

Lake Claire Neighbors

the 411 on 30307 • volume 27 • number 1 • january 2005

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

In 2004 Lake Claire Neighbors funded the following projects:

Frazer Center Forest \$1000
DeKalb Watershed Mural \$1000
Lake Claire Park Committee \$1000
Clifton Sanctuary Ministries \$2500

All of these activities will improve the quality of life in our neighborhood and city. In 2005 we would like to identify other civic activities that build and expand upon our earlier efforts. I would like to encourage all Lake Claire residents to bring ideas and energy to your neighborhood association this year. We are only as effective as our membership is involved.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers who helped make 2004 so productive. I would also encourage all households to pay the annual dues of \$20 in January to help support your neighborhood association. It would be great if dues this year allowed us to continue underwriting worthwhile civic activities at the same level as last year. If half of Lake Claire's eleven hundred households paid their dues we could meet that goal.

submitted by Dan White, President, Lake Claire Neighbors

A BIG THANK YOU

Mr. John Frederick
The Howard School
Atlanta Georgia

Dear Mr. Frederick,

On behalf of the Lake Claire Neighborhood Association and the Friends of the Frazer Center Forest I would like to thank you and your senior class for the community service work performed in the Frazer Center Forest. The Fall semester project that your class undertook resulted in major improvements to the trail system in the forest as well as stabilization of the stream bank that will help protect two large poplar trees threatened by storm water erosion.

We in Lake Claire are fortunate to have the Frazer Center Forest as a green space adjoining our neighborhood. It is wonderful to share with others in our city this old growth hardwood forest and we are so pleased that you and your students joined in helping us preserve and protect this treasure. Your students are to be commended for their efforts.

In the future I hope you and your students will return to the Frazer Center Forest to enjoy the forest and sit beneath the twin poplar trees you all helped to save.

submitted by Dan White, President, Lake Claire Neighbors

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2005 AT 7:00 P.M.

Frazer Center 1815 South Ponce de Leon Avenue (or use back entrance at the end of Ridgewood Road)

Agenda

- **Welcome and Good News**
 - **Guest Speakers/Announcements**
 - **Current Issues and Initiatives**
 - **Officer Reports**
- Zoning:**
Public Safety:

Variances

Angela Rhoton is requesting a variance for a sideyard setback reduction to construct a second story dormer at 267 Connecticut because the house was constructed closer to the line than seven feet as required by current zoning regulations. upstairs addition would increase the overall volume of the structure.



REMEMBERING THE BATTLE OF ATLANTA

Councilwoman Natalyn Archibong and neighborhoods in council district 5 are working to host a community festival July 23, 2005 observing the 141st anniversary of the Battle of Atlanta. Last year's event featured traditional southern music, a 5 k road race, historic tours, a pub crawl and other events designed to highlight council district 5 as the epicenter of the historic struggle between the forces of the Union and the Confederacy in Atlanta. Many in Lake Claire may not be aware of the skirmishes fought along DeKalb Avenue in our neighborhood. This effort to dramatize the importance of our district in this historic battle also serves as an economic catalyst for strengthening the neighborhoods in the district. If you are a history enthusiast or interested in the economic revitalization of district 5 please consider helping in this effort. Last year's event was a great success and lots of fun. Please contact me at president@lakeclaire.org if you'd like to volunteer.

submitted by Dan White, President, Lake Claire Neighbors

ART IN FREEDOM PARK

Beginning spring 2005 the Freedom Park Conservancy will sponsor Art in Freedom Park. During this event over thirty local artists will present temporary artwork installations and art events in various media and styles at sites throughout Freedom Park. The purpose of Art in Freedom Park is to explore how public art can be integrated into the park and to educate surrounding neighborhoods about what public art is, what it can be, and the great possibilities it offers.

This artist-initiated project is just the beginning of Art in Freedom Park - intended to transform the park into an urban gallery of contemporary outdoor artworks. The term "artist-initiated" means the artists will be responsible for seeking funding to pay for their installations. The 2005 show will be followed by three bi-annual shows beginning in spring 2006 that will be funded by the Freedom Park Conservancy with support from other organizations.

The Art in Freedom Park Task Force has established curatorial directors consisting of representatives from surrounding neighborhoods and many diverse cultural and educational organizations. These organizations include EyeDrum, Metropolitan Public Art Coalition, Art Papers and others that will coordinate with the Freedom Park Conservancy to host and select a diverse group of artists for the spring 2005 exhibition. Artworks will be inclusive of all mediums and styles; artists will be chosen to reflect the diversity of the City and its artists. The Art in Freedom Park Task force, through its curatorial panel, will encourage ideas and artistic responses from the environmental, social, architectural, historic, geographic, political, visual, theatrical and whimsical sides of a space named for freedom.

All proposed artworks will be reviewed for approval by the Freedom Park Conservancy, the City of Atlanta's Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs in order to avoid any inappropriate projects and/or any installations that would raise concerns about safety to the many daily visitors and new audiences attracted to the Park by the excitement of the temporary artworks. Artists will be required to return installation sites back to their original condition after the exhibit is complete.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the event should contact the Art in Freedom Park Task Force at artinfreedompark@yahoo.com.

submitted by Andrea Rimer, Lake Claire's Liaison on the Freedom Park Conservancy

FUN FACTS TO KNOW AND TELL ABOUT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD:

- Lake Claire's population in 2000 was 2518, a 9.5% increase from 1980.
- The racial make-up is 78% Caucasian, 19% black, 2% Hispanic, and 1% Asian.
- Public school vs. private school attendance in 2000 (approximations)
 - Grades 1-4: public 70%; private 30 %
 - Grades 5-8: public 88%; private 12%
 - Grades 9-12: public 79%; private 21%.
- The median age is 33.5, up from 30.8 in 1980.

- Household income percentages:
 - less than 24,999 -- 14%
 - 25,000 - 49,999 -- 18%
 - 50,000 - 74,999 -- 21%
 - 75,000 - 99,999 -- 16%
 - 100,000 - 149,999 -- 19%
 - 150,000 or more -- 13%
- 42% of adult residents have a bachelor's or associate degree and 32% have a post-graduate education.

Source: *Atlanta Neighborhood Change Report*, copyright Georgia Institute of Technology

<http://www.arch.gatech.edu/~dapa/reports/atneighchg/page-images/n05.html>

In the general election of Nov. 2, voters in the Epworth Precinct, which encompasses all of Lake Claire and part of Candler Park, voted overwhelming for John Kerry (78.12%) over George Bush (19.47%) and Michael Badnarik (1.96%) and against the Marriage Amendment: 85.5% opposed Amendment #1 and 14.5% supported it.

Source: <http://www.co.dekalb.ga.us/>

AND YOU THOUGHT POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS WERE GONE WITH THE ELECTION . . .

Hello Democrats in Lake Claire! Kim Reimann of 347 Ivy Place NE is now a voting member of the Democratic Party of Georgia. She holds a county committee seat representing the 84th State House District, which includes Lake Claire. If you are interested in learning more about the Democratic Party, want to get more involved, or want to voice something to the Party, please feel free to contact Kim. kim_reimann@yahoo.com

2005 OFFICERS OF THE LAKE CLAIRE NEIGHBORS

President	Dan White	404-377-5878	president@lakeclaire.org
VP-Communication	Elizabeth Hamilton	404.370.0744	comm@lakeclaire.org
VP-Finance	Diane Moore	404-373-6358	treasurer@lakeclaire.org
VP-Planning & Zoning	Kathy Evans	404.377.6781	zoning@lakeclaire.org
VP-Public Safety	Randy Byrd	404-377-5882	safety@lakeclaire.org
NPU-N Representative	Susan Beeching	404.371.1239	npu@lakeclaire.org
Newsletter Editor	Mary Jo Bryan	404.371.8816	editor@lakeclaire.org
Newsletter Skiing Column	Pat Marsh	404-373-8982	ski@lakeclaire.org
Newsletter Advertising	Sarah Wynn	404-228-3273	newsletter@lakeclaire.org
Newsletter Layout & Design	Stephanie Case	404.373.7766	layout@lakeclaire.org
Newsletter Distribution	Georgii Billiris	404-373-4523	distribution@lakeclaire.org
Clifton Sanctuary Ministries Board Rep.	Susan Casey	404.377.6781	cliftonsanctuary@lakeclaire.org
DeKalb Ave. Study Committee Chair	Dan Salmond	404-371-5168	dekalb@lakeclaire.org
Freedom Park Conservancy Liaison	Andrea Rimer	404-371-8792	freedompark@lakeclaire.org
Garden Club	Bryan Hadaway		garden@lakeclaire.org
Lake Claire Park Liaison	Carol Mercer	404-373-6683	park@lakeclaire.org
Mary Lin Elementary Liaison	Megan Swift	404 371-9823	marylin@lakeclaire.org
McLendon Ave. Improvements Rep.	Ryan Gesser		mclendon@lakeclaire.org
Olmsted Linear Park Alliance Liaison	Beth Grashof	404-377-1226	olmstedparks@lakeclaire.org
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LAW AND ORDER

Criminal activity reported in and around Lake Claire in December 2004.

Block Address Date Time (24hr clock)

2000 Palifox Dr NE -12/1 (0001 - 0800) Chainsaw taken. Attempt to enter main house but entry was not made. Someone cut the hasp and went in to the workshop that is on the side of the house.

1800 McLendon Ave NE -12/7 (2200 - 2215) Known suspects. Victim states he was working in his garage and went in the house for a minute. When he came back out a nail gun, jig saw and cell phone were missing. The cell phone was taken from the vehicle that was open in the garage at the time. Victim got a phone call and the name that came up on the caller ID. The person told victim he had the phone and could return it for \$30.

1800 Almata Ave NE - 12/14 (0900 - 1945) Unknown suspects. Back door unlocked. Computer, jewelry and change taken. Prints attempted, none recovered. Victim states she came home and found her back door unlocked. She did not think anything of it. The next morning she found the listed items missing. She states she must have left the door unlocked.

1800 Almata Ave NE - 12/17 (2300) to 12/18 (0920) Victim states someone took her vehicle. She has the only keys and it was not repossessed. Keys appeared to have been taken in the robbery above. 2004 Toyota Highlander green in color. Car was found.

1800 DeKalb Ave NE -- 12/10 (1700) to 12/13 (0730) Caterpillar Model 302.5 Mini Excavator. (Manufacturer makes one key that fits all Caterpillar equipment so that is why it is not classified as a vehicle.) Victim states someone took the listed item from the construction site.

200 Nelms Ave NE - 9/1 (0900) to 12/15 (0900). Box of dishes stolen. No prints due to the amount of time and dust. Victim stated that she had not had any break-ins but that all her grand children have access to the house.

400 Candler Park Dr NE -11/20 (1550 - 1600) Attempted carjacking. Cell phone. ATM card. Apartment parking lot. Gun. Victim states he was parking his car when a B/M approached him and told him to throw the keys and his wallet on the ground, which he did. Victim then ran to a neighbor's house to call Police. When Police arrived the keys were still in the ignition. The car was still in the lot. Suspect - B/M, juvenile, 16 - 18, 5'10" - 6', 150 - 160, dark complexion with a soft voice.

There have been two packages stolen from porches on Ridgewood Ave and the contents found along Almata Ave.

There have been about 4 burglaries in the Ridgecrest area in the Atlanta and DeKalb side.

The DeKalb County North DeKalb Police Precinct reports that a new carjacking scheme has been used lately: The car-jackers place a piece of paper in the middle of the rear window. Typically, the driver doesn't notice the paper until she has gotten in the car, started it and placed it in reverse. When the driver sees the paper, she gets out of the car to remove the paper. At that point, the car-jackers leap forward, jump into the car, which conveniently has the keys in the ignition and is running (and often may have purse, backpack, or briefcase containing money and identification, and drive off. Please be aware of this new scheme and be alert.

A reminder to all dog owners-a City ordinance requires that dogs be on leash. Even "friendly" dogs that are loose can be threatening to other dogs and to small children. Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep dogs on leash while they are being walked.

SKIING IN AND AROUND LAKE CLAIRE...

Festive! On Dec 9, 2004 LCN hosted its famous potluck supper at the Fraser Center. Some forty plus folks attended, including Officer Kim Jones who kept watch during the Tour of Homes and who brought her yummy seven flavors pound cake once more! After dinner VP of Zoning Kathy Evans and her little elves handed out many fun "Spirit of Lake Claire" awards. Among those honored were Carol Mercer (finally stepping down after 4 years as VP Public Safety), Susan Beeching (retiring from innumerable LCN posts) and longtime local legend and political pundit Bob Schreiber (who is moving to Tallapoosa!)

Salutations! Happy birthday wishes go out to two fine and stylin' Lake Claire Tour Ladies--the fabulously fashionable Valerie Neville of Connecticut Avenue and the gorgeous globe trotting Lola of Howard Circle. The big question is how to celebrate the occasion with a combination of bowling and belly dancing!

Get out of town! LCN Newsletter layout designer Stephanie Case and her husband Travis Best spent the holidays in Dublin, Ireland with her relatives while Thor the cat and Henry the parrot stayed behind to watch the house. In a related story check out the new cool signage Stephanie did for the Candler Park Connection space on DeKalb Avenue.

Sad news. Former Lake Claire resident and sweet neighbor Dorcus Marie Miller Schreffler passed away on November 19 at age 95. Mrs. Scheffler worked as a food service supervisor in the DeKalb Medical community and was active as a Jehovah's Witnesses. She was preceded in death by her husband James and her son Don and her daughter Dian Scheffler-Martin.

Trust this. Lake Claire Community Land Trust holds Co-Housing dinners every Thursday at 7p in the Common Room (\$3 for non-members). Drum Circles happen in the Fire Pit every first and third Saturday of the month, as well as Community Potlucks at 630p at the Gazebo on the 13th of each month. Website is <http://www.lcclt.org>.

New kid on the block! Congratulations to McLendon Ave's Jennifer Horn and Barbara Morawa on the birth of their son Luca who arrived December 3, 2004. But can the baby stroller negotiate the new roundabout?

Listen and Learn! Our LCN Treasurer and recent Taste of Lake Claire co-chair Diane Moore was interviewed in December on WFRG 89.3 FM about her remote viewing classes. Check out www.dianemoore.org <<http://www.dianemoore.org/>> for more information.

If you have an item for her monthly Skiing column, please email Pat Marsh at goesemars@yahoo.com.

submitted by Pat Marsh

