-N) has to contribute to the CDP is important in order to assure that the values and desires of the neighborhood become part of the accepted Atlanta policies.

Finally, the controversial project about which I have been writing and further discussing at monthly meetings is becoming more heated. By the time you read this, there will probably have been an article in the Creative Loafing discussing some of the issues. Additionally, the soon-to-emerge Commuter rail project may have an impact which shapes the area of City Hall East or the Masquerade building. Northeast Atlanta may be in for some **major growth**, unexpected by many and planned for by few.

~ Bob Schreiber

*Lake Claire Neighbor*




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Perhaps by the time you read this, we will have had a taste of long-awaited fall weather . . .

**When the Frost is on the Punkin**  
by James Whitcomb Riley, 1896

When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock,  
And you hear the kyouck and gobble of the struttin' turkey-cock  
And the clackin' of the guineys, and the cluckin' of the hens,  
And the rooster's hallylooyer as he tiptoes on the fence;  
O, it's then's the times a feller is a-feelin' at his best,  
With the risin' sun to greet him from a night of peaceful rest,  
As he leaves the house, bareheaded, and goes out to feed the stock,  
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.


They's something kindo' harty-like about the atmsufere  
When the heat of summer's over and the coolin' fall is here--  
Of course we miss the flowers, and the blossums on the trees,  
And the mumble of the hummin'-birds and buzzin' of the bees;  
But the air's so appetizin'; and the landscape through the haze  
Of a crisp and sunny morning of the airy autumn days  
Is a pictur' that no painter has the colorin' to mock--  
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

The husky, rusty russel of the rossels of the corn,  
And the raspin' of the tangled leaves, as golden as the morn;  
The stubble in the furries-kind' lonesome-like, but still  
A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they growed to fill;  
The strawstack in the medder, and the reaper in the shed;  
The hosses in theyr stalls below--the clover overhead!--  
O, it sets my hart a-clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,  
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!

Then your apples all is gethered, and the ones a feller keeps  
Is poured around the celler-floor in red and yeller heaps;  
And your cider-makin' 's over, and your wimmern-foks is through  
I don't know how to tell it-but ef sich a thing could be  
As the Angels wantin' boardin', and they'd call around on me--  
I'd want to 'commodate 'em-all the whole-indurin' flock--  
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!

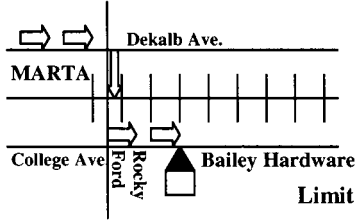
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By the time you read this, Halloween will have come and gone but as I write this I am taking time away from the great mermaid costume production. Halloween is one of my favorite holidays and I feel some obligation to make the Princess's costume each year. I mean it is not like Easter where the bunny simply delivers a giant basket of chocolate and expects nothing in return (what a great bunny!) People actually go out and purchase candy (preferably the chocolate variety - Snickers or those little ones wrapped in orange and brown foil that are half chocolate and half peanut butter or...never mind. I'll take what I get. I mean, SHE'LL take what SHE can get.) So they buy bags of candy and then give it to you, I mean your kid, so I feel like I have to provide a little entertainment value for your candy. So I should have sent this out last month so I could have some feedback on how to make a sparkly tail that doesn't drag the ground but last month I was still believing she was going with the Dorothy from the Wizard of OZ costume. I should have known better. I have been here before. It was all too simple. Someday I'll tell you about the beaver costume.

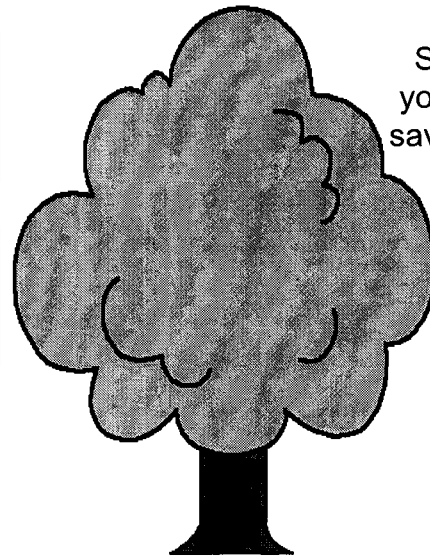
Thank you to everyone in the neighborhood who helped with our school's annual fund raisers. Mary Lin raised \$19,500 to fund this year's PTA projects. The kids did an excellent job and we appreciate all of you who took the time to buy gift wrap. As we head into the Christmas season, remember to use your grocery cards. Mary Lin received a check from Kroger in August for over \$500 from purchases made through the spring of last year and our account statement in September showed we already halfway to another \$500 from Kroger. Use schoolpop.com when shopping online. Most of the schools in the neighborhood are registered with schoolpop so all you have to do is register at the site, pick your school (Mary Lin) and shop. A percentage of everything you purchase through the schoolpop site will go to the school you pick. Whatever school you support, use these easy ways to help them raise money. Mary Lin will have two fund raisers during the next couple months you should know about. The first is on Saturday, **November 18** at 1:00pm. The children's play Coyote Tales will be presented at 7 Stages. Tickets are \$10.00 and Mary Lin will receive 50% of ticket sales. If you would like to buy tickets, they will be available any Tuesday from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at Mary Lin in the Hall House. On **December 16** the Mary Lin PTA will be at Borders on Ponce wrapping presents for tips from 11:00am to 9:00pm. Come on by and we'll wrap your

Christmas gifts and you can donate a small tip to Mary Lin. I will not be wrapping presents since I feel it is acceptable to give wrapping paper, tape, and scissors at the same time I give the gift. That and ribbon is basically a foreign substance to me (I believe it is possibly toxic.) I am the Anti-Martha Stewart.

One last thing, Mary Lin will have its annual **Operation Care Basket** ongoing through November 17. If you have any canned goods you would like to donate to the cause drop them by the school.

~ Julia Murray

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## Special Announcements

Hearty thanks should be given to our dedicated volunteers. It's easy to come to a monthly neighborhood meeting when an agenda item raises particular concerns. What's not as easy, but equally necessary and rewarding, is to devote two nights a month to meetings (LCN Executive Committee and monthly neighborhood meetings), plus additional time on the phone with neighbors fielding questions, composing communications and articles, researching issues at the city, attending the NPU meetings, laying out the newsletter, balancing the LCN checkbook and disseminating the newsletters to distributors.

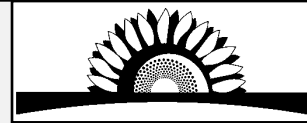
Thanks to the 2000 Lake Claire Executive Committee for a job well done. The Executive Committee has asked that you pay particular attention to the following special announcements:

The December neighborhood meeting will be held Thursday, **December 14**. Please mark your calendar to attend.

A **ladies coat** was found after the September neighborhood meeting. Please call Robbie Collins to claim - 404.377.9553.

Residents of **Leonardo and Marlbrook** (between Leonardo and Ridgewood): We need a newsletter distributor for your area. Your newsletters will be at Candler Park Supermarket until a distributor steps forward. Interested neighbors may call Georgii Billiris at 404.373.4523 about the route.

~ Marci Reed



Lake Claire Neighbors  
Organization

[www.lakeclaire.org](http://www.lakeclaire.org) / [lcn@lakeclaire.org](mailto:lcn@lakeclaire.org)

Regular Monthly Meetings

Third Thursday, 7:30 pm Frazer Center Auditorium

VP-Finance .....Dennis McCarthy, 404/378-2870  
treasurer@lakeclaire.org  
VP-Public Safety .....Elizabeth Hamilton, 404/370-0744  
safety@lakeclaire.org  
Zone 6 Precinct .....404/371-5002  
APD Officer Bud Watson .....pgr. 404/225-7085  
VP-Communications .....Robbie Collins, 404/377-9553  
comm@lakeclaire.org  
VP-Planning & Zoning .....Geoffrey Dunne, 404/373-4356  
zoning@lakeclaire.org  
NPU Representative .....Bob Schreiber, 404/373-1947  
Garden Club .....Jackie Katz, 404/371-8655  
Book Discussion Club .....Scott Kimberly, 404/373-5922  
books@lakeclaire.org  
Mary Lin Liaison .....Susan Beeching, 404/371-1239  
marylin@lakeclaire.org  
Newsletter .....Marci Reed, 404/371-8487  
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